

# Yahara WINS Adaptive Management

## Dane County Land & Water Resources | 2021 Annual Report

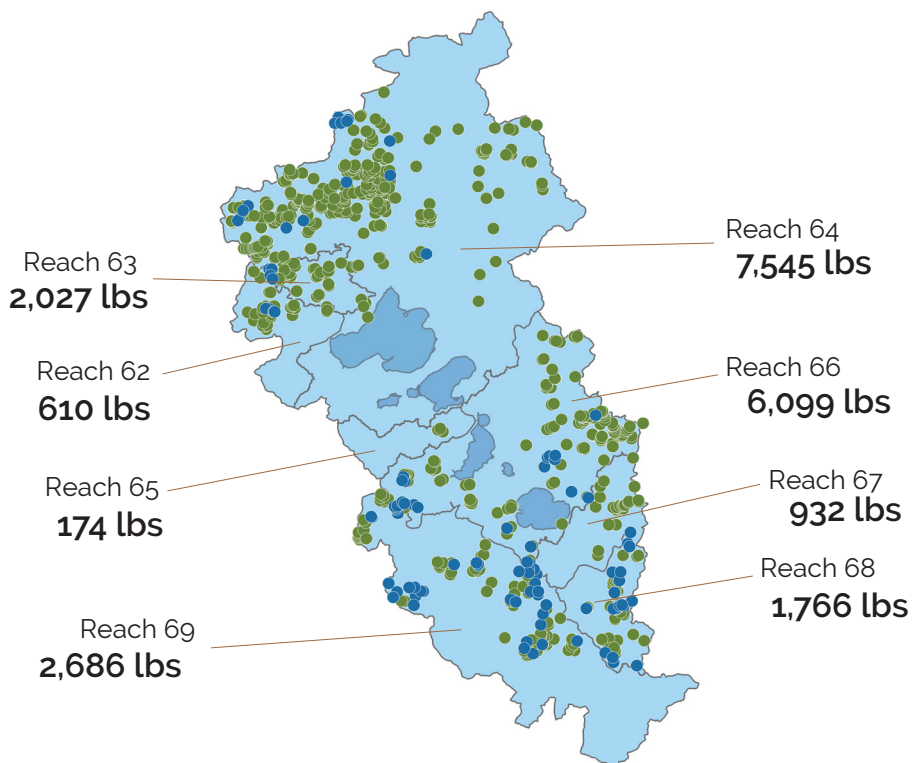
The Dane County Land & Water Resources Department continued its adaptive management partnership in 2021 with the Yahara Watershed Improvement Network (WINS). County assistance included helping rural landowners and agricultural producers with the voluntary implementation of various conservation practices. In addition to helping identify resource concerns, Dane County staff continued to track, calculate and report the associated phosphorus reductions.

Dane County continued to aid landowners with technical and financial assistance for conservation implementation through the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. 2021 marked the tenth year of collaboration for Dane County with Yahara WINS. Alongside other municipal entities, landowners and industry partners, the County continues to address resource concerns by supporting the implementation of agricultural conservation practices that will reduce phosphorus and sediment loss.



### 2021 Conservation Highlights

Reduced annual phosphorus load by 21,838 lbs (reductions by reach on figure below)



JUST ONE  
POUND OF  
PHOSPHORUS  
ENTERING  
THE LAKES  
CAN CREATE  
**500 LBS OF**

**WET ALGAE...** THE AMOUNT OF  
PHOSPHORUS REDUCED IN 2021  
COULD HAVE BEEN RESPONSIBLE  
FOR ALMOST 11 MILLION POUNDS  
OF ALGAE GROWTH!

**937** practices implemented from 2008-2020 (green on map)  
**113** practices implemented in 2021 (blue on map)



**LAND & WATER  
RESOURCES  
DEPARTMENT**

# 2021 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

# 23

**NEW COST  
SHARE  
AGREEMENTS  
SIGNED**



In 2021, Dane County signed 23 new cost share agreements with landowners in the watershed.

# \$774,767



**TOTAL DOLLARS  
ALLOCATED IN 2021  
FOR COST SHARE  
AGREEMENTS**

In 2021, Dane County allocated over \$750,000 for cost share agreements for projects within the watershed, bringing the **total amount allocated since 2013 to \$6,589,778.**



Dane County conservation staff meet with landowners to discuss current and prospective projects.

# 113

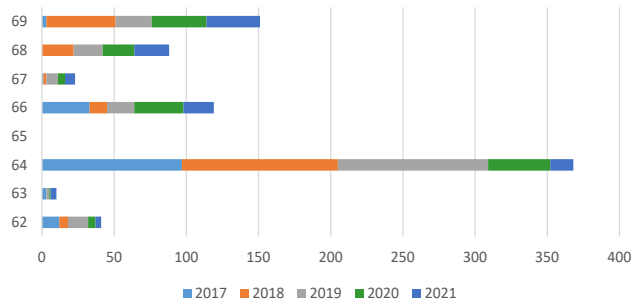
**TOTAL NUMBER OF  
CONSERVATION  
PRACTICES  
COMPLETED IN 2021**

This is a slightly lower number than in 2020, yet the number of completed practices remains over 100 for the 5th year in a row. The total number of completed practices since 2008 is 1,100.



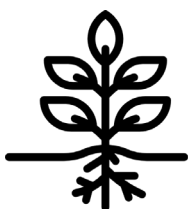
A grassed waterway is used in conjunction with cover crops on this field. Credit: NRCS - Lynn Betts

Number of Completed Conservation Practices  
By TDML Reach



# 53,802

**ACRES OF LAND  
TRACKED WITH NUTRIENT  
MANAGEMENT PLANS**



Each TDML reach saw an increase in the numbers of acres tracked with nutrient management plans in 2021. Dane County surpassed 50,000 acres last year for the first time of the partnership.

