

	AGENDA Land Conservation Committee Wednesday July 31, 2024 at 1:00 PM HHS Building, Community Room 303 W. Chapel St. Dodgeville, WI 53533 Remote attendance option: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86120585863 Meeting ID: 861 2058 5863 Conference call #: 1-312-626-6799	Iowa County Wisconsin
For information regarding access for the disabled please call 935-0399.		
<i>Any subject on this agenda may become an action item.</i>		
1	Call to Order	
2	Roll Call	
3	Approve the agenda for this July 31, 2024 meeting	
4	Approve the minutes of the June 26, 2024 meeting	
5	Report from committee members and an opportunity for members of the audience to address the Committee. No action will be taken.	
6	USDA update	
7	Blackhawk Lake Commission update	
8	Farmland Preservation Noncompliance appeal: Moneypenny Land LLC	
9	Approve Farmland Preservation Notices of Noncompliance	
10	Discuss potential 2025 fee changes	
11	Consider WI Grazing Coalition MOU	
12	Outdoor Recreation Plan annual review	
13	Land Conservation Department updates: a) Bloomfield update b) Birch Lake repairs update c) ATCP 50 new practices and rates d) Upcoming events	
14	Motion to set the next meeting (possible joint meeting with Blackhawk Lake) and adjourn	
Posting Verified by: Megan Currie Date: 07/25/2024 Initials: MC		

	UNAPPROVED MINUTES LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING Wednesday June 26, 2024 at 2:00 PM HHS Building, Community Room 303 W. Chapel St. Dodgeville, WI 53533 Remote attendance option: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83515066721 Conference call #: 1-312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 835 1506 6721	Iowa County Wisconsin
Meeting was called to order by Chair Gollon at 2:00 pm		
Roll Call. Members present: Bob Bunker, Kevin Butteris, Dave Gollon, Darrell Kreul, Don Leix (via zoom), Dan Nankee, and Peter Vanderloo. Others present: Katie Abbott, Sara Wilhelm, Tony Pillow, Ross DeWitt		
Approve the agenda for this June 26, 2024 meeting: Sup. Nankee made a motion to approve this June 26, 2024 agenda. Mr. Vanderloo seconded the motion. Motion carried.		
Approve the minutes of the May 22, 2024 meeting: Correction to remove Roger Geisking and add Dan Nankee to the May meeting roll call. Sup. Butteris made a motion to approve the May 22, 2024 minutes with the correction. Mr. Bunker seconded the motion. Motion carried.		
Report from committee members and an opportunity for members of the audience to address the committee. No action will be taken. Sup. Nankee shared an AgriView article about increasing interest in solar leases		
USDA update: none provided. Ms. Abbott shared the news that Jake Johnson is leaving FSA.		
Blackhawk Lake Commission update: Sup. Leix reported that the shower house is done and they poured new sidewalks.		
Birch Lake bid results and selection: Ms. Abbott presented the bid results and feedback from Jewell Engineering. Discussion re: costs/funding, timing, reimbursement from DNR, and future valve repair. Sup. Leix made a motion to approve the base bid (toe drain repair) from Green Tech and to ask Executive Committee for funds to complete the alternate (wave berm) repair with Green Tech. Sup. Nankee seconded the motion. Motion carried.		
Cost-share project approvals: Ms. Abbott and Mr. Pillow presented the projects that need approval. Sup. Krueel made a motion to approve both projects. Sup. Bunker seconded the motion. Motion carried.		
FPP compliance issue: Ms. Abbott presented information and photos from an erosion complaint about land owned and operated by Moneypenny Land LLC. Sup. Nankee made a motion to issue an immediate Notice of Noncompliance, and set a deadline of September 1 for compliance to be achieved if they want to return to the program in 2025. Sup. Butteris seconded the motion. Motion carried.		
Motion to set the next meeting and adjourn. The next meeting date was set for Wednesday July 31, 2024 at 1:00 PM. Sup. Krueel made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Bunker seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:16pm.		

