

Utilities and Community Facilities



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1. Introduction

With respect to utilities and community facilities, Richfield residents are proud of their parks, golf courses, well-maintained Village equipment, responsive fire department, available youth programs, and quality school systems. Perhaps most importantly, residents are pleased that the Village is able to offer (either directly or through others) such quality utilities, community facilities, and services while maintaining a competitive tax rate and no Village debt. This is clearly demonstrated in the 2004 community survey results. However, residents also understand there are challenges to be addressed.

Understanding the location, use and capacity of utilities and community facilities is an important consideration when planning for the future. This information, coupled with the demographic trends and projections, provides a realistic picture of service supply and demand. The community facilities and utilities discussed in this chapter were carefully considered in the development of the future land use maps.

As may be appropriate, SEWRPC suggests that communities address the following in preparing the Utilities and Community Facilities Element:¹

- The provision of centralized sewerage and water supply facilities for urban development, consistent with recommendations contained in regional plans and community plans.
- The preparation of detailed storm water management plans for logical sub basins within the framework of watersheds that provide recommendations to resolve flooding problems on an area wide basis. Storm water management plans should ensure that the accommodation of new development and redevelopment will not jeopardize investment made in resolving existing flooding problems by contributing to increased flood flows. Detailed storm water management planning requires quantitative systems analysis to help determine the best combination of storage and conveyance improvements to achieve the desired result.
- Communities should adopt policies and ordinances to implement utility plans that are structured so as to ensure that new development pays its "fair share" in terms of providing the infrastructure needed to accommodate that development. Existing residents and taxpayers should not be expected to subsidize the cost of providing infrastructure to support new development. By the same token, the costs associated with addressing existing utility and facility deficiencies should not be placed as a burden solely on new development.
- Communities should provide a level of law enforcement, fire suppression, and emergency medical services appropriate to the intensity and type of development called for in the land use plan element.
- Communities should keep abreast of and, as may be appropriate, incorporate into local plan development proposals of those utilities typically provided by the private sector. These include telecommunications

Want to Learn More?

The Agricultural, Natural & Cultural Resources Chapter includes information about the soils and associated development limitations in the area. This would include soil suitability for on-site septic systems and buildings.

The Transportation Element Chapter includes information about potential trail facilities.

The Intergovernmental Cooperation Element Chapter considers the opportunity to develop a consolidated high school and boundary agreements for shared services.

¹ SEWRPC Staff Memorandum. *Comprehensive Planning at the Regional Level in Southeastern Wisconsin: Building a Framework for "Smart Growth" Planning and Development.* March 2003.

facilities, electric power generation plants, health care facilities, childcare facilities, solid waste recycling and disposal facilities, and cemeteries.

- Communities should develop policies and procedures to ensure the coordinated timing of the provision of needed utility and community facilities with acceptance of new development and redevelopment, including land divisions.

2. Utilities and Services Inventory

Wastewater Collection & Treatment

Development in the Village is accommodated with private, on-site sanitary wastewater treatment systems. These systems must comply with the state plumbing code (COMM 25.02), which is designed to ensure that systems do not threaten groundwater resources. Moreover, these individual systems must be properly permitted by Washington County and maintained (e.g., pumped out) as required by County ordinance.

As is discussed more in the Agricultural, Natural and Cultural Resources Chapter, soils in the Village are well suited for development utilizing individual sanitary systems. The costs associated with the development of a Village-wide municipal sewer system are exorbitant given the scattered, rural, low-density nature of development. However, there is some potential for shared systems in the Village’s one Walkable Hamlet Area to accommodate the more compact development.

The Village fully supports the continued use of private on-site facilities to handle wastewater needs, including innovative treatment systems, as approved by the Village and County. Based on soil conditions, anticipated development densities, and state laws governing the quality of individual systems, a municipal sanitary system is not needed in the Village.

New Sanitary System Choices

In July 2000, the Wisconsin Department of Commerce implemented an administrative rule known as COMM 83. This rule allows homebuilders to install nine new kinds of innovative septic systems. The rule allows for development in areas that cannot be served by conventional systems.

Storm Water Management²



Richfield is part of four different major watersheds: Rock River watershed (80% of the Village); Milwaukee River watershed (13%); Menomonee River watershed (5%), and Fox River watershed (2%). The headwaters of three southeastern Wisconsin river systems are located in the Village: Fox River, Oconomowoc River, and Bark River. Other surface waters include three large lakes, Bark, Friess, and Lake Five (over 50 acres in size), and several smaller lakes.

To protect the quality of the surface and groundwater, Richfield has adopted several storm water management requirements. Ordinances include performance standards pertaining to the development of on-site storm water management plans, practices and facilities. Specifically, Village Ordinance No. 99-01-02, § 1.09(4), 1-21-1999) requires all new development provide an on-site storm water management plan (or regional plan) to adhere to specific engineering requirements related to the quantity (e.g., peak flow) and quality of storm water runoff. The ordinances specifically require the developer / subdivider / landowner to construct storm water drainage facilities, adequate to serve the land division which may include curbs and gutters, catch basins and inlets, storm sewers, road ditches, culverts, open channels, water retention structures, and settling basins. All such facilities shall be of adequate size and grade to hydraulically accommodate the maximum potential volumes of flow through and from within the

² Refer to the Agricultural, Natural and Cultural Resources Element for more information about the Village’s water resources.

land division and shall be so designed as to prevent and control soil erosion and sedimentation and to present no hazards to life or property.

