Chapter 4: Natural Resources

In This Chapter

PLAN Stoughton

INTRODUCTION

Stoughton's natural resource features shape where and how the city grows, influence the quality of its water and air, provide essential wildlife habitat, and support recreation, scenic beauty, and overall quality of life. As development pressures increase and climate conditions shift, careful stewardship of these natural systems becomes even more critical.

An understanding of the area's natural resources is important for guiding decisions about locations for future development, areas suited for recreational purposes such as parks and trails, and features that are best preserved and managed for groundwater protection, stormwater management, or conservation.

This chapter documents the community's key natural resource assets, outlines the environmental opportunities and constraints that influence landuse decisions, and identifies strategies to protect sensitive features while supporting sustainable growth.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- The City of Stoughton recognizes the importance of protecting natural resources as the community grows. Zoning and development regulations are important tools to help preserve key environmental features such as waterways, wetlands, floodplains, steep slopes, woodlands, and wildlife habitat.
- Water resources remain a top priority: the Yahara River is both an ecological asset and an impaired water body, Stoughton's groundwater is generally high-quality but vulnerable to contamination, and stormwater management is increasingly important as impervious surface grows.
- The city's environmental corridors, woodlands, and urban forestry programs are key strengths, contributing to flood mitigation, wildlife habitat, biodiversity, and scenic character.

GOALS, STRATEGIES, AND ACTIONS

Goal 1: Protect and restore Stoughton's water resources.

Strategies:

1. Preserve and restore the Yahara River and associated waterways.
2. Reduce stormwater runoff and improve water quality through best management practices.
3. Protect groundwater quantity and quality through careful land use, wellhead protections, and pollution prevention.
4. Prevent development in hydrologically vulnerable areas such as hydric soils, floodplains, wetlands, and steep slopes.
5. Work together with surrounding towns and farmers to reduce the use of harmful herbicides, pesticides, and other chemicals in agricultural activities.

Actions:

- Complete cleanup of the Yahara River below the dam.
- Pursue permitting and removal of the Fourth Street dam, consistent with environmental, regulatory, and community considerations.
- Require development plans to identify all natural features (wetlands, floodplains, slopes, drainageways).
- Enforce prohibitions on development in wetlands, floodplains, and on slopes greater than 20% and discourage development on 12-20% slopes.
- Strongly discourage buildings on hydric soils outside of wetlands.
- Require the use of stormwater best management practices (rain gardens, bio-infiltration, natural landscaping).
- Reduce impervious surfaces in site design and redevelopment.
- Investigate and implement best management practices that reduce impacts of municipal well withdrawals on the Yahara River.
- Replace conventional turf with native vegetation where appropriate, especially along shorelines and flood-prone areas.

Goal 2: Conserve and enhance natural habitats and biodiversity.

Strategies:

1. Preserve environmental corridors that connect wetlands, woodlands, waterways, and steep slopes.
2. Protect high-quality woodlands and riparian corridors and restore degraded habitat areas.
3. Encourage native landscaping and removal of invasive species throughout the community.
4. Ensure development does not adversely impact rare, threatened, or endangered species.

Actions:

- ◊ Use land dedication, conservation easements, and acquisition to protect sensitive natural areas and maintain access to waterways.
- ◊ Protect and restore woodlands – especially large, contiguous patches and those along riparian corridors.
- ◊ Manage invasive species in parks, natural areas, and rights-of-way.
- ◊ Maintain and expand tree canopy through the urban forestry program, street tree management, and new plantings.
- ◊ Require Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) review as part of development review when applicable.
- ◊ Re-vegetate City-owned land in natural areas with native plant species.

Goal 3: Strengthen land use and development practices to support environmental health.

Strategies:

1. Promote compact development patterns, infill, and redevelopment to reduce land consumption.
2. Integrate natural resource protection into zoning, subdivision review, and site design standards.
3. Ensure watershed impacts are considered as part of all land-use decisions.

Actions:

- ◊ Update zoning and subdivision ordinances to better protect natural features and reduce fragmentation.
- ◊ Use official mapping authority to identify and protect environmental corridors.
- ◊ Review development proposals for watershed impacts (stormwater, downstream flooding, pollutant loads).
- ◊ Coordinate with Dane County, WisDNR, and local land trusts to implement environmental corridor and open space/natural area preservation.

Goal 4: Improve air quality and reduce emissions impacts.

Strategies:

1. Collaborate with industrial air permit holders to reduce community air emission impacts.
2. Monitor air quality risks – including wildfire smoke – and provide public information and alerts.

