

## **CHAPTER SEVEN: UTILITIES & COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

### **Water Facilities**

There is no public water or sewer service available. Water is provided by private wells and sanitary sewer needs are provided by private septic systems. There are currently no plans to change this in the future.

### **Storm Water Management**

There are no public stormwater collection or treatment systems. Stormwater is routed through natural drainage conveyances to creeks or rivers. Stormwater management is regulated by the Wisconsin DNR and Dept. of Commerce on Industrial, Commercial and Residential Development. Agricultural stormwater is regulated by the Wisconsin DNR and Land Conservation Office.

### **Solid Waste**

The old landfill is located in the center of the township and is no longer used. A solid waste collection and recycling site is now located at the landfill site and is used by all Pepin County residents, for a fee. Recyclable products include: glass, plastic, oil by-products, computers, refrigeration and air conditioning units, building, lawn and yard waste, tires and cardboard. A Pepin County Solid Waste Management Program Summary is included at the end of this section.

### **Recreational Facilities**

Because of the size of the Township, there are no recreational facilities available and there are no plans for the future. Thompson Lake has a boat landing / parking area available which is maintained by Pepin County. Future plans may include a boat access to the Chippewa River on the west end of the new US Hwy 10 bridge.

### **Park Areas**

Approximately five acres of dedicated park land as part of Bert's Oak Crest Estates with access off of Joyce Road.

### **Police Protection**

Police protection is provided by Pepin County Sheriff's Dept. with a response time under ten minutes.

## **Fire Protection**

Fire protection is provided by rural fire protection facilities of which The Town of Waubeek is a member. Response time is also under ten minutes to the furthest point. Water is available from three or more access areas which the fire vehicles can pump from. There are no plans for an upgrade.

## **Emergency Medical Service**

Emergency medical service is provided by the Durand Ambulance Service and has the same response time as the police and fire protection. The Town has full access to "911".

## **Energy**

Natural gas is available to 30 – 40% of the home owners. As to date, most industrial sites also have access. Excel Energy and Pierce Pepin Electric provide electrical utility service in the Town of Waubeek. Excel Energy has a sub-station serving their system. All underground wires are served on a case by case basis as needed. Underground cable has a life expectancy of up to 40 years. There is some interest in wind generating power by private residents.

## **Telecommunications**

West Wisconsin Telecom is on a 3 – 5 year building schedule with fiber optic service that will include telephone, computer and cable services. Nelson Telephone is also on the same schedule.

## **Health & Child Care**

None are available other than the services provided by Pepin County.

## **Cemeteries**

The Town has one active cemetery named Waubeek Cemetery and some historical Native American burial mound sites, (Bradshaw and Thompson Mounds).

## **Schools**

The School District of Durand is the prime source of public education. A private school, Assumption Catholic School serves the Waubeek area and is located in the City of Durand.

## **Future Needs**

There are no known plans for major improvements other than listed.

## PEPIN COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM SUMMARY

Pepin County provides for collection of garbage, recyclables, demolition waste, yard waste, major household appliances, tires, waste motor oil, oil filters, antifreeze, lead acid batteries, rechargeable batteries, computers and electronic equipment at two permanent collection sites within the County. While the County provides the opportunity for appropriate management of waste materials, it does not control the flow of solid waste, recyclables, or other materials, which individual residents, businesses and institutions are free to manage through private vendors and other resources.

Pepin County initially developed its existing solid waste management program in 1990. The County has contracts with each of the eleven local municipalities, (eight towns, two villages, one city), to develop and implement a solid waste management program on behalf of the municipalities. It has been the understanding of the County that in the event of a revenue shortfall, the County may assess a per capita payment by the municipalities to the County to help pay the shortfall. Since the inception of the County's program in 1990, there has never been a shortfall assessment made to the participant municipalities.

The County Solid Waste Program manages less than 3000 tons of materials annually, which pass through its collection sites. The program is paid for by state recycling grants, revenues from the sale of recyclable materials, fees collected via the sale of garbage bags at numerous retail outlets in the County, a per-pound-surcharge on garbage placed in dumpsters throughout the County and fees charged at the collection sites for materials at the time they are delivered to the sites. The County's program to-date has not had to rely on any local tax dollars for support of its operations.

There are no licensed landfills in Pepin County. All garbage is shipped to landfills and/or incinerators for disposal outside the County. Nor are there any materials recovery facilities for recyclables located within the County. All recyclable materials are shipped to facilities outside the County for processing and marketing.

The Pepin County Code of Ordinances mimics Wisconsin Statutes by banning certain materials from landfills or incinerators as follows:

### **MATERIALS BANNED FROM WISCONSIN LANDFILLS & INCINERATORS:**

#### **Banned from disposal in 1991**

- Lead acid batteries (automotive)
- Major appliances (air conditioners, clothes washers and dryers, dishwashers, refrigerators, freezers, stoves, ovens, microwave ovens, dehumidifiers, furnaces, boilers or water heaters).
- Waste oil

#### **Banned from disposal in 1993**

- Yard waste, including grass clippings, leaves, yard and garden debris, and brush under six inches in diameter.

#### **Banned from disposal in 1995**

- Aluminum containers
- Corrugated paper or other containerboard

- Plastic containers #1 (PETE) and #2 (HDPE)
- Glass containers
- Magazines and other materials printed on similar paper
- Newspapers and other materials printed on newsprint
- Office paper
- Steel containers
- Containers made from a combination of steel and aluminum (bi-metal cans)
- Waste tires

Anyone who knowingly places any of these materials in containers whose contents will ultimately end up in a landfill or incinerator is in violation of the County's ordinance. The County's Solid Waste Program provides a legal means of managing all these materials.

The County has also regularly sponsored one-day Clean Sweep events for the disposal of household hazardous wastes (HHW), unwanted agricultural chemicals (ag) and paint. These one-time collection events have been held annually over the past several years. There has been no cost to residents and farmers\*. Future ag and HHW events are planned, but will be contingent on the availability of state grants for disposal of these hazardous materials. The County has had to pay a portion of the cost of these events; this match has been funded through the solid waste program budget and has not relied on general tax revenues for support.

Though the County's Code of Ordinances does not prohibit the burning of garbage, the State of Wisconsin's Air Quality regulations do prohibit the burning of all waste materials other than clean dry paper and cardboard, yard waste, and clean, unpainted, untreated lumber.

\* Business, industries and institutions are regulated by state statutes regarding the appropriate management of hazardous materials they use and/or generate. During the past several years, the County has provided opportunity for Very Small Quantity Generators (VSQG) to dispose of certain hazardous materials at a subsidized rate (50% state subsidy).