

GREEN LAKE COUNTY  
PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN

REVISED BY:

UW EXTENSION OFFICE &  
PARK & RECREATION COMMITTEE  
GREEN LAKE COUNTY

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## INTRODUCTION

Green Lake County is a rural county with an abundance of natural areas. The county recognized in 1969 when it prepared its first outdoor recreation plan, that it need not have the tensions of a big-city life to benefit from planning for public recreation and open space areas.

Public recreation areas in rural counties can increase a sense of community and shared experience just as in urban areas. The diversity of recreational desires in sparsely populated areas is just as great as in denser urban areas. An outdoor recreation plan for rural counties, then, becomes critical in determining how a county with a smaller population, fewer financial resources and greater distance barriers to recreational areas can best accommodate the recreational needs of its residents. Decisions have to be made determining the scale, number, and location of facilities.

This plan will inventory what is available for outdoor recreational activities within Green Lake County, and from this information, to project and recommend what is needed. It is a review and update of the plan done in 1998

Outdoor recreational facilities provide a wide range of activities, including hunting, fishing, hiking, athletic events, camping, boating, swimming, picnicking, and ice fishing. With more leisure time and more people, the interest and needs of outdoor recreation become of increasing importance. The primary purpose would be to recommend and eventually implement a program of acquisition and development that will fulfill the needs of the present, as well as the future. It is necessary to consider the needs of the tourist and the local citizens.

Duplication of facilities provided by state, municipal, and school systems should be avoided. A coordinated county-wide recreation plan is needed. Recommendations must be flexible enough to permit variation and to fit local conditions and opportunities.

The primary purpose of this analysis of the park and recreational demands and needs within Green Lake County is to recommend a sound program of land acquisition and park development that will fulfill these demands and needs. Within this recommended broad framework, the county and local municipalities can continue to proceed in an orderly manner in this park program, knowing that all recommendations are flexible enough to permit variations accorded by local opportunities and conditions.

The plan is devoted to an inventory of outdoors recreation opportunities, available land, present and future needs, and recommendations to meet those needs. This plan shall be updated every five years and shall be submitted to the County Board for final approval. The plan addresses the needs of county parks from 2009 - 2013.

Specialized and other privately owned facilities are not included, other than being listed as private enterprises.

Golf courses, greenways, historic sites, conservancy areas, and floodplains are examples of specialized recreation areas. Most of these have limited active recreation value, are either undeveloped for recreation, or are not always available for use by the public. These areas are not considered in the evaluations made for this section of the plan except in those instances where a potential for park development is identified. However, it must be realized that specialized areas are an important adjunct to a community and its park program.

## **GREEN LAKE COUNTY**

Green Lake County was created in 1858, and is located in the central part of Wisconsin. It is bordered by Waushara County to the North, Winnebago and Fond du Lac Counties to the East, Dodge and Columbia Counties to the South and Marquette County to the West. The Wisconsin Counties, Map 1, displays the location of Green Lake County within the state. The County has a land area of 226,816 acres, or approximately 354 square miles. Surface waters cover 18,558 acres, or about 8 percent of the county. Approximately 170,000 acres are in farms.

There are 36 lakes located in Green Lake County, 12 of which are named and 24 are unnamed. There are also 217.9 miles of streams and rivers. The primary rivers in the county are the White, the Puckyan, the Grand and the Fox. All of the lands within Green Lake County drain to the Fox River, except for the extreme south-east corner of the county which drains into the Rock River. County lakes, streams and wetlands are shown on Maps 2 & 3.

Green Lake is the largest lake in the county, occupying approximately 7,325 acres, and is ranked as the seventh largest lake in the state (excluding man-made reservoirs). Being 237 feet deep, Green Lake is also Wisconsin's deepest inland lake. Lake Puckaway is the second largest lake in the county and ninth largest in the state. It covers approximately 5,433 acres.

Surface features of the county are largely the result of glaciation: ground moraine, with low hills and kettles interspaced with old glacial lakebeds and drainageways. Bedrock escarpments and sand dunes give some diversity to this pattern. Elevations range from approximately 740 to 1080 feet above sea level.

Green Lake County contains four fourth class cities and two villages – Berlin, Markesan, Princeton and Green Lake, and Marquette and Kingston, respectively. Also ten townships – Berlin, Brooklyn, Green Lake, Kingston, Mackford, Manchester, Marquette, Princeton, Seneca and St. Marie. Table 1, displays historic and projected population estimates for Green Lake County. The 2000 Census counted 19,105 persons residing in the County; population projections for 2010 have the County with 19,349 persons.

Table 1  
GREEN LAKE COUNTY  
HISTORICAL AND PROJECTED POPULATION

Community	1990	1995	2000	% Change		2005	2010	2015
				1990-2000	# Change			
Town of Berlin	996	1045	1067	2.11%	22	1083	1098	1110
Town of Brooklyn	1798	1884	1938	2.87%	54	1982	2020	2054
Town of Green Lake	1335	1355	1357	0.15%	2	1353	1353	1345
Town of Kingston	776	826	856	3.63%	30	881	902	923
Town of Macford	616	629	626	-0.48%	-3	621	619	612
Town of Manchester	774	800	806	0.75%	6	807	810	809
Town of Marquette	400	430	446	3.72%	16	459	470	481
Town of Princeton	1363	1389	1406	1.22%	17	1416	1426	1431
Town of St. Marie	348	352	352	0.00%	0	349	348	345
Town of Seneca	395	421	433	2.85%	12	443	451	459
City of Berlin	5304	5329	5271	-1.09%	-58	5192	5140	5047
City of Green Lake	1064	1098	1102	0.36%	4	1101	1103	1098
City of Markesan	1496	1553	1578	1.61%	25	1595	1611	1622
City of Princeton	1458	1478	1471	-0.47%	-7	1457	1450	1432
Village of Kingston	346	354	355	0.28%	1	354	353	351
Village of Marquette	182	189	191	1.06%	2	193	195	196
Total for County	18,651	19,132	19,255	0.64%	123	19,286	19,349	19,315

