



Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection  
 Division of Agricultural Resource Management  
 P.O. Box 8911  
 Madison, WI 53708-8911  
 Phone: (608) 224-4611

## 2024 Agricultural Enterprise Area Petition

*The undersigned persons hereby petition the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP), pursuant to s. 91.86, Wis. Stats., to create an Agricultural Enterprise Area (AEA) under s. 91.84, Wis. Stats. We have read the guidance<sup>1</sup> provided and submit the following information in support of the petition:<sup>2</sup>*

### PETITION CHECK LIST

Petitions are due to DATCP by August 2, 2024. Submit an electronic copy to [DATCPWorkingLands@Wisconsin.gov](mailto:DATCPWorkingLands@Wisconsin.gov) of the following:

- ☒ This completed petition form (including any supporting pages and documentation)
- ☒ A map of the proposed AEA (PDF format)
- ☒ Spatial location/GIS shapefile data used to create map (emailed ZIP file)
- ☒ A signed signature page for each owner of an eligible farm who is signing the petition
- ☒ A political subdivision signature page signed by an authorized officer or representative of every political subdivision (county, town, city or village) in which any part of the proposed AEA is located
- ☒ A signature page for the county conservationist
- ☒ Non-petitioner cooperator signature pages or letters of support

### PETITION INSTRUCTIONS

#### Who Can Complete the Application:

A petition application can be completed by one or multiple individuals interested in creating an AEA for their community, however, we highly recommend that the petition is split up among multiple individuals and one person assigned as the petition lead contact. The lead contact will be in charge of putting together all the portions of the petition filled out by the other contributors and submitting the full application to DATCP. Contributors can include any combination of community members, petitioning landowners, local officials, community organizations, municipality staff, and county staff.

#### Proposed AEA Petition Interview Process:

In order to accurately capture the community voice of each petition, a recorded interview will be conducted during the petition process. This recorded interview will be between 15 and 20 minutes and will be shared with the petition evaluation committee during the petition review process. To schedule your interview, please contact DATCP staff at [DATCPWorkingLands@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DATCPWorkingLands@wisconsin.gov).

#### Filling out the Petition Application:

At the beginning of each section and subsection of the petition there will be instructions to follow when filling out the necessary information. If you have any questions about the instructions or the questions in any section, please contact DATCP staff at [DATCPWorkingLands@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DATCPWorkingLands@wisconsin.gov).

#### Petition Application Timeline:

The Petition application process includes public outreach, petitioner education, community involvement, map making process, and an evaluation. It can take a few months to fully complete a petition application. A sample timeline for submitting an AEA petition can be found in Appendix A at the back of this application.

Both DATCP and County staff may be able to offer support in the petition application process. If you are interested in petitioning for a new AEA for your community, please contact DATCP staff at [DATCPWorkingLands@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DATCPWorkingLands@wisconsin.gov) and your county Conservation Department (county contact information found within the [WI Land + Water Directory](#)).

***Application continued on the next page.***

<sup>1</sup> Guidance available at: [https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs\\_Services/AEAPetitionInfo.aspx](https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/AEAPetitionInfo.aspx)

<sup>2</sup> Personal information you provide may be used for purposes other than that for which it was collected, s. 15.04(1)(m), Wis. Stats.

## 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Choose a name for the AEA that is relevant to the petitioners or agricultural resources in the area.
2. Indicate where the proposed AEA will be located.
3. Record the number of acres in the proposed AEA boundary. There are no size restrictions for new AEAs, however DATCP must give preference to proposed AEAs 1,000 acres or more. DATCP may only designate 2 million AEA acres statewide, therefore DATCP may require the proposed boundary be adjusted for designation.
4. The petition must be jointly filed by at least 5 eligible farm owners within the boundaries of the proposed AEA, and by each county, town or municipality in which any part of the proposed AEA is located. They must sign a signature page attached to the back of this application. Digital signature pages are available at [Petitioning for Agricultural Enterprise Area \(AEA\) Designation](#).

PROPOSED NAME OF AEA

**Woodland AEA**

COUNTY/COUNTIES IN WHICH PROPOSED AEA IS LOCATED

**Sauk**

TOWNS, CITIES OR VILLAGES IN WHICH PROPOSED AEA IS LOCATED

**Woodland Township**

TOTAL ACRES IN PROPOSED AEA

**20,410**

TOTAL NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE PETITIONERS

**8**

## 2. PETITION CONTACT INFORMATION

### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Fill out the County Staff contact information. This person will serve as DATCP's main county contact during the petition and evaluation process.
2. Fill out the Landowner Representative. This person should be one the petitioners and will serve as DATCP's main landowner contact during the petition and evaluation process. This person should be ready and willing to answer questions and provide additional information for the petition if needed.
3. Indicate the names and contact information of any individual, not already indicated above, who also contributed to the petition application process. If no other contributors, please leave blank.

COUNTY STAFF CONTACT

**Brian Sadler**

EMAIL

**brian.sadler@saukcountywi.gov**

PHONE NUMBER

**608-355-4841**

MAILING ADDRESS STREET

**505 Broadway St**

CITY

**Baraboo**

STATE

**WI**

ZIP

**53913**

LANDOWNER REPRESENTATIVE

**Andrew Ennis**

EMAIL

**ennisar@msn.com**

PHONE NUMBER

MAILING ADDRESS STREET

**S125 Ennis Rd**

CITY

**Wonewoc**

STATE

**WI**

ZIP

**53968**

PETITION CONTRIBUTOR

**Amos Vande Hei**

EMAIL

**avandehei@gmail.com**

PHONE NUMBER

PETITION CONTRIBUTOR

**Lynn Sonnenberg**

EMAIL

**sonnenberg.lynn@gmail.com**

PHONE NUMBER

PETITION CONTRIBUTOR

**Craig Schroeder**

EMAIL

**cadooharley@gmail.com**

PHONE NUMBER

***Application continued on the next page.***

### 3. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

Answer the following questions. If “No” is selected for any question, this application is currently ineligible. Questions resulting in “No” should be addressed prior to submitting the application. DATCP is willing assist you in resolving any issues in order to facilitate an AEA petition.

