Located south of the Carver Park Reserve approximately 32 miles southwest of the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area, Laketown Township is one of 10 townships in Carver County, Minnesota. First settled in April 1853 and organized May 11, 1868, John Salter, an early settler, suggested the name Laketown because of the 10 small lakes and Clearwater Lake (now known as Lake Waconia) on the western boundary. The Swedish community on the east side of Clearwater Lake was often called Scandia, the ancient Roman name for the southern part of Sweden. In 2006, an estimated 2,160 residents (Metropolitan Council) made their home in Laketown Township, making it the most populous township in Carver County. The township has a total land area of approximately 29 square miles (18,378 Acres). Laketown Township borders Hennepin County to the north, the Cities of Victoria and Chaska to the east, Waconia Township and the city of Waconia to the west and Dahlgren Township to the south.
POPULATION AND HOUSEHOLDS

Population Trends and Forecasts

Laketown Township has experienced modest population change over the last several decades. The Metropolitan Council estimates that in 2006 Laketown Township population numbered approximately 2,160.

Laketown Township population is expected to decrease over the next 23 years. The Metropolitan Council forecasts for 2010, 2020, and 2030 are still being revised by Council actions.

Visit [www.metrocouncil.org/metroarea/stats.htm](http://www.metrocouncil.org/metroarea/stats.htm) for more information on the methodology behind the estimates and forecasts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Laketown Township*</td>
<td>2,331</td>
<td>2,160</td>
<td>1,800</td>
<td>830</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carver County</td>
<td>70,205</td>
<td>86,236</td>
<td>110,740</td>
<td>163,830</td>
<td>195,400</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Forecasts include future annexation areas.

*Forecast approved by Metropolitan Council Action in 2006.


Population Estimates and Forecasts for Carver County Cities and Townships

Source: US Census Bureau, Metropolitan Council

Household Trends and Forecasts

Laketown Township has experienced modest household change over the last several decades. During the decade from 1996 to 2006, 63 new homes were built in Laketown Township, which makes up 12.9% of the total new homes built in all of Carver County townships during that decade.

Visit [www.metrocouncil.org/metroarea/stats.htm](http://www.metrocouncil.org/metroarea/stats.htm) for more information on the methodology behind the estimates and forecasts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Laketown Township*</td>
<td>637</td>
<td>644</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carver County</td>
<td>24,356</td>
<td>30,986</td>
<td>41,780</td>
<td>62,680</td>
<td>76,180</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Forecasts include future annexation areas.

*Forecast approved by Metropolitan Council Action in 2006.


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, Laketown had 1839 persons 16 years and over. Of this total, 81.7% 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 1501 persons.

**Educational Attainment**
In 2000, Laketown Township had 1,303 people 25 years and over, 355 were high school graduates. In addition, 300 had some college with no degree, 107 obtained associates degrees, 343 graduated with bachelor's degrees, and 97 received a graduate or professional degree. Overall, 92.2% of the population 25 years and over were high school graduates or higher.

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

---

**EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES AND FORECASTS**
Carver County and Laketown 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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Laketown Township*</td>
<td>355</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>650</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carver County Total**</td>
<td>28,740</td>
<td>39,860</td>
<td>51,540</td>
<td>59,080</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Forecasts include future annexation areas.
*Forecast approved by Metropolitan Council Action in 2006.
***Metropolitan Council Forecasts for employment are based on City Annexation.
Employment Estimates and Forecasts for Carver County Cities and Townships

**Source**: US Census Bureau, Metropolitan Council

---

HISTORIC RESOURCES

**Historic Resources Profile**

**Historic Resources in Laketown Township**
A number of known historic and archeological sites have been identified within Laketown Township and are included in the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Standing Structures and Archeological inventory. The Standing Structures and Archaeology inventories contain the County’s known archaeological sites and historic standing structures. According to SHPO many archaeological sites and historic standing structures remain unidentified or not inventoried across MN.

Laketown Township currently has no sites on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

**IDENTIFIED HISTORIC STRUCTURES (Source: SHPO, 2007)**

**Identified Historic Structures**

---

**Map Information**
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 intended to be used as a reference. Carver County is not responsible for any inaccuracies contained herein.

Source: Carver County Planning and Water Management, MN State Historic Preservation Office

Produced by Government Center – Administration Building
600 East 4th Street
Chaska, Minnesota  55318
Phone:  (952)361-1820
Fax:  (952)361-1828
www.co.carver.mn.us/pz
Carver County Planning and Water Management
Land & Water Services Division

