

UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES

4.1 INTRODUCTION

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

4.2 66.1001 REQUIREMENTS

This element of the plan contains a compilation of background information, goals, objectives, actions, and recommended programs to guide the future maintenance and development of utilities and community facilities in the Town of Stinnett as required under Wisconsin §66.1001.

4.3 EXISTING UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Water Supply

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

On-Site Waste Disposal Facilities

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

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

Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling Facilities

Prior to 1969, solid waste management in Washburn County consisted primarily of individuals hauling to unsupervised open municipal dumps. Since that time, state and federal codes have

become more restrictive and non-hazardous household wastes are landfilled only in licensed facilities. These solid waste disposal sites or landfills are important potential sources of groundwater pollution. It wasn't until approximately 1990, when the costs to comply with state codes ultimately forced towns to close dumpsites that could not be upgraded. The municipal dump in the Town of Stinnett also closed at that time. It is likely that most town, village, or city disposal sites are contaminated to some degree because of inadequate methods of disposal and monitoring techniques used at the time of operation. Table 4.1 shows information regarding old dump(s) in the Town of Stinnett and Map 4.1 shows the location of closed municipal dumps.

Table 4.1: Town of Stinnett Waste Disposal Sites

Facility Name	Legal Description	Status
Stinnett Town Dump	SE SE S27 41N 10W	Inactive

Browning-Ferris-Industries Inc. (BFI) provides both garbage and recycling pick-up services to residents of Washburn County and runs the only private sanitary landfill in Washburn County, which is located on CTH D in the Town of Sarona. A current proposed expansion would serve municipalities and industries located in 22 Wisconsin counties and 2 Minnesota counties. Waste Management also serves a portion of Washburn County. Township residents have their choice of garbage haulers.



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

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

Stormwater Management

The management and regulation of stormwater is divided among federal, state, county, and local governments depending on the status of incorporation and size and the activities affecting stormwater. Towns that have a population of less than 10,000 and are not included in a priority watershed are not required to obtain municipal stormwater discharge permits under Administrative Code NR 216. The Town of Stinnett permits stormwater to drain through a series of ditches and culverts along town roadways. The town does not have a stormwater management plan in place, and may research municipal storm sewer systems in the future if development occurs.

Law Enforcement

The Town of Stinnett does not have a police station or its own police department. The Washburn County Sheriff’s Department serves as the primary law enforcement agency to the Town of Stinnett. The department’s administrative functions and jail facility are located in the City of Shell Lake and provide emergency assistance to an 816 square mile area. The department operates on a split shift schedule. From May 1 to October 31, patrol officers work nine-hour shifts and from November 1 to April 30, patrol officers work eight-hour shifts. At any given time, one to three patrol officers are on duty each with his/her own cruiser.

All emergency calls should use 911, which is staffed 24-hours by the Washburn County Sheriff’s Department.

Fire and Rescue

By intergovernmental agreement, the Town of Stinnett is served by the Town of Hayward Volunteer Fire Department, located at 15460W Hwy 77 East in Hayward. The department operates two pumpers, two tankers, one trailer/pump, a rescue truck, a brush buggy, and a personal truck. Twenty-five volunteers, two of who are licensed first responders, staff the department. Any facility expansions or changes are the responsibility of the Town of Hayward Fire Department.

Ambulance services are provided through a combination of both full-time and volunteer staff of the Hayward Area Memorial Hospital located at 11040 N State Rd 77 in the City of Hayward. In emergency situations, rescue services may also come from the Stone Lake EMT squad.

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

Libraries

Residents of the Town of Stinnett can utilize the City of Shell Lake Public Library at 501 1st Street, the City of Spooner Public Library at 421 High Street, or the Hayward Carnegie Library located at 10538 Main Street, Hayward.

Town Hall/Garage

The town hall is located along CTH M in the community of Stanberry in the south-central portion of the town. There is no town garage in Stinnett. See Map 4.1 for town hall locations.

Cemeteries

There are no known cemeteries in the Town of Stinnett.

