



State of Wisconsin  
2009 - 2010 LEGISLATURE

LRB-1031/2  
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## 2009 SENATE BILL 194

May 7, 2009 - Introduced by Senators RISSER, LEHMAN, COWLES, TAYLOR, HOLPERIN and SCHULTZ, cosponsored by Representatives CLARK, ROYS, BERCEAU, MASON, STASKUNAS, GUNDERSON, ZEPNICK, HUBLER, DANOU, SMITH, MILROY, A. OTT and JORGENSEN. Referred to Committee on Economic Development.

1     **AN ACT** *to repeal* 443.06 (2) (a), 443.06 (2) (b), 443.06 (2) (c) and 443.06 (2) (e);  
2           *to renumber and amend* 443.01 (4); *to amend* 15.405 (2) (intro.), (a) and (b),  
3           26.09 (3) (b) 1., 30.11 (3), 30.13 (3) (a), 59.20 (2) (c), 59.43 (8), 59.45 (1) (a) 2.,  
4           59.45 (1) (b), 59.45 (3), 59.46, 59.73 (2), 59.74 (2) (b) 1., 59.74 (2) (c), 59.74 (2)  
5           (g), 59.74 (2) (h), 59.74 (2) (j), 59.75, 60.84 (1), 84.095 (5), 157.07 (1), 236.02 (2m),  
6           236.15 (1) (a), 236.15 (1) (d), 236.15 (2), 236.16 (3) (title), 236.16 (4) (title),  
7           236.20 (2) (g), 236.34 (1) (a), 440.03 (13) (b) 34., 440.08 (2) (a) 39., chapter 443  
8           (title), 443.01 (3), 443.02 (4), 443.06 (title), 443.06 (1) (title), 443.06 (1) (a),  
9           443.06 (1) (b), 443.06 (2) (intro.), 443.06 (2) (am), 443.06 (2) (bm), 443.06 (2)  
10          (cm), 443.06 (2) (d), 443.06 (2) (em), 443.06 (3), 443.10 (title), 443.10 (2) (b),  
11          443.10 (2) (b), 443.10 (5), 443.10 (5), 443.12 (title), 443.12 (1), 443.12 (3), 443.14  
12          (8) (a), 443.14 (8) (c), 443.14 (8) (d), 443.14 (9), 443.14 (11), 443.18 (2) (a), 443.18  
13          (2) (b), 470.025 (7), 707.215 (5) (intro.), 709.02 (1), 709.07 and 893.37; *to repeal*  
14          *and recreate* 440.08 (2) (a) 39.; and *to create* 59.001 (2k), 236.025, 236.20 (6),

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1           443.01 (1g), 443.01 (1r), 443.01 (3b), 443.01 (6s) (a) 1. and 2., 443.01 (6s) (a) 4.  
2           c. and d., 443.01 (6s) (a) 6. to 8., 443.01 (6s) (b), 443.01 (7m), 443.135, 895.477  
3           and 943.13 (4m) (d) of the statutes; **relating to:** professional land surveyors,  
4           the practice of professional land surveying, surveying land abutting navigable  
5           waters, and granting rule-making authority.

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***Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau***

Under current law, with certain exceptions, a person may not practice land surveying or represent that he or she is a land surveyor unless the land surveyor section (section) of the examining board of architects, landscape architects, professional engineers, designers and land surveyors (board) has issued a certificate of registration or permit to the person. “Land surveying” is defined as determining the location of land boundaries and boundary corners; preparing maps that show the shape and area of tracts of land or subdivisions or the layout of roads, streets, or rights-of-way; or preparing official plats or maps of land in this state.

This bill replaces “land surveying” with the term “practice of professional land surveying” and defines the term as any of the following:

1. Establishing, restoring, or perpetuating private or public land boundaries and boundary corners.
2. Preparing maps for establishing the boundaries of interests in real property that depict any of the following: a) the shape and area of tracts of land or the subdivision or consolidation of tracts; b) the layout and rights-of-way of roads or streets; c) air, water, or property rights; or d) public or private easements.
3. Preparing assessors’ or official plats or maps of lands in this state.
4. Measuring and analyzing a tract of land to determine its legal description.
5. Designing or coordinating designs for platting or subdividing tracts of land.
6. Applying knowledge or experience about land surveying to assist in the development, use, or management of geographic or land information systems.
7. Performing cartographic, construction, or geodetic surveying in connection with any of the practices described in the above items.
8. Providing consultation services related to any of the practices described in the above items.

The bill also replaces the certificate of registration requirement under current law with a licensure requirement. Therefore, under the bill with certain exceptions, a person may not engage in the practice of professional land surveying or represent that he or she is a professional land surveyor unless the person is issued a license or permit by the section. Also, after July 1, 2018, the bill requires employees of this state and public utilities to obtain a license or permit to engage in the practice of professional land surveying. Such employees are exempt from the certificate of registration and permit requirements under current law.

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In addition, the bill changes the name of the section to the professional land surveyor section and changes the name of the board to the examining board of architects, landscape architects, professional engineers, designers and professional land surveyors. The bill also replaces various references under current law to “registered land surveyor” with “professional land surveyor.”

For purposes of platting lands or preparing survey maps that involve ordinary high water marks (OHWMs), a professional surveyor may incorporate an ordinary high water mark that has been identified by the Department of Natural Resources or that has otherwise been identified by law or may approximate the ordinary high water mark. The bill requires that a statement be included on the face of a plat or map explaining that the land below the OHWM is subject to the public trust doctrine for navigable waters and that exposed land between the OHWM and the water’s edge is to be used exclusively by the owner of the adjacent waterfront property, unless otherwise provided by law.