LAKE TOWNSHIP

**LAKE TOWNSHIP**

**IDENTIFIED HISTORIC RESOURCES**

---

LaKE TOWN

**DAHLGREN TOWNSHIP**

**HENNEPIN COUNTY**

**WACONIA TOWNSHIP**

**VICTORIA**

**WACONIA**

**LAKE WACONIA**

**MINNEWASHTA LAKE**

**AUBURN LAKE**

**PARLEY LAKE**

**PIERSON LAKE**

**ZUMBRU LAKE**

**STIEGER LAKE**

**LAKE BAVARIA**

**HAZELTINE LAKE**

**MARSH LAKE**

**REITZ LAKE**

**STONE LAKE**

**LAKE MINNETONKA**

**LUNSTEN LAKE**

**SCHUTZ LAKE**

**WASSERMANN LAKE**

**LAKE VIRGINIA**

**LUNSTEN LAKE**
Laketown Township has a moderate level of participation in the Agricultural Preserve Program by landowners. About 3,356 acres (18%) of the land is entered in the Preserve Program as of 2007. Of the total land in preserve, 9,058 acres (69%) 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.
The primary land use in Laketown Township is commercial agriculture centered around dairying, livestock, and cash grain farming. The amount of land in farms has remained relatively stable with the size of farms increasing both in size and operation.
### Land Use Summary

#### Laketown Township

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Land Use Description</th>
<th>2008 (acres)</th>
<th>2030 (acres)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single Family Residential</td>
<td>391</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mixed Use Residential</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks and Recreation</td>
<td>2,710</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roadway Rights-of-Way</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Airport</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural Residential</td>
<td>604</td>
<td>134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural</td>
<td>10,445</td>
<td>2,084</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wetlands(^1)</td>
<td>1,997</td>
<td>583</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Water(^1)</td>
<td>2,058</td>
<td>499</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transition Area (as shown in City 2030 Comp Plans)(^2)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5,125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Growth Area (as shown in City 2030 Comp Plans)(^2)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9,825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>18,388</strong></td>
<td><strong>18,388</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

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 and the beyond 2030 growth 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 these areas, please consult City Comprehensive Plans.
The land in the Township is flat to gently rolling and is highly suited to agriculture; it is predominately SCS Class 1, 2 & 3 lands - prime and good agricultural land. A 1999 Permanent Agricultural Land study showed that about half of the land in Laketown Township is highly or moderately qualified for permanent agricultural preservation with the exception of sections in the northeastern portion. 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.
Carver County completed an ecologically based natural resources assessment in 2007 that ranks natural resource areas within Carver County. This assessment is the most comprehensive and detailed analysis of existing natural features within Carver County to date and includes over 25 county specific datasets as inputs. The purpose of this assessment is to provide a scientifically based ranking and assessment of natural resources to used to guide future management, conservation, and restoration activities in Carver County. For more information visit the Water and Natural Resources Element at [www.co.carver.mn.us/2030plan/elements](http://www.co.carver.mn.us/2030plan/elements)
Except for the areas that will be discussed, all sewage in the township will be treated by individual on-site systems. Carver County administers on-site sewer program within the township. The township is served by 3 Metropolitan facilities - the Chaska metro sewer system serves a densely settled area south of Lake Bavaria; residential areas on the north and south sides of TH S are served by the MWCC-7508 interceptor; and Crown College is served by the MSB-7020 interceptor. A community mound system located north of Pierson’s Lake serves residential development on the north and southeast portions of the Lake while another community mound serves residential development on the southwest portion of the Lake. The service to Crown College was provided at the time that the MSB-7020 interceptor was extended to St. Bonifacius. The other connections to the regional system and the construction of the community mounds occurred in the early 1980’s as the result of a 201 Facilities program. The purpose of the program was to abate pollution from failing on-site sewers in existing residential developments. The only feasible options in these areas was community systems or connection to the regional system. Other areas were abated by individual system repair or replacement. The systems are designed to serve existing development and were not intended to provide service to undeveloped areas. The Rolling Meadows and Krey Addition were added to the metro Waconia Interceptor in the late 1990’s to address system failures.

The central systems installed as part of the 201 project are owned and operated by the Township. The systems utilize septic tanks for each home with collection lines transporting gray water to the treatment site or into the Regional System. The 201 program required that the Township put in place an on-site sewer monitoring system. The Township has in place a system that provides for the annual inspection and pumping every 3 years of each septic tank that was installed as part of the 201 project. The Township also has regular inspections and maintenance of lift stations and the sewer lines, and has adopted ordinances prohibiting discharges into the system. Laketown Township adopted an ordinance on January 23, 1997 (ORD 97-01 – An Ordinance Prohibiting Discharges Into the Sanitary System, and Providing Surcharges for the Violation Thereof) which prohibits the connection of sump pumps, rain leaders, and passive drain tile to the sanitary sewer system.

The table to the right provides an estimate of existing annual metro sewage flow from Laketown Township, and projections to 2030. Crown College anticipates an ultimate buildout of 1,450 residents, which would increase flow to 40 mg per year. This buildout may occur by 2030; however there is the potential for it to occur by 2020 depending on enrollment trends. Because of the planning and zoning policies for the township, there is virtually no growth anticipated within the areas served by 201 systems. It is not known if other existing 201 properties will request metro service in the future due to system failures.
TOWNSHIP POLICIES

Land Use

While the vast majority of the Township will at some time become urbanized agriculture will continue to be the principal use of land until urbanization. Land use patterns will remain relatively stable; limited amounts of agricultural land will be converted to residential uses. The limited residential development that is expected to occur will generally locate in or near the wooded and pasture areas. 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. A large Multi-Modal Opportunity Area is located in the Township (See Policy map). Land within the Area can be expected to be converted from its current use to rail related Multi-Modal use in the future.