Actions:

- ◊ Work with the DNR and permitted facilities to address pollutant emissions and mitigation options.
- ◊ Share air quality resources, such as the Wisconsin Air Quality Monitoring Map, with residents and businesses to bring more awareness of the causes of air pollution, its impact on the environment and health outcomes, and reduction strategies.
- ◊ Evaluate potential for vegetation buffers or land-use controls near sources of air emissions.

Goal 5: Connect natural resource protection with community benefits and recreation.

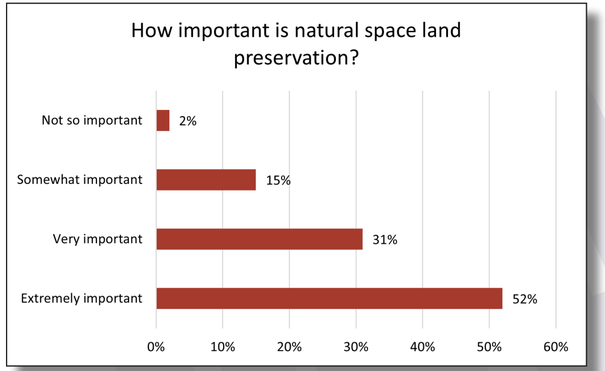
Strategies:

1. Enhance public access to natural areas while preserving ecological health.
2. Integrate recreational planning with environmental protection.
3. Promote public awareness of natural resources and sustainability.

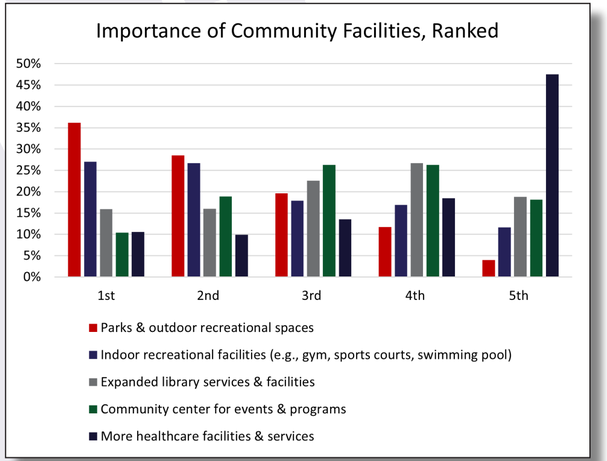
Actions:

- ◊ Expand and maintain trails and greenways within environmental corridors.
- ◊ Use natural areas and restored landscapes as educational and recreational assets.
- ◊ Continue to provide residents with access to programs like urban wood reuse and mulch distribution.
- ◊ Identify ways to improve access to the Yahara River and Lake Kegonsa and associated recreational opportunities for residents.
- ◊ Continue to partner with Dane County on programs such as Adopt a Storm Drain.

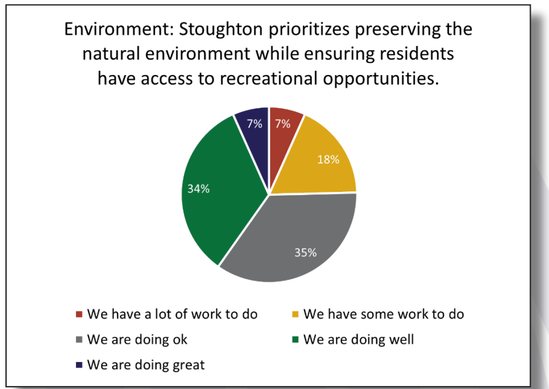
SURVEY RESULTS

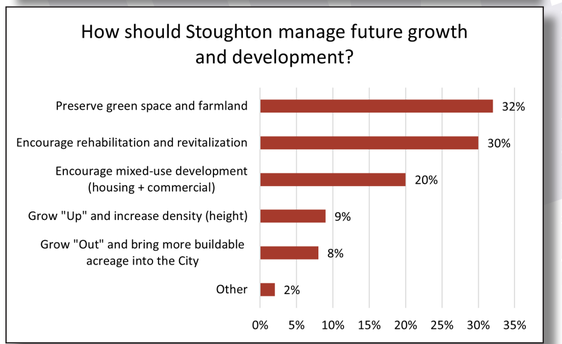


The results of the community survey show that natural resource protection is very important to Stoughton residents. 83% of survey respondents said that natural space land preservation is either extremely important or very important, and parks and outdoor recreational spaces were ranked as the most important out of all community facilities.



The largest share of survey respondents, 36%, ranked parks and outdoor recreational spaces as the most important category of community facilities.



