



Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection  
Division of Agricultural Resource Management  
P.O. Box 8911  
Madison, WI 53708-8911  
(608) 224-4500

## Agricultural Enterprise Area Petition

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The undersigned persons hereby petition the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP), pursuant to s. 91.86, Wis. Stats., to create an Agricultural Enterprise Area (**AEA**) under s. 91.84, Wis. Stats. We have read the guidance provided and submit the following information in support of the petition (use the space provided or check the appropriate box):<sup>1</sup>

### PART I. GENERAL INFORMATION

- A. Name of AEA. Burnett  
Agricultural  
Enterprise Area
- B. County or counties in which the proposed AEA is located. Dodge County
- C. All towns, villages or cities in which the proposed AEA is located. Town of Burnett
- D. Number of owners of eligible farms, within the proposed AEA,  
who are signing this petition.
- E. Total number of acres in the proposed AEA. 14,833 Acres
- F. All counties signing the petition have a certified farmland preservation plan.  Yes  No
- G. All parcels in the proposed AEA are located within a farmland preservation  
area designated in the certified county farmland preservation plan.  Yes  No
- \* AEA Petition is using proposed Dodge County Farmland Preservation Plan, since plan  
has tentative approval from DATCP and will be adopted in April 2011. This is  
acceptable, per Coreen Fallat*
- H. All parcels in the proposed AEA are contiguous.  Yes  No
- I. The proposed AEA is primarily in agricultural use.  Yes  No
- J. Primary agricultural land use in proposed AEA. Row Crops,  
vegetable  
production, and  
Dairy Operations
- K. Designated contact person for the AEA.

Name: Dean Perlick

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<sup>1</sup>Personal information you provide may be used for purposes other than that for which it was collected, s. 15.04(1)(m), Wis. Stats.

## **PART II – PURPOSE AND RATIONALE FOR AEA**

### **Introduction to Burnett AEA:**

The proposed Burnett Agricultural Enterprise Area (AEA) would be an excellent choice for designation as an AEA. The Town's geographic location and physical qualities make it a prime candidate for an AEA selection. As you will learn in the petition's supporting documentation, the proposed Burnett AEA is an area which contains significant agricultural and natural resources.

### **1) State the goals of the proposed AEA for:**

- a. Preservation of Agricultural Land Use**
- b. Agricultural Development**

### **Succinct goal statement:**

The goal of the proposed Town of Burnett Agricultural Enterprise Area is to preserve the Town's agricultural and natural resource land base, support the economic viability of agricultural enterprises, and support local and regional agriculture related businesses that serve the AEA. The establishment of an AEA will strengthen the agricultural foundation in place and allow agriculture to maintain its viability well into the future.

Goals from the Town of Burnett Comprehensive Plan Agriculture, Natural and Cultural Resources Element include the following:

- a) Maintain, preserve and enhance the town's agricultural, natural and cultural resources.
- b) Maintain and preserve the integrity and viability of agriculture and preserve Burnett's rural character.

### **2) What activities in the proposed AEA aid in achieving the goals stated above?**

**Please identify any past activities, ongoing activities or future activities and the primary entity responsible for the activity.**

#### **Past Activities:**

In 1981, the Town Board of the Town of Burnett adopted town zoning and at that time farmland preservation zoning was established. The majority of the Town was zoned to A-1 Prime Agricultural, which is the certified farmland preservation zoning district in Burnett. The Town Board's decision to participate in the Farmland Preservation Program shows the Town is dedicated to preserving agricultural land and wants agriculture to thrive.

In accordance with the Comprehensive Planning Law, the Town of Burnett has adopted its own Comprehensive Plan. In 2003, Dodge County was awarded a planning grant of \$321,000 to create a county comprehensive plan and 19 local community plans. The Town of Burnett was a participating community and in 2006 the Town adopted its comprehensive plan. The Town of Burnett Comprehensive Plan provides a guide to future land development and the community's goals, objectives, and policies. Many of the recommendations in the comprehensive plan call for the preservation of agricultural land and the continued economic viability of agriculture in the Town. Establishing an

Agricultural Enterprise Area will help implement the policies and recommendations of the Comprehensive Plan.

**Ongoing Activities:**

County staff is in the process of updating the Dodge County Farmland Preservation Plan. In addition, county staff and town officials are in the process of updating the Town Zoning Ordinance and Map to be consistent with the new farmland preservation legislation. The revised zoning map will be consistent with the new Dodge County Farmland Preservation Plan Map and the Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map. The updated zoning ordinance and map will be submitted to DATCP for certification within the next several months. Dodge County staff anticipates that the new Farmland Preservation Plan will be adopted at the April, 2011 Dodge County Board of Supervisors meeting.

The Comprehensive Plan will continue to be administered by the Town. Currently, the Town is proposing changes to the Future Land Use Map in order to increase the amount of acreage eligible to participate in the farmland preservation programs. A significant amount of acreage is planned to be rezoned into the Farmland Preservation Zoning District. This is further indication of the Town Boards commitment to agriculture and agricultural development in the future.

The organizers of the group to petition for a Burnett AEA held a public meeting on January 26, 2011 to inform landowners within the AEA about the petition. Discussion about establishing the AEA, farmland preservation agreements, tax credits, and the mapped areas were vital to developing local support for the petition.

It is important for Town and County staff/officials to keep abreast of issues pertaining to the Farmland Preservation Program. Town officials have attended county and state sponsored workshops in order to educate themselves on the farmland preservation programs. Town of Burnett officials will continue to regularly attend county and state sponsored workshops and informational meetings.

**Future Activities:**

Regardless if the Town of Burnett is awarded an Agricultural Enterprise Area, there are various actions the Town will need to complete in the future. The process of updating the zoning ordinance and map is both an ongoing activity and future activity. In order to maintain certification under farmland preservation zoning, the Town will need to revise the existing zoning ordinance to comply with Chapter 91, Wis. Stats. In order to continue its certification, town officials will need to update the zoning ordinance and map to comply with new legislation and court decisions as well as the mandatory update every 10 years.

The Town of Burnett will need to update its Comprehensive Plan. The Town must update its Comprehensive Plan by 2016, since the Plan must be updated every 10 years. During the updating process, Town officials should carefully analyze the Future Land Use Map and the goals/objectives/policies/recommendations for consistency with the Farmland Preservation Plan, proposed AEA and zoning standards. Ensuring consistency with the Comprehensive Plan will further help the Town obtain its agricultural preservation goal.

Town officials may want to work with Dodge County staff to perform this task, as it will help ensure consistency between the Town and the County.

Lastly, the Town will review other tools for land preservation. Such tools will include: creation of a purchase of development rights program, creation of a program for voluntary donation of development rights, the state's Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easement program, and working with area land trusts. Utilizing these land preservation tools will further help the Town preserve its agricultural land base and enhance the agricultural infrastructure. Town officials and residents can work with land trusts, such as Drumlin Area Land Trust (DALT) or Land Trust Network to provide further financial incentive to continue agricultural operations.

**3) How did you determine the boundary (location and size) of the proposed AEA?**

The Burnett AEA would contain approximately 15,000 acres. (See the attached Burnett AEA map).

A. Town officials and petitioners believe it is appropriate to identify much of the Town as an AEA, mainly due to the Town's intense agricultural uses. Establishing an AEA to cover much of the agricultural land in the Town will further support the Town's planning goals and the goals of this petition. The proposed AEA will meet those goals by providing an additional economic incentive for almost all landowners whose property is used for agriculture. By creating an incentive to preserve their land, the Town is maximizing its efforts to preserve the existing agricultural land base. In addition to protecting the agricultural land base, an AEA will demonstrate to landowners, current agribusinesses, and potential agribusinesses that the Town is committed to agriculture and wants to see agriculture succeed in the Town. Landowners will be more willing to make investments in their operations knowing that the land around them will remain in agriculture or agriculture-related use.

