



# CHAPTER 6

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## UTILITIES & COMMUNITY FACILITIES

# UTILITIES & COMMUNITY FACILITIES

The utilities and community facilities chapter is intended to act as a guide the future development of utilities and community facilities in the Town. Facilities include parks, police, fire and emergency medical services (EMS), schools, libraries, sanitary sewer service, storm water management, water supply, solid waste disposal, recycling facilities, telecommunications facilities, power-generating plants and transmission lines, cemeteries, health care facilities, and other public facilities. This chapter describes the location, use and capacity of existing public utilities and community facilities that serve Burke and includes an approximate timetable which forecasts the need to expand or rehabilitate existing utilities and facilities or to create new utilities and facilities. This element also includes a compilation of goals, objectives, policies, recommendations, programs and maps.

## **Town Facilities**

The Town of Burke Town Hall and offices is located at 5365 Reiner Road. The Town’s maintenance and public works staff also operate a garage out of this facility. This location has been identified as a Protected Area within the Cooperative Plan.



Town of Burke Town Hall. Photo courtesy Mead & Hunt, Inc., 2013

## **County Facilities**

Dane County’s government offices operate out of several buildings located within the City of Madison and throughout the County. The County’s Department of Human Services office is located within the City of Sun Prairie. There are no County offices or facilities within the Town.

## **County and Local Park Facilities**

In 2005, the Town of Burke updated its Park and Open Space Plan to provide long term preservation and growth of its park system. The *Town of Burke 2005 – 2010 Park and Open Space Plan* identified 25 Town Parks including traditional parks, cemeteries, undeveloped open space and tree/brush areas, and crop areas not currently used for agricultural purposes. Of the 25 park areas identified, 8 were classified as high priority for preservation and maintenance, including the Token Creek County Park and Town Hall Park.

### Token Creek County Park

Token Creek County Park and Token Creek Natural Resource Area are located near the intersection of Interstates 39/90/94 and US Highway 51. The Park is entirely within the Town and lies immediately



adjacent to the interstates and US Highway 51, and south of Token Creek Lane. The natural resource area encompasses the park and includes a larger geographic area which includes land to the west and north of the County Park, extending into the Town of Windsor and City of Sun Prairie.

**FIGURE 15: PARK INVENTORY**

Name	Acreage	Classification
Token Creek County Park	427	County Park
Cherokee Marsh State Fisheries Area	379	Environmental Corridor
Burke Town Hall Park	42.8	Regional Park
Ledges Park	2.8	Mini-Park
Oak Ridge Park	1.6	Neighborhood Park
Rattman Heights Park	5.1	Neighborhood Park
Sunburst Park	3.1	Neighborhood Park
Ronald A. Hagen Park	1.4	Neighborhood Park
Huntington Meadows Park	1.7	Neighborhood Park
Foxmoor Hills Park	5.3	Neighborhood Park
Terrace Parklands Park	1.7	Neighborhood Play Area
Bridle Downs Walkway	0.1	Undeveloped Open Space
Sherwood Glen Crop Area	1.0	Undeveloped Open Space
Leslie Lane / Parkwood Street Crop Area	7.1	Undeveloped Open Space
Hoffman Acres Open Space	1.5	Undeveloped Open Space
Terrace Parklands Open Space	0.1	Undeveloped Open Space
Foxmoor Hills Greenway East	1.8	Undeveloped Open Space
Foxmoor Hills Greenway West	0.6	Undeveloped Open Space
Hoepker Road Town Site	3.0	Undeveloped Open Space
Taff Subdivision Open Space	1.0	Undeveloped Open Space
Burke Station Cemetery	3.0	Undeveloped Open Space and Cemetery
Hoepker Road Cemetery	1.5	Undeveloped Open Space and Cemetery
Burke Conservancy Estates	170	Trail Development
Charlotte's Walk	63	Trail Development
Gehrke's Knoll	56	Trail Development

Source: Town of Burke 2005 – 2010 Park and Open Space Plan

The County Park is well known for its disc golf course but provides a variety of recreational opportunities including camping, hiking, picnic areas, a dog exercise area, and equestrian and snowmobile trails, among other activities. The iconic feature of the park, Token Creek, is the only stream in northeastern Dane County with the potential to support a cold-water fishery. Dane County Parks and the WDNR are continuing to work on a stream restoration project within the park to stabilize the banks and improve the habitat. A master plan for the park and natural resource area was completed in 2011.