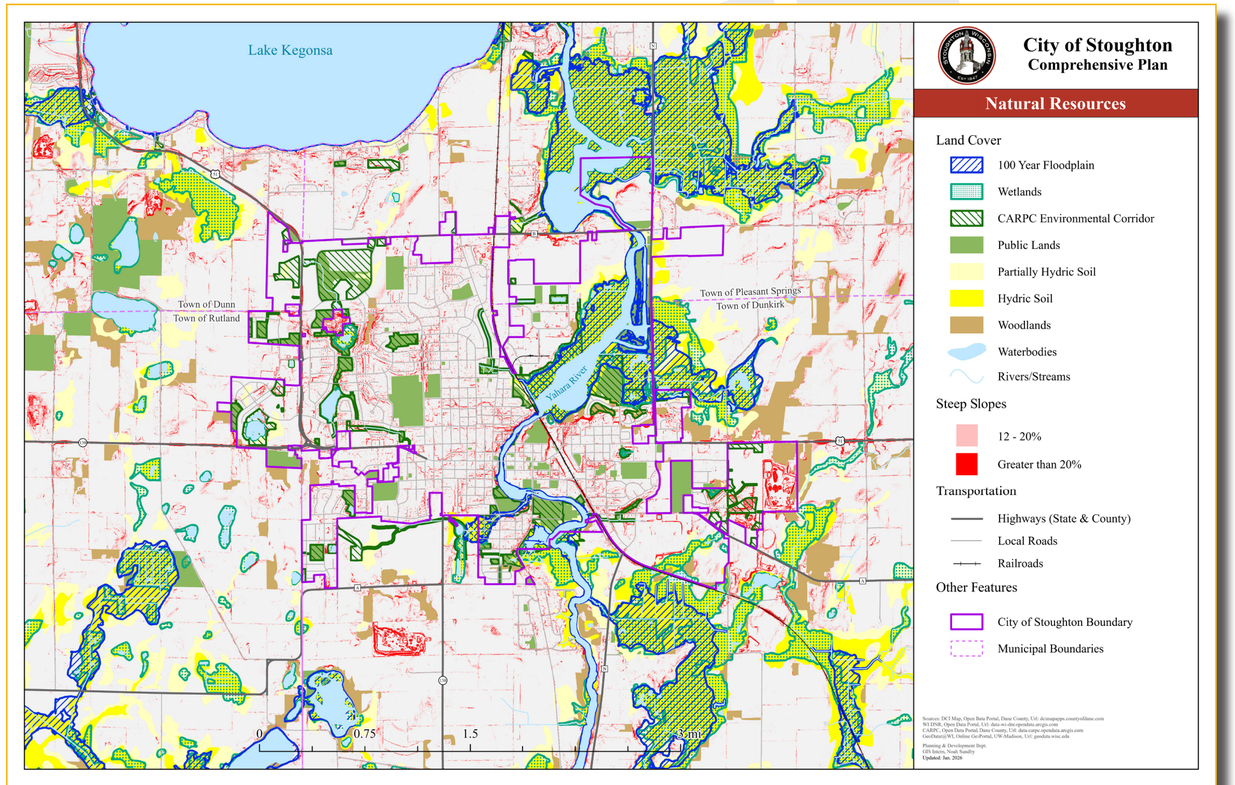


76% of survey respondents said that Stoughton is doing “ok”, “well”, or “great” in preserving the natural environment while ensuring residents have access to recreational opportunities.

When asked how the city should manage future growth and development, the top two choices were “Preserve green space and farmland” (32%) and “Encourage rehabilitation and revitalization” (30%), both emphasizing conservation and reuse over greenfield expansion.

74% of survey respondents were either “very concerned” or “somewhat concerned” about the local impacts of climate change, and “more trees and shade structures”, “green infrastructure such as rain gardens and permeable pavements”, and “renewable energy initiatives” were indicated as the top three climate adaptation strategies Stoughton should prioritize.

A recurring theme in open-ended survey comments is that the Yahara River and Lake Kegonsa are widely viewed as underutilized but highly valuable natural assets.



ECOLOGICAL LANDSCAPE

Wisconsin is divided into 16 different ecological landscapes, areas characterized by varying physical and biological attributes such as climate, geology, soils, water, and vegetation.

The eastern two-thirds of Dane County, including Stoughton and the surrounding towns, are within the Southeast Glacial Plains ecological landscape. This landscape is shaped by glaciation from the last Ice Age, dominated by till plains and moraines but also featuring drumlins, outwash plains, eskers, kames, and kettles. The bedrock is primarily limestone and dolomite with some sandstone and shale and generally covered by a thick layer of glacial deposits, averaging around 100 feet in depth over most of Stoughton. The Southeast Glacial Plains (SGP) has the highest aquatic productivity of any ecological landscape in the state. This ecological landscape is heavily developed and highly populated, putting pressure on natural resources such as ground and surface waters. The amount of impervious surface is increasing in some watersheds, raising concerns about the ability to protect aquatic life and wetlands.