For further information see the *state and local* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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***The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:***

1           **SECTION 1.** 15.405 (2) (intro.), (a) and (b) of the statutes are amended to read:  
2           15.405 (2) EXAMINING BOARD OF ARCHITECTS, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS,  
3           PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, DESIGNERS, AND PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS. (intro.)  
4           There is created an examining board of architects, landscape architects, professional  
5           engineers, designers, and professional land surveyors in the department of  
6           regulation and licensing. Any professional member appointed to the examining  
7           board shall be registered or licensed to practice architecture, landscape architecture,  
8           professional engineering, the design of engineering systems, or professional land  
9           surveying under ch. 443. The examining board shall consist of the following  
10          members appointed for 4-year terms: 3 architects, 3 landscape architects, 3  
11          professional engineers, 3 designers, 3 professional land surveyors, and 10 public  
12          members.

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**SECTION 1**

1 (a) In operation, the examining board shall be divided into an architect section,  
2 a landscape architect section, an engineer section, a designer section, and a  
3 professional land surveyor section. Each section shall consist of the 3 members of  
4 the named profession appointed to the examining board and 2 public members  
5 appointed to the section. The examining board shall elect its own officers, and shall  
6 meet at least twice annually.

7 (b) All matters pertaining to passing upon the qualifications of applicants for  
8 and the granting or revocation of registration or licensure, and all other matters of  
9 interest to either the architect, landscape architect, engineer, designer, or  
10 professional land surveyor section shall be acted upon solely by the interested  
11 section.

12 **SECTION 2.** 26.09 (3) (b) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

13 26.09 (3) (b) 1. A court shall award damages that equal the stumpage value of  
14 the raw forest products harvested if the person harvesting the raw forest products  
15 or the person giving consent for the harvesting reasonably relied upon a recorded  
16 survey that was done by a person who is ~~registered~~ licensed under ch. 443 as a  
17 professional land surveyor or who is issued a permit to engage in the practice of  
18 professional land surveying under s. 443.06 even if the recorded survey is  
19 determined, after the harvesting, to be in error.

20 **SECTION 3.** 30.11 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

21 30.11 (3) HOW ESTABLISHED. Whenever any municipality proposes to establish  
22 a bulkhead line or to reestablish an existing bulkhead line, the municipality shall  
23 indicate both the existing shore and the proposed bulkhead line upon a map and shall  
24 file with the department for its approval 6 copies of the map and 6 copies of the  
25 ordinance establishing the bulkhead line. The map shall use a scale of not less than

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1 100 feet to an inch or any other scale required by the department. The map and a  
2 metes and bounds description of the bulkhead line shall be prepared by a person  
3 licensed as a professional land surveyor registered in this state under ch. 443. The  
4 department may require the installation of permanent reference markers to the  
5 bulkhead line. Upon approval by the department, the municipality shall deliver the  
6 map, description, and ordinance to the office of the register of deeds of the county in  
7 which the bulkhead line lies, to be recorded by the register of deeds.

8 **SECTION 4.** 30.13 (3) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

9 30.13 (3) (a) Any municipality authorized by s. 30.11 to establish a bulkhead  
10 line may also establish a pierhead line in the same manner as it is authorized to  
11 establish a bulkhead line, except that a metes and bounds legal description is not  
12 required nor is the map required to be prepared by a ~~registered~~ person licensed as  
13 a professional land surveyor under ch. 443 and except that if the municipality has  
14 created a board of harbor commissioners the municipality must obtain the approval  
15 of the board concerning the establishment of the pierhead line in addition to  
16 obtaining the approval of the department.

17 **SECTION 5.** 59.001 (2k) of the statutes is created to read:

18 59.001 (2k) "Professional land surveyor" means a land surveyor licensed under  
19 ch. 443.

20 **SECTION 6.** 59.20 (2) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

21 59.20 (2) (c) In counties that elect a surveyor, the surveyor shall be a ~~registered~~  
22 professional land surveyor. In lieu of electing a surveyor in any county having a  
23 population of less than 500,000, the board may, by resolution, designate that the  
24 duties under ss. 59.45 (1) and 59.74 (2) be performed by any ~~registered~~ professional

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1 land surveyor employed by the county. Any surveyor employed by a county having  
2 a population of 500,000 or more shall be a professional land surveyor.

3 **SECTION 7.** 59.43 (8) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 59.43 (8) REQUIRED SIGNATURE AND SEAL ON SURVEY DOCUMENT FOR FILING OR  
5 RECORDING. It is unlawful for the register of deeds of any county or any proper public  
6 authority to file or record a map, plat, survey, or other document within the definition  
7 of the practice of professional land surveying under s. 443.01 (6s), which does not  
8 have impressed thereon, and affixed thereto, the personal signature and seal of a  
9 registered professional land surveyor under whose responsible charge the map, plat,  
10 survey, or other document was prepared. This subsection does not apply to any deed,  
11 contract, or other recordable document prepared by an attorney, or to a  
12 transportation project plat that conforms to s. 84.095 and that is prepared by a state  
13 agency.

14 **SECTION 8.** 59.45 (1) (a) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

15 59.45 (1) (a) 2. Make, personally or by a deputy, a record, in books or on  
16 drawings and plats that are kept for that purpose, of all corners that are set and the  
17 manner of fixing the corners and of all bearings and the distances of all courses run,  
18 of each survey made personally, by deputies or by other professional land surveyors  
19 and arrange or index the record so it is an ~~easy-to-use~~ easy-to-use reference and file  
20 and preserve in the office the original field notes and calculation thereof. Within 60  
21 days after completing any survey, the county surveyor shall make a true and correct  
22 copy of the foregoing record, in record books or on reproducible papers to be furnished  
23 by the county and kept in files in the office of the county surveyor to be provided by  
24 the county. In a county with a population of 500,000 or more where there is no county

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1 surveyor, a copy of the record shall also be filed in the office of the regional planning  
2 commission which acts in the capacity of county surveyor for the county.

