

## **5 Community Facilities and Services**

The quality and variety of community facilities and services within the City of Eagle River and Town of Lincoln are important and attractive components to community development and are often used as a quality of life measure. Community services require capital intensive investment supported by the local tax base or user fees. Thus, the level of service is generally balanced with the users ability or interest in paying for the service. Local features such as parks, schools, utilities, protective and emergency services, and roads must be considered in relation to the future development they are intended to support, not just the current demand for services.

Due to the shared municipal boundary and growth pattern that combines the two municipalities, the type and extent of services existing or proposed within either jurisdiction will have an impact on the adjacent municipality. As an example, the City and Town currently cooperatively provide library, airport, fire, ambulance, park commission, economic development, chamber of commerce, Highway G Landfill, and Housing Block Grant services. Additional shared service potential exists with police protection, snow plowing, garbage pickup, road maintenance, sanitary services, and park and recreation development. However, in order to identify the future needs of the Town of Lincoln and the City of Eagle River, an inventory of existing facilities and services was conducted and compared to growth projections to determine capability and potential demand. The location of various public facilities is presented in Map 5-1 Community Facilities and Services.

### **5.1 Administrative Facilities and Services**

The Town of Lincoln's administrative facilities are located at the Town of Lincoln Municipal Building, 1205 Sundstein Road, P.O. Box 9, Eagle River, Wisconsin 54521. The Municipal Building (Town Hall) is used for town business and monthly town meetings held on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

The administrative staff for the town consists of five elected Town Board members, each serving two-year terms. There is also a full-time elected clerk/treasurer, and an appointed part-time deputy clerk/treasurer.

The town also contracts with the County Highway Department and private firms to provide services such as snow plowing and road maintenance, which reduces employee administration. The town does not own any road maintenance equipment. The existing administrative services and public facilities currently meet town needs, although service impacts of growth may warrant consideration for expanded town services in the future to meet growing demands. Current officials did not indicate administrative expansion was a need or a priority. The town utilizes several administrative tools such as computers and computer software, of which periodic upgrades and maintenance should be budgeted and performed to maintain service viability.

# Map 5-1 Public Facilities and Services

The City of Eagle River’s administrative facilities are located at the Eagle River Municipal Building, at 525 E. Maple St, Eagle River, Wisconsin 54521. The Municipal Building houses the City Council chambers and several city departments, including zoning, treasurer/clerk, police, and public works. The Municipal Building is used for city business and monthly city meetings held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Eagle River’s administrative staff includes the City Council which consists of four elected alder persons and the mayor. Each member serves two-year terms. The city employs 14 full-time and 20 part-time employees in various departments.

The City also utilizes various computer software programs to aid in administrative operations such as Realworld, Creative Solutions, and Corel 8. These administrative tools should be maintained and updated periodically. Although the City Council has debated thoughts of hiring a city manager or administrator, there are no plans for additional staffing at this time.

As tables 5-1 and 5-2 illustrate, the Town of Lincoln and City of Eagle River rely upon both employees and volunteers to staff the numerous community related activities and functions.

**Table 5-1  
Town Committees/Boards  
Town of Lincoln**

| Committee                | Function                       | Contact Person                      |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Town Board               | Town Operations/Administration | Gerald Block                        |
| Landfill Venture Group   | Town Rep./Operations           | Sandra Bauer                        |
| Fire Commission          | Town Rep./Operations           | Bruce Richter                       |
| Airport Commission       | Town Rep./ Operations          | Conrad Bradish<br>Kurt Hartwig      |
| Library Board            | Town Rep./Operations           | Edith Kuckanich<br>Judith Nordstrom |
| Boating Commission       | Town Representative            | Gerald Tahtinen<br>Karl Nikolai     |
| Joint Planning Committee | 6 Town Reps./Land Use Planning | Tripp Anderson                      |

