

**STATE OF WISCONSIN  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION**

<b>GREEN LAKE COUNTY FARMLAND PRESERVATION PLAN MAP AMENDMENT FOR THE TOWNS OF BERLIN, BROOKLYN, GREEN LAKE, KINGSTON, MACKFORD, MANCHESTER, MARQUETTE, PRINCETON &amp; SENECA</b>	<b>DATCP DOCKET NO.</b>  ARM Division Docket No. 061-00000-P-16 M-0917  <b>ORDER CERTIFYING PLAN MAP THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2026</b>
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**INTRODUCTION**

Green Lake County has asked the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (“DATCP”) to certify a proposed amendment to the farmland preservation plan map for the Towns of Berlin, Brooklyn, Green Lake, Kingston, Mackford, Manchester, Marquette, Princeton, and Seneca pursuant to s. 91.16, Wis. Stats. DATCP has considered the request and adopts the following decision:

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

- (1) DATCP is an agency of the State of Wisconsin, and is responsible for administering Wisconsin’s farmland preservation law under ch. 91, Wis. Stats., as repealed and recreated by 2009 Wis. Act 28.
- (2) Green Lake County is a county of the State of Wisconsin.
- (3) In order for a county and its residents to participate in the farmland preservation program, a county must have a state-certified farmland preservation plan. Among other things, the certified plan must clearly designate farmland preservation areas that the county plans to preserve for agricultural use.
- (4) Green Lake County currently has a state-certified farmland preservation plan. The current state certification is scheduled to expire on December 31, 2026.
- (5) Under s. 91.16(8), Wis. Stats., the certification of a farmland preservation plan does not cover any subsequent plan revision (adopted after July 1, 2009) unless DATCP certifies that plan revision.
- (6) On September 1, 2017, DATCP received from Green Lake County a request to certify an amended farmland preservation plan map for the Towns of Berlin, Brooklyn, Green Lake, Kingston, Mackford, Manchester, Marquette, Princeton, and Seneca under s. 91.16, Wis. Stats. The county submitted the application in the form required under s. 91.20, Stats. The application included the certifications required under s. 91.20(3), Wis. Stats.
- (7) Under s. 91.16(3)(a), Wis. Stats., DATCP may certify a county plan based on the county’s certification under s. 91.20(3), Wis. Stats., that the plan meets applicable certification standards under s. 91.18, Wis. Stats.
- (8) DATCP may certify a farmland preservation plan if the plan meets applicable statutory

standards under s. 91.18, Wis. Stats. DATCP may certify based on the representations contained in the county's application, but may conduct its own review and verification as it deems appropriate.

(9) Under s. 91.10(2), Wis. Stats., the farmland preservation plan must be consistent with the county comprehensive plan, if the county has a comprehensive plan.

(10) Under s. 91.16(2)(b), Wis. Stats., the certification of an amendment to a certified farmland preservation plan expires on the date that the certification of the farmland preservation plan expires.

(11) Under s. 91.16(9), Wis. Stats., DATCP may withdraw its certification at any time if DATCP finds that the certified plan materially fails to meet applicable certification standards under s. 91.18, Wis. Stats.

### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

(1) Based on Green Lake County's certification that the attached county farmland preservation plan map amendment for the Towns of Berlin, Brooklyn, Green Lake, Kingston, Mackford, Manchester, Marquette, Princeton, and Seneca meets applicable certification requirements under s. 91.18, Wis. Stats., DATCP may certify that plan map amendment until December 31, 2026, the date that the Green Lake County farmland preservation plan expires.

(2) Certification does not apply to plan amendments made after the certification date, unless DATCP certifies those amendments.

(3) DATCP may withdraw its certification at any time if DATCP finds that the certified plan materially fails to meet applicable certification standards under s. 91.18, Wis. Stats.

### ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED THAT:


(1) The proposed Green Lake County Farmland Preservation Plan map amendment for the Towns of Berlin, Brooklyn, Green Lake, Mackford, Manchester, and Marquette (dated September 19, 2017), and the Towns of Kingston Princeton, and Seneca (dated September 1, 2017) are hereby certified under s. 91.16, Wis. Stats.

(2) The certified farmland preservation plan area for Green Lake County is titled "Areas of Agricultural Use and Agriculture Related Use."

(3) This certification expires at the end of the day on December 31, 2026.

Dated this 10th day of October, 2017.

STATE OF WISCONSIN,  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,  
TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

By   
Jeff Lyon, Interim Secretary

Parties for Purposes of Review Under s. 227.53, Wis. Stats.:

**Green Lake County**

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