**Acres tracked in 2021 with nutrient management:**

TDML Reach 69: <b>4,897</b>	TDML Reach 65: <b>92</b>
TDML Reach 68: <b>4,471</b>	TDML Reach 64: <b>30,393</b>
TDML Reach 67: <b>1,707</b>	TDML Reach 63: <b>4,109</b>
TDML Reach 66: <b>4,681</b>	TDML Reach 62: <b>3,453</b>

**Total completed practices since 2008**

TDML Reach 69: **176**

TDML Reach 65: **3**

TDML Reach 68: **96**

TDML Reach 64: **484**

TDML Reach 67: **49**

TDML Reach 63: **48**

TDML Reach 66: **195**

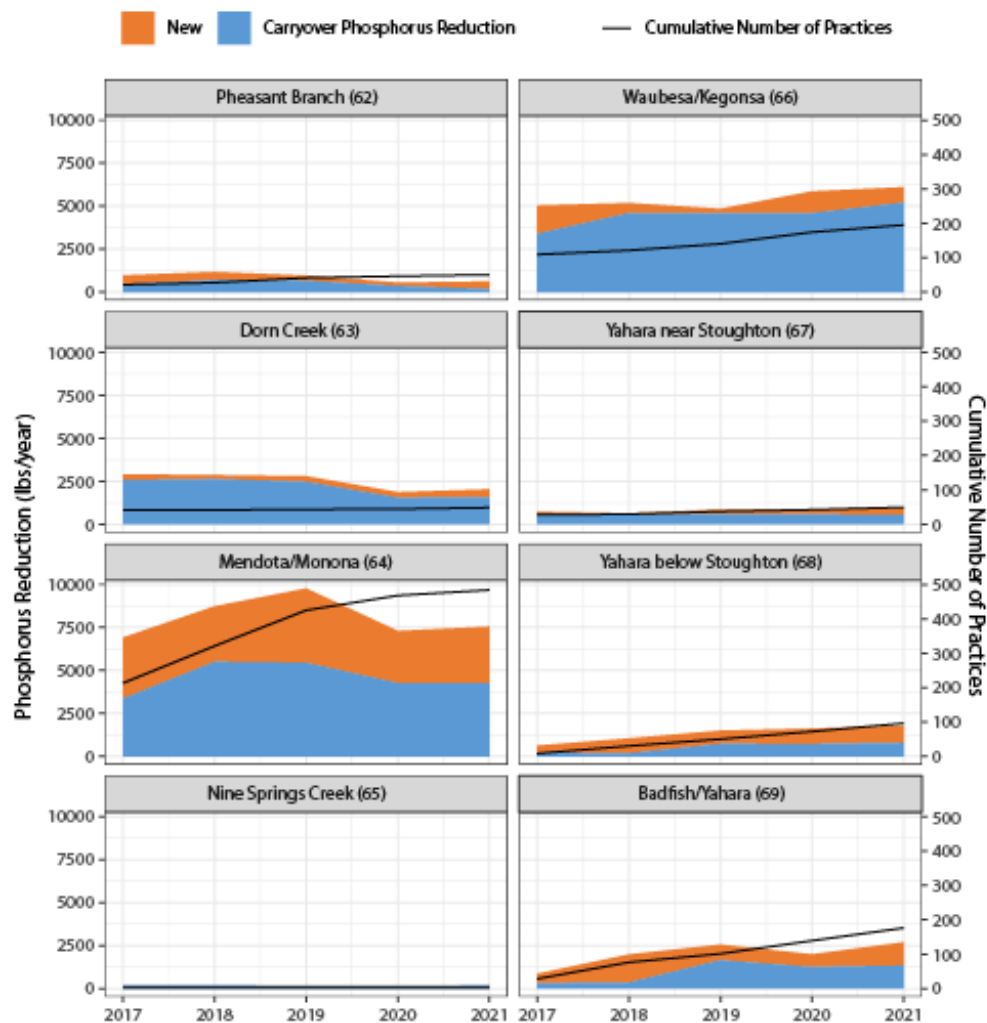
TDML Reach 62: **50**

# 56

**TOTAL NUMBER OF  
CONSERVATION  
PRACTICES  
PLANNED IN 2021**

This was the highest number of practices planned since 2017, bringing the total number of practices since 2013 to 477.





Phosphorus reductions for Yahara WINS are tracked and calculated based on annual and carryover pounds. New pounds for each year are associated with practices that were implemented in that reporting period. Practices installed in previous years that are found to be functioning and maintained contribute to carryover reductions. Examples of these practices are grassed waterways, waste storage facility and conversion from row crops to grazing. Dane County has been able to consistently meet and exceed phosphorus reduction goals over the course of the Yahara WINS partnership. Alongside the other municipal and industry partners, Dane County maintains a strong commitment to the conservation work throughout the watershed to achieve further phosphorus reduction goals.



# 241

NUMBER OF PRACTICE VERIFICATION CHECKS COMPLETED IN 2021

## 2021 practice verification checks by reach:

TDML Reach 69: **57**  
 TDML Reach 68: **25**  
 TDML Reach 67: **5**  
 TDML Reach 66: **122**

TDML Reach 65: **1**  
 TDML Reach 64: **31**  
 TDML Reach 63: **0**  
 TDML Reach 62: **0**