3 **SECTION 9.** 59.45 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 59.45 (1) (b) Surveys for individuals or corporations may be performed by any  
5 professional land surveyor who is employed by the parties requiring the services,  
6 providing that within 60 days after completing any survey the land surveyor files a  
7 true and correct copy of the survey in the office of the county surveyor. In counties  
8 with a population of 500,000 or more the copy shall be filed in the office of the register  
9 of deeds and in the office of the regional planning commission which acts in the  
10 capacity of county surveyor for the county.

11 **SECTION 10.** 59.45 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

12 59.45 (3) SURVEYOR; FEES. In addition to the regular fees of professional land  
13 surveyors that are received from the parties employing the county surveyor, the  
14 county surveyor may receive a salary from the county.

15 **SECTION 11.** 59.46 of the statutes is amended to read:

16 **59.46 Penalty for nonfeasance.** Any county surveyor, any city, village, or  
17 town engineer, or any professional land surveyor who fails or refuses to perform any  
18 duty required of that person by law shall forfeit not less than \$25 nor more than \$50  
19 for each such failure or refusal.

20 **SECTION 12.** 59.73 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

21 59.73 (2) SUBDIVIDING SECTIONS. Whenever a surveyor is required to subdivide  
22 a section or smaller subdivision of land established by the United States survey, the  
23 surveyor shall proceed according to the statutes of the United States and the rules  
24 and regulations made by the secretary of the interior in conformity to the federal  
25 statutes. ~~While so engaged a surveyor and the surveyor's assistants shall not be~~



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1 ~~liable as a trespasser and shall be liable only for any actual damage done to land or~~  
2 ~~property.~~

3 **SECTION 13.** 59.74 (2) (b) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

4 59.74 (2) (b) 1. Whenever it becomes necessary to destroy, remove, or cover up  
5 in such a way that will make it inaccessible for use, any landmark, monument of  
6 survey, or corner post within the meaning of this subsection, the person including  
7 employees of governmental agencies who intend to commit such act shall serve  
8 written notice at least 30 days prior to the act upon the county surveyor of the county  
9 within which the landmark is located. Notice shall also be served upon the  
10 municipality's engineer if the landmark is located within the corporate limits of a  
11 municipality. The notice shall include a description of the landmark, monument of  
12 survey, or corner post and the reason for removing or covering it. In this paragraph,  
13 removal of a landmark includes the removal of railroad track by the owner of the  
14 track. In a county having a population of less than 500,000 where there is no county  
15 surveyor, notice shall be served upon the clerk. In a county with a population of  
16 500,000 or more where there is no county surveyor, notice shall be served upon the  
17 executive director of the regional planning commission which acts in the capacity of  
18 county surveyor for the county. Notwithstanding par. (c), upon receipt of the notice  
19 the clerk shall appoint a ~~registered~~ professional land surveyor to perform the duties  
20 of a county surveyor under subd. 2.

21 **SECTION 14.** 59.74 (2) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

22 59.74 (2) (c) In those counties where there are no county surveyors a petition  
23 can be made to the board by any resident of this state requesting the board to appoint  
24 a professional land surveyor to act in the capacity of the county surveyor. The board,  
25 upon receipt of this petition, shall appoint a professional land surveyor to act in the



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1 capacity of the county surveyor. In counties with a population of 500,000 or more,  
2 the board may appoint a governmental agency to act in the capacity of county  
3 surveyor.

4 **SECTION 15.** 59.74 (2) (g) of the statutes is amended to read:

5 59.74 (2) (g) Every professional land surveyor and every officer of the  
6 department of natural resources and the district attorney shall enforce this  
7 subsection.

8 **SECTION 16.** 59.74 (2) (h) of the statutes is amended to read:

9 59.74 (2) (h) Any registered professional land surveyor employed by the  
10 department of transportation or by a county highway department, may, incident to  
11 employment as such, assume and perform the duties and act in the capacity of the  
12 county surveyor under this subsection with respect to preservation and perpetuation  
13 of landmarks, witness monuments, and corner posts upon and along state trunk,  
14 county trunk, and town highways. Upon completing a survey and perpetuating  
15 landmarks and witness monuments under par. (b) 2., a professional land surveyor  
16 employed by the state shall file the field notes and records in the district office or  
17 main office of the department of transportation, and a professional land surveyor  
18 employed by a county shall file the field notes and records in the office of the county  
19 highway commissioner, open to inspection by the public, and in either case a true and  
20 correct copy of the field notes and records shall be filed with the county surveyor. In  
21 a county with a population of 500,000 or more where there is no county surveyor, a  
22 copy of the field notes and records shall also be filed in the office of the regional  
23 planning commission which acts in the capacity of county surveyor for the county.

24 **SECTION 17.** 59.74 (2) (j) of the statutes is amended to read:

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1           59.74 (2) (j) The county surveyor may employ other professional land surveyors  
2 to assist in this work and may accept reference checks for these corners from any  
3 professional land surveyor.

