

2024 Wood County Housing Assessment Survey

Online version: <https://bit.ly/24WoodCoHousingSurvey>



Wood County, in partnership with the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (NCWRPC) is reviewing and updating the housing chapter of the County's comprehensive plan. Findings from this survey will be used to supplement existing data and determine strategies to improve housing availability and affordability. When taking this survey, we ask that your answers reflect your current residence, or most recent experiences with housing. This survey is specific to the general public who are seeking housing to own or rent.

1. Currently, do you rent or own?

- Rent
- Own
- Other _____

2. Which of the following best describes your current housing situation as it relates to Wood County?

- I live in Wood County (if yes, which municipality? _____) (if yes, since when? _____)
- I want to live in Wood Co.
- I work in Wood Co. but do not wish to live there
- I am a seasonal resident
- Other _____

3. What do you like most about Wood County?

4. Are you currently seeking new housing?

- Yes, to rent
- Yes, to own
- No, I am not looking for a new place to live

If you answered yes to Question 4 (you are seeking new housing) please continue.
If you answered no to Question 4, please skip to question 17.

5. When deciding what community to live in, please rank how you decide from 1 (most important) to 7 (least).

- ___ Neighborhood safety
- ___ Good schools
- ___ Variety of parks and recreational opportunities
- ___ Good healthcare facilities
- ___ Variety of jobs
- ___ Cultural and fine arts activities
- ___ Good biking/walking infrastructure



6. When deciding what residence (structure) you want to live in, please rank how you decide from 1 (most important) to 6 (least).

- ___ Location (proximity to family, friends, work)
- ___ Features or amenities
- ___ Size of structure
- ___ Size of yard
- ___ Price/Value
- ___ Clean/Healthy conditions

7. Ideal number of bedrooms:

8. Ideal number of bathrooms:

9. What amenities are you looking for?

You may select more than one.

- Garage
- Energy efficiency
- In-unit laundry room
- Main floor laundry
- Office
- Open floor plan
- Low maintenance finishes
- High-end finishes
- Pool
- Pet-friendly policy
- Dishwasher
- Other: _____

10. FOR RENTERS: Is there a style of housing (for rent) you are struggling to find?

- Small structures with 2-4 attached units, like duplexes or townhomes
- Mid-size apartment complex with more amenities and units (1-2 stories)
- Large apartment complex (3 or more stories) mixed with businesses
- Single family homes
- Housing where rent is less than 30% of your income
- Housing that accommodates disabilities

11. FOR RENTERS: How much would you spend (for rent for a home that fits your needs, not including utilities)?

- Up to \$250/mo.
- \$251 to \$499/mo.
- \$500-\$799/mo.
- \$800-\$1,249/mo.
- \$1,250-\$1,499/mo.
- \$1,500-\$2,499/mo.
- Over \$2,500/mo.
- I am looking to buy instead

12. FOR RENTERS: How much do you currently spend on your housing?

- Up to \$250/mo.
- \$251 to \$499/mo.
- \$500-\$799/mo.
- \$800-\$1,249/mo.
- \$1,250-\$1,499/mo.
- \$1,500-\$2,499/mo.
- Over \$2,500/mo.

13. FOR BUYERS: Is there a style of housing (to own) you are struggling to find?

- Condominiums and/or Townhomes (These are like apartments, but you own them)
- Twin Homes (This is like a duplex, but you own one side)
- Single family homes
- Housing that accommodates disabilities (ramps, one story, etc.)
- Other:

14. FOR BUYERS: How much would you spend on a home that fits your needs, assuming 10% downpayment? Monthly payment includes taxes and insurance, but not utilities.

- Up to \$25,000 (up to \$250/mo.)
- \$25,000 to \$49,999 (up to \$499/mo.)
- \$50,000 to \$99,999 (\$500-\$799/mo.)
- \$100,000 to \$124,999 (\$800-\$1,249/mo.)
- \$125,000 to \$174,999 (\$1,250-\$1,499/mo.)
- \$175,000 to \$249,999 (\$1,500-\$2,499/mo.)
- \$250,000 to \$399,999 (\$2,500-\$3,749/mo.)
- \$400,000 and over (over \$3,750/mo.)
- I am looking to rent instead

15. FOR BUYERS: How much do you currently spend on your housing?

- Up to \$25,000 (up to \$250/mo.)
- \$25,000 to \$49,999 (up to \$499/mo.)
- \$50,000 to \$99,999 (\$500-\$799/mo.)
- \$100,000 to \$124,999 (\$800-\$1,249/mo.)
- \$125,000 to \$174,999 (\$1,250-\$1,499/mo.)
- \$175,000 to \$249,999 (\$1,500-\$2,499/mo.)
- \$250,000 to \$399,999 (\$2,500-\$3,749/mo.)
- \$400,000 and over (over \$3,750/mo.)

16. What issues (if any) are you finding in Wood County's housing stock?

- Worn-out finishes
- Mold
- Infestation
- Failing/outdated systems (heat, A/C, electrical, plumbing, roof, windows, etc.)
- Failing well and/or septic
- Drainage issues
- Structural issues
- Other:

If you answered no to Question 4 please continue with Question 17. If you answered yes, please skip to Question 20.

17. Please select all reasons that describe your choice to not seek new housing.

You may select more than one.

- I can't afford to move
- I can afford to move, but think housing is too expensive
- I don't want to move because of the economy
- I am waiting for interest rates to be lower
- I can't get an accepted offer or rent application
- I can't find a place to move to that I like
- I like where I already live and don't want to move
- I plan to move within the next 5 years

18. If you are not looking for a new home, what would you change about your current home?

You may select more than one.

- Location
- Condition of structure
- Outdated design
- Appliances/energy efficiency
- Accessibility
- Layout/Number of stories (ranch vs. two story)
- I want something easier to maintain
- I want something larger
- I want something smaller
- I have large repairs that need to be made
- Other:

19. Do you think there is a need for additional community services related to housing?

- Housing Counseling
- Home Buyer Assistance Programs
- Loans for Repairs
- Other:

- Unsure

20. Please share your experiences and opinions about housing in Wood County?

**Please return this completed survey by Sunday, May 12, 2024 to
210 McClellan St Suite 201, Wausau, WI 54403.**

If you wish to provide feedback from a different perspective (ie: employer, landlord, builder, etc.) or if you have any questions about this project, please contact -

Sam Wessel, AICP
North Central Wisconsin
Regional Planning Commission
swessel@ncwrpc.org
715-849-5510 ext. 303

or

Kayla Rombalski
Extension Wood County
krombalski@wisc.edu
715-421-8440