Recommendations for the Token Creek County Park and Natural Resource Area include the expansion of disc golf and camping opportunities, enhancement of fishing opportunities, relocation of the southern park entrance, realignment of the park roadway and parking lot, increasing signage, improving the entrance for

the dog exercise area, and improving trails and access to adjacent neighborhoods and parkland. Specifically, recommendations focus on providing regional snowmobile, water, multi-use, and natural hiking trails to create a regional destination for residents of Dane County.

Town Hall Park

Burke Town Park is located to the southwest of the intersection of Nelson Road and Reiner Road, adjacent to the Burke Town Office. This park is attractive and unique and provides local recreational opportunities like fishing, mushroom gathering and hiking. The park includes a picnic area and shelter, playground, and horseshoe pit and is accessible to the public or available for reservation. A popular spot for a photo opportunity, the parks identifying feature is a peninsula surrounding by a catch and release fishing pond. Town Hall Park is a protected area in Burke and further programming and development of this park will play a significant role in establishing the Towns legacy.



Burke Town Hall Park. Photo courtesy Mead & Hunt, Inc., 2013

Neighborhood Parks

The parks and open space plan identified 8 Neighborhood Parks including one mini-park and one neighborhood play area. A neighborhood park is designed to provide both active and passive recreation activities to populations living within one quarter mile. Neighborhood parks are located within neighborhoods but because of this, they can be difficult for visitors to locate and utilize. Signage of parks will help identify public spaces and create a sense of place within neighborhoods.



Ledges Park. Photo courtesy Mead & Hunt, Inc., 2013

A mini-park is generally different than a neighborhood park because it provides fewer recreational opportunities and is smaller in size. A neighborhood play area is classified by a larger grass area which is not programed for specific activities. Ledges Park is a 2.8 acre mini-park which provides a ball diamond and backstop and a metal swing set. Huntington Meadows Park provides a picnic shelter, ball diamond and



backstop, seasonal ice skating rink, sand volleyball court, wooden picnic tables, and a fire ring. While these two parks are physically adjacent to one another, they have very different programmed uses.

The park and open space plan provides descriptions and recommendations for each inventoried park in the Town. While the maintenance and preservation of the majority of the facilities is recommended, the plan also suggests that the Town seek to sell some open space and crop areas.

**Police, Fire, and Emergency Medical Service (EMS)**

According to the 1999 Burke Land Use Plan, the Town currently has one full-time police officer on contract with the Dane County Sheriff. The Town currently has a contract with the Sun Prairie Fire Department for fire coverage and is currently part of the Maple Bluff, Bristol, Burke EMS services. The EMS unit is stationed in Maple Bluff.

**Health Care Facilities**

There are no health care facilities located within the Town of Burke. There is a Meriter Health Clinic (DeForest – Windsor Clinic) located on STH 19 and US Highway 51 in the Village of DeForest. A UW Health Clinic also exists adjacent to the Meriter Health Clinic at this location. A UW Health Clinic and a UW Urgent Care Clinic are also located along US Highway 151 near American Parkway and Portage Road, respectively, in the City of Madison. St. Mary’s Sun Prairie Emergency Center Hospital is located on US Highway 151 at Reiner Road in the City of Sun Prairie.

**Schools**

The Town currently provides enrollment opportunities in three school districts. The Madison Metropolitan, DeForest, and Sun Prairie School Districts all converge within the Town, as illustrated on **Map 10**. **Figure 16** compares enrollment in these school districts.

**FIGURE 16: SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT, 2008 - 2013**

District Name	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	% Change
Madison Metropolitan	24,496	24,628	24,806	26,817	27,112	10.7
Sun Prairie Area	6,172	6,633	6,975	7,095	7,373	19.5
DeForest Area	3,267	3,249	3,249	3,465	3,484	6.6

Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, 2012

Madison Area Technical College (MATC), located at 1701 Wright Street in Madison provide post high school education ranging from associates degrees, technical diplomas and certificates in more than 144 career programs. The proximity of MATC to the Town provides the Town opportunity for economic development, housing, recreation and an expansion of other resources.