Historically, the region was characterized by prairies and oak savannas which have now mostly been converted to agriculture or urban land.

The planning area lies in the Yahara River Valley and adjacent glacial-moraine terrain, with many areas of peat and marsh deposits and irregular topography ranging from flat to rolling hills and gentle slopes.

Elevation within the City ranges from approximately 980 feet above sea level at its highest point near Furseth Road to about 834 feet at Mandt Park.

SOILS

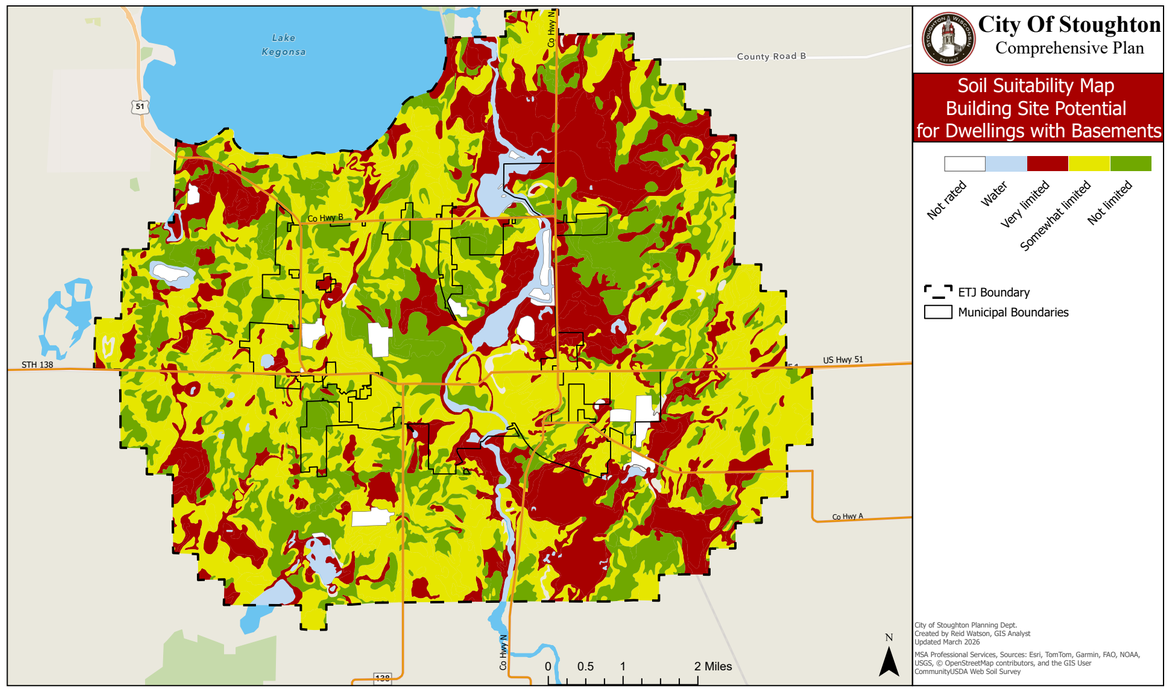
Hydric soils within the Yahara River floodplain include Houghton mucks and Waucosta silty clays. Both soil types have severe limitations to development due to high compressibility, low bearing capacity, seasonal high water table, and occasional flooding. Development on these soil types should be prohibited. Troxel silt loams are located near the Yahara River and along the city's major drainageways. These hydric soils have severe limitations to development as well due to occasional flooding.

Soil suitability is a key factor in determining the best and most cost-effective locations for new development. Problems that limit development on certain soils include slumping, poor drainage, erosion, steep slopes and high-water tables. The soils in the Stoughton area are of two major soil associations:

- The Batavia-Houghton-Dresden association covers most of the city. These soils are characterized by both well-drained and poorly drained, deep and moderately deep silt loams and mucks underlain by silt, sand, and gravel. These soils were formed by outwash material near streams or adjacent to glacial moraines. Outside of the city, this soil type is mostly cultivated, with corn being the most common crop.
- Plano-Ringwood-Griswold association is found in the northwest and southwest portions of the city. This association is characterized by moderately well-drained and well-drained soils that have deep silt loams and loams subsoil and are underlain by sandy loam glacial till. Outside of the city, most areas with this soil association are cultivated, with common crops being corn, oats, alfalfa, and canning crops.