B. Not applicable.

C. The size and location of the proposed AEA was determined after analyzing Dodge County and Town of Burnett's Comprehensive Plans, current zoning map, proposed Dodge County Farmland Preservation Plan, and the input from town officials and residents. Officials and landowners were able to determine the most appropriate AEA location using these methods. DATCP staff recommended the use of the proposed Farmland Preservation Plan instead of the existing Agricultural Preservation Plan Map from 2002, since the new Farmland Preservation Map will be adopted prior to the establishment of the AEA.

Existing agricultural uses occupy over 52 percent of the total land area, thus designating a large portion of the Town within the AEA is justified. A unique land resource, the Horicon Marsh, occupies about 6,300 acres in the Town. Both the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service control part of the Horicon Marsh in Burnett. The land within the Horicon Marsh is not included in the AEA, because the land is not eligible for the farmland preservation program. Since the

Horicon Marsh accounts for about one-third of the land area in the Town, the amount of existing agricultural land becomes more impressive.

Approximately 90 percent of the land west of the Horicon Marsh is identified as prime agricultural soils. The AEA boundary line is representative of the location of prime agricultural soils in the Town. The United Coop has two large grain processing facilities near the Burnett AEA in the Cities of Beaver Dam and Horicon and another grain processing facility is located within the AEA, in the unincorporated Village of Burnett. An ethanol plant is also located near the Burnett AEA and provides another market for corn grown in Burnett. Hanefeld Brothers Trucking Company is located within the AEA and transports livestock throughout the state from its STH 26 location.

Other factors relevant to determining the AEA boundary include a Dodge County Park located in Section 27, the Horicon Rod and Gun Club located in Section 35, The John Deere and Company testing grounds located in Section 22, and a mining operation located in Section 33. In addition, the unincorporated Village of Burnett was a major factor due to the existing developed area and future growth areas surrounding the Village, which are identified on the Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map.

D. Input from landowners within the AEA was obtained at a public meeting held on January 26, 2011 at the Burnett Town Hall. The informational meeting was open to everyone and was properly noticed in the local newspaper. County staff members and Town officials reviewed the Farmland Preservation Program and the opportunity to apply for an AEA. In anticipation of the meeting, Town officials and County staff prepared a draft AEA map, utilizing all necessary resources. The proposed AEA map was reviewed at the informational meeting and there were questions and discussion about the proposed AEA area. The attending group was in favor of the proposed AEA area. It was stated that all existing program participants should have the opportunity to apply for a Farmland Preservation Agreement. Hence, the proposed AEA should cover majority of the Town, since existing participants are distributed throughout the Town.

In addition to the proposed AEA map, the Town reviewed the opportunity for landowners to sign a petition for the creation of the AEA. Almost all the meeting attendees offered to sign the petition. Furthermore, some meeting attendees took additional petition copies to give to their friends and neighbors that were not in attendance. This action further showed Town officials and County staff that the attending citizens were in favor of the establishment of an AEA. The proposed AEA has a tremendous amount of support. [A total of 45 eligible landowners](#) signed petitions. In addition, [a total of 63 other supporters](#) submitted Cooperator Signature pages or letters of support. This group of supporters [included 53 businesses](#). Examples of supporters include United Cooperative (500 employees), World Food Processing, LLC, United Wisconsin Grain Producers, LLC. (Ethanol Plant), Lakeside Foods, Milwaukee Stockyards, Didion Milling, Jung Seed Genetics, and six banks. The United States Department of the Interior; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources also provided letters of support.

E. Since the informational meeting was open to everyone, there were some non-eligible landowners at the meeting. Some non-eligible landowners were located within the AEA, while others outside of the proposed AEA. Most meeting attendees wanted to show their support for the creation of an AEA. They want to support their local agricultural community and help preserve Burnett’s way of life. In the end, the public informational meeting was a great success. Not only was it a method to help determine a proposed AEA location, but also a way to measure the amount of support for an AEA.

**4) Describe (a) all current land uses within the proposed AEA and (b) provide information about land use trends in and around the AEA. (The proposed AEA must be primarily in agricultural use.)**

Current Land Uses

Agriculture is the dominant land use in the Town of Burnett and in the proposed AEA area. The Town of Burnett is an agriculture intense town with the majority of land use activities centered on agriculture. There is some non-agricultural land uses in the Town, such as a nonmetallic mine, development in the unincorporated village and the Horicon Marsh. However, the majority of the land base is dedicated to agricultural practices. This is evident in the most recent existing land use survey. County staff completed an existing land use survey by field verification during the Town’s Comprehensive Planning process. The Town of Burnett adopted their 2030 Comprehensive Plan on April 10, 2006.

The development of the Town’s comprehensive plan included a complete inventory of existing land uses. The table below shows the existing land use inventory

Town of Burnett		
Land Use Category	Acreage	% of Total
Single Family Residential	313.1	1.3%
Two Family Residential	0.0	0.0%
Multi-Family Residential	1.0	0.0%
Mobile Home Parks	0.0	0.0%
Commercial	8.8	0.0%
Industrial & Quarries	209.7	0.9%
Public & Quasi-Public	91.5	0.4%
Transportation	489.3	2.1%
Parks & Recreation	478.1	2.0%
Communication & Utilities	1.0	0.0%
Water Features	409.5	1.8%
<u>Agricultural &amp; Other Resource Land</u>	<u>21,384.5</u>	<u>91.4%</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>23,386.4</u>	<u>100.0%</u>

Per the existing land use inventory, it was determined that approximately 21,384.5 acres or 91.4 percent of the town is classified as Agricultural and Other Resource Land. The agricultural land and other resource areas were combined into one category since the categories are closely related and typically blend together. The other resource areas were typically included open space areas and wetlands. Since the Horicon Marsh contains

large wetland areas, the proposed AEA is primarily designated as agricultural and other resource land.

The next largest land use category is transportation, which accounts for approximately 489.3 acres of land or 2.1 percent of the land base. The transportation category includes the roads and right of way area for all state, county, town roads; and the railroad right of way. This land use category is fairly stagnant, compared to the other land use categories and won't change much.

The third largest land use category is parks and recreation. This land use category accounts for approximately 478.1 acres or 2.0 percent of the land base. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Dodge County, and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service own and manage all the park and recreation land in the town. The recreation lands are open space, wetlands or wooded. There is no development on these lands, except for gravel parking lots and hiking trails.

The fourth largest land use category is water features, this land use category accounts for 409.5 acres, or 1.8 percent of the land area. This area includes the open water areas in Horicon Marsh and ponds and streams outside of the Marsh. This land use category is not anticipated to change.

The fifth largest land use category in the Town of Burnett is residential, which accounts for approximately 313.1 acres or 1.3 percent of the land base. Almost all of the residences in the Town are single family residences. There are scattered farm and non-farm residences throughout the Town. The unincorporated Village of Burnett contains the most concentrated area of residential development.

The sixth largest land use category is industrial and quarries, which account for approximately 209.7 acres or 0.9 percent of the land base. Most of this category consists of one mine operation, which accounts for 160 acres of the total. There is an agriculture related trucking company located near the intersection of Swan Road and STH 26.

The seventh largest land use category is public and quasi-public, which accounts for approximately 91.5 acres or 0.4 percent of the land base. This category includes land uses such as the Town Hall, the Burnett Post Office, churches, and cemeteries. It is not anticipated that this land use category will change much in the future.

