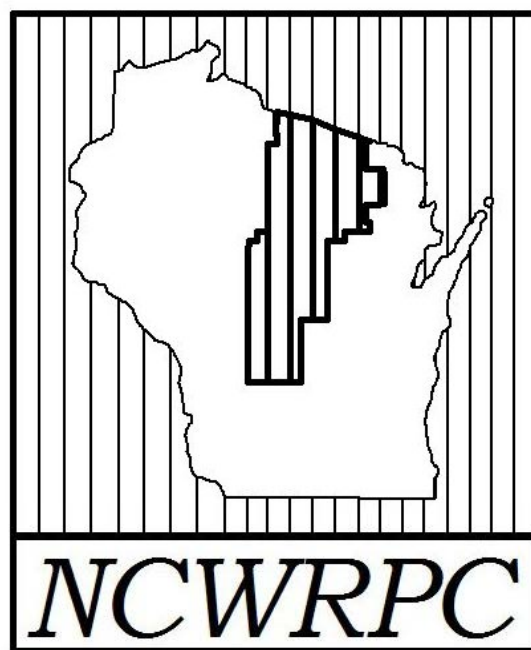


NORTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

2009 Annual Report



Providing Regional and Local Assistance Since 1973

**NORTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

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Website: www.ncwrpc.org

Purpose and History:

The North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (NCWRPC) is a public agency dedicated to providing professional planning services throughout a ten county Region. The agency was created in 1973 under Wisconsin Statute 66.0309 as a voluntary association of governments for the purpose of preparing plans for the physical development of the Region and its communities, to conduct research, to serve as a data center and as a forum for communication, cooperation and coordination among federal, state, regional and local interests, and to provide technical services to its membership. The NCWRPC is one of nine regional planning commissions that serve the state. Nationwide there are about 500 regional organizations similar to the NCWRPC.

Mission Statement:

In an advisory capacity to local units of government and tribes, the NCWRPC offers cost effective, specialized planning services and expertise that support responsible development of the Region's economic, social, natural, and human built environments. The NCWRPC also provides leadership and a regional forum for the creation of cooperative responses to shared opportunities and challenges facing the counties and communities of the ten-county Region.

Organizational Goals:

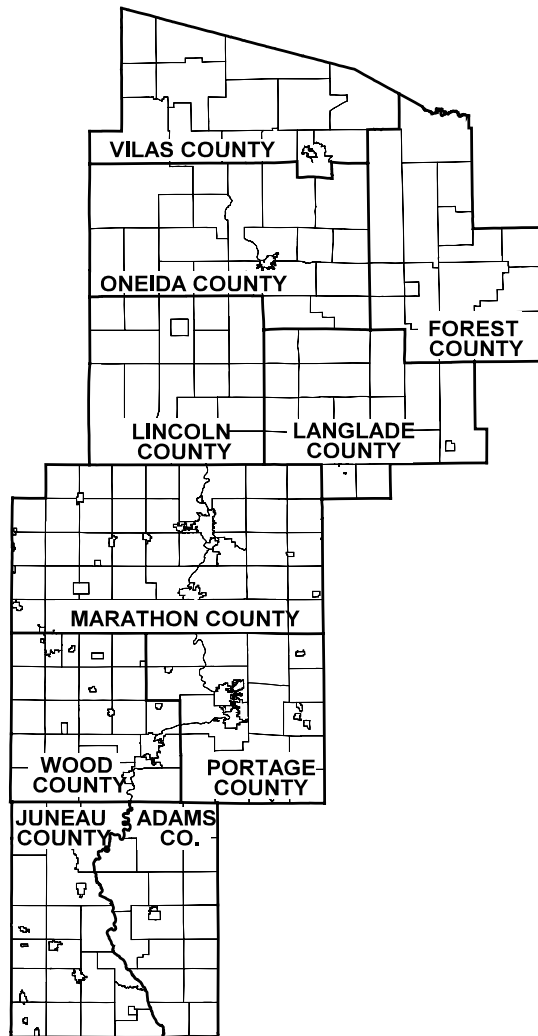
The goals of the NCWRPC are to:

- ✓ provide cost-effective planning services to its members,
- ✓ identify strategies and solutions to planning issues,
- ✓ do more with less,
- ✓ continue moving from levy to other funding sources, and
- ✓ assist communities meet the challenges presented them.

