

Notes on Windsor/Mays Property, Mount Horeb

Home Setting: We are situated far enough from urban areas to have very dark night skies and incredible stargazing. We have privacy and quiet (no other homes can be seen from any room in the house) but are on a well-maintained state highway. Miles of mowable trails provide easy access to the 3 terrains of the property: wetlands/creeks, oak forests, and fields/meadows. There is even a campsite with a tent platform and campfire area.

Wildlife: In addition to large populations of deer and turkey, the property encompasses and is adjacent to 2 active trout streams and many acres of wetlands. As a result, we have sandhill cranes, great blue and green herons, wood ducks, geese, nesting bald eagles, mink, beaver, various species of turtles, and muskrats. In the woods we have piliated, red-headed, and red-breasted woodpeckers. We are in the migration path for indigo buntings, scarlet tanagers, and cedar waxwings among other birds.

House: Our water comes from an artesian well at a stable pressure of 22 pounds/square inch and temperature of 55 degrees. (We can have running water even without electricity.) This pressure circulates water through our geothermal heating and cooling system. Most of the electricity required for the home comes from solar panels. Solar panels also provide our hot water. In our living room during the winter, passive solar heat alone can keep the room quite cozy. There are insulating window coverings on all of our windows. Propane provides a back-up for heat and for hot water. Yearly electricity and propane bills are quite modest. The old and new parts of the house have updated electricity and plumbing. There are 3 zoned heating and cooling areas. The basement is dry.

Other Amenities: We have high speed internet. All of our cables, phone, and electric lines are buried from the road. We get exceptional over-the-air television and radio reception from a roof top antenna with a signal amplifier. The barn is wired for electricity upstairs and down. We are in the Mount Horeb school district. A local farmer rents our tillable land and those rent payments exceed our property taxes.