



# **WINNEBAGO COUNTY**

## **COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN**

### **2024 - 2028**



Winnebago County  
Parks

# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

## County Executive

Jon Doemel

## Winnebago County Board of Supervisors

Rachael Dowling, D-1  
Rebecca Nichols, D-2  
Thomas Borchart, D-3  
Paul Eisen, D-4  
Kay Horan, D-5  
Brian Defferding, D-6  
Betsy Ellenberger, D-7  
Jim Wise, D-8  
Donald Nussbaum, D-9  
Bryan D. Stafford, D-10  
David Albrecht, D-11  
Maribeth Gabert, D-12  
Steven Binder, D-13  
Thomas Swan, D-14  
E. Michael Swan, D-14  
Jacob Floam, D-16  
Julie A. Gordon, D-17  
James Ponzer, D-18  
Joshua Belville, D-19  
Timothy Ernst, D-20  
John Hinz, D-21  
Doug Zellmer, D-22  
Koby Schellenger, D-23  
Andy Buck, D-24  
Karen D. Powers, D-25  
Conley Hanson, D-26  
Morris J. Cox, D-27  
Nate Gustafson, D-28  
George E. Bureau, D-29  
Chuck Farrey, D-30  
Ralph Harrison, D-31  
Shanah Zastera, D-32  
Thomas J. Egan, D-33  
Edward D. Jeziorny, D-34  
Douglas Nelson, D-35  
Howard Miller, D-36

## Parks and Committee

M Karen D. Powers, Chair  
Joshua Belville, Vice Chair  
James Ponzer, Secretary  
Steven Binder  
Rachael Dowling

## Parks Department Staff

Adam Breest, Director of Parks & Expo  
Justin DeJager, Program and Marketing Coordinator  
Kyle Vergin, Parks Manager  
Rick Helms, Expo Manager  
Zach Werner, Parks Foreman  
Dave Binner, Parks Caretaker  
Pam Markert, Parks Caretaker  
Time Schuster, Parks Caretaker  
Stacy Behling, Parks Caretaker  
Mike Wolff, Parks Caretaker (Expo)  
Terry Krause, Parks Caretaker (Expo)

## Prepared By

This document was prepared by MSA Professional Services, Inc.

**Project No.:** 16777011

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1 358-032024

2  
3 **RESOLUTION: 358-032024 Parks Department Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2024-2028**

4  
5 **TO THE WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

6  
7 **WHEREAS**, Winnebago County is interested in protecting its unique natural and cultural resources, while  
8 providing quality park and recreational opportunities for residents of and visitors to Winnebago County;  
9 and

10  
11 **WHEREAS**, Winnebago County has hired MSA Professional Services to work with the Parks Department  
12 to update its outdoor recreation plan; and

13  
14 **WHEREAS**, the plan and its recommendations were compiled to address Winnebago County's  
15 recreational development and resource protection needs over the next five years and beyond; and

16  
17 **WHEREAS**, your undersigned Committee, along with interested private citizens and a professional  
18 consultant, helped provide the necessary input and critical review of the information and subsequent  
19 conclusions brought forth in the plan; and

20  
21 **WHEREAS**, adoption of the plan is required for Winnebago County to become eligible for several cost  
22 sharing aid programs administered by the State of Wisconsin; and

23  
24 **WHEREAS**, the complete Winnebago County Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (2024-2028) is  
25 available for review on the Winnebago County Parks Department's website  
26 ([www.winnebago.wi.us/parks](http://www.winnebago.wi.us/parks)).