- |   |   |                             |
|---|---|-----------------------------|
| A. All parcels in the proposed AEA are located within a farmland preservation area designated in the certified county farmland preservation plan. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| B. All parcels in the proposed AEA are contiguous*.   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| C. The proposed AEA is primarily in agricultural use.   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| D. At least 5 eligible farm owners signed the “ <u>Petitioning Landowner Signature Page(s)</u> ”  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |

*\*Contiguous means “adjacent to or sharing a common boundary.” For the purpose of AEA designation under s. 91.84, Wis. Stats. Parcels that are only separated by a lake, stream, transportation or utility right-of-way are contiguous. Parcel boundaries that meet at a single point are not contiguous.*

***Application continued on the next page.***

## 4. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

### INSTRUCTIONS:

Fill in the following background information of the proposed AEA. Provide as much detail as possible in order to create a clear picture of the area where the AEA is proposed. Assume everyone on the evaluation committee is unfamiliar with the community and local culture of your proposed AEA. You may include maps and photos to support your narrative. Additional instructions are included under each subsection.

### A. PROPOSED AEA AREA INTRODUCTION

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

Write a clear, detailed narrative describing the local agricultural community. As part of the narrative, discuss the local agricultural culture, history, and general importance of this area. You can also include challenges faced by the local agricultural community. Use this introduction to tell the evaluation committee the importance of the agricultural or rural identity within the proposed AEA boundaries.

Woodland Township is in the heart of the Driftless Area. I like to call it the panhandle of Sauk County. The area consists of rolling hills and deep valleys interspersed with cold water streams and scenic bluffs.

The Plum Valley watershed covers a large portion of Woodland Township and has a long history of soil conservation efforts. On Feb. 4, 1946, the Plum Valley Conservation Cooperative was formed when 46 farmers met at the first meeting.

Due to outdated farming practices and highly erodible lands, severe soil erosion had taken place. After many years of hands-on efforts, conditions improved. This Driftless area had been a hidden gem in SW Wisconsin for many years. Over the last 10-20 years this has changed as many people have discovered the scenic beauty of this area. Land prices have risen very quickly in the last few years, putting a financial pinch on farmers.

I'm all for programs that can help preserve what we have here. (Andrew Ennis)

### B. CURRENT LAND USE AND LAND USE TRENDS

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

While filling out the following information, consider citing existing information or maps from the county's farmland preservation plan or local comprehensive plans.

1. Describe ALL current land uses (both agricultural and non-agricultural) within the proposed AEA OR attach a current land use map with a table or short narrative that explains what the map depicts. For assistance in creating a land use map, please contact DATCP staff at (608) 224-4611 or [DATCPWorkingLands@Wisconsin.gov](mailto:DATCPWorkingLands@Wisconsin.gov).
2. Provide information about land use trends in and around the AEA. This can include, but not limited to, information about development trends, number of new septic systems, population growth, infrastructural changes, agricultural trends, local zoning, protected natural areas, and external pressures to agriculture.
3. Select ALL of the main types of agricultural production and agricultural activities within the proposed AEA. Provide a short description where applicable.

#### CURRENT LAND USE WITHIN THE AEA

The area within the proposed Woodland AEA is primarily rolling agricultural lands with the steepest ridges covered in hardwoods, typical of the driftless region of southwest Wisconsin. There is one small unincorporated hamlet located within the proposed area and a single-family residential area surrounding Dutch Hollow Lake. These two areas will be excluded from the proposed AEA. Land use in the area is almost entirely agriculturally based, specifically hay land, perennial pastures and row crops. Several dairy farms are still milking in this area and beef production is continuing to grow. Small forestry-based manufacturing facilities, such as milling raw timber and pallet manufacturing are dotted throughout the area. Several on farm greenhouses retail flowers, shrubs, trees and produce reside in and near the proposed AEA. There is at least one seed and



chemical company based within the proposed area, as well as a 20 acre gravel mine. The two main tributaries flowing through this area are Plum Creek in the north and Little Baraboo River in the south.

#### LAND USE TRENDS IN AND AROUND THE AEA

Much like other parts of the Sauk county, the adoption of rotational grazing has been steadily increasing in this region. With some stream corridors still being over grazed by cattle and horses, progress is being made to better manage permanent cover in those sensitive areas.

#### TYPES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION *(Select all that apply)*

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Row Crops <i>(specify)</i><br>hay/corn/beans                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grazing                                       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal Conservation Programs <i>(specify)</i> CRP                  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specialty Crops <i>(specify)</i> mums,<br>flowers, green houses | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dairy   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Conservation Programs <i>(specify)</i><br>streambank projects |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetable <i>(specify)</i>   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beef  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Conservation Efforts <i>(specify)</i>                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Organic <i>(specify)</i>   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Livestock <i>(specify)</i><br>horse/pig | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <i>(specify)</i> tree, plant nursery                          |

### C. LAND USE CONTROLS AND PLANS IN PROPOSED AEA

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

Select ALL of the land use controls and plans in the proposed AEA. Provide a short description, map or additional information where applicable.

- ☒ Farmland preservation zoning ordinance
- ☒ Subdivision ordinances
- ☒ Other zoning ordinances (Manure Storage, Livestock Facility Siting, Wellhead protection, etc.) *(specify)* County wide manure storage ordinance
- ☐ Purchase of development rights and/or easements (donated or purchased)
- ☐ Transfer of development rights
- ☒ Farmland preservation agreements
- ☐ Cooperative boundary agreements/inter-municipal agreements
- ☐ Natural area protections or conservation program activities (state and/or federal) *(specify)*
- ☒ Comprehensive plan *(specify)* Town of Woodland Comprehensive Plan (2024)/Sauk County Comprehensive Plan (2009)
- ☐ Other programs or activities showing a commitment to water quality and/or soil health *(specify)*

### E. CONSERVATION COMPLIANCE

Agricultural performance standards used help to reduce agricultural non-point source pollution of surface water resources, to protect agricultural resources including farmland soils, surface waters, and groundwater, protect air quality, and keep applied nutrients in the soil for plant growth. Conservation compliance is monitored by the county conservation department. Your local county conservation department should be your main point of contact when filling out this section.

