

Implementation

Introduction

The Town of Round Lake Comprehensive Plan is intended to help guide growth and development decisions within the town. The purpose of this implementation element is to explain how this plan will be utilized to guide future growth and development based on a set of actions set forth by the Town of Round Lake. The comprehensive plan addresses many important components critical to sustaining a healthy community, while preserving the local natural resources and history. The plan is an expression of the town’s wishes and desires, and provides a series of actions/policies for assisting the community in attaining its goals. It is not an attempt to predict the future, but an attempt to document community values and philosophies that citizens and property owners of the Town of Round Lake share.

As part of the overall comprehensive planning process, citizens and property owners of the town assisted in developing a plan covering a 20-year planning horizon. Based on projected land use needs into the future, the future land use map is but one resource that will assist the town in directing land use activities to areas best suited for development. The future land use map is based on background data, future projections, local issues and opportunities, natural resource constraints and public input. The overall comprehensive plan will ultimately provide guidance to the plan commission and town board in making future recommendations and decisions.

The plan commission, town board and citizens, while reviewing all proposals pertaining to growth and development, will use this document. A thorough review of the plan is necessary, with particular attention given to the goals and objectives. Proposed development will be reviewed for consistency and whether the requested action conforms to the plan.

This element includes a table of all the goals, objectives and actions highlighted in each element of the plan. The comprehensive plan is not an inflexible or static set of rules; rather, the objectives and actions are intended to allow flexibility in light of new information or opportunities. As change is inevitable, the comprehensive plan may need to be amended to appropriately reflect those changes.

A complete set of goals, objectives, target dates and responsible party are found at the end of this element.

Consistency Review during Plan Development

Within this implementation element, it is required to “describe how each of the elements of the comprehensive plan will be integrated and made consistent with the other elements of the comprehensive plan.” Each main chapter contains a description of the coordination with other elements. In the future, as plan amendments occur, it is important that the Round Lake Plan Commission and town board conduct consistency reviews to ensure outcomes that meet plan goals.

Measuring Plan Progress

The goals, objectives and actions, when implemented, are intended to build stronger relationships and give direction to the town board and its year-round and seasonal residents.

The measurement tool to gauge the outcome of objectives and actions is the implementation target for the identified actions. These targets will provide guidance to the plan commission and town board when specific actions should be initiated. Based on the targets, the plan commission will then measure the progress of the comprehensive plan. Many of the actions identified are continuous and ongoing steps that do not have a specific implementation target date. On an annual basis, the plan commission will monitor the plan’s overall objectives and actions in an effort to realize its accomplishments and identify areas where additional resources or actions need to be implemented.

Other Implementation Policies and Programs

Private owners can be excellent stewards of the land, but habitat protection needs to extend beyond the lifetime of the current owners. Today, landowners, non-profits and local governments have a variety of tools to protect habitat across the landscape. Private options involve the landowner and should always be used together with public tools for land protection. Private conservation give landowners incentives to protect natural areas on their property, and can offer permanent and parcel-specific protection.

Purchase of Development Rights Program (PDR)

The purchase of development rights is a voluntary protection technique that compensates the landowner for limiting future development on their land. The programs are primarily used for retention of agricultural lands, but the concept can be applied to all types of land use scenarios. Under a PDR program, an entity such as a town, county or private conservation organization purchases the development rights to a designated piece of property. The land remains in private ownership, and the landowner retains all the other rights and responsibilities associated with the property.

Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) Program

The TDR program is a non-regulatory (voluntary) approach that allows the right to develop property to be transferred from one parcel (or zoning district) to another. Under a TDR program, development rights to a parcel of land are transferred from a “sending area” to another parcel referred to as the “receiving area.” Sending areas are typically those areas where development is discouraged or limited, and receiving areas are areas where growth and development are encouraged. Under some TDR programs, local government awards development rights to each parcel of developable land in the community or in selected districts on the basis of the land's acreage or value. Landowners can then sell the development rights on the open market. The TDR program has been widely implemented at the local level due to the fact that it requires no major financial contribution by local government.

Benefits of the TDR program include:

- The public benefits from the conservation easements, which protect and preserve sensitive natural features and wildlife habitat.
- Owners of sending area properties receive economic compensation for their properties where development would normally be precluded due to sensitive natural features or zoning restrictions.
- Owners of receiving area properties can increase their development density, accommodating a greater number of uses or tenants.
- Little financial contribution on behalf of local government.

Acquisition

This type of land-preservation tool involves the direct purchase of land for the purposes of preservation and protection. This tool should be used in cases where other protective mechanisms fail to meet objectives and/or in cases of high-priority acquisition lands. Acquisition efforts should be coordinated with other local, state and national acquisition initiatives (lake associations, environmental groups, USFS, DNR, etc.). Depending on the acquisition, funding assistance from federal, state or not-for-profit groups may be found.

Conservation Easements

When a landowner sells their development rights, a legal document known as a conservation easement is drafted. The easement restricts the use of the land to agricultural use, open space or other desired use in perpetuity. A conservation easement permanently limits residential, commercial or industrial development to protect its natural attributes or agricultural value. The conservation easement becomes a part of the landowner's deed and remains on the deed even if the land is sold or passed through inheritance, thereby ensuring the development will not occur on the property.

The conservation easement does not automatically allow public access to the land; the land remains in the hands of the owner, as only the right to develop it has been purchased. All remaining rights of property ownership remain with the landowner including the right to transfer ownership, swap, deed or sell the land. A purchase of development rights program works to ensure that incompatible development will not take place; the PDR becomes a part of the deed and keeps the land in its agricultural or natural state in perpetuity. An effective purchase of development rights program requires initial financial support and on-going administration. Additionally, the program requires a review board to assess the lands of landowners requesting entry of their parcel into the PDR program.

Land Trusts

Land trusts are non-profit voluntary organizations that work with landowners to use a variety of tools to help them protect their land. Such organizations are formed with the purpose of protecting open space, scenic views and wildlife. They use a variety of techniques to raise money for operating expenses and the acquisition of easements. Land trusts also provide adequate monitoring and stewardship. In the United States, land trusts can hold conservation easements, which means that the organization has the right to enforce the restrictions placed on the land.

Land Protection Tool	Pro	Con
Donated Conservation Easements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanently protects land from development pressures. • Landowners may receive income, estate, and property tax benefits. • No or low cost to local unit of government. • Land remains in private ownership and on the tax rolls. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tax incentives may not provide enough compensation for many landowners • Little local government control over which areas are protected.
Purchase of Development Rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanently protects land from development pressures. • Landowner is paid to protect their land. • Landowners may receive estate and property tax benefits. • Local government can target locations effectively. • Land remains in private ownership and on the tax roles. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can be costly for local unit of government.
Transfer of Development Rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanently protects land from development pressures. • Landowner is paid to protect their land. • Landowners may receive estate and property tax benefits. • Local government can target locations effectively. • Low cost to local unit of government. • Utilizes free market mechanisms. • Land remains in private ownership and on tax roll 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can be complex to manage • Receiving area must be willing to accept higher densities.