4.4 COMMUNICATION FACILITIES

Due to the increase in use of wireless communication, the construction of telecommunication towers is an issue that towns are addressing more often. Access to wireless communication

facilities is becoming more and more important in the modern world. Currently, no telecommunication (cell) towers are located in the Town of Stinnett. Over time, as wireless communication companies look to expand their services, additional cellular towers may be erected in the town. Washburn County currently has cell tower guidelines in place for the construction of all new towers. As part of the planning process, the town should work with the county in determining acceptable locations for possible future tower locations and ordinances. Map 4.1 depicts current cell tower locations in Washburn County.

CenturyTel, Inc. serves the town for local telephone communications. Multiple companies are available to provide long distance telephone and internet services. The quality of telecommunication services depends on the capacity of the network that serves the Town of Stinnett. Future services will be dependant on identifying and planning for future development areas. The comprehensive plan will help guide decisions for installing and upgrading facilities, which will be needed to provide quality services as the town’s population increases.

Power Plants, Substations, and Transmission Lines

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

Transmission lines are the largest and most visible electric lines on the landscape. These lines generate the most public interest because they are the most noticeable electric lines and because of the potential human and animal health affects associated with them. Transmission lines transport electricity from power plants to substations and operate at several hundred thousand volts (typically ranging from 46,000 to 345,000 volts), stand anywhere between 60 and 100 feet tall, and serve several hundred thousand customers. The Public Service Commission (PSC) is the branch of Wisconsin State government with the overall responsibility of regulating electric utilities. Substations are land stations in which electric current is transformed from transmission lines to distribution lines.

There is one transmission line located in the Town of Stinnett. It enters the south-central part of the town, travels in a northwesterly fashion through the town, and enters Frog Creek. Map 4.2 (Utilities) depicts transmission lines and substations located in Washburn County.

Arrowhead to Weston 345 kV Transmission Line

The main element of this project is the construction of a high capacity 345kV transmission circuit to help strengthen the bulk transmission system serving the North Central region of the US and Central Canada. The line would be built between the strong electrical systems of Central Wisconsin and Northeastern Minnesota and would provide a second high capacity route for electric energy to traverse the Wisconsin – Minnesota transmission system.

The transmission line crossing the Town of Stinnett is proposed for upgrade. The proposed Arrowhead-Weston power transmission line being developed by the American Transmission Corporation (ATC) and will cross a portion of the town. Based on information *currently available* to local governments, ATC has proposed to provide the Town of Stinnett with a one-time environmental impact fee payment of \$ 265,768 and an annual impact fee for the proposed 6.9 miles of line to traverse the Town of Stinnett. The proposed annual impact fee would be on a

sliding scale where in some out-year the annual impact fee would reach \$0. The project is still being negotiated at the county level and no agreements have been reached at the time of this printing.

The proposed route had been accepted and passed by the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin in October 2001. Since then, the proposal has been re-filed with the Public Service Commission (December 2002), in order to re-evaluate the existing proposal. For example, the cost was estimated at \$165 million in 2001; but after some adjustments, the cost has risen to \$350 million. The project opened up for more public hearings in Spring of 2003. At the time of this writing, hearings and discussions continue on the project.

In the Town of Stinnett, the proposed transmission line is scheduled to follow the existing Wisconsin Central Limited (WCL) right a way, which bisects the town from its northwest corner diagonally, through Stanberry and into the Town of Bass Lake. For more information contact the Wisconsin Public Service Commission.

4.5 ELECTRIC AND GAS UTILITIES

Barron Electric is the primary provider of electric services to the Town of Stinnett. For more information on electric service providers see this element of the *Washburn County Comprehensive Plan*. Map 4.2 depicts Electric Utility Territories in Washburn County.

In the Town of Stinnett, natural gas services are provided by We Energies. A steel high-pressure natural gas main with a carrying capacity of 450 pounds of pressure runs from Shell Lake through the very northern tip of the town following STH 63 into Sawyer County. There are currently no residents in Stinnett that are receiving natural gas from the main line running parallel with STH 63. Any future extension of the main line to Town of Stinnett residents would depend on year-round home heating customers who would be willing to pay for the extension.