FPP Notices of Noncompliance: July 2024

Name	Violation	Due date	Amount of tax credit	Notes
Teva LLC	Tillage Setback	6/1/2024	\$1,614.10	There were several acres tilled and planted too close to the stream. Katie and Sara went out on May 31st and there did not appear to be any changes from the initial site visit.
Jess Schmelzer	Outdated Soil Samples and Overdue NMP	7/1/2024	\$6,780.50	They originally had a due date for March 1, 2024 to have updated soil samples and a nutrient management plan. Sara reached out to Matthew Wech from Insight FS back in February and set a new due date for July 1, 2024. Matthew reached out on July 1st to explain that Jess has not returned his phone calls to get the soil sample pulled or to have the NMP updated.
Don Dolan	Tillage Setback and Rain gutter pipe fixed	7/1/2024	\$4,896.10	The building where the pipe is broken is in a SWQMA and needed to be functional otherwise water makes it way back to the stream after crossing the lot. Sara went out on 7/3/2024 and Don said the pipe has not yet been fixed. Otter Creek was flooded so could not properly check tillage setback.
David Forseth	Manure Stacking	7/1/2024	\$2,615.20	Sara visited David Forseth's for his 2024 site visit and found manure stacked within a SWQMA. Sara returned on 7/3/2024 and found the stack to be in the same place.

Department and Fee Description	Duration / Unit	2024 Fee	Notes
Land Conservation	Highlighted=most frequently used fees		
CREP Filing Fee	Per Property	10% up to \$250 (15-yr) or \$500 (permanent)	County Board resolution 7-0916
Endangered Species Investigation	Per project	\$50/day up to \$500 for NRCS/Iowa Co funded projects; otherwise,\$200/day plus mileage	County Board resolution 10-1217
Tree Planter	Per 1,000 trees	\$20.00	County Board Resolution 10-1217
DNR Permit Assistance	per permit	\$100.00	County Board Resolution 7-0916
Manure Storage Permit fee	per permit	\$400 to LCD for new pit: \$80 to LCD for closure	County Board Resolution 4-1019
Manure Storage Soils/Siting Assistance	per facility	\$200 + \$1/cow in excess of 100	County Board Resolution 7-0916
Late NMP submittal fee for permitted manure storages	per month	\$50.00	County Board Resolution 4-1019
FPP Filing Fee	Per certificate	\$25.00	County Board Resolution 7-1114; updated via budget process
FPP Late Fee	per certificate	\$30.00	County Board Resolution 5-1212; updated via budget process
Rainfall Simulator	per use	\$40/hr plus mileage	County Board Resolution 10-0719

Wisconsin Grazing Coalition Membership Memorandum of Understanding

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into by the members of the Wisconsin Grazing Coalition. This agreement creates a voluntary membership of independent non-profit organizations, academic institutions, government agency partners, businesses, and individuals that share common goals. These organizations have come together to achieve the goals of the Wisconsin Grazing Coalition through coordinated collaboration and cooperation.

The overarching goal of the Wisconsin Grazing Coalition is to promote managed grazing in Wisconsin, and this MOU provides general, agreed-upon guidance to support this collaborative effort.

This Memorandum of Understanding provides a framework to:

- Coordinate and collaborate on Wisconsin Grazing Coalition public communications, education, and advocacy efforts, including audience research and message development and dissemination.
- Build a broader, more engaged grazing constituency that understands the multiple societal benefits of managed grazing, and cultivate a constituency that is more receptive to messages that encourage positive action to advance managed grazing in Wisconsin.
- Secure statewide commitment and sustainable capacity to build this more engaged Wisconsin grazing constituency.
- Increase understanding of managed grazing and its importance to the ecological, economic, and social well being of Wisconsin

By signing this MOU, coalition members agree to:

- Consider sharing their organizations' grazing related communications strategies, including audience targets, messages, and evaluation plans and results.
- Work to foster statewide coordination of grazing-related education, communications, and advocacy, including adoption and use of over-arching messages.
- Work to increase and diversify public participation in (and understanding of) issues that affect managed grazing, including public policy and personal behavior change.
- Identify communications, education, or policy challenges to and opportunities for increasing public participation in advancing managed grazing in Wisconsin.

Organization

Organizational structure and practices are outlined in the coalition framework. As set forth in that document, Represented and Participating member organizations have voting privileges. Please check the kind of membership you are agreeing to:

- ☐ *Represented Member*: Represented Members are organizations that are formally represented by the coalition before legislators and government agencies on state and federal policy issues. They are listed on all coalition communications to policymakers and the general public. Represented Members each have one vote on policy priorities. Represented Members also help elect the Steering Committee.

- ☐ *Participating Member:* Participating Members are organizations that prefer to not be formally represented by the coalition before government officials but that wish to participate in gatherings, committees, and other activities. Participating Members may also serve on the Steering Committee.