These regulations are designed to minimize stream bank erosion, protect surface water, wetlands, and groundwater resources. The guiding principles of the Village's ordinance seek to:

1. Plan and implement storm water management techniques in a manner that best fits the terrain of the site, avoiding steep slopes and other environmentally sensitive areas;
2. Preserve natural watershed boundaries and drainage patterns;
3. Maintain groundwater recharge areas and the infiltration capacity of native soils by avoiding the unnecessary filling of large natural depressions or compaction of upper soil horizons by construction equipment;
4. Utilize natural or constructed vegetated swales or reinforced permeable open channels for storm water conveyance and attenuation;
5. Minimize impervious surfaces and have them drain to vegetated areas for flow attenuation, pollutant filtering and groundwater recharge; and
6. Reserve adequately sized areas to allow for detention of flows and treatment of pollutants from storm water before being discharged from the site.

Given the importance of the Village's streams, rivers and lakes, there are increasing concerns about the impact of storm water runoff on the quality of local water resources. Of significant concern is the impact of additional impervious surface area. As development occurs, additional streets, parking areas and buildings are constructed. Within a watershed, as impervious surface area increases, area streams and lakes are adversely impacted. In fact, relatively low levels of impervious coverage can have a significant impact on the quality of area streams. To mitigate these impacts, the Village has a best management practice design standards ordinance in place (Ord. No. 99-01-02, § 1.10(2), 1-21-1999). Storm water best management practices seek to reduce storm water pollutant loads, maintain ground water recharge and quality, protect stream channels and safely maintain the 100-year floodplain. Successful BMP's include ponds, wetlands, infiltration, filtering systems, and open drainage channels. In addition to BMPs the Village can also continue to pursue the following activities:

- **Watershed planning.** All watershed-planning activities in the Village should be coordinated with the Washington County Land Conservation Department to identify critical habitats, aquatic corridors, and water pollution areas.
- **Land conservation and site design techniques.** Land conservation techniques include: cluster and conservation subdivisions, setbacks, buffers, and land acquisition. New residential developments in the Village utilize these approaches to maintain common open space, scenic views, and natural areas as part of developments. Effective site design techniques would encourage the use of natural landscaping, limit impervious surface, enforce setbacks and buffers, and protect natural resources. Subdivision design techniques such as "conservation subdivisions" would require open space areas to retain and absorb storm water.
- **Aquatic buffers.** Aquatic buffers are natural areas on either side of area streams to buffer against runoff. The Washington County Shoreland Zoning Ordinance requires a permit for any filling or grading activity within 300' of any navigable stream as a minimum to protect streams from harmful impacts.
- **Erosion and sediment control.** Approximately 4.6 miles, or 12.7 percent of the total area of the Village has slopes in excess of 12 percent. These areas are particularly at risk for erosion and have limited



development potential. Typically, erosion and sediment control requirements most often relate to construction sites. Probably one of the most effective construction techniques to mitigate erosion and sediment is to reduce the time that soil is exposed. As with the other mitigation techniques outlined in this subsection, education will be critical to success.

Water Supply

Drinking water is generally obtained from individual, private wells. The one exception is the well serving the Reflections Village development, located off of STH 175. There is no municipal water system serving Richfield. In 2004 Richfield took a proactive stance towards our vital natural resources and adopted the State’s first “Groundwater Protection Ordinance” to safeguard all its residents who rely solely on groundwater. Ten years later, even with increased development, average groundwater levels have risen nearly 3’ overall since 2004.

What is particularly unique about the water supply in Richfield is that the recharge areas of the aquifer from which residents obtain their drinking water are located within the Village. That means residents are actually drinking water from a source located very close to their homes. This differs from most communities in that water supplies are pulled from the ground a great distance away from the recharge areas. This is significant because as water moves through the ground it is filtered. Therefore, the greater the distance from recharge area to a well, the more opportunity there is for the water to purify. Because the recharge area for the local groundwater supply is so close to local wells, any contamination of groundwater in recharge area is quite likely to make itself immediately apparent in the groundwater supply.

Given the generally low density of single-family residential development it would be very difficult to establish a cost-effective system to efficiently serve all areas of the community. Therefore, it is important that Village residents seek to maintain groundwater quality through construction site and agricultural erosion control practices, private sanitary system maintenance and periodic groundwater studies. Additional information about the groundwater supply is provided in the Agricultural, Natural and Cultural Resources Element.

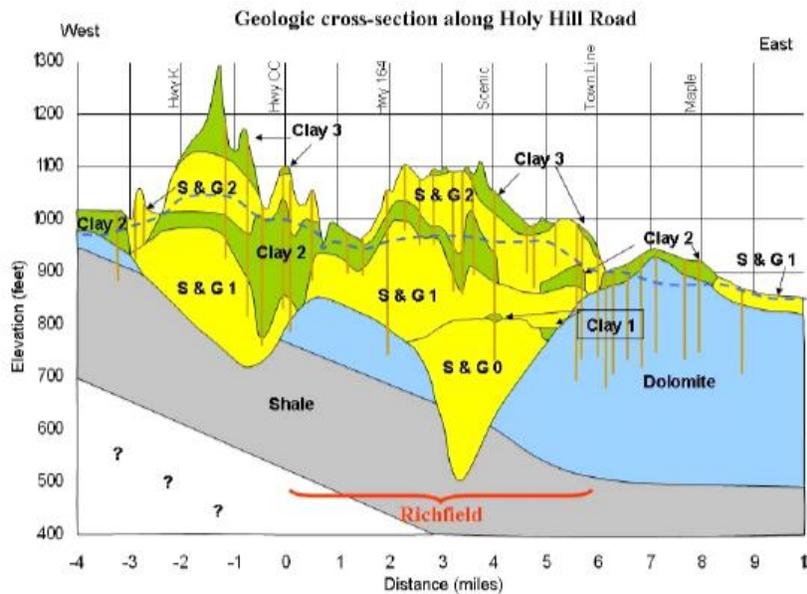


Figure 1 Geologic cross-section through Richfield (miles 0 to 6) and parts of Erin (miles -4 to 0) and Germantown (miles 6 to 10).

