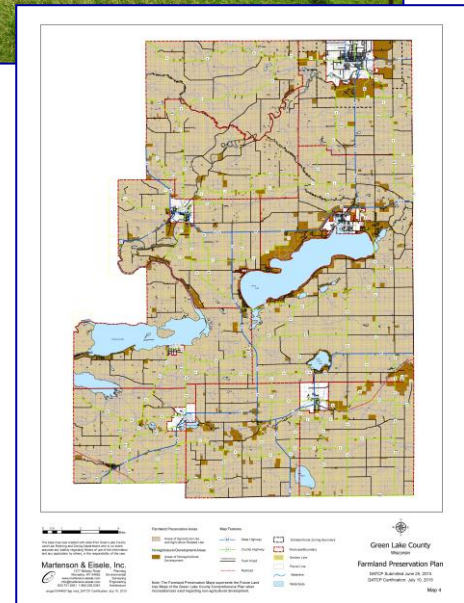
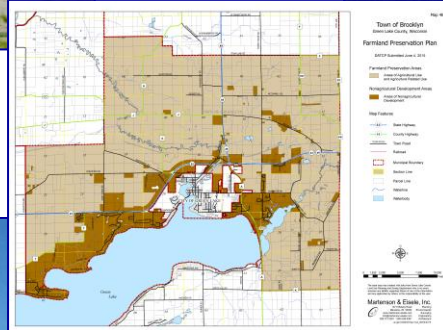


# Martenson & Eisele, Inc.

Your Solution Professionals

Planning - Environmental - Surveying - Engineering - Architecture

## Green Lake County Farmland Preservation Plan 2015



**Project Need:** Martenson & Eisele, Inc. was hired by Green Lake County to update the county's farmland preservation plan which dated back to 1980. The new farmland preservation plan was required to meet the revised farmland preservation program as amended in 2009 under the State of Wisconsin Working Lands Initiative (ch. 91, Wis. Stats).

**Project Approach:** M&E worked closely with Green Lake County Planning Staff to develop a science based approach to determine farmland preservation areas within all 11 county towns. The planning effort was guided by a committee comprised of agricultural professionals who had significant knowledge of the agricultural economy and industry. In addition, meetings were held in cluster groups with town officials to review the farmland preservation plan maps and text.

**Project Result:** In July 2015, the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP), certified the plan for a period of ten years (the maximum allowed by statute). In addition to maintaining, and in some cases increasing, land owner qualifications for tax credits, the plan set the stage for the County to pursue an Agricultural Enterprise Area designation. The farmland preservation plan was used as the fundamental component for developing the future land use map within the County Comprehensive Plan update.