The eighth largest land use category in the Town of Burnett is commercial, which accounts for 8.8 acres. There are a number of commercial operations located in unincorporated Village of Burnett. The commercial development includes a bank, three taverns, a wedding hall and a furniture restoration business

The ninth and last land use category is the communication and utilities category, which accounts for 1.0 acre. This land use category consists of a wastewater treatment facility and a communication tower.

## Land Use Trends

During the comprehensive planning process, Town of Burnett officials and citizens identified various land use trends they feel are affecting the Town. Many of these trends still hold true today. Land use issues depend on changes in population, housing needs, transportation improvements or deterioration, community services provided, changes in the agricultural industry, and economic development activities. The following land use trends are anticipated in the Town over the next 20 years:

- ◆ Burnett's population and the number of housing units will continue to grow.
- ◆ The number of persons per household will continue to decrease requiring more housing units and more land to accommodate the Town's growing population.
- ◆ The Town's woodlands and highland areas will be desired for residential development.
- ◆ A major two lane highway corridor, STH 26, passes through the Town. The possible realignment of the highway or expansion of the highway to four lanes would have a strong influence on nearby development patterns.
- ◆ Industrial and commercial development near the intersection of USH 151 and CTH A will impact existing residential development and will increase the demand for housing throughout the Town.
- ◆ Agriculture will maintain a strong presence in Burnett. There will likely be a decreasing number of total farms, but an increasing number of large farms.

These land use trends identified in the Comprehensive Plan are still apparent in the Town. In addition to the land use trends identified in the Comprehensive Plan, there is at least one additional land use trend that needs to be identified and discussed.

One land use trend affecting the Town of Burnett and the proposed AEA area is the creation of nonfarm residences, transitioning land from agricultural use to residential use. Nonfarm residential lots create an increase in the fragmentation of the landscape. Fragmentation of the rural areas is problematic for farming operations, as it breaks up traditional agricultural tracts of land. For most farming operations, the economies of scale require relatively large tracts of land, frequently involving many hundreds of acres. The breakup of large blocks of farmland by fragmentation makes it more difficult for farmers to assemble such larger tracts either through ownership or rental arrangements. Tract assembly is thus complicated by scattered field locations, resulting in costly and inconvenient related travel distances and, therefore, in unproductive time and higher fuel consumption. There are other issues with farmland fragmentation, it can include: increased traffic congestion, nonfarm residents complaining of noise from machinery at night time and the smell from manure spreading.

- 5) Confirm that the proposed AEA is consistent with any existing local comprehensive plan. Submit a future land use map, if available. Please do not submit a complete copy of any comprehensive plan.**

Dodge County adopted its Comprehensive Plan on March 21, 2006. The Comprehensive Plan's goals, objectives, policies and recommendations are consistent with the goals and purpose of the proposed AEA.

Dodge County and 19 local communities were awarded a \$321,000 Comprehensive Planning Grant in 2003. This planning project allowed county and local community officials to work together to cooperatively develop comprehensive plans for the county and the participating communities to meet the state's Comprehensive Planning Law. The Town of Burnett was one of the 19 participating communities. This planning project was a unique opportunity since each community benefited by learning what the others were planning to do and how they planned to do it. The county and community comprehensive plans outline the future intentions of the respective communities. This was done by developing goals, objectives, policies and recommendations.

The Dodge County Comprehensive Plan is a product of the community's plans that participated in the planning project, especially the Future Land Use Map. The County's Future Land Use Map was developed with the influence of the Town's Future Land Use Map. Town Future Land Use Map was inserted in to the County's Future Land Use Map, with some minor alterations. Since this is the case, the County and Town of Burnett's Future Land Use Maps are consistent with each other.

As documented in the Comprehensive Plan, it is Dodge County's intention to preserve and enhance the County's agricultural and natural resources. One of the main features of the comprehensive plan is the Future Land Use Map (See enclosed Dodge County Future Land Use Map for Burnett). Dodge County is required to make its Farmland Preservation Plan Map consistent with the County Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map. In order for a landowner to obtain a Farmland Preservation Agreement, they must be consistent with the County Farmland Preservation Plan Map. Since this is the case, Dodge County used the draft Farmland Preservation Plan map to help create the proposed AEA Map. By ensuring consistency between the proposed AEA and the proposed Farmland Preservation Plan Map, the proposed AEA is made consistent with the Dodge County Comprehensive Plan. Therefore, the Dodge County Comprehensive Plan and Future Land Use Map are consistent with the proposed size and location of the AEA.

**The Town of Burnett has a comprehensive plan and the proposed AEA is consistent with this plan.**

The Town of Burnett adopted its Comprehensive Plan on April 10, 2006. The Comprehensive Plan's goals, objectives, policies and recommendations are consistent with the goals and purpose of the proposed AEA

Within the Comprehensive Plan, the Future Land Use Map (See enclosed Town of Burnett Future Land Use Map) identifies the location of land uses in the future. The most prominent category is Agriculture. Since the 6,300 acres within the Horicon Marsh Wildlife Refuge is mostly used for recreation purposes, it was not identified as a Farmland Preservation area. The Town of Burnett's Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map was used to create the proposed Farmland Preservation Plan Map and AEA Map. Virtual complete consistency between the maps was achieved.

- 6) (a) Select which of the following land use controls will support the agricultural uses in the proposed AEA. (b) Explain if the selected control is currently in place or will be implemented in the future and how the control will support the proposed AEA.

There are multiple land use controls implemented in the Town of Burnett and the Town is planning to implement additional programs in the future. The Town has adopted its own zoning ordinance and is under the jurisdiction of the County land division ordinance. The following is a review of each land use regulatory tool:

**Farmland Preservation Zoning Ordinance**

The Town of Burnett has adopted its own zoning ordinance. Farmland preservation zoning has been in place since 1981 in the Town of Burnett.

The Town of Burnett is in the process of updating the text of the Zoning Ordinance and the Town zoning map in order to comply with Chapter 91, Wis. Stats. On February 7, 2011 the Town held a public hearing on the proposed amendments to the zoning ordinance and map. After the changes are finalized, the ordinance and map will be sent to DATCP for certification. These amendments will allow the Town to continue to be eligible for the farmland preservation program through farmland preservation zoning. The current Town of Burnett zoning map is enclosed as well as the proposed zoning map. The new zoning map will be consistent with the proposed Dodge County Farmland Preservation Plan, which is scheduled for adoption in April of 2011.

In addition to the restrictions placed within the farmland preservation zoning district under Chapter 91, Wis. Stats., the Town has chosen to require additional restrictions on the amount of residential development allowed in the updated zoning ordinance. The density standards listed in the Table below will apply not only to the Farmland Preservation Zoning District (A-1), but also to the Town’s other agricultural zoning district (A-2). A landowner in Burnett will need at least 75 acres in order to create a new lot. A maximum of only three new lots are allowed with 225 acres or more, which is one lot less than the maximum allowed under state statute language.

**Table 6-1: Density Standards in Agricultural Zoning Districts**

<b>Parent Parcel Total Area (Acres)</b>	<b>Number of New Lots Allowed</b>
Less than 75 acres	0
75 acres up to 150 acres	1
150 acres up to 225 acres	2
225 acres or more	3 (Maximum)

The Town’s participation in the farmland preservation zoning greatly helps the Town work towards obtaining its Comprehensive Plan goals and proposed AEA goals. Especially since the new farmland preservation zoning standards limit the amount of growth in the Town and restrict the uses that are allowed in the Farmland Preservation

Zoning District. These uses that are allowed or conditionally allowed in the farmland preservation zoning district are limited to uses that are compatible with agricultural uses. Limiting allowed or conditionally allowed uses in the Farmland Preservation Zoning District to agricultural uses, will help support agricultural development and the goals of the proposed AEA. By obtaining an AEA and participating in farmland preservation zoning, the Town of Burnett would help make its farmers eligible for the highest tax credit and implement stringent land preservation tools.

