

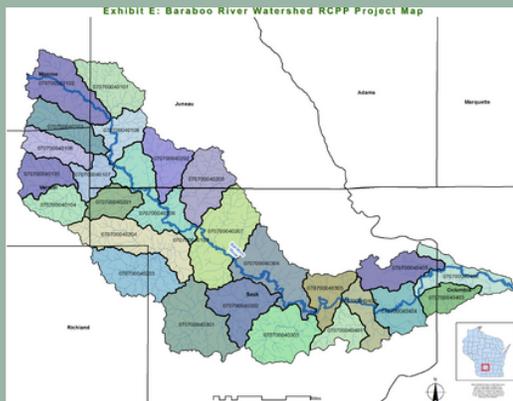
Land Resources and Environment Department: Monthly Report

Land Conservation

Highlights

- The Conservation Chronicle newsletter sent out on 9/5. Check it out [here!](#)
- Staff finalized promotional materials and program information for the 2024 Tree Sale. The tree sale website goes live November 1st.
- The September pasture walk was held at the Jackson Farm by Reedsburg on 9/14 with 23 people in attendance. The program focused on facilities set up and market variability.
- Staff presented at the Baraboo 8th Grade Career Day at the Sauk County Fairgrounds on 9/24 with 238 students participating.
- Ag Plastics Collection was held on 9/20 with 15 people participating.
- Clean Sweep was held on 9/30 with 484 households participating.

Baraboo River Watershed RCPP Project Close Out



The Baraboo River Watershed Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) was established in 2015 to address soil erosion and agricultural runoff in the Baraboo River Watershed. Due to high interest, cost share funding was exhausted by 2017 and a second project had to be established in 2018. Overall, a total of 270 projects were installed utilizing \$3.2 million in federal, state, and local cost share funds. These projects helped to prevent over 19,000 tons of soil and over 9,520 lbs. of phosphorus from entering the Baraboo River Watershed. The project officially sunset on September 30, 2023.

MailChimp Engagement Reaches 10,000 for 2023 (so far)!

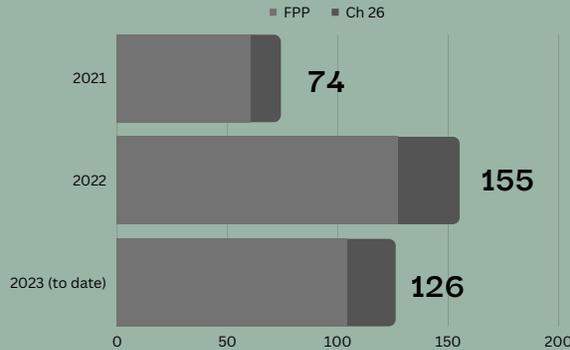


The LRE Department has been utilizing the email notifications platform, MailChimp since Fall 2022. MailChimp allows people to manage their subscriptions to department topics. Currently, there are 735 people subscribed to LRE email notifications. The department sends out 5-10 email notifications each month on various topics. Since the beginning of the year, over 10,000 emails have been sent out to subscribers. MailChimp is user-friendly and has allowed the department to get a variety of information out to residents in a timely manner.

Land Resources and Environment Department: Quarterly Report

Land Conservation

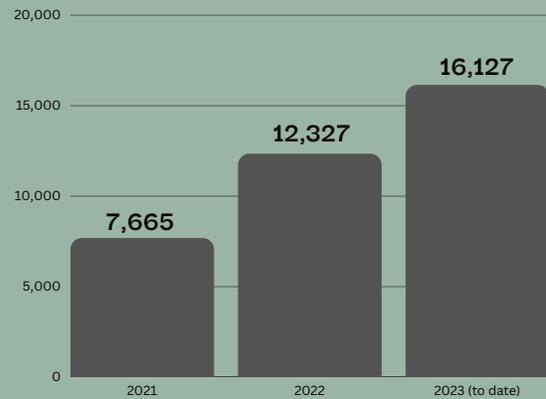
Output & Outcome Measures



Farm inspections to determine compliance with the Farmland Preservation Program & Sauk Co Chapter 26