Conservation Design Subdivisions/ Planned Unit Development

The conservation-design subdivision concept is an alternative development design to the conventional residential subdivision. Conventionally designed subdivisions are typically characterized by land divided into house lots and streets, with minimal (if any) open space. Usually, the remaining open space lands consist of the undeveloped portion of the subdivision (steep slopes, wetlands, floodplain, etc.). The conventional subdivision lacks communal open space, community woodlands or other open areas where people can meet and interact.

The purpose of a conservation design subdivision is to provide opportunity for development while maintaining open-space characteristics, encouraging interaction among residents through site design, and protection of habitat and environmental features. A typical conservation design subdivision contains the same number of lots that would be permitted under a conventional

design. The lots are typically smaller than conventional lots and are designed for single-family homes reminiscent of traditional neighborhoods found in small towns throughout America.

The compact design of a conservation subdivision allows for the creation of permanent open space (typically 50 percent or more of the build able area). This undeveloped land typically serves as community open-space land and provides recreational, aesthetic and social benefits to subdivision residents. The conservation design subdivision has proven economic, environmental and social advantages over conventionally designed subdivisions¹ including:

Economic Advantages

- Lower infrastructure and design (engineering) costs
- Attractiveness of lots for home development
- Reduction in demand for public parklands

Environmental Advantages

- Protection of conservation areas and upland buffers (which would normally be developed)
- Reduced runoff due to less impervious surface cover
- Improved water filtration due to presence of vegetation and buffers
- Opportunities for non-conventional septic system design

Social Advantages

- Opportunities for interaction among residents (common open space)
- Pedestrian friendly
- Greater opportunity for community activities

Best Management Practices (BMP)

Best management practices describe voluntary procedures and activities aimed at protection of natural resources. BMP's are described in detail in the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources publications titled Wisconsin Construction Site Best Management Practice Handbook, and Wisconsin's Forestry Best Management Practices for Water Quality. Shoreland BMP's are a set of specific actions that landowners can take to help protect and preserve water quality.

Town Subdivision Ordinance

The development of a subdivision (land division) ordinance is intended to control the division of land within the town in order to promote public health, safety and welfare by regulating the division and re-division of land. The ordinance must be at least as restrictive as the county ordinance but can be more restrictive. The Wisconsin Towns Association has developed a model subdivision ordinance for consideration by towns in Wisconsin.

Other Adjoining and Overlapping Jurisdiction Comprehensive Planning Processes

The Town of Round Lake encourages early dialog between all adjoining and overlapping jurisdictions (towns and counties) as they develop or revise their comprehensive plan. This

¹ Randall Arendt, *Conservation Design for Subdivisions*, (Island Press, Washington D.C., 1996), pp 3-16.

dialog will ensure that local input and consistency among comprehensive plans is reached. Where inconsistencies are identified and a resolution cannot be reached, future actions can be developed to bring the parties together to address their concerns.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Housing

Goal 1: Encourage housing development consistent with the rural northwoods character.

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective 1: Encourage the development of new housing into locations that ensures minimal environmental impact.		
Action 1: Inventory, assess and map natural areas vulnerable to development in the Town of Round Lake.	2010	NWRPC
Action 2: Encourage the use of Best Management Practices described in detail in the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources publications titled “Wisconsin Construction Site Best Management Practice Handbook”, and “Wisconsin’s Forestry Best Management Practices for Water Quality” to protect and preserve water quality.	Ongoing	Plan Commission
Action 3: Promote awareness and conservancy of lake, river and wetland resources by inventorying, assessing and mapping the Town’s water and wetland resources.	Ongoing	Plan Commission
Action 4: Promote shoreline stewardship by introducing landowners and developers to the County Shoreland Protection Regulations.	Ongoing	Plan Commission
Action 5: Direct residential development to be located in areas away from lakes, rivers, wetlands and economically productive areas, including farmland and forests and locate such development in proximity to major roadways.	Ongoing	Plan Commission
Objective 2: Retain the natural beauty of the Town of Round Lake.		
Action 1: Inventory, assess, and map scenic areas vulnerable to development in the Town of Round Lake.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/NWRPC
Action 2: Request the County develop and provide property owners with information on the environmental, aesthetic and economic benefits of not removing all or a significant amount of natural vegetation from properties prior to or after building.	2010	Sawyer County
Action 3: Encourage natural visual buffers and retention of natural screening between building sites.	Ongoing	Plan Commission
Action 4: Require natural buffer strips along all public roads to help conceal logging, commercial buildings, and industrial sites to prevent visual conflicts with our Northwoods Character.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 5: Identify and enforce restrictions on unkempt properties. (E.g., junk vehicles, trash, abandoned buildings).	Ongoing	Plan Commission

Action 6: Require natural buffers and/or setbacks from existing forest resources to protect them from development impacts.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 7: Locate, map and preserve existing cultural, historic and archaeological sites.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/NWRPC
Action 8: Develop and conduct fire education programs for residential communities to prevent fire damage.	Ongoing	Round Lake Fire Department
Objective 3: Encourage conservation design and cluster development that results in open green space and protection of vulnerable natural resources.		
Action 1: Promote economic, environmental and social incentives and advantages over conventionally designed subdivisions.	Ongoing	Plan Commission

Goal 2: Encourage housing development choices that meet the needs of persons of all income levels, age groups and individuals with special needs.

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective 1: Develop standards for new mobile home parks, apartment complexes and senior housing.		
Action 1: Designate potential new mobile home park locations within residential expansion area.	2010	Plan Commission
Action 2: Require manufactured homes meet feature designs similar to “stick built” homes relative to roof pitch, overhang, minimum floor area, minimum width, exterior siding and roofing material requirements. In the event that a manufactured home does not utilize a perimeter load-bearing foundation, any space between ground level and siding shall be required to be enclosed with a permanent, non-load bearing concrete or masonry having a foundation-like appearance.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 3: Designate areas suitable for the development of apartments and similar medium density in residential expansion areas.	2010	NWRPC
Action 4: Designate areas suitable for the development of senior and special needs housing in residential expansion areas.	2010	NWRPC

Goal 3: Promote the availability of land for the development or redevelopment of low income and moderate-income housing.

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective 1: Promote low and moderated income affordable housing and apartments.		
Action 1: Encourage a Habitat for Humanity housing project(s).	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 2: Increase public awareness of available local/state/federal funds for housing assistance.	Ongoing	Town Board

Goal 4: Maintain and/or rehabilitate the Town’s existing housing stock.

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective 1: Provide information on grants to upgrade sub-standard housing.		
Action 1: Provide access to educational materials for low-cost loans for dwelling rehabilitation.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 2: Provide applications to the Wisconsin Department of Commerce for housing rehabilitation funds to assist in owner- and renter-occupied rehabilitation.	Ongoing	Town Board

Goal 5: Educate builders and new and current property owners of the various county and town planning and development regulations.

