



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers** ®  
Detroit District

## HARBOR INFRASTRUCTURE INVENTORIES Port Washington



**Harbor Location:** Port Washington Harbor is on the west shore of Lake Michigan about 29 miles north of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

**Authority:** River & Harbor Acts of 11 Jul 1870, 14 Aug 1876.

**Project Description:** Port Washington Harbor is a commercial harbor that primarily serves recreational traffic. The harbor is protected by two main north and south breakwaters and two interior east-west breakwaters.

**Traffic:** No commerce reported in 2009.

**Transportation Importance:** Local community has established significant infrastructure around the harbor facilities that generates income from harbor users and visitors to the area.

### **Congressional Interest:**

- Representative F. James Sensenbrenner Jr. R-WI-5
- Senator Ron Johnson R-WI
- Senator Herb Kohl D-WI

**Current Condition Assessment:** **B**



**Date of Site Visit:** 25 August 2009

**Summary of Impact:** Prevailing waves come from a northerly and southerly direction. The immediate impact of a break or overtopping of one or both of the piers would likely be shoaling within the harbor and possible damage to the marina and the vessels docked there. Additionally, if the east and west break waters were to be overtopped, the downtown area of Port Washington would be subject to inundation. Although the power plant was converted to natural gas around 2004 and is no longer relying on the harbor for coal delivery, the plant does lie in the shadow of the southern breakwater. In the event of a breakwater failure of either the north or the south breakwaters, the facility could be flooded. Likewise, the city water and wastewater treatment plants lie in the shadow of the north breakwater. However, both of these structures have significantly armored shoreline and would not be as susceptible to greater wave heights.

**Description of Infrastructure:**



**1. Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant:** City wastewater treatment plant which services the city limits.



**2. Water Treatment Plant:** City owned water treatment plant and pumping station. Water is pumped directly from the lake and uses a sand filtration system. This facility services the city and surrounding community.



**3. Small Diner:**



**4. Port Washington Marina:** City owned marina with 253 seasonal and transient slips. Marina consists of an administration building, the yacht club, and a parking lot. Marina also supports 30 charter fishing vessels. Docks are steel piles with wood decking.



**5. Downtown:** Downtown area of Port Washington consisting of various restaurants and retail space.



**6. Holiday Inn Hotel: Multi-story hotel.**



**7. Condos:**



**8. Townhouse Complex:**



**9. Power Plant:** Is a 545 MW natural gas fired power plant owned by WE Energies, LLC. Power plant was converted from coal to natural gas starting in 2004. Fuel is piped in to side. Former coal storage field will be developed by the city.



**Potential Impact Area:** The following graphic displays property parcels that could be impacted within various zones defined by different setbacks from the shoreline behind existing Federal coastal structures. Values are based on real property tax assessments from these parcels, and don't reflect any detailed coastal zone damage assessments. Figures simply reflect property values at various setbacks.