Please note that individual members do not need to sign an MOU.

It is mutually agreed and understood by and among the parties hereto that

This Memorandum of Understanding reflects an entirely voluntary commitment among the parties hereto to cooperate and collaborate to achieve the vision and mission articulated herein. This Memorandum of Understanding in no way obligates or restricts the activities of any party hereto in any way.

No member shall obligate, or purport to obligate, any other member with respect to any matter.

Any member may withdraw from the coalition at any time by providing written notice of the party's intent to withdraw from communications collaboration.

Likewise, the Steering Committee may ask a member to withdraw if the Steering Committee determines that the member is not acting in the spirit of the coalition's goals and objectives. Request for withdrawal will be made in writing by the Steering Committee.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Memorandum of Understanding to be executed as of the dates written below.

Organization Authorized Representative Date

Print Name and Organization

Interim Coalition Director Date

Print Name

Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

Iowa County, WI

April, 2022



Full plan is online at <https://www.iowacounty.org/departments/CountyAdministrator/county-plans-and-documents> (under 2022 heading)

PLANNING ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY



Plan Purpose

This plan is an update of the Iowa County's Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) 1981 – 1986. The purpose of this plan is to guide the development and improvement of the county's outdoor recreation facilities over the next five years in order to meet the recreational needs and growing demands of the county.

Policy decisions made by the Iowa County Board of Supervisors for outdoor recreation programs and improvement shall be guided by the goals, objectives, findings, and recommendations of this adopted plan. Actual public policy decisions or choices are contingent on funding sources, new opportunities and ideas, changing growth patterns, budget priorities as well as changing county needs and desires. For this reason, the plan should be reviewed annually, and a detailed update such as this should be completed every five years. Updating the plan every five years is also a requirement of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) for a jurisdiction such as Iowa County to stay eligible for matching government funds for parkland acquisition and facility improvements. But just as importantly, Iowa County needs to set a course of action for continued improvement of its outdoor recreational system.

Image 2: The Pendarvis historic site located in Mineral Point, Iowa County, WI.



Goals and Objectives

This plan is designed to provide a feasible program for meeting the recreational needs of Iowa County. Agreement upon basic goals and objectives is necessary to set the general direction for developing this program. Four goals related to recreational and resource protection are outlined below. The goals point toward final ends while the eight objective statements are more directly related to achieving those ends through specific actions.

Goals

- To preserve the county's open space resources and to protect them from visual blight and degradation of quality.
- To provide quality parks and recreational facilities to meet the needs of county residents.
- To provide opportunities for nonresident recreational activity to an extent compatible with preserving irreplaceable resources.
- To identify and preserve sites having scientific, historic, or archaeological significance.

Objectives

- To use multiple approaches to resource protection, including acquisition and easements through partnerships with other entities when appropriate.
- To combine resource protection with park and recreation development, where feasible, through multi-purpose projects.
- To coordinate the county's recreation program with the programs of other levels of government and with private enterprise in order to achieve maximum public benefit.
- To provide areas and facilities for those activities specified in the plan as a county responsibility.
- To develop a coordinated system of river access points emphasizing resource-based recreation areas.
- To maintain the quality of recreational experiences offered within the county by adhering to the standards contained in the plan.
- To encourage quality development of privately owned recreation facilities, particularly for nonresident-oriented activities.
- To maintain the county's eligibility to participate in federal and state financial and technical aid programs having recreation planning requirements.



Recommendations for Improving Recreation Facilities

The following recommendations for improvement by the Iowa County Land Conservation Committee follow the proposed Capital Improvement Plan (Appendix B). These recommendations will be completed based on availability of county funding and grants.

Bloomfield Prairie property:

Several improvements are needed on the Bloomfield Prairie property. Recommendations for individual projects or activities are listed below:

1. Pond area:

- Dredge (or start with feasibility study for dredging) pond sediment survey was bid out and contracted
- Weed/algae control
- Install canoe launch these will wait until after the study/plan
- Build longer accessible pier (to reach deeper water/fewer weeds)
- Brush/weed control around the edge one treatment done in 2023; needs follow-up
- Rework trail and repair/rebuild footbridge just north of the Pond
- Possibly expand shelter (or maintain/repair as needed)
- Add pit toilet pit is installed; Highland school class will construct the building, may be complete in August
- Add electricity (or solar panels) to the pond shelter so users could have light. funding in 2027 long-range plan; looking into possible solar grants