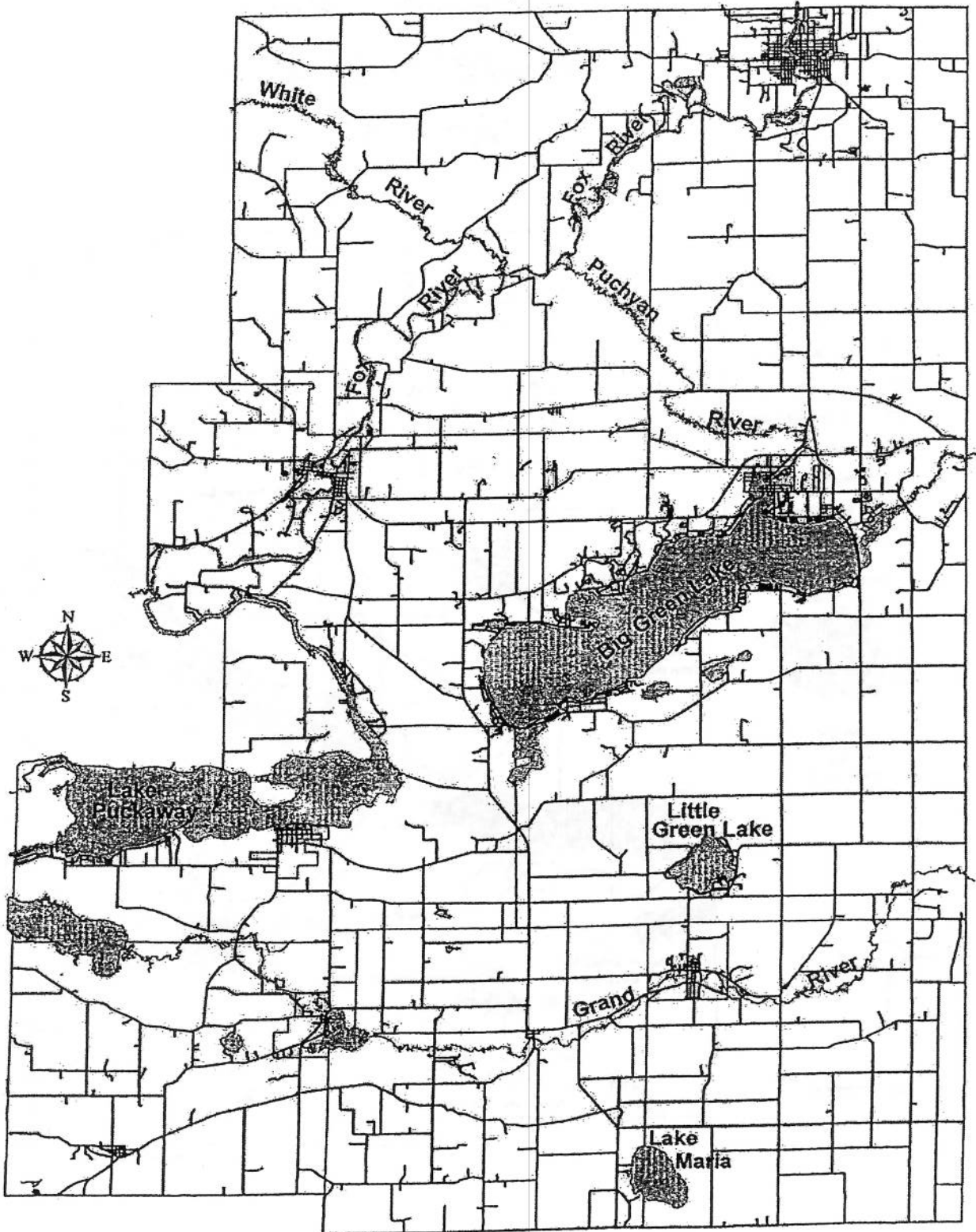
# Green Lake County

## Map 1



# Lakes & Streams

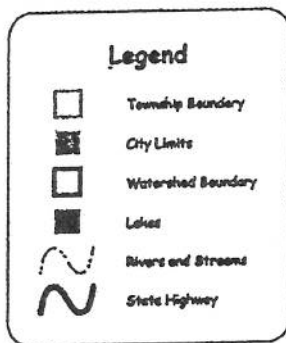
Map 2



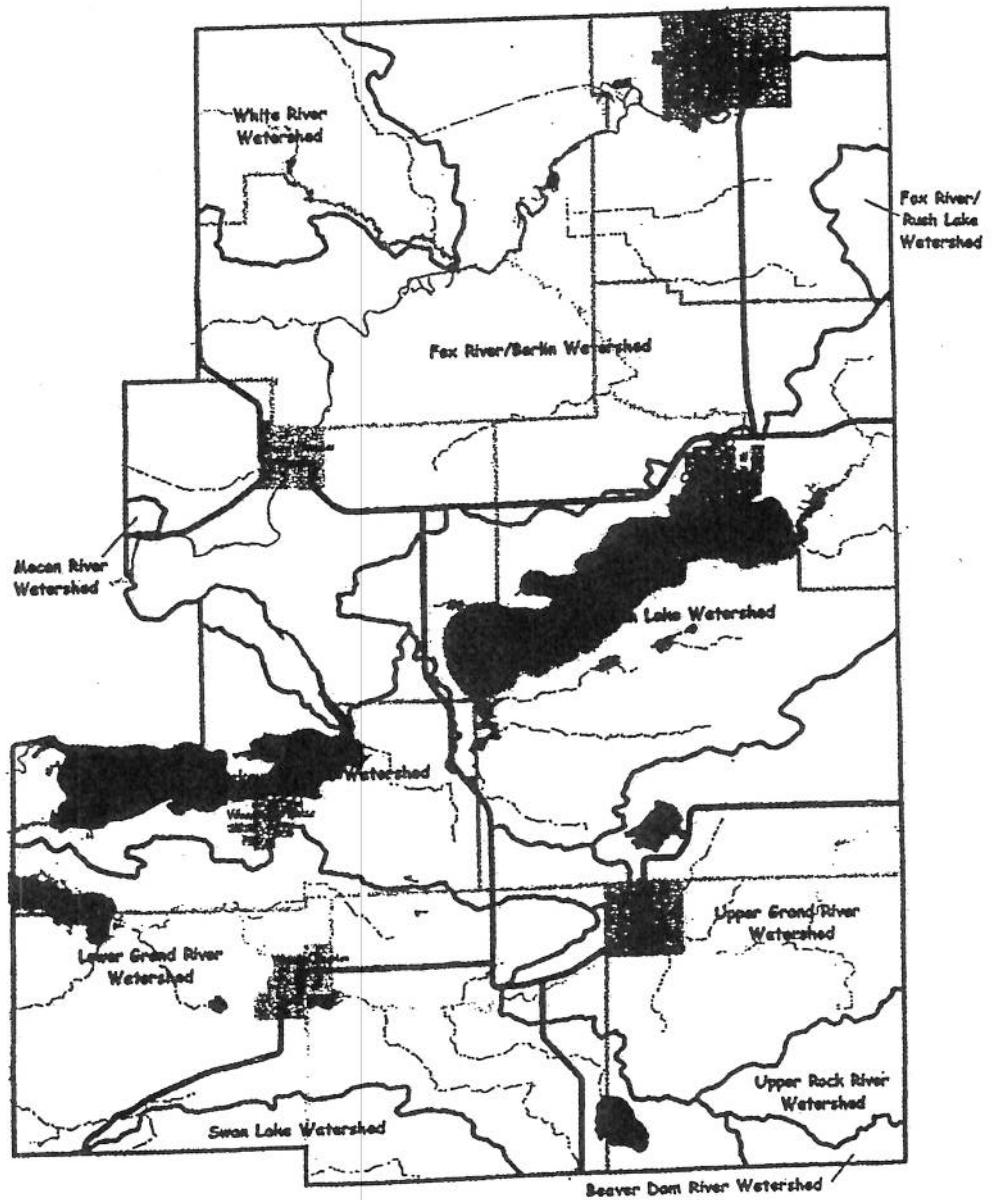
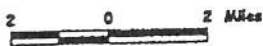
**Green Lake County**