*Map 10: School Districts*

**Libraries**

Dane County is part of the South Central Library System (SCLS) which is composed of Adams, Columbia, Dane, Green, Portage, Sauk, and Wood Counties. Within the SCLS, Dane County Library Service (DCLS) is comprised of 28 individual libraries located throughout the county from Belleville to DeForest. The Town of Burke is served by the LINKcat Catalog system which provides online access to media for all libraries within Dane County.



The Dane County Library Service Book Mobile. Image courtesy Dane County Library Service. <http://www.scls.lib.wi.us/dcl/bookmobile/>

Access to Dane County libraries is most readily available through the DeForest Public Library, the Sun Prairie Public Library, or the Lakeview, Hawthorne, or Pinney Branches of the Madison Public Library. The Bookmobile, a mini-library on wheels serving Dane County since 1967, makes weekly visits to cities, towns, and villages that do not have a public library. The closest Bookmobile stop for Town residents is located near the Windsor Elementary School on Windsor Road.

**Sanitary Sewer and Water Service**

Residents of the Town obtain their water supply from private wells. Shallow sandstone aquifers serve private domestic wells in rural areas, while the deep Mt. Simon aquifer serves municipal wells. Most groundwater in Dane County is replenished from precipitation falling within county boundaries. There are currently no water towers within the Town of Burke.

Wellhead protection plans are developed to achieve groundwater pollution prevention measures within public water supply wellhead areas. In some areas of the state, sophisticated groundwater flow modeling techniques were used to delineate source water areas for municipal wells. A wellhead protection plan uses public involvement to delineate the wellhead protection area, inventory potential groundwater contamination sources, and manage the wellhead protection area. All new municipal wells are required to have a wellhead protection plan. A wellhead protection ordinance is a zoning ordinance that implements the wellhead protection plan by controlling land uses in the wellhead protection area.

Of those municipal water systems that have wellhead protection (WHP) plans, some have a WHP plan for all of their wells, while others only have a plan for one or some of their wells. Similarly, of those municipal water systems that have WHP ordinances, some ordinances apply to all of their wells and others just one or some of their wells. [http://wi.water.usgs.gov/gwcomp/find/dane/index\\_full.html](http://wi.water.usgs.gov/gwcomp/find/dane/index_full.html). The Town of Burke has both a wellhead protection plan and ordinance



According to the Cooperative Plan, DeForest, Madison and Sun Prairie will plan for and construct public sanitary sewer and water service throughout the Cooperative Plan Area, outside of Protected Areas, as Town lands become attached to and developed in the respective municipality. In addition, the following will apply to promote the orderly development of utilities within the boundary adjustment areas.

#### DeForest

Public water and sanitary sewer service provided in the DeForest BAA by the Token Creek Sanitary District will be transferred to the Village for all DeForest BAA lands. Details of the service provisions for Town lands in the DeForest BAA are provided by an existing Service Agreement which is included in the Cooperative Plan as Exhibit 8. The Village will also provide service within the Madison BAA, as outlined below.

#### Sun Prairie

Public water and sanitary sewer service provided in the Sun Prairie BAA shall be provided by Sun Prairie as the City sees fit to extend those services. Sun Prairie intended to continue its policy of not extending public sewer and water to serve unincorporated territory.

#### Madison

Public water and sanitary sewer service provided in the Madison BAA shall be provided by Madison. However, within the service area of Burke Utility District #1 and those areas within the Madison BAA to be served by DeForest, services shall be provided by the City as they see fit to extend services. In 2036, Madison will acquire the Burke Utility District #1.

Similar to Sun Prairie, Madison will continue its ordinance policy of not extending public sewer and water to serve unincorporated territory. Prior to lands being served by public sewer service, the land must be included in an Urban Service Area or a limited service area under the provisions of the Dane County Land Use and Transportation Plan and the Water Quality Management Plan.