### **Easements or Purchase of Development Rights**

The Town Board and County staff will be promoting the use of the Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easement (PACE) program offered through the state farmland preservation program. County staff has in the past conducted informational meetings on all of the farmland preservation programs and will continue to offer such informational workshops. The Town Board will also offer at least one farmland preservation workshop in the future focusing on the PACE program. County staff and DATCP staff will be invited to speak at such a meeting.

In addition, there are at least two land trusts that are active in the area. These land trust organizations can also offer acceptance of development rights and possibly the purchase of development rights on farmland in the future. The land trust would be the holders of the easement or development rights on the land and ensure that the land is used only for agricultural or open space uses in perpetuity. Land trusts can also serve to bridge the financial gap of the PACE program. Land trusts could provide the additional 50 percent of the funding necessary to completely fund the easement purchase. Land owners who willingly enter into farmland preservation agreements within the proposed Burnett AEA would very likely also be willing to make further commitment agriculture by having an agricultural conservation easement on their land. A program for the purchase of agricultural easements or voluntary contribution of development rights will complement farmland preservation agreements in the AEA.

### **Subdivision/Land Division Ordinance**

All major subdivisions and minor divisions of land in Dodge County, except in incorporated municipalities, must receive approval from Dodge County. The purpose of Dodge County regulating all land divisions is to promote the public health, safety, morals, prosperity, aesthetics and general welfare of the County. Any proposed division of land in Burnett that results in a new lot being created, must obtain the approval of Dodge County. The land division provisions of the County Land Use Code specifies that all new lots not served by public sewer must abut a public road, be at least 40,000 sq. ft. in area, and have at least 125 feet of lot width at the building setback line. Without the requirement that all lots abut a public road, small tracts of wooded areas or hills far off the road could become residential building lots. These lots could be surrounded by agricultural operations and the driveway to such a lot may dissect existing agricultural fields. Having a nonfarm residence surrounded by agricultural fields can also lead to land use conflicts and disrupt normal farm operations. The subdivision/land division regulations also detail the requirements for proposed roads within a new subdivision along with grading, drainage, sidewalks, and erosion control design.

Between the County land division standards and the Town's zoning requirements, all land divisions and land uses on agricultural land in the Town is strictly regulated. The establishment of an AEA will further support the County and Town's efforts. With existing regulations in place and the addition of an AEA, agriculture will continue to be the foundation of the Town for years to come. Farmers can feel confident that the Town will support agricultural operations, minimize land use conflicts, and will protect agricultural investments in their farm operations.

### **Natural Area Protections**

A large portion of the Town (6,300 acres) is occupied by the Horicon Marsh Wildlife Refuge. These areas are under public ownership and are protected from future development. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Department of Natural Resources own and manage land in Burnett that is not wetland, but upland areas adjacent to or near the Marsh.

### **Other Land Use Controls**

In addition to the above mentioned land use tools, Dodge County has adopted a Farmland Preservation Plan in 1980. The Dodge County Farmland Preservation Plan outlines agricultural statistics, land preservation techniques, as well as areas planned for agricultural preservation. The existing Dodge County Agricultural Preservation Plan shows a majority of the town as agricultural land to be preserved. The Dodge County Farmland Preservation Plan certification expired in 2009, however an extension was granted to Dodge County.

Dodge County was awarded a \$17,000 Farmland Preservation Planning Grant in early 2010; the funds were used to pay for the development of a new Farmland Preservation Plan. During the planning project, county staff worked with citizens and local officials to review the Farmland Preservation Program, identify agricultural/natural areas that should be protected and identify other important agricultural goals. Similar to the proposed AEA area, the draft Farmland Preservation Plan map shows the same areas to be preserved for agriculture. Therefore, the proposed AEA and the draft Farmland Preservation Plan map are consistent. Staff has created a draft Farmland Preservation Plan, which the County has received preliminary approval from the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. The draft plan was presented at a February 10, 2011 public informational meeting. This meeting allowed the public to review and comment on the plan recommendations, including the farmland preservation plan map. It is anticipated that the plan will be adopted at the April, 2011 Dodge County Board of Supervisors meeting.

**7) Describe any recent investments made to support agriculture and agricultural-related business in or near the proposed AEA.**

Since April of 2004, there has been over \$847,000 invested in agriculture related improvements. The size of investments has ranged from \$3,000 to \$250,000. In 2010 alone, \$364,000 was spent on new agricultural buildings, the largest of which being a \$250,000 barn addition. In May of 2009, an \$80,000 wind energy system was constructed on a farm within the proposed AEA. See the attached listing titled “Recent Agricultural Investments or Improvements in the Town of Burnett” for a complete listing.

**8) Explain how designation of an AEA may do the following:**

- a) Promote future agricultural and related investment and cooperation within the AEA.**
- b) Support or encourage agricultural economic activity within the broader community.**

**a) Promote future agricultural and related investment and cooperation within the AEA.**

Please see the attached page titled “Existing or Potential Cooperative Relationships between Local Producers and/or Agricultural-Related businesses. The listing of eight cooperative relationships provides detail on how cooperation works among area farmers. In addition to the Town’s farmland preservation zoning requirements, there is still a need to further protect agricultural operations and the land base needed to maintain a farming community. A key goal of this AEA is to protect the Town of Burnett’s land base and encourage new agricultural investments. Obtaining an AEA is an additional tool the Town needs to achieve those goals. It is anticipated that the establishment of an AEA will further show Town landowners, agribusinesses, and potential agribusinesses that the Town is committed to supporting and maintaining agriculture in the Town. Creating an environment where agricultural operations and agricultural businesses will be supported and encouraged is critical. Operators and business owners that want to make an investment in agriculture know they have to choose a region that is conducive for agriculture. Landowners and business owners need to be assured that their investments are in an area committed to agriculture. These operations and businesses need areas that are primarily devoted agriculture, have an established agricultural infrastructure, allow few nonfarm developments (minimize land use conflicts), and have a community government that wants to maintain its agricultural industry.

Agriculture is no different than any other industry, in order to keep competitive and maximize profits, agricultural operators and agribusinesses need to be progressive. Obtaining an AEA is just that, it is progressive and forward thinking. It is the local petitioner’s and Town’s way of preparing for the future and obtaining a tool necessary for its landowners to prosper in the future. By securing an additional economic tool, such as an AEA, the Town is positioning its farm operators and agribusinesses to be progressive. Obtaining an AEA and having landowners think about the future, it is believed the proposed AEA is encouraging the: implementation of nontraditional operation practices, investment in new technology, investment new farming equipment, consideration of potential business opportunities, shared farm services, utilization of new resources, etc...

The state's revision of the Farmland Preservation Program and creation of AEA's show how the state is looking to the future. In the past, Farmland Preservation Agreements were spread all over the state. New agreements must be focused in areas of agricultural importance. AEA's are a new method of supporting agriculture in the state, placing precious state funds in areas that are unique and important to the state's agricultural industry. Agricultural operators and agribusinesses are no different than the state; they need to invest their precious funds in resources and services that will support their business the best. An AEA will help landowners prepare for the future, by creating an avenue for landowners to secure additional income, help preserve the needed agricultural land base, implement cost saving conservation practices, and embrace new agricultural investments. The act of petitioning the state for an AEA has already resulted in better cooperation among land owners. Communication among land owners and town officials was very prevalent during the petition process. A community coming together in order to create a quality AEA petition has resulted in bringing the community closer together.

