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## **Utilities & Community Facilities**

### **Introduction**

Throughout the Town of Hunter, governmental entities, private companies, and other organizations provide many of the services available to Town residents and other property owners. Community facilities include buildings, lands, services, and programs that serve the public. Examples of community facilities are parks, schools, police and fire protection, health care facilities, solid waste and recycling facilities, and libraries. Sanitary districts, electricity, and telecommunication services are some of the common utilities found in many communities. This chapter identifies and evaluates existing utilities and community facilities serving the Town of Hunter. Understanding the location, use, and capacity of community facilities and utilities is an important consideration when planning for the future. Therefore, included in this chapter is information about utilities and community facilities provided by the Town, Sawyer County, and other providers.

### **Utilities**

#### ***Water and Sewer Services***

The Town of Hunter does not provide municipal water and sewer services. Most residents, except residents of the Village of New Post on the LCO Reservation, receive their water via private wells that are owned and maintained by the property owner. There are no other plans to develop a public water system over the 20-year planning horizon. It is important that the town's water resources and aquifers be protected from contamination as individual home and business owners utilize this valuable natural resource.

Within the LCO Reservation, there is a water & sewer treatment system in the Village of New Post and is operated by LCO. Nearly sixty residential and business structures are served by the utility system.

The Wisconsin Department of Commerce regulates the siting, design, installation, and inspection of private onsite waste water systems through Comm 83. Comm 83 is intended to enable private onsite waste water systems to be safe, protect public health and the waters of the state. Disposal of domestic wastewater in the Town of Hunter is handled through the use of individual on-site wastewater disposal systems, which gradually discharge the wastewater to underground drainage fields. Over the 20-year planning period, it is not anticipated that the Town of Hunter will develop a municipal sewer system.

#### ***Storm Water Management***

The Town does not have a storm water management plan in place and has no plans to add a storm sewer system. However, over the 20-year planning period, the potential for additional runoff resulting from development may negatively impact local water resources as sediment and nutrient delivery increases due to runoff. Managing storm water to increase infiltration and reduce or eliminate direct delivery to surface waters is one of the most important steps that can be taken to protect surface water quality in the future.

One mechanism to slow the flow of runoff is the required vegetative buffer along shoreland areas throughout Sawyer County. Section 4.410, Shoreline Vegetation Protection Area (Sawyer County) provides clearing policies to preserve a 35' shoreline buffer zone of natural shoreline vegetation.

Over the 20-year planning horizon, storm water management will likely become an issue in the Town of Hunter as continued development occurs. The Town of Hunter must work cooperatively with the DNR and Sawyer County to mitigate the adverse impacts of stormwater runoff and ensure that environmental resources are adequately protected. Reviewing construction site erosion control, storm water management practices and regulations is an important first step in reducing site erosion and storm water management issues. Implementation of NR216 and following Best Management Practices on constructions sites can help minimize the possible impact of runoff to local waterways.

### ***Power Plants, Substations, and Transmission Lines***

No power plants are present in the Town, however, one hydroelectric facility is operating in the town under the management of LCO (Map 4.1). The hydro electric plant's purpose is to generate power and is sold to Xcel Energy. Power is generated from water pressure between the Chippewa Flowage above the Winter Dam and the Chippewa River below the dam.

Over the 20-year planning horizon, the Town does not anticipate the development of their own power plants, substations, or transmission lines. The Town does however, wish to coordinate and discuss future development of power plants, substations, or transmission lines with entities proposing such facilities to ensure the local quality of life and environmental integrity is not harmed due to poor design or siting of facilities.

### ***Electricity and Natural Gas***

North Central Power Company Inc. and Jump River Electric Cooperative provide electricity to the majority of the town's residences and businesses. Natural gas utilities are not offered in the Town of Hunter. In the next 20-years, it is expected the Town will engage in discussions and planning with companies providing or proposing such facilities to ensure siting of these facilities is done in the best interest of the community.

### ***Communication Services***

CenturyTel, Indianhead Telephone Company and Chequamegon (Cheqtel) Communications provide telephone services. These providers also offer other amenities such as Internet and DSL services. Additionally, national telephone companies provide long distance and Internet services.