2. Non-CRP/CREP areas:

- Create accessible trails
- Create bike-able trails
- Create interpretive signs
- Add footbridges in pasture for public access to eastern fields
- Upgrade/replace other bridges (3)
- New or updated kiosks
- Create off-leash dog area no location after Bloomfield sale

Bloomfield property public listening sessions complete; just beginning process of exploring sale of prairie to non-profit groups. Many improvement ideas on hold until we know what land the County will retain

- Improve existing and add additional parking areas

3. *Red shed:*

- Add pit toilet/bathroom
- Preserve red barn; modify to a shelter or meeting facility
- Add electricity (or solar panels) to the red shed

some improvements planned for 2024 in long-range plan, such as grading/diversions to deal with water issues; landscaping and lighting. Replaced the door.

4. *White shed:*

- Add a cement floor and more garage doors to the white shed. maybe someday; depends on impound lot, which is being bid out to build near quarry

5. *General:*

- Increased management of invasive brush and herbaceous invasive weeds, including but not limited to wild parsnip, Canada thistle, crown vetch, and bush honeysuckle. ongoing, with partner groups; more funding is needed to get ahead of aggressive weeds

Blackhawk Lake Recreation Area:

Several improvements are needed on the Blackhawk Lake Recreation Area. Recommendations for individual projects or activities are listed below:

1. Pit toilet repairs/Remodel
2. Weed/Algae control in beach swimming area
3. Roof replacement on pavilions
4. Retaining wall at beach area complete; received grant from Iowa Co with ATC funds
5. Cabin repairs/Rebuilds
6. Parking lot maintenance
7. Shower house repairs and remodels complete
8. Nature Center improvements/Taxidermy
9. New playground equipment
10. Walk bridge replacement on hiking trail

Military Ridge State Trail:

Several improvements are needed on the Military Ridge State Trail. Recommendations for individual projects or activities are listed below:

1. Increase trail repair/ maintenance on Military Ridge State Trail.
2. Provide dog waste station along trail.
3. Provide bore benches along trail for walking people to sit.
4. Provide more trash cans along trail.

have discussed ideas from 1-4 with Craig Hardy; unsure of timing or match; various grant deadlines depending on which grant we try for

Additional recreation needs/recommendations:

1. The County owns some properties in the Mifflin area along the Pecatonica River and CTH E; which could be made into a park if there is interest to do so, otherwise should consider selling.

2. There is some additional right of way also owned by the county at Factory road and CTH II which could be an access point for fishing easements or a park along Otter Creek.
3. The County and the DNR should continue to work on a cooperative basis to enhance recreational opportunities in the State Riverway and on other public lands for residents of the County. This effort should include on a regional level, integrating a future planned Wisconsin DNR trail along the lower Wisconsin River between Muscoda and Avoca. The proposed trail could link the recreational park and boat launches in Avoca as well as that in Muscoda. Both of these facilities have been constructed in the past two years. This would greatly enhance the recreational opportunities for both of these communities and increase tourism and economic development for this region. Additional recreation needs to be implemented within Pulaski township include:
 - Trail to the Avoca Prairie, possibly some interpretive trail, with signs talking about its unique ecosystem/flora/fauna.
 - Improving/fixing the bridge to cross the river/creek to get out to the Avoca Prairie.
 - Trail/loop in the Avoca prairie.
 - Improvement/building out sand for their beach on the Wisconsin River in Avoca.
 - Life jacket library for the beach.
 - A canoe/kayak launch or some canoe/kayak access on the Wisconsin River.
4. Continue to provide and enhance public access to the Lower Wisconsin Riverway.
5. Continue to upgrade the parks and recreational areas the county owns or manages by bringing all facilities up to ADA standards over the next five to ten years.
6. Consider including paved shoulders as part of future road reconstruction projects to allow safer passing of slower moving vehicles which would benefit ATV/UTV, bicycle, and farm implement traffic.
7. Use the University of Wisconsin Platteville engineering students for any future park project(s). SWWRPC should help guide the process in pairing Iowa County with a suitable team.
8. Explore the feasibility of a trap shooting facility. If feasible, develop a location and facility for youth clubs and school-based teams.
9. Assess the current needs and opportunities for kayaking and canoeing, and, if feasible, develop additional kayak/canoe facilities.
10. The Land Conservation Committee should review the plan at least once a year to assess progress.