- Roads
- Rivers and Lakes
- Municipal Districts

# Green Lake County Watersheds Map 3



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## **DEFINITIONS**

### **Specialized Recreation Areas**

Golf courses, historic sites, conservancy areas, linear trails, multi-use trails (non-motorized), and floodplains are examples of specialized recreation open space areas. Most of these have limited active recreation value, are not developed for multi-purpose recreation, or are not always available for use by the public. Although such areas are not considered in acreage evaluations made for Green Lake County, it must be recognized that specialized areas are an important adjunct to a community and its parks program. As future evaluations of recreation opportunities are undertaken, it may become necessary to include consideration of specialized recreation areas.

### **County Park**

A park of good environmental quality greater in area than a community park with good accessibility by auto, serving large portions of a county. Usually within a half-hour drive of residents or 15 miles. It may provide a year around area for diversified multi-use recreation with a considerable amount of undeveloped land for people of all ages and it may also be developed in conjunction with some unique environmental, historical, etc. features of the county.

### **Regional Park**

A park of unique environmental quality with good regional accessibility to surrounding counties, cities, and village residents. It usually provides year round recreation of a passive nature with emphasis on the natural state for people of all ages.

## **PARK STANDARDS**

<u>Type of Recreational Land</u>	<u>Acres per 1,000 Population</u>	
Regional Outdoor Recreation	100 Acres	
State		80 Acres
County		15 Acres
Private		5 Acres
Local Outdoor Recreation	10 Acres	
Total Outdoor Recreation	110 Acres/1,000 Population	

Regional Outdoor Recreation is broken into three levels of responsibility – the State, County and Private.

### **The Role of the State**

The State's role is to provide 80 acres or 80 percent of the regional outdoor recreation. This quantity is divided into two types of open space.

1. State parks, and recreation areas.
2. State forest, wildlife areas, scientific preservation areas, etc.

### **The Role of the County**

It is recommended that the counties provide 15 acres or 15 percent of the regional outdoor recreation. When land is provided by towns, basically rural in population, that land should be considered part of the county's portion to meet the standard. The County's lands are composed of two general types also:

1. County Parks
2. County forests, wildlife, or preservation areas

Although rural towns may help to meet county standards, the majority of that requirement is the role of the county.

### **The Role of the Private Sector**

It is recommended that the private sector is capable of supplying five acres per 1,000 population or five percent of regional outdoor recreation. This will not only help to satisfy the requirement of regional outdoor recreation, but will also be beneficial for economical gains. The private sector's portion is composed of golf courses, campgrounds, marinas, beaches, or conservation oriented areas.

## **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

The function of all plans, whether in our personal lives or in our community, is to achieve goals and objectives. It is very seldom that individual or communities act without implicit goals and objectives, yet plans and actions without goals can often be wasted. Therefore, it is imperative that a community formulate goals (ends) which it hopes to attain. This section's purpose is to make explicit the goals and objectives of Green Lake County's Outdoor Recreation Plan.

Goals may be defined as general statements of desirable ends, while objectives are measurable statements of desirable ends. Objectives are usually specific, but at all times they are in harmony with stated goals. As desires and needs change, so too must goals and objectives. Goals and objectives should be subjected to a continuous refinement process.

### **#1. Outdoor Recreation**

Goal: To provide a planned system of Parks and Recreation Areas that contains a diversity of recreation activities and to maintain existing areas and park apparatus.

Objectives:

- To acquire and develop recreation lands necessary to meet the demand for recreational facilities for both permanent and seasonal Green Lake residents.
- To maximize the use of all public recreation lands within the county.
- To preserve or obtain public access to lakes, rivers, and streams and maximize their use for recreation.
- To provide shelter houses and convenience structures to support outdoor recreational activities.
- To maintain and beautify established parks through continued inspection and policing as necessary.
- To increase local recognition and pride, signs of uniform size and material should be installed at all parks and major thoroughfares leading to the parks.
- To maintain community support by providing affordable recreation programs.
- To provide facilities accessible to the elderly and handicapped.

### **#2. Unique Natural and Cultural Resources**

Goal: To preserve scarce and valuable resources important to the ecological, sociological and economic life of the county.

Objectives:

- To encourage the preservation and enhancement of natural features of the county from encroachment by man-made development including intensive recreational development, commercial recreation and second homes.
- To conserve vegetation and trees needed to prevent erosion and floods and to protect air and water quality.
- To conserve lands with soils and terrain highly suitable for agricultural activity.
- To preserve wetlands necessary for continued fisheries and wildlife habitat and for groundwater recharge purposes.
- To conserve ecological areas with sensitive plant life or irreplaceable high quality plant and animal communities.
- To preserve unique or unusual geological features.
- To protect historic buildings, landmarks and archaeological sites significant to the heritage of Green Lake County.

## NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Green Lake County has a long inventory of natural and cultural resources. Some of these resources can be enjoyed without further development, while others will require man-made improvements to achieve their full recreational potential. While these resources offer the major recreational opportunities in the county, their development must be carefully controlled so as not to destroy the very qualities that make them so unique in the first place.

### **Natural Resources**

Important natural areas in Green Lake County have been identified by state and local officials and are further discussed in the Outdoor Recreation and Open Space Plan for East Central Wisconsin. Areas that have the highest environmental quality, good accessibility, and are potentially threatened by development pressures are generally viewed as the highest priority recreational and open space resources of the county.