**Table 5-2  
City Committees/Boards  
City of Eagle River**

| Committee                         | Function                           | Contact Person*  |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|
| Common Council                    | City Operations                    | Dan Meyer        |
| Board of Review                   | Taxation Policy                    | Dan Meyer        |
| Finance                           | Financial and Personnel Operations | Dan Meyer        |
| Negotiations                      | City Interests                     | Dan Meyer        |
| Public Welfare                    | Health, Recreation, and Welfare    | Carol Hendricks  |
| Public Works                      | Public Works                       | Brian Crist      |
| Planning Commission               | Development Review                 | Dan Meyer        |
| Housing                           | Housing                            | Chuck McDonald   |
| Citizen Participation for Housing | Housing                            | Chuck McDonald   |
| Citizen Participation             | Involvement                        | Dan Meyer        |
| Fire Commission                   | Safety Services                    | Jim Bonson       |
| Airport Commission                | Airport Administration             | Karl Nikolai     |
| Cable                             | Community Service                  | John Adam        |
| Golf Course Advisory              | Administration                     | Jeff Hyslop      |
| Parks and Recreation              | Parks and Recreation               | Dave Bricco      |
| Board of Zoning Appeals           | Zoning Appeals                     | Dave Ogren       |
| Board of Elections                | Election Supervision               | Audry Carter     |
| Light and Water Commission        | Utility Services                   | Dan Meyer        |
| Joint Planning Committee          | 6 City Reps./Land Use Planning     | Fred Indermuehle |

\*Contact person information designated at time of draft report dated January, 2001.

**Table 5-3  
Quasi-Public Facilities  
Town of Lincoln**

| Facility                        | Location             | Service Type |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Prince of Peace Lutheran Church | 5030 Highway 70 West | Religious    |
| Northwoods Assembly of God      | 926 Highway 45 South | Religious    |
| Jehovah's Witness               | 5246 Highway 70 West | Religious    |
| Eagle River Baptist Church      | 1016 S. Hwy 45       | Religious    |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> Day Adventists  | 3770 O'Neil Road     | Religious    |
| Camp Ojibwa                     | 4040 Ojibwa Drive    | Recreation   |
| Camp Marimeta for Girls         | 3782 Gafney Drive    | Recreation   |
| St. Peters Parish               | 5001Hwy G            | Religious    |
| ERRA Sports Arena               | 4149 Highway 70 East | Recreation   |

**Table 5-4  
Quasi-Public Facilities  
City of Eagle River**

| Facility                                     | Location                | Service Type |
|--|-------------------------|--------------|
| First Congregational United Church of Christ | 105 North First Street  | Religious    |
| Community Bible Church                       | 101 South Second Street | Religious    |
| St. Mary of the Snows Episcopal Church       | 120 Silver Lake Road    | Religious    |
| Our Savior Lutheran Church                   | 223 Silver Lake Road    | Religious    |
| Christ Lutheran Church                       | 121 North Third Street  | Religious    |
| Abundant Life Outreach Center                | 1402 Capich Drive       | Religious    |
| Trees for Tomorrow                           | 519 Sheridan Road       | Educational  |

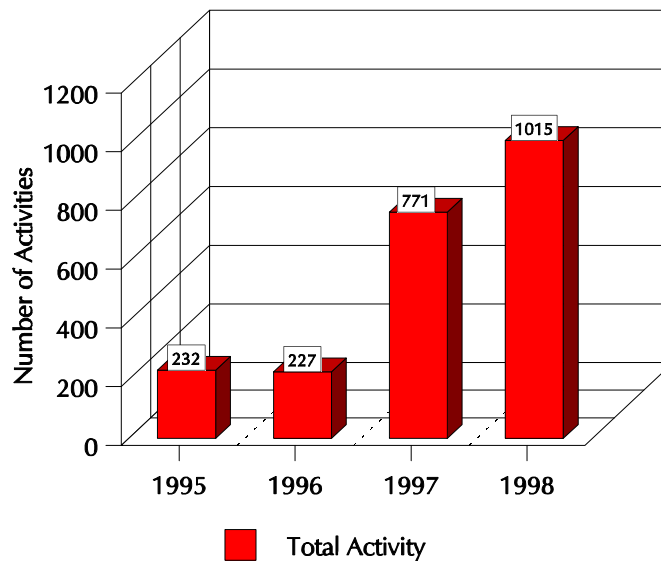
## 5.2 Protective Services

The protective services (which are provided to both the Town of Lincoln and the City of Eagle River) include police, fire, medical, and rescue services.

### Police Services

Police services are provided differently between the two municipalities. Police protection services for Town of Lincoln is provided by the Vilas County Sheriff's Department which is located at 330 Court Street, in the City of Eagle River. City services are provided by the city's own police force. The number of police calls made to the Town of Lincoln by the Vilas County Sheriff's Department from 1995 to 1998 is presented in Figure 5-1.