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective 1: Encourage regulations that promote efficient, effective and equitable development patterns.		
Action 1: Ensure that builders follow the rules of the Uniform Dwelling Code.	Ongoing	Sawyer County
Action 2: Ensure that builders and property owners are provided with the Town of Round Lake Comprehensive Plan as part of the building permit application process.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 3: Disseminate comprehensive plan information through realtors, lenders and contractors.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 4: Provide a link on the Town website to Sawyer County building permit application information.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 5: Put up road signs at the entrance to the town that say, “building permits required”.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 6: Provide the Northland Area Builders Association (NABA) with information on the Town of Round Lake Land Use Plan and website.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 7: Educate seasonal and permanent residents regarding new building and planning ordinances, development guidelines and housing programs.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 8: Require monitoring of all private on-site wastewater treatment systems (POWTS) on a minimum of a three-year schedule.	Ongoing	Sawyer County
Objective 2: Support Sawyer County subdivision ordinances.		
Action 1: Transfer infrastructure development costs to the developer or owner.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 2: Require the developer or owner to prepare a storm water management plan containing measures to prevent damage to adjacent bodies of water, waterways, wetlands, vulnerable areas forests and surrounding land, to minimize runoff, erosion and sedimentation and to restore damage caused by such soil erosion and sedimentation.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 3: Encourage the preservation and use of native vegetation and trees in all new developments and subdivisions.	Ongoing	Plan Commission

Action 4: Locate new subdivision/condominium development near major throughways and existing residential developments.	Ongoing	Plan Commission
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Transportation

Goal 1: A safe and efficient transportation system for the next 20 years.

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective 1: Maintain a safe and efficient roadway system throughout the town.		
Action 1: Maintain the current Town roads in the Town of Round Lake to meet town standards.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 2: Review all Town roads to ensure access of all emergency, service, and maintenance vehicles.	Annually	Town Board
Action 3: Annually request and review traffic accident information from Sawyer County Sheriff’s department to identify and mitigate hazards.	Annually	Town Board
Action 4: Annually review and update road construction and maintenance standards and ordinances, especially as they relate to sound engineering practices and to other elements of this plan.	Annually	Town Board
Action 5: Require the approvals of new roads and driveways in the Town of Round Lake to meet town standards.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 6: Educate homeowners on criteria for private roads and driveways in the Town of Round Lake.	Ongoing	Town Board/Town Fire Department
Objective 2: Develop, maintain and improve roads to meet the Town’s future transportation needs and safety requirements.		
Action 1: Coordinate transportation and land use planning with adjacent municipalities, Sawyer County, and the State of Wisconsin for sound traffic planning and maintenance.	Ongoing	Town Plan Commission
Action 2: Identify Town roads which are most likely to bear increased traffic as a result of projected development and recommend priorities for improvement and maintenance by the Town Board.	Ongoing	Town Plan Commission
Action 3: Develop plans that improve traffic patterns and safety of routes that may be impacted by additional residential and commercial development.	Ongoing	Town Plan Commission
Action 4: Consider spring load limits/alternatives that protect the roads while minimizing the impact on small businesses moving products they produce to market.	Annually	Town Board
Action 5: Investigate the use of special assessment to upgrade private roads to town standards when requested by property owners.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 6: Develop guidelines for the ceding of private roads to the town.	2010	Town Board
Action 7: Encourage developers to develop and maintain roads under private ownership to town standards.	Ongoing	Town Board
Objective 3: Coordinate with other jurisdictions and providers in enhancing transit options and services for the elderly, poor and disabled.		

Action 1: Meet with Sawyer County/Namekagon Transit to assist with public transportation and route enhancements throughout the town.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 2: Encourage existing transit operators to continue and expand ambulatory and non-ambulatory service to the town.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 3: Communicate and educate public on available transportation options.	Ongoing	Town Board

Goal 2: Provide a transportation system that preserves the woodland character of the Town and provides for alternative modes of transportation.

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective 1: Develop and maintain a transportation system that preserves the rural character of the town.		
Action 1: Establish guidelines for all signs including size, number, location, style, lighting, and maintenance that are compatible with the rural character of the town.	2010	Town Board
Action 2: Promote an integrated system and ordinances for rustic roads, by-ways and color tour routes, coordinating with adjacent townships.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 3: Consider town road construction standards to reflect rural character, where appropriate.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 4: Identify scenic roads and protect their scenic views.	2010	Town Board/Plan Commission
Action 5: Propose a rustic road designation for County Highway S, Lower Twin Lake Road, USFS #319 and #320, and for Moose Lake Road/ USFS 164 from County S to County GG.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/Town Board
Objective 2: Accommodate the growing number of other modes of transportation and recreational uses for the roads including ATVs, snowmobiles, biking, hiking, cross country ski training and running.		
Action 1: Work with county, regional efforts, neighboring towns, local clubs and private landowners to create and maintain and integrate alternative transportation modes.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 2: Consider the costs of dedicated recreational lanes in all new road construction and improvements and apply if feasible.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 3: Work with county, neighboring towns, local clubs and private landowners to develop, maintain and coordinate off-road trail systems (i.e. snowmobile, ATV, biking, hiking, skiing) within the Town.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 4: Provide access to maps of trail systems within the Town.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 5: Ensure that appropriate signage is provided for all trails.	Ongoing	Appropriate Local Clubs
Action 6: Encourage public safety education & awareness of multi-use roadway systems.	Ongoing	Town Board

Utilities and Community Facilities

Goal 1: Ensure the provision of reliable, efficient, and well-planned utilities (i.e. gas, electric) and communication services (i.e. telephone, cable, cellular and broadband) that meet the existing and future demands of residents, landowners, and visitors.

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective 1: Maintain town involvement in the planning and coordination of utilities and communication services with other agencies and jurisdictions in order to efficiently serve existing and future development and regional growth.		
Action 1: Support structural design, location and service standards for towers to reduce the negative visual impacts.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 2: Monitor the location, condition and capacity of existing and future public utilities in order to efficiently serve existing residents and planned service areas.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 3: Encourage placement of new utility transmission and distribution lines into existing public-right-of-ways whenever feasible.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 4: Ensure that new development and redevelopment provides for and/or contributes proportionate fair share of expenses associated with impacts to public services and utilities.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 5: Promote the immediate expansion of cellular, broadband, and high-speed internet service within the Town.	Ongoing	Plan Commission
Objective 2: Promote and encourage eco-friendly living that follows best green practices.		
Action 1: Pursue the use of alternative energy sources, such as wind energy, bio diesel fuel, solar energy, etc. at the town hall and on Town property.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 2: Encourage service providers, businesses and developers to promote energy conservation and green building practices in the Town.	Ongoing	Town Board
Objective 3: Avoid environmentally sensitive areas when upgrading existing utilities and community facilities.		
Action 1: Consult the Map 5.13 for sensitive environmental areas before making decisions regarding the upgrade of existing utilities or community facilities, and encourage development and redevelopment practices that will maintain or improve the natural environment.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 2: When reviewing the proposed design and location of telecommunication, wind energy, animal waste digesters, any other energy source, or other utility towers, seek to minimize conflicts between land uses, and balance desired service levels with potential negative impacts to the environment, community character, and planned growth areas.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 3: Encourage underground placement of new or existing distribution lines for electricity, telecommunications, and cable entertainment.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 4: Promote the elimination of herbicides and clear cutting under and around power lines.	Ongoing	Town Board

Action 5: Encourage a vegetative management plan for all utility right-of-ways which implements spatial variety (i.e., varied clearing widths and tree heights and protection of long-lived species).	Ongoing	Plan Commission
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Privately Owned Wastewater Treatment Systems (POWTS):

Goal 2: Ensure proper disposal of private wastewater to ensure public health and protect ground and surface water quality.