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Indicate the approximate level of petitioner conservation compliance within the proposed AEA.
2. Provide a brief rationale describing the factors contributing to this level of conservation compliance (or lack thereof).

LEVEL OF PETITIONER CONSERVATION COMPLIANCE

- ☒ Nearly all petitioners are in compliance
- ☐ More than half of the petitioners are in compliance
- ☐ Half or less than half of the petitioners are in compliance
- ☐ Few or no petitioners are in compliance
- ☐ Compliance status of petitioners is unknown

FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO LEVEL OF CONSERVATION COMPLIANCE

Several petitioners have land enrolled in CRP, or well managed rotationally grazed pastures that meet state conservation standards. Two other cropland farmers already have nutrient management plans already in place.

***Application continued on the next page.***

## 5. PURPOSE AND RATIONALE

### INSTRUCTIONS:

Fill in the following information for the purpose and rationale for the proposed AEA. Provide as much detail as possible to justify the creation of this proposed AEA. Since DATCP may only designate 2 million AEA acres statewide, use this section to justify to the evaluation committee why this proposed AEA should be a part of this 2 million AEA acres. You may include maps and photos to support your narrative. Additional instructions are included under each subsection.

### A. MAIN JUSTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED AEA

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

State the main justification for creating the proposed AEA and preserving the agricultural land use in the area. Consider including information about land use conflicts, development pressures, promotion of conservation practices, interest in preserving farmland or rural character of proposed AEA, interest in tax credit and conservation compliance, and other external pressures contributing to the desire to preserve farmland.

**The interest in establishing an AEA in this area originated from two different perspectives. Some of the petitioners are looking to help buffer the advancement of more mechanically intensive farming practices that are not as conducive to the slopes and highly erodible soils found in the area. With the designation of an AEA they hope there will be more of an incentive for landowners to improve upon their soil conserving practices. Practices such as well managed perennial pastures and enrollment of sensitive land in programs like CRP. Justification for establishing an AEA also comes from landowners who themselves, or their renters, are already following a nutrient management plan and feel they are managing the land in a way that is meeting the state conservation standards. They would like the opportunity to receive the tax credit that their neighbors in the EA zoned townships are able to.**

### B. GOALS FOR AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. State the specific goals for agricultural preservation, development, and/or innovation. Include goals, plans, and agreements planned to promote economic sustainability, resilience and/or growth within the proposed AEA.
2. Explain how you plan to enact the goals identified for the proposed AEA. Briefly described ALL activities including in person or virtual meetings with landowners, planned investments, grants, development incentives, cooperative agreements, land or easement purchases, public outreach activities, and any other activity that supports the proposed AEA's goals.

#### GOALS FOR AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Preserve and maintain existing land uses as well as to provide for future land use considerations that will promote the balance among quality of life, property values, environmental protection, and economic opportunities.

#### PLANS TO MEET AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Grow the mindset of regenerative farming practices. Continue educating producers on financially stable grazing practices that and increase the number of acres covered in well managed perennial pastures.

### C. PROPOSED AEA BOUNDARY

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

Describe the decision making process and the information used to draw the boundary of the proposed AEA. Factors used to determine the proposed AEA Boundary should not be limited to subjective criteria (i.e. landowner personal interests). You should consider and include objective criteria such as watershed boundary, soil types, historical land use, future land use plans, and proximity to agricultural infrastructure. Please note that the AEA boundary MUST follow parcel lines and be

contiguous. This means that the boundary contains parcels that are connected and are not otherwise separated except by roads, utility right-of-ways or bodies of water.

*See Appendix B for additional information on creating an AEA boundary.*

In 2023 when petitioning for a different AEA (Dellona AEA), Sauk County reached out through mailings across the four northern townships in Sauk county that do not have Exclusive Ag zoning. The response received was too scattered across too large an area to qualify for an AEA. The final petition remained close to the original area the support originated from in Dellona but some interest remained, three townships over, in Woodland township. After the outreach efforts (see 6A) were completed specifically in Woodland, and letters of support were received, a preliminary map was made. The interested participants were well spread throughout the township with the only other interested parties outside of the township, located too far to be included. Being that Woodland township borders 3 other counties, we decided that the best chance of receiving a designation this year would be to stick within the township and not reach out to surrounding counties. We would be open to future modification if neighboring counties brought interest. The township line on the north, west, and south sides offer a clean, clear boundary and will be clear to future landowners interested in signing an agreement. On the east-central side of the township, straddling the town line, lies Dutch Hollow Lake. The land directly surrounding the lake is zoned single family residential. Land extending beyond the SFR zoning, for roughly one-third of a mile is a planned transition zone. One other excluded area to note is a 473 acre unincorporated hamlet in the south center portion of Woodland which is also a planned transition area and would be excluded from the AEA.

***Application continued on the next page.***

## 6. PETITION PUBLIC PROCESS AND OUTREACH

### INTRODUCTION:

Provide information about the public outreach strategy that was used during the petition development process as well as the future process to encourage landowner participation within the AEA if designated. You may include any flyers, advertisements, informational/educational materials or photos from your public process to support the narrative. Additional instructions are included under each subsection.

### A. AEA PETITION PUBLIC PROCESS

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

Describe the process used to involve the public within the petition process and publicly share information about the proposed AEA, establish the boundary, identify farm owner petitioners, identify non-petitioning co-operators, and notify non-petitioners within the proposed boundary. Provide details on the number and dates of public meetings held (both virtual and in person), number of mailings, door-to-door outreach efforts, newspaper advertisements or articles, and/or any other efforts made to connect with the community.