**Figure 5-1**  
**Vilas County Sheriff's Department Annual Activity Report**  
**Town of Lincoln**  
**1995-1998**



Source: Vilas County Sheriff Department, Activity Report 1995-1998

Figure 5-1 depicts the increase in the number of activities or calls the Vilas County Sheriff's Department has made to the Town of Lincoln from 1995-1998. Detailed reports were not available prior to 1995. The amount of calls relate to all department activity, including traffic violations, accidents, and general service. While the specific cause or causes of this trend were not available from the Sheriff's Department, officers did indicate that the increases in the seasonal population is likely an attributable cause of the increase in calls, as well as the departments ability to track and index the services.

In some rural communities, relying upon a County Sheriff's Department for protection can present problems because each sheriff's time must be divided over greater distances. However, the Vilas County Sheriff's Department has state-of-the-art equipment which assists in their provision of services for Town of Lincoln. In 1997 the Sheriff's Department instituted "Enhanced 911" or E-911 throughout the County. Upon receiving a call, E-911 allows the dispatcher to see the address to which the phone is billed, the township of the call, as well as the appropriate link for fire and first responder services for the call. In addition, the Sheriff's Department, which is located in the city, is in close proximity to the town for reduced response time. The Sheriff's Department also provides central dispatch to both the city and the county, and has mutual service agreements with the City of Eagle River Police Department that assist town services when necessary. The Sheriff's Department had recently requested additional patrol officers for Vilas County, which at the time of this report, was being debated by the County Board. Although the town is adequately served by the existing agreement, the Town of Lincoln should stay abreast of staffing and patrol schedules of the Sheriff's Department that may affect the town.

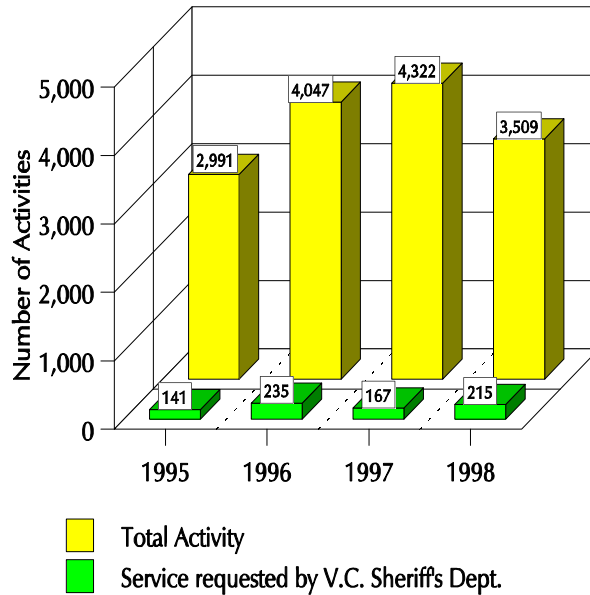
Police protection services for the City of Eagle River is provided by the Eagle River Police Department which is located at 525 E. Maple Street, in the City of Eagle River. The department consists of one part-time chief, a full-time sergeant, four full-time officers, and five part-time officers. Dispatching for the department is provided by the Vilas County Sheriff's Department. The department provides mutual aid to and receives mutual aid from the County Sheriff's Department. The department responds outside the city at the request of the Sheriff's Department to handle calls or provide backup for deputies. The number of incidents reported to the Eagle River Police Department and the number of incidents where police service was requested from the Vilas County Sheriff's Dept. from 1995 to 1998 is presented in Figure 5-2.

Figure 5-2 depicts the increase in the number of total activities the Eagle River Police Department has made to the City of Eagle River (and assisted to the Vilas County Sheriff's Dept.) from 1995-1997, followed by a 18.8% (813 incidents) decrease in 1998. Detailed reports were not available prior to 1995. The amount of calls relate to all department activity, including traffic violations, accidents, and general service.

The Eagle River Police Department is sufficiently staffed and is able to adequately meet the city's regular needs for police service. According to department officials, the department is able to handle some future growth of the city before additional staffing and equipment will be needed to accommodate the coverage. According to the Police Chief, one squad car will probably be replaced within a year, and the department is currently upgrading their computer equipment and software, which will bring them online with the Vilas County Sheriff's Department. The telephone system within the department also needs replacement and an additional line will be needed to accommodate a fax machine and internet service. In addition, some squad video and communications equipment will probably need replacing over the next few years. All equipment is owned by the Eagle River Police Department.

