

service are the Central Wisconsin Airport in Mosinee, WI, and the Eau Claire County Chippewa Valley Regional Airport in Eau Claire, WI.

The town of Grover has no designated bike trails. Bicycling is permitted on roadways and safe cycling rules are encouraged. Bicycle safety classes are held every spring by local law enforcement agencies.

Heavy trucking transportation including logging, construction, and food service trucks are permitted on local roads except when state load limits are in effect in the spring. Milk trucks may travel the roads year around, as well as smaller type vehicles. School buses travel on the roads daily during the school term.

### **NATURAL RESOURCES**

The goal of the town of Grover is to help direct future development of land and to better be able to protect the natural resources for future generations in the town of Grover. The town of Grover also hopes to encourage land use densities that promote efficient development patterns. The town of Grover has a total area of 184.80 square km (71.4 square mi.). 183.0 square km (70.7 square mi.) of it is land and 1.8 square km (0.7 square mi.) of it, (0.99%) is water.

The land in the town of Grover is approximately 1480 feet above mean sea level. The land is glacial and varies from one area to another. Much of the area is forested with lakes, swamps and wetlands. Taylor County land area is distributed as follows: agricultural land covers 28.5%; forested land covers 51.2%; urban land covers less than 1%; and wetlands and surface water cover 19.1%.

The soils of Taylor County are generally acidic and have low natural fertility. Four of the eight major soil associations of Taylor County exist in the town of Grover. Descriptions of the associations are:

Crystal Lake - Comstock Association: Very deep, nearly level to steep, moderately well drained to somewhat poorly drained, silty soils on glacial lake plains.

Newood - Newot Association: Deep and very deep, nearly level to steep, well drained and moderately well drained, loamy soils on glacial moraines. The majority of the soil in the town of Grover consists of this soil association. See attached Soil Associations of Taylor County map for details.

Poskin - Maplehurst - Brill: Very deep, nearly level and gently sloping, somewhat poorly and moderately well drained, silty soils on outwash plains and stream terraces.

Magnor - Freeon: Deep and very deep, nearly level to moderately steep, somewhat poorly drained and moderately well drained, silty soils on moraines.

These are broad soil associations. See attached Soil Associations of Taylor County Map for details.

The town of Grover has significant forest area including a portion of the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, private managed forest lands, and private forest crop lands. Area forests provide recreation, timber products, and wildlife habitat. The Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest in Taylor County is comprised of 123,765 acres and is open to the public for hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, all terrain vehicle use, walking, hiking, etc. The town of Grover has 33,793 acres of the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest within its boundaries. The National forests consist of both coniferous and deciduous trees. See attached Grover Township Land cover Map and Grover Township Topographic Map, for details.

## **GROUNDWATER**

Groundwater is the main source of drinking water for the residents of the town of Grover. The quality of the groundwater varies in different locations in the township. The groundwater in the town of Grover flows to the south. See attached Groundwater Elevations map for details.

The Taylor County UW Extension and Land Conservation Department have conducted drinking water testing since 1985. Private well owners are encouraged to test their water for coli form bacteria and nitrates.

Taylor County has reported coli form bacteria found in drinking water samples collected between 1985 and 2004. The water samples showed positive 24% of the time each year on average. Coli form bacteria do not usually cause disease themselves, but they indicate that disease-causing bacteria might be present.

Taylor County testing for nitrate 1985-2004, showed that an annual average of 3% of the wells had unsafe nitrate levels. High nitrate levels are unsafe for pregnant or lactating females and infants less than six months of age, since it can interfere with the oxygen-carrying ability of a baby's blood. Nitrates may cause birth defects in the unborn.

Taylor County testing for chlorides indicated some groundwater contamination by septic systems, road salt, fertilizer, animal waste and other waste. From 1985-2004 about 35% of the wells tested had chloride levels above the expected naturally occurring levels.

Arsenic is the most serious health threat to our drinking water. Taylor County found elevated levels of arsenic in the drinking water tested from 1985 through 2004. This occurred throughout the County, with the highest levels found in the northern half of the County. Higher levels tend to be found in water from wells in the Precambrian bedrock aquifers than those in the glacial till aquifers.

In Taylor County there are 283 lakes and only 19 of those lakes are greater than 50 acres. There are 67 named streams in Taylor County totaling 494 miles. 60 miles of those streams are classified as trout waters. The major rivers in Taylor County are the Jump, Yellow, Black and Rib. See attached Department of Natural Resources four-page list of