Of the natural areas in the county, those areas having unique environmental characteristics, which the public should allow to remain as preservation areas are:

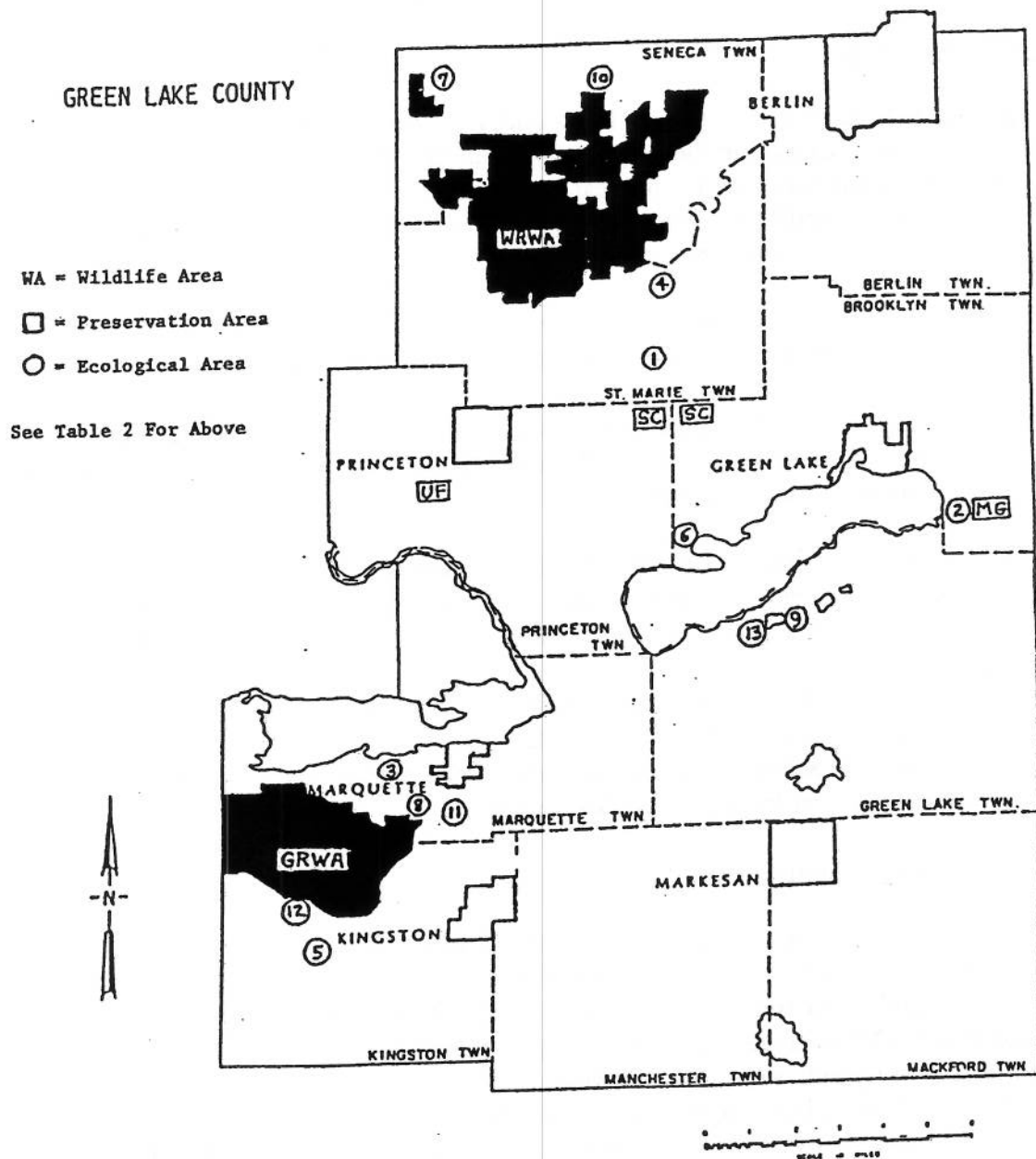
- The upper Fox River located southwest of Princeton has been identified as a regionally significant preservation area. This area, composed mostly of private ownership, should be kept in as natural a state as possible.
- The Snake Creek Corridor northwest of Green Lake has been identified as a regionally significant corridor. Methods such as conservancy zoning or floodplain zoning should be used by Green Lake County to ensure the preservation of the Snake Creek Corridor.
- The Mitchell Glen area located southeast of Green Lake has long been recognized as a natural resource preservation area. If investigation for acquisition as a public preservation area is not feasible, the private sector, which retains ownership, should be encouraged to protect the area from adverse development.

### **Cultural and Ecological Sites**

Appreciation of the unique geological, historical, ecological, and archaeological heritage of the county is a significant educational aspect of public outdoor recreation. Most locations are still unprotected and in private ownership. Many risk deterioration or destruction because of new development. Others have not been investigated since they were initially inventoried in the early part of the century and may already have been destroyed or built over. The geological, historical and ecological sites identified should be maintained in their existing condition due to their attractive unique characteristics. In Green Lake County these sites are composed of public hunting and fishing areas, geological areas, ecological areas, and historical structures or sites displayed in Map 4 and listed on Table 2.

# Map 4

## Preservation, Geological and Ecological Areas



**Table 2**  
**Resource Areas**

**Wildlife Areas (WA)**

White River Wildlife Area (10,593.55 Acres)  
Grand River Wildlife Area ( 5,671.25 Acres)

**Preservation Areas**

SC = Snake Creek Corridor  
MC = Mitchell's Glen  
UF = Upper Fox, Southwest of Princeton

**Geological and Ecological Areas**

1. Mount Tom – 4 miles northwest of the City of Green Lake
2. Mitchell Glen – 2 miles southeast of the City of Green Lake
3. Monadnock Outcropping – southwest of Marquette
4. Princeton Prairie – 4 miles northeast of Princeton
5. Mount Moriah – 1 mile north of Dalton
6. Green Lake Fen – 4 miles southwest of Green Lake
7. Pine Knob – 8 miles west of Berlin
8. Marquette Cedar Forest – 1 mile southwest of Marquette
9. Spring Lake – 5 miles north of Markesan
10. Seneca Bluff – 4 miles west of Berlin
11. Cactus and Cedar Glade – 1 mile south of Marquette
12. Fountain Creek Prairie – 3 miles west of Kingston
13. Spring Lake Prairie –  $\frac{3}{4}$  miles southwest of Spring Lake

## **EXISTING RECREATION AREAS**

Existing public recreational areas in the County total over 16,500 acres, or nearly 8 percent of the total area of the County. These areas can be divided into five major categories related to their use and ownership: conservation areas; water surface areas; county parks; community parks; and water-access areas, the largest portion of which is state owned public hunting and fishing lands (16,264.80: A). The second largest portion is county owned recreation lands (314 acres – 84 developed). These facilities, in addition to private campgrounds, golf courses, and forest crop land, play the dominant role in supplying opportunities for outdoor recreation.

