

Implementation

This 2019 Update and the Town of Round Lake 2009 Comprehensive Plan are intended to help guide growth and development decisions within the Town. The documents are to be used in conjunction with each other. This Update features updated statistics and projections but does not include reprints of information that has not changed since 2009. That information continues to be available in the Town of Round Lake 2009 Comprehensive Plan. This Update and the Town of Round Lake 2009 Comprehensive Plan are not intended to be a static set of rules; rather, they are intended to allow flexibility in light of new information or opportunities.

The Town's Plan Commission, Town Board and citizens, while reviewing proposals pertaining to growth and development of the Town, will refer to this Update as well as the Town of Round Lake 2009 Comprehensive Plan. The following process will continue 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 updates 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 updates. During plan updates, it is important that the Public Participation Plan be utilized to ensure public input.

Goals and Objectives were developed for each of the nine elements featured in the Town of Round Lake Comprehensive Plan and its Update. They are as follows:

Goals and Objectives

Element One: Issues and Opportunities

Goal 1: Continuous and timely communication between the Town of Round Lake Board of Supervisors and the Plan Commission.

Objective 1: Town of Round Lake Plan Commission and Board Supervisors to keep each other apprised of changes to Issues and Opportunities.

Objective 2: Town of Round Lake Plan Commission and Board of Supervisors to keep each other apprised of changes or additions to ordinances, development proposals and other requests or actions.

Element Two: Housing Facilities

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

Objective 1: Encourage the development of new housing into locations that ensures minimal environmental impact.

Objective 2: Retain the natural beauty of the Town of Round Lake.

Objective 3: Encourage conservation design and cluster development that results in open green space and protection of vulnerable natural resources.

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

Objective 1: Adhere to plan and design standards for new mobile home parks, apartment complexes and senior housing.

Goal 3: Encourage regulations that promote efficient, effective and equitable development patterns.

Objective 1: Support Sawyer County subdivision ordinances.

Element Three: Transportation

Goal 1: A safe and efficient transportation system.

Objective 1: Maintain a safe and efficient roadway system throughout the town.

Objective 2: Develop, maintain and improve roads to meet the Town’s future transportation needs and safety requirements.

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

Objective 1: Encourage a transportation system that preserves the rural character of the Town.

Goal 3: Accommodate the growing number of other modes of transportation and recreational uses for the roads including ATV/UTVs, snowmobiles, biking, hiking, cross country ski training and running.

Objective 1: Investigate ways to coordinate different modes of transportation while preserving the Northwoods character.

Element Four: Utilities and Community Facilities

Goal 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.

Objective 1: Encourage eco-friendly living that follows best green practices.

Objective 2: Avoid environmentally sensitive areas when upgrading existing utilities and community facilities.

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

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.

Goal 3: Promote and encourage solid waste and recycling practices that protect the environment.

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 land use within the town.

Objective 2: Require major developers to adequately address solid waste disposal and recycling needs

Objective 3: Promote and encourage availability of educational materials for eco-friendly living that follows best green practices.

Element Four: Utilities and Community Facilities (continued)

Goal 4: Promote recreational facilities within the Town of Round Lake.

Goal 5: Promote use of all educational opportunities available to the town.

Goal 6: Ensure a level of fire protection and emergency services that meets the needs of existing demands of residents and future developments patterns.

Goal 7: Ensure that police services are appropriately meeting the existing and future needs of the town.

Objective 1: Continue involvement with the Sawyer County Sheriff’s Department in its efforts to provide police protection and community outreach.

Objective 2: Monitor and evaluate the need for Town police presence (i.e. constable dedicated county liaison).

Goal 8: Provide quality cost effective town facilities and services that meet the existing and future demands of residents, landowners, and visitors.

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.

Objective 2: Enhance Town’s to include more information about the Town to help educate public about policies, procedures and community activities.

Element Five: Agricultural, Natural and Cultural Resources

Agricultural, natural and cultural resources are important to the Town of Round Lake. As such, several ongoing goals and objectives have been developed, specific to each resource group, to assist the Town in addressing the associated requirements. Consistent with the primary objectives of the Comprehensive Plans for both the State of Wisconsin and Sawyer County, the Town of Round Lake’s vision for proper stewardship of Agricultural Resources is: To preserve and enhance farming as both an environmentally responsible occupation and sustainable agricultural business while maintaining productive farmland and preserving natural resources.

Agricultural Resources:

Goal 1: Preserve and enhance farming as a business.

Objective 1: Encourage the support of “local food systems” with the purpose of:

- Conservation of fuel/energy transportation costs.
- Economically support small, local businesses
- Increasing the quality and integrity of the local food supply
- Establishment of ethically accountable relationships between consumers and local growers/providers.

Objective 2: Promote farming practices that ensure food safety and support public health.

Element Five: Agricultural Resources (continued)

- Objective 3: Foster respect for the viability and necessity of agriculture and its practices that are appropriately scaled for this environment and the natural resources, so that farming practices of integrity can occur without creating conflicts between agricultural & non-agricultural users.
- Objective 4: Encourage uniform farm practices that are environmentally sound emphasizing organic, biodynamic and regenerative practices.
- Objective 5: Promote proper agricultural manure and nutrient management to mitigate risk of non-point water pollution and/or airborne pathogens.