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey for Dane County can be a valuable planning tool for development site analysis.

The soil suitability map shows the suitability of soils for building dwellings with basements in the planning area.



GROUNDWATER

Groundwater is water that exists underground in saturated zones of soil and rock and is a major source of drinking water and irrigation.

Groundwater that is withdrawn and used in the Stoughton area is, for the most part, recharged locally from the infiltration of precipitation in the immediate area. It is important to protect the quality of groundwater because once contaminated, it is expensive and difficult to return back to its original condition.

Public water in Stoughton is highly regulated and frequently tested, and the quality is generally quite high. Stoughton Utilities publishes a Drinking Water Quality Report each year. The most recent report (2024) found that Stoughton's drinking water—sourced from four deep groundwater wells—met state and federal health standards. All regulated contaminants were below their Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs); lead and copper results were well below action levels, and PFAS were detected at very low (single-digit ppt) levels and below Wisconsin health-based recommendations.

Stoughton returns its treated wastewater back to the Yahara River rather than diverting it out of the watershed. Still, the wastewater is not being returned to the aquifer, thus working to deplete groundwater supply.

The City of Stoughton relies on groundwater as its source of municipal drinking water. Four municipal wells draw from aquifers located between 210 and 1,136 feet below the surface. The local water table ranges from approximately 820 feet above sea level along the Yahara River to 880 feet above sea level in the northwest portion of the city. The Mount Simon aquifer, composed primarily of sandstone, is a key groundwater source for Dane County and provides nearly all of the County's deep municipal wells, including those that serve Stoughton.

Overall, groundwater quality in Dane County and Stoughton is considered good. However, certain land use activities have contributed to localized water quality concerns. Nitrate-nitrogen is the most common groundwater contaminant in rural areas of the county. Because it dissolves easily and is not strongly absorbed by soil, nitrate-nitrogen can migrate into groundwater from sources such as on-site wastewater systems, livestock operations, manure and sludge applications, fertilizers, and decomposing organic matter. Atrazine, a widely used corn herbicide for decades, is another groundwater contaminant of concern in Wisconsin. To help protect drinking water, atrazine use is prohibited throughout the City of Stoughton.

According to the Dane County Groundwater Protection Plan (2017), groundwater contamination risks from surface activities vary across the City's planning area, with the highest risks occurring near the Yahara River and lower risks to the west and east. To safeguard its municipal water supply and the areas contributing to municipal wells, the city adopted a Wellhead Protection Plan and a wellhead protection ordinance in 1996.

SURFACE WATER

Surface water is any body of water on the earth's surface, such as rivers, lakes, ponds, and reservoirs. The Yahara River and its chain of lakes (Mendota, Monona, Waubesa, and Kegonsa) are the most prominent surface water features in the area.

Primary streams in the Stoughton area include the Yahara River and Badfish Creek.

The original townsite of Stoughton was established along the Yahara River in the 1840s to harness the river's power for flour mills and early industries. As the community developed, the river remained a defining natural feature, and today it continues to serve as the City's primary surface water resource. Draining a 410 square mile area through Dane County and flowing north to south through Stoughton, the Yahara River ultimately empties into the Rock River. The Yahara River is classified as a diverse warmwater sport fishery (WWSF) supporting approximately 48 species of fish and remains a popular fishing spot in the community. The river is subject to periodic flooding, particularly during spring snowmelt and periods of heavy rainfall.

Lake Kegonsa, located just north of the city, is another prominent surface water feature. The lake covers approximately 3,200 acres and was formed by glacial moraines that dammed the Yahara River Valley. Although relatively shallow, with a maximum depth of 31 feet, Lake Kegonsa supports a diverse warm-water fishery that includes bass, bluegill, crappie, perch, walleye, and other species. Lake Kegonsa hosts a State Park on its eastern shore and residential development around the remainder of the lake shore. A sanitary district serves the residential development which sends waste to the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage district.

To protect local waterways and reduce phosphorus levels that contribute to algae growth, Dane County adopted a phosphorus ban in 2005. In addition, Dane County's Chapter 14 Erosion Control and Stormwater Management Ordinance requires permits for certain construction and land-disturbing activities that create erosion or add impervious surfaces. Some activities such as farming, construction of one- and two-family homes, public buildings, and specific state highway projects are exempt from these requirements.