**Figure 5-2**  
**Eagle River Police Department Annual Activity Report**  
**City of Eagle River**  
**1995-1998**

Source: Eagle River Police Department, Activity Report 1995-1998



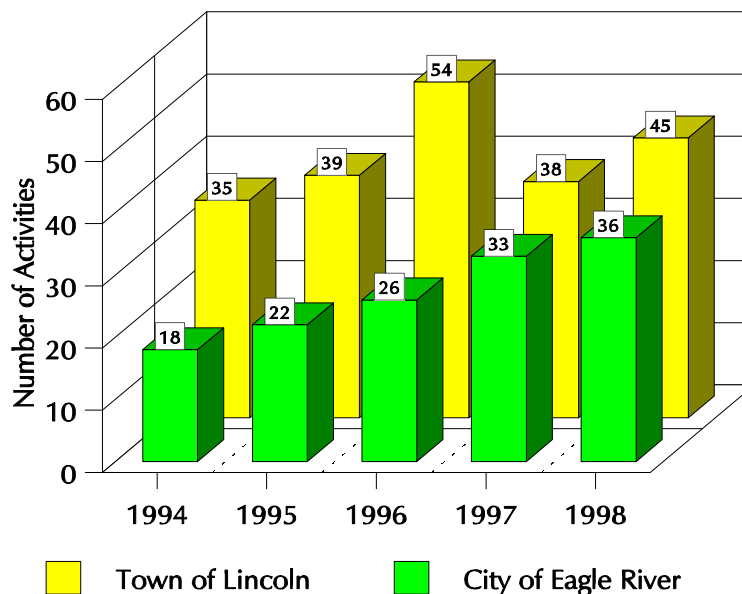
The implications of growth and the necessary service impacts, the boundary configuration of the two municipalities, the existing shared service arrangements, and the coordinated intergovernmental cooperation lead the question as to future shared services of police services as well. Recent survey results indicate taxpayers are willing to consider the possibility of shared police services, as long as the tax implications and service capabilities are not diminished. The respective governments should at least consider the possibility if cost reduction and service efficiency can be realized.

**Fire Protection Services**

Fire protection services for the Town of Lincoln and City of Eagle River is provided by the Joint Municipal Fire Department, located at 820 east Pine Street, depicted in Map 5-1. Formed in September of 1991, the Joint Municipal Fire Commission is comprised of the City of Eagle River and the Towns of Cloverland, Washington, and Lincoln. There is one representative from each municipality and one from the fire department who serves as the chairperson. Each municipality pays a proportionate fair share based upon the equalized assessed value on real estate to support department operations. In addition, all fire departments within Vilas County operate with mutual service agreements, including the northern Oneida County fire departments for the Towns of Three Lakes, Sugar Camp, Hiles, and Alvin.

The total coverage area for the department is approximately 110.5 square miles, which includes the Town of Lincoln proper. The department has received an average of 69 calls per year (42 Lincoln, 27 Eagle River) over the last five years, as seen in Figure 5-3 and Appendix 5-1. The department has 30 volunteers including a chief, three assistant chiefs, two fire inspectors, two captains, six lieutenants, a chief pump operator, and 15 firefighters, and contracts for fire inspection services. A complete listing of the department's equipment is provided in Appendix 5-2. The fire equipment that the Joint Municipal Fire Commission owns include: three pumpers, one tanker, one equipment truck, one brush truck, one suburban, one safety trailer, radios, hoses, air packs, nozzles, and other firefighting equipment.

**Figure 5-3**  
**Town of Lincoln/City of Eagle River Fire Calls**  
**Eagle River Area Fire Department**  
**1994-1998**



Source: Eagle River Area Fire Department Annual Report, 1998

The adequacy of the fire protection within both the Town of Lincoln and the City of Eagle River can be evaluated by the Insurance Service Office by the Grading Schedule for Municipal Fire Protection. This grading system provides a guideline which many municipalities follow when planning for improvements in their existing fire protection services. The grading schedule is based upon several factors including: fire department equipment, alarm systems, water supply system, fire prevention programs, building construction, and distance of potential hazard areas from a fire station. The rating is on a scale of one to ten, with one representing the best protection and ten representing the most unprotected community. At the time of this report preparation, the department's ISO rating was five in the city limits to 1,000 feet perimeter, a

seven within five road miles of the station, and a nine in outlying areas. The higher rating in the outlying areas is reflective of the lack of a public water supply system for the entire town.

