

DOOR COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE AND FARMLAND PRESERVATION PLAN 2045

VOLUME II: RESOURCE REPORT

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CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

This Resource Report is intended to serve two purposes. As Volume II of the Door County Comprehensive and Farmland Preservation Plan 2045, it provides the demographic and other information required by the Wisconsin Statutes for comprehensive and farmland preservation plans. An overview of these laws is provided in Chapter 1, Introduction, of this plan's Volume I, Vision and Goals. A second function of this Resource Report is to serve as a resource for local municipalities and organizations, assisting in current and future organizational and strategic planning efforts. Municipalities looking to update or begin planning efforts will be able to use the county-level data herein and conduct further, municipal-level research by seeking out the sources and other resources offered. Likewise, other agencies and organizations, public and private, should be able to use the information and resources provided in this report to guide, augment, or frame organizational planning or other efforts.

This Resource Report is comprised of twelve chapters. Chapter 2, Issues and Opportunities, gives an overview of results from county-level visioning exercises conducted in 2006 and 2007 as part of the development of the first comprehensive plan adopted in 2009. The results from these visioning exercises were reviewed and in some cases slightly modified or updated before inclusion in Chapter 2 of this plan (adopted in 2024) as general issues facing and opportunities available to the county. Chapter 2 also gives population data for the county pertinent to all comprehensive plan topics.

Chapters 3 through 12 cover the topics of Historic and Cultural Resources, Housing, Economic Development, Natural Resources, Agricultural Resources, Transportation, Community Facilities and Utilities, Land Use, Intergovernmental Cooperation, and Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Recreational Facilities respectively. Each of these chapters contains data, maps, inventories, or other information relevant to Door County with regard to that topic as well as a final section containing resources for further information.

GEOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE COUNTY

Door County is part of a narrow peninsula located in northeastern Wisconsin. The county lies between the waters of Green Bay to the west and Lake Michigan to the east and north. Its entire southern border is adjacent to Kewaunee County. Door County is over 68 miles in length from the southwestern point where State Trunk Highway 57 crosses over from Kewaunee into Door County, northeast to the northern tip of Rock Island. The county seat, the City of Sturgeon Bay, is located roughly 10 miles from the southern border of the county, based on the shortest road route. Based on shortest road routes, the City of Sturgeon Bay is 45 miles from the City of Green Bay, 157 miles from Milwaukee, 185 miles from Madison, and 246 miles from Chicago.

Door County encompasses approximately 488 square miles of land and 300 miles of coastal shoreline – one of the highest numbers of miles of coastal shoreline of any county in the United States. The county is comprised of 19 local municipalities as listed below and illustrated on Map 1.1, Door County Geography, located at the end of this document. (Note that the map also depicts the boundaries of the county's five school districts, discussed further in Chapter 9, Community Facilities and Utilities.)

- City of Sturgeon Bay
- Villages: Egg Harbor, Ephraim, Forestville, and Sister Bay
- Towns: Baileys Harbor, Brussels, Clay Banks, Egg Harbor, Forestville, Gardner, Gibraltar, Jacksonport, Liberty Grove, Nasewaupée, Sevastopol, Sturgeon Bay, Union, and Washington