The Land Resources and Environment was approached by 2 different landowners in the township of Woodland. One was a former Farmland Preservation agreement holder, the other inquired about the Farmland Preservation program after hearing about the increase tax credit. These initial landowners were on opposite ends of the township. We provided AEA information to the landowners and they circulated that information to neighboring landowners and family members. The landowner representative even spoke at a townhall meeting to drum up more interest. Our department reached out to other landowners who also had agreements in the past or people we've worked with over the last few years. The main proponents of the petition, along with county staff, called or visited several of their neighboring landowners and encouraged them to attend an informational meeting or to contact the Land Resources and Environment Department for more information on establishing an AEA. Mailers were sent out to previous agreement holders as well as news releases in the local paper. Sauk county staff presented at the Woodland township board meeting and in doing so received additional signed letters of support, as well as overwhelming support by the town representatives. The locations of the supporting parties were then mapped out. The support was spread across the entire township with no major impediments of continuity. A few additional landowners in nearby townships did contact our office about the possibility of establishing an AEA but their parcels were too far removed from the main congregation of interested landowners.

### B. FUTURE OUTREACH STRATEGY

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Describe a future outreach strategy to encourage landowners to participate in the proposed AEA, sign Farmland Preservation Agreements, and achieve conservation compliance. Include details about any virtual or in person future informational meetings, mailings, one-on-one meetings, nutrient management planning classes, and/or any other future efforts made to promote the proposed AEA.
2. Establish a reasonable Farmland Preservation Agreement sign-up goal for the AEA if designated. This could be a number of agreements or a percentage of AEA covered by agreements.

#### OUTREACH PLANS TO MEET AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Future outreach strategies will include newspaper, Facebook and MailChimp advertising of an informational meeting for landowners within the AEA to come and ask questions and learn about conservation compliance. Phone calls will be made to any individuals who had initially responded or shown interest in establishing the AEA. We will host at least one pasture walk during the 2025 grazing season at an AEA participant's farm.

#### FARMLAND PRESERVATION AGREEMENT SIGN-UP GOAL

**Our goal for sign-ups would be 25% of the landowners located in the AEA.**

### C. CURRENT AND FUTURE OUTREACH ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE PROPOSED AEA

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

Provide specific examples of current and future outreach activities within the proposed AEA that will be used to promote the proposed AEA, promote investment, economic development, partner collaboration, conservation education, and farmland preservation. Include activities conducted by any key collaborators (such as UW Extension, NRCS, local land trusts, citizen groups, and producer-led groups), dates and locations associated with each activity. Attach an additional page if more room is required.

<b>Current Activities:</b>	
<u>Type of Activity</u>	<u>Brief Description of Activity</u>
<i>Ex: Joint community marketing</i>	<i>Ex: Producers in the area have formed a producer cooperative to market their products directly to consumers.</i>
<i>Mailer</i>	Letter sent out to prior agreement holders in the general area to gauge interest in new AEA
<i>Mailer</i>	Letter sent out to every landowner (>10ac) within the preliminary boundary, inviting them to informational meeting at town hall
<i>Township meeting</i>	Presented at township meeting promoting the establishment of the AEA.
<i>County FPP informational meeting</i>	The county held 3 informational meetings throughout the county to gather input on the entire FP plan. One of which was in the Woodland township region, which was attended by several of the petitioners.
<b>Future Activities:</b>	
<u>Type of Activity</u>	<u>Brief Description of Activity</u>
<i>Ex: Field Day - Summer 2025</i>	<i>Ex: Farmer Bob is planning to host a field day with the local LCD at his farm for eligible AEA farms to showcase conservation on the farm and talk about the value of Farmland Preservation Program.</i>
<i>Rainfall simulator field day - 2024</i>	Hold a field day at an AEA participant's farm, using the LRE rainfall simulator to demonstrate how a healthier soil is a more resilient and productive soil.
<i>Pasture walk - grazing season 2024</i>	Plan to showcase landowner's rotationally grazing setup, why it works for him and how it meets all of the farmland preservation standards.
<i>Mailing for NMFE grant opportunity-fall 2024</i>	Send out mailers to producers within the AEA boundary advertising the funding available for NMP cost-share.