### **Conservation Areas**

Two larger conservation areas, under development by the State Department of Natural Resources, cover over 16,000 acres in the County. The White River Marsh is located in the northwest part of the County; a major portion of the Grand River Marsh is located in the southwest part of the County. The objective of both projects is the propagation of waterfowl and their harvest through controlled hunting. A smaller state wildlife area (73 Acres) is also located at Heart Lake.

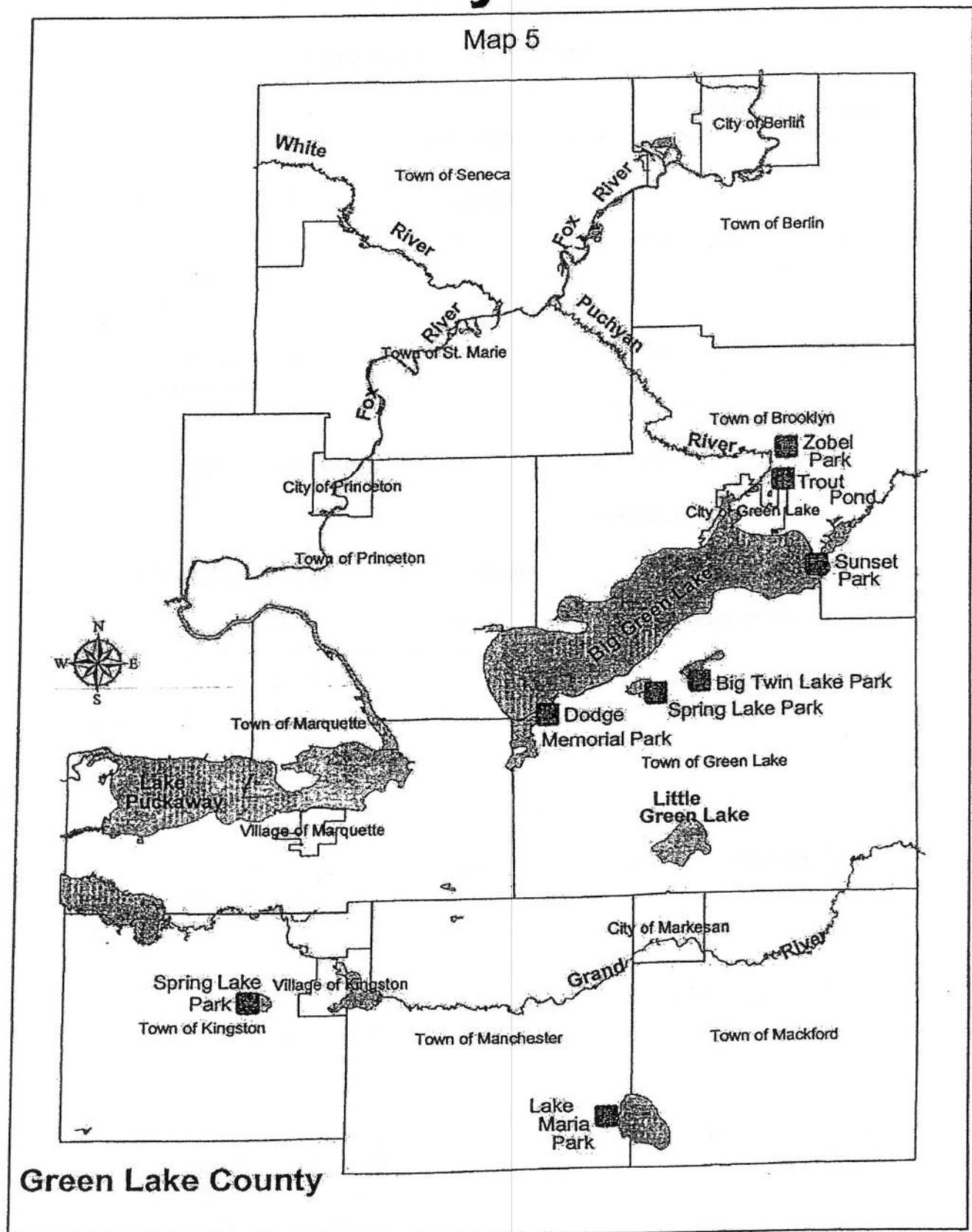
### **County Parks**

The county maintains three multi-purpose park areas providing a variety of recreation facilities and in addition, the County maintains several water-access sites. The largest of the parks is Dodge Memorial Park, on the south shore of the lake, which provides approximately 14 acres developed for intensive recreation and additional large undeveloped land and water acreage (approximately 230 acres). Spring Lake Park, located west of Kingston, is much smaller in size (totaling only four acres), but does provide beach and picnic facilities in addition to boating access. Zobel Park, containing 40 acres north of Green Lake, provides picnicking, hiking, sightseeing and nature related activities. Sunset Park on the east end of Big Green Lake is a relatively narrow park bordering County A. The park offers semi-improved boat landings, shore land fishing opportunity, restrooms and a covered picnicking shelter. The County Parks on Map 5 shows the location of each of the parks.



# County Parks

Map 5



## RECREATION INVENTORY

### **State Wildlife Areas**

(State of Wisconsin, Department of Natural Resources)

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Size (in acres)</u></b>	<b><u>Activities and Facilities</u></b>
1. Grand River Marsh Wildlife Area (Town Marquette/Town Kingston)	5,671.25	Fishing (7 miles/minor river, boat launch), hunting, scenic overlooks; public parking
2. White River Marsh Wildlife Area (Town Seneca/Town St. Marie)	10,593.55	Fishing (9 miles/minor river); hunting; public parking
3. Heart Lake Wildlife Area	73.00	Fishing, Hunting

### **County Parks and Lake Access**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Size (in acres)</u></b>	<b><u>Activities and Facilities</u></b>
1. Dodge Memorial Park	244 (14 developed)	Boating, fishing, water-skiing (access to Green Lake – 7,325 acres 5 boat launches); picnicking; shelter; restrooms; playground equipment; improved parking lot (125 vehicles); well; swimming; ice fishing
2. Zobel Park	40	Picnicking (grills & tables); 4 restrooms; parking spaces for 125; benches; shelter; sledding hill; walking trails; xx-skiing
3. Spring Lake Park (Town Green Lake)	4	Boating; fishing (access to Spring Lake – 75 acres, one boat launch); improved parking lot (30 vehicles)
4. Spring Lake Park (Kingston)	4.5	Boating; fishing (access to Spring Lake 70 acres, 1 boat launch); swimming (300 ft. beach); picnicking (tables & grills); 2 restrooms; improved

parking lot (40 vehicles)

