INTRODUCTION

Located in the watershed of the south fork of the Crow River approximately 42 miles west of the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area, Camden Township is one of 10 townships in Carver County, Minnesota. In 1856 settlers started coming from Indiana, Maine, and Pennsylvania to claim land. After the Civil War German settlers made their way to Camden township in 1860. The Great Northern Railroad once ran through the northern portion where New Germany and Mayer were established as stations. In 2006, an estimated 939 residents (Metropolitan Council) made their home in Camden Township, making it the 6th most populous township in Carver County. Camden Township has a total land area of approximately 34 square miles (22,009 acres) and has a landscape suitable for agriculture due to the excellent drainage of the Crow River. Camden Township borders Hollywood Township to the north, Waconia Township to the east, Young America Township to the south, and McLeod County to the west.
POPLAINTION AND HOUSEHOLDS

Population Trends and Forecasts

Camden Township has experienced slight population change over the last several decades. The Metropolitan Council estimates that in 2006 Camden Township population numbered approximately 939.

Camden Township population is expected to remain stable over the next 23 years. The Metropolitan Council forecasts for 2010, 2020, and 2030, suggest minimal changes in population with the 2030 population expected to reach approximately 1030 people.

Visit www.metrocouncil.org/metroarea/stats.htm for more information on the methodology behind the estimates and forecasts.

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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>70,205</td>
<td>86,236</td>
<td>110,740</td>
<td>163,830</td>
<td>195,400</td>
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</table>

Forecasts include future annexation areas.
All forecasts approved by Council Actions, January 14, 2004, and August 24, 2005
Population Estimates and Forecasts for Carver County Cities and Townships
Source: US Census Bureau, Metropolitan Council

Household Trends and Forecasts

Camden Township has experienced modest household change over the last several decades. During the period from 2000 to 2006, households were estimated to have had a change of 1.27% (4 actual) from 316 to 320, with an estimated 2.93 persons per household in 2006.

During the decade from 1996 to 2006, 51 new homes were built in Camden Township, which makes up 10.4% of the total new homes built in all of Carver County townships during that decade.

Visit www.metrocouncil.org/metroarea/stats.htm for more information on the methodology behind the estimates and forecasts.

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<tr>
<td>Carver County</td>
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<td>86,236</td>
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<td>163,830</td>
<td>195,400</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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All forecasts approved by Council Actions, January 14, 2004, and August 24, 2005
Household Estimates and Forecasts for Carver County Cities and Townships
Source: US Census Bureau, Metropolitan Council
EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION

Employment Status, Educational Attainment, and Employment Forecasts

Employment Status and Commute to Work
According to the 2000 Census, Camden Township had 728 persons 16 years and over. Of this total, 75.8% of these persons were in the labor force. The total civilian labor force (not including persons on active duty in the United States Armed Forces, unpaid volunteers or homemakers) consisted of 552 persons, 74.2% of which were employed and 1.6% unemployed.

Educational Attainment
In 2000, Camden Township had 603 people 25 years and over, 285 were high school graduates. In addition, 131 had some college with no degree, 46 obtained associates degrees, 47 graduated with bachelor’s degrees, and 16 received a graduate or professional degree. Overall, 87.1% of the population 25 years and over were high school graduates or higher.

Employment Forecast
Job growth in Camden Township is expected to increase only minimally over the next 22 years.

EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES AND FORECASTS
Carver County and Camden Township

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community</th>
<th>2000 Census</th>
<th>2010 MC Forecast</th>
<th>2020 MC Forecast</th>
<th>2030 MC Forecast</th>
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<td>Camden Township</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carver County</td>
<td>28,740</td>
<td>39,860</td>
<td>51,540</td>
<td>59,080</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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</table>

Forecasts include future annexation areas.
All forecasts approved by Council Actions, January 14, 2004, and August 24, 2005
Employment Estimates and Forecasts for Carver County Cities and Townships
Source: US Census Bureau, Metropolitan Council

HISTORIC RESOURCES

Historic Resources Profile

Historic Resources in Camden Township
A number of known historic and archeological sites have been identified within Camden Township, and in neighboring cities of Mayer and New Germany. In addition, 7 archeological sites have been identified in the Standing Structures and Archaeology Inventory, a Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) survey program that has recorded over 50,000 historic structures and approximately 16,500 archeological sites statewide.

Camden Township currently has no sites on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The Standing Structures and Archaeology inventories contain the County’s known archaeological sites and historic standing structures; however, according to SHPO many archaeological sites and historic standing structures remain unidentified or not inventoried across MN, including Carver County.

