

UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES

EXISTING FACILITY ASSESSMENT

The Town of Richmond is a small rural community. The town does not provide extensive services for residents. What services are provided are discussed in the following sections.

GOVERNMENT FACILITIES & CEMETERIES

- The Town of Richmond's Town Hall is a former school, it was known as the Boardman School and was built in 1927. The building became the town hall when the local school districts consolidated in the 1950's. It is located in Section 19 on approximately 0.85 acre off CTH A in the unincorporated community of Boardman.
- The town recycling center and park facilities are also located on the site.
- The town hall has limited kitchen facilities, a large parking lot and a handicapped entrance ramp.
- The town hall is used for most public meetings and voting and is also utilized by local organizations for meetings.
- There is one cemetery in the Town of Richmond. The Boardman Cemetery is located in located in section 20 off CTH A, just south of 144th Avenue. It is about two acres. The Boardman Cemetery Association is responsible for maintenance of the cemetery.
- Please see map below for siting of these facilities.

PARKS & OPEN SPACES

- There are two public parks in the Town of Richmond.
- The town hall park facilities include a picnic table, barbeque grill and playground structure.
- Callie Corner, is less than one acre and is located in section 20, at the intersection of CTH A and 100th Street in Boardman. Facilities include a picnic table and a bench.
- The Glens of Willow River subdivision has a private trail system for subdivision residents. The 15 foot wide trail can be used for hiking and biking, it connects to town roads at 152nd Ave., 154th Ave., and 92nd St. A portion of the trail has an asphalt surface. The trail connects residents to two outlots which have access to the Willow River. Outlot 1 is 0.196 acres and Outlot 2 is 0.12 acres.
- There is also a private trail easement through Waldroff Meadows for recreational uses including biking and all-terrain vehicles.
- The Pine Meadows Golf Course is 90 acres and is located in section 21 on CTH G. It is a nine hole golf course open to the public.
- The Willow River Rod and Gun Club is 39 acres and is located in section 5 off Business Hwy 64. It is a private shooting range open only to members and guests.
- For active recreation, town residents usually utilize park and recreation facilities in the City of New Richmond, or villages of Roberts or Somerset.
- Town residents also have access to regional park facilities for passive recreation from the state and county. The Willow River State Park in the towns of Hudson and St. Joseph and

county park facilities including Troy Beach, Homestead Park on Perch Lake, Bass Lake Boat Landing, Apple River Property at Huntingdon, Pine Lake Park and Glen Hills Park.

- There are bicycle routes along county roads A, K, E, and GG in the Town of Richmond. Portions of CTH A are paved shoulder the rest are shared roadways. They are designated and marked by the St. Croix County Highway Department in conjunction with the Town.
- The county snowmobile trail crosses the town generally following CTH A and local roads like 140th Ave. The county and local trails are designated and marked by the St. Croix County Parks Department in conjunction with the Boardman snowmobile club and land owners.
- Future bike routes are discussed in the transportation section.
- The Willow River, Paperjack Creek and Ten Mile Creek run through the town but there are no public accesses. There is no public access to Brushy Mound Lake.
- Future recreation sites are discussed in the Natural Resources, Cultural Resources and Land Use sections.
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) manages four large Waterfowl Production Areas (WPA) and two Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) Wildlife Areas (WA) located wholly or partially in the Town of Richmond. These areas are managed to provide important feeding, breeding, nesting, cover and other habitat values to a wide variety of plant and animal species. They also provide a recreational and open space function to local communities.
- The St. Croix Prairie WPA is 78 acres and is located in section 6, the office and headquarters for the St. Croix Wetland Management District of the USFWS is also located on this site. The Ten-Mile Creek WPA/WA is 400 acres and is located in sections 21, 28 and 29. It connects to the Lundy Pond WPA/WA which is located in sections 22, 27 and 28. The Lundy Pond WPA includes 136 acres of federal land and 250 acres of state land managed by USFWS. About 154 acres of the Three Lakes WPA is located in section 32, the rest is located in the Town of Warren.
- WPA lands are purchased with duck stamp dollars. Therefore the primary purpose is to provide waterfowl production habitat which consists of large tracks of grassland interspersed with numerous wetlands. Management on WPAs includes ongoing wetland and prairie restoration, water level manipulation, prescribed fire, tree removal, mowing and sometimes grazing. They are open to the public for hunting, fishing, environmental education and interpretation, and wildlife observation and photography. Motorized vehicles, mountain bikes and horses are not allowed in WPAs.
- Please see map below for siting of these facilities.

SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING FACILITIES

**Recycling Tonnages – 2005 to 2008
St. Croix County Responsible Unit Communities**

COMMUNITIES	2005	2006	2007	2008	SERVICES
<i>Towns</i>	TONS	TONS	TONS	TONS	
Baldwin	46.09	49.58	48.62	48.77	Town Drop Off Center
Eau Galle	72.41	77.69	86.78	86.20	Curbside Collection
Emerald	14.56	12.94	13.61	10.93	Town Drop Off Center
Erin Prairie	0.00	21.66	19.43	19.34	Town of Richmond Drop Off Center / Curbside Collection*
Glenwood	30.08	28.22	33.53	30.94	Town Drop Off Center
Hammond	71.22	89.49	171.09	147.18	Drop Off / Curbside Collection
Hudson	983.07	941.73	955.92	931.62	Curbside Collection
Kinnickinnic	88.05	105.91	102.97	99.93	Drop Off / Curbside Collection
Pleasant Valley	41.46	49.29	23.90	49.53	Town Drop Off Center
Richmond	29.54	167.46	178.91	173.67	Drop Off / Curbside Collection
Rush River	22.53	22.26	22.71	25.93	Drop Off / Curbside Collection
St. Joseph	375.75	383.88	380.11	369.63	Town of Richmond Drop Off Center/Curbside Collection*
Somerset	90.30	249.27	249.70	251.08	Drop Off / Curbside Collection
Springfield	12.98	10.84	12.03	11.13	Town Drop Off Center
Stanton	17.80	42.82	45.33	69.34	Drop Off / Curbside Collection
Star Prairie	0.00	174.79	167.05	168.09	City of New Richmond Drop Off Center / Curbside Collection*
Troy	115.11	318.74	364.06	395.50	Drop Off / Curbside Collection
Subtotal	2010.95	2746.57	2875.75	2888.81	
<i>Villages/Cities</i>	TONS	TONS	TONS	TONS	
V. Baldwin	328.98	305.02	295.84	279.62	Curbside Collection
V. Deer Park/T. Cylon	17.82	17.76	17.56	13.60	Village/Town Drop Off Center
V. Hammond	162.87	160.16	168.39	186.76	Curbside Collection
V. North Hudson	491.53	497.31	480.20	480.60	Curbside Collection
V. Somerset	77.40	47.52	48.90	51.57	Curbside Collection
V. Star Prairie	86.87	86.88	86.88	86.88	Curbside Collection
V. Woodville	127.89	104.71	87.45	103.79	Curbside Collection
C. Hudson	1758.33	1907.98	1530.06	3210.40	Curbside Collection
C. New Richmond	455.50	456.56	523.00	715.00	Drop Off / Curbside Collection
Subtotal	3507.19	3583.9	3238.28	5128.22	
St. Croix County	5518.14	6330.47	6114.02	8017.04	N/A

Source: St. Croix County Recycling Note: The Towns of Cady, Cylon, Forest and Warren, Villages of Roberts, Spring Valley and Wilson and Cities of Glenwood and River Falls are not part of the County Responsible Unit. * Denotes numbers that represent curbside collection totals only.

- There are no active municipal solid waste disposal sites operating in the Town of Richmond or St. Croix County.
- There is a battery drop-off site located in the Baldwin-Woodville area.
- Hazardous wastes are strictly regulated and are usually kept out of ordinary waste disposal facilities.

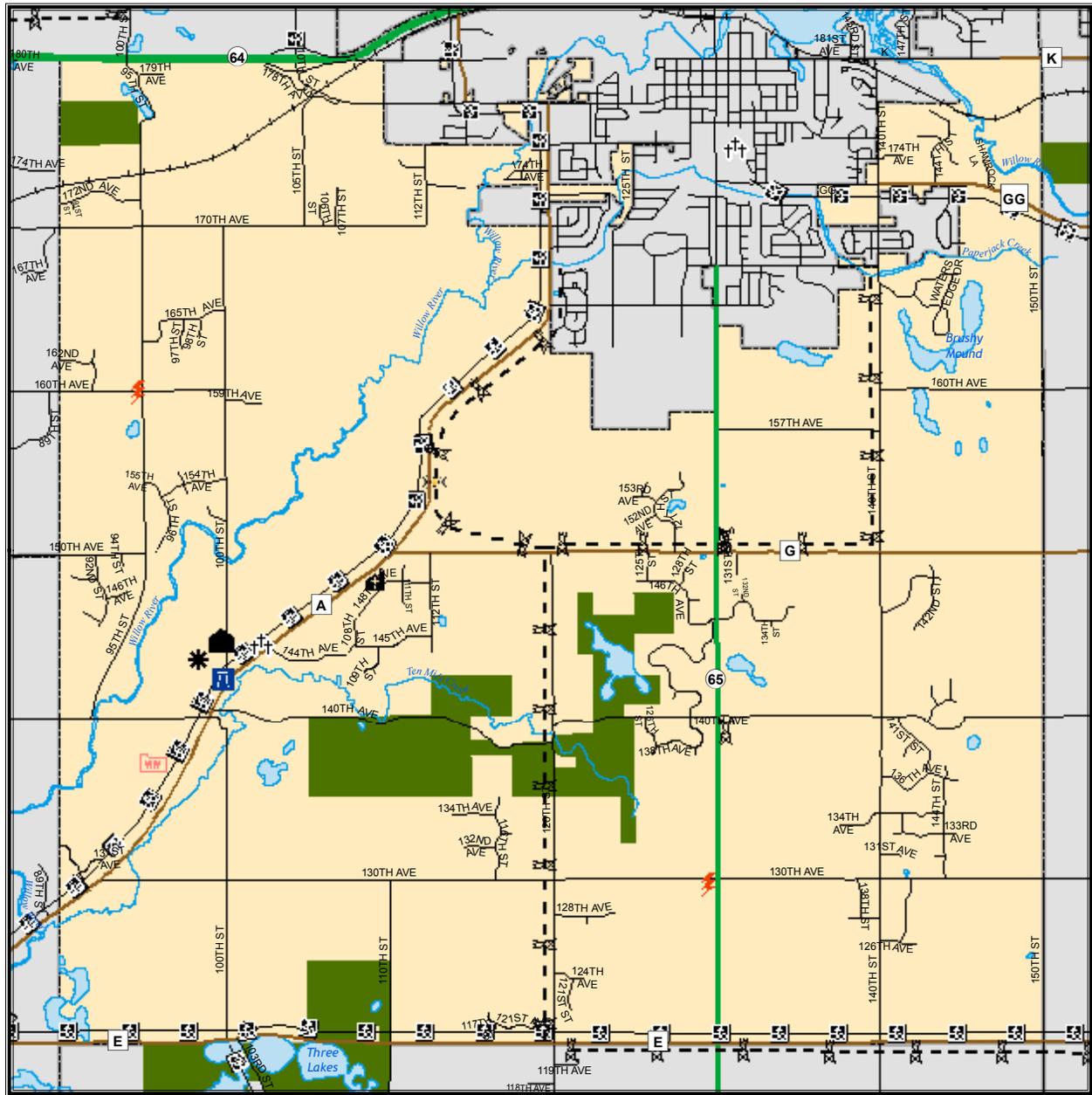
- To reduce the burden on solid waste disposal facilities, the State of Wisconsin has mandated the recycling of a variety of household generated materials. St. Croix County is the Responsible Unit for recycling in 26 county municipalities, including the Town of Richmond.
- St. Croix County assists local municipalities in operating their recycling programs; provides education and information to the public and special interest groups such as apartments and schools; manages, disperses and reports on grant funds; and holds special collections throughout the year for hazardous wastes, tires, appliances, electronics, toner cartridges and cell phones.
- Recycling tonnages have been steadily increasing in St. Croix County overall but there have been fluctuations in specific communities and the types of recyclables due to market conditions.
- Residents contract privately for curbside solid waste collection and disposal in the Town of Richmond. They can also contract for curbside collection of recyclables.
- The Town of Richmond operates a recycling and white goods drop-off center at the town hall site in unincorporated Boardman that is open to all county residents. Town residents can drop off their recyclables every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Scrap metal and appliances are also accepted for a fee.
- The town also offers a spring and fall round up of large items and provides the town hall site for the spring and fall tire and appliance collections organized by St. Croix County.
- The waste materials most frequently recycled are aluminum, mixed paper, tin, steel, glass, plastic, cardboard and newspaper.
- There are no former dump sites in the town.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS & POWER LINES