4           **SECTION 18.** 59.75 of the statutes is amended to read:

5           **59.75 Certificates and records as evidence.** The certificate and also the  
6 official record of the county surveyor when produced by the legal custodian thereof,  
7 or any of the county surveyor’s deputies, when duly signed by the county surveyor  
8 in his or her official capacity, shall be admitted as evidence in any court within the  
9 state, but the same may be explained or rebutted by other evidence. If any county  
10 surveyor or any of his or her deputies are interested in any tract of land a survey of  
11 which becomes necessary, such survey may be executed by any professional land  
12 surveyor appointed by the board.

13           **SECTION 19.** 60.84 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

14           60.84 (1) SURVEY, CONTRACT FOR. The town board may contract with the county  
15 surveyor or any registered person licensed under ch. 443 as a professional land  
16 surveyor to survey all or some of the sections in the town and to erect monuments  
17 under this section as directed by the board.

18           **SECTION 20.** 84.095 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

19           84.095 (5) SURVEYOR’S CERTIFICATE. A plat prepared for filing or recording under  
20 this section shall include a certificate of a professional land surveyor ~~registered~~  
21 licensed under s. 443.06 that the plat is a correct representation of the project  
22 described and that the identification and location of each parcel can be determined  
23 from the plat. This subsection does not apply to plats prepared by the department.

24           **SECTION 21.** 157.07 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

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1           157.07 (1) A cemetery authority shall cause to be surveyed and platted by a  
2           professional land surveyor registered in this state licensed under ch. 443 those  
3           portions of the lands that are from time to time required for burial, into cemetery lots,  
4           drives and walks, and record a plat or map of the land in the office of the register of  
5           deeds. The plat or map may not be recorded unless laid out and platted to the  
6           satisfaction of the county board of the county, and the town board of the town in which  
7           the land is situated, or, if the land is situated within a 1st class city, then only by the  
8           common council of that city.

9           **SECTION 22.** 236.02 (2m) of the statutes is amended to read:

10           236.02 (2m) “Correction instrument” means an instrument drafted by a  
11           licensed professional land surveyor licensed under ch. 443, that complies with the  
12           requirements of s. 236.295, and that, upon recording, corrects a subdivision plat or  
13           a certified survey map.

14           **SECTION 23.** 236.025 of the statutes is created to read:

15           **236.025 Ordinary high water marks. (1)** For purposes of ss. 236.15 (1) (a)  
16           and (d) and 236.20 (2) (g), a professional land surveyor licensed under ch. 443 may  
17           do any of the following:

18           (a) Incorporate into a map, plat, or survey an ordinary high water mark that  
19           has been identified by the department of natural resources or otherwise identified  
20           pursuant to law.

21           (b) Approximate the ordinary high water mark and incorporate that mark into  
22           a map, plat, or survey.

23           **(2)** For purposes of sub. (1) (b), the location of the approximate ordinary high  
24           water mark shall be the point on the bank of a stream or on the shore of a lake up  
25           to which the presence and action of surface water is so continuous as to leave a

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1 distinctive mark by erosion, destruction, prevention of terrestrial vegetation,  
2 predominance of aquatic vegetation, or other easily recognized characteristic.

3 **SECTION 24.** 236.15 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 236.15 (1) (a) The external boundaries of a subdivision shall be monumented  
5 in the field by monuments of concrete containing a ferrous rod one-fourth inch in  
6 diameter or greater imbedded its full length, not less than 18 inches in length, not  
7 less than 4 inches square or 5 inches in diameter, and marked on the top with a cross,  
8 brass plug, iron rod, or other durable material securely embedded; or by iron rods or  
9 pipes at least 18 inches long and 2 inches in diameter weighing not less than 3.65  
10 pounds per lineal foot. Solid round or square iron bars of equal or greater length or  
11 weight per foot may be used in lieu of pipes wherever pipes are specified in this  
12 section. These monuments shall be placed at all corners, at each end of all curves,  
13 at the point where a curve changes its radius, at all angle points in any line and at  
14 all angle points along the meander line, said points to be not less than 20 feet back  
15 from the identified or approximated ordinary high water mark of the lake or from the  
16 ~~bank of the stream~~, except that when such corners or points fall within a street, or  
17 proposed future street, the monuments shall be placed in the side line of the street.

18 **SECTION 25.** 236.15 (1) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

19 236.15 (1) (d) The lines of lots, outlots, parks and public access and land  
20 dedicated to the public that extend to lakes or streams shall be monumented in the  
21 field by iron pipes at least 18 inches long and one inch in diameter weighing not less  
22 than 1.13 pounds per lineal foot, or by round or square iron bars at least 18 inches  
23 long and weighing not less than 1.13 pounds per lineal foot. These monuments shall  
24 be placed at the point of intersection of the lake or stream lot line with a meander

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1 line established not less than 20 feet back from the identified or approximated  
2 ordinary high water mark of the lake or from the bank of the stream.

3 **SECTION 26.** 236.15 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 236.15 (2) ACCURACY OF SURVEY. The survey shall be performed by a  
5 professional land surveyor registered in this state licensed under ch. 443, and if the  
6 error in the latitude and departure closure of the survey or any part thereof is greater  
7 than the ratio of one in 3,000, the plat may be rejected.

8 **SECTION 27.** 236.16 (3) (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

9 236.16 (3) (title) LAKE AND STREAM SHORE PLATS; PUBLIC ACCESS.

10 **SECTION 28.** 236.16 (4) (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

11 236.16 (4) (title) LAKE AND STREAM SHORE PLATS; LAND BETWEEN MEANDER LINE AND  
12 WATER'S EDGE.

13 **SECTION 29.** 236.20 (2) (g) of the statutes is amended to read:

14 236.20 (2) (g) All lake or stream shore meander lines established by the  
15 surveyor in accordance with s. 236.15 (1) (d), the distances and bearings thereof, and  
16 the distance between the point of intersection of such meander lines with lot lines  
17 and the identified or approximated ordinary high water mark.