TOWNSHIP POLICY LU-1

Laketown Township is bordered by three cities – Chaska to the east, Victoria to the northeast, and Waconia to the west. Laketown Township is party to an orderly annexation agreement with these cities which will ultimately result in the annexation of the township into the cities of Chaska, Victoria and Waconia. The Township has the option of dissolving at such time as Laketown Township is no longer a viable economic entity. The City of Chaska has planning and zoning authority in its orderly annexation area.

TOWNSHIP POLICY LU-2

The Transition Areas (s) as identified in the Policy Map shall be managed in accordance with the policies in the County Plan.

TOWNSHIP POLICY LU-3

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 Laketown Township.

TOWNSHIP POLICY LU-4

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”.

TOWNSHIP POLICY LU-5

The County Plan provides for a number of land use options the township can choose to implement. Laketown Township chooses to implement: additional feedlot regulations, golf courses, and the conservation incentive zoning option. Laketown Township chooses not to implement: the transfer of 1 per 40 eligibilities to non-adjacent parcels.

TOWNSHIP POLICY LU-6

Although agriculture is the primary land use in the township, activities centered around animal agriculture have been steadily decreasing. This trend, coupled with the number of residences in the township and the proximity of growing urban areas, has led to increasing restrictions on animal agriculture operations. Because of these factors, Laketown Township is adopting additional restrictions on animal agriculture above and beyond what is outlined in the County’s Land Use element and the County Feedlot Ordinance. The Township adopts the following standards:

- new animal agriculture operations in Laketown Township are restricted to 200 animal units (AU) or less
- new animal agriculture operations feedlots greater than 25 AU will be required to obtain a conditional use permit (CUP).
- existing animal agricultural operation feedlots may expand before January 1, 2005 by up to 50 percent of existing animal units, but no expansion shall result in more than 300 AU on any one agricultural operations feedlot.
- after December 31, 2004, no expansions which result in a total of 200 AU on any one animal agricultural operations feedlot shall be allowed, and a CUP will be required for any animal agricultural operations feedlot expansion.

TOWNSHIP POLICY LU-7

The Township contains a multi-modal opportunity area as identified in the Carver County Community Development Agency study. Prior to any development a plan amendment will be needed and additional study and analysis will be needed including but not limited to: environmental analysis, stormwater management, sewer and water needs, and traffic studies. The township supports this economic development initiative.
Water Resources

Laketown Township is located in the Carver County WMO (CCWMO) and the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD). Both the CCWMO and MCWD have adopted watershed management plans; the CCWMO Plan also addresses groundwater planning for the entire County.

Land Use (cont.)

HAMPShIRE ROAD OPPORTUNITY AREA The area of southeast Laketown and northeast Dahlgren Township has a unique set of assets that make the area important to the long term development of the eastern and southwestern parts of the county. The area is served by an active rail line with interest in commuter rail, 3 major County highways, has a direct connection to US 212, and the transit plan shows a commuter rail station in this area. The area is centered in the growth areas of Carver, Chaska, and Victoria, and is within a few miles of Waconia. A multi-modal site is located just to the west and the bio-science center to the east. This area is identified in the plan to ensure that the unique set of assets in this area are recognized and planned. The area in Dahlgren Township is included in the orderly annexation area of the City of Carver. Future land use in the Hampshire Road opportunity area should be designed to take maximum advantage of the transportation network in the area.

Parks, Open Space, and Trails

Laketown Township acknowledges that the Metropolitan Council’s Regional Park Policy Plan (RPPP) identifies the following trails with a potential future alignment through the township.
- Lake Waconia Regional Trail
- Lake Waconia-Carver Park Reserve Regional Trail
- Southwest LRT Connection Regional Trail
- Highway 5 Regional Trail

The establishment of any future trail alignment for these trails will result from a master plan process done in cooperation with Laketown Township, Carver County, and others.

Laketown Township acknowledges that the Metropolitan Council’s RPPP shows a regional trail along the Twin Cities & Western (TCW) rail corridor. The establishment of any such regional trail would not occur until the TCW corridor was no longer used as an active rail line or an agreement was reached for parallel trail use. The development of a trail master plan would not occur until there is a change in the operation of the rail corridor which would support a trail. At this time, the Township supports the use of the corridor as an active rail line into the foreseeable future.
Transportation

Laketown Township's transportation system consists of County & State highways and Township roads. 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 Laketown 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 Laketown 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-1**

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-1**

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 residential 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.
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 intended to be used as a reference. Carver County is not responsible for any inaccuracies contained herein.

Source: Carver County Planning and Water Management

Produced by Carver County Planning and Water Management

Land & Water Services Division

Government Center – Administration Building
530 11th Street
Chaska, Minnesota 55318
Phone: (952)361-1820
Fax: (952)361-1828

www.co.carver.mn.us/pz

visit

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