Yellow is sand/gravel (outwash); green is clay (till); blue is Niagara dolostone; gray is Maquoketa shale. Dashed blue line is water table, and vertical brown lines are the wells used to define the geology. Numbers on the glacial layers represent 4 advances (clay) and retreats (sand/gravel) of the ice. Depth of the bedrock valleys at miles -1 and 3 is estimated.

Electricity and Natural Gas

WE Energies provides natural gas and electrical service to the Village. Transmission lines are owned and maintained by American Transmission Company (ATC). These companies have a long history of supplying safe, reliable, and reasonably priced service. The nearest power plant is located in Germantown. Several large transmission lines extend from this back-up plant facility. Neither WE Energies, nor ATC, see any foreseeable problems in continuing to provide natural gas and electricity service to the Village in the future. There are no plans for changes, upgrades, or rerouting of gas or transmission lines in the Village at this time. Planned upgrades in nearby communities will serve the Village.

Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling

Advanced Disposal and Waste Management are available to provide weekly garbage and recycling pick-up for residents and businesses in the Village. Residents and businesses can choose which provider they would like to contract with. Both companies welcome new customers and do not anticipate problems meeting future waste and recycling needs.

The Village also offers limited recycling at the Village Recycling Center for residents. Commercial enterprises and contractors are prohibited. Village employees staff the facility on the first and third Saturdays of each month as well as the second and fourth Thursday of each month. Some items are received at no charge and others require a service charge. Additional information is available from the Village website.



Police Protection

The Washington County Sheriff's Office has provided police protection to the Village since 2007. The Sheriff's Office assigns two full time patrol positions to the Village and supplements resources as needed to provide 24/7 seamless protection. The deputies work out of the Village Hall and enforce local ordinances in addition to county ordinances and state and federal law.

The Patrol Division of the Washington County Sheriff's Office had a staff of 58 full-time deputies in 2013. In addition, 22 part-time Special Deputies provide contract security for area events and assist in the transport of prisoners.

In order to efficiently serve Washington County, the Sheriff's Department has divided the County into three separate protection zones: North Area (Hwy 33 north to the County Line); Central Area (Between STH 33 and STH 60); South Area (From STH 60 to the County Line). Each zone is assigned staff to cover that portion of the County. This arrangement ensures that the deputies are well dispersed and familiar with the communities they patrol. Richfield is in the same zone as the Town of Erin, Town of Germantown, and portions of the towns of Hartford, Polk, and Jackson.

The number of deputies on duty at any given time varies somewhat by the shift. Annually, the Washington County Sheriff's Department evaluates its staffing needs based on caseload and patrol time. The Sheriff's Department has seen a steady increase in its workload and has sought to maintain its staff accordingly.

The Washington County Sheriff's Department has mutual aid agreements with all municipalities in the County. Should a municipality require back-up assistance, the Washington County Sheriff's Department is able to respond promptly. These agreements are reciprocal such that municipal departments are available to assist Washington County, if needed.



The Village is a very active area of the County given the many state and county highways that traverse the community, as well as the Village's growing population (e.g., more people brings need for additional protection due to increases in traffic, accidents, emergencies). Emergency response times vary depending on the time of day and the nearest deputy. According to the Washington County Sheriff, the county has very good emergency response times and a positive relationship with the Village. Good communication is critical to continued success of police protection efforts in Richfield.

The traditional Wisconsin standard for police protection is 1.86 officers/1,000 persons. The FBI Standard is 2 officers/1,000 persons. Based on an estimated service population of 51,183 in 2013, the County had 1.02 officers/1,000 people. While this is below the general standards, the Washington County Sheriff's Department does have back-up assistance available through mutual aid agreements. Moreover, the Sheriff's Department annually evaluates its personnel needs based on actual caseload and response times. Using these more specific standards, the Department is providing necessary coverage to the County at this time and is committed to maintaining protection over time.



Fire Protection and Ambulance

The Richfield Volunteer Fire Company, established in 1900, serves over 12,000 people living in the service area of 47 square miles (36 square miles in Richfield, 8 square miles in the Town of Erin, and 3 square miles in the Town of Polk). The company has mutual aid agreements with all Washington County fire departments, Lisbon, Stonebank, Menomonee Falls (for special services), and the Washington County dive team. The company is a public department dispatched through Washington County 911. Members are volunteers with three full-time day personnel. All members carry a pager.



The Richfield Volunteer Fire Company offers a combination of fire and rescue services with specialties in water rescue and vehicle extraction. All members are trained EMT and/or fire fighter certified. As of August 2013, there were 59 personnel affiliated with the company, including firefighters, firefighter/EMTs, and EMTs. The Richfield Volunteer Fire Company seeks to maintain 66 firefighters who can operate within the three groups. Ideally, each group will have 22 firefighters, 1 chief, 2 engine crews, 3 tanker drivers, and 2 rescue crews.



The Richfield Volunteer Fire Company maintains a fleet of vehicles available to meet its needs. The Fire Company purchased a new fire truck engine in 2012 and there are no current plans to purchase another vehicle within the next five (5) years. The company seeks to replace fire units after 20 years of service. Engines will stay on the front line for 20 years and then become reserve engines for an additional 20 years. Ambulances are scheduled for replacement after ten (10) years of service.