18 **SECTION 30.** 236.20 (6) of the statutes is created to read:

19 236.20 (6) PUBLIC TRUST INFORMATION. A final plat of a subdivision, or a certified  
20 survey map of land, to which s. 236.16 (4) applies shall show on its face the following  
21 statement:

22 “Any land below the ordinary high water mark is subject to the public trust in  
23 navigable waters that is established under article IX, section 1, of the state  
24 constitution. However, the owner of the real property that abuts such land has  
25 exclusive use of that land when it is exposed, except as otherwise provided by law.”



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1 depicts areas and physical features on, below, or above the surface of the earth and  
2 compiling maps.

3 **SECTION 37.** 443.01 (1r) of the statutes is created to read:

4 443.01 (1r) "Construction surveying" means surveying or mapping in support  
5 of infrastructure design, improvements related to private and public boundary lines,  
6 construction layout or historic preservation, and establishing any postconstruction  
7 documentation related to such surveying or mapping.

8 **SECTION 38.** 443.01 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

9 443.01 (3) "Examining board" means the examining board of architects,  
10 landscape architects, professional engineers, designers, and professional land  
11 surveyors.

12 **SECTION 39.** 443.01 (3b) of the statutes is created to read:

13 443.01 (3b) "Geodetic surveying" means surveying to determine the size and  
14 shape of the earth or the precise positions of points on the surface of the earth.

15 **SECTION 40.** 443.01 (4) of the statutes is renumbered 443.01 (6s) (a) (intro.) and  
16 amended to read:

17 443.01 (6s) (a) (intro.) "Land Except as provided in par. (b), "practice of  
18 professional land surveying" means any service comprising the determination of the  
19 location of the following:

20 3. Establishing, restoring, or perpetuating private or public land boundaries  
21 and land boundary corners; the preparation of.

22 4. Preparing maps showing the for the purpose of establishing the boundaries  
23 of interests in real property that depict any of the following:



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1           a. ~~The shape and area of tracts of land and their subdivisions into smaller~~  
2           ~~tracts; the preparation of maps showing the~~ or the subdivision or consolidation of  
3           ~~tracts of land.~~

4           b. ~~The layout and rights-of-way of roads, or streets and rights-of-way of same~~  
5           ~~to give access to smaller tracts; and the preparation of.~~

6           5. Preparing assessors' or official plats, or maps, of land in this state.

7           **SECTION 41.** 443.01 (6s) (a) 1. and 2. of the statutes are created to read:

8           443.01 **(6s)** (a) 1. Measuring and analyzing a tract of land to determine its legal  
9           description.

10          2. Designing or coordinating designs for the purpose of platting or subdividing  
11          land into smaller tracts.

12          **SECTION 42.** 443.01 (6s) (a) 4. c. and d. of the statutes are created to read:

13          443.01 **(6s)** (a) 4. c. Air or property rights.

14          d. Public or private easements.

15          **SECTION 43.** 443.01 (6s) (a) 6. to 8. of the statutes are created to read:

16          443.01 **(6s)** (a) 6. Applying knowledge or experience about land surveying to  
17          assist in the development, use, or management of geographic or land information  
18          systems that collect, organize, or disseminate data regarding land ownership or land  
19          resources.

20          7. Performing cartographic, construction, or geodetic surveying in connection  
21          with any of the practices specified in subds. 1. to 5.

22          8. Providing consultation services related to any of the practices specified in  
23          this subsection.

24          **SECTION 44.** 443.01 (6s) (b) of the statutes is created to read:

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1           443.01 (6s) (b) “Practice of professional land surveying” does not include the  
2 establishment of an ordinary high water mark.

3           **SECTION 45.** 443.01 (7m) of the statutes is created to read:

4           443.01 (7m) “Professional land surveyor” means a person who, by reason of his  
5 or her knowledge of law, mathematics, physical sciences, and measurement  
6 techniques, acquired by education and practical experience, is granted a license or  
7 permit to engage in the practice of professional land surveying under this chapter.

8           **SECTION 46.** 443.02 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

9           443.02 (4) No person may engage in or offer to engage in the practice of  
10 professional land surveying in this state or use or advertise any title or description  
11 tending to convey the impression that the person is a professional land surveyor  
12 unless the person has been issued a ~~certificate of registration~~ or granted a license or  
13 permit to practice under this chapter.

14           **SECTION 47.** 443.06 (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

15           **443.06** (title) **Registration Licensure requirements for professional**  
16 **land surveyors.**

17           **SECTION 48.** 443.06 (1) (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

18           443.06 (1) (title) ~~REGISTRATION~~ LICENSURE, APPLICATION, QUALIFYING EXPERIENCE.

19           **SECTION 49.** 443.06 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

20           443.06 (1) (a) Application for ~~registration~~ licensure as a professional land  
21 surveyor or a permit to practice shall be made to the section under oath, on forms  
22 provided by the department, which shall require the applicant to submit such  
23 information as the section deems necessary. The section may require applicants to  
24 pass written or oral examinations or both. Applicants who do not have an arrest or  
25 conviction record, subject to ss. 111.321, 111.322, and 111.335, shall be entitled to be

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1 ~~registered or issued a~~ granted a license or permit to practice as professional land  
2 surveyors when satisfactory evidence is submitted that the applicant has met one or  
3 more of the requirements of sub. (2).