Access to wireless communication facilities is becoming more and more important. Currently, no cellular phone towers are located in the Town. While the Town of Hunter does not have a cellular tower at this time, as technology advances and demand for such services increase, particularly in rural areas, it is possible towers will follow. The Town has an audible tornado warning system in proximity to the Town Hall, which may possibly be expanded to other areas in the future. A tornado warning device is operational in the village of New Post.

Over the 20-year planning horizon, it is not expected the Town will engage in the development of communication facilities. However, it is expected the Town will actively participate in discussions and planning with local communication providers and Sawyer County to ensure that area residents have access to the latest technology; and any future siting of these facilities is done so in the best interest of the Town.

**Cable Television**

Currently no landline cable television services are available. Television reception is dependent upon antennas and/or satellite services. Over the 20-year horizon, the Town does not anticipate developing a local cable service.

**Facilities**

**Solid Waste and Recycling Facilities**

Prior to 1969, solid waste management in Sawyer County consisted primarily of individuals hauling to unsupervised open municipal landfills. Since that time, state and federal laws have become more restrictive and non-hazardous household wastes are land filled only in licensed facilities. **Table 4.1** provides information regarding six old landfills in the Town of Hunter. **Map 4.1** depicts the general location of the old landfills.

Residential property owners have two options for garbage disposal. The first option is for residents to bring household waste to the Town of Hunter recycling facility located on County Road CC next to the town hall (**Map 4.1**). Costs associated



with refuse are on a per bag basis. The recycling center accepts materials such as plastic, tin, aluminum, glass and paper. Option two lets residents and businesses contract with either Waste Management or Allied Waste for curbside pick-up of garbage and recyclables. The Town sponsors an annual clean-up day for residents. At this event, items such as tires, batteries, metal, white goods and other things not accepted year-round. Some items require a disposal fee.

**Table 4.1: Town of Hunter Landfill Sites**

Facility Name	Legal Description	Status
Town of Hunter	SW NE S15 40N 07W	Inactive
Town of Hunter	NE S19 40N 07W	Inactive
Town of Hunter	NE NE S18 40N 06W	Inactive
Town of Hunter	SW SE S19 40N 07W	Inactive
Town of Hunter	NW SW S25 40N 07W*	Inactive
Town of Hunter	SE SW S36 40N 07W*	Inactive

Source: Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources and \*Town of Hunter

Over the next 20-year planning horizon, it is not anticipated the Town will provide its own curbside pick up of garbage, recyclables, brush, or white-goods. The Town will continue to provide additional options for waste management and services through its recycling center as long as the cost to provide these services is efficient. In the future, an opportunity to partner with adjoining townships, such as the Town of Hayward, to participate in the collection and recycling of yard waste may be possible.

### **Law Enforcement**

The Town of Hunter does not have its own law enforcement personnel. The Sawyer County Sheriff's Department serves as the primary law enforcement agency to the Town of Hunter. The department's administrative functions and jail facility are located at 101 East 5<sup>th</sup> Street in the City of Hayward and provide law enforcement assistance to an approximately 1,482 square mile area. The facility houses the sheriff's department's offices, dispatch center, classroom, evidence room, locker room, and county jail. Staff consists of a sheriff, a chief deputy, three road sergeants, 13 deputies, two investigators, five dispatchers, ten jailers, court officer, recreational officer, transport officer, truancy officer, confidential secretary, 911 coordinator, cook and a law enforcement maintenance mechanic. The department houses 25 squad cars and 2 transport vans. At any one time, between two and six patrol deputies are on patrol.

Since 2004, LCO has maintained a full complement of law enforcement personnel serving the Reservation. The LCO Police Department provides search and rescue, emergency assistance, and criminal investigation. The Police Department consists of 4-5 officers with one-two officers on duty at all times in their own patrol vehicle.

Over the 20-year planning period, it is not likely the Town of Hunter will develop a law enforcement department. Coordination and cooperation between the Town of Hunter, LCO and the Sawyer County Sheriff's Department regarding local crime must continue to be monitored in an effort to address local concerns regarding public health, safety, and welfare.

### **Fire & Rescue**

Through a local cooperative agreement, the Town of Hunter is served by the Round Lake and LCO Fire Departments (Map 4.2). The Round Lake Fire Department covers the north half of the Town beginning at the Bridge at CC & LCO provides protection to the southern portion. Two separate fire stations located at separate ends of the town aid with faster response times. The Village of Winter Fire Department also provides fire protection to Sections 1 and 2 Township 39 Range 6. The Round Lake Fire Department currently has an Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating of 9. Ratings of departments go from a Class 1 (the best) to Class 10 (unprotected).