- Frontier Communications offers telephone and high speed internet services to town residents. Coaxial cable for cable television and internet is being explored and may run along STH 65 south of New Richmond.
- There is one telecommunication tower in the town, located north of CTH G about ¼ of a mile east of STH 65 in section 14.
- The local radio station, WIXK, has a radio tower at 1545 CTH A about ½ mile north of CTH G in section 16.
- The Town of Richmond does not have any emergency sirens located in the town at this time. The City of New Richmond's emergency warning siren serves the north half of Town of Richmond. It is located in Section 35 east of CTH KK in the Town of Star Prairie and is owned and maintained by the City. A second siren is needed to serve the south half of the town as the Village of Roberts siren does not reach residents. The New Richmond siren is tested the first Wednesday of every month at 11 a.m.
- The main trunk fiber optic line runs from the City of New Richmond along CTH GG to 140th Street.
- There are two overhead electrical transmission lines in the Town of Richmond. The Xcel Energy power line enters the Town of Richmond and heads north along 120th Street to CTH G, it then goes across country to CTH A which it follows northeast to Paperjack Way in the City of New Richmond.

- The second overhead transmission line is owned by Dairyland Power and runs north along 120th Street to CTH G, east along G to 140th Street and then north on 140th Street then west on 168th Street until it turns into Paperjack Drive.
- There is one electrical substation and one proposed electrical substation located in the Town of Richmond. Both are owned and operated by Dairyland Power. One is located at the southwest corner of STH 65 and 130th Avenue, the second one is proposed at the southwest corner of 95th Street and 160th Avenue.
- Please see map below for the location of these facilities.
- There are two natural gas transmission lines in the Town of Richmond.
- The Midwest Natural Gas company owns a natural gas transmission line that runs from east to west along CTH E and then at 120th Street heads south to Roberts.
- The Excel Energy natural gas line runs north on 120th Street and then east on CTH G into Erin Prairie.
- Both pipelines are marked with permanent yellow markers that say “Warning Gas Pipeline.” The gas pipeline crosses private land by easement. According to materials on their internet sites, the easements generally allow the landowner the right to use and enjoy the property, as long as that use does not interfere or conflict with company’s rights. The width of the easements varies from 70 to 120 feet wide depending on the number and diameter of the pipes in the pipeline. The gas line easements have specific provisions or limitations regarding construction over, under, and near transmission lines. It is in the property owner’s best interest to contact Digger’s Hotline or company prior to any land alterations. Due to safety concerns the pipelines are not mapped.

