

CHAPTER 4 Utilities and Community Facilities Element

66.1001(2)(d) Wis. Stat.:

Utilities and Community Facilities element. A compilation of objectives, policies, goals, maps and programs to guide the future development of utilities and community facilities in the local governmental unit such as sanitary sewer service, storm water management, water supply, solid waste disposal, on-site wastewater treatment technologies, recycling facilities, parks, telecommunications facilities, power-generating plants and transmission lines, cemeteries, health care facilities, child care facilities and other public facilities, such as police, fire and rescue facilities, libraries, schools and other governmental facilities. The element shall describe the location, use and capacity of existing public utilities and community facilities that serve the local governmental unit, shall include an approximate timetable that forecasts the need in the local governmental unit to expand or rehabilitate existing utilities and facilities or to create new utilities and facilities and shall assess future needs for government services in the local governmental unit that are related to such utilities and facilities.

Section 4.1 Public Utilities Inventory

A. Urban Area Wastewater Treatment and Collection System

The Urban Area is currently home to three wastewater treatment facilities: City of Stevens Point, Village of Plover and Village of Whiting (the Village of Park Ridge receives sanitary sewer service through the City of Stevens Point). Each municipality has its own collection network and sewer service area (see the individual municipal Comprehensive Plans for additional details regarding the different treatment and collection facilities). Section 4.1B below discusses the Urban Area Sewer Service Area Plan under which these wastewater facilities operate.

1. City of Stevens Point

Prior to 1940, the City of Stevens Point had no sewage treatment facilities. Raw sewage was discharged directly to the Wisconsin River via three outfalls. The original treatment plant was put into operation in 1940. Plans for the treatment plant were prompted by a State order requiring all sanitary sewage to receive primary treatment. The City elected to build a complete treatment plant, which included secondary treatment as well. Additions and reconfigurations of the facilities took place through the 1980's.

The majority of the Stevens Point sanitary sewer collection system was installed between 1920 and 1980. As of 2004 the network consists of approximately 606,100 linear feet (~114 miles) of 8" to 48" sewer pipe and 14 lift stations. The treatment facility and collection network serves the entire developed area within the City, as well as the Village of Park Ridge, and the Boundary Adjustment Area located at the southeast boundary of the City.

The sewage collection system is in fair condition. There can be 0.97 MGD of clear water infiltration into the sewage collection system. The City has a computer-generated preventative maintenance program. During 2003/4, the City performed the following maintenance on the sewer system: flushed 637,350 feet of sanitary sewer, cut 142,450 feet, and jetted 192,350 feet. Each of the lift stations are checked and maintained at least once per month. In 2004, the sanitary sewer was replaced on 2nd Street (from Maria Drive to North Point Drive).

2. Village of Plover

The Village of Plover wastewater treatment plant was constructed in 1973, rebuilt in 1987 and underwent a major upgrade in 1999. As of 2002, the facility served a resident population of 10,855 and approximately 1,100 students and staff from school facilities. Treated effluent is discharged to the Wisconsin River, approximately 1,000 feet west of the treatment plant. The Village will need to address future wastewater treatment facility needs designated by land use.

Plover's sewage collection system consists of approximately 72 miles of sewer, of which the majority consists of PVC, a heavy-duty plastic. A small portion of the collection system consists of interceptor lines; there are also 11 lift stations. The sewage collection system is in good condition. All lift stations are now monitored by telemetry.

Clear water infiltration into the sewage collection system is minimal, and is attributed to manhole covers that leak when they are submerged during heavy rains or spring thaws. A sewage collection system maintenance program is in place. Grease is periodically removed from lift stations and sewer mains are cleaned on a three-year cycle.

3. Village of Whiting

The Village of Whiting's original wastewater treatment facility was completed in 1967 with a maximum design flow of 250,000 gallons per day. In 1980, the Village of Whiting received a grant from the Wisconsin Fund (through the DNR) to cover 60% of plant upgrade construction costs which totaled \$779,345. The construction began in 1980 and was completed in 1981. Raw wastewater flow to the Whiting plant is comprised of primarily domestic sewage, with limited industrial wastewater flow entering the system. Treated effluent is discharged to the Wisconsin River, west of the treatment plant. Sludge is aerobically digested at the plant and de-watered. The resulting sludge is land spread on agricultural lands.

The majority of the Whiting sanitary sewer collection system was installed between 1963 and 1964, and consists of approximately 62,000 linear feet (~12 miles) of mainly concrete pipe. The newer sections of pipe are PVC, a heavy-duty plastic. The sewage collection system has three lift stations: one each for Stora Enso and Kimberly Clark paper companies, and one for the River Pines Center on Sherman Avenue. The Whiting treatment facility serves the entire developed area within the Village, as well the Stevens Point Area Public Schools offices located adjacent to the north of Whiting at 1900 Polk Street in Stevens Point, and residences along Elm Street and Elm Court in the Village of Plover.

The sewage collection system is in good condition. There is a negligible amount of clear water infiltration into the sewage collection system. The Village of Whiting has a 20% / year maintenance program for sewer jetting and inspection. In 2003, one lift station had minor adjustments made to float switches.

Map 4.1 details the location of the three wastewater treatment facilities, along with the current extent of the individual sewer collection systems. Table 4.1 below summarizes the basic treatment facility capacity/operation information submitted annually by each treatment facility operator to the State of Wisconsin.