The main LCO Fire Department is located at 8527N Trepania Road with two others stations located at 13394 Flowage Road (New Post) and Corbine Drive (Reserve). The goal of the LCO Fire Department is to provide fire rescue services to all people inside the LCO boundaries. The department is staffed by one full-time worker and is on-call twenty-four hours a day. In the future, the department is looking to expand its fire and rescue services to meet the needs of the growing population.

First responders for rescue/emergency services are provided to the Town through Sawyer County Ambulance dispatched from locations in the Village of Radisson, City of Hayward, Village of Winter or LCO.

Over the 20-year planning horizon, the Town may develop other agreements with adjoining jurisdictions for the provision of fire and ambulance services. The provision of services and response to calls of emergency has been acceptable. However, the cost for services based on a set standardized mill levy for all jurisdictions and assessed against each participating jurisdictions equalized value is not considered to be the appropriate mechanism in which to determine funding contributions to both the fire and ambulance services.

### ***Cemeteries***

The New Post Cemetery located on County Highway CC is the only cemetery in Hunter (Map 4.1). However, due to past Native American and early settlement influences in the area, unmarked grave sites and burial mounds do exist. Over the next 20-years, it is not expected the Town will develop a cemetery on its own.

### ***Medical/Health Care and Other Facilities***

Medical facilities and services are available to residents through the Hayward Area Memorial Hospital, LCO Health Center, Northwoods Clinic, Duluth Clinic and Marshfield Clinic. Dental services are available from a variety of offices located in the City of Hayward and the Village of Radisson. Over the 20-year planning horizon, it is not expected the Town will engage in the development of a clinic/medical center to directly serve the Town of Hunter.

### ***Child/Daycare Services***

Northwest Connection Family Resources (NCFR) maintains a list of certified and licensed daycare providers in the county, which includes five group centers, three Headstart's, five family licensed daycare providers, 63 county certified providers, and 25 provisional certified daycare providers. This list is continually updated, so for the most up-to-date information, contact NCFR. Over the 20-year planning horizon, it is not anticipated the Town will provide for child daycare services.

### ***Libraries***

The closest public libraries are the Sherman & Ruth Weiss Community Library in Hayward and the Winter Public Library. Additionally, the LCO Ojibwa Community College, located on the LCO reservation has a library useful to area residents for research and reading. All three libraries are members of the Northern Waters Library, a consortium of 30 libraries. Over the 20-year planning horizon, it is not expected the Town will create a local library.

### ***Education Facilities***

The Town of Hunter is served by the Hayward Community School District, Winter School District and LCO Schools (Map 4.3). The Hayward Community School District consists of a high school, middle school, Intermediate, Primary, HACIL (charter school), Stone Lake Elementary and Waadookodaading (Ojibwa Language Immersion School). No school buildings are physically located within the boundaries of the Town. The LCO and Winter School Districts include a high

school, middle school and elementary school. **Table 4.2** provides information on all three districts.

<b>District</b>	<b>2008-09 Enrollment</b>	<b>District Office</b>	<b>Moniker</b>
Hayward Community	1,958	15930 W 5 <sup>th</sup> Street	Hurricanes
Winter	331	6585 West Grove Street	Warriors
LCO	267*	8575 N Round Lake School Rd	Eagles

Source: Wisconsin Dept. of Public Institution and LCO\*

Additional educational opportunities are available from several other institutions/organizations near the Town of Hunter. Formed in 1973, The Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe School provides K-12 education. The school district represents the 76,465 acres of the Lac Courte Oreilles Reservation. Additionally, students attend the LCO Ojibwe School from the communities of Hayward, Couderay, Winter, Radisson, and the Bad River Reservation. The Northwoods Mennonite School located in the Town of Bass Lake provides grades 1-12 education. Northern Lights Christian Academy, located in the City of Hayward provides preschool through grade 12 education. The St. Francis Solanus Mission School located on the LCO Reservation adjacent to the St. Francis Solanus Mission Church provides grades K-8 education and is the only catholic school in Sawyer County.