**8) b) Support or encourage agricultural economic activity within the broader community.**

The Town of Burnett's decision to continue participation in the Farmland Preservation Program and apply for an AEA is an important step in maintaining and promoting agriculture in the Town. Allowing landowners to continue participation in the zoning program and collect the increased tax credit is an economic boost to the Town, the surrounding area, and the County. With the zoning program alone, many landowners will see a significant increase in their Farmland Preservation tax credit amount. If the Town obtains an AEA, Town landowners will have the option to collect up to \$10 an acre for all enrolled land. For many landowners, this will greatly increase the amount of tax credits they are currently receiving, which would ease the tax burden and possibly provide a cash refund. This would essentially provide landowners a small scale economic stimulus. This economic boost will not only help landowners with their annual household or farm spending needs, but could also be used to invest in new equipment, additional livestock, additional land; the list is endless. These dollars will be spread beyond the Town and County's borders, since farm operators go to landowners and agribusinesses in surrounding communities for farming needs. Such landowners and agribusinesses will feel the benefit of the program's tax credits, essentially becoming secondary beneficiaries.

Increasing opportunities for agribusinesses development or increased farm operation investment has a proven affect on job retention and job creation. Creating an environment where agricultural investment is encouraged would have a positive affect on local and regional jobs. For example, the implement dealers in the Cities of Beaver Dam and Waupun depend on the Town's agricultural operations. The Town agricultural operations need the implement dealers for farm equipment needs, hence providing the implement dealers with regular local customers. If the number of farming operations were to decline, the implement dealer's customer base would decline and may not be able to keep its doors open. If an implement were to close, the city would lose those that business and those local jobs. Also, the closing of one business can have a domino affect and the city could potentially lose other associated businesses or other regional businesses could be affected. On the flip side, if farming operations continue and new money is invested in to local agricultural operations, the implement dealers will be able

to stay open to serve those operations as well as operations in nearby towns. Implement dealers will be able to keep their employees and possibly create new job positions, further supporting the cities tax base and other businesses. There are a variety of agribusinesses that depend on the farming operations in the Town of Burnett; the Town's agricultural industry provides the foundation for agribusinesses and communities.

Local agribusinesses realize that Burnett's agricultural operations help provide the foundation for their businesses. [A total of 40 local agribusinesses submitted letters of support](#) for the creation of the Burnett AEA (See Letters of Support). United Coop maintains large facilities in Horicon and Beaver Dam. The farmer owned cooperative has assets of over \$300 million and employs 500 people. The County is dependent on the jobs and property tax dollars paid by the Coop. The town to the north and west of Burnett, Trenton, is also petitioning for an AEA. Agriculture is dependent upon having a large enough base of operations to support nearby grain elevators, implement dealers, cheese companies, feed and seed sellers, etc. The towns are dependent on each other for the survival of agriculture. The combination of strong agricultural operations in both towns is vital to the survival of the agricultural industry in each of the towns. The commitment of both of these towns to agriculture will result in a more successful farmland preservation program. Smaller areas are more likely to succumb to failure due to the economy of scale.

Additionally, existing businesses that perform services as a result of money invested by landowners, agricultural operations, or agribusinesses are further supported by new agricultural growth. Those businesses can continue to maintain their existing jobs and create new jobs. Many different industry sectors can be utilized when farm operations or new agribusinesses invest money; such as, bankers, electricians, plumbers, landscapers, aggregate producers, trucking companies, realtors, etc. In order to help keep the community strong, maintaining a balance of agricultural jobs and nonagricultural jobs is very important. Many jobs in rural communities, such as Dodge County and the Town of Burnett, are linked in some way to the agriculture community. By helping retain jobs in all industry sectors, it also helps maintain the community's quality of life and support the community's social network.

Overall, a landowner's ability to spend additional money in anyway is a boost to the local, regional and state economy, not just the farming economy. Landowners receiving additional tax credits will have additional money to pay for housing and living needs and will help all businesses. As a result, the state's Farmland Preservation tax credit dollars benefit the recipient landowner, surrounding landowners, nonparticipating citizens, local government agencies, and local/regional/statewide businesses.

**9) Indicate the approximate level of petitioner compliance with soil and water standards.**

According to the Dodge County Land Conservation Department, as of January 1, 2011, Department records indicate more than half of the landowners petitioning for an Agricultural Enterprise Area in the Town of Burnett are likely in compliance with the conservation standard of maintaining cropland soil erosion at or below tolerable rates. At the same time, and based on the best available information, it is believed that less than

half of the landowners in the Town of Burnett are in compliance with the conservation standard of preparing and following a cropland nutrient management plan. The remaining soil and water conservation standards appear to be applicable to only a small number of Burnett landowners. The staff of the Dodge County Land Conservation Department believes that the majority of these landowners are likely to be in compliance with most, if not all, of these remaining soil & water conservation standards. Therefore, a conservative estimate of half, or less than half of the petitioning landowners in the Town of Burnett are in full compliance with state soil & water conservation standards. (See enclosed letter from Marc Bethke, County Conservationist).

It is believed that by establishing an AEA and allowing landowners to enter in to an agreement, it will further communication between the landowner and the County Land Conservation Department staff. Increased communication will foster a better working relationship between staff and the landowners and parties can work together to implement farming practices that exceed the minimum conservation standards. Since so many Town landowners have been participating in the program (currently 9,200 acres enrolled) and have been implementing soil and water conservation standards for years, it is believed that there will be high level of cooperation between landowners and County Land Conservation staff. Cooperation will be necessary to get all parties signing farmland preservation agreements to meet standards set by ATCP 50, Wisconsin Adm. Code.

**10) If the proposed area is designated as an AEA, what steps will be taken to encourage farmland preservation agreements between landowners and the department?**

If an AEA is awarded to the Town of Burnett, the Town will encourage all eligible landowners to apply for an agreement. The Town will implement various methods to encourage landowners to apply for an agreement.

First, the Town would officially announce the approval of the AEA at a public informational meeting. If an AEA is designated in the Town, the Town will celebrate the achievement. The public informational meeting would show the location of the AEA and provide information about applying for an agreement. The meeting would be publicized by typical methods, such meeting notices, newspaper posting and word of mouth. Also, agribusinesses will be invited to the meeting, as they will provide a good avenue to inform landowners of the AEA and to encourage landowners to participate in the program.

The second action the Town would do to encourage landowners to sign an agreement would be to mail Farmland Preservation Agreement information materials to all eligible landowners. The information will be included with next year's tax bill mailing. By mailing the information to all eligible landowners, this would cover all possible participants. It would reach those currently participating in the Farmland Preservation Zoning program and non participating landowners. It is believed that there are nonparticipating landowners interested in participating in the program, by both zoning and signing an agreement. Also, it is anticipated that there will be a large amount of interest in applying for an agreement, since many of the landowners in the AEA already participate in the program.

As previously mentioned, farming communities are tight knit and regularly communicate with each other. If the proposed AEA is approved, the news of an opportunity to sign an agreement will spread fast by word of mouth. Landowners will have a hand in spreading the word about the enhanced program. In addition, if the Town of Trenton is awarded an AEA, cooperation between Trenton and Burnett could achieve an even greater degree of participation in the program.

