



ELEMENT 4 – UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Introduction

Public utilities, facilities and governmental services are essential for the well-being of village residents and visitors to the community. The Utilities and Community Facilities Chapter includes background information, goals, objectives, policies, recommendations and programs to guide the future development of utilities and community facilities in the Village of Poplar. As required by Section 66.1001 of the Wisconsin Statutes, the element describes the location, use and capacity of existing public utilities and community facilities that serve the Village and includes an approximate timetable that forecasts the need to expand and rehabilitate or create new utilities and facilities.

Utilities and Community Facilities Profile (Inventory & Analysis)

Water Supply

Public water is supplied to Village of Poplar residents by individual private wells.

Sanitary Sewer Services

The Village of Poplar owns and operates a domestic wastewater treatment system. The lagoon system has an annual average design flow of 37,000 gallons per day. The system consists of three aerated cells and a settle lagoon. An insulated floating cover has been installed over the entire lagoon surface. An artificial media filter for effluent nitrogen removal provides additional treatment to Cell 4 effluent. Final effluent is discharged by gravity to an unnamed tributary to Bardon Creek.

Storm Water Management

Storm water management infrastructure in the Village of Poplar is currently limited to a series of ditches and culverts along portions of Village streets.

Solid Waste Disposal & Recycling

The Village of Poplar has a 3-year contract with GT Sanitation for curbside garbage collection. Waste management has a countywide contract with Douglas County for curbside recycling.

Natural Gas Service

Natural gas is provided by Superior Water, Light & Power. According to the 2000 Census, 17.0 percent of homes in the Village of Poplar use utility gas¹ as their primary source of home heating fuel.

Telecommunications Services

Telecommunications include the transmission of signals containing voice or data over a network. These services are essential for public safety and are becoming increasingly important in personal and business communications. The Village of Poplar is located within the CenturyTel service area. CenturyTel also provides internet services (dial-up 56K and high speed) to the village. Telecommunication and Internet services are also available through a number of other carriers.



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Wireless phone service

Cellular phone services are available in the Village of Poplar and surrounding areas. These services are provided by multiple carriers. The nearest cellular communications tower is located west of Poplar in the Town of Amnicon.

Electric Power Supply

Electric power is produced and delivered to the Village of Poplar by Dahlberg Light and Power. There are currently no power plants or transmission lines (other than for residential service) running through the Village of Poplar. The nearest power transmission line is the 345 Kv Arrowhead-Weston line which runs from Wausau to Duluth.

Natural Gas

Natural gas is available to some Village of Poplar residents. Natural gas is provided by Superior Water, Light & Power. According to the 2000 U.S. Census, 17.0% of homes have utility gas as their main source of home-heating fuel.

Government Facilities

The center of village government operations is the Village Hall located at 4932 S Village Road. The only other government facilities in the Village of Poplar are the maintenance garage and pumping station.

Schools

The Village of Poplar is located within the Maple School District. The District operates two elementary schools, one middle school and one high school. Both the Northwest Middle and Elementary schools are located within the Village of Poplar on USH 2. Enrollment in the Maple School District has increased by 71 students or 5.1 percent over the past eight years.

Table X: Maple School District Enrollment 2001-2008

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Change
Maple District	1,388	1,396	1,368	1,399	1,337	1,415	1,454	1,459	+71

Source: WI Department of Public Instruction

The Maple School District anticipates stable or slightly increasing enrollment over the next 10 years. Accordingly, the District has no immediate plans for expansion of facilities. Future events such as the potential Murphy Oil expansion may result in increasing enrollment and necessitate expansion of facilities.

Health Care Facilities

Currently, there are no health care (hospitals/clinics) facilities in the Village of Poplar. There is however two medically related facilities in Poplar; Orthopedic Spine & Therapy and Northwoods Family Chiropractic. The nearest clinic is the Duluth Clinic in Superior. The nearest hospitals are St. Mary's Hospital of Superior, an affiliate of the St. Mary's Duluth Clinic Health System and St. Luke's Duluth/Superior.