Richmond Utilities and Community Facilities



	Town Hall		Radio Tower		Transmission Line
	Town Park		Communications Tower		Bikeroute
	Recycle Center		Substation		Richmond Boundary
	Church		Cemetery		U.S. Fish and Wildlife or DNR Parcels



SOURCE: St. Croix County Planning and Zoning

WASTEWATER TREATMENT

**Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems – 1990 to 2008
St. Croix County**

MUNICIPALITY	EXISTING SYSTEMS	NEW SANITARY SYSTEMS INSTALLED				RATE INCREASE		TOTAL SYSTEMS Thru 12/31/2008
		Pre-1960	1960-1979	1980-1989	1990-1999	2000-2008	90-00	
Towns								
Baldwin	187	62	21	34	60	62%	76%	364
Cady	172	49	11	38	68	245%	79%	338
Cylon	129	61	9	32	25	256%	-22%	256
Eau Galle	181	55	27	61	110	126%	80%	434
Emerald	145	42	13	48	62	269%	29%	310
Erin Prairie	128	43	32	37	23	16%	-38%	263
Forest	156	41	13	9	38	-31%	322%	257
Glenwood	149	67	21	20	56	-5%	180%	313
Hammond	184	52	26	66	405	154%	514%	733
Hudson	370	223	600	816	851	36%	4%	2860
Kinnickinnic	212	68	64	141	129	120%	-9%	614
Pleasant Valley	86	16	12	29	39	142%	34%	182
Richmond	230	97	73	121	615	66%	408%	1136
Rush River	104	18	15	34	27	127%	-21%	198
Somerset	371	159	165	304	486	84%	60%	1485
Springfield	172	64	13	48	75	269%	56%	372
St. Joseph	431	244	248	322	248	30%	-23%	1493
Stanton	278	59	22	39	21	77%	-46%	419
Star Prairie	421	165	163	325	333	99%	2%	1407
Troy	446	203	261	373	465	43%	25%	1748
Warren	149	72	92	120	138	30%	15%	571
Subtotal	4701	1860	1901	3017	4274	59%	42%	15,753
Villages/Cities								
Subtotal	112	87	72	41	66	-43%	61%	378
County Total	4813	1947	1973	3058	4340	55%	42%	16,131

Sources: St. Croix County Planning & Zoning. *New systems installed is not based on housing units -- includes all uses. Project community is designated in bold type.

- Waste water in the rural areas of St. Croix is usually treated by private onsite wastewater treatment systems (POWTS) more commonly referred to as septic systems. The state of Wisconsin, through the counties, permits onsite treatment systems. There are many different types of treatment permitted, but the most common are traditional septic tanks with drainfields or modified drainfields called mound systems.
- In 2000 there were 11,791 private onsite treatment systems in St. Croix County, an increase of 35 percent in total number of systems over 1990.
- Through 2008, there were 16,131 private treatment systems in the county. This is an increase of 37 percent in total number of systems over 2000.
- All POWTS are required to be inspected every three years, and most will need to be pumped at that time. Improper use of a septic system could lead to premature failure of the system, expensive repairs and groundwater contamination. St. Croix County reminds residents of the septic system inspection requirement on a three-year rotational basis and requires proof that the system has been inspected.

- The increased number and density of POWTS can lead to nitrates in the groundwater, if these systems are improperly installed or are not maintained.
- Most of the wastewater treatment needs in the Town of Richmond are met by private onsite wastewater treatment systems.
- The total number of sanitary systems in Richmond was over 1100 in 2008. This is an increase of about 120 percent in the total number of systems from 2000. The rate new systems were installed decreased slightly in the 1980's, dropping to 73 systems. Then it increased in the 1990's to 120 systems, and finally sky-rocketed from 2000 to 2008 by 615 systems or 400 percent. The 2000-2008 rates and numbers far exceed some neighboring towns and were the second highest numeric and percentage increases in the county.
- In the unincorporated community of Boardman a sanitary district, Town of Richmond Sanitary District #1, offers sewer service to approximately 25 properties in the Boardman area. The district has self-taxing authority to operate and maintain the treatment system. The treatment cells are located in section 30, about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile south and west of CTH A. There is no existing capacity for additional homes. The district was established in 1972. The Richmond Town Board does not have a position on the Sanitary District Board. There have been ongoing maintenance concerns and some problems with the treatment cells. The district has investigated options to address these problems but has not found a cost-effective solution. Discussions are ongoing. The town hall is served by the sanitary district and in that capacity the town board is involved in the district discussions.
- The WallRich Estates Trailer Park, 1571 STH 65 just south of 157th Ave. in section 14, is also served by a single private wastewater treatment system.

WATER SUPPLY

- Most drinking water needs in the Town of Richmond are met by private wells that utilize groundwater from the Prairie du Chien aquifer.
- There are no identified water quality problems in the Town of Richmond.
- The Green Acres subdivision on 172nd Ave., east of CTH A, is served by water line from the City of New Richmond.
- Landowners should test their drinking water annually or at least every three years. Water testing kits are available at the County Planning and Zoning Department, Hudson; Land & Water Conservation Department, Baldwin; Public Health Department, New Richmond; or through private labs. A fee may apply.
- A report entitled "An Introduction to Groundwater in St. Croix County" completed in May 2006 by the UW-Extension and UW-Stevens Point provides a more complete analysis of St. Croix County's groundwater. The report looks into a broader range of water quality measurements such as coliform bacteria, arsenic, nitrates, triazine, arsenic, chloride, hardness and pH. The report may be access on St. Croix County's website, under the Land and Water Conservation Department's Drinking Water program, www.sccwi.us/lwcd choose Drinking Water Testing.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