New Cost-share Practices

Conservation cover	• Eligible costs: protective fencing, mulch, seed, site preparation • Ineligible costs: critical area seedings, whole-field conversion, and pasture plantings • Recipient must maintain cover for 10 years • Harvesting is not allowed
Conservation crop rotation	• Currently not available for cost sharing • Eligible costs: Diversified crop rotations (cover crops, small grains, perennial crops, livestock integration) • Ineligible costs: Permanent cover or years following establishment of a perennial crop • Reimbursement of \$10 per acre, per year • Maintenance is required for a minimum of 3 years or duration of cost share, whichever is longer • One rotation maximum (which could be up to eight years, but would need to see a lot of crops in that rotation)
Habitat diversification	• Eligible costs: Fencing, establishment and management of native vegetation, site preparation • Ineligible costs: Introduced species plantings, whole-field conversion, fertilizing grass plantings, pasture plantings • Converts small areas of ag fields to native stands of vegetation • Wildlife and pollinator habitat is the primary resource concern, but the intention is to also provide water quality, soil health, and air quality benefits • Maintenance expectations are important considerations when contracting for this practice
Hydrologic restoration	• Eligible costs: System components, permanent vegetative cover, fencing, site preparation • Ineligible costs: Mitigation or correction of violations • Stacked practices done with the intention to return wetland, stream, and floodplain hydrology to a natural and self-regulating condition by improving hydrologic conditions, connections, and functions
Nutrient treatment systems	• Eligible costs: Design and installation, necessary structures, permanent vegetative cover, fencing • Ineligible costs: Non-installed system designs, excessive costs, non-agricultural runoff treatment • 10-year maintenance period • Systems installed to reduce the concentration of nitrate nitrogen and/or phosphorus in surface water and/or groundwater

Stream restoration	• Eligible costs: System components, permanent vegetative cover, fencing, site preparation • Ineligible costs: Mitigation or correction of violations Stacked practices designed to restore or repair healthy channel conditions, connections, and functions adjacent to, or upstream from erosion-prone agricultural lands or to address other resource concerns
Updated Practices	
Cover crop	• Rates: ○ Single species, termination required, \$60 per acre, per year ○ Single species, termination not required, \$35 per acre, per year ○ Multi species/two or more species, \$75 per acre, per year

Current practices (not significantly changed):

Manure storage systems.	Relocating or abandoning animal feeding operations.
Manure storage system closure.	Residue management.
Barnyard runoff control systems.	Riparian buffers.
Access road.	Roofs.
Trails and walkways.	Roof runoff systems.
Contour farming.	Sediment basins.
Cover crop.	Sinkhole treatment.
Critical area stabilization.	Streambank or shoreline protection.
Diversions.	Stream Crossing.
Feed storage runoff control systems.	Stripcropping.
Field windbreaks.	Subsurface drains.
Filter strips.	Terrace systems.
Grade stabilization structures.	Underground outlets.
Livestock fencing.	Waste transfer systems.
Livestock watering facilities.	Wastewater treatment strips.
Milking center waste control systems.	Water and sediment control basins.
Nutrient management.	Waterway systems.
Pesticide management.	Well decommissioning.
Prescribed grazing.	Wetland development or restoration
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Lowery Creek Watershed Initiative- Evenings Afield

Free but registration is required:

<https://www.driftlessconservancy.org/evenings-afield-registration>

August 22 : Boosting Biodiversity on Farms – Edges, Agroforestry, & More 6-8pm

Science tells us that the more bio-diverse a natural community is, the more resilient it is to disturbance, like climate change. In the quest to maximize production, modern agriculture has removed hedges and plowed right up to streams, radically simplifying the landscape. Learn how we can improve the health of our farm landscapes by increasing biodiversity with edge of field conservation practices, agroforestry, and many other ideas.

Location: Twin Crix Farm, Highway 23 Leaders: Patrick Michaels, Dick Cates

September 26: Planting Prairies: Seeds, Sites, & Sowing 5-7pm

Whether you want to plant a prairie garden or acres of prairie, the method is similar. Visit a robust, diverse prairie planting and learn how to select the right plants for a site, collect and process seeds, and choose an appropriate planting technique.

Location: Degen-Ziegler property, Hillside School Road Leaders: Mike Degen, Meg Ziegler