Goal 2: Preserve agricultural land for farming.

- Objective 1: Support integrity of agricultural land use in the Town and encourage development and implementation of appropriate agricultural zoning policies to prevent fragmentation of agricultural land (prime farmland, unique farmland, farmland of statewide importance, and farmland of local importance as discussed in the Agricultural Resource Inventory section of this document).
- Objective 2: Promote awareness of Agricultural Programs available to agricultural landowners and of the principles of WI Statute 91, the Farmland Preservation Program (to preserve agricultural land, minimize conflicting land uses, and promote soil and water conservation).
- Objective 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, etc.). This includes prohibiting high capacity wells.
- Objective 4: Restrict the non-agricultural use of agricultural areas.
- Objective 5: Ensure that developmental growth is compatible with continued agricultural production.
- Objective 6: Monitor development and environmental impact of biofuel agriculture and Large Scale Animal Feeding Operations as they occur in other parts of the state/country and facilitate adoption of local/county ordinances that will protect against the degradation of the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the Town and its environment as well as preserve, with integrity, the Northwoods Character.

Natural Resources:

- Goal 1: To protect, enhance and promote the sustainable use and management of the Town’s environmental diversity, natural resources, natural beauty and Northwoods character, defined as “A balanced and tranquil environment centered on the Natural World, rich with forests and fresh waters. We need to preserve and protect these natural surroundings, which are to be cherished.”**
- Objective 1: Protect environmentally sensitive and vulnerable resources.
- Objective 2: Enforce and promote appropriate plans and ordinances to enhance the protection of Wisconsin’s public trust waters and shorelines.

Element Five: Natural Resources (continued)

- Objective 3: Develop and maintain a comprehensive open space and by-ways plan inclusive of the diversity of recreational interests.
- Objective 4: Cultivate a culture of stewardship with both property owners and visitors encouraging conscientiousness, responsibility, legacy and environmentalism.
- Objective 5: Develop design ordinances that limits the deployment and type of outdoor advertising along scenic by-ways and public rights-of-ways.
- Objective 6: Promote plans, ordinances and design standards that enhance and sustain Northwoods character. 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, etc.
 - The continuation of local restaurants, local businesses, small family farms and resorts, etc.
 - The absence of billboards, big box businesses, chain stores, overzealous shoreline development, etc....
- Objective 7: Promote outdoor lighting ordinances and design standards that maintain public access to dark skies.
- Objective 8: Conserve productive forestland by expanding the use of conservation easements, incentives, and voluntary, long-term stewardship of forestlands.
- Objective 9: Preserve forest integrity by promoting a healthy vigorous forest and discouraging forest parcelization and isolation.

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

- Objective 1: Reduce non-point nutrient and erosion runoff.
- Objective 2: Protect sensitive shore lands by limiting development, requiring buffers of natural vegetation and insisting that wetlands remain in their natural condition.
- Objective 3: Reduce property/road damage and ensure a high level of water quality by promoting storm water management practices.

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

- Objective 1: Identify potential point and non-point sources of pollution.
- Objective 2: Evaluate the potential impacts of development proposals on groundwater quality and quantity.
- Objective 3: Design ordinance prohibiting high capacity wells.
- Objective 4: Support a well abandonment program.
- Objective 5: Limit excessive irrigation practices and prohibit use of proposed or existing irrigation or injection systems for the distribution of liquid manure.

Element Five (continued)

Cultural Resources:

Goal 1: Preserve the Town cultural resources

Objective 1: Identify more of the Town’s Historic and contemporary cultural resources.

Objective 2: Honor and celebrate the Town’s cultural resources.

Element Six: Economic Development

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

Objective 1: Prevent uncontrolled commercial development.

Objective 2: Attract and retain quality businesses and industries that improve the employment and personal income base of the town.

Objective 3: Ensure that future commercial and industrial development is compatible with the rural character of the Town of Round Lake.

Element Seven: Intergovernmental Cooperation

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

Objective 1: Establish and maintain positive communication with other units of government.

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 certainty between all levels of government, developers and landowners.

Objective 1: Foster effective intergovernmental working relationships that exhibit mutual trust and respect.

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

Objective 1: Share community facilities wherever possible.

Element Eight: Land Use

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

Objective 1: Support a planned development/redevelopment pattern that makes efficient and effective use of land, public services, and financial resources while guiding land use decisions.

Objective 2: Promote positive environmental practices that protect natural resources, including wetlands, wildlife habitats, lakes, woodlands, open spaces and groundwater resources.

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

Objective 1: Avoid practices that would result in land use conflicts for adjacent properties.

Objective 2: Avoid practices that would result in land use conflict with environmental factors.

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

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.

Element Nine: Implementation

Goal 1: Consider the information from all elements found in this Update and in the Town of Round Lake 2009 Comprehensive Plan when evaluating proposals pertaining to growth and development of the Town.

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