Map 4.1: UA Wastewater Treatment Plants and Collection Systems

Table 4.1: Capacity Data for Urban Area Wastewater Treatment Facilities

	Design Flow (MGD)	Ave. Monthly Flow (MGD)	Peak Monthly Flow (MGD)	Design BOD (lb/day)	Ave. Monthly BOD (lb/day)	Peak Monthly BOD (lb/day)	Monthly Ave. SS Limit (mg/L)	Ave. Monthly SS (mg/L)	Peak Monthly SS (mg/L)
Stevens Point			June			December			4 months
Design Year - 2012	5.23	3.15	4.21	8,196	7,660	9,542	30	5	6
WPDES - 12/31/2010	~	60%	80%	~	93%	116%	~	17%	20%
V. Plover			August			December			3 months
Design Year - 2018	1.98	0.994	1.166	5,300	3,667	4,526	30	9	12
WPDES - 3/31/2007	~	50%	59%	~	69%	85%	~	30%	40%
V. Whiting			June			August			July
Design Year - 2002	0.604	0.298	0.4323	530	508	583	30	16	24
WPDES - 12/31/2006	~	49%	72%	~	96%	110%	~	53%	80%

Source: 2004 Compliance Maintenance Annual Reports for Stevens Point, Plover, Whiting
 MGD = million gallons per day; BOD = Biological Oxygen Demand (pounds per day); SS = Suspended Solids

The Compliance Maintenance Annual Report (CMAR) is a statutorily required summary of treatment plant operations and conditions report. The CMAR evaluates the treatment facility over nine different categories, and assigns a point score for each part. These point scores are then translated into letter grades of A through F, with accompanying “grade point average”. A grade of A or B would place the facility in the “voluntary range”, meaning any change or update to the facility is controlled by the municipality, and nothing is “required” at this time. A score of C falls into the Departmental Recommendation Range; scores of D or F fall into the Departmental Action range. Responses are required for grades C through F.

The Stevens Point 2004 CMAR had an overall grade point of 3.72 out of 4.0, with the facility and operation receiving A’s in eight of the nine categories. The “Influent Loadings” section received a D for high BOD loadings. In the report the high BOD loadings in the last quarter were explained by City personnel as being caused by the location of the influent sampling point. Once this was adjusted, they felt that the BOD levels would decrease to more typical levels.

The Village of Plover 2004 CMAR had an overall grade point of 4.0, meaning they received A’s for all nine categories reviewed; DNR actions or recommendations are unnecessary.

The Village of Whiting 2004 CMAR had an overall grade point of 3.22 out of 4.0, receiving A’s in 5 review categories along with two C’s, a D and an F. These last category scores will require responses to correct the deficiencies.

B. Sewer Service Area Planning

In the early 1980's the Villages of Plover, Whiting and Park Ridge joined with the City of Stevens Point and surrounding Towns to draft the "Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Plan" (SSP). Drafted by the Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Planning Committee and adopted in 1983, the Plan established a single future (2003) sewer service boundary for the three communities with wastewater treatment plants (Plover, Whiting and Stevens Point), as well as policies for regulating sewer service expansions within this boundary. The 1983 plan document and boundary map have not been comprehensively reviewed and over-hauled since their adoption. Map 4.2 below illustrates the original service boundary, along with all of the changes that have been approved since 1983.

The City of Stevens Point received 8 expansions to their municipal sewer service area within the 1990's, some for extending services to properties with failed septic systems, the others to facilitate new commercial and residential development that either wasn't anticipated in the original boundary calculation, or which were necessitated by lack of sufficient area remaining within the 1983 boundary. Three more requests were granted 2001 through 2003. A portion of the expansions was offset by a reduction of the City sewer boundary in other areas.

The Village of Plover received 2 boundary expansions in the 1980's, in response to failing septic systems. For the next decade the Village of Plover had few reasons to request expansion of its original territorial designation. The Village received approval for two expansions in 2004 and three in 2005 to accommodate new commercial/mixed use and industrial development requests.

The original Sewer Service Area boundary contained approximately 15,270 acres. Table 4.2 below summarizes the additions/deletions since 1983.

Table 4.2: Sewer Service Area Change, 1983-2005

	Additions		Deletions		Overall Change (ac.)
	Number	Acreage	Number	Acreage	
Stevens Point	12	1284.51	4	255.69	1028.82
V. Plover	7	1,324.85	2	220.29	1,104.56

Source: Portage County Planning & Zoning Department

The Stevens Point Urban Area Sewer Service Planning Committee will again be working in 2005 and 2006 to update the 1983 Sewer Service Plan. To assist them, the Urban Area Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee has discussed municipal land use requirements, transportation infrastructure, and utility availability through the year 2025, and recommends a 2025 Sewer Service Area Boundary as depicted in Map 4.3 below. This new boundary encompasses approximately XX,XXX acres, a XX% increase over the 1983 boundary. Please see the Land Use Element of this Comprehensive Plan for more details on the boundary-setting discussion.

Map 4.2: 2005 SSA Map

Map 4.3: Recommended 2005-2025 SSA Boundary Map
(to be inserted after discussion Sewer Service Area Plan Update)

C. Urban Area Municipal Water Systems

The Urban Area is currently home to three municipal water systems: City of Stevens Point, Village of Plover and Village of Whiting (the Village of Park Ridge residents rely on individual on-site private wells for their water supply). Each municipality has its own distribution network (see the individual municipal Comprehensive Plans for additional details regarding the different systems).

1. City of Stevens Point

The City's water supply system was originally installed in 1888 by the Stevens Point Water Company, with the supply being obtained from the Wisconsin River. In 1922, the waterworks was purchased by the City of Stevens Point, which shortly thereafter improved the system to the extent that a ground water supply was developed and the surface supply abandoned.

The City's first three wells (Well No. 1 constructed in 1923; No.2, 1930; No. 3, 1938) were located in Iverson Park, and were abandoned in 1970. The present system operated by the Stevens Point Municipal Water Utility consists of seven wells (No. 4 through 10), two elevated storage tanks, one ground level reservoir and a distribution system. The only chemical treatment for municipal water is the addition of chlorine, fluoride and a blended phosphate.