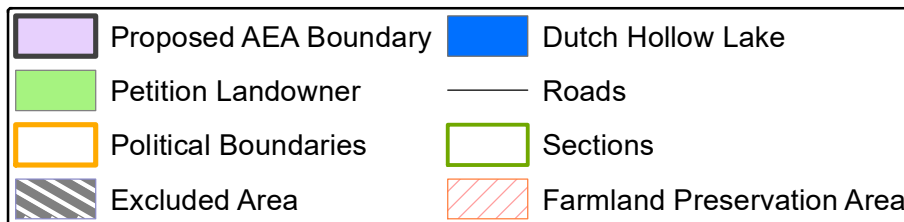
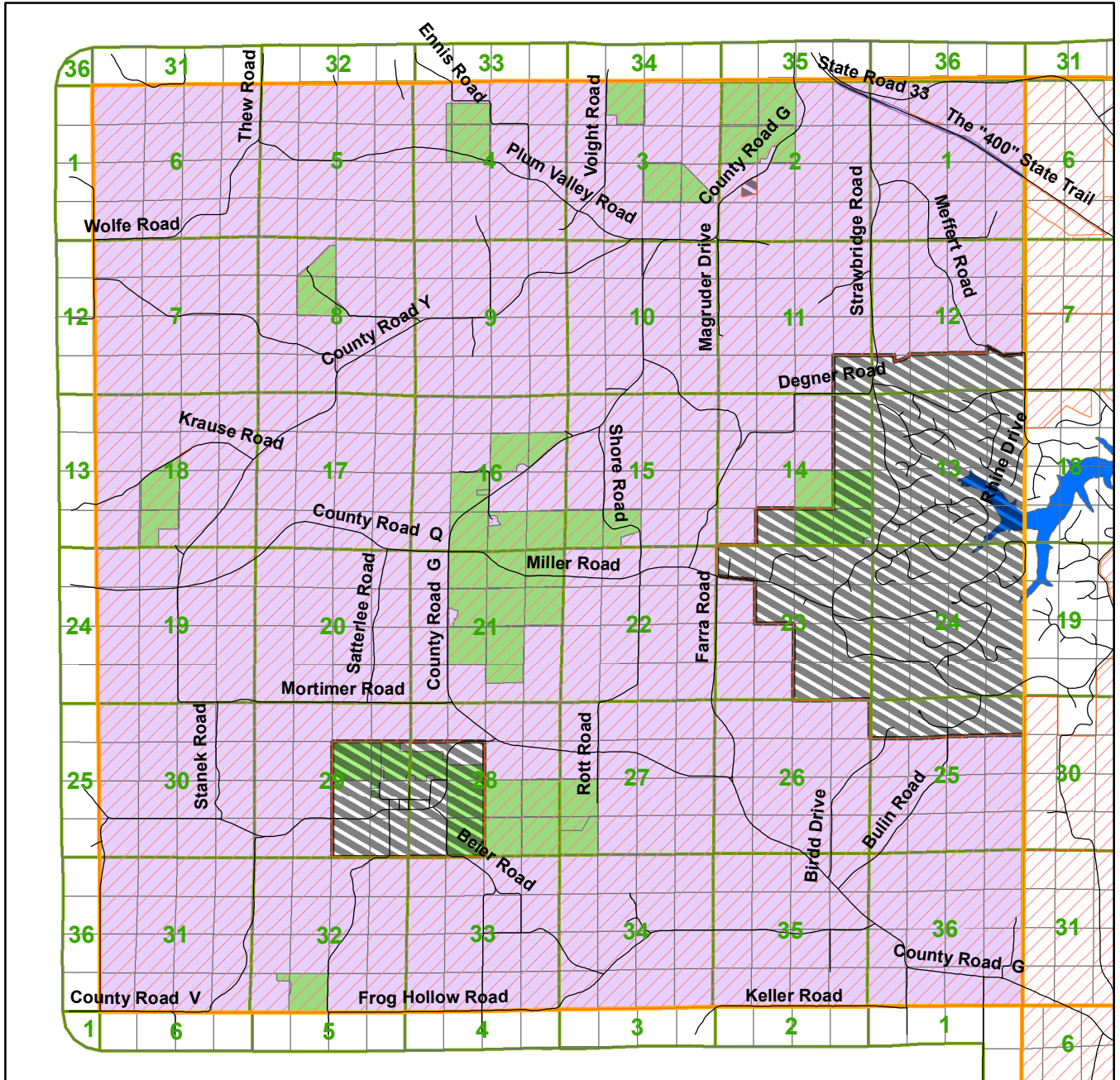
### D. DATCP SUPPORT FOR ACTIVITIES AND OUTREACH

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

Describe any type of assistance DATCP can provide to aid future activity and outreach efforts within the proposed AEA if designated. DATCP can assist with informational mailers, educational materials, speaking presentations, innovative projects, grant proposals and many other activities done to promote the AEA or provide educational opportunities.

DATCP can continue to provide expert assistance at our NMFE trainings held each winter. Mailers promoting NMFE online trainings to current and prospective NMFE participants. Speaking presentation at future crop consultant meetings discussing the expectations of nutrient management.

# Proposed Woodland AEA Boundary Map

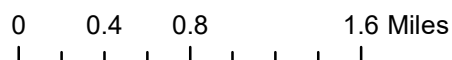
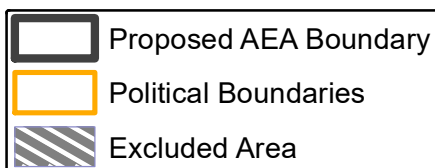
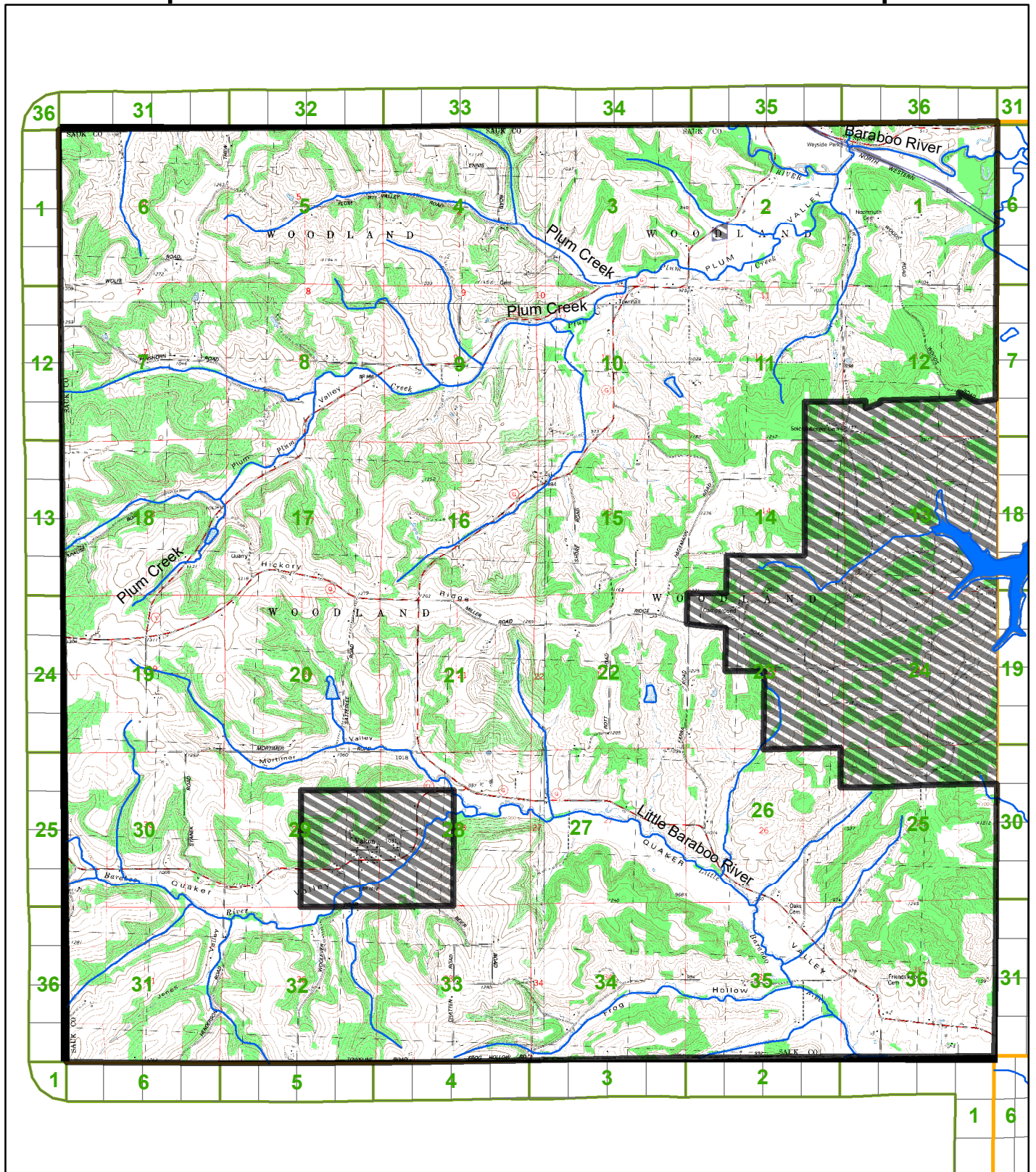