Child (Day) Care Facilities

Child or daycare facilities located in Poplar were derived from the Wisconsin Department of Children & Families. Within the Village of Poplar there is one licensed group center located at 9503 E US HWY 2, two licensed family providers located at 5319 S Maple Dr. and 5344 S Balsam Dr and one pre-school located at 5161 S CTH P.

Fire Department

The Poplar Volunteer Fire Department provides fire protection services in the Village of Poplar. The fire hall is located at 4941 S. Village Road across from the village hall. The department has 16 to 20 on-call firefighters with



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paggers, 12 first responders and responds to between 40 and 50 calls per year and has Insurance Services Office (ISO) of 9, but coupled with the Maple Fire Department, the ISO rating drops to 7. Department equipment includes a tanker, two pumpers and an equipment van. The department has mutual aid agreements with surrounding fire departments. Future plans for a new fire have been discussed as well as the possibility of moving into the General Mills (Taco) Plant if acquired by the Village.

Law Enforcement

The Village of Poplar is served primarily by the Douglas County Sheriff's Department located in the City of Superior.

Ambulance Service

In Wisconsin ambulance service providers are licensed by the Department of Health Services (DHS). There are currently three licensed ambulance service providers in Douglas County. Gold Cross is the primary ambulance service provider to the Village of Poplar.

E-911 System

Douglas County has had a 911 system in place since the mid 1990's. In 2005, the county applied for and received funding for a Wireless Enhanced 911 Services Grant from the Wisconsin Public Service Commission (PSC). Wireless enhanced 911 enables emergency dispatchers to pinpoint exact locations where wireless calls are made. The system was fully implemented in February of 2007. Emergency calls (landline and wireless) placed from the Village of Poplar are received at the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP), located in the basement of the Government Center in Superior.

Public Libraries

Village of Poplar residents patronize the City of Poplar Public Library located 1530 Tower Avenue. Founded in 1888, it serves as the public library for Douglas County. Other areas libraries include Iron River and Lake Nebagamon.

Places of Worship

Mission Covenant and Peace Lutheran are located in the Village of Poplar.



Cemeteries

The Poplar Cemetery is located on Cemetery Road in the Village of Poplar. Ample space is available as another section of the cemetery was recently opened.

Parks & Recreation Facilities

Community parks and recreation facilities in the Village of Poplar include:

- ◆ **Bong Memorial Park** – Dedicated to the life and times of Richard I. Bong, this small park is located on Main Street and includes picnic tables and memorial sign.
- ◆ **Phil Zastrow Little League Ballpark** – This park includes bleachers and restrooms.





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- ◆ **Lion's Club Ballpark** – Located between North Poplar Dr. and Village Road, facilities include bleachers, restrooms and a pavilion.
- ◆ **Baseball Park** – Located at the termination of Park Rd, this baseball park has picnic tables, bleachers and

	Utilities & Community Facilities Assessment 2010 - 2030								
	Expand			Rehab			Create New		
	2010	2020	2030	2010	2020	2030	2010	2020	2030
Sanitary Sewer Service									
Storm Water Management									
Water Supply									
Solid Waste Disposal									
Recycling Facilities									
Telecommunication Facilities									
Electrical Service									
Natural Gas Service									
Cemeteries									
Health Care Facilities									
Child Care Facilities									
Law Enforcement									
Fire Protection									
Emergency Medical Services									

restrooms.

Other recreational facilities in Poplar include tennis courts and ice skating rink with a warming house.

Utilities & Community Facilities Assessment



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Hazardous Materials Response									
Public Libraries									
Public Schools									
Public Parks									
Recreational Trails									
Community Center/Garage									
Other Municipal Facilities									

Wisconsin's comprehensive planning statutes require that a municipality plan includes an approximate timetable that

forecasts the need to expand, rehabilitate or create new utilities and facilities.

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Utilities and Community Facilities Issues & Opportunities

Utilities and Community Facilities Needs

Goals, Objectives and Policies, Programs and Actions

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