The town and city should continue to invest and be active in the Joint Municipal Fire Commission to ensure the protection of the residents' public health and safety. The municipalities should also encourage residents to join the volunteer fire department so the department may better service the area throughout the planning period. According to the 1998 annual report, the Joint Municipal Fire Commission plans to purchase a new pumper in the year 2002. The goal of the fire commission is to have available pumpers that will meet all the safety standards and be reliable in any emergency. The fire commission has set up a vehicle purchase and rotation program to secure a new pumper every 10 years. This program will also make three pumpers available to meet community needs and maintain and improve ISO ratings. The Joint Municipal Fire Commission is actively involved in continued personnel training and capital facilities management.

Continued population and housing growth will increase the demand for fire and rescue services which could have cost impact. Within the structure of the existing relationship, the Town of Lincoln and the City of Eagle River will be adequately served for fire protection throughout the planning period.

### **5.3 Emergency Medical Services and Medical Facilities**

The Town of Lincoln/City of Eagle River Rescue/First Responder service and major medical service is provided by Eagle River Memorial Hospital in Eagle River. The hospital facilitated a \$9.2 million dollar expansion project in summer 2000 which added a 25-bed wing, a larger emergency room and walk-in clinic, and upgrades prompted by the hospital's designation of a "critical access hospital". The projects are expected to be completed in spring, 2001. The expansion will add 35,070 square feet, and remodel 15,200 square feet of the original facility.

There are nine full-time employees, and 11 part-time "on call" employees. The hospital owns a 1996 Ford Braun Type III Ambulance, a 1993 Ford Type III Ambulance, a 1989 Rescue 1 Ford Cargo Van, a 1991 Ski-Doo Snowmobile, and a 1997 Polaris 6-wheel ATV. There are plans to add an advanced life support system, and also a five-year plan to train more staff to a paramedic level of service and add a new modular ambulance with all mandated equipment. These facilities currently meet the existing and future needs of these communities.

### **5.4 Solid Management/Recycling**

The Town of Lincoln does not have coordinated solid waste management for town residents. Individual contracts are facilitated by residents with local haulers, or there is a drop-off site for refuse and recycled materials located at the Eagle Waste Recycling Center at 603 Jack Frost Drive. Hours are between 9:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m., Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday.

The City of Eagle River has solid waste and recycling services provided to them by Eagle Waste and Recycling. A drop-off site is also available for refuse and recycled materials at 479 Jack Frost Drive. Pick-up hours are between 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday.

The refuse is transported to the Vilas County Landfill located at 7001 County Highway G. The landfill also allows individual drop-off. Landfill operation hours are between 8:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

Both the Town of Lincoln and City of Eagle River are members of the Vilas County Landfill Venture Group, which is an organization of all Vilas County municipalities (sans Land O' Lakes) commissioned to construct and operate the Vilas County Landfill. Each Vilas County municipality has a commissioner, or representative in the in Venture Group. The Town nor City is not involved with day to day activities of landfill administration, as an elected body (executive committee) of commissioners manage the operations. The landfill opened in 1989 and was designed with a 20+ year, four-phase life span. As of 1999, phase two was in its third year of operation, a new refuse digester was in operation, and a new demolition pit was sited for calendar year 2000 to help reduce loading.

According to original life span estimates, the landfill has an additional 15-20 years of service life to Vilas County. The life span currently serves the needs of the Town of Lincoln, City of Eagle River, and all other Vilas County municipalities, and it is not anticipated an additional landfill siting process will be undertaken during the planning period. The current solid waste and recycling practices meet the needs of the local population for both the City of Eagle River and Town of Lincoln.

## **5.5 Sewer and Water Accommodations**

At this time, there are no public sewer or public water supply in the Town of Lincoln. The Town Hall is serviced by city sewer, and no plans for additional service agreements currently exist. All structures rely upon individual waste treatment systems and private wells. The town is not aware of any water problems in the Town of Lincoln area that might effect the drinking water supply. However, the lack of a public water supply system has negatively impacted the town's ISO Fire Protection Rating as previously indicated.