**11) Describe the level of non-petitioner cooperator support for the petition.**

The proposed AEA has received a tremendous amount of support from persons other than the petitioners, especially from area businesses. A total of [63 Cooperator Signature pages or separate letters of support were received.](#) Forty of those petitions were from businesses that are directly related to the agriculture industry. The list of supporters include implement dealers (7), coops, spraying services, feed and seed suppliers, veterinary services, equipment repair services, and food processors. A trucking company located in Burnett submitted a petition stating that hauling livestock is 90% of their business. Other supporters included six banks, three county officials, the Dodge County Forage Council, the Dodge County Farm Service Agency, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and a CPA firm. Please see the attached Cooperators Signature pages and letters of support for further detail.

**12) Are there any other compelling reasons to choose this AEA proposal from among competing AEA proposals?**

The proposed Town of Burnett AEA is unique and agriculturally essential. It is different from other areas, as its agricultural production is locally and regionally important. It's location between the developing areas of Madison, Milwaukee and the Fox River Valley places more development pressure on high quality agricultural land than most other areas of the state.

In addition to the supporting documentation listed in questions 1 -11, the proposed Burnett AEA should be selected for the following reasons:

- The existence of the Horicon Marsh Wildlife Refuge in the Town of Burnett demonstrates a huge investment on behalf of federal and state taxpayers. The protection of that investment is of international importance. Programs such as AEA's and farmland preservation agreements will serve to protect the Wildlife Refuge from developments that could be detrimental to the needs of a wildlife preserve. By approving the Burnett AEA, the state of Wisconsin would be providing another layer of protection for its own investment.
- The Burnett AEA petition contains a large number of eligible landowner petitions and cooperator support. A total of 45 landowners signed petitions, covering 8,116 acres of land in the AEA. That is well over one-half of the total acreage of 14,833 acres of land in the Agricultural Enterprise Area. In addition, 63 cooperator signature pages and letters of support were obtained.

- Town officials put together a listing that includes 133 ag-related businesses. See the attached pages titled “Ag-Related Businesses in or near Burnett that do business with Burnett farmers”. Obviously, agriculture is important to many of the businesses in and near the Town of Burnett.
- Tremendous cooperation between Dodge County, Town of Burnett and citizens to develop AEA petition and Farmland Preservation Program education.
- Large agricultural land base and excellent producing soils have large footprint in agricultural economy.
- Continuing and enhancing soil and water conservation practices is essential to preserving the Rock River Basin and protecting the Horicon Marsh from agricultural field run-off. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department of Natural Resources acknowledged the importance of the required soil conservation practices in their letters of support.
- The proposed AEA is located in the Rock River Basin, which contains some of the finest farmland in the state, maximizing its protection should be a priority of the state.
- The Town of Burnett contains many unique places:
  1. Burnett is the original home of the United Cooperative.
  2. Dodge County Antique Power Club – Antique farm machinery is on display and used at special events.
  3. John Deere Company has farm and garden equipment testing grounds in Burnett.
  4. Nitschke Mounds County Park contains 39 animal effigy mounds believed to be constructed around 800AD – 1100AD.
  5. Wild Goose State Trail is a 34 mile multi-purpose recreation trail that bisects the Town.
  6. Spring Brook Farm is a resort that specializes in wedding ceremonies, complete with country church, wedding hall and accommodations.
  7. Waldvogel’s pumpkin farm.
  8. Two hunting clubs.
  9. A petting zoo, a rabbit farm, an organic farm, an exotic animal farm, and a dairy farm that gives tours.
  10. Blue Heron boat tours provide tours of the Horicon Marsh by boat.
  11. There is an artesian well that many people from the area get their drinking water from.
  12. The Rock River chapter of Wisconsin Women in Agriculture meets in the area.

Please see the attached page titled “Unique Places in the Town of Burnett” for further detail.

## Recent Agricultural Investments or Improvements in the Town of Burnett

November, 2010,	Jeff Becker, Barn Addition	\$ 3,000
July, 2010	Kittell, Inc. Barn Addition	250,000
June, 2010	Waldvogel Farm, Shed	60,000
June, 2010	Nitschke Grain, Grain Storage	51,000
September, 2009	Dale Braunschweig, Grain Bin	4,500
May, 2009	Chas. Hammer, sm. Wind system	80,000
October, 2008	Lavern Pieper, Grain Bin	21,464
May, 2008	Gary Zimmerman, barn addition	20,000
April, 2008	Phil Waldvogel, Machine Storage	10,000
April, 2008	Kittell, Inc., Parlor	20,000
December, 2007	Nitschke, Mach. Storage & Shop	80,000
August, 2007	Jim Ferron, grain bins	7,500
July, 2007	Brian Korth, Mach. Storage	36,000
March, 2007	Carl Twardokus, calf barn	45,201
April, 2007	Carl Twarkokus, shed	51,490
September, 2006	Marvin Marohl, barn repair	4,500
July, 2005	Gary Zimmerman, heifer shed	10,000
June, 2005	Jon Luck, concrete feed pad	5,625
May, 2005	Woock Farms, barn remodel	10,000
November, 2004	Kittell, Inc., Milking Parlor	90,000
April, 2004	Nitschke Grain, grain bin	17,000
April, 2004	Alice Christian, shed	<u>22,000</u>

\$847,790

## Ag-Related Businesses in or near Burnett that do business with Burnett Farmers

DH Express	Farmers Elevator	Fleet Farm
FWH Trucking	Waupun Vet	Wick Ag Buildings
United Coop	Westra Acctg.	D Olsen Digging
Peachey Bros.	Badgerland Fin.	T. Vogt Excavat
Jake's Repair	McCallum Supply	WD Navis Excavat.
BadgerLand Seeds	Corey Oil	NMC2 Ag Consult.
Didion Grain	Beaver Dam Vet	Asmus Truck Repair
UWGP Ethanol	Land Mark Coop	Midwest Bio-Ag
Al-Win Ent.	Rural Insurance	Organic Valley
Hupf Repair Center	Juneau Vet Clinic	World Foods
Beaver Blacksmith	Gehrings Dairy Supp	D & B Constr.
Dan Ritger, Hay	Hull's 151	E & G Repair
Serwe Imp.	Lyle Hull	Badgerland Comm.
Schraufnagel Imp.	Derksen Imp.	R & D Concrete
Cole Oil Co.	Kraft	Carew Concrete
Service Motors	Alto Creamery	Grebel Pump Service
Knowles Produce	G. Nitschke Appr.	Wis. South. Railroad
Waupun Equipment	Country Side Motor	J. Weinheimer Spray
Farm & Home Supp.	Beaver Dam, Ford	Reabe Spray Service
Balweg Imp.	Homan Auto	Bob Vick Spraying
Mid-State Equip.	Wondra Constr.	Contree Sales
Farmers Imp.	Heiar Custom Fence	Adelmeyer Welding
Zieglers Ag Equip	Kraft Imp. Co.	Persha Equipment
CD Farm Supply	Rock River Labs	Gutschenritter Weld.
Roberts' Painting	Cashton Farm Supp	Lemmenes Cust.
Mitchell Constr.	W & W Elec. Motor	Walkers Gr. Earth
Bender Builders	Schroeder Elec.	John Deere, Horicon
Waupun Feed & See	Sam's Well Drilling	Jung Seed Genetics
Voigt Farm Sales	Spike's Radiator	Blue River Seeds
Animart	Pinno Constr.	Delong's Seeds
Mayville Animal Cl.	Juneau Auto Body	MB Barn Repair
Jacobsen Supp.	Grande Cheese	Bill Ganz, Elect
E. Centr. Breeders	AgriLand	Neitzel Elect.
Vita Plus	Helena Chem Co.	Gene's Tires
Dual Gas	IDO	Mayville Tire Co.