The initial elevated tank is of the ellipsoidal variety. It was installed in 1956, and has a capacity of 1,000,000 gallons. The tank was last inspected in 2004 by divers and painted in 1989. One million gallons represents about 15 percent of the average day usage. The City constructed a 750,000 gallon second tower in 2003, which came on-line in 2004. The cylindrical steel ground storage reservoir has a capacity of 2,500,000 gallons. The tank, constructed in 1968, was last inspected in 2000 and painted in 1990. Stevens Point has a combined total storage of 9.8 million gallons of water available in a 24 hour period, assuming storage structures are full and all auxiliary power units operable. This is above the current average day usage for the City.

The Stevens Point water distribution system was installed between 1888 and 2003. As of December 31, 2003, the distribution system contains 744,551 feet or 141 miles of main. The distribution system is constructed almost entirely (99%) of cast iron, and 95% is 6 inches or larger in diameter. Static pressures in the system range from 60 to 65 psi.

As of December 31, 2003, the water utility was serving approximately 8,300 residential, commercial and industrial customers and was utilizing approximately 38 percent of the total available pumping capacity of 17.4 MGD. The City of Stevens Point also supplies water to the portion of the Village of Whiting west of Whiting Avenue along Sherman Avenue (River Pines Center, Fireside Apartments, etc.). The Village of Whiting supplies water to the Stevens Point Area Public Schools offices located adjacent to the north of Whiting at 1900 Polk Street in Stevens Point. The City also supplies water to the Village of Park Ridge businesses and residences located along US Hwy 10 (Park Ridge Drive) and the commercial development located on Sunset Avenue north of US Hwy 10, as well as providing a hydrant at the Park Ridge Fire Department exclusively for fire fighting purposes. There still are a small number of individual private wells being utilized for potable water within the City of Stevens Point.

2. Village of Plover

A public utility operates three wells, which supply the Village's water. The Village's drinking water supply is obtained from underground aquifers. Groundwater flows to the Village wells generally from the northeast. Well number 1 is a screened well with gravel pack that is 112 feet deep and rated at 1,350 gallons per minute (GPM). Well number 2 is a screened well with gravel pack that is 122.5 feet deep and rated at 1,780 GPM. Well number 3 is 100' deep and rated at 1,500 GPM. The Village's water distribution system was initially installed between 1989 and 1991. As of August 2003, the water utility was serving approximately 3,600 residential, commercial and industrial customers and was utilizing approximately 20 percent of the total available pumping capacity of 6.5 million GPD.

3. Village of Whiting

The Whiting Municipal Water and Sewer Utility operates 2 wells, which supply the Village's drinking water. **Well Number 1** is a 16-inch diameter screened well with gravel pack that is 95 feet deep and rated at 1,150 gallons per minute (GPM). **Well Number 7** is a 16-inch diameter screened well with gravel pack located several hundred feet north of Well #1. It is 90 feet deep and rated at 900 GPM. The Village's drinking water supply is obtained from underground aquifers that are replenished by precipitation moving through the soil. The Whiting well fields are located north and south of County Road HH at the east end of the Village, with potable water for Village residents pumped exclusively from wells located south of Cty Rd HH. The Village also leases five other wells (3 to Stora Enso, and 2 to Kimberly-Clark) that are utilized for industrial process water. Groundwater flows to the Village wells generally from the northeast. There are no remaining individual private wells being utilized for potable water.

State and Federal regulations advise that nitrate levels in drinking water not exceed 10.00 parts per million (ppm) for health reasons. The Village of Whiting first installed a nitrate removal system, consisting of three treatment units, in 1991. Two additional treatment units were added in 2004, resulting in five units in place for nitrate removal. Whiting treats a portion of its water supply, and then blends it with untreated water to bring the nitrate level to under 10 ppm.

The Village's water distribution system was installed between 1964 and 1966. As of December 31, 2003 there was a total of 88,991 feet of water main within the Village of Whiting and a total of 689 water meters (Map 4.2). Table 4.2 below details the breakdown of pipe size and material, while Tables 4.3 and 4.4 describe the size and type of use of water meters. The Whiting Utility also maintains a total of 150 fire hydrants, with 316 distribution system valves. During 2003, all 150 hydrants were operated. None of the distribution valves were operated because the Utility was waiting for the arrival of new equipment. At year-end 2003, the equipment was in service, and valves will be operated in 2004. The Village's 250,000 gallon water tower, last inspected in 2002, was found to be in very good condition.

As of August 2003, the water utility was serving approximately 667 residential, commercial and industrial customers and was utilizing approximately 38 percent of the total available pumping capacity of 0.864 million (864,000) GPD. The Village of Whiting also supplies water to residences on Elm Street and Elm Court, and 3401 and 3421 Tommy's Turnpike Road within the Village of Plover, as well as the Stevens Point Area Public Schools offices located adjacent to the north of Whiting at 1900 Polk Street in Stevens Point. The City of Stevens Point supplies water to the portion of Whiting west of Whiting Avenue along Sherman Avenue (River Pines Center, Fireside Apartments, etc.).

Map 4.4: UA Municipal Water Systems

Map 4.5: UA Wellhead Protection Areas

Map 4.6: UA Storm Water Drainage Facilities

4. Protection of the Urban Area Municipal Water Supply

Due to the location of the various municipal wells, their associated recharge areas extend beyond the individual community's corporate limits. The Villages of Whiting and Plover and the City of Stevens Point wells are protected by wellhead protection ordinances. Portage County has wellhead protection regulations that apply in the unincorporated areas. Map 4.5 above illustrates the extent of the various well field protection zones. Please see the individual municipal Comprehensive Plans for additional details regarding the different protection ordinances.

D. Storm Water Drainage Facilities

Urban Area drainage facilities are shown in Map 4.6 above.

As of January 2005, there were 327,990 linear feet (62.12 miles) of storm sewer within the City of Stevens Point. Storm sewer sizes range from 10" to 120" pipe, and the system contains one lift station, located at the Michigan Avenue railroad underpass.