0 0.5 1 2 Miles





# Proposed Woodland AEA Landuse Map





## **Plum Valley Soil Conservation Ass'n Held 20th Anniversary Banquet Saturday**

About 77 members and guests of the Plum Valley Soil Conservation Ass'n. enjoyed a banquet at Dreamland Saturday evening, Feb. 5, commemorating the Association's 20th anniversary.

The group was served a delicious swiss steak dinner; joined in group singing, accompanied by Cheryl Thorsen; heard a reading by Carol Rae Reineke; enjoyed a complete review of 20 years by Mrs. Emil Backeberg; and heard a short talk from a guest speaker, Jim Stevenson of the Sauk County Soil Conservation Service. The group's president, Walter Larson, was master of ceremonies for the event.

Other officers of the Association at the present time are: Vice-president, Don Gross; Secretary, Dale Crandall; and Treasurer, Art Hellpap.

The Association was organized on Feb. 4, 1946 and was the first of its kind in the United States. Perry Carroll, a soil conservation and farm planner was instrumental in helping to organize the group. Forty six farmers met at this first meeting. Today membership is at 20.

The group's activities have been numerous during their 20 years, including: soil testing, strip and contour farming, more grasslands, improved waterways, built terraces, pasture renovation, tree planting, wildlife protection, park development, experimental test plant plots, sponsored a baseball team, dances and several other money raising events, kept a rain gauge record, erected "Welcome to Plum Valley" signs and held numerous picnics at the park and shelter, as well as an annual banquet and Christmas party.

The following won door prizes following the banquet: Mrs. Ervin Schultz, Ivan Hellpap, Arnold Degner and Orval Haas.





The caption for this photo read: THE RAIN GAUGE, supplied by the soil Conservation Service is boarded with a different family each year. After each rain this year John Dreischmier and his wife (Dorothy) carefully record the amount of rain and the period of time in which it fell.

Petitioning Landowner Signature Page

A separate signature page, in the following form, must be signed by the owner of each farm. An authorized individual may sign on behalf of a legal entity. If a farm is jointly owned by a legally married couple, both individuals must sign. Please fill out the information in the gray boxes.

Farm owner (correct legal name(s) or legal name of business entity):

Hearth Ridge Farms

Type of business entity, if applicable (check one):

Individual or married couple ☒

LLC ☐

Corporation ☐

Other (describe) ☐

Partnership ☐

Please check box if you are signing electronically:

☒ I understand that by checking this box, I am indicating that I am an eligible owner of farmland within the proposed Agricultural Enterprise Area (AEA), and that I am offering my support in request for designation of the proposed AEA. This signature page does not mean that I am required to participate in the farmland preservation program, it represents my support of agriculture in this community and the goals of this petition. My electronic (typed) signature has the effect of meeting the signature requirement under s. 91.86(2), Wis. Stats.

Authorized signature:

*Amy Vandette*

Date

4-8-2024

Authorized signature:

*Amy Vandette*

Date

4-8-24

Farm owner address (street, city, zip):

P.O. Box 81 Hillsboro WI 54634

E-mail OR Phone Number:

I (we) currently claim a farmland preservation tax credit (either under farmland preservation zoning or through a farmland preservation agreement).

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ Don't Know

I (we) are interested in maintaining our existing farmland preservation agreement or entering into a new farmland preservation agreement. (Note: To claim the farmland preservation tax credit under a farmland preservation agreement, the farm must meet state soil and water conservation standards.)

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ Maybe



Petitioning Landowner Signature Page

A separate signature page, in the following form, must be signed by the owner of each farm. An authorized individual may sign on behalf of a legal entity. If a farm is jointly owned by a legally married couple, both individuals must sign. Please fill out the information in the gray boxes.

Farm owner (correct legal name(s) or legal name of business entity):

Caleb and Tasha Vandellhi

Type of business entity, if applicable (check one):

Individual or married couple ☒

LLC ☐

Corporation ☐

Other (describe) ☐

Partnership ☐

Please check box if you are signing electronically:



I understand that by checking this box, I am indicating that I am an eligible owner of farmland within the proposed Agricultural Enterprise Area (AEA), and that I am offering my support in request for designation of the proposed AEA. This signature page does not mean that I am required to participate in the farmland preservation program, it represents my support of agriculture in this community and the goals of this petition. My electronic (typed) signature has the effect of meeting the signature requirement under s. 91.86(2), Wis. Stats.

Authorized signature:

Caleb Vandellhi

Date

4/8/24

Authorized signature:

Tasha Vandellhi

Date

4/8/24

Farm owner address (street, city, zip):

E1005 County Rd EE Wausau WI 53968

E-mail OR Phone Number:

I (we) currently claim a farmland preservation tax credit (either under farmland preservation zoning or through a farmland preservation agreement).