The Village of DeForest will provide municipal water service to all properties within the geographical area described and depicted as the DeForest Extraterritorial Water Service Area (DXWSA). Service obligations shall continue to apply regardless of the attachment of any part of the DXWSA to Madison. Properties within the Madison BAA but outside the DXWSA shall be entitled to continued water service and new water service connections shall be permitted to the extent allowed under the terms of the Service Agreement attached to the Cooperative Plan as Exhibit 8.

Sanitary sewer service in the DXWSA shall continue to be provided by DeForest for all existing customers and any new customers who are connected to the DeForest system while the customer is located in Burke, regardless of the subsequent attachment of any such properties to Madison. No new sanitary





sewer connections to the DeForest system shall be allowed for properties once they are attached to Madison, except by mutual agreement between the two municipalities. Additional details and terms of service by DeForest Utilities in Madison are provided in the Cooperative Plan.

#### On-Site Wastewater Treatment (Septic)

Large areas of the Town rely on private, on-site wastewater systems for domestic and commercial wastewater disposal. On-site systems, commonly referred to as septic systems, discharge wastewater to underground drainage fields. New development within the Town will transition to urban sewerage disposal provided by respective municipality service areas.

#### Town of Burke Utility District #1

The Burke Utility District #1, addressed in the Cooperative Plan, has dissolved and been added to the City of Madison Central Urban Service Area.

#### Token Creek Sanitary District

According to the Cooperative Plan, the Town previously provided sanitary sewer in Eagle Crest and the Token Creek commercial area. The Token Creek Sanitary District has also dissolved and has been added to the City of Madison Central Urban Service Area and the Northern USA which services DeForest.

The only area where the Town currently owns/maintains the sanitary sewer is on Leo Circle.

#### **Refuse and Recycling Facilities**

The Town currently provides residential curb side trash collection and recycling services and will expand these services to all new development areas. The Town also provides brush and leaf pick up to residential areas within the Town.

#### **Energy and Electric Systems**

Madison Gas and Electric (MGE) provides electricity and natural gas service to the Town of Burke. Wisconsin Power and Light, a subsidiary of Alliant Energy has a substation located on Reiner Road, across from Burke Town Hall, and provides electricity to the Town. Natural gas and electricity will continue to be provided to development within the Cooperative Plan Area by MGE and Alliant Energy in their respective service territories.

#### **Telecommunications**

Telephone service, cable service, and internet service is available through a variety of providers. There is one cell phone tower within the Town, located at the terminus of Maly Road near Burke Town Hall.



**Area Cemeteries**

There are 3 cemeteries within the Town of Burke. The Burke Station Cemetery, also known as the Burke School District Cemetery, is located on Burke Road. This cemetery is included in The Town of Burke Park and Open Space Plan as an area of unplanned open space recommended for preservation. The site was also once home to the Burke Station School which was erected in 1865 and razed in 1993 and is marked by a historical marker.



Burke Station Cemetery. Photo courtesy Mead & Hunt, Inc., 2013

Other cemeteries include the Hoepker Road Cemetery and the Burke Lutheran Church Cemetery, with which two historical sites are also associated.

**UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND POLICIES**

**Goal:**

Provide quality public services to all residents in an efficient, comprehensive, and cost-effective manner in order to maintain and improve the quality of life for the Town.

**Objectives:**

1. Improve police protection by contracting with Dane County Sheriff’s Office for a dedicated officer in the Town of Burke.
2. Provide adequate facilities in which to have Town offices and equipment.
3. Provide EMS services through contract service agreements with the Town of Blooming Grove and the Village of Maple Bluff.
4. Coordinate public facility improvements with transportation improvements for cost-effective project implementation.
5. Encourage smart growth development sites for cost-effective extension of sewer and water services.
6. Evaluate the need to expand parks within the Town.
7. Do not extend sewer and water services to areas delineated as environmental corridors/open space on the Land Use map.
8. Plan and adopt a Capital Improvement Program (CIP) that will identify, schedule and finance needed public facility improvements over the 20 year planning period.