4 **SECTION 50.** 443.06 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

5 443.06 (1) (b) Each year, but not more than 4 years, of work or training  
6 completed in a curriculum in land surveying approved by the professional land  
7 surveyor section, or of responsible charge of land surveying teaching may be  
8 considered as equivalent to one year of qualifying experience in land surveying work,  
9 and each year, but not more than 4 years, completed in a curriculum other than land  
10 surveying approved by the ~~land surveyor~~ section, may be considered as equivalent  
11 to one-half year of qualifying experience.

12 **SECTION 51.** 443.06 (2) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

13 443.06 (2) ~~REQUIREMENTS; CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION LICENSE.~~ (intro.) The  
14 section may grant a ~~certificate of registration as a~~ professional land surveyor license  
15 to any person who has submitted to it an application, the required fees, and one or  
16 more of the following:

17 **SECTION 52.** 443.06 (2) (a) of the statutes is repealed.

18 **SECTION 53.** 443.06 (2) (am) of the statutes is amended to read:

19 443.06 (2) (am) Evidence satisfactory to the professional land surveyor section  
20 that he or she has received a bachelor's degree in a course in land surveying or a  
21 related field that has a duration of not less than 4 years and is approved by the ~~land~~  
22 ~~surveyor~~ section, and that he or she has engaged in at least 2 years of land surveying  
23 practice of satisfactory character that indicates that the applicant is competent to  
24 engage in the practice of professional land surveying, if the applicant has passed an  
25 oral and written or written examination administered by the ~~land surveyor~~ section.

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1 This paragraph applies to actions of the ~~land surveyor~~ section on applications for  
2 professional land surveyors' ~~eertificates~~ licenses that are submitted to the ~~land~~  
3 ~~surveyor~~ section after June 30, 2000.

4 **SECTION 54.** 443.06 (2) (b) of the statutes is repealed.

5 **SECTION 55.** 443.06 (2) (bm) of the statutes is amended to read:

6 443.06 (2) (bm) Evidence satisfactory to the professional land surveyor section  
7 that he or she has received an associate degree in a course in land surveying or a  
8 related field that has a duration of not less than 2 years and is approved by the ~~land~~  
9 ~~surveyor~~ section, and that he or she has engaged in at least 4 years of land surveying  
10 practice of satisfactory character that indicates that the applicant is competent to  
11 engage in the practice of professional land surveying, if the applicant has passed an  
12 oral and written or written examination administered by the ~~land surveyor~~ section.

13 This paragraph applies to actions of the ~~land surveyor~~ section on applications for  
14 professional land surveyors' ~~eertificates~~ licenses that are submitted to the ~~land~~  
15 ~~surveyor~~ section after June 30, 2000.

16 **SECTION 56.** 443.06 (2) (c) of the statutes is repealed.

17 **SECTION 57.** 443.06 (2) (cm) of the statutes is amended to read:

18 443.06 (2) (cm) Evidence satisfactory to the professional land surveyor section  
19 that he or she has engaged in at least 10 years of land surveying practice of  
20 satisfactory character that indicates that the applicant is competent to engage in the  
21 practice of professional land surveying, if the applicant has passed an oral and  
22 written or written examination administered by the ~~land surveyor~~ section. This  
23 paragraph applies to actions of the ~~land surveyor~~ section on applications for  
24 professional land surveyors' ~~eertificates~~ licenses that are submitted to the ~~land~~  
25 ~~surveyor~~ section after June 30, 2000.

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1           **SECTION 58.** 443.06 (2) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

2           443.06 (2) (d) An unexpired certificate of registration, certificate of  
3 certification, or license as a land surveyor or professional land surveyor issued to the  
4 applicant by the proper authority in any state or territory or possession of the United  
5 States or in any other country whose requirements meet or exceed the requirement  
6 for ~~registration~~ licensure in this subsection, if the applicant has passed an oral and  
7 written or written examination administered by the professional land surveyor  
8 section.

9           **SECTION 59.** 443.06 (2) (e) of the statutes is repealed.

10          **SECTION 60.** 443.06 (2) (em) of the statutes is amended to read:

11          443.06 (2) (em) Evidence satisfactory to the professional land surveyor section  
12 that he or she has completed an apprenticeship training course in land surveying  
13 prescribed by the department of workforce development, and has engaged in a period  
14 of additional land surveying practice of satisfactory character that indicates that the  
15 applicant is competent to engage in the practice of professional land surveying and  
16 that, when added to the period of the apprenticeship, totals at least 8 years of land  
17 surveying practice, if the applicant has passed an oral and written or written  
18 examination administered by the ~~land-surveyor~~ section. This paragraph applies to  
19 actions of the ~~land-surveyor~~ section on applications for professional land surveyors'  
20 ~~certificates~~ licenses that are submitted to the ~~land-surveyor~~ section after June 30,  
21 2000.

22          **SECTION 61.** 443.06 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

23          443.06 (3) PERMIT TO PRACTICE. The examining board may grant a permit to  
24 engage in the practice of professional land surveying during the time an application  
25 is pending to a person who is not ~~registered~~ licensed in this state, if the person has

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1 submitted an application for ~~registration as a~~ professional land surveyor license and  
2 paid the required fee and holds an unexpired certificate of registration, certificate of  
3 certification, or license which in the opinion of the examining board meets the  
4 requirements of sub. (2). The permit shall be revocable by the section at its pleasure.

5 **SECTION 62.** 443.10 (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

6 **443.10** (title) **Applications, certificates, licenses, rules, and roster.**

7 **SECTION 63.** 443.10 (2) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

8 443.10 (2) (b) The fees for examinations and ~~licenses~~ credentials, as defined in  
9 s. 440.01 (2) (a), granted or renewed under this chapter are specified in ss. 440.05 and  
10 440.08.