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective 1: Work to prevent pollution of surface and subsurface waters by regulating the location, construction, installation, alteration, design and use of all private sewage systems.		
Action1: Promote resident education on the proper design, installation and maintenance of privately owned wastewater treatment systems (POWTS).	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 2: Provide resident education regarding funding options for POWTS owners to upgrade failing non-complying systems.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 3: Encourage the use of alternative wastewater treatment options (i.e., new technologies, group sanitary systems, etc.) for new systems and where appropriate as a replacement for failing systems.	2010	Town Board
Action 4: The Town should consider the land use planning implications of the COMM 83 rules. Specifically, the Town should understand that the COMM 83 regulations often allow development to occur in areas where private, onsite waste disposal systems were previously not feasible due to poor soil conditions.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 5: Support the county requirement of inspection and maintenance of POWTS.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 6: Encourage residents to have their water supply tested each year in order to protect their drinking water.	Ongoing	Town Board

Storm Water Management

Goal 3: Ensure the provision of storm water management.

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective 1: Promote storm water management practices that reduce property and road damage and ensure a high level of water quality.		
Action 1: Promote the use of storm water management practices to abate non-point source pollution and protect water quality.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 2: Preserve natural open space areas such as wetlands and flood plains that will accommodate floodwater and minimize flooding.	Ongoing	Town Board

Action 3: Maintain town roadside swales/ditches/culverts and other related storm water facilities for both storm water quantity and quality control.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 4: All new or altered ditch slopes shall contain proper stabilization.	Ongoing	Plan Commission
Action 5: Storm water management shall be addressed as a requirement of all development proposals with an appropriate level of review based on potential negative impacts caused by construction site erosion and post-construction runoff.	Ongoing	Town Board

Water Supply

Goal 4: Ensure the quality and quantity of water.

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective 1: Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the town’s ground and surface water.		
Action1: Reduce the potential of point and non-point source pollution.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 2: Evaluate the potential impacts of development proposals on groundwater quality and quantity.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 3: Continue to provide leadership and coordination of efforts with surrounding towns to monitor groundwater quality and potential contamination issues.	Ongoing	Plan Commission
Action 4: Educate the public on the correlation between the improper land use practices (use of fertilizers and herbicides) and ground water quality.	Annually	Plan Commission

Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling Facilities

Goal 5: Promote and encourage solid waste and recycling practices that protect the environment.

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective 1: Promote effective and cost efficient household solid waste disposal and recycling services and systems that protect the public health, natural environment, and general appearance of the town.		
Action 1: Evaluate recycling services available to residents to determine if current needs are adequately being met.	Annually	Town Board
Action 2: Continue to utilize county clean sweep program so that household hazardous waste collection can be performed at least once every three years.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 3: Coordinate contracts with other municipalities in an effort to package bid proposals for services to help reduce overall costs.	Ongoing	Plan Commission
Action 4: Maintain and promote collection opportunities for the proper recycling and disposal of unique (i.e. tires, white goods, etc.) and/or hazardous wastes.	Annually	Plan Commission

Objective 2: Require major developments to adequately address solid waste disposal and recycling needs.		
	Ongoing	Town Board
Objective 3: Promote and encourage availability of educational materials for eco-friendly living that follows best green practices.		
	Ongoing	Town Board

Parks and Outdoor Recreation

Goal 6: Increase recreational opportunities.

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective 1: Promote recreational facilities within the Town of Round Lake.		
Action1: Utilize the potential of the Sawyer County Forest, State land, and the Chequamegon/Nicolet Forest to increase local recreational opportunities.	Ongoing	Plan Commission
Action 2: Identify areas where recreational opportunities can be increased.	Ongoing	Plan Commission
Action 3: Increase public awareness of Managed Forest Lands and other publicly owned lands for recreation use.	Ongoing	Plan Commission
Action 4: Maintain and improve the community's public access to waterways and trails that provide multi-use recreational opportunities.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 5: Pursue state, federal, and private funding programs that can aid in the acquisition and development of parks, trails, and other recreational opportunities with local government cooperation.	2010	Town Board
Action 6: Pursue the acquisition or conversion of land to develop parks within the Town of Round Lake.	Ongoing	Town Board

Libraries and Schools

Goal 7: Promote quality schools and access to educational opportunities for everyone.

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective 1: Promote use of all educational opportunities available to the town.		
Action 1: Support local libraries in their efforts to increase community education.	Ongoing	Plan Commission
Action 2: Maintain community involvement in the coordination of local planning efforts with the School Districts in order to allow them to anticipate future growth and to provide appropriate facilities.	Ongoing	Plan Commission
Action 3: Encourage technical colleges, University of Wisconsin Extension, LCO Community College and community libraries in their efforts to increase community education.	Ongoing	Plan Commission

Fire/Rescue Facilities

Goal 8: Provide a level of fire and emergency services that meets existing and future demands of residents and development patterns.

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective 1: Ensure a level of fire protection and emergency services that meets the needs and existing demands of residents and future developments patterns.		
Action 1: Continue resident education on ways to reduce the risks of fire and increase access and response time of emergency vehicles to local residences (i.e. forest and grass fire prevention, driveway design that eases emergency vehicle access).	Ongoing	Town of Round Lake Volunteer Fire Department
Action 2: An evaluation of fire protection staff, services, and equipment shall be completed on an annual basis.	Ongoing	Town of Round Lake Volunteer Fire Department/Town Board
Action 3: Pursue the use of grants or donations to meet the needs of the fire department.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 4: Pursue increased cooperation with neighboring jurisdictions with regard to fire and rescue facilities and services.	Annually	Town of Round Lake Volunteer Fire Department
Action 5: Shared service agreements shall be maximized whenever possible.	Ongoing	Town of Round Lake Volunteer Fire Department

Police Protection

Goal 9: Ensure that police services are appropriately meeting the existing and future needs of the town.

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective 1: Continue involvement with the Sawyer County Sheriff’s Department in its efforts to provide police protection and community outreach.		
Action 1: Monitor and evaluate the need for a police presence (i.e. constable or county liaison).	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 2: An annual meeting shall be held with the Sheriff’s Department to discuss trends, issues, and needs in the town.	Annually	Town Board
Action 3: Shared service agreements shall be maximized whenever possible.	Ongoing	Town Board

Government Facilities

Goal 10: Provide quality cost effective town facilities and services that meet the existing and future demands of residents, landowners, and visitors.

