

**Goodhue  
County**  
MINNESOTA

# Public Career Pathways

May 2026

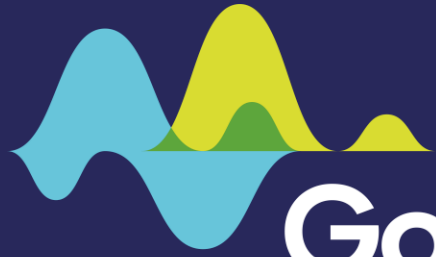
# Goodhue County by the numbers

- 48,000 residents
- 10 cities
- 21 townships
- 780 sq. miles
- 70% farmland

## County Government

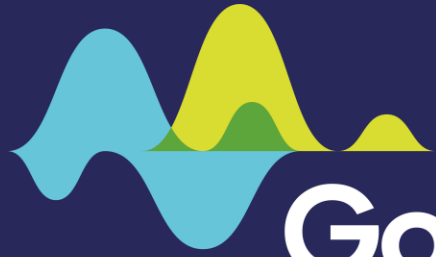
- 380 Employees + summer help
- \$102 million Budget
- 12 Departments
- 6 Buildings in Red Wing
- Other facilities Byllesby Park, Trails, etc.





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# Working in County Government



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# Public Works

Cory Wersal  
Construction Manager

# Goodhue County Public Works

## Engineering



## Maintenance



## Recycling Center



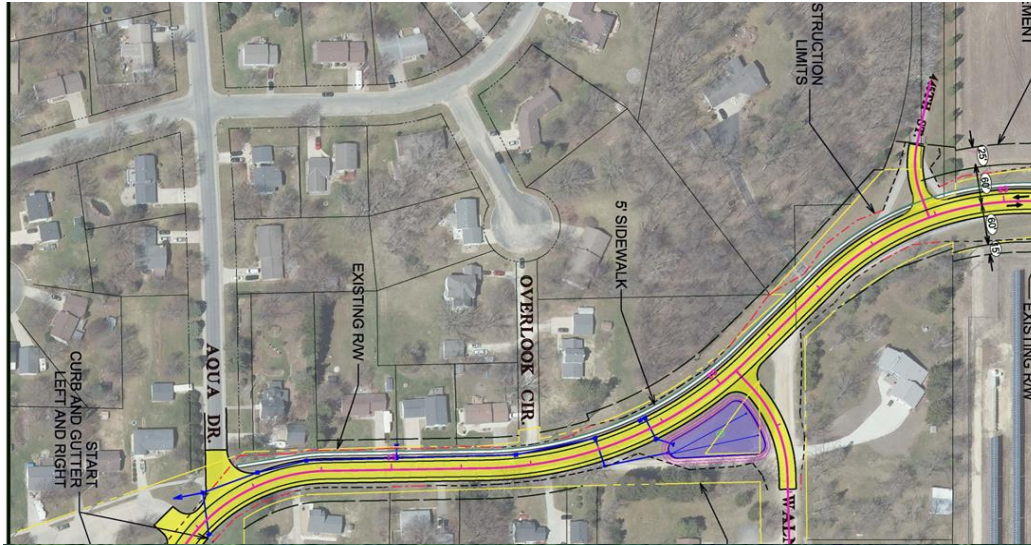
## Parks & Trails

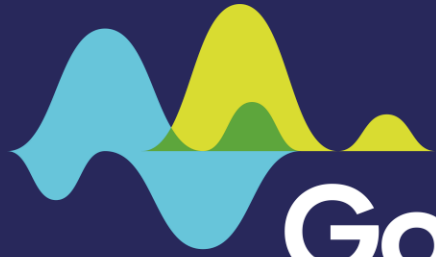


# Current Openings

- Engineering Technician
  - 2-year degree in civil engineering
- Highway Equipment Operator
  - Class "B" commercial driver's license
- Recycling Equipment Operator
  - Class "A" commercial driver's license
- Summer Help

# Why I chose to work for the County and what I like most about it?





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# Land Use Management

Megan Smith  
Land Use Management Director

# Goodhue County Careers in the Land Use Management Department

## Building

Permit Technician

Building Inspector

Building Official

## Planning & Zoning

Zoning Technician

Zoning Assistant

Planner

Zoning Administrator

## Environmental Health

Well Inspector

Septic Inspector

Sanitarian

# Land Use, Zoning, and Planning Areas of Study

- Urban and Regional Planning
- Land Use Planning
- Housing
- Community Development
- Community Studies
- Environmental Science

