



Bridging the Gap

Marathon County has a dubious distinction. It has the 2nd most structurally deficient bridges in the state.



The Marathon County Highway Department is currently responsible for monitoring and maintaining 48 structurally deficient bridges, almost three times the average for Wisconsin counties.

The estimated cost to replace these structurally deficient bridges is approaching \$30 million.



"Marathon County strives to keep our bridges within the county at a high level of service, but it is becoming harder to stay ahead of deteriorating structures," said Jim Griesbach, Marathon County highway commissioner. "We have been fortunate to receive some state aid; however, it is only enough to fund 15% of our needs."



"The current state/federal funding system is inadequate, resulting in more local dollars being used to maintain our bridges," concluded Griesbach. "With limited dollars, this means something else doesn't get done."

Historically, local governments have paid 20% of the cost to replace a bridge. With the state's new replace-in-kind policy, Marathon County expects to pick up over 30% of construction costs.

Unlike many counties, Marathon County has typically not bonded for highway improvements, but it did impose a \$25-wheel tax in 2016. This fee brings in approximately \$3 million a year.

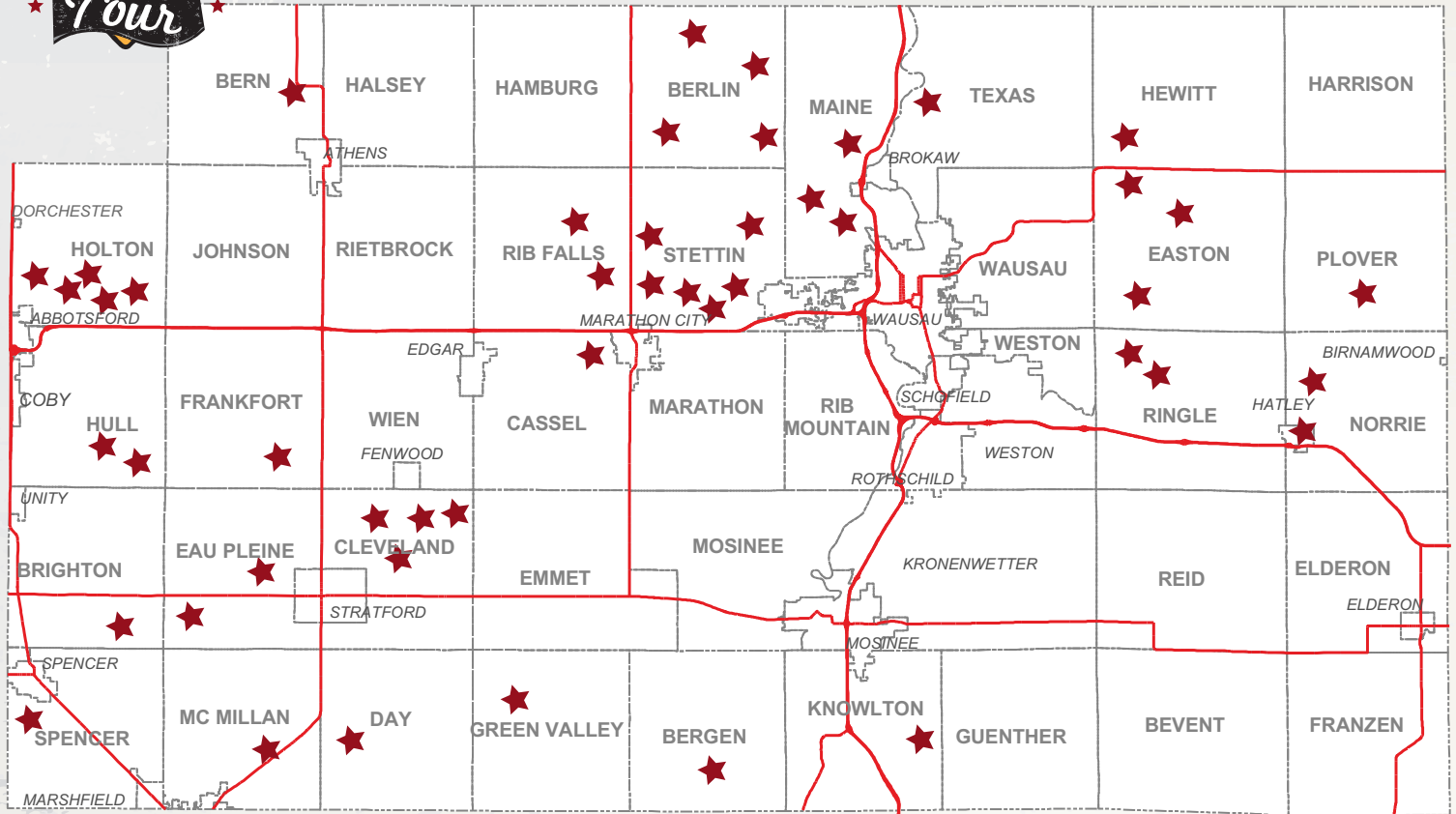
Top Five Counties Number of Structurally Deficient Bridges