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective 1: Ensure that the Town Hall is maintained as a vital community facility that is accessible for large gatherings, town activities and public meetings.		
Action 1: The town shall assess and prioritize its capacity and needs with regard to administrative facilities, services, and public buildings.	Annually	Town Board
Action 2: Pursue the development of a “Town Procedures Manual” which outlines the application, review, license, and public notification process to guide developers and individuals through all local regulations and approval processes and how they relate to the Comprehensive Plan.	2010	Plan Commission
Action 3: Provide a contact person for developers, homeowners, landowners, agencies and local business owners for information regarding town procedures, ordinances and/or land use regulations and programs.	2010	Town Board
Action 4: Develop a Capital Improvement Program (annual budget) providing local decision makers, private developers, and citizens with detailed information on any capital improvement projects that will take place in the town’s future.	Annually	Town Board
Action 5: The Town shall continually review staffing, volunteers, and professional service needs relative to planning, ordinance development/enforcement and other governmental services.	Ongoing	Town Board

Health and Child Care Services and Facilities

Goal 11: Promote and encourage health and childcare services and facilities

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective 1: Ensure that residents have reasonable access to quality health care facilities and childcare.		
Action 1: Encourage school districts or local community organizations in their sponsorship of child care programs and early developmental programs.	Ongoing	Plan Commission
Action 2: Encourage local clinics and hospitals to develop educational programs to inform citizens of available services or health care advances.	Ongoing	Plan Commission
Action 3: Encourage requests for the development of properly located and operated health care and childcare facilities.	Ongoing	Plan Commission

Agricultural Resources

Goal 1: Preserve and enhance farming as an occupation, future agricultural business and maintain productive farmland while preserving natural resources.

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective 1: Preserve farming as a business.		
Action 1: Encourage the support of “local food systems” to conserve on fuel/energy transportation costs.	Ongoing	Plan Commission
Action 2: Promote farming practices that ensure food safety.	Ongoing	Plan Commission
Action 3: Maintain the integrity and viability of agriculture so that traditional farming practices can occur without creating conflicts between agricultural & non-agricultural users.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 4: Encourage uniform farm practices that are environmentally sound: emphasizing organic practices.	Ongoing	Plan Commission
Action 5: Promote proper agricultural manure and nutrient management to reduce non-point water pollution.	Ongoing	Town Board
Objective 2: Preserve agricultural land for farming.		
Action 1: Support agricultural uses in the Town by preventing fragmentation of agricultural land and maintain agricultural zoning.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 2: Promote awareness of Agricultural Programs available to agricultural landowners.	Ongoing	Sawyer County
Action 3: Encourage conscientious agricultural practices that are environmentally sound and do not deplete, pollute, or impair the natural resources (air, soil quality, erosion, surface/ground water).	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 4: In agricultural areas, limit the amount of non-agricultural uses.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 5: Guide development in order to ensure that growth is compatible with continued agricultural production.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 6: Monitor the development and environmental impact of biofuel agriculture as it occurs in other parts of the state/country.	Ongoing	Plan Commission

Natural Resources

Goal 1: Protect, enhance and promote the sustainable use and management of the Town’s environmental diversity, natural resources, natural beauty and northwoods character.

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective1: Identify and enhance the protection of environmentally sensitive and vulnerable resources.		
Action 1: Protect threatened and endangered resources.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/Town Board/WDNR
Action 2: Foster the identification and elimination of invasive species.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/WDNR

<p>Action 3: Develop cooperative management agreements (memorandums of understanding) MOU’S with relevant federal, state, regional, county and towns entities to enhance and protect environmental diversity.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Plan Commission/ Town Board</p>
<p>Action 4: Foster working relationships (MOUS) with non-governmental organizations (NGO’S) to help identify, protect and conserve environmentally sensitive areas and resources (e.g. conservancies, lake associations, land trusts).</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Plan Commission/ Town Board</p>
<p>Objective 2: Identify and enhance the protection of Natural Resources.</p>		
<p>Action 1: Enhance the protection of Wisconsin’s public trust waters and shorelines by enforcing and promoting appropriate plans and ordinances.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Plan Commission/ Town Board</p>
<p>Action 2: Identify, map, and protect vulnerable resources such as islands, wetland floodplains, environmental corridors, riparian areas, fish spawning grounds, remnant old growth landscapes, and unique and endangered plants (flora) and animals and birds (fauna).</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Plan Commission/Town Board/WDNR/NWRPC/Sawyer County</p>
<p>Action 3: Identify potentially highly erosive areas to protect water quality fish habitat and recreational use.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Plan Commission/NWRPC/County Land Information Department (CLID)</p>
<p>Action 4: Foster the preparation of watershed based management plans that enhance and protect water quality, quality fisheries, and diverse recreational boating opportunities.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Plan Commission/County/Town Board/NWRPC</p>
<p>Action 5: Protect wildlife habitat areas in the town, beyond regulated wetlands, floodplains and shorelands, identifying natural areas in the town using this information: a. Seek grant-funding sources available through the WDNR and other agencies to help protect wildlife habitat areas for future generations to enjoy. b. Build partnerships with habitat conservation organizations (Ducks Unlimited, Trout Unlimited, Nature Conservancy, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Loon Watch, etc.) to help with wildlife protection and education. c. Seek to prevent fragmentation of these habitats by encouraging cluster and conservation-based development.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Plan Commission/ Conservation Organizations/ WDNR</p>
<p>Action 6: Foster the preparation of a comprehensive open space and by-ways plan including the identification of potential parks, waysides, water access areas, picnic areas, active recreational areas and a system of multiuse and interlinked trails, paths and roads.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Plan Commission/NWRPC/WDNR</p>

Action 7: Encourage property owners and lake and riverway users to participate in the preparation and implementation of long-range management plans to protect water quality, environmental diversity, a quality fishery and a quality recreational experience(s).	Ongoing	Plan Commission/NWRPC/WDNR
Action 8: Protect Wisconsin’s Legacy areas and landscapes identified in the WDNR Land Legacy Report.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/Town Board/County/WDNR
Action 9: Protect exceptional and outstanding waters identified by the WDNR and EPA.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/Town Board/WDNR
Objective 3: Identify, enhance and promote the protection of Natural Beauty.		
Action 1: Promote and enhance the protection of natural beauty in Wisconsin’s Public Trust Waters by enforcing applicable laws and ordinances.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/WDNR
Action 2: Identify legacy lands that enhance and promote the protection of natural beauty.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/Sawyer County/WDNR/NWRPC
Action 3: Identify and promote the development of an integrated system of scenic by-ways that enhances access to natural beauty.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/Town Board/County/NWRPC
Action 4: Develop design ordinances that limits the deployment and type of outdoor advertising along scenic by-ways and public rights-of-ways.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/Town Board/Sawyer County
Action 5: Develop location and design ordinances that protect natural beauty and optimize the deployment of cell towers and wind energy generation facilities.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/Town Board/Sawyer County/Xcel/Jump River Electric/Other Utility Companies and Cooperatives
Action 6: Support and promote the development of a comprehensive roadside litter collection program.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/Town Board/County
Objective 4: Define Northwoods Character.		
Action 1: Develop a working and supportable definition for what constitutes Northwoods Character and Natural Beauty in the Town of Round Lake. (e.g. the presence of old growth forests, wetlands, fall color, USFS lands, public trust waters, historical logging artifacts, native American activities, wild rice beds, forested islands, viewing opportunities of wildlife such as eagles and osprey, wolves, Elk, and deer, the absence of bill boards, big box businesses, overzealous shoreline development, etc.)	Ongoing	Plan Commission/Town Board
Action 2: Promote plans, ordinances and design standards that enhance and sustain northwoods character.	Ongoing	Plan Commission
Action 3: Promote outdoor lighting ordinances and design standards that maintain public access to dark skies.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/Town Board

Goal 2: Preserve the quality of our area’s lakes and surfaces waters such as streams, rivers, and springs.