# Environmental Health Area of Study

- Water Treatment
- Solid Waste
- Air Quality
- Pest Management
- MPCA Septic Inspectors
- MDH Well Inspectors
- Sanitarian

# Building Careers Areas of Study

- Education in the building trades: building inspection technology, building construction, architecture, building engineering
- Building Officials
- Building Inspector
- Experience + Examinations

# Volunteer and Community Experience – Get involved in your community

Public Hearings!!!

- Soil and Water Conservation District
- Township Planning Commission and Township Board
- Planning Advisory Commission
- Board of Adjustment
- City Boards and Commissions
- Economic Development Authorities
- Chambers of Commerce
- MPCA – air, ground, and water pollution, stormwater regs, water quality
- DNR – conservation of lakes, streams, bluffs
- Mn Dept of Health – drinking water



# **SHERIFF**

## **GOODHUE COUNTY**

**Nate Pepin & Dan Van Epps**  
**Patrol Deputies**



# Patrol Division

Responsible for performing all patrol-related tasks:

- 33 Full-time deputies
- 3 Part-time deputies
- 1 K-9 patrol animal
- Broken into three areas:
  - Road Patrol
  - Four Seasons
  - Civil (Bailiff & Transport)



# Patrol Division – ROAD PATROL

- 25 Deputies assigned full-time to Road Patrol
- Divided into 4 platoons to for 24-hour coverage
- Daily patrol in fully-marked Sheriff vehicles
- Answer calls for service
- Provides policing to cities of Pine Island, Wanamingo, Bellechester, and Dennison.



# Patrol Division – FOUR SEASONS

- 2 Full-time and 3 part-time deputies
- Patrol waterways
- Patrol snowmobile and ATV trails
- General police operations



# Patrol Division – CIVIL

- 5 Full-time deputies assigned to Civil duties
- Serve (deliver) legal documents such as complaints & Subpoenas
- Provide courthouse and courtroom security
- Court-ordered transports and transport of incarcerated persons



# Other training/roles for Patrol Deputies

- Emergency Response Team (ERT)
- Dive Team (underwater search & recovery)
- Drone pilot (FAA certificate) & LE operation
- K-9 Handler/trainer



# Ways to get a “foot in the door”

- You do not have to be a licensed peace officer to work in the Sheriff’s Office
  - Detention deputy
  - 911 Dispatcher





# Working in Health and Human Services

Nina Arneson  
HHS Director

Promote, Strengthen, and Protect the  
Health of Individuals, Families and  
Communities

# Serving Our Community

## **SOCIAL SERVICES:**

- Child & adult protection - foster care
- Mental health- chemical dependency
- Childcare licensing- adoption
- Parent support & outreach

## **PUBLIC HEALTH:**

- Healthy communities
- Disease prevention & control
- Emergency preparedness
- Maternal child health - WIC
- Home & community-based service waivers

## **ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE:**

- Child support -income maintenance
- Medical assistance - food support
- Childcare assistance - emergency assistance

# The Hands Behind the Work

- Social workers
- Child Support Officer/Workers
- Fiscal Officers
- Eligibility Workers
- Health Educators
- Public Health Nurses
- Care Coordinators
- Registered Nurses
- Support Enforcement Officers
- Accounting Technicians and more....



# What is it like to work in Health & Human Services

- Lots of working directly with people
- Fast paced, every day is different
- We see people at their most vulnerable
- It can be tough!
- Salaries can vary- pay is mid level
- Innovative
- Make a real difference

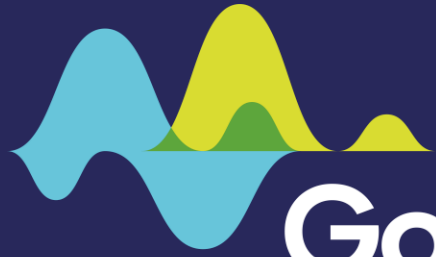




# Thank you!

## **Additional HHS Career Resources:**

- Realistic Job Preview of Child Protection Work in Minnesota
  - [Realistic Job Preview of Child Protection Work in Minnesota | Center for Advanced Studies in Child Welfare](#)
- Community Health Services Mailbag: Jobs, Events, and General Information
  - <https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/practice/connect/mailbag/index.html>



