

Mary & Ron Preserve at Beaumont Farm



Project Description: This picturesque property, which had been actively farmed for decades, is situated near Beaver Lake in an area of increasing developmental pressure. For generations, the Siepmann Family’s business philosophy has focused on open space preservation. Establishing an easement on this treasured land perpetuates a legacy the siblings’ parents, Ron and Mary, would proudly approve. Their generous gift also included a separate trail easement, which secures the public’s continued right to access the property’s perimeter for passive recreational pursuits.

Why: The Siepmann Family preserved their land and sold their development rights for the following reasons:

- 1.) To protect the land from increasing residential development with the objective of maintaining valuable and increasingly rare scenic views and agricultural land.
- 2.) To preserve soil resources and water quality values.
- 3.) To maintain a trail for the community to enjoy passive recreational pursuits such as walking, running and biking.

Where: Town of Merton, Waukesha County

Size: The easement permanently protects approximately 84 of the property’s 104 acres from development. **Northern Section:** 68.94 acres under permanent easement, including a public recreation trail along Beaver Lake Road and Highway E. Six acres will remain available for a homestead and agricultural buildings. **Southern Section:** Approximately 19 acres between Spence Road and Beaumont Lane will remain undeveloped for a minimum of 20 years. After 20 years, a maximum of 4.5 acres of the 20-acre parcel may be developed to accommodate no more than three houses, leaving approximately 14.5 acres permanently protected.

Easement Holder: Tall Pines Conservancy purchased the development rights on the land through generous donations from the new owners and the Siepmann Family.

Completion: 2021

“Responsible, fair-minded conservation, in an effort to preserve land, water, and farms, is a mission statement we feel extremely strong about. It is these values that will provide the greatest impact to all our children and pay dividends for future generations. It is also these values that can weave a community together in a positive, purposeful way.”

—New Property Owner