The soils in Plover consist primarily of sand, which promote infiltration of storm water. As such, the Village utilizes swales and culverts to promote drainage in most locations. Exceptions to on-site drainage include a storm sewer system installed by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation along Business 51 and State Trunk Highway 54; a storm sewer system within the Crossroads Commons Development (I-39/Cty Rd HH intersection); and a storm sewer system within the Village Park at Plover Development (I-39/Cty Rd B intersection).

Several subtle drainage ways, coupled with the areas flat topography, result in periodic storm water drainage problems during winter thaws and in the spring in the southern part of the Village. The Village has developed an open channel drainage system to facilitate storm water drainage in the southern part of the Village. Reconstruction of storm sewer as part of the State Trunk Highway 54 upgrade has also helped address storm drainage problems in the southern part of the Village.

The only storm sewers in the Village of Whiting are located generally along Post Road and Cty Rd HH, and drain to the Plover River. In other areas, the Village utilizes roadway ditches to facilitate drainage. The catch basins within the Village are shown in Map 4.6. A limited number of surface drainage problems exist in the Village. Occasional drainage problems occur on Village streets during spring thaw, or during heavy or prolonged rains because the Village lacks a storm sewer and/or drainage ditch system.

The Village of Park Ridge does not have a storm sewer and curb and gutter system, however, fourteen drywells are located within the Village to aid in storm water management.

E. Solid Waste Disposal

The Villages of Plover, Whiting, and Park Ridge are among the number of Portage County communities that are part of a consortium contracting with a private waste hauler through the Portage County Solid Waste Management Board for solid waste collection and disposal. The solid waste is currently hauled to the Portage County landfill. The Portage County landfill is scheduled to close in 2006, after which the waste will be trucked to a landfill in Marathon County. Recyclables are taken to the Portage County Materials Recycling Facility in accordance with the State Recycling Law (Wisconsin Act 335). The following materials are recycled at the Portage County Materials Recovery Facility: glass, plastic, tin, aluminum containers, corrugated

cardboard, container board, office paper, newspapers, magazines, phone books. “Spring clean-up” curb-side pickup is currently provided to some Village residents for larger household items. The Village of Whiting owns and makes available a composting site for residential yard waste. The compost site is located adjacent to the wastewater treatment plant.

The City of Stevens Point Public Works Department is responsible for collecting residential garbage and recyclables (newsprint, aluminum, tin cans, glass, magazines, plastic, etc.). The solid waste is currently hauled to the Portage County landfill. The Portage County landfill is scheduled to close in 2006, after which the waste will be trucked to a landfill in Marathon County. One-time curb-side pickup is also provided in spring and fall for yard waste, leaves, and brush. The City of Stevens Point also has a recycling and yard waste drop-off site, which is located at 100 Sixth Avenue, and is open year round at the following times (except holidays):

- Tuesday: 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday: 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Demolition materials are accepted the first Saturday of each month at the Drop-off site for a fee.

F. Corporate Utilities

1. Natural Gas - Natural gas is available throughout the City from the Wisconsin Public Service Corporation. Wisconsin Public Service offices are located at 1101 Plover Road in the Village of Plover. Gas is provided to Wisconsin Public Service via the ANR Pipeline Company; the Portage County Urban Area receives its gas supply from the Rosholt Gate (located in Custer) and North Point Gate (located I-39/Sentry golf course).
2. Electric Power - Electricity is provided by the Wisconsin Public Service Corporation (WPS). WPS began constructing an electrical substation in 2004 on the Okray Family Farms property located south of River Drive to meet current and future electricity needs. Completion of this substation will greatly improve electric reliability within the Village of Plover. There are several substations located across the Urban Area (see Map 4.7).

Hydro-electric power is also generated at the Stora Enso Stevens Point Mill dam on the Wisconsin River. This generating plant, along with a similar operation at the Whiting Mill, is operated for Stora Enso by Consolidated Water Power Company. Power generated is consumed entirely by the Stora Enso mills.

3. Telephone Service - Local telephone service is provided primarily by SBC. Long distance, cellular and other specialized phone services are also available from a number of private firms. Cell tower and/or antenna facilities are located across the Urban Area at ball diamonds, stadiums, shopping centers, atop municipal water towers, buildings and other existing tall structures (Map 4.7).
4. Cable Television - Cable television is provided by Charter Communications, which provides analog and digital cable services. In addition, Charter Pipeline provides high-speed internet access through existing cable lines.
5. Internet Service – is available to Village residents through a variety of sources.

Map 4.7: Electrical Substations and Telecommunications Facilities

Section 4.2 Community Facilities Inventory

The Urban Area includes four incorporated communities, each with their individual government infrastructure. This section will concentrate on facilities and services of a larger, “metro” scale.

A. Police, Fire, and Rescue

1. Police Protection

The City of Stevens Point Police Department, which had its beginning with the election of a City Marshall in 1858, is currently headquartered in the County/City building in downtown Stevens Point. The 45 member Department provides law enforcement/protection, under the oversight of the Stevens Point Police and Fire Commission.

The Village of Plover established its police department in 1975. The Police Department is located on the south side of the Plover Municipal Building, and has its own address of 2420 Post Road. As of July 2003, the Police Department consists of a Police Chief, one Captain, two Sergeants, one Corporal, one Detective, one Community Service Officer, nine Police Officers, one full time Office Manager, one full time Office Assistant, one part time Court Officer, one Reserve-1 Officer and four Reserve-2 Officers.

The Village is patrolled by four marked, uniform squad cars, two unmarked squad cars, 1 marked motorcycle and a crime prevention vehicle employed for various community projects. The squad cars are equipped with multi-channel radios that also have the capability to restrict communications to only law enforcement agencies. The Police Department also uses bicycle patrol for special events and neighborhood policing. Investigations are aided by computerized records that are linked to Portage County law enforcement agencies.

