

Wetlands are included within environmental corridor boundaries, as depicted on all the maps in this *Plan*. However, refer to the WisDNR Wetland Inventory Maps for official delineation of wetland boundaries.

## C. Wildlife Habitat and Recreation Resources

### Rare and Endangered Species

WisDNR, through its Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI), maps and documents locations of rare or endangered terrestrial and aquatic species. To find out if a proposed project may impact rare species, developers may request from WisDNR an Endangered Resources Review. Through this process WisDNR will identify for the applicant rare species, high-quality natural communities, and significant natural features in or near the proposed project area. As shown on Map 3, occurrences of rare or endangered terrestrial species have been found in the area to the southwest of the Village—mostly to the east of Vilas Road and south of CTH BB.

### Protected Areas

Currently under development, the **McCarthy Youth and Conservation Park** consists 220 acres of parkland. When completed, the park will serve as a combined recreational and conservancy area which will include group camping, picnic areas, hiking and bicycle trails, equestrian trails, and prairie and wetland restoration. The restored wetland area will reduce flooding and bank erosion in the area and provide habitat for waterfowl, shorebirds, aquatic insects, and amphibians.



Beginning in Cottage Grove and ending in Waukesha, the **Glacial Drumlin State Trail** travels through ten small towns, farmlands, and glacial topography along 52 miles of abandoned rail corridor. The trail was developed in 1986 to provide year-round recreation opportunities such as cycling, hiking, snowmobiling, and cross country skiing. The Glacial Drumlin State Trail is listed on the Aldo Leopold Legacy Trail System.

**Patrick Marsh**, located to the north of Cottage Grove in the rapidly urbanizing area of Sun Prairie, was the first wetland mitigation bank site in Wisconsin. The marsh is used as an outdoor classroom for students at Patrick Marsh Middle School and is also a popular area for fishing, bird watching, walking, and nature study. Patrick Marsh is also listed as one of Wisconsin's Land Legacy Places, which identifies and provides preservation objectives for places of ecological importance.

The **Norman Vethe School Forest**, located east of Cottage Grove Elementary School just north of E. Taylor Street, is a 68-acre facility owned by the Monona Grove School District. The School District used WisDNR funds to install prairie restoration areas and trails on the property.