

## **5 Community Facilities and Services**

The quality and service ability of community facilities within the Town of Presque Isle are important and attractive components of the town 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, and protective services must be considered in relation to the future development they are intended to support, not just the current demand for services.

In order to identify the future needs of Presque Isle, an inventory of existing community facilities and services was conducted. The information gathered through this inventory is presented in this portion of the plan. 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 Presque Isle's administrative facilities are located at the Presque Isle Municipal Building on School Loop Road. The municipal building (Town Hall) is used for town business and monthly town meetings held the first and third Thursdays of each month at 7:00 p.m.

The administrative staff for the town consists of the three elected Town Board members (two year terms), a part-time librarian, a part-time custodian, and a part-time zoning administrator. There are also twelve volunteer library staff members.

The town uses computer software (i.e., Quick Book Pro, Microsoft Office 2000) to help manage their administrative functions. At the present time, the administrative needs are being met by the town and there are no plans for additional services or resources. As Table 5-1 illustrates, the town relies upon volunteers to staff the numerous town-related activities and functions.



**Table 5-1  
Town Committees/Boards  
Town of Presque Isle**

Committee	Function	Contact Person
Town Board	Town Operations	Jack Harrison
Land Use and Lakes Classification	Development of Land Use Plans	Bill Dillenbeck
Zoning	Development and Regulation of Zoning Ordinances	Jim Kliefgan
Parks Committee		
Accommodations Tax	Room Tax Development	George Nash
Library	Oversees Operation	Marshall Reckard
Board of Adjustment	Zoning Variances	Dick Spaeth

Source: Town of Presque Isle, 1999.

Table 5-2 displays the location, size, and function of the public buildings in the Town of Presque Isle.

**Table 5-2  
Public Buildings  
Town of Presque Isle**

Building	Location	Size	Function
Municipal	P.O. Box 130 School Loop Road	6,992 sq. ft.	Town Office/Community Center/Library.
Town Garage	School Loop Road at Oxbow Road	3000 sq. ft.	Road Equipment Storage
Transfer Station	Highway W	2400 sq. ft.	Solid Waste and Recycling Transfer
Fire Barn	School Loop Road	6,000 sq. ft.	Emergency Response

Source: Town of Presque Isle, 1999.

The Town of Presque Isle does have its own zip code (54557) and post office. The town also has its own library that is located in the Presque Isle community building.

The town has expressed a need for a bigger library, although no formal plans for expansion have been issued. (Discussions have taken place to relocate by adding on to the municipal building.) There has also been discussion to increase office space and update the municipal building. The Town Shop is located separate from the municipal building at this time, and could be considered for consolidation into the Municipal Building to promote efficiency.

As the town continues to grow, the need for newer equipment will be necessary. The town should continue to invest in new administrative and public works equipment in order to adequately and economically perform required duties. New computer and software applications for the town office are needed for improved financial management, road maintenance and improvements, and property assessment. Additional committees may also need to be organized to manage future growth. The additional committees may result, if any, from execution of the implementation strategy as identified in Section 13 of this plan.

## 5.2 Quasi-Public Buildings

Table 5-3 presents the quasi-public facilities located in the Town of Presque Isle.

**Table 5-3  
Quasi-Public Facilities  
Town of Presque Isle**

Facility	Service Type
Friends of the Library	Civic Organization
Community Park	Recreational (town owned)
Snowmobile Trails	Recreational (serviced by clubs)
Cross-Country Skiing Trails	Recreational (serviced by clubs)
8 Public Boat Landings	Recreational (town and club serviced)
American Legion	Private
Presque Isle/Presque Isle Sno- Bunnies	Recreational
Presque Isle Lions/Lioness Club	Civic/Private
Papoose Lake Association	Private

The amount of volunteer activity in the town is vital to the community fabric. Although the town is not actively involved in the quasi-public organizations, the town supports the above volunteer community programs and organizations through the use of town property and should continue to support such activity for the general town benefit.