As with Stevens Point, the Plover Police and Fire Commission oversees day-to-day responsibilities of the Police and Fire departments, while the Village Board is responsible for establishing the budget for the Police and Fire departments day-to-day operations.

The Villages of Whiting and Park Ridge do not have their own police departments. The Portage County Sheriff’s Department provides protective services through patrols and on a “call-out” basis. The Sheriff’s Department is headquartered in the Portage County Law Enforcement Center, adjacent to the County/City Building in downtown Stevens Point.

2. Fire Protection

The Stevens Point Fire Department (SPFD) provides fire prevention and suppression service to a City resident population of 24,698 that is estimated to swell to nearly 50,000 during a typical workday. The Department has 39 members, distributed between two fire stations.

Headquarters/Station 1 is located at 1701 Franklin Street. Minimum staffing for Station 1 is Normal business hours: Chief (1), Training and Safety Officer (1), Confidential Secretary (1); 24 hours per day: Deputy Chief (1), Captain (1), Motor Pump Operator (2) Firefighter/Paramedics (2). Station 2 is located at 4401 Industrial Park Road. Minimum staffing for Station 2 is: 24 hours per day: Captain (1), Motor Pump Operator (1) Firefighter/Paramedics (2). Please see the City’s Comprehensive Plan for a list of the City’s fire equipment.

The Village of Plover Fire Department is located in a fire station attached to the Plover Municipal Center, 2400 Post Road. Fire protection is provided by a 40 person paid, on-call fire department, including a full-time Fire Chief and Captain. The Village has had a First

Responder program in place since 1984 which became an Emergency Medical Technician – Basic (E.M.T.-B) Level Program in June of 2003. The First Responders had approximately 500 calls in 2002. See the Village’ Comprehensive plan for a listing of fire equipment.

The Village has a Class 3 Fire Insurance Bureau ranking for areas within the Village. The Village of Plover primary service area includes: the Village of Plover, the Towns of Plover and Stockton, and 12 sections in the Town of Buena Vista. The Village of Plover Fire Department has Mutual Aid Agreements with all 11 fire departments in Portage County, including the City of Stevens Point fire department, and four departments from Wood County.

The Village of Whiting's fire station is located in the Whiting Municipal Center. Fire protection is provided by a 24 person paid, on-call fire department, including a part-time fire chief and assistant fire chief. The Village's fire equipment includes rescue tools and air bags, 16 self contained breathing apparatus and 20 extra cylinders; and the jaws-of-life for industrial, farm and car accidents. Please see the Village of Whiting’s Comprehensive Plan for the 2004 inventory.

The Park Ridge Fire Department is located at 24 Crestwood Drive in Park Ridge. The department is served completely by volunteer fire fighters covering a fire district of 144 acres. Assistance is provided to and from neighboring fire departments through a countywide mutual aid agreement.

3. Emergency Medical Services

The 39 members of the Stevens Point Fire Department (SPFD) provide Emergency Medical Service (EMS) and rescue service to the Urban Area, and all of Portage County. The Urban Area population is estimated to swell to over 50,000 during a typical workday. SPFD personnel are State Certified Fire Fighter II, Hazardous Materials Operations, Confined Space, Ice, Cold Water and High Angle Rescue as well as Emergency Medical Technician with many up to the highest level of pre-hospital emergency care available – Paramedic.

B. Library Services

The main branch of the Portage County Library System is located at 1001 Main Street in downtown Stevens Point. It contains over 100,000 books for adults and children, including large type books and audio books, useful sources of business information, including Barron's, Thomas Register of American Manufacturers, Value Line and Morningstar, homebound service, where the library will send materials to those unable to use the library, newspapers from twenty Wisconsin cities and several national papers, as well as back issues of the Stevens Point Journal on microfilm, magazines covering many areas of interest, story times, Summer Library Program, Family Nights, and other programs for youth (at the White Library Building and branch libraries), personal computers with popular computer programs (Charles M. White Library Building and branch libraries by reservation) - Public Internet access is available at all Portage County Public Library locations, interlibrary loan service, audiovisual (AV) equipment is available for use at the White Library Building; some may be borrowed for home and business use (a small service fee is charged for some equipment), outreach collections - library collections are maintained at ten senior citizen centers and housing units, programs for adults and young adults are offered throughout the year. All library programs are free and open to the public, Reference service and notary public service is available at the White Library Building, Special interest and entertainment videos may be checked out, and compact discs, cassettes, audio books, cd roms may be borrowed from any location or used in the White Library Building, the White Library Building also has a Genealogy Room.

Map 4.8 Community Facilities

The Plover Library is a branch of the Portage County Public Library. The Plover Library is located at 1103 Roosevelt Drive and is open 34 hours per week from Memorial Day to Labor Day and 35 hours per week from Labor Day to Memorial Day.

Materials available for adults and young adults include fiction and non-fiction books, large print books, paperbacks, magazines and newspapers. Materials available for children include fiction and non-fiction books, board books, easy readers, picture books, cassette/book sets and toys. In addition to print materials, video tapes, cassette tapes, books on tape and compact discs are available for check out.

Equipment available for use at the library includes computers for word processing and educational/entertainment activities, an interactive computer for use with a variety of C.D's, internet access, on line computer to access library holdings, a copy machine and a typewriter for public use.

The library resources of University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point are also available to residents.

C. School Facilities

1. Stevens Point Area Public School District

The Stevens Point Area Public School District includes the City of Stevens Point, Villages of Whiting, Plover, Park Ridge, Amherst Junction, Junction City; Towns of Linwood, Hull, Eau Pleine, Dewey, Carson, Grant, Buena Vista, Plover, Sharon, and Stockton, as well as the Wood County Towns of Milladore and Sherry.