The City of Eagle River is equipped with a sanitary sewer system which was constructed in 1920, and services the entire city. Their wastewater treatment facility is located at 323 W. Division St., and was constructed in 1935. This facility provides secondary treatment, biological nutrient removal, UV disinfection, and 180 day biosolids storage. The maximum design capacity of the facility is 1,400,000 gallons per day (gpd), with a peak load of 500,000 gpd, and an average load of 300,000 gpd. The current system is designed to meet the City's needs for 20 years, and there are no plans for future expansion.

The City is also equipped with a public water supply system via a 300,000 gallon water tower. The facility averages 275,000 gpd, with a peak consumption of 340,000 gpd. The City has analyzed the water system and found that water service is not uniform or adequate in some locations. A water systems analysis identified the need for a new elevated water storage reservoir and improvements to the water distribution system may be necessary as expansion and demands increase. Although the system currently meets the current and needs of the city, these issues should be resolved and addressed. In addition, the well-head, the area that draws the supply for the municipal well, should be considered when reviewing development impacts as well as planning for future land uses.

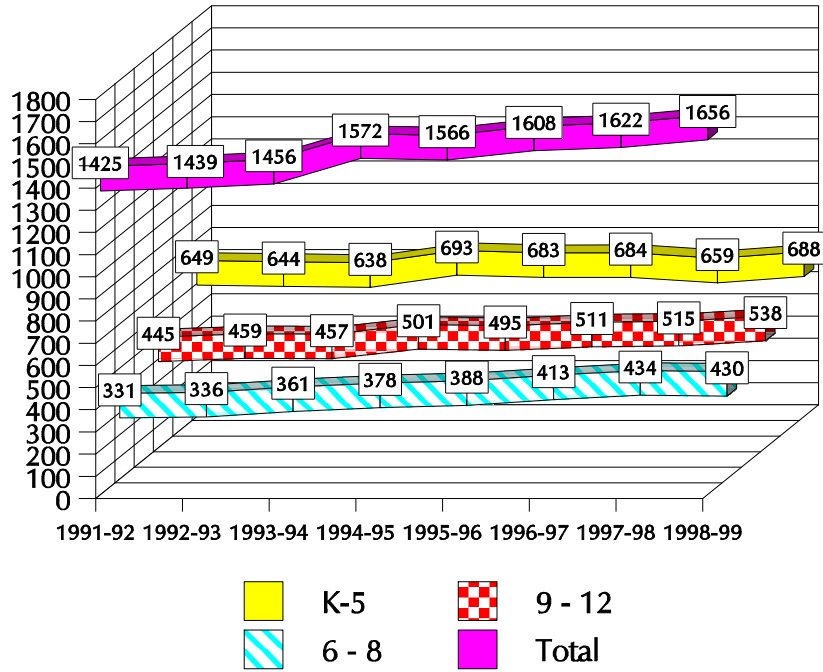
The provision of sewer and water services in proximity to the municipal borders may be a key factor in both land use planning and general growth management discussions. Shared sewer and water services, specifically the cost impacts on both taxes and service efficiency could drive the development pattern along city/town border. Shared services have been identified by the respective communities as issues that need to be discussed. Land use planning and growth management will need to consider the potential. Considering the population increases and the density of development in certain areas rise, the town and city should consider the development and or impact of joint sanitary districts and/or public water and sewer systems. Impacts on the city's system will dictate the potential service area. The tax and cost impacts, efficiency, and political ramifications will play a large role in the potential development of shared services.