Impact of the NCWRPC:

One organizational priority is to bring funding into the region for our member communities. A Return on Investment (ROI) analysis shows that every dollar provided the NCWRPC via membership leverages additional dollars. In 2009, the NCWRPC brought over \$2.9 million dollars to the region via state and federal grants. Simply put, for every dollar the NCWRPC receives from membership it leverages nearly 14 dollars for our communities in the region.

North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission
Service Area:



Regional Facts:

2009 Population Estimate (DOA): 459,844
Square Miles: 9,325

Counties: 10
Cities: 21
Villages: 39
Towns: 197
Tribal: 3

Total Governmental Units: 270

Publications:

The North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission prepares and publishes several planning reports each year. A list of reports is available at the NCWRPC website. The NCWRPC also publishes a quarterly Newsletter, NCWRPC NEWS, which is sent to over 1,100 persons, including county supervisors, chief-elected officials, clerks and many other interested parties throughout the region, state and nation.

Federal and State Relationships:

The NCWRPC is an independent agency that is governed by an appointed board (Commission). However, there are two on-going relationships related to planning with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA), and with the State of Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT).

EDA has designated the NCWRPC as an economic development district. As such, the NCWRPC receives an annual economic development planning grant to prepare a regional report called a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and to provide local assistance to communities. WisDOT has designated the NCWRPC as a Regional Planning Organization. As such, the NCWRPC receives a planning grant annually to assist with the state work program at the local level.

Types of Assistance:

The NCWRPC is a regional planning and economic development agency, which provides assistance to local governments throughout a ten county Region in the areas of economic development, geographic information systems (GIS), intergovernmental cooperation, land use planning, and transportation. The NCWRPC fills the gap where there is existing staff and takes the lead where there is none. The goal is to provide an effective system of planning to fit each member's need and not duplicate efforts.

The NCWRPC provides assistance in two primary areas: regional planning, which addresses issues beyond one unit of government; and local assistance to individual units of government.

Regional Programs:

Regional Planning

NCWRPC is responsible for the development of a regional comprehensive plan for the ten county Region. The Regional Comprehensive Plan 2000-2020 was adopted in 2003. NCWRPC also assists town, village, city, and county governments in the preparation of comprehensive plans. Other regional planning projects relate to multi-county emergency management, such as communication system interoperability.

Regional Economic Development Planning

NCWRPC annually prepares a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) document that analyzes the regional economy and identifies potential economic development projects. This report maintains the Region's eligibility for U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration public works programs. Other federal and state programs utilize this plan as well. NCWRPC also prepare grant applications to bring funding into the region to promote growth.

Regional Transportation Planning Program

NCWRPC provides local transportation assistance through the Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP) and represents north central Wisconsin on state level transportation planning committees to help bring more dollars for the repair and construction of our transportation infrastructure. The NCWRPC also provides on-going assistance to the Wausau Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).

Regional Data and Mapping Center

NCWRPC is a depository for a variety of demographic information on the area, including U.S. Census data. The NCWRPC also maintains a Regional GIS database and computerized mapping system.

North Central Wisconsin Development Corporation:

NCWRPC provides management assistance for two multi-county revolving loan funds, which provide financing to a variety of businesses throughout the Region with the goals of increasing jobs and expanding local tax base.

Local Assistance:

Members of the NCWRPC may request assistance in the following five areas:

Economic Development

The NCWRPC provides technical grant writing and administrative assistance to communities that are seeking funds from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration. The NCWRPC also provides assistance for a wide variety of other grant programs, including the Wisconsin Department of Commerce (CDBG program), the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and USDA-Rural Development.

In addition, the NCWRPC provides communities with assistance in a variety of other economic development related studies, including developing detailed economic development strategies that examine the local economy, assess local trends and identify strategies to spur development. The NCWRPC also manages two revolving loan funds.

Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

The NCWRPC has a variety of graphic and mapping information, from aerial photos to wetland maps. We assist communities with County Land Information Plans, grant applications and RFP's for GIS services. Custom data sets and maps can also be created for communities.

In addition, the NCWRPC maintains a wide array of data that is available upon request. Some of the data includes: U.S. Census (1980, 1990, & 2000), Economic Census, State Employment and Labor Information, and other specialized data sets.

Intergovernmental Cooperation

The NCWRPC is available to conduct specialized studies on request. In the past, the NCWRPC has completed studies on subjects such as merging ambulance services, community consolidation studies, economic impact analysis, and a juvenile detention study. Many of these projects also have a regional focus because of the involvement of many units of government.

Land Use

The NCWRPC assists local governments in the preparation of comprehensive plans under Wisconsin's Comprehensive Planning Law, as well as zoning and land division ordinance assistance to implement plans.

In addition, the NCWRPC prepares a variety of natural resource based plans for communities such as: outdoor recreation plans, all hazard mitigation plans, land and water resource management plans, sewer service area plans, well head protection plans, and wildfire plans. Sustainability planning and "green" planning is an area where we provide assistance as well.

Transportation

The NCWRPC assists local governments in the preparation of local road improvement programs. These road plans provide a capital improvement schedule for upgrading local roads and help local units obtain LRIP funding for road reconstruction projects. Pavement rating and other assistance with the WISLR program are also available.

In addition, the NCWRPC conducts specialized transportation studies including highway corridor studies, long-range urban area plans, parking studies, and county-wide bicycle planning.



2009 Regional Activities:

- Prepared the 2009 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) to maintain the Region's Economic Development District designation, as defined by the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA).
- Continue to coordinate the Northeast Wisconsin Public Safety Communication (NEWCOM) organization to promote better emergency service communication within the Region.
- Provide staff assistance to the North Central Wisconsin Development Corporation (NCWDC) to manage two Regional Revolving Loan Funds, including the new Community Development Fund.
- Coordinated the Wisconsin Regional Orthophotography Consortium to develop a statewide 2010 air photo program, including securing funds from several state and federal sources to finance the effort.
- Maintain designation as a rural transportation planning organization by WisDOT to coordinate transportation strategies on a regional basis.
- Maintain and develop a Regional Mapping Information System, Census and Demographic Information, and a Planning Library for the region.
- Providing on-going assistance to Centergy and Grow North, two regional economic development groups in the Region.
- Secured Funding for the Regional Wood Technology Center of Excellence in Langlade County to promote the forest product industry in our Region and State.
- With the National Park Service have been planning the Ice Age Trail Corridor through both Langlade and Marathon Counties in our Region.
- Initiated discussions with the U.S. Department of Defense related to a Joint Land Use Study around the Hardwood Bombing Range in Juneau County.
- Began exploration of future regional efforts, including business entrepreneurial centers, brownfield redevelopment, sustainability, "green efforts", scenic by-ways, and bike planning.

The NCWRPC is involved in various other Regional efforts throughout the year that are not mentioned above.

2009 Selected Activities Completed by County:

Adams County

- County All Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Towns of Big Flats/Monroe Community Wildfire Protection Planning
- EDA Flood Recovery Planning Grant
- Village of Friendship WISLR Pavement Rating Assistance
- City of Adams EDA South Business Park Grant Application

Forest County

- County Comprehensive Plan Assistance
- Census Tract Adjustments for 2010
- 911 System File Updates
- Town of Nashville Comprehensive Plan
- Comprehensive planning assistance to ten town efforts
- City of Crandon Comprehensive Plan
- County GIS system updates

Juneau County

- Secured JCAIRS Grant Funding
- City of Mauston EDA Industrial Park Grant Application
- Towns of Plymouth, Summit, and Wonewoc Comprehensive Plans
- City of Elroy Comprehensive Plan
- Villages of Camp Douglas and Hustler Comprehensive Plans
- EDA Flood Recovery Planning Grant

Langlade County

- County Comprehensive Plan
- Wood Technology Center of Excellence EDA Grant
- Town of Neva Comprehensive Plan
- Census Tract Adjustments for 2010
- County Recreation Map
- Town of Elcho Comprehensive Plan
- Ice Age Trail Planning Assistance
- WISLR Pavement Rating for Towns of Langlade and Rolling