11 **SECTION 64.** 443.10 (2) (b) of the statutes, as affected by 2007 Wisconsin Acts  
12 20 and .... (this act), is amended to read:

13 443.10 (2) (b) The fees for examinations and credentials, as defined in s. 440.01  
14 (2) (a), granted under this chapter are specified in s. 440.05, and the fee for renewal  
15 of such ~~licenses~~ credentials is determined by the department under s. 440.03 (9) (a).

16 **SECTION 65.** 443.10 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

17 443.10 (5) FEES; RENEWALS. The professional land surveyor's surveyor section  
18 shall grant a ~~certificate of registration as a~~ professional land surveyor license to any  
19 applicant who has met the applicable requirements of this chapter. The renewal date  
20 and renewal fee for the ~~certificate~~ license are specified under s. 440.08 (2) (a).

21 **SECTION 66.** 443.10 (5) of the statutes, as affected by 2007 Wisconsin Acts 20  
22 and .... (this act), is amended to read:

23 443.10 (5) FEES; RENEWALS. The professional land surveyor section shall grant  
24 a professional land surveyor license to any applicant who has met the applicable  
25 requirements of this chapter. The renewal date for the license is specified under s.

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1 440.08 (2) (a), and the renewal fee for the ~~certificate~~ license is determined by the  
2 department under s. 440.03 (9) (a).

3 **SECTION 67.** 443.12 (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 **443.12 (title) Disciplinary proceedings against professional land**  
5 **surveyors.**

6 **SECTION 68.** 443.12 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

7 443.12 (1) The section may reprimand a licensed professional land surveyor,  
8 or limit, suspend, or revoke the ~~certificate of registration~~ license of any professional  
9 land surveyor, for the practice of any fraud or deceit in obtaining the ~~certificate~~  
10 license, or any gross negligence, incompetence, or misconduct in the practice of  
11 professional land surveying.

12 **SECTION 69.** 443.12 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

13 443.12 (3) If after a hearing 3 members vote in favor of reprimand or limiting,  
14 suspending, or revoking the ~~certificate of registration~~ license of a professional land  
15 surveyor, the section shall notify the surveyor to that effect. The surveyor shall  
16 return the ~~certificate~~ license to the examining board immediately on receipt of notice  
17 of a revocation. The action of the section may be reviewed under ch. 227.

18 **SECTION 70.** 443.135 of the statutes is created to read:

19 **443.135 Cartographic, construction, and geodetic surveying;**  
20 **preparation of maps.** Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit a  
21 person who has not been granted a license or permit to practice professional land  
22 surveying under this chapter from doing any of the following:

23 (1) Performing cartographic, construction, or geodetic surveying, unless the  
24 performance of cartographic, construction, or geodetic surveying also involves a  
25 practice specified in s. 443.01 (6s) (a) 1. to 5.



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1           **(2)** Preparing maps for purposes other than those specified in s. 443.01 (6s).

2           **SECTION 71.** 443.14 (8) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

3           443.14 **(8)** (a) An employee of a professional land surveyor registered licensed  
4 in this state or authorized to practice under a permit, while ~~working~~ doing surveying  
5 work under the supervision of the employer. Such exempt employee shall not be in  
6 responsible charge of the practice of professional land surveying.

7           **SECTION 72.** 443.14 (8) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

8           443.14 **(8)** (c) Employees of this state while engaged in land surveying for the  
9 state. This paragraph does not apply after July 1, 2018.

10          **SECTION 73.** 443.14 (8) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

11          443.14 **(8)** (d) Employees of public utilities regulated by the public service  
12 commission in land surveying for such utilities. This paragraph does not apply after  
13 July 1, 2018.

14          **SECTION 74.** 443.14 (9) of the statutes is amended to read:

15          443.14 **(9)** A license or permit shall not be required for an owner to survey his  
16 or her own land for purposes other than for sale.

17          **SECTION 75.** 443.14 (11) of the statutes is amended to read:

18          443.14 **(11)** Any professional land surveyor registered licensed under s. 443.06  
19 who is engaged in the planning, design, installation, or regulation of land and water  
20 conservation activities under ch. 92 or s. 281.65.

21          **SECTION 76.** 443.18 (2) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

22          443.18 **(2)** (a) If it appears upon complaint to the examining board by any  
23 person, or is known to the examining board that any person who is neither registered  
24 nor exempt under this chapter nor the holder of an unexpired permit under s. 443.10  
25 (1) (d) is practicing or offering to practice, ~~or is about to practice or to offer to practice,~~

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1 architecture or professional engineering in this state, or is using the title “landscape  
2 architect” in this state, the examining board ~~or the attorney general, the department~~  
3 of regulation and licensing, the department of justice, or the district attorney of the  
4 proper county may investigate and may, in addition to any other remedies, bring  
5 action in the name and on behalf of ~~this~~ the state ~~against any such person~~ to enjoin  
6 the person from practicing or offering to practice architecture or professional  
7 engineering or from using the title “landscape architect”.

8 **SECTION 77.** 443.18 (2) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

9 443.18 (2) (b) If it appears upon complaint to the examining board by any  
10 person, or is known to the ~~section~~ examining board that any person who is ~~not~~  
11 authorized neither licensed nor permitted nor exempt under this chapter is  
12 practicing engaged in or offering to engage in the practice of professional land  
13 surveying in this state, the ~~section~~ examining board, the department of regulation  
14 and licensing, the department of justice, or the district attorney of the proper county  
15 may investigate and may, in addition to any other remedies, bring action in the name  
16 and on behalf of the state to enjoin the person from ~~practicing~~ engaging in or offering  
17 to engage in the practice of professional land surveying.