## **5.6 Educational Facilities**

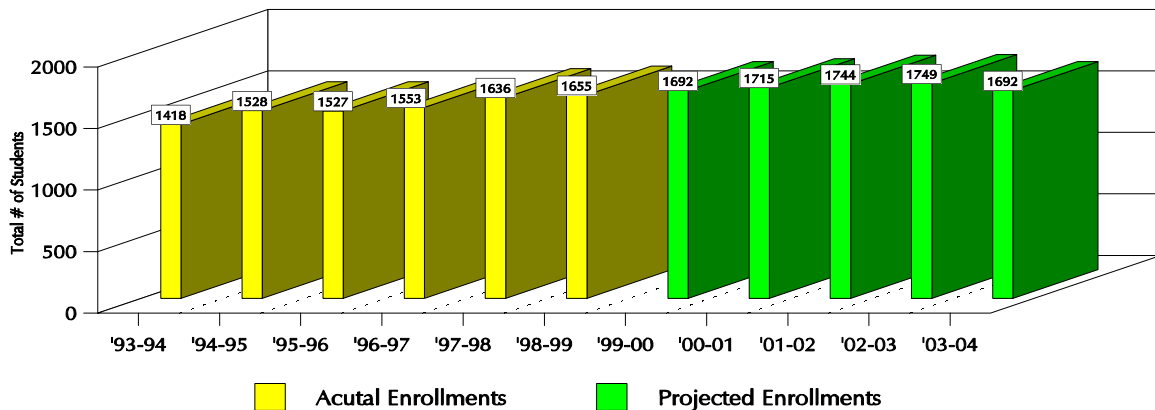
Educational facilities for the Town of Lincoln and City of Eagle River are provided by the Northland Pines School District. Facilities for elementary education (K-5) are located in St. Germain, the City of Eagle River and Land O' Lakes, while middle school and high school facilities are located in Eagle River. In addition, there are two private schools located in Eagle River. This section analyzes these facilities which service the Town of Lincoln and the City of Eagle River.

Actual and projected enrollment information provided by Northland Pines School District is presented in Figure 5-4 and Figure 5-5. The enrollments are reported annually in September. The projected enrollments are predicted on the basis of a survival ratio technique. This technique analyzes a class to determine the ratio or percentage of change based on historical information, and then uses this information to predict the future change. The projections also assume the following the enrollments would remain constant through 2008, there will be no major catastrophes, no new major industries will develop, there will be no dramatic migration of older persons for retirement reasons, no new parochial high school will develop, birthrates will remain constant, no major military installations will be developed, and the quality of life and socio-economic conditions in the community will continue to encourage the existing population to stay. The projections were developed in 1997 by Information Management Systems, an independent firm based out of Rochester, MI.

**Figure 5-4**  
**Student Enrollment by School Type**  
**1991-92 - 1998-99**



**Figure 5-5**  
**Actual and Projected Total Enrollments**  
**Northland Pines School District**  
**1993 - 2004**



Source: Northland Pines School District, 1997.

Figure 5-4 provides actual enrollment by school type from the 1991-92 school year to 1998-99. Figure 5-5 provides actual and projected enrollment figures through the 2003-04 school year for the entire Northland Pines School District. The projections anticipate a very slight growth in student enrollment through the school year of 2002-03, increasing from the 1998-99 enrollment of 1,656 students to 1,749 students in 2002-03. This is an increase of 5.7%. Student enrollment is then projected to decrease in the school year 2003-04 to 1,692 students.

## **High School**

Northland Pines High School (NPHS) is located at 1800 Pleasure Island Road in the Town of Lincoln, and houses grades 9-12. The facility was constructed in 1975 and is 120,000 square feet. There have not been any additions or upgrades to the facility in recent years. Enrollment for the 98-99 school year was 538 students. The school's maximum capacity is 600 students.

According to discussions with district administrators, the facility will have difficulty meeting the projected growth and service demands of the student population through the year 2004. The existing educational facilities will be adequate to service the immediate needs of the student population as related to the Town of Lincoln and the City of Eagle River. However, district administrators feel a new high school should replace parts of the existing facility due to structural problems in the main academic facility area that preclude the opportunity of future expansion or alteration.

The school district had three unsuccessful referendums (during 1998 and 1999) relative to construction of a new high school, exceeding the state revenue cap, and staffing additions (district wide). School administrators are concerned that the current high school facility may not meet the needs of students due to the age, condition, and size of the facility. District administrators noted the school is in need of replacement, although no facilities plan or referendum approval has been put in place. In 1999, the district added 12 new positions, funded by a variety of budget and cocurricular cuts in the district, to reduce class size. It is anticipated the Northland Pines School District will need to address conditions related to the high school in the near future.

## **Middle School**

The Northland Pines Middle School provides educational facilities for Lincoln and the City of Eagle River for grades six through eight. The school is located at 1700 Pleasure Island Road in the Town of Lincoln. The school was constructed in 1995 and is 160,000 square feet. This facility also houses elementary students in grades K-5. The current 1998-99 enrollment is 430 students in grades 6-8. The maximum capacity of the facility is 1,230 students.