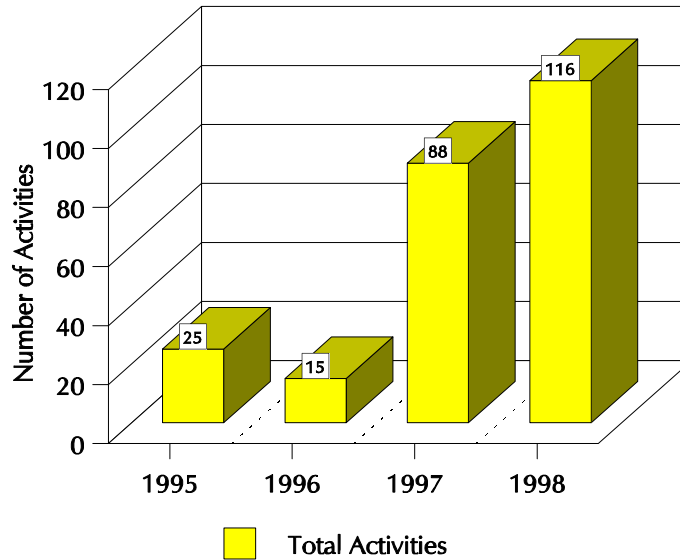
## 5.3 Protective Services

The protective services (which are provided to the Town of Presque Isle) include police, fire, medical, and rescue services.

### Police Services

Police protection for Presque Isle is provided by the Vilas County Sheriff's Department, located at 330 Court Street, Eagle River. The number of police calls made to the Town of Presque Isle from 1995 to 1998 is presented in Figure 5-1.

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



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

Figure 5-1 depicts a large increase in the number of service calls made to the Town of Presque Isle 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, as there is a direct relationship to population increases and the resulting police services necessary to administer law, safety, and protective 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 Presque Isle. 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. The Town of Presque Isle is adequately served by the Vilas County Sheriff’s Department.

**Fire Protection Services**

Fire protection for the Town of Presque Isle is provided by the Presque Isle Volunteer Fire Department’s 12 volunteers. The Presque Isle Fire Department is located on School Loop Road,

depicted in Map 5-1. The entire county has mutual service agreements between all townships for fire protection.

The fire equipment that Presque Isle owns includes: one 1990 Grumman pumper, one 1983 Ford tanker, a 1977 Dodge service vehicle, and a 1985 Chevy Rescue Ambulance. The Presque Isle Fire Department responded to 17 calls between 1993 and 1998.

The adequacy of the fire protection within the Town of Presque Isle 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. The ISO rating for the Town of Presque Isle is a seven. This rating is reflective of the volunteer status of the department, as well as the lack of a public water supply system for the entire town.

The town should continue to invest in and maintain fire protection equipment to ensure the protection of the resident's public health and safety increase as population and housing growth will increase service demands. Fire equipment needs to be continually updated and replaced, and periodic training of fire fighters should continue. The fire barn was constructed in 1999 to address service and storage demands. There are plans to purchase a new tanker in the year 2000. The town should also encourage residents to join the volunteer fire department as volunteer firefighters so the department may better service the town.

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

The Town of Presque Isle's Rescue/First Responder facilities are located at the fire barn on School Loop Road. There are seven volunteers that make up the town's rescue squad. The town owns a 1991 Ford ambulance, which is in very good working condition. Between 1993 and 1998, there were 153 emergency calls received for the Town of Presque Isle. Currently, there are joint service agreements for with Howard Young Hospital and the Marshfield Clinic. Medical flight service is available through Marshfield Hospital.

The town does not have any medical facilities within the town proper. The major medical facility providers for the Town of Presque Isle are: Marshfield Clinic located 30 miles away in Minocqua, Wisconsin, Marshfield Satellite Clinic located 10 miles away in Mercer, Michigan, Howard Young Medical Center, located 30 miles away in Woodruff, Wisconsin, and Grand View Hospital located 34 miles away in Ironwood, Michigan.

Although the town is very rural, the medical facilities discussed above currently meet the needs of the town.

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

Refuse collection for the Town of Presque Isle's residents is presently provided by the town through provisions of a drop off site and transfer station on CTH W. The hours of operation are from 8:00 - 4:00 Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday. The town clerk should be contacted to confirm hours of operation in case of schedule change. The refuse is transported to the Vilas County Landfill on County G.

The town is a member 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 Venture Group. The town 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 added, and a new demolition pit was sited for the 2000 calendar year to help reduce volume 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 Presque Isle and all other Vilas County municipalities, and it is not anticipated an additional landfill siting process will be undertaken during the planning period. Disposal of refuse by private contracts adequately meets the needs of the local population; therefore, the provision of refuse collection by the Town of Presque Isle would not be economical or desirable.