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ Don't Know

I (we) are interested in maintaining our existing farmland preservation agreement or entering into a new farmland preservation agreement. (Note: To claim the farmland preservation tax credit under a farmland preservation agreement, the farm must meet state soil and water conservation standards.)

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ Maybe

### Petitioning Landowner Signature Page

A separate signature page, in the following form, must be signed by the owner of each farm. An authorized individual may sign on behalf of a legal entity. If a farm is jointly owned by a legally married couple, both individuals must sign. Please fill out the information in the gray boxes.

Farm owner (correct legal name(s) or legal name of business entity):

Jones O Voigt

Type of business entity, if applicable (check one):

Individual or married couple ☒

LLC ☐

Corporation ☒

Other (describe) ☐

Partnership ☐

Please check box if you are signing electronically:

☐ I understand that by checking this box, I am indicating that I am an eligible owner of farmland within the proposed Agricultural Enterprise Area (AEA), and that I am offering my support in request for designation of the proposed AEA. This signature page does not mean that I am required to participate in the farmland preservation program, it represents my support of agriculture in this community and the goals of this petition. My electronic (typed) signature has the effect of meeting the signature requirement under s. 91.86(2), Wis. Stats.

Authorized signature:

Jones O Voigt

Date

4/23/24

Authorized signature:

Date

Farm owner address (street, city, zip):

5103 Ennis Rd Waukegan, WI 53968

E-mail OR Phone Number:

I (we) currently claim a farmland preservation tax credit (either under farmland preservation zoning or through a farmland preservation agreement).

☐ Yes

☒ No

☐ Don't Know

I (we) are interested in maintaining our existing farmland preservation agreement or entering into a new farmland preservation agreement. (Note: To claim the farmland preservation tax credit under a farmland preservation agreement, the farm must meet state soil and water conservation standards.)

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ Maybe

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Farm owner (correct legal name(s) or legal name of business entity):

Lester Degner Degner Wi LLC

Type of business entity, if applicable (check one):

Individual or married couple ☒

LLC ☐

Corporation ☐

Other (describe) ☐

Partnership ☐

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Authorized signature:

Date

Authorized signature:

Lester Degner

Date

4/8/24

Farm owner address (street, city, zip):

5 167 Cty Rd G Wonebec, WI 53968

E-mail OR Phone Number:

I (we) currently claim a farmland preservation tax credit (either under farmland preservation zoning or through a farmland preservation agreement).

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Don't Know

I (we) are interested in maintaining our existing farmland preservation agreement or entering into a new farmland preservation agreement. (Note: To claim the farmland preservation tax credit under a farmland preservation agreement, the farm must meet state soil and water conservation standards.)

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Maybe

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Farm owner (correct legal name(s) or legal name of business entity):

Andrew R. Ennis

Type of business entity, if applicable (check one):

Individual or married couple ☒

LLC ☐

Corporation ☐

Other (describe) ☐

Partnership ☐

Please check box if you are signing electronically:



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Authorized signature:

A. Ennis

Date

4/8/24

Authorized signature:

Date

Farm owner address (street, city, zip):

5125 Ennis Rd Wauwatosa WI 53968

E-mail OR Phone Number:

ennis90@msn.com

I (we) currently claim a farmland preservation tax credit (either under farmland preservation zoning or through a farmland preservation agreement).

☐ Yes

☒ No

☐ Don't Know

I (we) are interested in maintaining our existing farmland preservation agreement or entering into a new farmland preservation agreement. (Note: To claim the farmland preservation tax credit under a farmland preservation agreement, the farm must meet state soil and water conservation standards.)

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ Maybe

### Petitioning Landowner Signature Page

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Farm owner (correct legal name(s) or legal name of business entity):

Robert J. Perry      Judith A. Perry

Type of business entity, if applicable (check one):

Individual or married couple ☒

LLC ☐

Corporation ☐

Other (describe) ☐

Partnership ☐

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Authorized signature:

Date

Authorized signature:

Date

Farm owner address (street, city, zip):

8644 Larky Dr. Wausau, WI 53968

E-mail OR Phone Number:

wildernessvalley@yahoo.com

I (we) currently claim a farmland preservation tax credit (either under farmland preservation zoning or through a farmland preservation agreement).

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ Don't Know

I (we) are interested in maintaining our existing farmland preservation agreement or entering into a new farmland preservation agreement. (Note: To claim the farmland preservation tax credit under a farmland preservation agreement, the farm must meet state soil and water conservation standards.)

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ Maybe



## Petitioning Landowner Signature Page

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Farm owner (correct legal name(s) or legal name of business entity):

Craig & Ardith L Schroeder Revocable Trust

Type of business entity, if applicable (check one):

Individual or married couple ☒

LLC ☐

Corporation ☐

Other (describe) ☐

Partnership ☐

Please check box if you are signing electronically:



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Authorized signature:

Craig L. Schroeder

Date

4-18-24

Authorized signature:

Ardith L. Schroeder

Date

4-18-24

Farm owner address (street, city, zip):

E1197 Miller Rd Woburn, WI 53968

E-mail OR Phone Number:

cadoo harley@gmail.com

I (we) currently claim a farmland preservation tax credit (either under farmland preservation zoning or through a farmland preservation agreement).

☐ Yes

☒ No

☐ Don't Know

I (we) are interested in maintaining our existing farmland preservation agreement or entering into a new farmland preservation agreement. (Note: To claim the farmland preservation tax credit under a farmland preservation agreement, the farm must meet state soil and water conservation standards.)