The Stevens Point School District is the 14th largest district in the State of Wisconsin and serves a population of approximately 50,000 and employs staff of over 900. The student enrollment for the 2003-2004 school year is approximately 7,400.

The Stevens Point School District consists of ten K-6 grade elementary schools, two 7-9 grade junior high schools, and one 10-12 grade senior high school and an alternative school. Three charter schools lie within the secondary schools. Three of the elementary schools are charter schools and three additional elementary schools have applied for charter status. In addition, the 45-acre Boston School Forest and 40 acre Halladay School Forest are educational facilities used by students for environmental education programs throughout the school year.

The Stevens Point Area Public School District covers nearly 400 square miles, so transporting students is a significant activity and expenditure. During the 2002-2003 school year, the transportation department bused nearly 7,000 students to public and private schools with a fleet of 79 districted-operated and 1 contracted buses traveling 1.2 million miles. Typically, the district's annual cost for busing is about two-thirds of the state average, with a district budget of \$2.6 million.

Plover-Whiting and Roosevelt Elementary schools lie within the boundaries of the Village of Plover. Plover-Whiting Elementary was built in 1973. Three additions have been constructed at Plover Whiting Elementary School. The most recent addition occurred in 1996, when three classrooms, storage area additions and additional remodeling occurred. The school sits on 15.56 acres of land and has a square footage of 55,435. Plover-Whiting Elementary serves approximately 389 children and employs 51 (34 classified and 17 non-classified) staff members (2003-04 school year).

Ben Franklin Junior High School is located in Stevens Point adjacent to the northern border of the Village of Whiting. It was constructed in 1968, with an elevator being added in 1986. Ben Franklin is 140,440 square feet in size, and sits on 42.25 acres of land. This junior high school serves approximately 890 students and employs 110 staff members (2003-04 school year).

Since 1996 every school and district building has had additions and/or remodeling except PJ Jacobs and the Bliss Educational Service Center (administration office building). In 1995, classrooms and the commons were added to PJ Jacobs. The Bliss Center was built in 1980 adjacent to Ben Franklin, and no additions have been constructed on this 13,431 square foot building.

School facilities are a major benefit to Village residents. School playgrounds and equipment provide a wide variety of recreational activities that supplement Village parks. The schools' organized athletic programs play an important role in the community, as a major source of recreation and as a focal point of community pride and identity.

2. Parochial School System

The Stevens Point Area Catholic Schools (SPACS) have been educating students in Portage County for the past 130 years. The schools are comprehensive with a strong emphasis on college preparation; 90% of students go on to attend post secondary school, most of which are four-year colleges and universities.

SPACS currently has six schools involved in the program: four Elementary Schools (Saint Stanislaus, grades K-2; Saint Stephen, grades 3-5; Saint Bronislava, grades preschool-5; and Saint Joseph early childhood, preschool and year-round childcare); St. Peter Middle School, grades 6-8; and Pacelli High School, grades 9-12. For the 2003-04 school year 940 students were enrolled in SPACS, preschool through 12th grade.

St. Paul Lutheran School serves 200 students in pre-Kindergarten through eighth grade with nine full time teachers, including a Principal and Assistant Principal who also have teaching duties. The early childhood program offers classes for 3-4 and 5-year-old children not yet enrolled in kindergarten. Northland Lutheran High School, located in Mosinee, serves the central Wisconsin region.

Two other private school options are available within the Portage County Urban Area. Branch Christian School, which is affiliated with the Seventh Day Adventist Church located within the Village of Whiting, accepts students in grades one through eight. The Stevens Point Christian Academy, located just west of the city limits on Hwy 10, offers instruction for grades K through twelve.

3. Mid-State Technical College

Mid-State Technical College (MSTC) is one of 16 publicly supported colleges in the Wisconsin Technical College System. Approximately 16,000 full- and part-time students enroll annually. MSTC offers technical training in nearly 50 careers by granting one- and two-year technical diplomas and two-year associate degrees in four areas: business, health, service technologies, and technical & industrial. In addition, MSTC also awards certificates for the successful completion of a single course or a combination of courses. The Mid-State Technical College District includes full-service campuses in Marshfield, Stevens Point, and Wisconsin Rapids; a center in Adams; and several outreach sites.

Map 4.9 School Facilities

4. University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

Since 1894 when Stevens Point Normal School opened its doors to 300 students, the University of Wisconsin–Stevens Point has grown to become a major comprehensive university, with about 8,700 students enrolled. Its academic programs offer 100 choices within 51 majors and 78 minors plus 16 graduate programs. UWSP is home to four colleges (fine arts and communication, letters and science, natural resources and professional studies), and is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. In addition, the UWSP has initiated a variety of innovative, regionally, or nationally recognized programs, including the National Wellness Institute, the Center for the Small City, the Central Wisconsin Economic Research Bureau, Becoming an Outdoors Woman, Environmental Education, the American Suzuki Talent Education Center, and the UWSP International Programs.

The 400-acre main campus includes seven major buildings in addition to Old Main, UWSP's administrative building, the University Center and 13 residence halls housing approximately 3,000 students. North campus includes Schmeckle Reserve, a 225-acre nature area with a 24-acre lake, nature center and trails that are part of the 30+ mile Green Circle Trail.

The Stevens Point campus is part of the University of Wisconsin System that includes 13 four-year campuses, 13 two-year centers and the University of Wisconsin-Extension. The University of Wisconsin system represents one of the finest educational institutions in the world. Access to information and research on virtually any topic is available.

In 2004, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point placed among the top public universities in the Midwest. The publication U.S. News & World Report ranked UWSP number seven in the top tier of Midwestern public master's degree-granting institutions. This was the fifth consecutive year that the university placed in the top ten. U.S. News and World Report uses several criteria in rating the campuses including academic reputation, retention, faculty, students, financial resources and alumni giving.