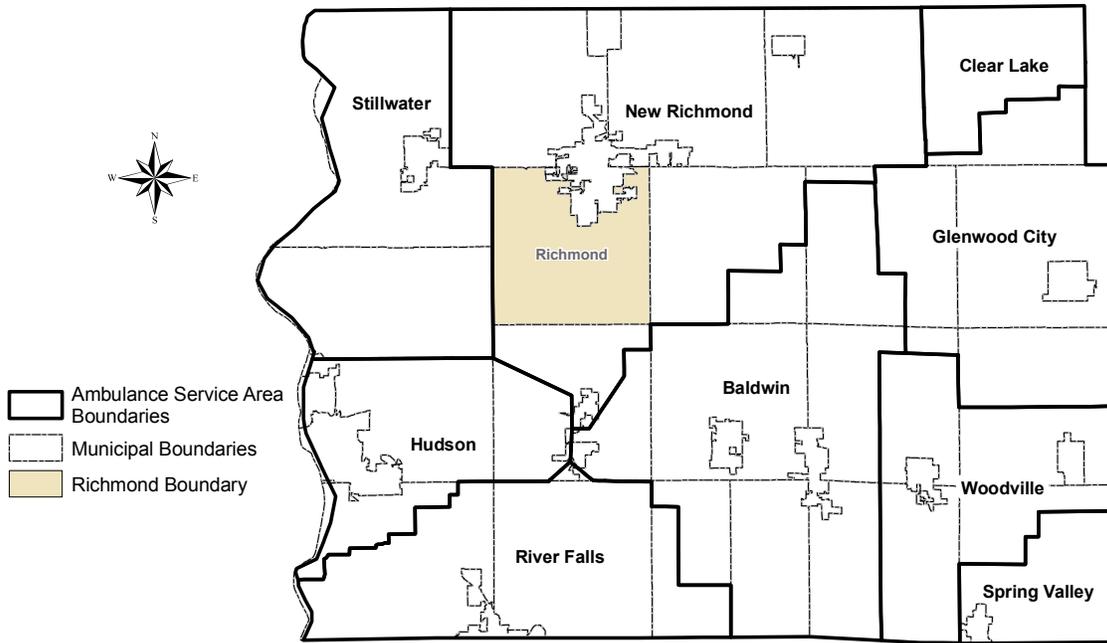
**Emergency Service Providers
Town of Richmond & Neighboring Communities**

MUNICIPALITY	AMBULANCE	FIRE DEPARTMENT	LAW ENFORCEMENT
Richmond	New Richmond	New Richmond	County Sheriff
Erin Prairie	New Richmond	New Richmond & United Fire & Rescue	County Sheriff
Star Prairie	New Richmond	New Richmond	County Sheriff
St. Joseph	Stillwater	St. Joseph	County Sheriff
Somerset	Stillwater	Somerset	County Sheriff
Warren	Hudson, River Falls, Baldwin & New Richmond	Roberts/Warren	County Sheriff
C. New Richmond	New Richmond	New Richmond	New Richmond PD
V. Somerset	Stillwater	Somerset	Somerset PD
V. Star Prairie	New Richmond	New Richmond	Star Prairie PD

NOTE: PD - Police Department
Source: St. Croix County Emergency Response Center

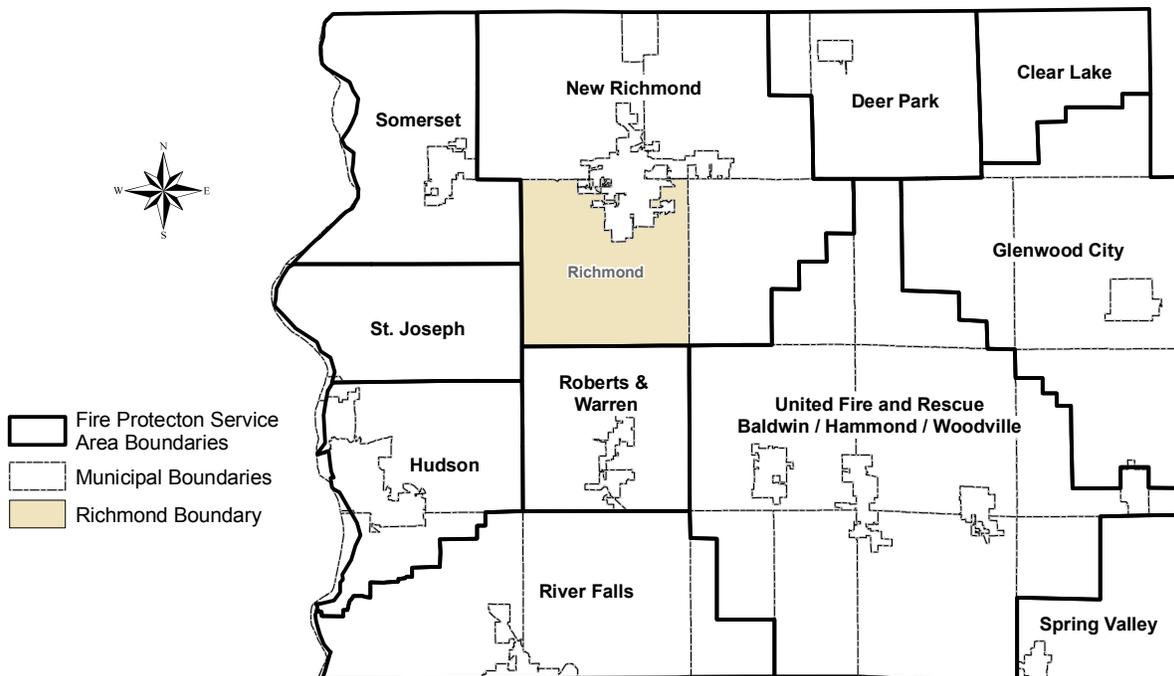
- The Town of Richmond is in one ambulance-service area and one fire-service area.
- The town receives direct ambulance service and a combination of a first responder unit, a group of local citizens that volunteer to be contacted in case of an emergency, and back up ambulance service from neighboring communities.
- The Town of Richmond is part owner of the New Richmond Fire and Rescue Service.
- The Town of Richmond contributes about \$10,000 per year to ambulance service budget and about \$45,000 per year to the New Richmond fire service budget.
- City of New Richmond ambulance service receives back up from the New Richmond First Responders Unit.
- The New Richmond Fire and Rescue provides and receives mutual aid from neighboring fire departments.
- The St. Croix County Sheriffs Office has authority in all areas where there is no other active police force.
- The Town does not have a town constable but it does require dogs to be licensed and have rabies prevention documentation. The Town Treasurer issues dog licenses.