**Policies:**

1. Work with Dane County to obtain Conservation Fund dollars to assist with acquiring land or easements that may be needed for park and natural resource area expansion.
2. Continue to provide basic services for Town residents, including public road maintenance, snow plowing, and emergency services in collaboration with neighboring communities.
3. Protect the Burke Station Cemetery and open space from development and utilize it as an event space for community events.
4. Work with the City of Madison, Dane County, and the WDNR to develop a County Park or nonmetallic mine reclamation plan in the area generally north of Nelson Road and east of Reiner Road, centered on the cluster of surface water present in this area.
5. Evaluate implementing a Town park improvement fee on new residential development to fund the installation of play equipment and make other improvements to Town parks and permitted by State Statutes.
6. Evaluate the need for maintenance and replacement to worn and dated infrastructure to protect ground water quality and prevent flooding.

**UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES PROGRAMS AND RECOMMENDATIONS****Maintain and Enhance Town Recreational Facilities**

The Town owns and maintains several park facilities. Over the planning period, the Town will carefully evaluate the existing facilities and document the need for improvements or desire to enhance its current facilities. The *Town of Burke 2005 – 2010 Park and Open Space Plan* provides policies and recommendations for maintenance and enhancement and this plan should be updated every five years to ensure the appropriate level of service is provided by the towns facilities. A few specific facility recommendations from the plan are listed below.

- Town Board will complete 5-year Park Plan updates
- Relieve all neighborhood associates from deciding park improvement issues
- Place a requirement in the development or subdivision ordinance for tot lot dedication.  
Encourage the neighborhood associations to recognize the need and possibility set aside such a facility in each town park.
- The Town should consider a long-range program to secure (through purchase, easements, dedication, etc.) environmental corridors to establish a linear park and trail system in conjunction with Dane County, the City of Sun Prairie, the City of Madison, the Village of DeForest, and the State of Wisconsin where thee uses are designated in adopted land use plans and park and open space plans and are feasible for the Town of Burke.
- Complete the Trail System at Town Hall Park, and evaluate potential development of future regional trails to connect this central park facility within the Town of Burke.

**Town Utilities and Facilities**

Continue to provide limited facilities and services including road maintenance, snow plowing, recycling and refuse collection. Continue to partner with surrounding and overlapping municipalities to provide police, fire, and EMS services. The Cooperative Plan defines municipal responsibilities for public sewer and water service and future service needs for the Town lands. The Town does not intend to provide regional stormwater management facilities, library facilities, or health care facilities. No Town facility upgrades are anticipated at the present time, but modernization of some Town facilities including Town Hall may be appropriate during the 20 year planning period.

**Protect Public and Environmental Health**

Implementation of the Cooperative Plan by 2036 will mean the eventual transition of sanitary sewer service to the village of DeForest and cities of Sun Prairie and Madison. Ensuring this transition is efficient and effective will ensure the public and environmental health of the Town residents and the community. In addition, working with the County and adjacent jurisdictions to site and monitor private on-site wastewater treatment systems will aid in ensuring ground and surface water quality throughout the Town.



**FIGURE 17: TIMETABLE TO EXPAND, REHABILITATE, OR CREATE NEW COMMUNITY UTILITIES OR FACILITIES**

Town Utilities & Community Facilities	Timeframe	Comments
Water Supply	N/A	Continue to support to Cooperative Plan to provide water supply.
Sanitary Sewer	N/A	Continue to support to Cooperative Plan to provide sanitary sewer.
Stormwater Management	Ongoing	Work with Dane County on stormwater management issues.
Refuse & Recycling	Ongoing	Continue to provide refuse and recycling services.
Town Buildings	Ongoing	Support ongoing Town Hall maintenance and evaluate the need for modernization of facilities. No major improvements are expected.
Parks	2015 – 2036	Update the Town of Burke Parks and Open Space Plan in five year increments beginning in 2015.
Telecommunication Facilities	Ongoing	Support existing and proposed facilities
Health Care Facilities	N/A	Existing medical facilities outside the Town provide adequate service for Town residents
Schools	Ongoing	Work with School Districts serving the Town on long-range planning issues.
Libraries	N/A	Dane County library service meets current and forecasted needs.
Police	Ongoing	Services provided by County are expected to be adequate over 20 year planning period
Fire and EMS	Ongoing	Continue to work with neighboring jurisdictions to provide Fire and EMS services.
Cemeteries	Ongoing	Existing cemeteries expected to be adequate over the 20 year planning period.