Number of people who have attended field days/tours to date



Acres of nutrient management plans developed with land conservation staff assistance



2,370 people have attended presentations, trainings, and workshops hosted by land conservation staff



1,131 children have attended school-age programs including Wheat Week, Garden Club lessons, and the Enviroscape Model



Land Resources and Environment Department: Monthly Report

Planning and Zoning

Highlights

- Staff assigned and posted 15 fire signs for the DNR at Dell Creek State Wildlife Area access points.
- Staff working with the Towns of Sumpter, Excelsior, Honey Creek, Freedom, Winfield, and La Valle on Comprehensive Plan updates.
- Staff in coordination with HKGi are meeting with stakeholders and municipalities to finalize viable draft GSST routes.
- Staff are reviewing a first draft of a new zoning ordinance that will replace the current ordinance and are considering a unified development code.

Ordinary High-Water Mark Determinations



Ordinary High-Water Mark (OHWM) determinations are an important aspect of the Land Use & Sanitation Technician position. The OHWM determination determines the closest location that a structure may be constructed on a shoreland lot. This is done by gathering history on the property including prior permits and satellite photos, then traveling to the site to view conditions on the lot. The OHWM is determined by looking at the site as a whole to find key indicators of where water has left the land unable to grow upland plant species that cannot survive in water or where water movement has eroded soil.

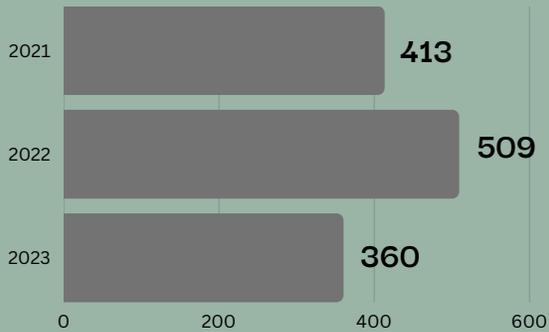
Soil Testing and Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment



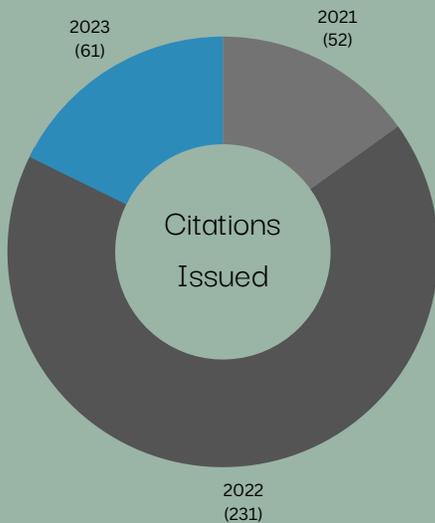
The State of Wisconsin regulates private onsite wastewater treatment systems (POWTS) in order to protect public health and waters of the state from contamination. POWTS, such as septic systems, utilize natural soil as one of the filtration components for wastewater treatment. State administrative code dictates how these systems are designed and constructed, including determining the capacity of different soil types to treat waste. Counties are tasked with enforcing these codes through permitting, inspections, and enforcement. We have four, soon to be five, certified staff administering these vital regulatory requirements.

Land Resources and Environment Department: Quarterly Report

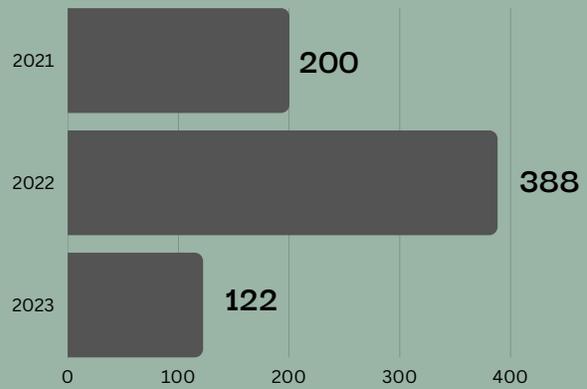
Planning and Zoning Output & Outcome Measures



Land Use Permits Issued



Citations
Issued



Sanitary Permits Issued



Certified Survey Maps
Reviewed/Submitted

— **3,499** —

Number of visitors to the [GSST Master Planning Story Map](#)

— **5,500** —

Approximate number of letters mailed to property owners for Phase 1 and Phase 2 Community Engagement for the GSST master planning process.

