



Upper Milwaukee River

Protecting Upstream Resources

The upper stretches of the Milwaukee River flow through rolling farmlands are facing development pressure. Protecting these upstream resources will not only preserve the important habitat of the Upper Milwaukee but also will improve downstream water quality and result in cleaner water entering Lake Michigan.

Quick Facts:



 Priority Conservation Site
 Lake Michigan Watershed Boundary

Counties:

Ozaukee
 Sheboygan
 Washington

Ecological Type:

River
 Riparian corridor

Important Features:

Riparian woodlands
 Wetlands
 Farmland
 Ponds and Lakes

Protection Designations:

LMSA Priority Conservation Site
 WDNR North Branch River Wildlife and Farming Heritage Area
 WDNR State Natural Areas

Ecological Significance:

The Milwaukee River is one of the most important rivers in southeastern Wisconsin. The Upper Milwaukee Basin is home to a number of important species and includes numerous tracts of high quality riparian woodlands and wetlands. Protecting these natural areas is critical as increasing development poses challenges for water quality downstream.

Potential Threats:

The Upper Milwaukee River is critically threatened by the expansion of the urban areas surrounding it. As open land is converted to development pollution increases and important natural functions such as storm-water retention and purification are lost.

Current Activities:

The WDNR has established a North Branch Milwaukee River Wildlife and Farming Heritage Area, and has completed several easement projects there. The Ozaukee Washington Land Trust and Glacial Lakes Conservancy have initiated several land protection projects along the river, including the Ozaukee Washington Land Trust's Fellenz Woods site. There are several State Natural Areas within the river basin, including Huiras Lake and Cedarburg Bog. A partner group has begun meeting to develop a collaborative conservation plan for the entire Milwaukee River basin, focused on protecting the natural resources of the river and associated wetlands and uplands.

In Sheboygan County, contact:

Glacial Lakes Conservancy
 P.O. Box 258
 Kohler, WI 53044-0258

Phone 920-273-1143
info@glaciallakes.org
www.glaciallakes.org

