



US Army Corps
of Engineers ®



Oconto Harbor, WI

Harbor Features

- Located on Lake Michigan in the city of Oconto, Oconto County, Wisconsin, approximately 33 miles north of Green Bay.
- Authorization: Rivers & Harbors Acts of 2 Aug 1882, 25 Jun 1910.
- Deep draft harbor that primarily serves recreation users.
- Authorized project depth is 15 feet.
- 2,144 linear feet of steep sheet pile and timber crib piers.
- 4800 linear feet of federal channel.
- Dredged material is placed in open water.
- Major stakeholders include several marinas and yacht clubs and various related businesses.

Project Requirements

- Maintenance dredging is required infrequently but is needed presently pending sediment sampling results.
- Current sediment backlog within the federal channel is 142K cubic yards.
- FY22 funds will be used in FY24 for sediment sampling, characterization, and analysis.
- Loss of available depth within the center half-width of the channel ranges from 4 ft in the approach channel to 11 ft in the inner harbor.
- The channel was last maintained in 1992 when 51K cubic yards was removed from the full extent of the federal channel. The sediment removed was placed upland at a municipal landfill site at Copper Culture Historic State Park.
- The city of Oconto, with assistance from the State of Wisconsin, performed dredging in 2005 and in 2014. Each event removed about 60K cy of sediment from the harbor, placing the material upland at a nearby Industrial Park.



Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project

- Loss of recreational jobs and charter fishing in the area.
- The local community has established infrastructure around the harbor and generates income from users and visitors.
- Greater risk of grounding to sailboats seeking refuge within the port during hazardous lake or weather conditions

Transportation Importance

- Harbor of refuge for recreational vessels.

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Fiscal Year (FY) 2023, 2024, and 2025
Oconto Harbor, WI – Project Requirements and President’s Budget (\$1,000)**

Work Package	FY23 Requirement	FY23 Appropriation	FY24 Requirement	FY24 Appropriation	FY25 Requirement	FY25 President’s Budget
Maintenance Dredging – Primary Work Package	0	0	2,715	0	2,715	0
Real Estate Management	5	5	5	0	5	5
Sediment Sampling and Analysis	0	0	150	0	0	0
Dredged Material Management Plan	0	0	300	0	300	300
TOTAL	5	5	3,170	0	3,020	305

Congressional Interests

- Representative Mike Gallagher R-WI-8
- Senator Ron Johnson R-WI
- Senator Tammy Baldwin D-WI