Land Resources and Environment Department: Monthly Report

Parks and Recreation

Highlights

- The final outdoor movie night was held, featuring The Great Outdoors with approximately 60 park users in attendance.
- Staff attending a progress meeting for the Wisconsin River Recreation Bridge.
- Staff assisted with the Sauk County booth at the Wisconsin Counties Association Marketplace.
- The Prairie Smoke Terrace agreement was updated to reflect necessary changes and to keep it a desirable location for recreational events.
- Improvements to the horse campground continued.

Last Music in the Park for 2023



The last Music in the Park event for 2023 was held in September. With perfect fall weather, Shawn Schell performed with approximately 140 visitors attending. The number of attendees increases with each event. Staff will start the planning process for 2024 events with feedback from park users and visitors.

Snowmobile trail improvements completed

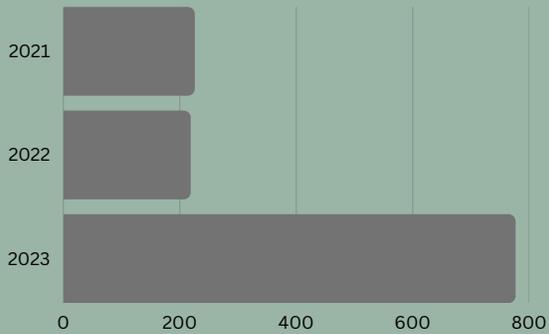


Sauk County applied for funding to rehab a snowmobile trail in White Mound County Park as a result of groomers not being able to climb the hill. The DNR awarded \$40,000 to improve the trail. Improvements started and were complete in September. This trail will also provide access for park staff and equipment to efficiently reach the southeast part of the park.

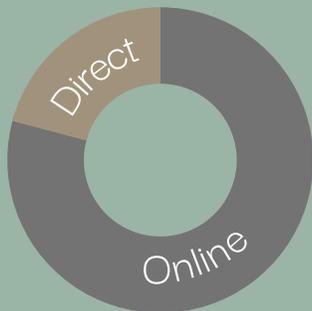
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Parks and Recreation

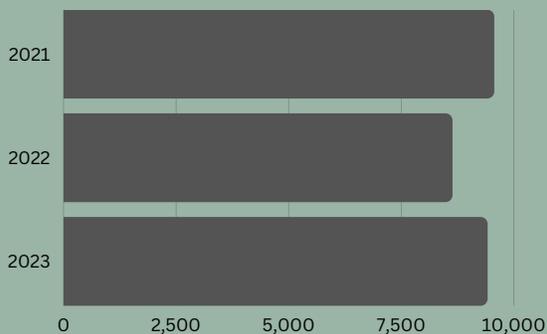
Output & Outcome Measures



Over **750** participants attended 8 events and programs held



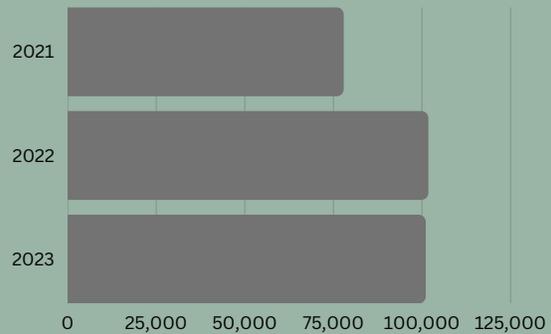
Over **1,456** total camping reservations have been made through September 30, 2023



Approximately **\$9,411** has been collected through the end of September for Great Sauk State Trail passes



Number of free annual passes given to honorably discharged veterans residing in Sauk County



Revenue received from camping, firewood, ice, shelters and merchandise are at **91%** of our 2022 total of \$110,000



An additional **23 miles** of snowmobile trail is now funded in Sauk County, with a grand total of **238.50 miles**