Recyclable materials also are handled at the town transfer station through individual drop off. The hours of operation are the same as the solid waste hours. The current recycling program is meeting the needs of the town as well.

#### **5.5 Sewer and Water Accommodations**

At this time, there are no public sewer or public water supply in the Town of Presque Isle. All structures rely upon individual waste treatment systems and private wells. The town is not aware of any water problems in the Presque Isle 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.

As population increases and density of development in certain areas (especially the unincorporated village of Presque Isle) throughout the town rises, the town may see the need to consider the development of sanitary districts and/or town public water and sewer systems. It is not anticipated this will occur in the near future.

## 5.6 Educational Facilities

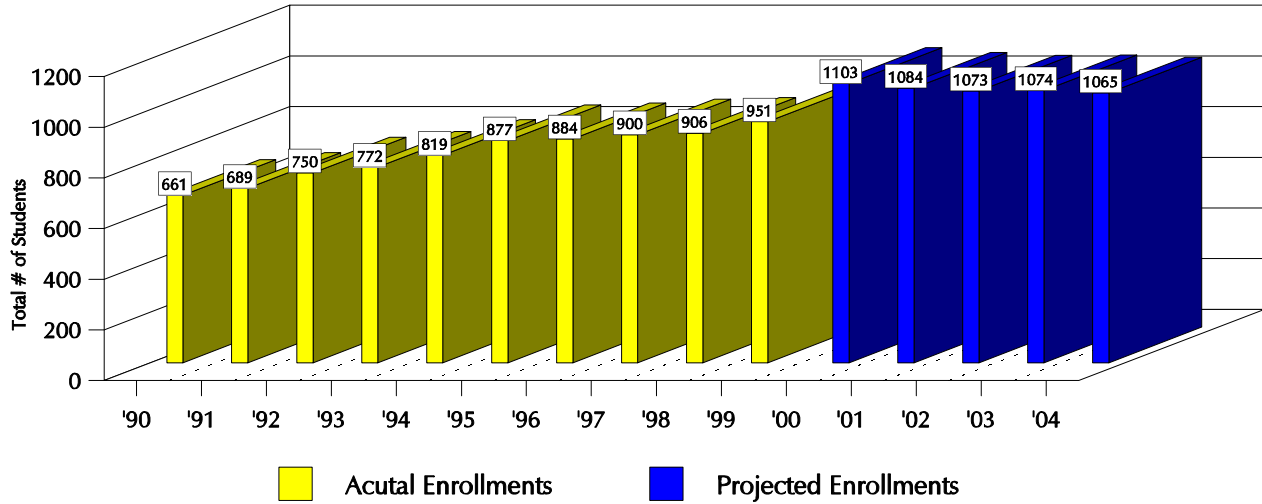
The educational facilities for the town are provided by the Boulder Junction Joint School District via the North Lakeland Elementary School for kindergarten through eighth grade and the Lakeland UHS School District via the North Lakeland Union High School for grades nine through twelve. Both school districts encompass the entire Town of Presque Isle.

Lakeland Union High School (LUHS) is located south of Presque Isle off of U.S. Hwy 51 on Old Highway 70 West. The school was originally constructed in 1957, with additions completed in 1973, 1982, and 1997. The additions in 1997 were approved by a referendum for the purpose of constructing and equipping a cafeteria, a kitchen, and gymnasium and remodeling of the existing building for additional classroom space and miscellaneous equipment and technological improvements. The building is now approximately 265,000 square feet in size and is considered to be in excellent condition. The school's maximum capacity is 1,050 students.

Actual and projected enrollment information provided by Lakeland Union School District (LUSD) is presented in Figure 5-2. The enrollments are reported annually in September. The projected enrollments for the LUSD 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 2004, 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 by the Lakeland Union High School in the spring of 1996.

Figure 5-2 illustrates the enrollment projections through the year 2004. Although an increase of 152 students from 1999 to 2000 is projected, which exceeds the school's 1,050 maximum student capacity, district administrators noted that the actual enrollments have always been much lower than the projected student population. They also concluded that with the recent construction and remodeling projects completed in 1997, the existing educational facilities will be adequate to service the needs of the student population in the Town of Presque Isle in the future.

