

Vendor Focus

Featuring: Ayres

Born and raised in Eau Claire, Ayres is a firm that's always felt comfortable working in Wisconsin's towns. Our engineers, mappers, architects, environmental experts, planners, grant experts, and other specialists are very familiar with the needs of local government. Ayres solves towns' problems, stretches their dollars, and efficiently navigates regulations enroute to successful projects.

Among the values Ayres has held since its founding by Owen Ayres in 1959 are the concepts of doing business with integrity and treating clients as partners. That leads to long-term client relationships, with each project building upon the understanding learned from the last project.

Of Ayres' 350+ employees, about 220 are based in Wisconsin, with offices in Green Bay, Waukesha, Madison, River Falls, and Eau Claire. Ayres' staff includes 62 professional engineers and 13 professional land surveyors who are registered to work in Wisconsin.

Since designing its first town bridge in 1962, the firm has designed more than 1,500 bridges as either rehabilitations, new crossings, or bridge replacements along with their connecting roadway approaches. Ayres normally completes over two

AYRES

dozen local bridge projects in the course of each two-year Local Bridge Program. Ayres has designed structures in 71 of Wisconsin's 72 counties and has completed six or more bridge projects for some towns. In addition to design work, Ayres has been inspecting bridges since 1971.

While Ayres is small enough to be a true partner to towns, it's hardly a one-trick pony. Bridge and roadway design work constitutes just the beginning of a long list of services Ayres offers towns:

- Bridge and culvert design
- Roadway design and bidding services
- Funding and grant applications
- Dam design
- Bridge and dam inspection
- Landscape architecture
- Survey, mapping, and right-of-way plats
- Feasibility studies
- Permitting
- Planning
- Construction observation



Town of Franklin, Kewaunee County, Bolt Road



Town of Crandon, Forest County, Cole Road

This diversity of services means that Ayres does not have to bring in multiple subconsultants to complete a project. Towns can rest assured that they know who is working on their projects – from planning and funding to survey to design and construction observation.

“Not only do we help towns find outside funding for projects, but we also work hard to find efficient, cost-effective design solutions to towns’ project challenges”

“Cobbling together a project team with several subconsultants can lead to a ‘weakest link’ scenario for a project,” says Rick Satterlee, business development specialist with Ayres. “You would be hard-pressed to find a weak link in our Ayres project teams. That’s why towns trust us.”

Paying for projects is no small task, and qualifying projects can now be completed with up to 90% federal and/or state funding to assist local government agencies. Ayres has helped its clients win approximately \$209 million in funding, including these examples of grants for Wisconsin towns:

- Local Road Improvement Program for road reconstruction (LRIP-D&S)
- Surface Transportation Program (STP)
- EPA Assessment Grant for brownfield project
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Sport Fish Restoration Program grant and WDNR grant for boat launch ramp upgrades
- Targeted Runoff Management Grants for stormwater system upgrades
- Municipal Flood Control Grant to address road erosion along river
- WDNR Municipal Dam Grants for rehabilitations and removals
- Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program for trail and park land acquisition and development
- Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) for fire station, community center, and town hall projects
- Municipal Street Discretionary Improvement Program for road improvements
- Wisconsin Site Assessment Grants for library and senior center redevelopment



Town of Oconomowoc, Waukesha County, Monterey Dam



Town of Ellsworth, Pierce County, 610th Avenue

“Not only do we help towns find outside funding for projects, but we also work hard to find efficient, cost-effective design solutions to towns’ project challenges,” says Dave Pantzlaff, professional engineer and director of Midwest transportation services for Ayres. “If a town has a marquee project that calls for enhancements that will make it stand out, Ayres has the design and funding expertise to deliver. If they need a straightforward, practical rural bridge, boat ramp, or stormwater solution, we will provide exactly that.”

Dave’s 44 years and Rick’s 33 years with Ayres have taken them

to hundreds of town board meetings to understand towns’ project needs in detail. They are just two of the trusted representatives in an organization that has been earning the trust of towns for over six decades.



Town of Rome, Adams County, Aerial Mapping