Lincoln County

- City of Tomahawk Outdoor Recreation Plan
- County Hazard Mitigation Planning Grant
- WISLR Pavement Rating for City of Tomahawk and Towns of Harding, Merrill and Tomahawk
- Town of Scott Traffic Counts
- City of Merrill Downtown Waterfront RFP Assistance

Marathon County*

- Mosinee Mapping Assistance
- Town of Reitbrock Zoning Ordinance Review
- Village of Spencer Air Photo
- Ice Age Trail Planning Assistance

Oneida County

- County Comprehensive Planning Assistance
- Town of Pelican Comprehensive Plan
- County Land Division Ordinance update
- Town of Monico Comprehensive Plan
- Town of Piehl Comprehensive Plan
- Census Tract Adjustment for 2010
- Town of Cassian Comprehensive Plan
- Town of Woodboro Comprehensive Plan

Portage County*

- Village of Rosholt Zoning Assistance
- Village of Rosholt Mapping

Vilas County

- County Comprehensive Plan
- Comprehensive Planning assistance to the Towns of Arbor Vitae, Conover, Land O' Lakes, and Phelps
- Economic Development Assistance
- County Land and Water Resource Management Plan Assistance
- Conover/Land O' Lakes Community Wildfire Protection Plan
- County Forest Mapping Assistance

Wood County*

- City of Wisconsin Rapids Comprehensive Plan
- Town of Sigel Comprehensive Plan
- EDA Grant Administration for Wisconsin Rapids Treatment Plant Expansion

In addition, throughout the year, staff attends various meetings, responds to inquiries, and completes numerous projects not mentioned above.

* Note: These counties are not formal members. Only some local communities participate with the NCWRPC.

Audited Financial Statements:

The NCWRPC is funded from three basic sources. These are grants from federal and state programs; a local membership fee (levy) based on equalized valuation of its member governments and local project contracts.

BALANCE SHEET:

ASSETS:

Cash and Investments	1,062,301
Levy Receivable	241,346
Grants and Projects Receivable	167,201
Prepaid Expenses	17,240
Capital Assets	5,189
Restricted Cash	<u>229,359</u>

TOTAL ASSETS: \$1,722,636

LIABILITIES:

Unearned Levy & Other	241,346
Deposits Held for Others	229,359
Long-Term Obligations	60,215
Other	<u>95,714</u>

TOTAL LIABILITIES: \$626,634

Invested Capital Assets	5,189
Reserved and Restricted Funds:	<u>1,090,813</u>

NET ASSETS: \$1,096,002

Schenck, LLC prepared the 2009 Audit. A copy of the complete Audit Report is available for review at the NCWRPC Office. Krause-Howard & Company provides day-to-day accounting services.

Levy Rate Changes:

In an effort to meet our goals of doing more with less and moving away from the levy to more state and federal grants and other sources, we have reduced our membership charge 8 times since 2000.

By statute the levy rate cannot exceed 0.003%. In 2000 the NCWRPC was at 0.00275%, and by 2010 that rate was 0.00125% - less than half the statutory limit. Clearly, the NCWRPC has done more with less!

**North Central Wisconsin Development Corporation
Annual Report:**

In 1995, the NCWRPC with the support of its counties, area economic development corporations, private lenders, and others, established the North Central Wisconsin Development Corporation (NCWDC). The NCWDC is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit corporation, staffed by the NCWRPC, to manage the Regional Revolving Loan Fund and the Community Development Fund. A Board of Directors manages the NCWDC. One person from each of the counties in the Region serves on the board, along with one representative from the NCWRPC. The current Board of Directors includes:

Adams County	Daric Smith
Forest County	Bev Collins, President
Juneau County	Terry Whipple
Langlade County	Chris Berry, Vice-President
Lincoln County	David Koth
Marathon County	Bettye Nall
Oneida County	Jim Kumbera
Portage County	Lori Dehlinger
Wood County	Mary Jo Carson
NCWRPC	Bettye Nall, Secretary / Treasurer

In addition, there is a five person Loan Review Committee that reviews and makes the final funding decision on each loan application. The current members are: Bev Collins, Dan Daubert, Jack Sroka, Linda Prehn, and Bill VandenHeuvel.