Station 1 was constructed in 1950. It has 9,270 square feet, including eight bays, four office areas and a large hall. Station 2 was constructed in 1974. Station 2 has 3,780 square feet, including six bays, an office area and a small meeting area. Station 3 was constructed in 1952. Within its 1,500 square feet of space is one bay and one open office area. Station 4 was constructed in 1955, but is no longer in active use.

The Richfield Volunteer Fire Department has a scattered system of pressurized sources, cisterns, dry hydrants, and open water draft sites (Map 4).

In 2013, the Richfield Volunteer Fire Company received approval from the Plan Commission to modify the roofline of Fire Station No.1, located at 2008 STH 175 to accommodate their larger-sized vehicles. Given the large coverage area and the fact that the volunteers are spread throughout the community, the locations of the existing stations is working well. The average response time from the station is within four minutes. On-scene response times average six to eight minutes from the time of the page to the volunteers.

The Insurance Services Office (ISO) evaluates the adequacy of municipal fire protection for communities across the country. The ISO provides criteria used by insurance grading engineers to classify the fire defense and physical conditions of municipalities. ISO ratings are used throughout the United States in establishing base rates for fire

insurance. While ISO does not presume to dictate the level of fire protection services that should be provided by a municipality, its reports generally contain recommendations for correcting any serious deficiencies and, over the years, have been accepted as guides by many municipal officials in planning improvements in their fire-fighting services. The ratings assigned by ISO are based on an analysis of fire department equipment, alarm systems, water supply, fire prevention programs, building construction, and distance of potential hazard areas, from a fire department station. In rating a community, total deficiency points in the several areas of evaluation are used to assign a numerical rating of 1 to 10, with "1" representing the best protection and "10" representing an essentially unprotected community. The Richfield Volunteer Fire Company is rated as a "6" for response calls in the Village which are less than five (5) road miles and anything over five (5) road miles they were rated as a "10" in 2012. The rating of "6" for any response call less than 5 road miles is extremely good for a department without municipal water. In fact, it is one of the best in the State for a department without municipal water.

Future challenges and objectives of the Richfield Volunteer Fire Company include:

- Coordination with Richfield, Erin, and Polk to encourage subdivision street connection for easier access and to accommodate tanker shuttle operation.
- Working with local municipalities to pursue the development of ordinances to require structures over a certain square footage to have a sprinkler system.
- Investigating the need for additional water supply access points for outlying coverage areas.
- Increasing call volumes and the strain it puts on volunteers.
- Addressing high turnover issues with younger volunteers due to relocation or hiring by full-time departments.
- The need to expand their facilities either at Fire Station No. 2 (1101 STH 164), acquire new land and build a new station, or work on an agreement with the Village to build a new facility on the Heritage Park campus.
- Fulfilling training requirements, particularly for EMTs.

Reliance on volunteers may become an issue as the community continues to grow, particularly given that many people leave the community during weekdays for employment. As a result, the potential exists for staff shortages during daytime hours to meet local needs.

3. Community Facilities

This portion of the chapter profiles the community facilities available to Village residents. Facilities operated by Washington County and private providers are also discussed. These additional facilities meet resident needs with no or reduced cost to the Village.

Park and Recreation Facilities

The Village adopted an updated park and recreation plan in 2013 that identifies various parks in the Village and establishes goals, objectives, and policies for the provision of park facilities. Facilities were categorized by level of service standards described in Exhibit 6-1. Those parks that were owned by the Village or by Washington County are listed in Table 6-2 and depicted on Map 4. More than 350 acres of parkland were available in 2013. Glacier

Table 6-1. Fire District Activity: 1993-2013

Year	Rescue Calls	Fire Calls
1993	203	54
1994	210	69
1995	223	77
1996	204	91
1997	239	70
1998	236	67
1999	240	81
2000	260	76
2001	261	57
2002	275	93
2003	285	75
2004	292	71
2005	310	94
2006	315	77
2007	304	62
2008	373	84
2009	352	104
2010	373	114
2011	378	74
2012	425	97
2013	356	78

Source: Richfield Volunteer Fire Company



Hills Park is the largest and is classified as a regional park.

Exhibit 6-1 Level of Service Standard for Parks

Type	Description	Typical Size	Per Capita Standard	Accessibility Standard
Neighborhood	A Neighborhood Park is usually designated to serve a residential neighborhood or subdivision. Neighborhood Parks typically include playground equipment, unmarked play areas and picnic facilities. Larger neighborhood parks may include basic baseball/softball fields, courts (tennis, volleyball, basketball, etc.), picnic areas, or restroom facilities. These parks should be within comfortable walking distances of the intended users.	5 to 10 acres	3.3 acres per 1,000 persons	1/4 to 1/2 mile radius
Community	Community Parks are intended to serve passive and active recreational needs of several neighborhoods or subdivisions. These parks include all of the improvements found in neighborhood parks as well as other possible features such as, lighted athletic fields, courts designed for competitive athletics, swimming pools, walking trails, restrooms, picnic shelters or pavilions. They may also contain areas of environmental significance that are classified as conservation lands. These parks are usually located within a short drive or walk of the intended users.	30 to 50 acres	3.1 acres per 1,000 persons	1/3 to 3 mile radius
Regional	Regional Parks are intended to serve multiple communities over a wide geographic region. These parks encompass large areas and typically include surface water and/or environmentally significant areas. They may also offer boating, swimming, picnicking, fishing, camping, extended trails, or nature centers. The development of new regional parks is beyond the scope of this document and is typically initiated by higher levels of government.	100+ acres	5 to 10 acres per 1,000 persons	One hour driving time
Special Use	Special Use Parks are public or privately owned recreational and open space areas that are designed to serve a specific purpose. Special use parks may include a public plaza or memorial, golf course, swimming pool, nature center, marina, zoo, downhill ski area or other discreet recreational use. Special use parks also include unique open space areas in otherwise developed commercial or industrial districts.	Variable	Variable	Variable
Conservancy	Conservancy parks are usually maintained for the protection of natural and/or cultural resource, such as wetlands, critical habitats for rare, threatened or endangered animal or plant species, historical sites, or areas for geological or glacial significance. Passive park features such as trails and nature centers are found in these areas. Size, per capita standards, and accessibility standards are variable for each of these categories.	Variable	Variable	Variable