The health and quality of surface water features is a direct reflection of land use and watershed practices in the area. Local streams and waterways have been negatively impacted by agriculture and historic development patterns. Uncontrolled rainfall runoff from impervious surfaces increases the amount of surface water and can shift a groundwater-dominated water system to a surface water dominated system, leading to poorer stream health. In 1998 the Yahara River from Lake Kegonsa to Badfish Creek in Rock County was added to the state's 303(d) Impaired Waters list, with pollutants such as sediment/total suspended solids and total phosphorus. Reducing the amount of impervious surface and agricultural runoff and improving stormwater management systems can help mitigate these impacts. Regional coordination and cooperation is necessary to successfully address the challenges associated with a natural resource as large as the Yahara River and crossing as many jurisdictional boundaries.

Dane County's primary dredging initiative is the Yahara Chain of Lakes Sediment Removal Project, a multi-year effort to improve water flow and reduce flooding.

REMOVAL OF FOURTH STREET DAM

The Fourth Street Dam is the subject of an ongoing river restoration and recreation initiative commonly referred to as the Yahara River Park or whitewater park project. The project includes modification of the existing dam structure, replacement with adjustable in-stream features, improvements to fish passage and aquatic habitat, and redevelopment of adjacent parkland and river corridors. Objectives of the project include improving public safety, restoring more natural river function, enhancing water quality, and expanding river-based recreation. The project has undergone review with the DNR and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers under applicable environmental and waterway regulations. Portions of park and riverfront improvements have been constructed in phases, with additional elements subject to ongoing permitting and implementation. The project underscores the importance of balancing ecological restoration, recreational use, and preservation of local natural and cultural resources in river management decisions.

FLOODPLAINS AND WETLANDS

Much of the land along the Yahara River in the northeast portion of Stoughton lies within the 100-year floodplain, as designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The 100-year floodplain—defined as the area with a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year—is generally protected from development under state statute–authorized local zoning regulations. These areas are included within the environmental corridor boundaries illustrated on the Natural Resources Base Map. It is important to note that not all flood-prone areas are captured within the mapped floodplains, and floodplain boundaries can change over time based on changes in precipitation and land use. For official delineation and elevation of floodplain boundaries, reference should be made to FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program maps. The City's adopted floodplain ordinance and official map are available for public review at City Hall. Issues with high water levels have occurred in the Yahara Lakes system over the last several decades, and larger storm events in recent years, combined with more development, requires ongoing measures to mitigate storm impacts and water levels.

Wetlands play an important role in sustaining environmental health and improving surface and groundwater quality by storing water, filtering pollutants, cycling nutrients, and providing valuable wildlife habitat. More than half of the wetlands in Dane County have been lost over the last century, including those in the planning area, and many of the remaining wetlands have been degraded.

In the Stoughton area, most wetlands are located within floodplain areas and have been identified and mapped by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WisDNR). These wetlands are incorporated into the environmental corridor boundaries shown on Map 2. The largest wetland areas are found on City-owned lands to the north and south of Stoughton, with smaller wetland areas also present within the floodplain on the City's west side. For official delineation of wetland boundaries, reference should be made to the WisDNR Wisconsin Wetland Inventory maps.

WATERSHEDS AND DRAINAGE BASINS

Watersheds, defined as the land area that drains to a specific body of water (river, lake, wetland, etc.), are a foundational element of natural resource protection.

The City of Stoughton is located within the Lower Yahara River sub-watershed, which drains to the Yahara River and Lake Kegonsa watershed, which drains to the Lower Rock River basin, which drains to the Mississippi River basin, which ultimately drains to the Gulf of Mexico. The Yahara River provides the predominate surface drainage within this watershed. Southwest of the City lies the Badfish Creek watershed, and to the southeast lies the Lower Koshkonong Creek watershed. Figure 1 shows major watershed boundaries in the area.

It is important to consider the impacts to watersheds as part of land use and development planning, given that local actions may have impacts downstream from their point of origin.

One way the City of Stoughton works to reduce negative impacts of development on area watersheds is through the responsible management of a robust stormwater system across the city. Effective stormwater management protects residents from flood events, reduces contamination and runoff, and protects the local ecosystem. This system includes a number of detention areas, varying from large wetponds to smaller stormwater swales, that reduce roughly 45% of phosphorus and other water pollutants from entering local watersheds. Minimizing pollutants in our water systems helps protect the valuable natural resources in Stoughton and the greater area.

Additionally, the city has passed more stringent ordinance regulations for Platting around environmental areas such as wetlands, floodplains, and steep slopes. Clearly mapping property boundaries against sensitive zones prevents structural damage, reduces pollution, and protects essential habitat.