To date the NCWDC had made 13 loans and created or retained over 315 jobs in the Region. Currently, there are 8 active loans in the portfolio.

The 2009 Audited Balance Sheet is below:

Assets:	IRP Funds	\$68,922	
	HUD Funds	\$152,168	
	USDA Funds	\$1,600	
	Loans Outstanding	<u>\$525,863</u>	\$748,553
Liabilities:	Accounts Payable	\$800	
	Accrued Interest	\$1,785	
	IRP Note Payable	<u>\$267,807</u>	\$270,392
Net Assets:	Restricted/Unrestricted		\$478,161

Schenck, LLC prepared the audit for the NCWDC. A copy is available for review at the NCWRPC Office.

Professional Staff:

Dennis Lawrence, EDFP, AICP, Executive Director

Dennis has worked with the NCWRPC since 1992. He has a bachelor's degree in public administration from UW-La Crosse and a master's degree in urban planning from UW-Milwaukee. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) and is also certified as an Economic Development Finance Professional (EDFP). He works in all areas of planning and provides overall management to the organization.

Mike Agnew, AICP, Senior Planner

Mike has worked with the NCWRPC since 2001. He has a bachelor's degree in architectural history from the University of Minnesota and a master's degree in urban and regional planning from the University of New Orleans. He is also a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP). Mike works mainly in the area of land use.

Andrew Faust, GISP, Senior GIS Analyst

Andy has worked with the NCWRPC since 1995. He has a bachelor's degree in urban and regional studies from UW-Oshkosh. He is certified as a Geographic Information System Professional (GISP). Andy works in the areas of GIS and intergovernmental cooperation.

Matt Guptail, GISP, GIS/Planning Technician

Matt has worked with the NCWRPC since 2001. He has a bachelor's degree in geography from UW-Stevens Point. Matt works in the areas of GIS and transportation.

Fredrick Heider, AICP, Planner

Fred has worked with the NCWRPC since 2004. He has a bachelor's degree in natural resources from UW-Stevens Point and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP). Fred works mainly in the areas of land use and transportation.

Darryl Landeau, AICP, Senior Planner

Darryl has worked with the NCWRPC since 1993. He has a bachelor's degree in natural resources from UW-Stevens Point and a master's degree in urban studies from Mankato State University. He is also a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP). Darryl works mainly in the area of transportation and land use.

Matthew Schreiber, Senior Planner

Matt has worked with the NCWRPC since 2008. He has a bachelor's degree in geography from UW-Oshkosh and a master's degree in urban planning from UW-Milwaukee. He works mainly in the area of economic development, including managing the North Central Wisconsin Development Corporation.

Commissioners:

An appointed commission oversees the activities of the executive director and the organization. As detailed in Wisconsin statute, three commissioners from each member county govern the NCWRPC. One is selected directly by the County, one directly by the Governor, and the final is a joint selection between the Governor and County. Those Commissioners listed are current as of December 31, 2009.

Adams County

Ron Jacobson
Donald E. Krahn
Glenn Licitar

Marathon County*

Marilyn Bhend
Craig McEwen
Bettye Nall, Vice- Chair

Forest County

Erhard Huettl, Chair
Jim Landru, Jr.
Paul Millan

Oneida County

Wilbur Petroskey
Thomas Rudolph
Appointment Pending

Juneau County

Edmund Wafle
Appointment Pending
Appointment Pending

Portage County*

No Representation

Langlade County

George Bornemann
Ronald Nye
Paul Schuman

Vilas County

Bob Egan
Ralph Spitzberger
Appointment Pending

Lincoln County

Robert Lussow
Tom Rick
Doug Williams

Wood County*

Fred Camacho
Tom Haferman
Maurice Mathews, Sec./Treas.

In addition, by Wisconsin Statute, the Secretary of the Department of Commerce is an ex-officio officer of the NCWRPC.

* Note: These counties are not official members. Only some of the local communities participate with the NCWRPC.