Post high school education is available to all persons at the Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College located at 13466 West Trepania Road. Course offerings allow enrolled students the opportunity to receive an Associate of Arts, Applied Science, or Science degree and a number of certificates. Some class credits transfer to other colleges and universities.

Services available at Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College Hayward Community Education Center, 15618 Windrose Lane, Hayward, include high school diploma through ED, HSED, and credit remediation; career testing; employability skills; study skills; computer classes; responsible beverage service classes; various self-employment classes; supervisory management associate degree; and certificates for accounting assistant, barber cosmetology manager, and technical communication. Credits in various business programs can be earned through flex courses offered at the WITC Hayward Community Education Center.

Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College (WITC) has campuses located in Ashland, Rice Lake, New Richmond, and Superior; a branch in Hayward; and a learning center in Spooner. The University of Wisconsin-Barron County campus is located in Rice Lake.

Over the 20-year planning horizon, it is not expected the Town will engage in the development of public or private educational facilities. However, it is expected the Town will actively participate in discussions and planning with both public and private schools providing or proposing facilities to ensure siting of these facilities is done so in the best interest of the community and that local residents are afforded the best educational programs possible.

### **Hunter Town Hall/Garage**

The Hunter Town Hall and garage are located at 9316 CTH CC (Map 4.1). Town meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month usually at 6:30 p.m. The town hall can be reserved for other gatherings and community events that are approved by the town board. Equipment is maintained for road repair and snow removal in the town garage. Over the 20 year planning horizon the Town anticipates maintaining and upgrading buildings and equipment to provide cost effective and efficient services to its resident and non-resident landowners.



### **Parks, Trails, Wildlife Areas, and Other Facilities**

**Parks** – There are no existing parks in the town.

**Campgrounds** – There are several sites on islands of the Chippewa Flowage that are maintained by the WDNR and/or LCO and the Chequamegon National Forest. A number of private campgrounds or RV parks are located throughout the Town.

**Boat Landings** – There are four boat landings/launches in Hunter and maintained by the WDNR. Several boat landings are owned and maintained by resorts and may require a launch fee.

**Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest** – Covers approximately 9,000 acres in the eastern half of the Town of Hunter. Multiple campsites, boat launches and walking/hiking trails exist in the National Forest system.

**Motorized Trails** – Snowmobile and ATV trails criss-cross the Town on private land easements and across county, DNR, National Forest lands, and Tribal lands.

### **Utilities and Community Facilities Goals, Objectives, Actions, Policies, and Programs**

A set of recommended goals, objectives, and action steps has been developed to assist the Town of Hunter with utilities and community facilities. Implementation of the identified actions will assist in achieving the overall goal to maintain and enhance community facilities and services, which contribute to the overall improvement of the community.

**GOAL: Maintain and enhance community facilities and services, which contribute to the overall improvement of the community.**

#### **OBJECTIVES:**

1. Minimize the environmental impact of future utility expansion in the Town.

**Regulation Action:** Ensure that future transmission and distribution lines follow existing utility lines through the Town. Recommend no chemical spraying.

**Regulation Action:** Ensure that all utility providers remove or chip brush and trees cut along utility lines.

**Monitoring Action:** Review long-range plans of utility companies to identify impacts they might have on the Town and plan for future utility expansion.

**Resource Improvement Action:** Explore the possibility of adding a cellular tower.

**Resource Improvement Action:** Work to expand the tornado warning system.

2. Develop a storm water management plan to protect surface water quality.

**Regulation Action:** Establish Best Management Practices and review construction site erosion control and storm water management practices.

**Education Action:** Publish information on the adverse impact of storm water runoff and encourage practices that minimize runoff to local waterways.

**Incentive Action:** Publish and present award to individuals or groups who create rain gardens or other effective water control measures.

3. Establish a joint park program with Sawyer County.

**Resource Improvement Action:** Work with Sawyer County and WDNR to investigate possible county/town park sites and establish a new county park in the township.

4. Establish a 20-year forest management plan with Sawyer County and State of Wisconsin.

**Resource Improvement Action:** Work with Sawyer County and the State of Wisconsin to establish regulations for the use of public areas.

5. Establish viable options for waste disposal.

**Resource Improvement Action:** Establish a yard waste compose location.

6. Encourage, promote and coordinate the inspection of all waste water treatment systems in the Town.