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective 1: Reduce non-point nutrient and erosion runoff into lakes, streams, rivers and springs.		
Action 1: Protect surface water quality by supporting stream bank management, natural shoreline restoration practices, river and stream clean-up initiatives, and use of buffer areas.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/Town Board/WDNR/Sawyer County Zoning
Action 2: Require construction site erosion control programs designed to improve water quality of the surface waters.	Ongoing	Sawyer County/Town Board/WDNR
Action 3: Require effective storm water management.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 4: Encourage the Town of Round Lake to use environmentally friendly products on the roadways for winter safety.	Ongoing	Town Board/County Highway Department/WDOT
Action 5: Encourage the use of retention ponds/rain gardens for stormwater management.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/Town Board
Action 6: Encourage the use of riprap in ditches to prevent excessive flow of water within the ditch.	Ongoing	Town Board
Objective 2: Protect sensitive shorelands by identifying and mapping wetlands, river and stream corridors, springs, floodplains and environmental corridors.		
Action 1: Limit development near wetlands, river and stream corridors, springs, floodplains, and in environmental corridors.	Ongoing	Sawyer County/Town Board/Plan Commission
Action 2: Require a buffer of natural vegetation along shorelines and wetlands.	Ongoing	Sawyer County/Town Board/Plan Commission
Action 3: Require that wetlands remain in its natural condition.	Ongoing	WDNR/Town Board/Plan Commission/US Army Corp of Engineers
Objective 3: Promote understanding of the importance of water resources through distribution and public discussion of this plan.		
Action 1: Prepare press items, radio and TV interviews, web site promotion, Town Board presentations, etc to promote the understanding of the importance of water resources.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/Town Board

Goal 3: Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the Town’s ground water.

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective 1: Ensure the protection of the Town’s groundwater.		
Action 1: Identify potential point and non-point sources of pollution.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/NWRPC/County/Town Board
Action 2: Systematically evaluate the potential impacts of development proposals on groundwater quality and quantity.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/NWRPC

Action 3: Assume leadership and coordination of efforts with surrounding Towns to monitor groundwater quality and potential contamination issues.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/Town Board/County
Action 4: Support a well abandonment program.	Ongoing	Sawyer County
Objective 2: Ensure that adequate amounts of safe drinking water are available throughout the town.		
Action 1: Protect groundwater quality through the proper placement and dispersion of new on-site wastewater systems and through appropriate maintenance and replacement of older systems.	Ongoing	Sawyer County/WDNR
Action 2: Avoid new development within 1200 feet of open and closed landfills.	Ongoing	Plan Commission
Action 3: Limit excessive irrigation practices.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/WDNR
Action 4: Support conservation development designs.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/Town Board
Action 5: Continue working with WDNR to monitor effects of closed landfills.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/WDNR

Goal 4: Manage stormwater runoff

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective 1: Promote stormwater management practices that reduce property and road damage and ensure a high level of water quality.		
Action 1: Promote the use of stormwater management practices to abate non-point source pollution and protect water quality.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/Town Board
Action 2: Preserve natural open space areas such as wetlands and floodplains that will accommodate floodwater and minimize flooding.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/Town Board/County/WDNR/NWRPC
Action 3: Maintain town roadside swales/ditches/culverts and other related stormwater facilities for both stormwater quantity and quality control.	Ongoing	Town Board/County
Action 4: All new or altered ditch slopes shall contain proper stabilization.	Ongoing	Town Board/County
Action 5: Stormwater management shall be addressed as a requirement of all development proposals with an appropriate level of review based on potential negative impacts caused by construction site erosion and post-construction runoff.	Ongoing	Town Board/County

Forestry

Goal 1: Preserve, enhance, and promote the sustainable use of forest resources.

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective 1: Conserve productive forestland by expanding the use of conservation easements, incentives, and voluntary, long-term stewardship of forestlands.		
Action 1: Promote the protection of forestlands that are susceptible to development, have the potential to connect to other parcels of forestland, have public importance, and provide critical ecological functions.	Ongoing	Town Board/Plan Commission
Action 2: Work with individuals and organizations to prohibit development on critical forestland through the acquisition of conservation easements, purchase of development rights or transfer of development rights on those lands.	Ongoing	Town Board/Plan Commission
Action 3: Protect lands identified as Wisconsin Forest Legacy Areas and areas identified in the Land Legacy Report.	Ongoing	Town Board/Plan Commission
Action 4: Support efforts by non-profit organizations such as land trusts, private organizations, and private landowners to preserve forestland.	Ongoing	Town Board/Plan Commission
Objective 2: Encourage multiple uses of forest resources.		
Action 1: Engage all forest users to become involved in the development of forest management policy, which may identify and prevent user conflicts. a. Co-ordinate enforcement of existing regulations when using the forest trail network. Work with the County, State, and USFS to develop and review future use policy.	Ongoing	Town Board/Plan Commission
Action 2: Promote the recreational value of the town’s access and use of large amounts of public land. b. Post existing trail networks on maps at the town hall. Continue to work with, support and cooperate with service clubs and organizations related to the maintenance and development of forest based recreational facilities and activities.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/Town Board

Goal 2: Preserve forest integrity.

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective 1: Promote a healthy vigorous forest.		
Action 1: Work cooperatively with Sawyer County as it relates to the Town of Round Lake Comprehensive Plan.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/Town Board/Sawyer County Zoning

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Action 2: Work cooperatively with the USFS as it relates to the Town of Round Lake Comprehensive Plan.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/Town Board
Action 3: Work cooperatively with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources as it relates to the Town of Round Lake Comprehensive Plan.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/ Town Board
Action 4: Use forestry “best management practices” as minimum standards for logging within the Town of Round Lake.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 5: Encourage forest landowners to enroll in Wisconsin’s Managed Forest Law program.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 6: Encourage land owners to develop, update and maintain forest management plans.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 7: Encourage the use of native species in plantings and implement control measures to prevent the spread of invasive species that can have negative ecological, economic, and social impacts to forests.	Ongoing	Town Board/Plan Commission/Lakes Association
Action 8: Plan for emergency fuel reduction in the event of forest insect or disease outbreak, storm damage, or forest fire event, which may result in large areas of dead, downed, or dying trees.	Ongoing	Sawyer County/WDNR/US Forest Service/Town Board
Objective 2: Discourage forest parcelization and isolation.		
Action 1: Explore more effective land use controls and incentives for retaining the town’s large, contiguous forestry tracts including but not limited to: establishing larger minimum lot sizes, setting maximum residential densities, controlling the location and extent of the non-forestry areas.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/ Town Board
Action 2: Consult with Tribes and intertribal agencies during decision-making processes.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/Town Board
Action 3: Encourage cluster development which reduces further forest fragmentation.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/Town Board
Action 4: Support the acquisition of privately owned forestland by WDNR, county, or non-profit organizations.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 5: Encourage the donation of privately owned forestland by private landowners, public utilities, the Wisconsin Board of Commissioners of Public Lands and others for conservation purposes.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 6: Encourage reforestation to protect large contiguous blocks of forest.	Ongoing	Town Board/Plan Commission
Action 7: Protect threatened, cultural, and economically significant forest areas within the Town of Round Lake.	Ongoing	Town Board/Plan Commission

Metallic Mining

Goal 1: Assure that any development of metallic resources is done without adversely affecting other natural and cultural resources.