**County Parks and Lake Accesses**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Size (in Acres)</u></b>	<b><u>Activities and Facilities</u></b>
5. Big Twin Access	4	Boating; fishing (access to Big Twin Lake – 78 acres, 1 boat launch); picnicking; 1 restroom; improved parking lot (30 vehicles)
6. Sunset Park	2	Boating; fishing; (access to Green Lake – 7,325 acres, 4 boat launches); picnicking; 2 restrooms; improved parking lot (75 vehicles)
7. Wayside Lake Maria Access	4	Fishing (access to Lake Maria – 596 acres, 1 boat launch); picnicking; 2 restrooms, improved parking lot (30 vehicles)

**Township Public Accesses (Improved)**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Size (in acres)</u></b>	<b><u>Activities and Facilities</u></b>
1. Horner's Landing (Town of Green Lake)	.05	Boating; fishing; (access to Green Lake – 7,325 acres, 1 boat launch; 30 parking spaces
2. Fox River (Town of St. Marie)	5	Boating; fishing; access to Fox River; 1 boat launch; improved parking lot (30 vehicles)

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### **Fox River Locks**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Size (in acres)</u></b>	<b><u>Activities and Facilities</u></b>
1. Berlin Lock	62.1	Boat launching ramps; parking; restrooms
2. Princeton Lock	26.25	Boat launching ramps; parking; restrooms
3. White River Lock	34.5	Boat launching ramps; parking; restrooms

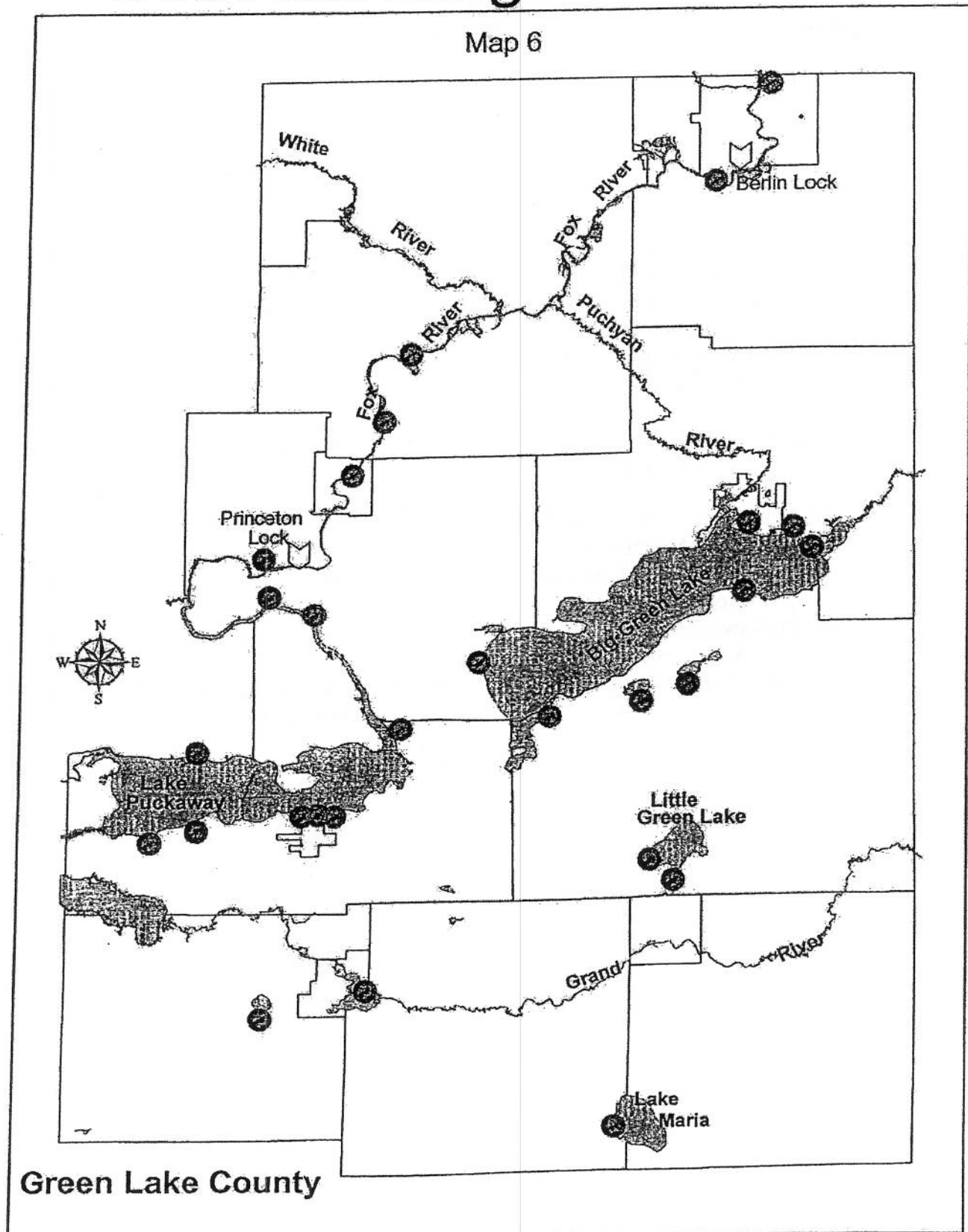
### **Quasi-Public Recreation Areas**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Size (in acres)</u></b>	<b><u>Activities and Facilities</u></b>
1. Green Lake Conference Center (Town Brooklyn)	1,100	Boating; fishing; (access to Green Lake – 7,325 acres, 1 boat launch); bicycling and hiking trails (20 miles); snowmobiling trails (12 miles); swimming (50 ft. beach); camping (119 sites, restrooms); golfing (36 hole course); clubhouse, driving range; picnicking (4 acres – 120 tables, 25 grills, shelters, restrooms); tennis; basketball; shuffleboard courts, skating rink; ballfields; tobogganing and sledding hills; skiing (250 acres slopes, 22 miles cross country); 500 plus parking places, restaurant.
2. Mascoutin Country Club (Town of Berlin)	160	Golfing (27-hole course, clubhouse, driving range); 125 parking spaces, restaurant.
3. Grand Valley Campground (Town of Kingston)	108	Camping; (310 sites, restrooms, showers); horseback riding (3 miles trails); fishing (5 acre private lake); swimming (pool and bathhouse); playground equipment; ballfields; 2 recreation halls; 210 parking spaces, access to public hunting grounds next door.
4. Tuscumbia Country Club (City of Green Lake)	67	Golfing (18 hole course, 9-hole Par-3 course, clubhouse, driving range); 100 parking spaces; restaurant.

