

Town of Lincoln Comprehensive Plan Priorities

June, 2015

1.1 Groundwater Protection

Goal: The groundwater in the Town of Lincoln will be free of all sources of contamination.

Guiding Principles:

Avoid human-influenced actions, increased domestic livestock, agriculture, construction, and residential development that deplete the area's lakes, streams, wetlands and groundwater resources.

Promote the use of sound agricultural and soil conservation methods that minimize groundwater contamination.

Encourage conservation practices that minimize non-point source pollution of the town's surface waters and contamination of groundwater: best management practices, performance standards, regulations, permit issuance, etc., should be followed by farms, construction sites, etc., to reduce polluted runoff per Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection Run-off Management Administrative Rules.

Work cooperatively with surrounding jurisdictions and the county to protect groundwater resources.

Objective 1: Identify those areas where susceptibility to groundwater contamination is highest and develop tools and plans to ensure that land use within these areas occurs in a manner consistent with protecting groundwater.

1. Identify experts (e.g. Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey, Kewaunee County Land Water Conservation Department, UW-Stevens Point, UW-Green Bay, Kewaunee County Land Information Office) to conduct a comprehensive groundwater assessment study to help determine impacts / solutions to Town of Lincoln groundwater quality and quantity issues (i.e. Groundwater Mapping).
2. Engage firm to present groundwater mapping potential.
3. Obtain proposal from firm.
4. Present proposal to Board of Supervisors; proceed if Board of Supervisors authorizes.
5. Look for grant and cost sharing opportunities; apply for grants and / or cost sharing.

6. Sign agreement with firm.
7. Begin Work--Identify groundwater recharge sites (wetlands, lakes and ponds), flow, water table elevation, and areas of shallow soils. Identify those areas where susceptibility to groundwater contamination is highest. These are areas where development should be carefully considered for potential impact.
8. Complete Groundwater Map.

Objective 2: Develop plans to ensure that land use within these areas occurs in a manner consistent with protecting groundwater.

1. Identify potential sources of contamination to our groundwater (and surface water) resources.
2. Identify human resources (Bay Lakes Regional Plan Commission, Kewaunee County Land and Water Conservation Department, etc.) to help develop ordinances, etc. Plans could potentially include development of ordinances to require the installation of groundwater test and observation wells to measure transmissivity (how fast water moves - how much can be pumped) and storativity (how much water can be stored) for each new development, or for commercial or industrial development.
3. Develop possible land use plans, ordinances, or conditional use permits.
4. Present land use plans or ordinances to Board of Supervisors.

Objective 3: Along with Kewaunee County Land and Water Conservation Department and Bay Lakes Regional Plan Commission, create a Town of Lincoln Land Use Planning (or regional) Map based on protection of ground and surface waters and any other environmentally or culturally significant resources.

1. Identify characteristics of "areas susceptible to environmental contamination" (e.g. based on soil type, depth to bedrock, slope, water table, recharge, etc.) or those that are "environmentally or culturally significant".
2. Identify resources available to help identify significant sites.
3. As necessary, engage resources with help identifying significant sites susceptible to environmental contamination.
4. If possible and / or timely, obtain county or regional buy-in.
5. Work to develop a Town of Lincoln Land Use Planning Map.

1.2.1 Surface Waters

Goal: The Waters of the State in the Town of Lincoln will be free of all sources of contamination.

Guiding Principles:

To the extent practicable, areas immediately adjacent to and surrounding wetlands should be developed using techniques to minimize effects on wetlands (i.e. buffers, setbacks, etc.).

Avoid human-influenced actions, increased domestic livestock, agriculture and residential development that deplete the area's lakes, streams, wetlands and groundwater reserves. Encourage the protection of all watershed resources, both quality and quantity.

Wetland areas adjacent (but not limited to) Casco Creek, Rio Creek, Silver Creek, the Black Ash Swamp, and the Ahnapee Rive; those having special wildlife and other natural values; should not be allocated to any residential or commercial development and should not be drained or filled.

Objective 1: Protect the Surface Waters of Lincoln Township.