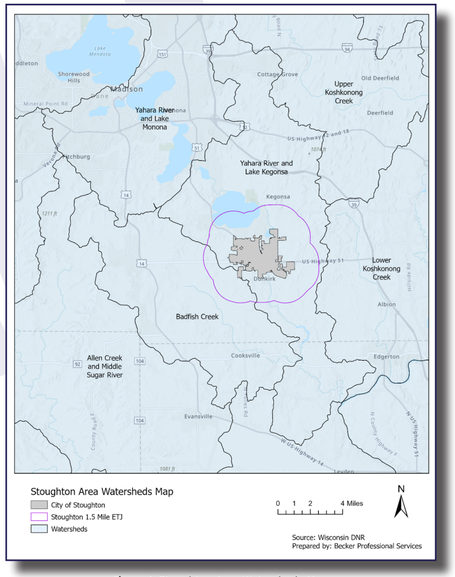


Figure 1: Stoughton Area Watersheds Map

WOODLANDS AND URBAN FORESTRY

Woodlands in the planning area cover only about 8% of the landscape, and many are fragmented, small, and often bisected by roads and adjacent to development, reducing their ecological value and biodiversity.

The Stoughton Area FUDA Environmental Conditions Report (2015) identified 14 woodlands exceeding 12.35 acres in the planning area that may warrant preservation.

Woodlands are an important natural resource in Stoughton, helping to protect water quality, reduce runoff and erosion, improve air quality, and provide wildlife habitat. They also enhance scenic beauty, shape urban form, and offer recreational and educational opportunities. Significant woodland areas are found on the steep slopes of the drumlins in the northern and western parts of the city and along the Yahara River corridor. These wooded areas contribute greatly to Stoughton's natural character and identity.

The city also benefits from a strong urban forestry program. The Forestry Division maintains more than 5,000 terrace trees and all trees within city parks through pruning, planting, preservation, removal, and disease management. Stoughton's urban forest includes over 100 tree species and cultivated varieties, contributing to the city's biodiversity and visual appeal. The community has been recognized as a Tree City USA since 1994 and has received more than 20 Growth Awards from the Arbor Day Foundation, reflecting its long-standing commitment to excellence in tree care and management.

Urban Wood Utilization and Mulch Program

Stoughton takes an innovative approach to managing removed terrace trees by salvaging logs, milling them into usable lumber, and drying them in a city-owned solar kiln. This "tree-cycled" lumber is used in city projects and is also available for residents to purchase, including at the Senior Center wood shop. The city is a proud member of the Urban Wood Network (UWN), a regional effort promoting the social, economic, and ecological benefits of repurposing urban trees. Stoughton's leadership in this program includes active service on the Wisconsin UWN Steering Committee.

In addition, the city provides free wood mulch to residents for much of the year. Mulch is typically available at Racetrack Park during the growing season and at the Yard Waste Site on Collins Road when the site is open to the public. These programs reflect Stoughton's commitment to sustainability, resource conservation, and community benefit.

STEEP SLOPES

Like woodlands, steep slopes contribute to Stoughton's scenic character and influence development patterns. Protecting these areas is important, as disturbance can lead to erosion, increased runoff, and potential slope instability that may damage buildings, roads, and utilities. While most of the planning area is flat or gently rolling, steep slopes (greater than 12%) are limited and typically found near waterways or drumlin formations. Proper planning and protection of these areas help safeguard natural resources and reduce risks to infrastructure. Steep slopes in the planning area can be found on the Natural Resources Base Map.

ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDORS

Environmental corridors are continuous natural systems that link Stoughton's most important environmental features across the landscape. These corridors are found throughout the planning area and bring together wetlands, woodlands, waterways, floodplains, and other sensitive natural resources. Together, they form a connected network that is essential to the community's environmental health and quality of life.

Environmental corridors play a critical role in:

- Maintaining ecological function and biodiversity
- Protecting water quality and wildlife habitat
- Preserving scenic landscapes and community character

In Stoughton, environmental corridors generally follow natural landscape features such as stream valleys, lakeshores, river flowages, floodplains, and wooded slopes. Protecting these areas helps ensure that natural systems continue to function over time, while also supporting recreation opportunities, stormwater management, and climate resilience.

Key elements that make up Stoughton's environmental corridors include:

- Rivers, lakes, and undeveloped shorelands
- DNR-mapped wetlands and 100-year floodplains
- Steep slopes (greater than 12 percent)
- Woodlands and areas with unique vegetation or geologic features
- County, state, and federal public lands
- Greenways and stormwater management areas

The most prominent environmental corridor within the City follows the Yahara River flowage, which serves as a unifying natural feature and major recreational asset. As shown on the Natural Resources Base Map, environmental corridors have strongly influenced existing development patterns and continue to guide recommended land use and transportation decisions. These corridors represent a concentration of Stoughton's most valuable natural resources, including high-quality wetlands, woodlands, and wildlife habitats, and provide significant environmental, ecological, and recreational benefits.

