

Le Sueur County Land Use Goals and Policies

Le Sueur County will adopt and enforce the following land use goals and policies to enhance land use regulation efficiencies, use County resources to meet County residents' needs, and protect County residents' health, safety, and welfare.

Goal 1: Le Sueur County contains some of the most productive agricultural soils in Minnesota and should adopt and enforce land use goals and policies that conserve and protect agricultural resources and uses.

Policy: The County will protect the best of its agricultural land as a resource for long term agricultural use.

Policy: An adequate supply of healthy livestock is essential to the well being of Le Sueur County. The location of livestock feedlots and non-feedlot uses too close to one another can cause conflicts. An effort to combine local needs with state feedlot regulations will ensure local involvement in this issue, help provide minimal disruption to existing agricultural businesses, and help provide rules to protect the environment.

Goal 2: Le Sueur County should adopt and enforce land use goals and policies that conserve and restore its natural resources, bring protections to the ecological systems of the natural environment, and prevent the premature development of natural resource areas.

Policy: The County should continue its preservation of significant bluff areas and river valleys through its use of a Conservancy Zone.

Policy: Utilize shorelands on Recreational Development Lakes (RD) for housing, but with a focus on development design that protects the resource.

Policy: Preserve shorelands on Natural Environment Lakes (NE) and Tributary Rivers as open space or wildlife areas.

Goal 3: Improve water quality in Le Sueur County.

Policy: The County will undertake actions to help protect groundwater as well as surface water features.

Goal 4: Le Sueur County should adopt and enforce land use goals and policies that provide a wide range of opportunity for Urban and Rural Housing Development.

Policy: Le Sueur County should allow non-farm development to occur in agricultural areas, but with guidelines meant to reduce conflicts with agricultural operators.

Goal 5: The County needs to establish closer land use planning efforts with its urbanized cities for reasons of economic efficiencies and to reduce conflicts and

confusion.

Policy: The County will work with each of the Cities to establish an urban growth boundary that will graphically represent the growth intentions of each City by defining its future urban service area for some specified future time period.

Goal 6: Aggregate resources are a finite resource that is directly impacted by scattered site development. The County should protect its aggregate resources from premature development.

Policy: The County should adopt an aggregate resource protection ordinance.

Goal 7: Parks and other County owned open spaces are valuable resources that need to be improved and developed to serve County residents.

Policy: The County Board will request the Le Sueur County Park Board to become more active in being an advocate for County Park improvements.

Goal 8: As part of the County's responsibility to protect the public health, safety, and welfare, the County will consider adopting the Uniform Building Code.