Table 6-2 Public Parks: 2013

Reference Number on Map 4	Name	Acres	Type	Ownership	Features / Facilities
1	Glacier Hills Park	140.0	Regional	Washington County	Hiking trails, cross country ski trails, nature center, volleyball & basketball, playground equipment, sledding hill
2	Historical Park	33.0	Special Use	Village of Richfield	Messer-Mayer Mill historic site, walking trails, picnicking
3	Nature Park (Coney Nature Preserve)	92.0	Community	Village of Richfield	Nature trails, observation deck, horse riding, bird watching shelter
4	Heritage Park	66.5	Community	Village of Richfield	Baseball & soccer fields, tennis & volleyball courts, picnicking & shelter parking; playground equipment, walking trail, parking
5	Herman Wolf (Richfield) Park	13.7	Community	Village of Richfield	Baseball field, tennis & basketball courts, picnicking & shelter; playground equipment
6	Bark Lake Park	4.8	Neighborhood	Village of Richfield	Playground equipment, picnic/shelter areas
7	Wild Marsh Landing Boat Launch	0.6	Special Use	State of Wisconsin	Boat access to Friess Lake consisting of boat ramp and parking lot
8	Bark Lake Boat Launch	2.1	Special Use	State of Wisconsin	Boat access to Bark Lake consisting of boat ramp and parking lot

Source: Village of Richfield *Comprehensive Park, Outdoor Recreation and Open Space Plan: 2013-2017*

The Village has numerous schools within its boundaries. These schools own and maintain a variety of baseball/softball fields, basketball courts, and playground equipment (Table 6-3 and Map 4). Although these areas are not owned by

the Village, the amenities and activities associated with the areas serve a similar purpose to Village-owned neighborhood parks. With the exception of the 40 acres of conservancy land owned by Friess Lake School, the remaining areas are considered neighborhood parks.

Table 6-3 Public and Private School Owned Playgrounds and Open Space Areas: 2013

Reference Number on Map 4	Name	Acres	Type	Ownership	Features / Facilities
School # 1	Amy Belle School	8.5	Neighborhood	School District	Playground equipment, ball fields, basketball courts
School # 2	Richfield School	8.8	Neighborhood	School District	Playground equipment, ball fields, basketball courts
School # 3	Friess Lake School	27.0	Neighborhood	School District	Playground equipment, ball fields, basketball courts
School # 4	Friess Lake School	40.0	Conservancy	School District	Wooded; undeveloped
School # 5	Plat School	5.0	Neighborhood	School District	Playground equipment, ball fields, basketball courts
School # 6	St. Augustine School	5.0	Neighborhood	Private	Playground equipment, ball fields, basketball courts
School # 7	St. Gabriel Catholic School	5.0	Neighborhood	Private	Playground equipment, soccer fields, basketball courts

Source: Village of Richfield *Comprehensive Park, Outdoor Recreation and Open Space Plan: 2013-2017*

The Village also contains a wide variety of private businesses and organizations that provide park and open space type benefits (Table 6-4 and Map 4). Included in this category are two golf courses (54 total holes), two businesses offering baseball/softball fields and volleyball courts, and two areas with the purpose of promoting hunting, fishing, camping, and a variety of other outdoor activities and education to the countless campers and counselors that it hosts each year. Despite being operated by private businesses and organizations, these sites are important supplements to the public areas within the Village.

Table 6-4 Private Facilities and Outdoor Recreation Areas: 2013

Reference Number on Map 4	Name	Acres	Type	Ownership	Features / Facilities
1	Arrowhead Springs Golf Course Club	70.0	Special Use	Private	Golf course, open for public play
2	Kettle Hills Golf Club	256.0	Special Use	Private	Golf course, open for public play
3	YMCA / Camp Minikani	124.0	Special Use	Private	Camping, swimming, education, riding stable, boating, lake access
4	Logger's Park	16.0	Special Use	Private	Mini-golf, driving range, batting cages
5	Pioneer Bowl	12.0	Special Use	Private	Baseball fields
6	Richfield Sportsmen's Club	162.0	Special Use	Private	Hunting
7	Daniel Boone Conservation League	150.0	Special Use	Private	Trap, skeet, hunting, archery, clubhouse, camping, parking
8	Wally & Bea's	1.0	Special Use	Private	Lake access, swimming beach

Source: Village of Richfield *Comprehensive Park, Outdoor Recreation and Open Space Plan: 2013-2017*



As fully documented in Richfield's *Comprehensive Park, Outdoor Recreation and Open Space Plan: 2013-2017*, the existing park and open space areas remain above the recommended minimum requirements (Exhibit 6-1) well after 2025.

As part of the park plan update, the Village conducted a "park satisfaction survey." The survey was distributed online via www.SurveyMonkey.com as well as hardcopy in the "Richfield Happenings" newsletter. In total, 336 responses were received. Significant results of the survey are listed below:

- 71% of respondents believed the Village has "Just about the right amount" of parkland

- 62% of respondents travel between 1-3 miles to get to a Village and/or County park.
- 57% of respondents would rate the Village's park system either "Excellent" or "Very Good".
- 69% of respondents believe the Village should "Maintain the status quo regarding the amount of parkland, but should look for opportunities to improve existing facilities".