D. Parks, Recreation and Open Space

1. Parks

The Portage County Urban Area contains numerous developed parks and passive open spaces, as well as a wide variety of recreational opportunities. The Urban Area incorporated communities of Stevens Point, Plover, and Whiting each actively pursue and participate in park and recreational planning. Please see the individual community Comprehensive and/or park plans for detailed information. Each community also contains school district property which contains play or recreational equipment that is available for residents to use when school is not in session.

Stevens Point currently has 19 developed parks on approximately 300 acres, ranging in size from 1.4 to 121 acres. A total of 15 other parcels of land (approximately 200 acres) have also been dedicated to the City, many in fulfillment of the City's Subdivision Ordinance. Some of these sites are too small to be efficiently utilized. In other cases, the site topography or location makes it a poor choice for park development. None of the sites currently meet the criteria for use as special parks. Stevens Point is also home to a public boat launch on the Wisconsin River at Bukolt Park, which gets heavy use during warm-weather months. A smaller boat landing is located just south of the Bukolt landing, at the northern tip of Piffner Pioneer Park.

The Village of Plover has 22 parks on approximately 200 acres, ranging from active to passive use. A paved public boat landing is available at Worzella Pines Park. The Village of Whiting is home to the 73 acre Whiting Park, which straddles the Plover River south of McDill Pond. The Village has a public boat landing on McDill Pond which provides Plover River access for fishing and recreation above the dam.

2. Multipurpose Trails

The Transportation Element of this Comprehensive Plan included a discussion of sidewalks for pedestrian circulation within the Urban Area. Non-motorized circulation for residents is not confined to concrete sidewalks. Multi-purpose trails, with varied surfaces, also exist across the Urban Area. The greatest of these is the Green Circle Trail.

The Green Circle Trail is a nationally recognized (1993 National Park Service Award) approximately 30-mile recreational corridor that encircles the Stevens Point Urban Area (Map 4.10). The Green Circle Trail accentuates the rich history of the region as it follows the Wisconsin and Plover Rivers, where American Indian culture once prospered and where Stevens Point began as a logging community.

The Green Circle Trail is intended to meet the growing recreational needs of area residents and provide access to open spaces, close to where these people live. The trail provides for activities which have experienced dramatic growth in popularity, but have not been typical responsibilities of area recreational managers, including bicycling/bicycle trails, jogging, cross-country skiing and nature study. The trail is comprised of 12 segments, each of which offers a unique view of the area's natural beauty. A majority of the Green Circle Trail travels through undeveloped areas, thereby enhancing the trail user's outdoor recreational experience. Road rights-of-way are utilized in locations where no other alternative route exists.

The Stagecoach Trail segment of the Green Circle begins at the northwest corner at Old Wausau Road and DuBay Avenue, and winds east to the Holiday Trail, then south of Sentry Insurance through Schmeckle Reserve and northwest to the Moses Creek Trail. The Moses Creek segment connects with the Plover River Trail at the public ski lodge on State Trunk Highway 66. The Trail takes a southward plunge to Barbara's Lane, where it uses City streets to connect with Iverson Park, then moves to the McDill Trail, then to the Whiting Park Trail. From there, the Paper Mill Trail shoots north again to the River Pines segment, which continues all the way up to the Riverfront Trail to complete the loop.

The Green Circle Trail accomplishes three goals:

1. The development of a multipurpose trail network that is accessible to all area residents and visitors and provides new recreational opportunities consistent with local needs as called for by the President's Commission on Americans Outdoors and defined by the Stevens Point Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.
2. Preserves and enhances the natural diversity of undeveloped land in and around Stevens Point, particularly the Plover and Wisconsin River Corridors.
3. Encourages appreciation and understanding of the natural and cultural history of the Stevens Point area.

Map 4.10: Urban Area Parks

Several of the parks within the Urban Area have internal paths or trails, some of which are linked by the Green Circle, and the individual community plans make recommendations for expansion of multipurpose trails. Some form of mechanism needs to be created and maintained which looks at encouraging beneficial links of trails across municipal boundaries.

E. Other Community Facilities And Services

1. Senior Center.

The Lincoln Senior Citizen Center, located at 1519 Water Street in Stevens Point, is home to the Aging and Disability Resource Center, offices of the Department of Aging, the Adult Daycare Center, the Senior Center and the Holly Shoppe. The building was enlarged in 2003 at a cost of over \$3 million dollars, with the reconstruction doubling the floor space. The Aging and Disability Resource Center provides a one-stop resource that addresses the needs and interests of older adults and people with disabilities and their caregivers and families. A wide range of services are provided to assist people to live with dignity and security while maintaining maximum independence while preserving quality of life.

The nine-member Commission on Aging/Aging and Disability Resource Center Board is appointed by the County Board of Supervisors and is responsible for Department governance. Program advisory councils assure that services are targeted to the expressed needs of the retired population.

Funding for services is provided through grants and allocations from federal, state and county governments, the United Way, underwriting by local businesses, private contributions, and participant fees and donations. Services through the Department on Aging/Aging and Disability Resource Center include: education and recreation opportunities, health information and screenings, volunteer opportunities, employment programs referrals, benefits counseling, consultation with families, personal needs assessment, nutrition services, transportation services, supportive home care referrals, housing options, caregiver services, along with many other programs.

The activities room located within the Plover Municipal Center is also used as a meal site for the elderly, and is used for other senior-related activities.

2. Cemeteries.

The following cemeteries are located within the City of Stevens Point: Guardian Angel, located on Main Street; St. Joseph, located on Prentice Street; St. Stephens, located on Clark Street; Lutheran Cemetery, located on Patch Street; Union Cemetery, located on Water Street; and Forest cemetery, located on Church Street.