In addition to the public school facilities provided by the Northland Pines School District, there are two private schools within the area. These educational facilities include Christ Lutheran School and St. Peter's Catholic School, both of which are located in Eagle River. Christ Lutheran School provides educational instruction for preschool and kindergarten through eighth

grades. Christ Lutheran School is located at 111 N. 3rd Street in Eagle River. Total school enrollment for the 1997-98 school year was 70 students. St. Peter's Catholic School is located at 115 S. 3rd Street in Eagle River. St. Peter's provides educational instruction for preschool, and kindergarten through fifth grades. The 1997-98 school enrollment was 75 students.

### **Elementary Schools**

The Northland Pines School District provides elementary school facilities from pre-kindergarten through fifth grade. The facilities that service the Town of Lincoln and the City of Eagle River are located in St. Germain and Eagle River. Students who live in the Town of Lincoln can attend either St. Germain or Eagle River although most students attend the Eagle River facility due to the close proximity to the school. The St. Germain Elementary School for grades Kindergarten through 5 was recently opened in 1997, and is located in St. Germain. The facility is 48,000 square feet, and has a maximum capacity of 381 students. The 1998-99 enrollment for the elementary school was approximately 177 students in grades K-5. Prior to the construction of this facility, elementary students attended the old school building located at the intersection of Highways 70 and 155 which is now the Town Hall.

In addition to the elementary school in St. Germain, the Northland Pines School District also provides elementary facilities in Eagle River and Land O' Lakes. The facility in Eagle River is included with the Northland Pines Middle School facility, as discussed previously in the middle school section, and had an enrollment of 390 students in grades K-5 in the 1998-99 school year. The Land O'Lakes facility which opened in 1997 provides education to grades K-2. This facility, like the one in St. Germain, is 48,000 square feet, and has a maximum capacity of 381 students.

Although enrollment projections for the Northland Pines Elementary and Middle Schools are not available, the existing school facilities can accommodate both current and future enrollments based on the age and size of the facilities. Currently, all K-8 facilities in the Northland Pines School District area has state-of-the-art facilities. All of the elementary schools have family resource centers, distance learning labs, computer labs, etc. Therefore, these facilities are meeting the needs of the population and are expected to continue to meet future needs.

### **5.7 Communication and Power Facilities**

The power facilities for the Town of Lincoln are provided by Wisconsin Public Service (electrical and natural gas). Natural gas service is available throughout the entire City of Eagle River and the Town of Lincoln, except for the Northwest portion of the town, where service is not available. Three-phase power is available in the southern portion of the Town of Lincoln, with lines running along HWY 70. The local telephone service is provided by Verizon, and cable television service is available by Charter Communications.

Power facilities for the City of Eagle River are provided by Eagle River Light and Water (electric) and Wisconsin Public Service (natural gas). Eagle River Light and Water services the City of Eagle River and the immediate surrounding area via power purchased through Wisconsin

Public Power, Inc. (WPPI). WPPI is based out of Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, and provided electricity to 36 Wisconsin municipal utilities. Natural gas service is available throughout the entire City of Eagle River. Three-phase power is available in the city, with lines running along Hwy. 70. Local telephone service is provided by GTE and cable television service is available by Charter Communications.

## **5.8 Parks and Open Space**

Oldfield Park is the only town park in the Town of Lincoln, and is located at Adams Road and Hwy. G. There are no planned park land acquisitions or trail projects for the future. The City of Eagle River has four developed parks, Riverview Park, Silver Lake Beach, Dyer Park, and Kiwanis Park. The park locations can be seen on Map 5-1. Both the Town of Lincoln and the City of Eagle River sit on a joint Parks Commission, but the Commission is unfunded and deals primarily with existing policy and administration.

Both communities participated in the Year 2002 - 2006 County Outdoor Recreation Plan, which identified facility status, needs, and plans, and allows eligibility in WDNR recreational grant programs. The County Outdoor Recreation Plan notes the town should consider land acquisition for future recreational activities, and maintenance and upgrading of the Catfish Lake boat access should be completed. In addition, snowmobile trails are very much a large part of the outdoor recreation opportunity, and should be enhanced. Both municipalities should cooperate on a joint parks and recreation planning process, as trail development and linkage to other municipalities multi-use trail systems will provide large benefit to the area.