18 **SECTION 78.** 470.025 (7) of the statutes is amended to read:

19 470.025 (7) A professional land surveyor ~~registered~~ licensed under ch. 443 who  
20 is engaged in the planning, design, installation, or regulation of land and water  
21 conservation activities under ch. 92 or s. 281.65.

22 **SECTION 79.** 707.215 (5) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

23 707.215 (5) SURVEYOR'S CERTIFICATE. (intro.) A plat is sufficient for the purposes  
24 of this chapter if attached to or included in the plat is a certificate of a professional

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1 land surveyor licensed to practice in this state under ch. 443, and the certificate  
2 provides all of the following:

3 **SECTION 80.** 709.02 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 709.02 (1) In regard to transfers described in s. 709.01, the owner of the  
5 property shall furnish, not later than 10 days after acceptance of a contract of sale  
6 or option contract, to the prospective buyer of the property a completed copy of the  
7 report under s. 709.03, subject to s. 709.035, except that the owner may substitute  
8 for any entry information supplied by a licensed engineer, professional land surveyor  
9 licensed under ch. 443, or structural pest control operator, or by an individual who  
10 is a qualified 3rd party, as defined in s. 452.23 (2) (b), or by a contractor about matters  
11 within the scope of the contractor's occupation if the information is in writing and  
12 is furnished on time and if the entry to which it relates is identified, and except that  
13 the owner may substitute for any entry information supplied by a public agency, as  
14 defined in s. 66.0825 (3) (h). Information that substitutes for an entry on the report  
15 under s. 709.03 and that is supplied by a person specified in this section may be  
16 submitted and certified on a supplemental report prepared by the person, as long as  
17 the information otherwise satisfies the requirements under this section. A  
18 prospective buyer who does not receive a report within the 10 days may, within 2  
19 business days after the end of that 10-day period, rescind the contract of sale or  
20 option contract by delivering a written notice of rescision to the owner or to the owner's  
21 agent.

22 **SECTION 81.** 709.07 of the statutes is amended to read:

23 **709.07 Liability precluded.** An owner is not liable for an error or omission  
24 in a report under s. 709.03 if the owner had no knowledge of that error or omission,  
25 if the error or omission was based on information provided by a public agency, as

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1 defined in s. 66.0825 (3) (h), or by a licensed engineer, professional land surveyor  
2 licensed under ch. 443, structural pest control operator, or qualified 3rd party, as  
3 defined in s. 452.23 (2) (b), or by a contractor about matters within the scope of the  
4 contractor's occupation.

5 **SECTION 82.** 893.37 of the statutes is amended to read:

6 **893.37 Survey.** No action may be brought against an engineer or any  
7 professional land surveyor licensed under ch. 443 to recover damages for negligence,  
8 errors, or omission in the making of any survey nor for contribution or indemnity  
9 related to such negligence, errors, or omissions more than 6 years after the  
10 completion of a survey.

11 **SECTION 83.** 895.477 of the statutes is created to read:

12 **895.477 Civil liability exemption; professional land surveyors. (1)** Any  
13 professional land surveyor licensed under ch. 443 is immune from civil liability for  
14 all of the following:

15 (a) Trespass occurring during the practice of professional land surveying, as  
16 defined in s. 443.01 (6s), if the surveyor acted in good faith.

17 (b) Any damages caused as a result of the surveyor's approximation of an  
18 ordinary high water mark of any lake or stream or his or her approximation of high  
19 and low water elevations of any lake or stream if the surveyor was acting under ch.  
20 236 and if the surveyor acted in good faith.

21 **(2)** (a) The immunity under sub. (1) does not extend to any professional land  
22 surveyor whose actions involves reckless, wanton, or intentional misconduct.

23 (b) The immunity under sub. (1) (a) does not extend to any actual damage done  
24 to land or property resulting from the trespass.

25 **SECTION 84.** 943.13 (4m) (d) of the statutes is created to read:

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1           943.13 (4m) (d) A professional land surveyor licensed under ch. 443 who  
2           qualifies for immunity under s. 895.477.

3           **SECTION 85. Nonstatutory provisions.**

4           (1) Notwithstanding section 443.02 (4) of the statutes, as affected by this act,  
5           on the effective date of this subsection, a person who has been granted a certificate  
6           of registration as a land surveyor under section 443.06 (2), 2005 stats., or a permit  
7           to practice land surveying under section 443.06 (3), 2005 stats., is considered to be  
8           granted a professional land surveyor license under section 443.06 (2) of the statutes,  
9           as affected by this act, or a permit to engage in the practice of professional land  
10          surveying under section 443.06 (3) of the statutes, as affected by this act, and the  
11          professional land surveyor section of the examining board of architects, landscape  
12          architects, professional engineers, designers, and professional land surveyors shall  
13          issue to the person, as appropriate, a professional land surveyor license under  
14          section 443.06 (2) of the statutes, as affected by this act, or a permit to practice  
15          professional land surveying under section 443.06 (3) of the statutes, as affected by  
16          this act.

17          **SECTION 86. Initial applicability.**

18          (1) The treatment of sections 709.02 (1) and 709.07 of the statutes first applies  
19          to original reports furnished on the effective date of this subsection.

20          (2) The treatment of sections 893.37, 895.477, and 943.13 (4m) (d) of the  
21          statutes first applies to acts or omissions occurring on the effective date of this  
22          subsection.

23          (3) The treatment of section 236.02 (2m) of the statutes first applies to  
24          correction instruments that are drafted on the effective date of this subsection.