The Village of Plover is home to St. Bronislava Cemetery, located to the east of St. Bronislava Church on Plover Road; Plover Cemetery, located on River Road.

The Village of Park Ridge has one cemetery, owned and operated by the Jehovah's Witnesses, located in the northwestern part of the Village between Sunset Avenue and Wilshire Boulevard.

There are no cemeteries located within the Village of Whiting.

3. Churches.

There are over 40 churches within the Portage County Urban Area.

4. Health Care Facilities.

The Urban Area is home to a full spectrum of health care options. Saint Michael's hospital, 900 Illinois Ave, is an acute-care facility with 181 licensed beds, offering a broad range of services and physician specialties. Nearly 200 doctors serve on Saint Michael's medical staff.

Rice Medical Center, located at 824 Illinois Ave, is part of the Ministry Health Care network. Rice Medical Center board-certified physicians, nurse practitioners and physician assistants offer expertise in 16 specialty areas, with satellite locations in Iola, Amherst, Waupaca, and Plover. The Rice Medical Center, 2401 Plover Road, offers family practice physicians, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, and sports medicine. The newly expanded Klasinski Ambulatory Center and newly constructed Aspirus Clinic, both located in Stevens Point, also provide a wide range of medical diagnostic and treatment services.

The Urban Area communities offer an array of specialty health care providers including but not limited to dentists, eye care providers, chiropractic clinics, elderly services, and others.

5. Child Care Facilities.

There are 2 different categories of state licensed child care; they depend upon the number of children in care:

- Licensed **Family** Child Care Centers provide care for up to 8 children. This care is usually in the provider's home, but it is not required to be located in a residence.
- Licensed **Group** Child Care Centers provide care for 9 or more children. These centers are usually located somewhere other than a residence and may be small or large in size.

There are currently many licensed Family Child Care centers and licensed Group Child Care centers within the Urban Area. For a complete list, contact the Regional Division of Children and Family Services at:

2811 8th St. - Ste. 70
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
Phone: (715) 422-5080
Fax: (715) 422-5091

Section 4.3 Urban Area Vision Statement and Guiding Principle for Utilities and Community Facilities

A. Urban Area Vision Statement Related to Utilities and Community Facilities *(adopted 6-26-02 by the UA Steering Committee)*

IN 2025, Portage County residents enjoy a network of high quality, efficient public facilities. Through cooperation and collaboration, local units of government work together to provide services across municipal boundaries. Sewer and water services are provided within an established urban growth area, effectively reducing the impacts of sprawl development into the rural areas of the county. An exceptional educational system (K-12, the technical college, and the University) provides opportunities for lifelong learning. Portage County residents value their youth, families, seniors, and disadvantaged, and provide them with facilities and activities aimed at improving community vitality.

Key Vision Ideas for Public Facilities:

- Compact, cost-efficient utilities are available where they are needed.
- An excellent educational system ensures comprehensive learning opportunities for residents of all ages.
- Comprehensive emergency services, including law enforcement, fire, and ambulance protection, ensures equal access and protection for all citizens.
- Places and activities for the youth of the community are provided.
- Municipal water and sewer systems are well maintained, with maximized efficiency and well-defined boundaries that are used to control the location of new development. The municipal well fields are protected from negative impacts.
- Private sewer and water systems are protected and maintained.
- The number of parks has grown, with small, neighborhood-scale parks emphasized as much as larger parks. Former institutional sites are reborn as park and playground sites. Parks are also connected where possible, and the Green Circle Trail is expanding to include as wide an area as possible.

B. Guiding Principle for Utilities and Community Facilities:

Provide adequate infrastructure, utilities, and community facilities and services to meet existing and future community needs.

Section 4.4 Urban Area Utilities and Community Facilities Goals

A. Preliminary Goals: (adopted 10-23-02 by the UA Steering Committee)

- Life long learning is an opportunity in our community.
- Places and activities for the youth of the community are provided.
- Create and protect public green space and water resources County-wide.
- Design standards are used to enhance urban and rural character.
- Provide criteria and direction for protecting and developing land.
- Share services across County or municipal borders whenever possible.
- Plan for the provision of infrastructure, utilities, and community facilities and services to efficiently meet community needs.

Section 4.5 Utilities and Community Facilities Conclusions

A. Municipal Water and Wastewater Collection / Treatment

1. Promote Urban Area partnerships and collaboration when it comes to identifying future well water and drinking water sites.
2. The existing emergency water connections between Stevens Point, Whiting and Plover should be maintained, and expanded or enhanced where appropriate.
3. Pursue Urban Area partnerships and collaboration to provide the most efficient and effective wastewater treatment.

B. Storm Water Drainage Facilities

1. Promote opportunities for Urban Area-wide stormwater drainage planning.

C. Solid Waste Disposal

1. The consortium of communities that are a part of the Solid Waste contract will remain together through at least 2012. The Solid Waste Board legally represents the member municipalities in administration of the Solid Waste contract.

D. Corporate Utilities

1. An Urban Area-wide approach should be pursued in the location and siting of future electrical power plant or sub-station construction.
2. Municipalities that participated in the current Urban Area-wide cable franchise contract should continue to cooperate and participate in future cable franchise negotiations.

E. Community Facilities and Services

1. Encourage all Portage County police and fire agencies to coordinate their purchases of limited-use special equipment and/or programs.
2. Encourage a policy of co-location/sharing of critical services (e.g. call dispatch, housing of SPPD and Portage County Sheriff in same facility).
3. Parks/recreation facility needs must be addressed across the Urban Area with expansion of population (and facility needs) to the east. Municipal political resources should be used to encourage Portage County to address those needs (i.e. a regional park facility).

F. Other Community Facilities and Services

1. Consideration should be given to implementing or constructing facilities for seniors and youth activities in other portions of the Urban Area besides downtown Stevens Point and Plover Municipal Center.