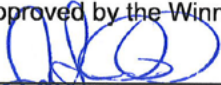
27  
28  
29 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby  
30 approves and adopts the Winnebago County Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (2024-2028).  
31

32  
33  
Respectfully submitted by:  
**Parks and Recreation Committee**  
Committee Vote: 3-0

*Fiscal Note: No immediate fiscal impact. This plan allows the county to apply for future grants.*

34  
35  
Vote Required for Passage: **Majority of Members Present**

36 Approved by the Winnebago County Executive on April 2, 2024

37  
38  
39   
40 Jonathan D. Doemel  
41 Winnebago County Executive



Winnebago County  
Parks

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# Winnebago County Parks

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

# INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 PLAN PURPOSE

Planning for parks is an integral part of ensuring that Winnebago County continues to provide quality parks and recreational facilities and services. This plan is intended to support other county long-range plans and local ordinances that guide healthy land use and development throughout the community. Additionally, a comprehensive outdoor recreation plan (CORP) is a required component of many state and federal grant applications used to fund parks and recreation projects.

This plan follows the Guidelines for the Development of Local Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) and describes:

- Information regarding demographic trends
- An inventory of existing park and recreational facilities,
- An analysis of parkland and recreational needs and demands,
- General policy direction regarding park and open space and bicycle and pedestrian facility planning and maintenance,
- Recommendations for improving existing park facilities and bicycle and pedestrian facilities,
- Recommendations for new park, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, and
- Implementation strategies.

This plan identifies conceptual locations and recommendations that in most cases require more detailed and specific planning, engineering, budgeting, and discussions to acquire land and/or construct facilities.

Winnebago County appreciates the local support for its parks and the benefit that they have on the community's character and quality of life. It is committed to continuing to provide active and passive recreational opportunities that meet the needs of current and future residents and visitors of all ages and abilities.

## 1.2 PLANNING PROCESS

In April 2023, Winnebago County contracted with MSA Professional Services to update the previous CORP, adopted in 2018. The County has a long history of adopting a CORP, including in 1975, 1988, 1993, 2013, 2018, and again in 2024.

Like its predecessors, this version of the plan reaffirms longstanding goals and objectives, inventories existing park and recreational facilities, identifies county-wide park and recreation needs and opportunities, and presents recommendations and an action plan for addressing the system's growth and development.

Key milestones for this project include:

1. Project Kick-Off with Parks & Recreation Department Staff:
  - April 2023
2. Parkland Inventory & Site Visits:
  - May 2023
3. Online Survey – Parks System:
  - June – August 2023
4. Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting #1:
  - July 2023
5. Public Input Meeting #1:
  - August 2023
6. Community Park Design Charrette:
  - August 2023
7. Online Survey – Community Park:
  - September – October 2023
8. Stakeholder Focus Groups:
  - September – October 2023
9. Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting #2:
  - October 2023
10. Public Input Meeting #2:
  - December 2023
11. Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting #3:
  - February 13 2024
12. County Board of Supervisors Adoption:
  - March 19 2024

## 1.3 WHY PLAN FOR PARKS?

Parks are some of the only free, accessible, multi-functional public spaces. They contribute to the physical and mental health of individuals and communities, and provide public safety, environmental, and social equity and resilience benefits. The COVID-19 pandemic put parks in the spotlight as more people sought opportunities for safe recreation and engagement opportunities outdoors. Now, as more communities focus on sustainability and resilience, parks offer a range of fiscal, health, and environmental benefits including:



## Healthy Lifestyles

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, children and adults were spending less and less time outside. Research from the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation showed that young children were engaging in less active play and unstructured outdoor exploration, which are critical activities for developing social and academic skills, as well as personal resilience. The NRPA reports that physical activity at any age can reduce the risk of depression, heart disease, obesity, osteoporosis, stroke, and Type 2 diabetes.

Active, healthy communities have a range of active and passive options for people of all ages and abilities to spend time outdoors. While many people initially think of parks and recreation facilities as places for playgrounds, trails, and ball courts and fields, they are also places where people can enjoy more passive activities like picnicking, wildlife watching, and leisurely enjoying the fresh air. According to a 2022 report from the Urban Institute, the conversation about racial equity in park access is critical because research has suggested a link between measures of park access (proximity to parks and park quality) and higher rates of park use and physical activity. The City Parks Alliance reports that maintaining a healthy lifestyle can annually save more than \$1,800 in healthcare costs per person.