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective 1: Provide access to metallic resources in a manner consistent with the other goals of this element.		
Action 1: Monitor the permitting process for metallic mines.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 2: Prepare a draft of restrictions, safeguards and other requirements that The Town of Round Lake believes necessary for protecting the public health, safety and welfare of its residents in the establishment and operation of a metallic mining site.	Ongoing	Town Plan Commission

Non Metallic Mining

Goal 1: Assure an adequate supply of non-metallic resources for local construction purposes while protecting other natural and cultural resources.

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective 1: Provide access to non-metallic resources in a manner consistent with the other goals of this element.		
Action 1: Identify and encourage best-practices operation of current non-metallic mining sites.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 2: Monitor conditional use permits of non-metallic sites.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 3: Monitor reclamation plans including the proposed end use of the site.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 4: Identify sites registered as the location of marketable non-metallic resources.	2011	Town Board

Cultural Resources

Goal 1: Identify, preserve, enhance and promote the town’s cultural heritage resources, including historical places, archaeological sites and landscapes.

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective 1: Identify the town’s historic and cultural resources.		
Action 1: Work with the Lac Courte Oreilles tribal members to identify and preserve their cultural heritage.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/ LCO Tribal Government
Action 2: Identify and develop a list of any potential or registered historical places in the town.	2012	Plan Commission/Sawyer County Historical Society

Action 3: Evaluate local cultural and historic resources in conjunction with developing a local landmark program.	2012	Plan Commission
Objective 2: Expand knowledge of recognized and newly identified cultural and historic resources.		
Action 1: Promote the Sawyer County Historical Society.	Ongoing	Plan Commission
Action 2: Encourage local historians to record oral histories and compile written and pictorial histories.	Ongoing	Plan Commission
Action 3: Work with private landowners on the preservation of historic buildings, farmland, and logging sites.	Ongoing	Plan Commission

Economic Development

Goal 1: Allow for high quality economic development that emphasizes the natural environment of the town.

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective 1: Prevent uncontrolled commercial development.		
Action 1: Plan for development that will enhance the community character and limit sprawl.	Ongoing	Plan Commission
Action 2: Keep commercial development centralized on main transportation corridors and around existing development in areas identified on the Future Land Use Map.	Ongoing	Plan Commission
Action 3: Strive to balance economic development needs with the desire to preserve our rural northwoods quality of life for current and future residents.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 4: Support future development that preserves open space and natural areas.	Ongoing	Plan Commission
Objective 2: Attract and retain quality businesses and industries that improve the employment and personal income base of the town.		
Action 1: Focus economic development activities on light industrial/manufacturing, high tech manufacturing, tourism and recreational activities, forest product and agricultural activities desirable to the community.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 2: Limit new commercial/industrial activity to those areas designated for such use on the Future Land Use Map in order to minimize adverse impacts upon surrounding land use.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 3: Work with existing businesses to ensure their ability to meet future expansion needs locally.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 4: Provide business owners with the opportunity to interact more directly with the town to express questions, concerns, and comments.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 5: Encourage local entrepreneurs who seek to expand and diversify the town’s economy by establishing home occupations, provided such uses do not constitute a nuisance to neighboring properties (i.e. excessive noise, traffic, odors, vibration, etc) or deter from the rural character of the area (i.e. signage, lighting, etc.).	Ongoing	Town Board

Action 6: Work with utility companies to improve telecommunications throughout the Town providing adequate infrastructure and public services to accommodate home-based businesses.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 7: Support the use of available federal, state, and private grants to promote economic development opportunities.	Ongoing	Town Board
Objective 3: Ensure that future commercial and industrial development is compatible with the rural character of the Town of Round Lake.		
Action 1: Adopt standards for commercial development, which reflects a northwoods character.	2010	Town Board
Action 2: Adopt standards for signage, lighting and landscaping for commercial/industrial development within the town.	2010	Town Board
Action 3: Adopt design standards for use in commercial and industrial construction.	2010	Town Board

Intergovernmental Cooperation

Goal 1: Establish mutually beneficial relations with County and adjoining governmental jurisdictions.

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective 1: Prevent uncontrolled commercial development.		
Action 1: Provide a copy of the Comprehensive Plan and any proposed Plan updates or amendments to governmental units within the Town, Public Library, neighboring governmental units, and Sawyer County.	Ongoing	Plan Commission
Action 2: Identify alternative solutions to existing or potential land use, administration or policy conflicts that may hinder intergovernmental cooperation.	Ongoing	Town Board/Plan Commission
Action 3: Improve working relationships with neighboring communities and governmental units to provide efficient and cost effective emergency services, road maintenance, and other services when appropriate.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 4: Improve communication with the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors regarding local issues, concerns, long-range planning and land use controls.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 5: Maintain timely and effective correspondence with Sawyer County, the U.S. Forest Service, Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Wisconsin Town’s Association, area schools, and other groups and agencies.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 6: Maintain constructive relationships with the various levels of government, non-governmental organizations and private organizations that have a vested interest in the protection and conservation of land and water resources.	Ongoing	Town Board/Plan Commission

Goal 2: Coordinate and communicate planning activities with other communities and non-governmental units in the county to address regional issues that cross political and watershed boundaries and jurisdictions, to ensure efficient use and management of resources, and to provide for increased understanding between all levels of government, developers and landowners.

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective 1: Foster effective intergovernmental working relationships that exhibit mutual trust and respect.		
Action 1: Participate in a joint meeting schedule, as needed, between local government units to encourage discussion and action on area issues, long-range planning and land use controls.	Ongoing	Town Board/Plan Commission
Action 2: Create opportunities to jointly hold public forums and workshops to exchange information and increase public understanding and acceptance of innovative planning tools, programs, and regulatory procedures.	Ongoing	Town Board/Plan Commission
Action 3: Maintain constructive and working relationships with the various levels of government, non-governmental organizations and private organizations that have a vested interest in the protection and conservation of known environmentally sensitive areas, environmental corridors, agricultural and forested lands, and significant rural conservation of natural resource areas from premature development.	Ongoing	Town Board/Plan Commission
Action 4: Encourage local government agencies to provide timely notifications to the Town of Round Lake about proposed developments, land subdivisions, rezoning, and public improvements from that town which is closest to our border.	Ongoing	Town Board/Plan Commission
Action 5: Provide timely notifications regarding proposed rezoning or conditional use permits in the Town of Round Lake to the clerk of nearest bordering town.	Ongoing	Town Board/Plan Commission
Action 6: Support the efforts of Sawyer County to adopt and implement county Comprehensive plans encompassing the principles of Smart Growth and consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.	Ongoing	Town Board/Plan Commission
Action 7: Improve communication with the public regarding the announcement of meetings, activities, development projects, and programs.	Ongoing	Town Board

Goal 3: Seek opportunities to enhance the provision of coordinated public services and facilities such as police, fire, emergency rescue, and waste management, transportation systems (e.g. roads, bike/pedestrian routes, and transit), parks and recreation with other units of government.

