
Sheboygan County Land & Water Resource Management Plan Update

LWCB Meeting

December 2 , 2025

Tyler Betry

County Conservationist



County Overview

- 331,000 Total Acres
- 8,200 acres of DNR Land
- 32,865 acres of Residential
- 7,294 acres Commercial
- 2,663 acres Manufacturing
- 171,376 acres of Agriculture
- Only a 1,463 decrease from 2008



County Overview

- Malibu of the Midwest
- Golf Destination
- Outdoor Recreation
- Industrial
- Brat Capital of the World
- Cheese Production



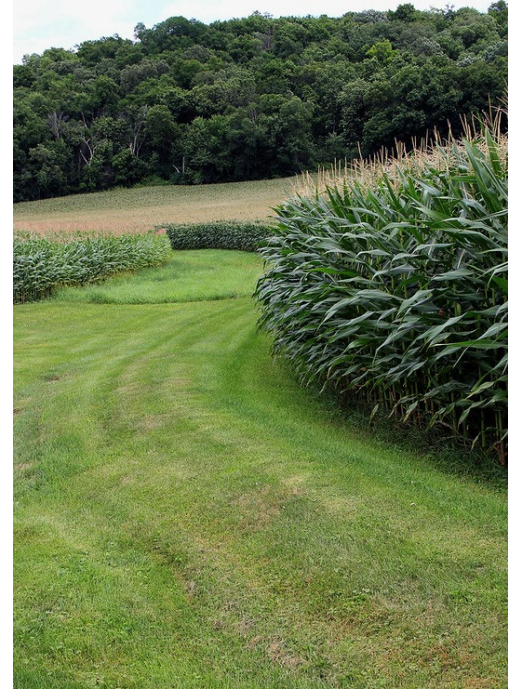
Agricultural Trends

- Sheboygan County has 842 farms (15% decrease from 2012) and an average size of 236 acres per farm (24% increase from 2012). Of the 842 farms, 335 farms had annual sales of \$9,999 or less.
- In 2022 of the 842 farms in Sheboygan County, 105 were dairy farms with an average of 277 cows per farm.
- There are 515 total square miles in the County, which means there are about 56 cows per square mile.
- Of the 1.1 million mink pelts produced in Wisconsin in 2013 over 400,000 (35%) were produced in Sheboygan County. The County holds the distinction of being the highest mink-producing County in the nation.



Agricultural Trends Continued

- 11 CAFOS
- In 2017, 229 farms were using no-till practices, and by 2022, the number of farms increased to 240.
- In 2017, 65 farms were planting cover crops, and by 2022 the number of farms increased to 104.
- In 2022 Sheboygan County farmers harvested 6,488,902 bushels of grain corn, 517,445 tons of corn silage, 1,170,773 bushels of corn, and 158,452 bushels of oats for grain.
- Sheboygan County is ranked 15th in the state and 72nd in the nation in milk production.
- 96% of farms in Sheboygan County are family owned.



Funding Sources

- SWRM
- Multi -Discharger Variance
- Water Quality Improvement Program
- Monsanto Endowment
- Stewardship Program
- Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Pilot Program



Special Programs

- Regional Conservation Partnership Program
 - Self Funded Programs
 - Stewardship
 - Well Testing
 - WQIP
 - 9-Key Element Plan—Fisher Creek & Pigeon River Subbasin
 - Farmland Preservation Program—
11/15 Towns ~330 Landowners
 - Tree Sale
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Citizen Advisory Committee Concerns

1. Promote sustainable land use practices to protect water quality by reducing runoff and preventing erosion.
 2. Encourage the promotion and adoption of soil health practices to enhance ecosystem resilience and improve agricultural sustainability
 3. Combat the loss of biodiversity through proactive conservation planning efforts.
 4. Accelerate the adoption of innovative conservation practices by providing education, resources, and incentives to overcome barriers and encourage broader implementation.
 5. Foster greater collaboration between industry, government, businesses, communities, and farmers to ensure effective and coordinated conservation efforts.
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L&WRM Plan Goals

1. Reduce Soil Erosion and Associated Phosphorus Losses
 - Promote conservation & sustainable land use practices
 - Offer technical assistance to landowners
 - Support local conservation groups with the same goals
 2. Reduce Animal Waste Runoff and Associated Phosphorus Losses
 - Promote soil health practices
 - Update and enforce standards in our Animal Waste Ordinance
 3. Nutrient Management Requirements
 - Verify compliance of Plans through FPP & Chapter 77
 - Offer cost share & assistance to landowners
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L&WRM Plan Goals Continued

4. Groundwater Protection
 - Well Testing Program & cost share for well decommissioning
 - Implement practices around wells that test above standards for nitrates
 5. Reduce Sediment and Phosphorus Loadings from Existing Urban and Developing Areas to Surface Waters
 - Enforce Chapter 75
 - Combat loss of biodiversity
 6. Continue Efforts on Additional Conservation Programming of Local Significance
 - Catch all
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Sheboygan County Planning & Conservation Department



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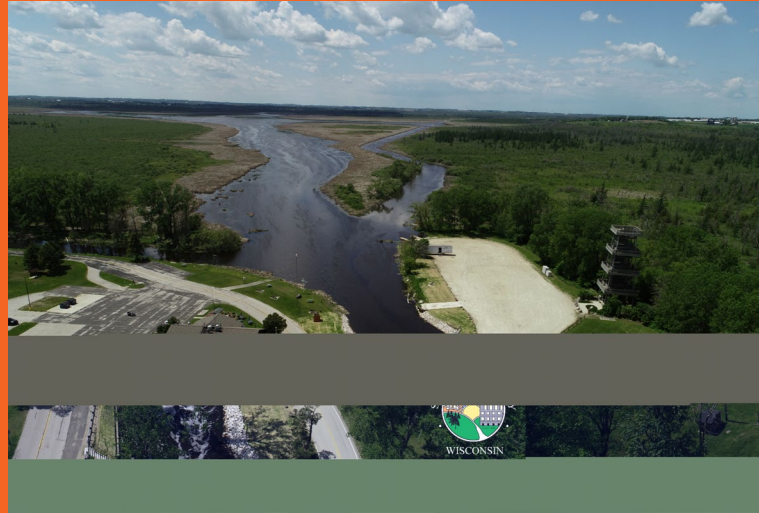


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Questions?



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