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# Human Resources

Jessica Ahlbrecht, SHRM-CP  
Human Resources Manager





# **WHAT IS HR?**

## **Human Resources**

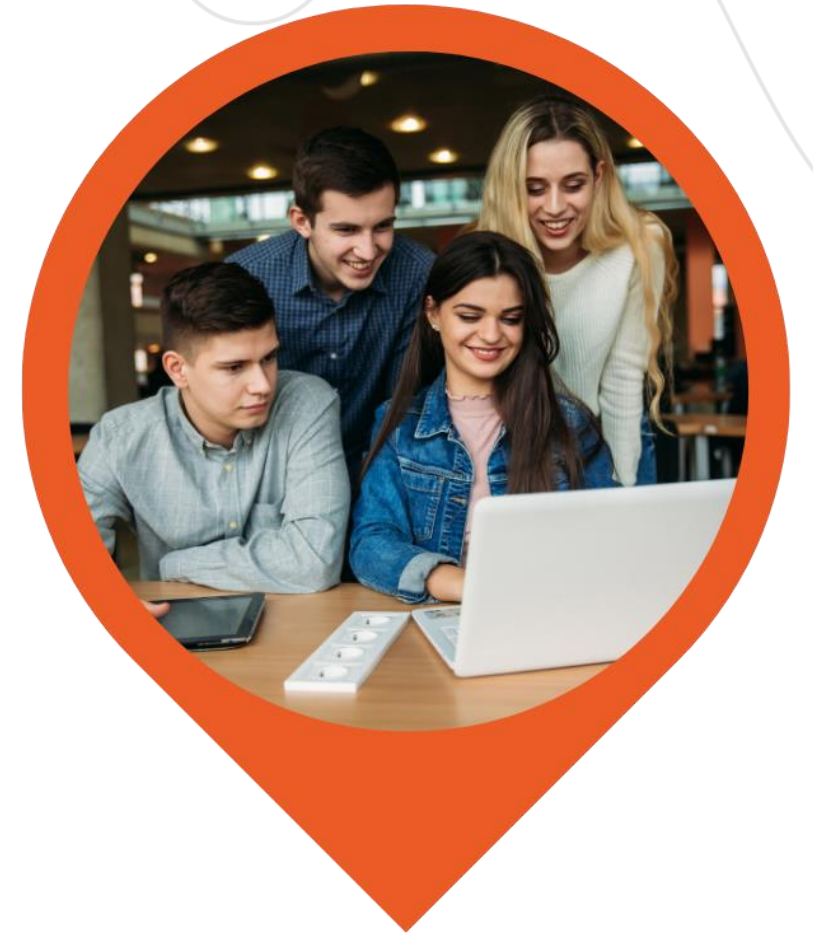
- **Recruitment & Selection**
- **Training & Development**
- **Performance Management**
- **Employee & Labor Relations**
- **Health, Safety & Wellbeing**
- **Compensation & Benefits**
- **Compliance with labor laws**
- **Workforce Planning**
- **and so much more...**

# STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

## SEASONAL JOBS & INTERNSHIPS

Up to 100 working days for students age 18-22 who are enrolled in post-secondary education for the following term. Interns earn college credit.

- Exposure to County careers
- Professional connections & real world experience
- Most positions work Monday - Friday
- Starting at \$17.50/ hour
- Make a difference in your community



**Find your Good here.**

# APPLICATION TIPS



## RESUME

Revise your resume to highlight skills related to the job you're applying for.



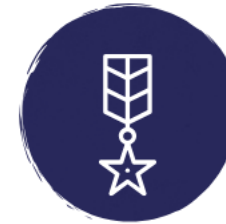
## BE EXTRA

A cover letter, references, work samples, specialized training information can set you apart. But don't overdo it.



## JOB DESCRIPTION

The job description will give you valuable insights as to what could make **YOU** stand out as a candidate.



## VETERANS PREFERENCE

Qualified veterans receive preference points in the hiring process.



## EVALUATION

Applications are scored against job related criteria in compliance with Veterans Preference regulations.

# Questions?