## Economic Vitality

Leisure time is an important component of everyone's lifestyle, and increasingly people are choosing locations to live based on quality-of-life factors that include recreational amenities. According to the NRPA's Engagement with Parks Report, four out of five adults in the US sought high-quality parks and recreation when choosing a place to live.

The ability to retain and attract new residents has direct economic benefits to the local community. For this reason, a great park, recreation, and trail system can contribute directly to a community's economic development.

According to a study completed by NRPA and George Mason University, 72% of 70 studied communities use parks and recreation images in their economic development materials. The study notes that parks and recreation contribute to economic development through business and talent attraction, retention, and expansion. If a park system is designed with connections to regional destinations, additional visitors can also be brought into a community. This additional tourism can be a significant benefit to local businesses. This plan aligns with other regional and state plans to promote outdoor recreation across the greater area.

## KNOWLES-NELSON STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

The Wisconsin Legislature created the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program (Stewardship) in 1989. Named for two of Wisconsin's most revered conservation leaders, Warren Knowles (Governor 1965-1971) and Gaylord Nelson (Governor 1959-1963, U.S. Senator 1964-1981), the purpose of the program is to preserve valuable natural areas and wildlife habitat, protect water quality and fisheries, and expand opportunities for outdoor recreation. The conservation and recreation goals of the Stewardship Program are achieved through the acquisition of land and easements, development of recreational facilities, and restoration of wildlife habitat.

The Stewardship grant program is the most widely used recreational grant program in the state. Eligibility for the program requires that a community maintain a local comprehensive outdoor recreation plan (CORP), updated every five years, and that the project for which grant funding is sought is described in the CORP. Many other similar state and federal recreational grant programs have similar requirements or have shown a tendency to favor those grant applications which are supported through previous community planning efforts.

### **Social Resilience**

Parks are an excellent source of place-based planning and identity for communities. Park and recreation facility designs are responsive to local wants and needs. The most recent example is the transition of tennis and basketball courts into multi-functional ‘sport courts’ to respond to the explosion in popularity of pickleball. Public parks are also a place for community interaction and neighborhood activity. They can be places where residents gather for social events, recreational activities, and meetings about local issues, increasing social interaction and creating an overall sense of community. Social resilience is a key component of responding to and recovering from natural disasters.

Information from the City Parks Alliance shows that community involvement in the greening of vacant land has been shown to decrease crime and generate additional support for nearby park projects. Research from bicycle and trails advocacy organizations like the League of American Bicyclists and People4Bikes indicates that the increase in trail traffic also has a depressing effect on crime.

### **Environmental Resilience**

While parks, forests, and trails create opportunities to improve the health of individuals, they also contribute to the greater ecological health of a community. Parks are often tied together with environmentally sensitive areas such as wetlands, floodplains, surface waters, or significant woodlands. Additionally, parks are an easier place to build stormwater retention and infiltration areas into the built environment, helping to manage stormwater runoff and mitigate localized flooding. These areas provide food and shelter for local wildlife and naturally retain stormwater. Individual parks can provide important “rooms” of natural resource activity; however, they become even more functional when they can be linked together through environmental corridors. Wildlife, plants, and water all depend on the ability to move freely within the environment, or from “room to room.” The City Parks Alliance reports that urban trees remove up to 711,000 tons of toxins from the air and reduce urban “heat island” effects, equating to \$3.8 billion in national savings.

### **Equity**

In addition to being public, open spaces, parks and recreational facilities are excellent places for local engagement. Many communities utilize park funding and infrastructure to revitalize blighted areas and rectify historic disinvestments in lower-income neighborhoods. This comes through reinvigoration of existing parks and new parks in underutilized areas. As cities and villages across the United States see shifts in the ethnic makeup of their communities, more and more are investing in multilingual signs and rental forms to improve cultural inclusion.

Two key parts of any parks and recreation plan includes physical accessibility through ADA-compliant design and walkability to the park. The Americans with Disabilities Act and statewide design guidelines ensure that people of any physical ability are able to access many activities throughout a park, from well-maintained paths and curb ramps to inclusive playgrounds. The walkability factor is defined by the NRPA as ensuring that no one lives farther than a 10-minute walk from a park.