Ambulance Service Areas St. Croix County - Richmond



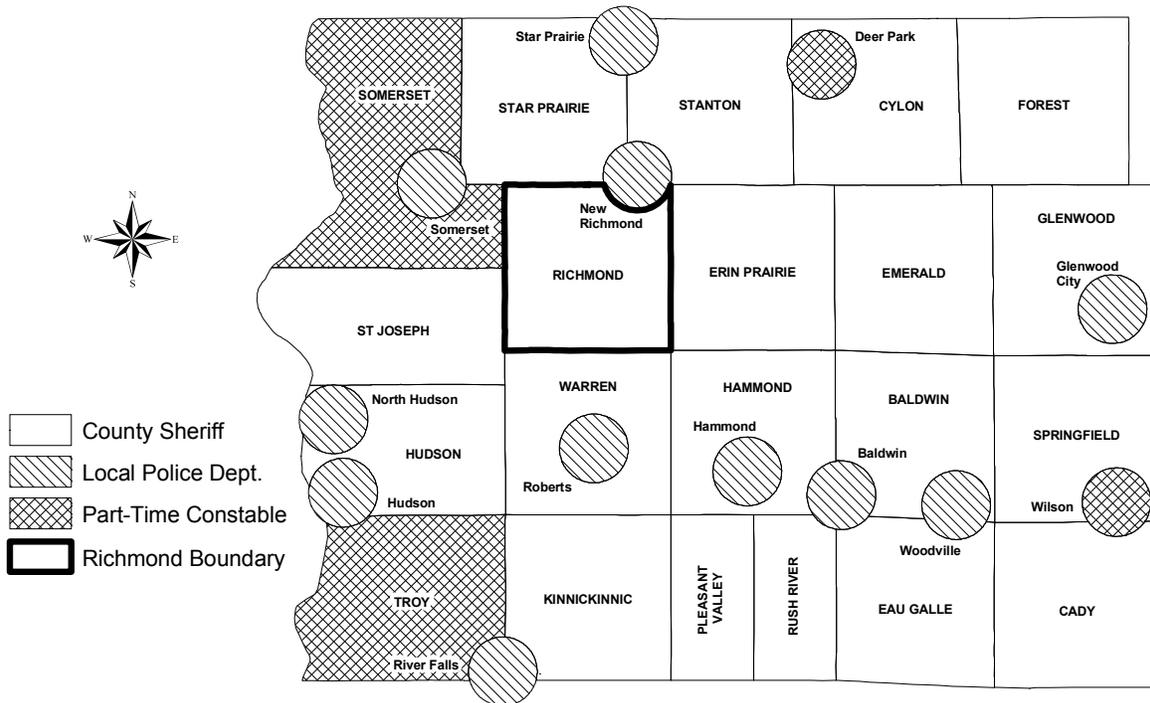
Source: St. Croix County Planning and Zoning / Land Information

