

■ Agricultural Land Use Plan ■

*Too often the Washington reflex is to discover a problem and then throw money at it, hoping it will somehow go away.*

-Senator Kenneth B. Keating

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Agricultural land use in the Village continues to occur, mainly along Coldwater Road. The Village has set aside two large parcels along Baseline Road as the Agricultural district. These lands are currently not being used as farmland, and remain largely unused. One of these two sections of land is owned by the Village and has been set aside as a future site of lagoons for a Village sewer system. As mentioned earlier in the Master Plan there has been discussion over other uses of this property and ways in which it could benefit the Village.

Isabella County has also created an Agricultural Preservation Board to help protect farmland from greenbelt development. Isabella County is one of Michigan's fastest growing counties; as such urban sprawl is a concern of planners across the county. The Village strongly supports these efforts and shares the concern of the planners at the County level on ensuring that the rural and agricultural heritage of Isabella County is preserved and protected. With the Village being surrounded mainly by farmland, the same desire to preserve on the County level has to be shared at the Village and Township level as well.

► Goals

1. Support preservation work done by the County.
2. Develop a long range plan for use of the lagoon property that utilizes as much of the property as possible with various uses.
3. Encourage redevelopment of existing sites and uses before undeveloped land is utilized.