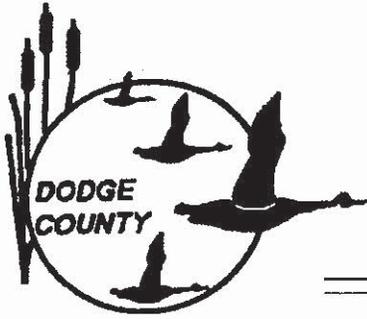
M. Rinderle Tire Co.  
Walters Gas Service  
Amerigas  
Bayland Builders  
Randolph Do-It Ctr.  
Pro Build  
AA Roedl Excavat.  
Strauss Remodeling  
Natl. Exchange Bank  
F & M Bank  
M & I Bank  
Korth Construction  
Kundert Equip.  
Americ. Fam. Ins.  
R & R Insurance  
Farmers Ins. Group  
Hellenbrand Imp.  
Seneca Foods  
Annen's Mach.  
Lakeside Foods  
Swiderski Equip.  
Kiesow Drainage  
St. Lawrence Equip.  
Weinheimer Trkg.  
Ron Lidke Trkg.  
Milwaukee  
Stockyard  
Beaver Livestock  
Service  
Beaver Gunitite

## Unique Places in the Town of Burnett

Original home of Western Dodge Cooperative, now United Cooperative  
Dodge County Antique Power Club  
John Deere Farm testing grounds  
Nitschke Mounds Park  
Horicon Marsh  
U.S. Wildlife Refuge  
Spring Brook Farm  
Waldvogel's Pumpkin Farm  
Quack Club Hunting Club  
Horicon Rod & Gun Club  
Wild Goose State Trail  
Down to Earth herbs  
Dave Dietz Exotic Animals  
Northeast Asphalt Plant & Quarry  
Bob Condon Dairy Farm (tours)  
Ben Schuett Rabbit Farm  
Rae Geb—petting zoo  
Braunschweig's Organic Farm, raise organic corn, soybeans for soy milk, canning peas for baby food, and hay  
Don & Shirley Clough, garden tours  
Korth Bros. pulling tractor tires  
Castle—residence  
Blue Heron Boat Tours, tour the Horicon Marsh in Burnett  
Artesian well that many from the area get their drinking water from  
Rock River Chapter of Wisconsin Women in Agriculture meet in area

## Existing or Potential Cooperative Relationships between Local Producers and/or Agricultural-related Businesses

1. Peachey Bros. Elevator takes in locally grown grain and processes it for feed.
2. Waldvogel's Farm sold locally made soap and farm raised chickens.
3. Local farmers have Sugden Custom Woodcutters cut their logs.
4. FWH Trucking hauls locally raised livestock to market.
5. Dennis Krenz hauls locally produced milk.
6. John Meylink Farm and Nitschke Grain Farms own equipment together.
7. Larry, Tim, Dan Moul share farm equipment.
8. Various farms hire other area farmers to do custom work.



**Dodge County Land Conservation Department (LCD)**  
**127 E Oak Street Juneau WI 53039-1329**  
**(920) 386-3660**  
**Email: [landcons@co.dodge.wi.us](mailto:landcons@co.dodge.wi.us)**

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DATE: January 20, 2011

TO: Wisconsin DATCP  
Attn: Coreen Fallat – AEA Petition Review

FROM: Marc Bethke, County Conservationist *Marc Bethke*  
Dodge County Land Conservation Department

RE: Soil & Water Conservation Compliance in Town of Burnett, Dodge County

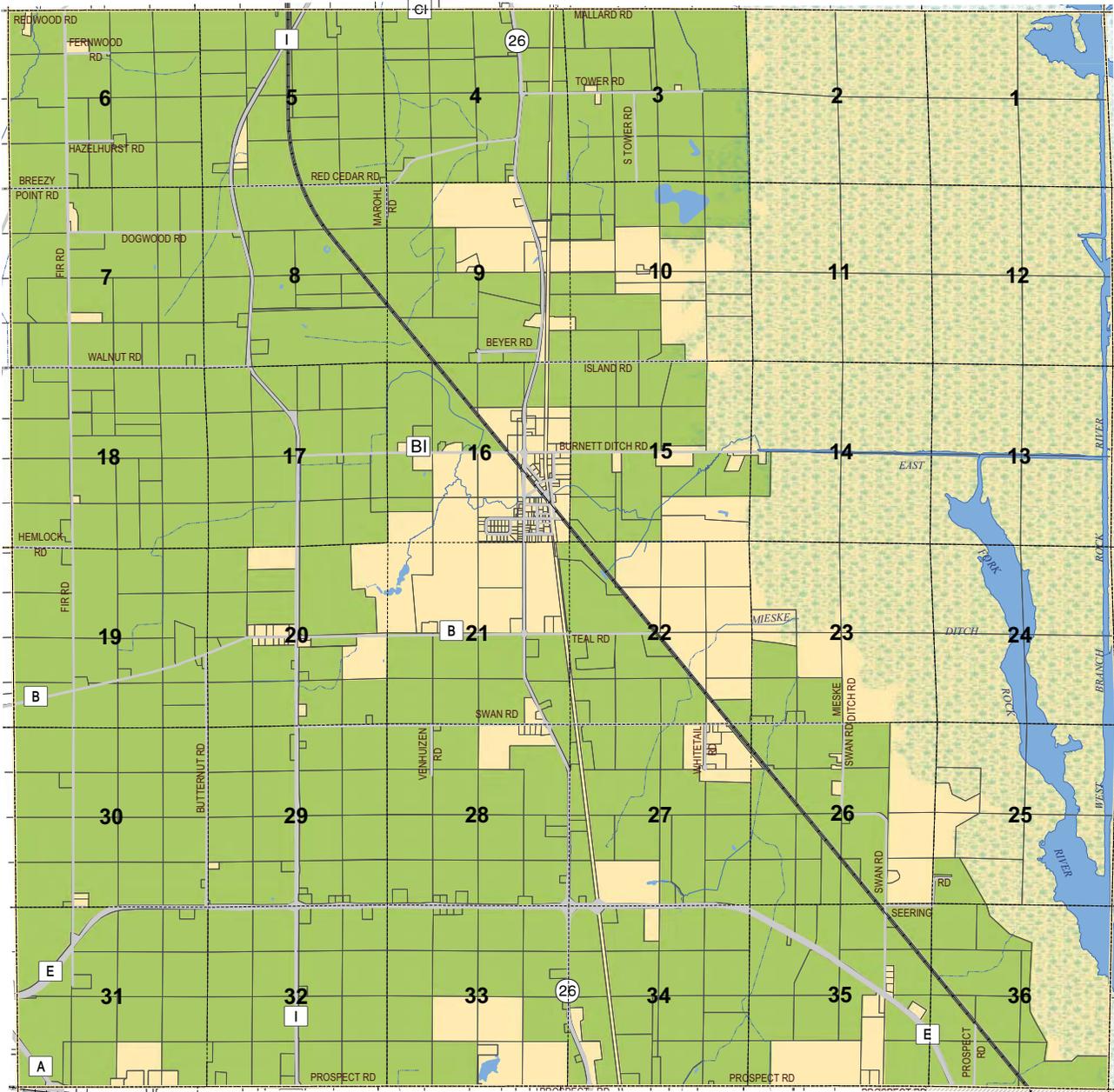
As of January 1, 2011, farm conservation plan records in the Dodge County Land Conservation Department indicate that more than half of the landowners petitioning for an Agricultural Enterprise Area in the Town of Burnett, Dodge County, are likely in compliance with the conservation standard of maintaining cropland soil erosion at or below tolerable levels. As of the same time, and based on the best available information, it is believed that less than half of the landowners in the Town of Burnett, Dodge County, are in compliance with the conservation standard of preparing and following a cropland nutrient management plan.