Protecting environmental corridors from encroachment and incompatible land uses is a key planning priority. The City will continue to use zoning regulations, subdivision review procedures, and site design standards to minimize disturbance and preserve natural features. In addition, collaboration with Dane County, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and local land trusts can support long-term protection through conservation easements, land acquisition, and parkland dedication. Together, these efforts will help safeguard open space, enhance community character, and ensure that Stoughton's natural resources remain a lasting asset for future generations.

THREATENED OR ENDANGERED SPECIES

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WisDNR) maintains the Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI), a database identifying the locations and status of rare, threatened, and endangered species, as well as significant natural communities and features. According to the NHI, Dane County is home to more than 100 documented rare or endangered plants and animal species, including the federally endangered Rusty-Patched Bumblebee. The absence of recorded sightings in a specific location does not necessarily indicate that endangered resources are not present, as many species are known to exist near Stoughton but may not yet be mapped.

To ensure responsible development, the City encourages developers to consult the NHI tool during project planning and design. As part of the local review process, the City may require applicants to provide documentation of an NHI review prior to the issuance of building permits for new construction. This practice will help safeguard sensitive species and natural communities while supporting compliance with state and federal conservation requirements.

There are no critical habitats located within the City of Stoughton, yet the following species are potentially affected by activities within the planning area:

- Whooping Crane
- Monarch Butterfly
- Rusty Patched Bumble Bee
- Western Regal Fritillary (Butterfly)
- Eastern Prairie Fringed Orchid

METALLIC/NONMETALLIC MINERAL RESOURCES

There are currently no metallic mines operating in Wisconsin. While certain areas of the state, particularly in the north, contain metal-bearing minerals, there are no known metallic mineral deposits of economic value within or near the City of Stoughton.

Nonmetallic mining is more common across Wisconsin, with activities such as sand and gravel extraction playing a role in local economies. The State of Wisconsin regulates nonmetallic mine reclamation under NR 135 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code, which establishes a uniform statewide program. This law also allows landowners to register economically viable nonmetallic mineral deposits that are not currently being mined, ensuring they are identified and preserved for potential future use. In the City of Stoughton, there are no metallic ore mines. However, both active and former sand and gravel quarries are in and around the community and there are some areas identified as high potential for mineral resources within the planning area as shown in map x on page x (link). If Stoughton wanted to exercise its extra-territorial jurisdiction (ETJ) zoning rights to control land use in these areas, it would follow the process outlined on page x in chapter x (link).

AIR QUALITY

Dane County currently meets the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). However, as of August 2025, larger and more frequent wildfires have become an increasing public health concern. Smoke from these events can travel hundreds or even thousands of miles, affecting air quality in Wisconsin and beyond. Health impacts vary depending on individual sensitivity and pollutant concentrations, with fine particulate matter (PM2.5) being the primary concern from wildfire smoke.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), in partnership with tribal governments, operates an Air Management Program that monitors PM2.5 concentrations year-round at 18 sites across the state. Residents can access current conditions through the DNR's interactive air quality map: Wisconsin Air Quality Monitoring Map.

Facilities in Stoughton with air quality permits issued by the DNR:

Facility ID	Facility Name	Address
113003550	STOUGHTON WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY	700 Mandt Pkwy
113004210	UNIROYAL GLOBAL ENGINEERED PRODUCTS LLC	501 S Water St
113007840	STOUGHTON UTILITIES	600 S 4th St
113025440	B&G FOODS INC ORTEGA PRODUCTS DIVISION	430 Industrial Cir
113063720	STOUGHTON TRAILERS LLC - PLANT 3	416 S Academy St
113121580	ZALK JOSEPHS FABRICATORS INC	400 Industrial Cir
113124770	CUMMINS EMISSION SOLUTIONS	1801 US Highway 51 and 138
113126530	STOUGHTON TRAILERS LLC - PLT 5 & 6	1111 Veterans Rd
113157000	ELGI RUBBER CO LLC	250 Industrial Cir
113171470	COLORCON INC	440 Business Park Cir
113233230	IKI MANUFACTURING CO INC	411 Ridge St
113264690	KLINKE CLOTHING CARE CORP	1308 Hamilton St
113436070	ZINKPOWER- STOUGHTON LLC	2443 County Road A
113460270	CUMMINS FILTRATION INC	1801 US Highway 51 and 138 Ste A

Details about the permitted emissions may be found with the DNR's Air Permit Search Tool - https://apps.dnr.wi.gov/. Enter the facility ID to bring up the records for that facility.