

Sheboygan County Stewardship Fund 2003 Project- Town of Rhine



Wetland Restoration- Town of Rhine

In 2003 the Town of Rhine acquired 40-acres of land adjacent to their Town Hall to provide additional parking area and create a buffer between the Town's property and adjacent property.

Initially, the Town of Rhine anticipated that the land not used for the parking area would continue to be rented for farming until they came up with some other kind of plan for the site.

Upon reviewing their application for County

Stewardship Funds, County Planning noted that the topography and underlying soils on the property would likely be conducive for a wetland restoration project.

The Town of Rhine elected officials took the lead and worked with the County Land and Water Conservation Department to come up with a site plan that included a wetland restoration project. The Town of was awarded a grant of \$36,000 to restore the wetland area on the property. In the Fall of 2004, the Town of Rhine hired a contractor to complete a "wetland scrape" where the top layers of soil are removed from a site to allow natural groundwater to reclaim the area.

The photo above shows the site prior to the excavation project. The photo to the right shows the site after the excavation project.

The Town of Rhine anticipates further enhancements to the site including prairie plantings and plantings of native shrubs and brush to provide ground cover for wildlife.

