

Planning in Wisconsin: At The Leading Edge

Increasing natural resource consumption and changing land use patterns have had significant impacts on the environmental, economic, and cultural resources that are essential to sustain our quality of life. In 1999, Wisconsin adopted a comprehensive community planning law, providing an opportunity to educate citizens, elected officials and professionals about community planning and resource management. This project, *Partnership for Community Planning: Models for Land Use Education, Planning, & Management*, will build on the planning principles in that law to create effective models for community planning, resource management and related education.

Working with Communities

The Center for Land Use Education (CLUE) will work collaboratively with local, state, and federal partners to investigate and critique the effectiveness of different planning approaches in various geographic, demographic, and cultural settings. We will work with communities across Wisconsin to complete comprehensive plans and identify improved methods and strategies for innovative decision-making, plan evaluation, implementation, monitoring, and revision.



Photo by Jason Folstad

Washburn County residents develop a new comprehensive plan.



Photo by UWSP-News Services

How do we balance the needs of agricultural and natural resources?

Sharing the Experience

We will synthesize educational materials and experiences derived from working with our partner communities to create a flexible comprehensive planning and resource management template for use in other communities — throughout Wisconsin, the nation, and internationally. Specifically, this project will identify, test, and deliver products to assist communities in planning for and managing their natural resources:

- (1) Criteria to identify or prioritize communities with significant natural and agricultural resources and the capacity to engage in planning.
- (2) Procedures to prepare a community for the planning process.
- (3) A methodology to assess and build community planning capacity.
- (4) Incentives that encourage long-term community engagement in planning and plan implementation.
- (5) Public participation methods that foster opportunities for dialogue among citizens, government, and other stakeholders.
- (6) Inventory techniques and analyses useful for setting community goals and objectives.
- (7) Tools to identify, evaluate and choose among alternative resource management options.

Planning Without Boundaries: An International Model

We will invite potential international partners interested in our planning and management models to participate in and observe critical stages of local planning processes.

A culminating conference will invite project partners — including communities, planning professionals, international partners, educational institutions and state and federal agencies — to discuss the results of this project and future directions.

The conference proceedings will identify processes, techniques, and resources necessary to overcome technological, economic and socio-cultural barriers to transfer sound planning principles to local planning efforts overseas. Educational exchanges and other communication tools will enhance this process.



Photo by UWSP-News Services

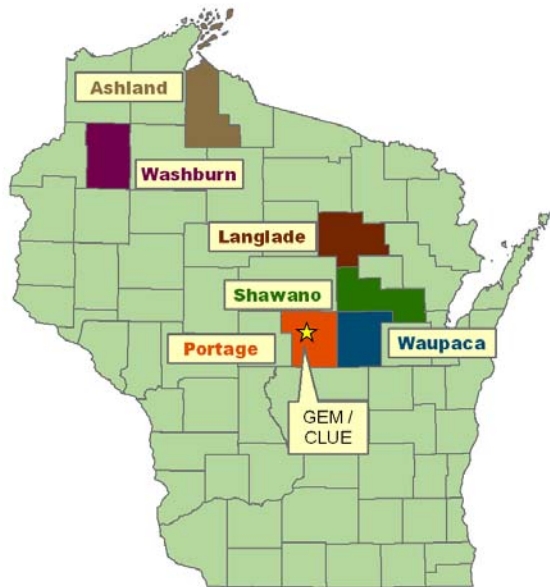
One of Wisconsin's many diverse landscapes.

Local Community Partners

CLUE is assisting comprehensive planning projects or is engaged in pre-planning activities with communities in the following counties:

- Ashland
- Washburn
- Langlade
- Shawano
- Portage
- Waupaca

We also contribute to community planning statewide through educational conferences and distribution of educational materials.



Map by Douglas Miskowiak, CLUE

For More Information

Center for Land Use Education
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point
College of Natural Resources
1900 Franklin Street
Stevens Point, WI 54481

Phone: (715) 346-3783
Fax: (715) 346-4038
Email: landcenter@uwsp.edu

A Collaborative Effort



Center for Land Use Education (CLUE) provides campus-based undergraduate and graduate education and outreach education related to land use planning and resource management. CLUE is a joint venture of the College of Natural Resources at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and the University of Wisconsin-Cooperative Extension System.

<http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/landcenter/>



The University of Wisconsin-Cooperative Extension (UWEX) is a joint effort of University of Wisconsin institutions and Wisconsin's county governments to apply University research, knowledge, and resources to meet the educational needs of Wisconsin people, wherever they live and work.

<http://www.uwex.edu>



The Global Environmental Management (GEM) Education Center within the College of Natural Resources at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point is creating solutions to environmental challenges by linking people from diverse cultures and building understanding of natural resource management through practical learning, thus improving the quality of life worldwide.

<http://gem.uwsp.edu>



The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) provides technical assistance to landowners and administers programs designed to help people conserve, maintain, and improve our nation's natural resources. The NRCS works with federal, state, and nonprofit groups to provide national conservation leadership. In keeping with this mission, the NRCS provides valuable financial and technical support for this project.

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/>

Cover photos by Bob Nichols, Stora Enso, USDA-NRCS, and UWSP-News Services

Partnership for Community Planning



Models for Land Use Education, Planning, and Management

Center for Land Use Education

University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point
College of Natural Resources
1900 Franklin St. - Stevens Point, WI 54481



NRCS Natural Resources
Conservation Service