4.6 MEDICAL/HEALTH CARE AND OTHER FACILITIES

The Town of Stinnett has no medical facilities within its boundaries. Residents can receive full medical services at either Spooner Health System, Spooner or at Hayward Memorial Hospital, Hayward. Both of these hospitals operate a facility that is staffed 24 hours a day to respond to medical emergencies in Washburn County, and Sawyer County, the Town of Stinnett and its surrounding area. See Map 4.1, Community Facilities for hospital locations.

Senior Care Facilities

There are currently no licensed nursing home facilities located in the Town of Stinnett. Residents who need these facilities can find them in the Villages of Birchwood or Minong and the Cities of Shell Lake, Spooner, or Hayward (Sawyer County).

Child Care Facilities

There is currently one known childcare facility (Tall Oaks Child Care) located in the Town of Stinnett. Residents can also access childcare facilities in other areas of Washburn County, or in the Hayward area (Sawyer County). The town has no plans to develop childcare facilities over the next 20 years. For more information on childcare facilities, see the Utilities and Community Facilities Element of the Washburn County Comprehensive Plan.

4.7 EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

Most school age children in the Town of Stinnett attend public schools in the Hayward Community School District. According to the last available school census (for the 2000-2001 school year on a district-wide basis), there were 1,929 pupils in the Hayward School District. Based on a 1999 survey conducted on a school-by-school basis by the Department of Public Instruction (DPI), the elementary and high schools in the Hayward Community School District were all rated as being overcrowded. This survey is the result of Section 115.33(4), Wis. Stats. enacted into law in 1998 that requires the state superintendent to conduct a study of the physical condition and capacity of the public schools and their suitability for use as public schools. Based on the population projections in Table 1.2 of the Issues and Opportunities element, total population is predicted to rise through the year 2020, some of which will be school age children. Educational facilities are expressed in more detail in the Utilities and Community Facilities element of the *Washburn County Comprehensive Plan* and school district boundaries are depicted in Map 4.3.

4.8 RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Parks and Campgrounds

As of September 2002, there is one park located in the Town of Stinnett. Town Park is a five-acre park on the south edge of the community of Stanberry. The park contains a ball field (Clyde Groat Field), shelter, rest rooms and a well. Davis Flowage Primitive Boat-In Campsites is located three miles north of Stanberry. Access to the flowage is from a boat landing along Chippanazie Road on the east side of the flowage. No other motorized access to the flowage exists except for a short float down Chippanazie Creek. Campsites are available off the west end of the flowage. Refer to Map 4.4, Park and Recreation Areas in Washburn County for park locations.

Trails

Trail #39, which is a snowmobile trail, is the only designated trail in Stinnett. Refer to Map 4.4, Park and Recreation Areas in Washburn County, for trail locations.

Public Access Points

Public access points are points of entry for the public to make use of public lakes, forests, and parks. Public access points would include boat landings, carry-in sites, waysides, or road crossings. In the Town of Stinnett, there are five public access points, which are scattered throughout the town. Boat landings are the most prevalent public access points in the Town of

Stinnett. There are three improved boat landings in the town for the public to access lakes and rivers. See Map 4.4 for Washburn County improved boat landings (boat launches) and Table 4.2 for more details.

Water Body	Section No.
Chippanazie Lake	T.41N. – R.10W. Section 12
Davis Flowage	T.41N. – R.10W. Section 14
Tranus Lake	T.41N. – R.10W. Section 19

4.9 UTILITY AND COMMUNITY FACILITY GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTION STATEMENTS

Goal: Support facilities and services that contribute to overall well-being of the community.

- Objective 1: To maintain our rural integrity and discourage additional signage.*
A. Develop and enforce a sign ordinance.

- Objective 2: Encourage utility lines to be installed underground whenever possible and plan future utility expansion and design to blend into our rural atmosphere.*
A. Coordinate with utilities on planning, implementation, and future expansion of underground lines.

- Objective 3: Discourage siting of solid waste and recycling facilities and transfer stations.*
A. Ensure county zoning restrictions reflect Town of Stinnett’s Land Use Plan.

- Objective 4: Encourage development of community related functions, services, and facilities to be open and accessible to all township residents.*
A. Research local needs for community related functions, services, and facilities.