In addition to these park and recreation facilities, Richfield youth programs offer organized little league at facilities in the Village and the school districts offer a variety of organized athletic activities. Organized youth soccer is also available in the Village.



Communication Facilities

Access to communication facilities is very important in the modern economy. The quality of communication services depends on the capacity of the lines, towers and supporting infrastructure serving the Village.

- **Television and Radio.** There are no television or radio stations located in Richfield. There is one HAM Radio Tower in the Village. Residents receive radio and television station coverage from Milwaukee and other areas of southeastern Wisconsin. Cable television service is available to residents from Charter Communications. The company offers cable and digital packages. Some residents have also purchased satellite dishes to receive additional channels. Television and radio coverage from the greater region will continue to meet resident needs over the life of this plan. The Village of Richfield offers access to Cable Channel 98 for notices and advertisements from local organizations and businesses. Non-profit organizations may place an advertisement at no charge. Local businesses may place an advertisement for a nominal fee.
- **Local and Long Distance Telephone Service.** Local telephone service is provided by Charter Communications and AT&T. These companies offer competitive services and packages that are consistently upgraded to reflect new technologies and services. Accordingly, they are expected to meet Village needs through 2025 and beyond.
- **Internet.** Richfield maintains a website, www.richfieldwi.gov, which it uses to educate residents about community services and programs. It was most recently updated in late 2012 to the latest technology for content management systems. Contact information for elected and appointed officials, as well as, meeting agendas and announcements are posted on the site. The Village encourages the development of communications infrastructure to support high-speed data transfer in areas planned for future business development (refer to Chapter 12).
- **Village Newsletter.** Richfield publishes a bi-monthly newsletter for all Village residents. This publication provides residents with information about official Village business, local activities, and other areas of interest.
- **Newspapers.** A number of area newspapers serve the Village, including the West Bend Daily News, Hartford Times Press, Menomonee Falls City Insider, Germantown Banner Press, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, and Milwaukee Daily Reporter. Additionally, there are a number of free weekly shoppers.
- **Postal Service.** The Village falls within five postal zip code areas. The Village is home to three different post offices. Post offices in the Village are located in Hubertus, Richfield, and Colgate. In 2012 the USPS undertook a consolidation study which reduced the house of operations
- **Cellular/PCS Towers.** The advent of advanced communication technologies, such as cell phones, has greatly increased the need for towers to provide receiving and sending capabilities. In July of 2013, a substantial new body of law was codified in Section 66.0404 of the Wisconsin State Statutes, which was adopted with the State Budget Bill. Municipalities with zoning powers continue to have the power to regulate new towers and facilities; however, the new law imposes a number of restrictions and limitations on the exercise of this zoning authority,



specifically in terms of the application process, what constitutes a 'modification' to the existing tower. In 2014, the Village Staff will consider changes to the zoning code to reflect the changes to these new State Statutes. Currently, there are four (4) cellular towers located on three (3) sites in the Village. The towers are approximately 150' tall.

Health Care Facilities

Aurora Advanced Health Care Medical Clinic is located at 3055 Hubertus Road in the Village. The Village is also home to chiropractic providers and two dental offices.

At this time, there are no plans for expansion of the Advanced Health Care Medical Clinic or construction of a new health care facility in the Village. As the population of the Village continues to increase, the need for health care facilities will also increase. This will likely bring additional physicians to the area. While it is not anticipated that a hospital will be established in the Village, additional or expanded clinic facilities, perhaps including a dentist or optometrist, are possible. These types of facilities should locate in areas of the Village identified on the future land use maps that are allocated for commercial uses.

In addition to the health care facilities available within the Village, there are additional facilities in nearby communities, including major hospital facilities to address specialty needs.

Cemeteries

Often overlooked, cemeteries are an important facility in a community. There were 12 cemeteries located in the Village in 2013 (Table 6-4 and Map 4). Private individuals and cemetery associations operate all of these facilities. Given historical plot demands and available acreage, it is anticipated that cemetery space will be adequate to meet local needs for the next 20 years. Village residents may also use space available in other public and private cemeteries located elsewhere in Washington County and beyond.

Table 6-4 Cemeteries: 2013

Reference Number on Map 4	Name	Location	Contact Information
1	Held /Earling (Cedar Park) Cemetery	Pioneer Road and STH 175	Small Private Cemetery. Trustee, George Nehrbass
2	Forest Home Cemetery	Scenic Road North of Holy Hill Road	Small Private Cemetery. Trustee, Orrin Schneider
3	Laubenheimer Cemetery	STH 175 and Elm Street	Small Private Cemetery.
4	St. Columba Cemetery	106 STH 164	Contact Church Office
5	St. Hubert Cemetery	3727Hubertus Road	Contact Church Office
6	St. Jacobi Evangelical Reformed Cemetery	1695 Scenic Road	Contact Church Office
7	St. Mary's Church Cemetery	2414 Hillside Road	Contact Church Office
8	St. Paul's United Church of Christ Cemetery	495 St. Augustine Road	Contact Church Office
9	Zion United Methodist Church Cemetery	3402 W. Willow Creek	Contact Church Office
10	First Presbyterian Cemetery	2282 STH 164	Contact Church Office
11	Emmanuel United Methodist Cemetery	1786 STH 175	Contact Church Office
12	St. Augustine Mission	STH 167 and St. Augustine Road	Contact Holy Hill

Source: *Richfield Remembers the Past, 1846 – 1996*

Childcare Facilities

According to the 2010 U.S. Census, 26.2 percent of the population was under the age of 19. This is a very significant portion of the local population that has immediate and particular service demands (e.g., schools, parks, childcare facilities). Moreover, as they grow into adulthood over the next 20 years, a portion of this population will help to determine the amount of future growth in the Village as they find residences, have children, or move elsewhere.