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Size (in acres)</u></b>	<b><u>Activities and Facilities</u></b>
5. Green Lake Campground (Town of Brooklyn)	65	Camping (180 spaces, restrooms); swimming (1/4 acres private lake); picnicking (150 tables, 130 grills); playground equipment; ballfields; 150 parking spaces.
6. Shady Oaks Campground (Town of Green Lake)	30	Camping (165 spaces, restrooms)
7. Fernwood Trailer Camp (Town of Green Lake)	10	Camping (32 sites, restrooms)
8. Berlin Conservation Club (Town of Berlin)	110 10	Camp Refuge Skeet, trap, rifle, pistol and archery ranges.
9. Dalton Rod & Gun Club (Town of Kingston)	28.4	Trap, rifle and pistol ranges.
10. Manchester Rod & Gun Club (Town of Manchester)	17.8	Trap and skeet ranges.
11. Princeton Rod & Gun Club (Town of Princeton)	29.39	Trap, rifle, pistol and archery ranges.
12. Puckaway Rod & Gun Club (Town of Marquette)	10	Trap, rifle, pistol and archery ranges.
13. Mascoutin Multi-Use Trail	12 miles total (2.5 miles in GLC)	Walking, biking, bird-watching, snowmobiling.

# Boat Landings and Locks

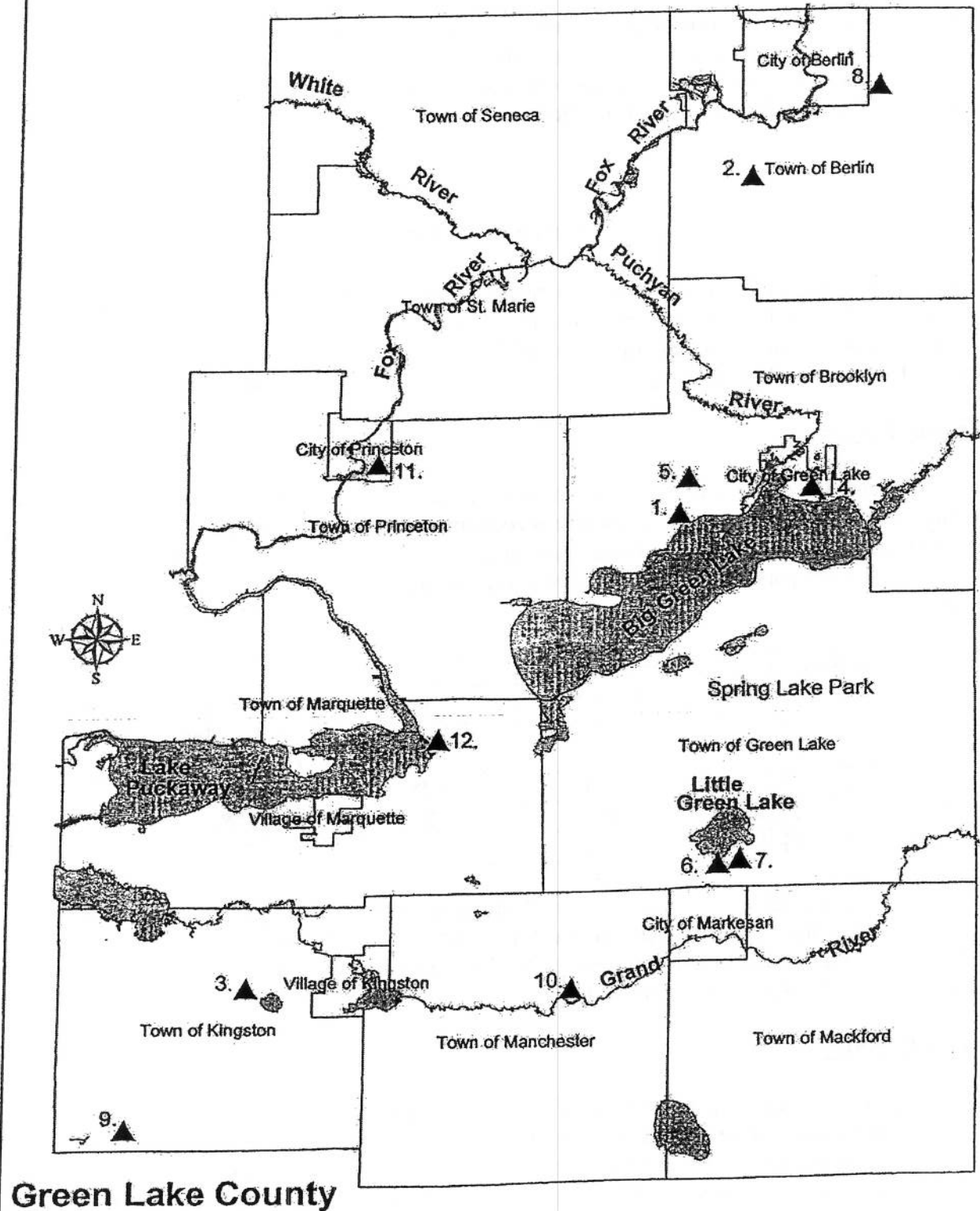
Map 6



- Boat Landing
- Lock
- ▨ Rivers and Lakes
- Municipal Boundary

# Quasi-Public Recreation Areas

Map 7



▲ Recreation Areas

▨ Rivers and Lakes

□ Municipal Boundary

## **Public Access Areas**

In addition to the multi-purpose parks, there are a number of public areas devoted to providing boating access. Green Lake, Puckaway and the Fox River have the largest number of such access points. Most are under the jurisdiction of township units of government. See Map 6, Boat Landings and Locks for their locations.

## **Recreation Action Program**

Green Lake County has had a relatively constant population. In 2000, Green Lake County had a population of 19,105; the County population is projected to grow to 19,349 by 2010. In addition, the already substantial seasonal population will increase the county from 30,000 in 2000 to 34,000 by the year 2010, placing further pressure on county recreational facilities.

### **Present Demand**

Extensive acreage devoted to recreation in Green Lake County is satisfactory to meet residential population demands. However, it fell below recommended standards in 2000 when you include summer residents and tourists. One can only suggest that if the county is able to reasonably acquire additional parkland or one of the recommended preservation areas, that it be seriously considered.