IDENTIFIED HISTORIC STRUCTURES (Source: SHPO, 2007)
AGRICULTURAL PRESERVES

The Township has a moderate level of participation in the Agricultural Preserve Program by landowners. About 13,168 acres (60%) of the land is entered in the Preserve Program as of 2007. Of the total land in preserve, 6,101 acres (46%) has the expiration filed. The Agricultural Preserve participation rate indicates a commitment to agriculture over the long term, particularly in the central and western portions of the township. The Agricultural Preserve covenant limits the residential density to 1/40 regardless of other zoning provisions.

AGRICULTURAL PRESERVES
Camden Township

Source: Metropolitan Council, Carver County Planning and Water Management

Enrolled Agricultural Preserves, 2007
Source: Carver County Planning and Water Management Department, 2007
EXISTING LAND USE (2008)

The primary land use in the Township is commercial agriculture, but a substantial portion of the land remains in a natural state. The agricultural activities are centered around dairying, livestock, and cash grain farming. The amount of land in farms has remained stable with the number of farms declining due to a reduced number of farms with dairy operations, and changing farm economics.
CAMDEN TOWNSHIP LAND USE (2030)

- **Mixed Use Residential** (Two or more of the following: residential, industrial, commercial and/or office, and institutional uses, where the primary use is residential)
- **Commercial** (Provision of goods or services)
- **Industrial** (Primarily manufacturing, and/or processing of products)
- **Institutional** (Primarily religious, governmental, educational, social or healthcare facilities)
- **Park and Recreation** (Primarily for public active recreation activities)
- **Wetlands** (Wetlands included in the National Wetlands Inventory)
- **Open Water** (Permanently flooded open water, rivers, streams)

**Note:** Land use within city boundaries and in transition areas are not included in the legend.

This map was created using Carver County’s Geographic Information Systems (GIS), it is a compilation of information and data from various City, County, State, and Federal offices. This map is not a surveyed or legally recorded map and is not intended for use in legal or financial transactions. Use at your own risk. This map is not responsible for any inaccuracies contained herein.

**Source:** Carver County Planning and Water Management, Metropolitan Council

**Basemap:** National Geographic Society

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Land & Water Services Division
Government Center – Administration Building
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Chaska, Minnesota 55318
Phone: 952-361-1820
Fax: 952-361-1828
Website: www.co.carver.mn.us/pz

**Visit**
www.co.carver.mn.us/2030plan
## Land Use Summary

Camden Township

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Land Use Description</th>
<th>2008 (acres)</th>
<th>2030 (acres)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mixed Use Residential</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
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<tr>
<td>Industrial</td>
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<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Institutional</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks and Recreation</td>
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<td>256</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rural Residential</td>
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<td>881</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agricultural</td>
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<td>17,195</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wetlands(^1)</td>
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<td>2,898</td>
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<tr>
<td>Open Water(^1)</td>
<td>469</td>
<td>469</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transition Area(^2)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>269</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>22,006</strong></td>
<td><strong>22,006</strong></td>
</tr>
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1. The difference in wetland and open water acreages does not reflect actual wetland loss and all Wetland Conservation Act requirements must be followed.

2. Land uses within the transition area shown on the 2030 land use map have been aggregated to create the total shown in this table. For final determination of future land use designations within transition areas, please consult City Comprehensive Plans.
Camden Township has an excellent landscape for agriculture. A 1999 Permanent Agricultural Land study showed that much of the land in Camden Township is "highly qualified" for permanent agricultural preservation with the exception of floodplain areas along the Crow River. These areas are slightly less qualified for permanent agricultural preservation. Not all land in the Township is suitable for agricultural land use however, and may be better suited for open space or residential uses. There are many wooded and wetland areas interspersed within the farmed areas.
Land Use

Because of the location, soils types, development trends, market demands in the area, and distance to sewer and water services, agriculture will continue to be the principal use of land in Camden Township. Land use patterns will remain relatively stable. Very limited amounts of agricultural land will be converted to residential uses. The limited residential development that is expected to occur will generally locate in the wooded and pasture areas. Lakeshore, on the lakes listed in the County Land Use Plan, would typically be eligible under the wooded lot provision.

TOWNSHIP POLICY LU-1
Agriculture will continue to be the primary land use and economic base of the Township. The Township hereby adopts the Carver County Land Use Plan. A map showing future land use in the Township can be found in the County Plan. The County Plan, along with the policies in this Plan, will be used to manage land use and environmental resources in Camden Township.