Because far fewer than half of the remaining landowners in the Town of Burnett have livestock or manure storage structures on their farms, we believe that the remaining soil and water conservation standards would likely apply to only a small number of Town of Burnett landowners. Staff of the Dodge County Land Conservation Department believes that the majority of these landowners would be found to be in compliance with most, if not all, of these remaining soil and water conservation standards.

Therefore, all things considered, we would estimate that half, or less than half, of the petitioning landowners in the Town of Burnett, Dodge County, are in full compliance with all state soil & water conservation standards. However, trends in nutrient management planning and the application of other conservation practices throughout Dodge County, including the Town of Burnett, would suggest that positive progress is being made every year, and that more than half of the Town of Burnett landowners could be in full compliance with state soil and water conservation standards in the next few years.

Please contact me with any questions at 920-386-3663.

# Proposed Burnett Agricultural Enterprise Area Town of Burnett, Dodge County, Wisconsin



**Legend**

U.S. Highway	Incorporated Areas	Agricultural Enterprise Area Parcels
State Highway	Waterbody	Non-Agricultural Enterprise Area Parcels
County Highway	Horicon Marsh	
Town Road	Road Right-of-Way	
Railroad	Rivers and Streams	
Town Boundary	Intermittent Stream	
Section Line		
Tax Parcel Boundary		

Dodge County Wisconsin

Dodge County  
Land Resources and Parks  
Department

1 inch = 1,580 feet

Town of Burnett

Source: Dodge County Land Resources and Parks Department, March 2011

KAREN J. GIBSON  
Dodge County Clerk  
[kgibson@co.dodge.wi.us](mailto:kgibson@co.dodge.wi.us)

Administration Building  
127 East Oak Street, Juneau WI 53039  
920-386-3602 / Fax: 920-386-3928



JEAN M. HELLER  
Chief Deputy  
[jheller@co.dodge.wi.us](mailto:jheller@co.dodge.wi.us)

CHRISTINE M. KJORNES  
Deputy  
[ckjornes@co.dodge.wi.us](mailto:ckjornes@co.dodge.wi.us)

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I, Karen J. Gibson, County Clerk in and for the County of Dodge, State of Wisconsin, do hereby certify that the attached is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 10-66, adopted by the Dodge County Board of Supervisors on February 16, 2011.

Dated this 17<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2011

Karen J. Gibson  
Dodge County Clerk

(County Seal)

RESOLUTION NO. 10-66

A Resolution In Support Of The Establishment Of An Agricultural Enterprise Area Within  
The Town Of Burnett, Dodge County, Wisconsin

TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF DODGE COUNTY, WISCONSIN  
MEMBERS,

**WHEREAS**, the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection is accepting petitions for the designation of Agricultural Enterprise Areas throughout the State of Wisconsin, and

**WHEREAS**, agriculture is an important component of the Dodge County economy, landscape, and rural character, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Burnett adopted exclusive agricultural zoning and has consistently supported the agricultural industry, and

**WHEREAS**, the Dodge County Comprehensive Plan adopted on March 21, 2006, identifies the protection and preservation of agricultural land as a goal of the Plan, and

**WHEREAS**, Dodge County and the Town of Burnett believe that establishment of an Agricultural Enterprise Area (AEA) will further protect agricultural land and enhance the local agricultural economy, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Burnett has held a public hearing in regard to the establishment of an AEA and has determined that there is public support for the AEA, and

**WHEREAS**, the boundaries of the proposed Agricultural Enterprise Area are depicted in Exhibit "A", which is attached hereto, and

**WHEREAS**, the decision to participate in the program related to the Agricultural Enterprise Area will be at the sole discretion of the individual land owner, and

**WHEREAS**, agriculture is an important land use in Dodge County and worthy of preservation and support, and

**WHEREAS**, the Dodge County Planning, Development and Parks Committee hereby recommends that the Dodge County Board of Supervisors support the establishment of an Agricultural Enterprise Area within the Town of Burnett, Dodge County, Wisconsin;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Dodge County Board of Supervisors hereby supports the establishment of an Agricultural Enterprise Area within the Town of Burnett, Dodge County, Wisconsin.

All of which is respectfully submitted this 16th day of February, 2011.

**Dodge County Planning, Development and Parks Committee:**

Thomas J. Schaefer  
Thomas J. Schaefer

Delwyn Guenther  
Delwyn Guenther

Allen Behl  
Allen Behl

Dean Becker  
Dean Becker

Randy Grebel  
Randy Grebel

Adopted this 16th day of February, 2011, by the County Board of Supervisors of Dodge County.

ATTEST: Karen J. Gibson, Dodge County Clerk  
Karen J. Gibson

The above resolution has been authorized by the governing body of Dodge County.

By Resolution No. 10-66, dated February 16, 2011.

Russell Kottke  
Russell Kottke  
Chairman, Dodge County Board of Supervisors

Karen J. Gibson  
Karen J. Gibson, Dodge County Clerk

ADOPTED  
BY DODGE COUNTY BOARD

FEB 16 2011

AYES 32 NOES 0  
ABSENT 5  
ABSTAIN 0

Karen J. Gibson  
Dodge County Clerk

RESOLUTION NO. 2811

IN SUPPORT OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AGRICULTURAL ENTERPRISE AREA WITHIN THE TOWN OF BURNETT, DODGE COUNTY, WISCONSIN

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection is accepting petitions for the designation of Agricultural Enterprise Areas throughout the State of Wisconsin, and

**WHEREAS**, agriculture is an important component of the Town of Burnett economy, landscape, and rural character, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Burnett adopted exclusive agricultural zoning and has consistently supported the agricultural industry, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Burnett Comprehensive Plan adopted on April 10, 2006 identifies the protection and preservation of agricultural land as a goal of the Plan, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Burnett believes that establishment of an Agricultural Enterprise Area (AEA) will further protect agricultural land and enhance the local agricultural economy, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Burnett has held a public hearing in regard to the establishment of an AEA and has determined that there is public support for the AEA, and

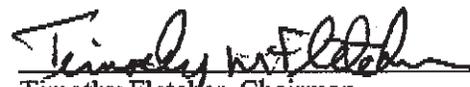
**WHEREAS**, the proposed boundaries of the Agricultural Enterprise Area are depicted in Exhibit "A", and

**WHEREAS**, the choice to participate in the program related to the Agricultural Enterprise Area will be at the sole discretion of the individual land owner, and

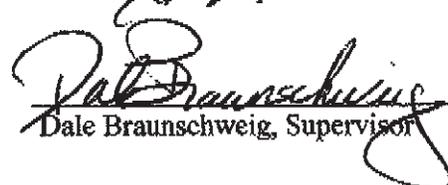
**WHEREAS**, agriculture is an important land use in the Town of Burnett and worthy of preservation and support,

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Board of the Town of Burnett hereby supports the establishment of an Agricultural Enterprise Area within the Town of Burnett, Dodge County, Wisconsin.

Adopted this 8 day of February, 2011.

  
Timothy Fletcher, Chairman

  
Bob Young Jr., Supervisor

  
Dale Braunschweig, Supervisor

ATTEST:

  
Debra Waldvogel, Clerk