While school and park facilities are profiled elsewhere in this chapter, this section discusses childcare facilities available to residents. Parents in need of childcare facilities typically seek locations that are either near to their residence or place of employment. There were six childcare facilities in the Village in 2013 (Table 6-5).

Given the great potential for new families to move into the community, the need for additional local childcare facilities will increase. It must be noted here that some residents have informal networks of childcare (i.e., family or friends) and some residents provide licensed childcare from their homes. Moreover, since childcare facilities are private businesses, the Village has no direct influence in the establishment of new childcare facilities.

Table 6-5 Licensed Childcare: 2013

Reference Number on Map 4	Name	Location	Licensed Capacity
1	Froggies Child Development Center	3289 Endeavor Drive	35
2	Little Hands Child Care	1274 STH 175	60
3	Real Kids After School	1750 STH 164	18
4	The Little Red Schoolhouse	285 Hillside Road	88
5	YMCA SACC at Plat Elementary	4908 Monches Road	17
6	YMCA Camp Minikani Minicamp	860 Amy Belle Lake Road (Preschool)	40

Source: <http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/childcare/licensed/Directories/pubdir-lic/PDF/washington.pdf>, accessed on August 9, 2013

Educational Facilities

The Village of Richfield is located in five different public school districts: Germantown, Friess Lake, Hartford, Richfield, and Slinger (Map 3). The Friess Lake and Richfield School Districts serve grades K-8 only. Students from these districts attend Hartford Union High in the Hartford School District. The district boundaries are illustrated on the *Utilities and Community Facilities Map* in this Chapter. None of the school districts have plans to build additional facilities in the Village of Richfield. Table 6-6 provides a description of public school enrollment and estimated capacity for those facilities located within the Village. In addition, there are three private schools (Table 6-6).

Table 6-6 Schools: 2013

Reference Number on Map 4	School Name	Type	Location	School District [1]	Grades	Enrollment	Capacity	Notes
1	Amy Belle Elementary School	Public	3294 Willow Creek Road	Germantown	PK - 5	375 [2]	500 [3]	
2	Friess Lake School	Public	1750 STH 164	Friess Lake	K4 - 8	227 [2]	675 [3]	Graduates attend Hartford Union High
3	Plat Elementary School	Public	4908 Monches Road	Richfield	PK - 2	198 [2]	175 [3]	Graduates attend Richfield Elementary
4	Richfield Elementary School	Public	3117 STH 167	Richfield	3 - 8	244 [2]	350 [3]	Graduates attend Hartford Union High
5	Crown of Life Ev. Lutheran Elementary School	Private	1282 Tally Ho Trail	NA	K4 - 8	82 [2]	Not given	
6	St. Augustine	Private	1810 CTH CC	NA	K - 12	65 [2]	Not given	
7	Saint Gabriel Grade School	Private	3373 Hubertus Road	NA	P4 - 8	142 [2]	Not given	

Source: Richfield, Friess Lake, Germantown School Districts April 2004

Notes:

- In the Hartford School District, each K-8 district has its own school board with taxing authority, while a separate school board governs grades 9-12.
- Updated figures were received on December 12, 2013. School building capacity is difficult to specifically define. The figures provided are estimates based on student-teacher ratios, open classrooms, district policies, and other factors. The figures are intended for Village use in preparing this plan. Capacity figures are subject to change. Current estimates can be obtained from the school districts. Figures provided are based on 25 students per classroom.

There are several more private school choices available in nearby communities that welcome students who desire their services. Students attending private schools do have the option of attending public school. Expansions and

improvements to these facilities are subject to the financial obligations and capacities of the sponsoring church / organization.

Under the full-time inter-district open enrollment program, Wisconsin students may apply to attend school in any K-12 public school district in the state, regardless of whether or not they live in the district. Families of students who transfer from their local district do not pay tuition. However, a local district loses state aid for each student who transfers to another district and gains state aid for each student who transfers from another district. The program first took effect in the 1998-99 school year. It is designed to encourage competition among districts as a means of fostering improvement in public schools, and to provide families with increased flexibility in their educational choices. Participation has increased each year since the program's inception.

Wisconsin also has a charter schools program. The Wisconsin Charter School Program was initiated in the 1993-1994 school year. Charter schools are public schools that are exempt from many state regulations and rules. In exchange, the schools are accountable to their chartering authority for meeting measurable goals in their charter. This freedom encourages various programs that may stimulate change, innovation, and creativity to enhance student learning. In 2004, there were 137 charter schools in the state. Charter schools are nonsectarian, employ DPI-certified staff, and participate in statewide assessments. Students from Richfield may take advantage of the open enrollment program to attend a charter school.

Nearby college choices include Milwaukee Area Technical College (Mequon), Moraine Park Technical College (Fond du Lac), University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee and Marquette University (Milwaukee).



Library Services

The Village is centrally located with respect to many libraries in the region. While there is not a public library located within the Village, public libraries are available nearby in Cedarburg, Germantown, Hartford, Menomonee Falls, Slinger, West Bend, and communities beyond. Libraries in the region participate in consortiums that provide combined catalogs, Internet catalog access, and other services designed to improve resident access. These nearby public libraries, combined with the public school libraries (catering to district school children), are expected to continue to meet resident library needs. There are no plans to locate a library in the Village.

