

Iowa County

Village of Ridgeway, WI

“Home of the Famous Ghost”

Village of Ridgeway

Located near the center of Iowa County on US Hwy 18/151. It has easy access to urbanized areas, including Madison, WI and Dubuque, IA. Untouched by the glaciers, the community lies in the unglaciated “driftless” area where rolling hills and rugged stone bluffs stand proud giving shape to a landscape of wooded hills, ravines and the cultivated mosaic of farm fields.

History of Area

Ridgeway is known for legendary ghost stories. From the 1840’s to as late as the 1990’s, there have been many reportings of the “Ridgeway Ghost”. This Phantom has even reportedly killed someone, which is rare for ghost stories. The Wisconsin Historical Society points to an article in the New York Times, dated December 7, 1902. The stories number in the hundreds and include haunted houses and even werewolf sightings.

Quick Facts (2010 Census):

- Population: 664
- Median Age: 41.5
- Educational Attainment: 19.03% with Bachelor’s Degree or Higher
- Size of Labor Force: 382
- Job Growth Rate: 4.3%
- Household Median Income: \$59,090
- Average Family Size: 3.01
- Average Commute Time: 25 Minutes
- Zip Code: 53582

Population:

	2015 Estimate	2020 Projection
Village	664	654
20 minute drive time	17,095	17,339

Population Age (2014)		
Under 20	158	23.8%
20-39	150	22.6%
40-59	195	29.4%
60-64	51	7.7%
65+	110	16.6%

Population Race		
White	638	98.1%
Black	2	0.3%
American Indian	0	0%
Asian & Pacific Islander	0	0%
Other	5	0.8%
Multi-Race	5	0.8%
Hispanic	21	3.2%

Largest Private Sector Employers

Employer	Number of Employees
Hi Point Steakhouse – Full service restaurant (NAICS 722110)	20 - 49 employees
Ayers Furniture, Inc. – Retail furniture sales (NAICS 442110)	1-4 employees
Ridgeway Lumber Co. – Lumberyard (NAICS 444190)	1-4 employees

Transportation

Highway

Nearest 4-lane highway: US Hwy 151

Airports

[Tri-County Regional Airport](#), Lone Rock – 27 miles

[Iowa County Airport](#), Mineral Point – 20 miles

[Dane County Regional Airport](#), Madison – 43 miles

[General Mitchell International Airport](#), Milwaukee – 122 miles

[Chicago O'Hare International Airport](#), Chicago, IL – 164 miles

Proximity to Major Metro Markets (miles/drive time)

- Madison (pop. - 627,430) - 37 miles / 45 min.
- Milwaukee (pop. - 1.6 million) - 116 miles / 2 hrs.
- Chicago (pop. - 9.7 million) - 179 miles / 3 hrs. 30 min.
- Minneapolis (pop. - 2.6 million) - 274 miles / 4 hrs. 15 min.

Industrial Park/Sites

No

Utilities

Electricity

[Alliant Energy](#) (800-255-4268)

Natural Gas

[Madison Gas & Electric](#)

Water

Ridgeway Utilities (608 924-5881)

Source: Water tower and reservoir

Storage Capacity: 175,000 gallons

Max. Pumping Capacity: 2 wells @ 250 gallons/minute

Peak Daily Use: .048 mgd

Wastewater Treatment

Ridgeway Waste Water Treatment (608 924-5881)

System Type: Activated sludge

Design Capacity: 125,000 gallons per day

Ave. Daily Use: .036 mgd

Telecommunications

Internet/Phone: [MHTC \(DSL\)](#), [Charter Communications](#),

[Frontier](#), [Exede](#), [HughesNet](#), [Vonage](#)

Cable Service: [DIRECTV](#)

Cellular Providers: [U.S. Cellular](#), [Verizon](#)

Education (2014-2015 school year)

Elementary (PK-5th)	Ridgeway Elementary School Ridgeway, WI Enrollment: 178 students Dodgeville Elementary School Dodgeville, WI Enrollment: 607
Middle School (6th-8th)	Dodgeville Middle School Dodgeville, WI Enrollment: 292 students
High School (9th-12th)	Dodgeville High School Dodgeville, WI Enrollment: 396 students Completion Rate: 94.9% ACT Average Score – Composite: 22.4
College/Technical Schools	Madison Area Technical College West Campus – 25 miles East Campus - 35 miles UW Madison – 34 miles UW Platteville – 37 miles SW Technical College – 34 miles
Private Schools Colleges/Technical Schools	St. Joseph School , PK - 8th - Dodgeville - 169 students Edgewood College , Madison – 34 miles ITT Technical Institute , Madison – 37 miles Madison Media Institute – 41 miles

Health Care

[Dodgeville Medical Center/UW Health](#) - 9 miles

[Upland Hills Health Center](#) Dodgeville - 10 miles

[Bloomfield Healthcare & Rehab Center](#) Dodgeville - 14 miles

[Unity Point Health/Meriter Hospital](#) Madison - 36 miles

[St. Mary's Hospital](#) Madison - 36 miles

Housing

Mean Home Value: \$130,400

Median Rent: \$663

Number of Housing Units: 295 units

Owner Occupied: 82%

Parks and Recreation

Parks, Trails, Camping

Ridgeway Village Park - shelter, ball diamond, playground equipment, volleyball/basketball courts, bathroom & drinking fountains.