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ Maybe



## Petitioning Landowner Signature Page

*A separate signature page, in the following form, must be signed by the owner of each farm. An authorized individual may sign on behalf of a legal entity. If a farm is jointly owned by a legally married couple, both individuals must sign. Please fill out the information in the gray boxes.*

Farm owner (correct legal name(s) or legal name of business entity):

---

Type of business entity, if applicable (check one):

Individual or married couple ☐

LLC ☐

Corporation ☐

Other (describe)

Partnership ☐

**Please check box if you are signing electronically:**

I understand that by checking this box, I am indicating that I am an eligible owner of farmland within the proposed Agricultural Enterprise Area (AEA), and that I am offering my support in request for designation of the proposed AEA. This signature page does not mean that I am required to participate in the farmland preservation program, it represents my support of agriculture in this community and the goals of this petition. My electronic (typed) signature has the effect of meeting the signature requirement under s. 91.86(2), Wis. Stats.

Authorized signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Farm owner address (street, city, zip): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail OR Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

I (we) currently claim a farmland preservation tax credit (either under farmland preservation zoning or through a farmland preservation agreement).

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Don't Know

I (we) are interested in maintaining our existing farmland preservation agreement or entering into a new farmland preservation agreement. *(Note: To claim the farmland preservation tax credit under a farmland preservation agreement, the farm must meet state soil and water conservation standards.)*

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Maybe

### Petitioning Landowner Signature Page

A separate signature page, in the following form, must be signed by the owner of each farm. An authorized individual may sign on behalf of a legal entity. If a farm is jointly owned by a legally married couple, both individuals must sign. Please fill out the information in the gray boxes.

Farm owner (correct legal name(s) or legal name of business entity):

Valton Farm LLC

Type of business entity, if applicable (check one):

Individual or married couple ☐

LLC ☒

Corporation ☒

Other (describe) ☐

Partnership ☐

Please check box if you are signing electronically:

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Authorized signature:

Valton Farm LLC

Date

4-30-2024

Authorized signature:

Wayne W. Wone

Date

4-30-2024

Farm owner address (street, city, zip):

51934 Beaver Rd Woneau 53968

E-mail OR Phone Number:

608-983-2856

I (we) currently claim a farmland preservation tax credit (either under farmland preservation zoning or through a farmland preservation agreement).

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Don't Know

I (we) are interested in maintaining our existing farmland preservation agreement or entering into a new farmland preservation agreement. (Note: To claim the farmland preservation tax credit under a farmland preservation agreement, the farm must meet state soil and water conservation standards.)

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ Maybe

TOWN OF WOODLAND

RESOLUTION 2024-3

WHEREAS, an Agricultural Enterprise Area (AEA) is an area of contiguous land devoted primarily to agricultural use, as designated by the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) through the Wisconsin's Working Lands Initiative in response to a local petition; and

WHEREAS, the designation of an AEA enables farmers to enter into voluntary Farmland Preservation Agreements with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection for a minimum of 10 years and enables farmers to receive income tax credits in return for preserving their land in agricultural use; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Woodland seeks to preserve the agricultural diversity of the area. Dairy, beef, sheep, goats, cash grain crops, maple syrup, honey; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Woodland seeks to maintain a high level of conservation, water quality, fish and wildlife habitat; and

WHEREAS, a group of local landowners approached Sauk County Land Resources and Environment Department to assist with the development of a petition to establish an AEA in the Town of Woodland; and

WHEREAS, participating farmers would be eligible for a tax credit provided they meet compliance with runoff rules established by the ATCP 50; and

WHEREAS, each interested landowner has submitted a signature page in support of establishing an AEA; and

WHEREAS, in order to fully prepare an AEA petition that can be submitted to the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, each political subdivision that has land within the boundary of the proposed AEA must sign a letter of support; and

WHEREAS, the land identified to be part of the Woodland AEA is located within the Town of Woodland and therefore requires the support of the Town Board; and

WHEREAS, be it hereby resolved that the Town of Woodland supports the petition requesting the designation of the Woodland AEA.

Ed Woolever

John Shaker

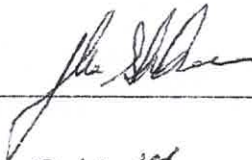
Tim Novy

Chairperson

Supervisor

Supervisor







5-13-24

5-13-24

5-13-24

## Political Subdivision Signature Page

*This signature page must be signed by an authorized officer or representative of every political subdivision (county, town, city or village) in which any part of the proposed AEA is included.*

Political subdivision name:

WOODLAND

Type (check one): County ☐ Town ☒ City ☐ Village ☐



I understand that by checking this box, I am indicating that I am an authorized officer or representative for a ☒ town ☐ city ☐ village or ☐ county within the proposed Agricultural Enterprise Area (AEA), and that we offer our support in request for designation of the proposed AEA. This signature page does not mean that landowners in this political subdivision are required to participate in the farmland preservation program. This signature page reflects support of the agricultural community and the goals of this petition. My electronic (typed) signature has the effect of meeting the signature requirement under s. 91.86(2), Wis. Stats

Authorized Signature:

EDWIN J. WOOLEVER

Date

5/13/2024

Title of authorized officer or representative:

TOWN CHAIRMAN

Principal mailing address:

EDWIN J. WOOLEVER

S614 STRAWBRIDGE RD WC

Phone number:

608-464-3367

E-mail address:

jmejfarm@centurylink.net

### County Conservationist Signature Page

*All county conservationists for the county or counties in which the proposed AEA is located must sign a signature page. If a single AEA is located across multiple counties, a separate signature page is required for the county conservationist in each county.*

County Conservationist name: Melissa Schlupp\_\_\_\_\_

Authorized signature: Melissa Schlupp Date: 6/29/2024

Principal mailing address: 505 Broadway\_\_\_\_\_

Baraboo, WI 53913\_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: 608-355-4838\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address:  
melissa.schlupp@saukcountywi.gov\_\_\_\_\_

### Non-Petitioner Cooperator Signature Page

*Persons other than the petitioners may sign in support of the petition. A separate signature page, or letter of support, may be submitted for each cooperator. An authorized individual may sign on behalf of a legal entity.*

Legal name of cooperator: \_\_\_\_\_

Relevant interest (farm owner, business, nonprofit or community organization, government entity, other):

Principal mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail OR Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

*Briefly describe your interest in signing this petition requesting designation of an agricultural enterprise area:*

Print name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check box if you are signing electronically:**

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Authorized signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_