Standard: 15 Acres per 1,000 population					
Year	Res. Pop. Proj.	Existing Rec. Acres	Surplus /Deficiency	Inc. Proj. Summer Max. Population	Surplus /Deficiency
2000	19,105	314	+28	30,000	-136
2005	19,286	314	+25	32,000	-166
2010	19,349	314	+24	34,000	-196

Surpluses were available for activities such as camping, boating, fishing, canoeing and golfing. Private facilities are a major resource to meet many of these needs, particularly those such as golf, and camping. Fulfilling demand generated by seasonal residents and tourism depends to a great extent on development of private facilities.

### **Future Demand**

According to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, 20 percent of recreation demand in Green Lake County is generated by the resident population of the County; while 80 percent comes from tourism and seasonal development generated by proximity to Chicago, Milwaukee and the lower Fox River Valley. This demand tends to be concentrated in certain activities such as pleasure driving, boating, swimming, fishing, picnicking, sightseeing, and in the future is expected to increase the demands for hunting, fishing, camping, nature study, biking trails, and hiking trails



## **5 Year Plan - Specific Recommendations** (See Appendix I)

### **General Recommendations for Existing Facilities**

- Additional picnic facilities (tables, benches, and grills) should be added to all county parks and accesses.
- Additional development facilities that may be considered are, dependent on available resources: improved boat landings, shelters, restroom facilities, parking lot improvements, landscaping and safety lighting.
- Zobel Park, which has been extensively developed during the past five years to include four restrooms, a shelter, two parking areas, fencing, signing and landscaping, should also develop a 18-hole disk-golf course and a handicap access playground.
- Town owned public lake accesses should be considered for improvements to the access roads and boat launch areas. This might entail new gravel and blacktopping. Units of government might in addition to the above consider the addition of picnic tables, grills and restroom facilities at these accesses, if feasible.

### **Areas that are identified as valuable county resources should be preserved.**

- Areas, corridors and sites that contain unique environmental qualities offer great potential for satisfying many outdoor recreational needs simultaneously. The preservation of these areas will be of major significance in controlling scattered development patterns, preserving wetlands and other environmentally sensitive areas for wildlife habitat and passive recreation, preserving recognized scientific areas, and serving as learning resource centers. These areas were identified in the prior section on Natural and Cultural Resources.
- For the recommended preservation areas, the county should consider maintaining all these areas in their natural state. In maintaining and, in some cases, improving these natural resources, the county should consider establishing these policies:
  - Require an evaluation of the impacts of future recreational development or other development on the natural resources of the county prior to the approval of such development.
  - For all major development projects, evaluate water quality impacts on the Upper Fox River and its tributaries to insure that such development is compatible with the maintenance of water quality standards.

- In future land acquisition activities, the county may consider one of these sites or encourage the private sector to preserve these areas through enforcement of the aforementioned policies.

**Continued maintenance of all county parks and public water accesses with periodic replacement or upgrading of equipment and access facilities is desirable.**

- Existing facilities are serviceable and attractive and well located for residents of the county.

**Provide a public snowmobile trail system through implementation of a Green Lake County Snowmobile Trail Plan.**

- A snowmobile trail plan that will meet county needs and at the same time link up with a region wide system should be continued and maintained. Note: the snowmobile clubs have the plan.

## **OTHER RECREATION FACILITIES**

In addition to the state and county lands, which together account for the largest proportion of parkland in Green Lake County, two other types of facilities supplement the recreation needs in the county.

### **Municipal Parks**

Each urban community within the County should continue to provide active recreation facilities for its residents. These facilities for active recreation supplement the state and county park and wildlife areas which are generally designed for passive or nature study recreation, or certain activities such as hunting or boating which draw from a wider area. Existing facilities are serviceable, generally attractive, and well located for the residents of the individual community. Continued maintenance of these parks along with periodic replacement of equipment and access facilities is desirable.

As stated earlier, there is currently a deficit of available recreational area due to the increased number of summer residents and tourists. Often these persons congregate in the municipal parks and recreation areas. This being the case it is recommended that if a municipality has the opportunity to purchase new or expand/improve existing recreational areas the county would hope they do so. These actions will allow more people to enjoy Green Lake County and will help to alleviate the deficiency in available recreational land.

### **Quasi-Public Recreation Facilities**

Since the private recreation areas in Green Lake County presently provide the only facilities for activities such as camping, skiing and golfing, continued maintenance and development of private facilities will be essential if the County is to meet recreation needs generated by tourism and seasonal residents. In particular, the County should continue to encourage the development of high quality private campgrounds to meet future needs for this activity.

**APPENDIX I**

**Green Lake County**  
**Five-Year Plan**

**Park and Recreation  
Action Plan  
2009 - 2013**

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**Dodge Memorial Park**

Improve playground equipment  
Add new playground equipment  
Rejuvenate shelter house  
Improve lighting entire park  
Rejuvenate existing piers  
Improve parking lot  
Improve boat launch site  
Blacktop launch sites  
Expand beach area  
Improve boat launch parking lot  
Add new restrooms at the boat launch site  
Add second shelter house

**Sunset Park**

Improve lighting entire park  
Add park identification sign  
Add picnic shelter  
Add picnic tables and grills  
Add park benches  
Add new playground equipment  
Improve playground equipment  
Blacktop parking area and roadway

**Twin Lake**

Add picnic tables and grills  
Improve parking lot  
Improve boat launch area  
Improve lighting entire park

**Spring Lake (Town of Green Lake) (Valley Park)**

Improve launch area

### **Lake Puckaway Area**

Investigate acquisition of land for new park on south shore  
Park acquisition and development.

### **Spring Lake (Town of Kingston)**

Add picnic tables and grill  
Improve boat launch sites  
Improve lighting entire park  
Add new playground equipment  
Add new piers  
Improve boat launch sites  
Resurfacing of parking lot and launch areas

### **Lake Maria**

Improve restrooms  
Improve boat launch

### **Zobel Park**

Add / improve disk-golf  
Add / improve handicap playground equipment  
Add geocache  
Improve lighting entire park  
Improve existing trail system  
Add picnic tables and grills  
Add new restroom facility

### **Berlin Lawcon Trail (Mascoutin Trail)**

Check with records on trail maintenance by waste management.  
Write letter on trail maintenance to waste management.  
Partial relocation of trail by trap grounds  
Upgrade scenic areas

### **Multi-Use Recreational Trails (non-motorized, except for winter snowmobiling)**

Improve the existing trail system