- [Ridgeway Pine Relict](#), State Natural Area - 3 miles
- [Military Ridge State Trail](#), Barneveld - 6 miles
- [Tom's Campground](#), Dodgeville - 7 miles
- [Barneveld Prairie](#), State Natural Area - 8 miles
- [Blue Mounds State Park](#), Blue Mounds - 10 miles
- [Governor Dodge State Park](#), Dodgeville - 12 miles

Golf Courses

- [Deer Valley Golf Course](#), Barneveld – 18 holes - 5 miles
- [House on the Rock Resort](#), Spring Green - 27 holes - 16 miles
- [Dodge Point Country Club](#), Dodgeville – 18 holes - 12 miles
- [Ludden Lake Golf Club](#), Mineral Point – 9 holes - 18 miles

Swimming Pools

- [Deer Vally Lodge Waterpark](#) - Barneveld - 5 miles
- [Mount Horeb Family Aquatic Center](#) – 14 miles

Visitor Attractions:

- [Folklore Village](#)
- Hyde's Mill

Government

Village Board is a non-partisan form of government, consisting of a Village President and six trustees. Trustees are elected at-large.

Tax Rate: .025110980 or \$25.11 per 1000

Key Community Contacts:

Village of Ridgeway

Phone: (608) 924-5881

Email: clerk_treasurer@villageofridgeway.com

Iowa County Economic Development

Phone: 608-935-0302

Email: iced@iowacounty.org

Sources

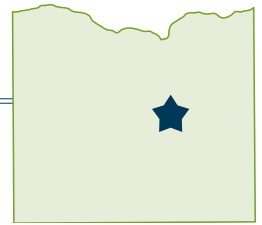
[Ridgeway City Data](#)

[Census.gov](#)

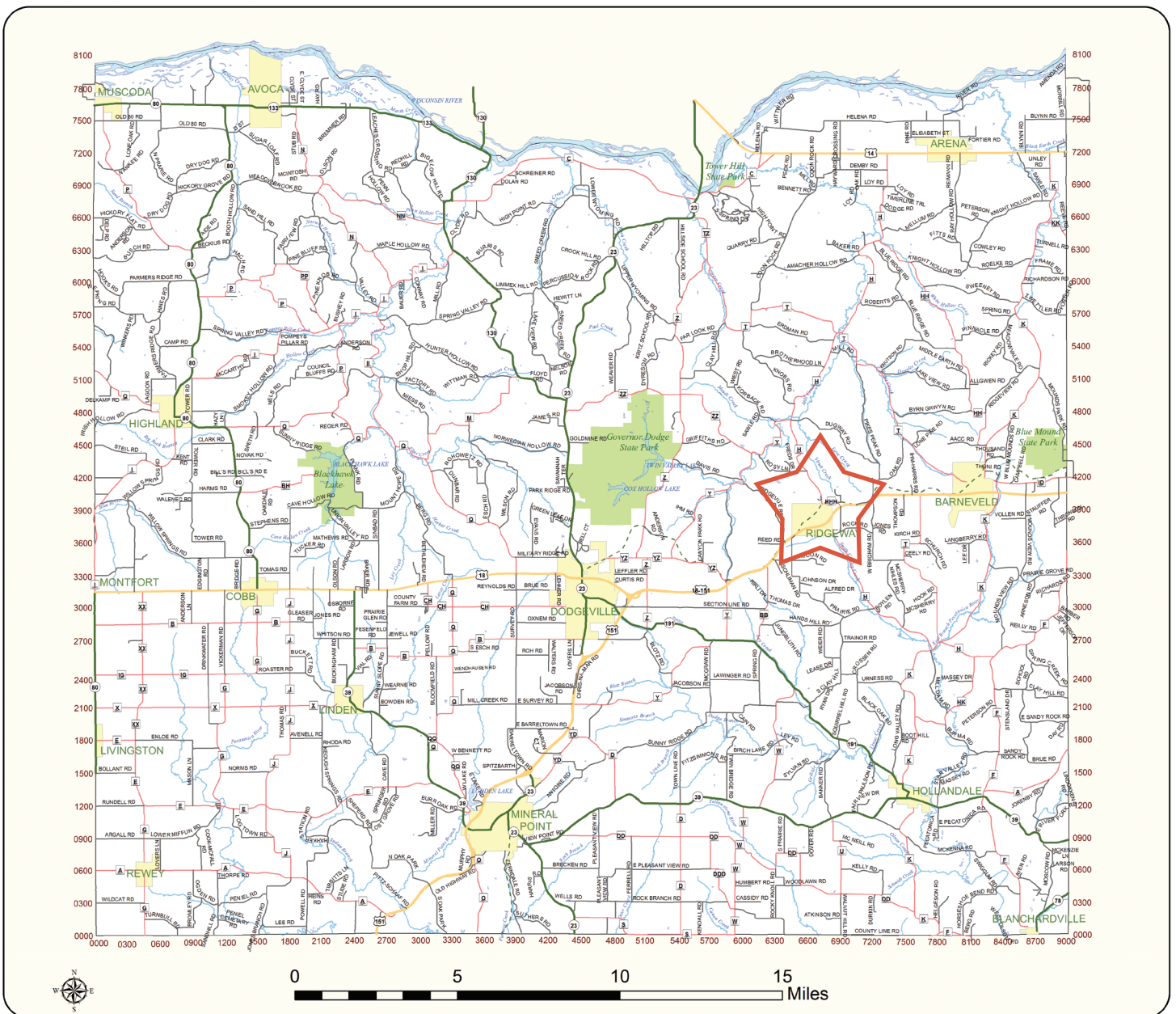
[InWisconsin.com](#)

[WiseDash](#)

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