

County Comprehensive Plan

Lincoln County, located at the south edge of Wisconsin's Northwoods, is experiencing increased growth and development activity. This growth has potential positive impacts, if growth is properly planned. Unplanned development could, however, overwhelm Lincoln County's rural character, which is highly valued by its residents.



To plan for its future growth and preservation, the County actively worked with local governments particularly towns—to complete Lincoln County's first comprehensive plan and map in 2001. In fact, Lincoln County was the first county in the state to prepare a plan under Wisconsin's "Smart Growth" planning law.

The Lincoln County Comprehensive Plan:

- Provides a vision and framework for growth over the next 20 years.
- Identifies strategies for forest, farmland, and natural area preservation.
- Plans areas for different types of future development by working directly with towns.
- Makes recommendations for roads, recreation, community facilities, and utilities to serve future growth.
- Focuses and guides housing, neighborhood, and economic development efforts.
- Suggests tools for future intergovernmental cooperation and plan implementation.

Lincoln County's Vision...

Over the next 20 years and beyond, Lincoln County desires to preserve its abundant rural character. The County's rural character is defined by its forests; pristine lakes, rivers, wetlands, and other natural areas; farms and open spaces; clear separation between "city" and "country;" schools and other institutions; careful placement and design of development; and most importantly, its people. At the same time, the County will accommodate and promote thoughtfully planned housing and economic development, and seek to balance community goals with private property rights. Lincoln County seeks to achieve this vision in close partnership with towns, cities, and others interested in the County's long-term health, success, and beauty.

[Rezone and Comprehensive Plan Change Applications](#)

Supporting Documents

Lincoln County Comprehensive Plan 2022-2031 10.6 MB