Fire Protection Service Areas St. Croix County - Richmond



Source: St. Croix County Planning and Zoning / Land Information

Law Enforcement St. Croix County - Richmond



Source: St. Croix County Planning and Zoning

LIBRARIES

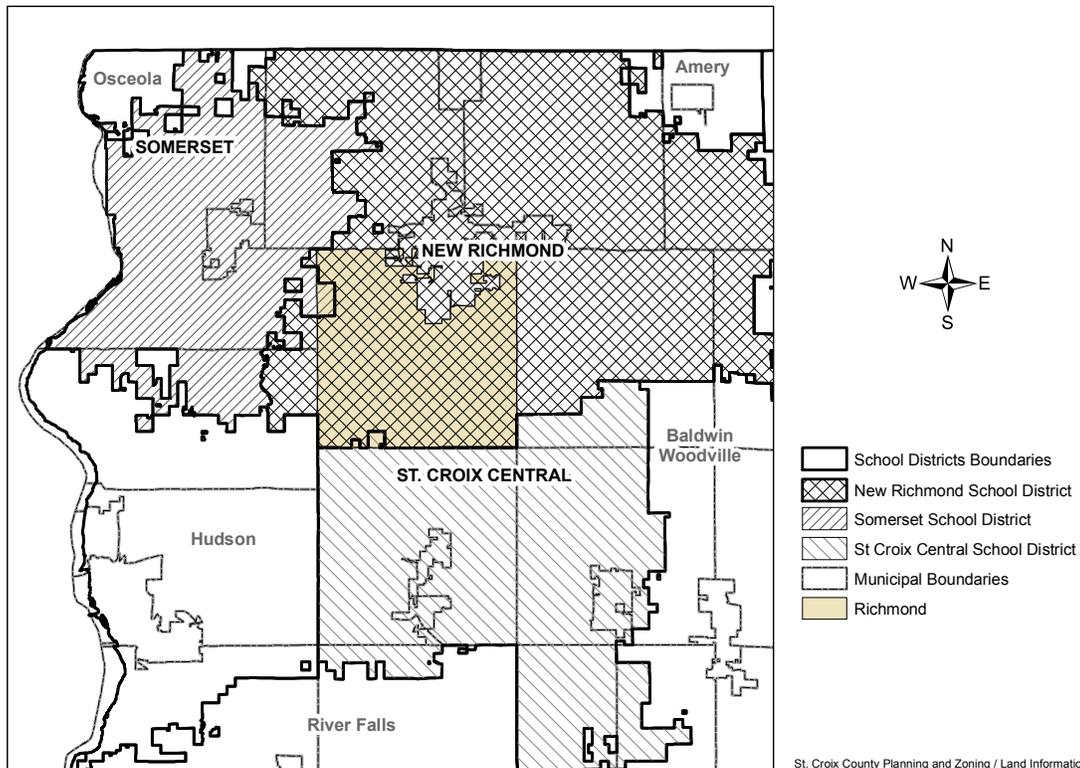
- Most Richmond residents utilize the Friday Memorial Library in New Richmond.
- Richmond residents accounted for 30,046 circulation items in 2008 which is 12.8 percent of the library's total circulation.
- In 2008 the New Richmond library issued 1,652 library cards to Richmond residents. The total number of library card holders who live in the Town of Richmond is 1,770. Of the number of card holders who live in New Richmond 1,723 list the Friday Memorial Library as their home library.
- All libraries in St. Croix County are members of the Indianhead Federated Library System and the MORE online library catalog resources.

CHILD CARE FACILITIES

There are no publicly-owned child care facilities in the Town of Richmond or St. Croix County. Child care services to residents of the Town of Richmond are provided by private or non-profit entities within the town and in neighboring communities. The Town does not want to become involved in the provision of child care services.

SCHOOLS

Richmond School Districts



St. Croix County Planning and Zoning / Land Information

- The school district map above provides general information regarding school districts. Anyone interested in finding out exactly which school district a property is located in, can use the St. Croix County Land Information website: <http://stcroixwi.mapping-online.com/StCroixCoWi/> to find detailed information. Once on the county website, choose “Districts” from the menu in the upper left corner. A menu will load offering choices between different types of districts such as supervisory, school and fire; choose school and uncheck supervisory. Once that loads zoom in on a specific property to determine the school district it is located within.
- There are three public school districts in the Town of Richmond, the New Richmond School District, the Somerset School District and the St. Croix Central School District.
- The New Richmond School District Administrator’s Assistant said enrollment has been increasing in all grades. Generally they see larger graduating classes than kindergarten classes, with the most growth at the middle school and high school levels.
- New Richmond’s five-year projections are growth of about 2 percent per year.
- In fall 2008, New Richmond opened Hillside Elementary, which eliminated portable classrooms. Construction of the new high school was completed for the 2010-2011 school year. Remodeling of the old high school into a middle school will be complete in 2011.
- The Administrator of the Somerset School District stated their enrollment has been increasing at a rate of about 2.8 percent per year for the past 20 years. The 2009-2010 school year was the first decline of enrollment experienced in 20 years. Enrollment is expected to increase in the coming years.

- According to the administrator, the Somerset School District’s elementary and high schools are at capacity and in need of expansion. Currently there are no plans for future expansion or construction because of past tax increases accrued by the district’s citizens.
- The St. Croix Central School District’s enrollment has been increasing for the past 5 years, with the kindergarten through 4th grade levels experiencing the most growth.
- According to the St. Croix Central District Administrator, the 2009-2010 school year experienced a growth of about 25 students over the previous year.
- According to the District Administrator the most likely projection scenario is the “rebound” projection, which was completed by a consultant from UW-Madison. This projection takes into account the recent shifts in the housing market and state. A moderate growth of about 13 percent is likely over the next five years, with a more substantial growth of about 23 percent predicted until 2018.

**School Enrollment -- School Years 1994-95, 1999-00, 2004-05, 2008-09
St. Croix County School Districts & Private Schools**

SCHOOLS	ENROLLMENT				% CHANGE		
	1994-95	1999-00	2004-05	2008-09	95 - 00	00 - 05	05-09
Public School Districts							
Amery	1836	1854	1824	1736	1.0%	-1.6%	-4.8%
Baldwin-Woodville	1289	1281	1457	1554	-0.6%	13.7%	6.7%
Clear Lake	718	705	541	632	-1.8%	-23.3%	16.8%
Glenwood City	842	879	831	712	4.4%	-5.5%	-14.3%
Hudson	3472	3989	4803	5357	14.9%	20.4%	11.5%
New Richmond	2361	2379	2568	2970	0.8%	7.9%	15.7%
Osceola	1499	1729	1759	1885	15.3%	1.7%	7.2%
River Falls	2816	2893	3012	3018	2.7%	4.1%	0.2%
Somerset	965	1115	1455	1602	15.5%	30.5%	10.1%
Spring Valley	768	716	762	749	-6.8%	6.4%	-1.7%
St. Croix Central	1035	1022	1112	1303	-1.3%	8.8%	17.2%
Private Schools							
Baldwin Christian	28	58	59	61	107.1%	1.7%	3.4%
Croix Valley Christian	22	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Dokime	NA	NA	NA	7	NA	NA	NA
Hudson Children’s House	70	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Peniel Christian School	23	14	11	8	-39.1%	-21.4%	-27.3%
St. Anne’s Grade School	106	126	192	153	18.9%	52.4%	-20.3%
St. Mary’s	141	141	164	185	0.0%	16.3%	12.8%
St. Patrick	274	378	398	373	38.0%	5.3%	-6.3%
Trinity Academy	17	127	136	123	647.1%	7.1%	-9.6%

Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. Project schools are designated in bold type.

HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

The Town of Richmond does not provide health care services. Health care services are provided by St. Croix County or private entities. Public health care services are provided by St. Croix County Health and Human Services Department and include: alcohol and drug abuse treatment, early childhood intervention, economic support, family and children services, mental health services, nursing home and public health services. Private health care facilities including hospitals, clinics, nursing homes and assisted living facilities are located in the cities or villages of Baldwin, Hammond, Hudson, New Richmond, Roberts, Somerset and Stillwater, MN. The Town does not want to become involved in the provision of health care services.

UTILITIES & COMMUNITY FACILITIES GOALS, OBJECTIVES & POLICIES

Goal: Coordinate utility and community facility systems planning with land use, natural resource and transportation systems planning. Community facilities, services and utilities should focus on preserving the quality of life and satisfying core needs for public safety, health, education, social services, recycling, town facilities and recreation at reasonable cost. These facilities and services should support the town goals for land use, growth management and natural resources.

Objectives:

1. Provide the appropriate level of community services, facilities and practices within the town, while striving for a low tax levy and maintaining the rural character of the town.
2. Promote the use of existing public facilities, and managed expansion to those facilities, to serve future development whenever possible.
3. Support quality and accessible parks and recreational facilities and services and maintain dedicated open space for all residents.
4. Protect the town's public health, natural environment and groundwater and surface water resources through proper siting and regulation of wells, water utility services, wastewater disposal systems, recycling and other waste disposal in accordance with town, county and state laws and regulations.
5. Establish and maintain open communications with public utilities.

Policies:

1. Provide appropriate services for town residents, including public road maintenance and snow plowing on town roads, emergency services (fire, police, ambulance), solid waste and recycling.
2. Consider the objectives and policies of this plan, as well as the general welfare of all residents, to determine whether new town services or expansions may be appropriate in the future.
3. Provide support to local volunteer and community organizations through access to the town hall facilities.



The Richmond Town Hall site is used by the local community for a variety of activities including government meetings, club meetings and recycling and solid waste collection events. Photo by Shawn Demulling.

4. Work with St. Croix County Emergency Management to identify emergency siren coverage areas. If needed, provide an additional emergency warning siren to serve the southern portion of the Town of Richmond.
5. As needed, identify storm shelters for residents of mobile home parks and use local media and park owners to help educate residents on availability.
6. Continue to work with the villages of Roberts and Somerset, City of New Richmond, St. Croix County, state agencies and local organizations to develop, provide and support recreational facilities and opportunities and library services



Snowmobile Trail on 140th Ave. near Boardman with trail information provided. Photo by Shawn Demulling.

7. Plan for future open space along the Town's primary drainage corridors, which include the Willow River, Ten Mile Creek, Paperjack Creek, Anderson Springs, Brushy Mound and Lundy ponds and related wetlands. These open space areas would allow

the corridors to remain mostly undeveloped as wildlife corridors, contribute to preserving the Town's rural character, provide stormwater management areas and provide potential trail linkages to the rest of the Town. Where appropriate, the Town should require the dedication of land for trails or parks before approving development proposals

8. Support the Willow River Watershed Plan and the Ten Mile Creek projects to protect and improve the water quality in the most impacted watersheds, especially the Willow River.
9. Encourage property owners to test their drinking water annually or at least once every three years. Water testing kits are available at the County Planning and Zoning Department, Hudson; Land & Water



The new Boardman electrical substation, is one of several utility facilities located in the Town of Richmond. Photo by Shawn Demulling.

Conservation Department, Baldwin; Public Health Department, New Richmond; or through private labs. A fee may apply.

10. Work with St. Croix County and state agencies to promote the proper approval process, placement and monitoring of new on-site wastewater systems and water wells, appropriate maintenance and replacement of failing older systems and wells as a means to protect public health and ground water quality.
11. Residents will continue to be responsible for contracting for curbside solid waste collection and disposal.
12. Work with and through St. Croix County (which serves as the town’s Responsible Unit to implement the state recycling laws), to expand education, information, special collections and related services for the county recycling and hazardous waste programs. Continue to provide the town hall site as a collection location for white goods, appliances and tires for all county residents.
13. Utilize St. Croix County Sheriff’s Office for law enforcement.
14. Contract with neighboring municipalities for emergency ambulance and fire service for town residents.
15. Pursue the provision of joint services with the City of New Richmond and neighboring municipalities when it will result in better services and/or cost savings.
16. Provide public road maintenance, repair and replacement and snow plowing on town roads through contractual services.
17. Work with the villages of Roberts and Somerset and the City of New Richmond to encourage high density residential, commercial and industrial development requiring a higher level of services to locate in these municipalities. Encourage business types which will benefit all the communities.
18. Conservation design development is an option to provide community facilities and services (e.g., school bus routes, snow removal, police patrol) in a cost-effective manner.
19. Encourage renewable energy resources on a small-scale basis.



Cally's Corner is a very attractive park maintained by the Town for local residents. Photos by Shawn Demulling.