1. Identify potential sources of contamination to our surface water (and groundwater) resources.
2. Identify resources who may best identify strategies/techniques/ program / agencies to help accomplish objective
3. As necessary, meet with identified resources (e.g. Kewaunee County Land and Water Conservation Department, Bay Lakes Regional Plan Commission, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Agency) to review current ground water contamination, surface water impairments, and threats to wildlife.
4. Develop ordinances that would best protect surface waters and wetlands.
 - a. Develop plans that would best protect surface waters and wetlands, such as:
 - b. Create, maintain and enhance natural buffers along stream banks.
 - c. Support the efforts of Kewaunee County Land and Water Conservation Department to enforce stream and lake setback requirements.
 - d. Create or enforce local zoning requirements and policies established by the Kewaunee Country Land and Water Conservation Department.
 - e. Create, maintain and enhance natural buffers along stream banks.
 - f. Educate residents about the importance of environmental corridors.
5. Present plans to Board of Supervisors.
6. Approve plans.
7. Implement plans.

1.2.2 Natural Resources

Objective 2: Protect wetlands and other wildlife habitats, particularly those unique to the Town.

1. Identify agencies and groups who could help to better identify and protect wildlife habitats, particularly those unique to the Town.
2. As necessary, meet with identified groups to learn about programs and practices available.
3. Create a plan to protect and preserve wetlands and habitats in their natural state (e.g. through the adoption and enforcement of a wetland preservation ordinance).
4. Present plans to Board.
5. Approve plans.
6. Implement plans.

Objective 3: Create, maintain, and protect open spaces, wildlife habitat, scenic vistas, recreational venues, and perhaps some farmland.

1. Identify resources who may best identify strategies / techniques / program / agencies to help accomplish objective.
2. As necessary, meet with identified resources (e.g. Natural Conservation Resources Service, Wisconsin of Natural Resources, Kewaunee County Conservationist, Environmental Protection Agency) to review current status relative to objectives.
3. Develop plans based on findings (may include methods to encourage development of conservation corridors, areas, and subdivisions to maintain open spaces, wildlife habitat, scenic vistas, and perhaps some farmland.
4. Present plans to Board.
5. Approve plans.
6. Implement plans.

1.3 Water Protection / Well Water Safety

Goal: All wells in the Town of Lincoln will provide abundant, safe, potable water to all residents, farms, businesses, and industries in the township.

Guiding Principles:

Promote the use of sound agricultural, soil conservation, construction methods, and land uses that minimize groundwater and surface water contamination.

Avoid human-influenced actions and increased domestic livestock, agriculture and residential development that deplete the area’s lakes, streams, wetlands and groundwater resources.

Encourage conservation practices that minimize non-point source pollution of the town’s surface waters and contamination of groundwater. These include: best management practices, performance standards, regulations, permit issuance, etc., and should be followed by farms, construction sites, etc., to reduce polluted runoff per Wisconsin Department of Natural

Resources and Department of Agriculture, Trade, and consumer Protection Run-off Management Administrative Rules.

Objective 1: Protect drinking water resources

1. Identify resources that may best identify strategies / techniques / programs / agencies to help accomplish objectives.
2. As necessary, meet with identified resources (e.g. Natural Resources Conservation Services, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, UW-Stevens Point, Kewaunee County Conservationist, Environmental Protection Agency) to review current ground water contamination, surface water impairments, and identify potential solutions and programs available to accomplish objective (may include coordination with the Kewaunee County Land and Water Conservation Department and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to implement agricultural and residential best management practices to reduce nonpoint source water pollution.
3. Develop plans that will protect water resources.
4. Present plans to Board.
5. Approve plans.
6. Implement plans.

Objective 2: Raise Public's Awareness of responsibility & steps to take to protect well water supply.

1. Identify resources that may best identify strategies / techniques / program / agencies to help accomplish objective.
2. As necessary, meet with identified resources (e.g. Natural Resources Conservation Services, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, UW-Stevens Point, Kewaunee County Conservationist, Environmental Protection Agency, Bay Lakes Regional Plan Commission, UW-Extension) to review current ground water contamination and surface water impairments to identify potential solutions and programs available to accomplish objective. May Include:
 - a. Proper maintenance and periodic testing of private wells.
 - b. Proper maintenance of septic systems.
 - c. Educational opportunities for all residents and landowners about groundwater and surface water quality and quantity protection issues, techniques and programs.
 - d. Encourage adoption of land use agreements.
3. Develop plans that will raise public awareness of responsibility and steps to take to protect water resources.
4. Present plans to Board.
5. Approve plans.
6. Implement plans.