**Figure 5-2  
Actual and Project Total Enrollments  
Lakeland Union High School  
1990 - 2004**



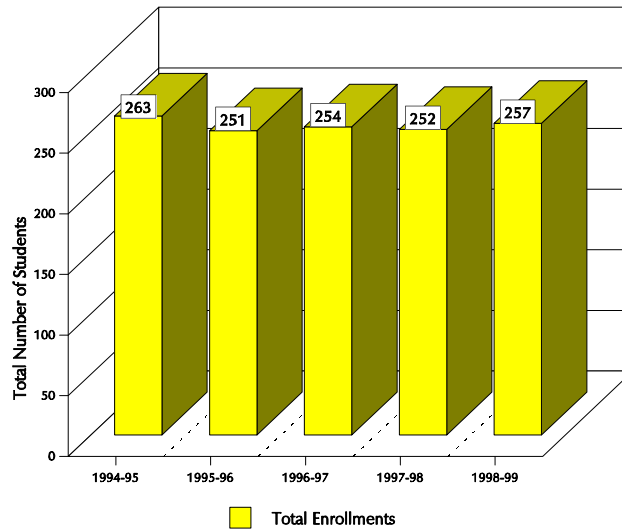
Source: Lakeland Union High School.

The North Lakeland Elementary School provides educational facilities for kindergarten through eighth grade for Presque Isle children. The school is located at 1220 county Highway K in Manitowish Waters, and is 65,000 square feet. The original building was constructed in 1969, with recent additions in 1972 and 1992. In 1992 there were five classroom additions and additional storage space constructed. The maximum student capacity is approximately 280 students.

The school is currently in excellent condition. In 1998, improvements such as new insulation, a new roof, and remodeling to classrooms and offices were completed. A fiber optic computer networking system and interactive televisions were also installed. The most recent improvements performed in 1999 included a new heating and air exchange, and a new water pump and filter to improve water pressure in the building. Construction of a new gymnasium and a theater/stage area have been identified as needed improvements for the future.

Enrollment information for North Lakeland Elementary (NLE) is provided in Figure 5-3.

**Figure 5-3**  
**NLE School District Enrollment 1994-1999**



Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Public Enrollment by County, District, School, Gender, 1994-1999.

Figure 5-3 depicts the stable enrollment in the NLE School District from the 1994-1995 school year through the 1998-1999 school year. With the rural nature of the community, school administrators predict that future enrollment will remain stable, and although enrollment projections for the NLE School District are not available, the recent modifications and expansions to the school facility to accommodate both current and future enrollment.

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

The power facilities for the Town of Presque Isle are provided by Northern States Power (electrical) and Wisconsin Electric (electrical and natural gas). Three phase power service runs along CTH P from papoose Road to the intersection of CTH W, then travels easterly along CTH W to Bow Road. Natural gas lines are located primarily along CTH W to CTH P, similar to the three phase power line. Gas lines also spur along Cray Lake Road, Hasse Road, and Oxbow Road.

The local telephone service is provided by Century Telephone, and there is currently no cable television service available in the Town of Presque Isle.

## 5.8 Parks and Open Space

Appendix 5-1 presents a detailed analysis of the town's existing outdoor recreational facilities that was completed as a part of the Town of Presque Isle Master Park Plan, 2002-2006. The plan was completed as an update to the 1996 Presque Isle Outdoor Recreation Plan to organize the town's facility needs as well as to create eligibility to WDNR matching grant programs to fund improvements. The plan objectives address the following:

1. To provide quality active and passive outdoor recreational opportunities of various kinds for the residents of the Town of Presque Isle now and in the future.
2. To establish a basis for providing public recreation facilities to meet the needs of the people of the Town of Presque Isle.
3. To identify the factors contributing to the recreation needs of the Town of Presque Isle at the present time and during the planning period.
4. To acquire lands where necessary to provide contiguous trails or land for parks in new subdivisions.
5. To provide a variety of recreational facilities and activities for all ages, including elderly and the handicapped.
6. To develop a plan of action to meet the recreational demands of the public where demands are not currently being met.
7. To provide the Town of Presque Isle with a period of eligibility for cost sharing assistance through the Federal and State funding programs that are administered by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.