Senior Services

According to the 2010 U.S. Census, 12.5 percent of Richfield's population was age 65 or over. As compared to the youth, seniors comprise a significantly smaller share of the total Village population. Nevertheless, like youth populations, seniors also demand particular services to meet their specific needs.

Transportation for seniors is available through Lifestar out of West Bend. Since 1988, Lifestar has been able to transport seniors to non-emergency medical appointments and other places. Seniors in need of transportation can also use private taxis. Some assistance is also available through area churches, the Red Cross, and the county taxi.

There are also some programs through Washington County that provide services and opportunities for older persons living in Richfield. Most notably, the Washington County Health and Human Services Department meets the needs of older adults through the establishment of services in the area of nutrition, transportation, respite care, advocacy, and coordination of services with other public and private agencies. These programs provide vital services that make independent living possible.



Over the next 20 years, the senior population is expected to steadily increase as baby boomers living in the Village reach retirement. As these seniors become challenged to maintain their home and land or decide they would prefer an alternative housing choice, they will seek alternative living arrangements (e.g., condominiums, retirement communities, care facilities). If these choices are not available in the Village, these residents will move beyond the Village. The needs of seniors will be primarily addressed through private companies, Washington County and non-profit organizations,

including churches.

Village Facilities

In 2004, the Village prepared a facilities plan. The *Town of Richfield Facilities Plan* evaluates current Village facilities (e.g., offices, meeting space, parks, garage) to evaluate their use and assess future needs. The *Town of Richfield Facilities Plan* includes recommendations for several facility upgrades. The implementation of the *Town of Richfield Facilities Plan* is consistent with the recommendations made in this comprehensive plan. Accordingly, the Village will use that plan and its findings as the primary tool for future facility improvements.



4. Utilities and Community Facilities Funding Options

Richfield is constantly seeking opportunities to finance needed utilities and community facilities. There are numerous grant and loan programs that the Village may seek to help finance needed improvements. These programs are available through the State of Wisconsin and the federal government. The following are potential funding sources:

- **State Trust Fund Loan Program** The Board of Commissioners of Public Lands provides this loan program with terms of up to 20 years and deeply discounted interest rates. Loans may be used for a variety of purposes including: road improvements, community centers/halls, trail development, and property acquisition. The funds available fluctuate annually. The current annual loan limit is \$3,000,000. The Village could utilize these funds for development of additional park facilities and trails.
- **Fire Administration Grants** The Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) offers over \$100,000,000 in annual grant awards to fire departments in six specific areas: training, fitness programs, vehicles, firefighting equipment, and fire prevention programs. Applicants from communities, which serve a population of less than 50,000, must provide a 10% match.
- **State Stewardship Fund** The Stewardship Fund is the State of Wisconsin's land acquisition program for public outdoor recreation and habitat protection. Administered by the Department of Natural Resources, the fund makes millions of dollars available each year to buy land for parks, trails, habitat areas, hunting grounds, and local parks and for site improvements, like trail building and campgrounds.
- **Village of Richfield Capital Improvements Program** This program is described in detail in the Transportation Element Chapter of this plan.

5. Coordination with Other Comprehensive Plan Elements

If the capacity and services available in a community are not adequate, the ability of that community to grow is hampered. In this chapter, an inventory has been provided to understand what utilities and community facilities are available in Richfield today and how they might be expanded in the future. Utilities and community facilities have a direct impact on the other elements of the comprehensive plan. In particular, the Housing, Economic Development, Land Use, and Intergovernmental Cooperation Elements are most directly impacted by the availability and capacity of local utilities and community facilities.

Housing

Improvements such as roads, parks, and schools all need to be coordinated with housing decisions and vice versa. This is because housing development brings additional people to the community who demand services and facilities to live quality lives. Similarly, a community must have adequate police and fire protection to maintain community safety for



residents. If services and facilities are inadequate, the quality of living is adversely affected and the desirability of the community as a place to live is also adversely affected. The best method to coordinate improvements is to pursue the goals, objectives, policies and improvements outlined in this plan. This would include planning for future improvements in a Capital Improvement Plan and Budget. This approach will greatly enhance the efficiency of capital expenditures.

Economic Development

The availability of utilities and community facilities like electricity, police protection and communication services are critical to economic development. This infrastructure is needed to support business and industrial growth in Richfield and support quality residential neighborhoods. Therefore, the goals and objectives of this chapter seek to maintain, and where feasible, improve local utilities and community facilities to improve economic development opportunities in the Village.

Land Use Element

Development brings more people and businesses to a community. Accordingly, the need for associated utilities and facilities increases with development. In communities with municipal water and sewer service, the location of utilities and community facilities can drive the location of future development. The availability of other quality facilities and services (e.g., police and fire protection, schools, parks, recreation) also influences people's decision to live in a community. Therefore, there is a very close relationship between the land use and utilities and community facilities elements of this plan. The future land use maps were developed after careful consideration of where utilities and community facilities are now available, or will be available, over the next 20 years. Areas where the sanitary systems, communication services, or power supplies are cost prohibitive, are not encouraged for future residential, commercial, or industrial development.

Intergovernmental Cooperation

As is obvious from this chapter, the Village does not provide all utilities and community facilities available to residents. Washington County and private companies also provide utilities and community facilities. It is important that utilities and community facilities continue to effectively serve the Village. Therefore, coordination is essential to ensure that development in the Village is compatible with local utility and community facility capacities. Goals and objectives included in this chapter, as well as the Intergovernmental Coordination Element, support continued coordination to efficiently provide needed utilities and community facilities to the Village.