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective 1: Share community facilities wherever possible.		

Action 1: Utilize the use of bulk purchasing arrangements with neighboring local governments for the purchase of such things as road salt, fuel, roadwork supplies and machinery to lower the unit cost of materials and supplies.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 2: Pursue opportunities with local units of government to package bid proposals for services such as garbage and recycling services.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 3: Share information, equipment, resources, facilities, technology and services that have cross-jurisdictional applications.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 4: Identify opportunities to jointly provide expanded or new services such as additional recreational programs, transit programs, bicycle trail and park facilities with neighboring communities.	Ongoing	Town Board/Plan Commission
Action 5: Pursue joint purchasing or use of equipment, facilities or services.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 6: Before the purchase of new town facilities or equipment or the re-instatement of service agreements, the town shall pursue options for trading, renting, sharing, or contraction such items from neighboring jurisdictions.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 7: Request Sawyer County prioritizes the development of parcel level data for the Town of Round Lake.	2010	Sawyer County

Land Use

Goal 1: Promote coherent, consistent land use planning that maintains the town’s distinctive rural and northwoods character.

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective 1: Prevent uncontrolled commercial development.		
Action 1: Promote cooperation in planning for development/redevelopment, facilities, and services with adjacent towns, land trusts, counties, WDNR, and the USFS.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 2: Promote development of open space, trails, parks, and recreational opportunities affording the maximum benefit to the community.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 3: Focus new areas of growth within or near existing areas of development where adequate public facilities and services exist (or are planned).	Ongoing	Plan Commission/Town Board
Action 4: Encourage utilization of the existing road network to accommodate future development.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/Town Board
Action 5: New Planned Unit Developments should be guided to the Residential Expansion Area on the Future Land Use Map.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/Town Board

Action 6: Support a variety of lot sizes including a recommended 3 acre minimum in Residential Expansion Areas on the Future Land Use Map and a minimum lot size of two acres in non-waterfront areas of the shoreland zone. Encourage maintaining large tracts of forested land by recommending a minimum parcel size of 10 acres in Private Forest on the Future Land Use Map.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/Town Board
Action 7: Encourage commercial development consistent with rural and northwoods character by discouraging large “chain” run corporations.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/Town Board
Action 8: Allow a limited amount of planned, mixed-use development provided that such development is located in areas designated on the Future land Use map.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/Town Board
Action 9: Consider long-term implications of land use decisions.	Ongoing	Town Board/Plan Commission
Action 10: Encourage the county to support the town’s decisions regarding zoning.	Ongoing	Town Board
Objective 2: Promote positive environmental practices that protect natural resources, including wetlands, wildlife habitats, lakes, woodlands, open spaces and groundwater resources.		
Action 1: Conduct and maintain a comprehensive assessment of the condition of the town’s natural and environmental resources.	Ongoing	Plan Commission
Action 2: Protect environmentally sensitive, cultural, and archaeological important areas.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/Town Board
Action 3: Promote residential densities that minimize effects on the environment.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/Town Board
Action 4: Promote the protection of farmland and forests.	Ongoing	Plan Commission/Town Board

Goal 2: Minimize land use conflicts between development and existing or future land use, and between development and the environment.

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective 1: Avoid practices that would result in land use conflicts for adjacent properties.		
Action 1: Emphasize sound land use choices that recognize adjacent land use practices and will not interfere with their use.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 2: Educate and encourage private property owners to manage their land to emphasize the town’s rural and northwoods character.	Ongoing	Plan Commission
Action 3: Require new development/redevelopment to address adjacent land use compatibility with regard to noise potential, odor, population density, appearance, traffic generation, and light pollution.	2010	Town Board
Action 4: Encourage all development/ redevelopment to minimize the visual impact by using methods such as vegetative buffers and landscaping, curved driveways, and colors that blend in with the natural surroundings.	Ongoing	Plan Commission

Action 5: Discourage future keyhole development to stop over-development of lakeshore property.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 6: Work to prevent “spot zoning” and maintain zoned use.	Ongoing	Town Board
Objective 2: Avoid practices that would result in land use conflict with environmental factors.		
Action 1: Require a master site plan for all development/redevelopment.	2010	Town Board
Action 2: Encourage higher density development/redevelopment to be located away from environmentally sensitive areas.	Ongoing	Plan Commission
Action 3: New development/redevelopment along the edges of environmental, cultural, and archaeologically important areas will require an appropriate buffer zone. These areas should not otherwise be altered.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 4: Recommend new retail and commercial development be located away from the shoreland zone.	Ongoing	Plan Commission
Action 5: Support commercial, light industrial, and manufacturing operations that have little environmental impact or waste.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 6. Educate developers and builders on environmental regulations and best practices.	Ongoing	Plan Commission

Goal 3: Balance individual property rights with public rights and community goals and interests.

	Target	Responsible Party
Objective 1: Ensure all property owners have equal opportunity to participate in the implementation of their public and private property rights in addressing future land use development.		
Action 1: Maintain relevant information on the Town website.	Ongoing	Town Clerk
Action 2: Provide information on public property rights addressed as part of Wisconsin’s Public Trust Doctrine.	2010	Plan Commission
Action 3: Provide information on private property rights addressed in county/town statutes.	Ongoing	Town Board
Action 4: Minimize property right conflicts through discussion and education.	Ongoing	Plan Commission
Objective 2: Protect and enhance land values by incorporating public and private land use rights into the planning process.		
Action 1: Emphasize sound land use choices that recognize adjacent land use practices.	Ongoing	Plan Commission
Action 2: Consider long-term implications of land use decisions on land value.	Ongoing	Town Board

Plan Updates and Revisions

The Town of Round Lake Comprehensive Plan is intended to be a living document. Over time, social and economic conditions and values tend to change. The comprehensive plan will be updated periodically to reflect these changes. Systematic, periodic updates will ensure that not only the statistical data is current but also the plan’s goals, objectives, and actions reflect the current situation. Under current law, it is required that an update of the plan be undertaken every ten years.

To ensure that both year-round and seasonal residents are involved in plan amendments, the following process will be followed to allow public involvement and comment. The Town of Round Lake Plan Commission will undertake a review of the plan at two-year increments from the time of formal adoption by the Town Board and shall consider necessary amendment(s) to the plan resulting from property owner requests and changes to social, environmental, and economic conditions. Upon the Plan Commission review, recommended changes to the plan shall be forwarded to the Town Board. The Town of Round Lake Board of Supervisors will call a public hearing to afford property owners time to review and comment on recommended plan changes. The public hearing will be advertised using a Class I notice. Based on public input, Plan Commission recommendations, and other facts, the Town Board will then formally act on the recommended amendment(s). During plan amendments, it is important that the Public Participation Plan be utilized to ensure public input.

Conclusion

The Town of Round Lake Comprehensive Plan is intended to be a dynamic and evolving document. Periodic revision and update of the plan will ensure that it is accurate and consistent with the wishes and desires of the community. Plan recommendations in this document give the community a means for achieving their community vision and provide the basis for evaluation of development proposals. The specific action statements are meant to serve as the mechanisms for achieving the goals and objectives, which were defined throughout the planning process. Overall, the comprehensive plan provides a guide and policy framework for development of the Town of Round Lake.