

Request for Proposals

The Center for Land Use Education is seeking rural counties to include in its parcelization project. We will select six case study communities from rural Wisconsin using a two-tier selection process. First, we will identify and select two counties that are fairly representative of two different types of resource-dependent rural communities: one agricultural, typical of south-central Wisconsin and the Midwest, and one forested, typical of northern Wisconsin and the northern United States. Second, we will identify three towns in each county that have experienced high, medium and low degrees of parcelization as indicated by current geometric mean parcel size. The following criteria will guide the selection process:

County Selection:

1. **Non-metro adjacent county.** Since we are interested in looking at rural communities experiencing moderate pressure to develop, we will select only non-metropolitan counties that are adjacent to metropolitan counties (as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau). This eliminates from consideration the 16 rural counties that are not adjacent to metro counties.
2. **Community typology.** As mentioned above, we are seeking one forested county and one agricultural county.
3. **Data accessibility.** Project counties must maintain and provide access to historic orthophotography records and a digital cadastral database. 100-percent of the parcels must be complete and the database must be linkable to AS400 revenue and ownership data.
4. **Favorable relationships.** Final selection of counties will be based on favorable relationships believed to contribute to the overall success and convenience of the project. Support from the local county board, participation of the county Extension educator, a strong history of working together, distance from project headquarters and other related factors will be considered when selecting among communities meeting all other criteria.

Town Selection:

5. **Differential rates of parcelization.** Based on the digital cadastral database we will select three towns within each county from those displaying the highest, average, and lowest rates of parcelization county-wide. A town that displays a unique pattern of parcelization worthy of investigation may be selected over another that displays a comparable rate of parcelization.
6. **Planning activity.** Only towns that have completed or are in the process of completing a comprehensive plan that complies with Wisconsin's Comprehensive Planning Law will be considered in the selection process.
7. **Favorable relationships.** Towns that express a high level of interest and support from local officials and plan commission members, and exhibit other factors deemed to contribute to the success of the project will be selected from the remaining pool of eligible towns.

Please submit proposals to:

Center for Land Use Education
Parcelization Study
800 Reserve Street
Stevens Point, WI 54481
landcenter@uwsp.edu