TOWNSHIP POLICY LU-2
Policy Area Designation the Township’s land use policy designations are shown on the Policy Map. For the land in the Agricultural Policy Area the Township chooses to utilize Option 2 – Wooded Lot as provided for in the Carver County Land Use Plan. The density in the Township shall be limited to the basic 1 dwelling per 1/4 1/4 section, plus the additional density in wooded areas as provided in County Policy. Lakeshore in and of itself shall not constitute eligibility for “wooded lots”. This includes Eagle Lake.

TOWNSHIP POLICY LU-3
The Cities of New Germany and Mayer border Camden Township. The cities recently updated their comprehensive plans to include additional 2030 growth area. The Transition Area designation should be limited to the area shown on the Policy map. The Transition Areas(s) as identified in the County Land Use Plan and on the Township Policy Map shall be managed in accordance with the policies in the County Plan. The Township will generally agree to annexation of property by a city if the annexation meets the following criteria:
- Annexation is supported and identified in the City’s Comprehensive Plan
- Development will occur immediately and will be served by municipal sewer, water, and roads.
- Development is not feasible under the County Plan and ordinances.

TOWNSHIP POLICY LU-4
The County Plan provides for a number of land use options the township can choose to implement. Camden Township chooses not to implement: the transfer of 1 per 40 eligibilities to non-adjacent parcels; golf courses; additional feedlot regulations.

Water Resources
Camden Township is located in the Buffalo Creek, Crow River and Carver Creek Watersheds. Carver County is the Water Authority for these two watersheds and is required to prepare and implement a water plan which addresses surface water and groundwater issues. The Township is required to adopt a Local Water management Plan that complies with the Watershed Plan.

TOWNSHIP POLICY WR-1
Camden Township hereby concurs with and adopts the Carver County Water Management Organization (CCWMO) and the Buffalo Creek Watershed District (BCWD) Watershed Management Plans; these plans serve as the Township’s Local Surface Water Management Plan. The CCWMO Watershed Management Plan will likely be updated in 2010 and the Township will amend this plan to adopt the final updated CCWMO Plan.
**TOWNSHIP POLICIES (cont.)**

### Parks, Open Space, and Trails

**TOWNSHIP POLICY POST-1**  
Camden Township acknowledges that the Metropolitan Council’s regional park policy plan identifies the Crow River Regional Trail (referred to as the Western Carver County Regional Trail in the 2030 County Plan) with a potential future alignment through the township. The establishment of any future trail alignment will result from a master plan process done in cooperation with Camden Township, Carver County, and others.

### Transportation

Camden Township’s transportation system consists of County & State highways and Township roads (see map). The Township is responsible for the planning, construction, and maintenance of the Township road system, while the County & State are responsible for their respective systems. The primary function of local roads is to provide access to individual parcel of land and to move traffic to the collector system. The purpose of the collectors is to collect traffic from the local roads and to provide access to individual parcels of property. The principal function of the arterials is to move traffic to destinations outside the Township and to provide for connections to the regional system. In a rural area such as Camden Township, the arterials also perform a secondary function of providing access to individual parcels of property.

**TOWNSHIP POLICY TR-1**  
The Township’s primary responsibility is the maintenance and improvement of the Township road system as shown on the Policy map and as provided by statute. The town road system will be maintained at a level consistent with the need to serve the agricultural economy and residential development at densities provided in the Land Use Element. Improvements will be made only to maintain or attain that level of service. The Township road system consists of those roads identified as Township roads on the Camden Township Policy Map. The system may be modified by additions or deletions to the system made on the official town road map as recorded in the Office of the County Recorder or other appropriate Township action.

**TOWNSHIP POLICY TR-2**  
Alternatives should be investigated in cases where the approval of a change in land use would raise traffic on a gravel road substantially above 200 ADT. Individual land uses that will generate high levels of traffic and/or heavy vehicle traffic will be discouraged and may be required to participate in the upgrading of facilities.

**TOWNSHIP POLICY TR-3**  
The Township does not foresee the need for the construction of any new roads on the Township system. The Township’s primary concern is the maintenance and improvement (when necessary) of the town road system. If new roads are needed to provide service to new development, these roads will be constructed solely at the expense of the developer. Such roads shall meet Township and County standards for local roads or a higher standard if the road will be of a higher classification as shown in the County Transportation Plan. The Township will not accept these as public roads. These roads will be maintained and repaired by a homeowner’s association or similar entity consisting of the land owners served by the road. However, the Township may accept a new road if it connects to an existing public road at either end.
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Source: Carver County Planning and Water Management

Visit www.co.carver.mn.us/2030plan