Milwaukee
Marathon
Dane
Clark
Trempealeau

Source: 2017 National Bridge Inventory
<https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/bridge/nbi/no10/county17e.cfm>



Marathon County Structurally Deficient Bridges



★ Represents approximate location of structurally deficient bridge

Municipality	Feature On	Feature Under
BERGEN	County Road O	LITTLE EAU PLEINE RIVER
BERLIN	County Road A	LITTLE RIB RIVER
BERLIN	County Road F	LITTLE RIB RIVER
BERLIN	LINCOLN DR	LITTLE RIB RIVER
BERLIN	RAINBOW DR	BR LITTLE RIB RIVER
BERN	WINDFALL HILL RD	BEAVER CREEK
BRIGHTON	DUXBURY LANE	LITTLE EAU PLEINE RIVER
CASSEL	CHESAK RD	BR SCOTCH CREEK
CLEVELAND	County Road H	ROCKY RUN
CLEVELAND	County Road M	BIG EAU PLEINE RIVER
CLEVELAND	County Road M	FENWOOD CREEK
CLEVELAND	FAIRVIEW RD	ROCKY RUN
DAY	MAPLE ST	WILD CREEK
EASTON	County Road J	BIG SANDY CREEK
EASTON	County Road Z	EAU CLAIRE RIVER
EASTON	JUNCTION RD	BIG SANDY CREEK

Municipality	Feature On	Feature Under
EAU PLEINE	EQUITY ST	NOISY CREEK
EAU PLEINE	LINCOLN AVE	CARLSON CREEK
FRANKFORT	HUCKLEBERRY RD	RANDALL CREEK
GREEN VALLEY	RANGE LINE RD	LITTLE EAU PLEINE RIVER
HATLEY	COLUMBUS ST	PLOVER RIVER
HEWITT	County Road G	BR TRAPPE RIVER
HOLTON	BOSS RD	BIG EAU PLEINE RIVER
HOLTON	County Road F	E BR BIG EAU PLEINE RIVE
HOLTON	HOLTON RD	E BR BIG EAU PLEINE RIVE
HOLTON	POPE AVE	BR W BR BIG EAU PLEINE R
HOLTON	TOWN HALL RD	E BR BIG EAU PLEINE RIVE
HULL	BLUEBERRY RD	WINDING CREEK
HULL	ELM RD	DILL CREEK
KNOWLTON	CTH X	JOHNSON CREEK
MAINE	60TH AVE	OTTO CREEK
MAINE	County Road K	N BR COUNTY LINE CREEK

Municipality	Feature On	Feature Under
MAINE	County Road K	S BR COUNTY LINE CREEK
MCMILLAN	STAADT RD	LITTLE EAU PLEINE RIVER
NORRIE	County Road Y	PLOVER RIVER
PLOVER	County Road Z	PLOVER RIVER
RIB FALLS	18TH ST	BR BIG RIB RIVER
RIB FALLS	24TH ST W (DEAD END)	EINERT CREEK
RINGLE	County Road Q	MOLE BROOK
RINGLE	TOWN HALL RD	MOLE BROOK
SPENCER	PLEASANT RD	E BR YELLOW RIVER
STETTIN	96TH AVE	LITTLE RIB RIVER
STETTIN	County Road U	LITTLE RIB RIVER
STETTIN	HIGHLAND DR	ARTUS CREEK
STETTIN	STETTIN DR	ARTUS CREEK
STETTIN	STETTIN DR	LITTLE RIB RIVER
STETTIN	WOODLAND DR	BR LITTLE RIB RIVER
TEXAS	County Road J	TRAPPE RIVER