*Asylum Point Park*

# CHAPTER 2

## ABOUT WINNEBAGO COUNTY



# ABOUT WINNEBAGO COUNTY

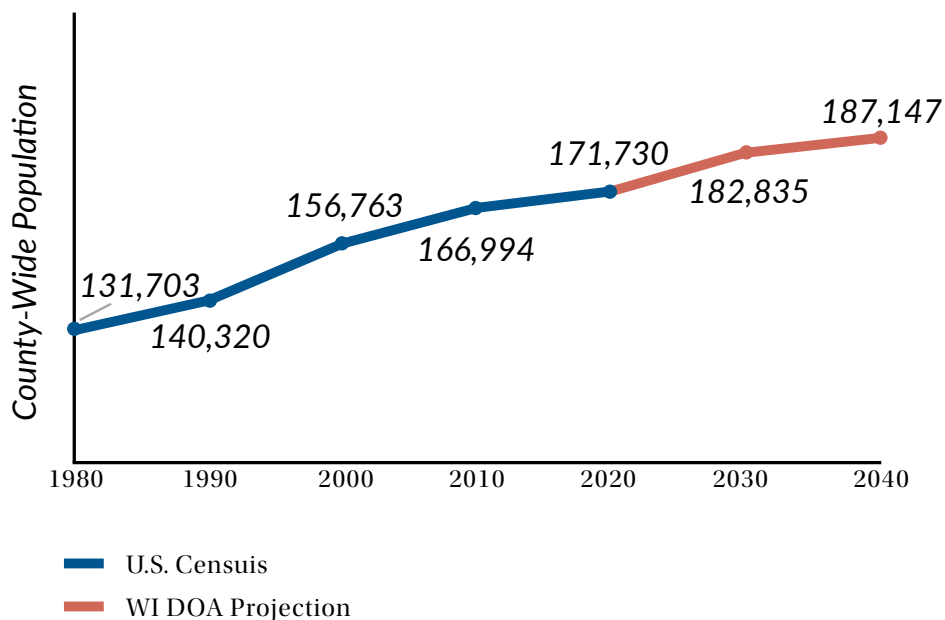
## 2.1 LOCAL & REGIONAL CONTEXT

Winnebago County is located in east-central Wisconsin along the western shore of Lake Winnebago—the state’s largest inland lake. The county is rich in natural resources, making it a popular destination for active and passive recreation activities ranging from picnicking and camping to boating, hunting, and fishing.

There are 22 towns, villages, and cities located within Winnebago County, the largest of which being the Cities of Oshkosh (county seat), Neenah, and Menasha. In 2016, the Town of Menasha incorporated into the Village of Fox Crossing; as of 2023, this is the third largest municipality in Winnebago County. Winnebago County is an increasingly attractive place to live, visit, and recreate, resulting in some development pressure along the lakeshore and west of the USH 41 corridor. While land prices remain relatively low in comparison to other areas of the state, prices have been increasing in recent years. These higher land prices have made the sale of farmland to developers an attractive option for many farmers, leading to the continued loss of productive farmland within the county.

Table 2.1 Population History and Projections		
Year	Winnebago County	State of Wisconsin
1980	131,703	4,705,642
1990	140,320	4,891,769
2000	156,763	5,363,715
2010	166,994	5,686,986
2020	171,730	5,893,718
2023 (WDOA)	172,369	5,951,400
Projections		
2025	177,554	6,086,628
2030	182,835	6,255,437
2035	185,771	6,353,901
2040	187,147	6,368,975
Change		
1980-2020	40,027	1,188,076
2020-2040	15,417	425,257
Percent Growth		
1980-2020	30.4%	25.2%
2020-2040	9.0%	8.1%

Figure 2.1: Winnebago County Population History & Projections



## 2.2 DEMOGRAPHICS

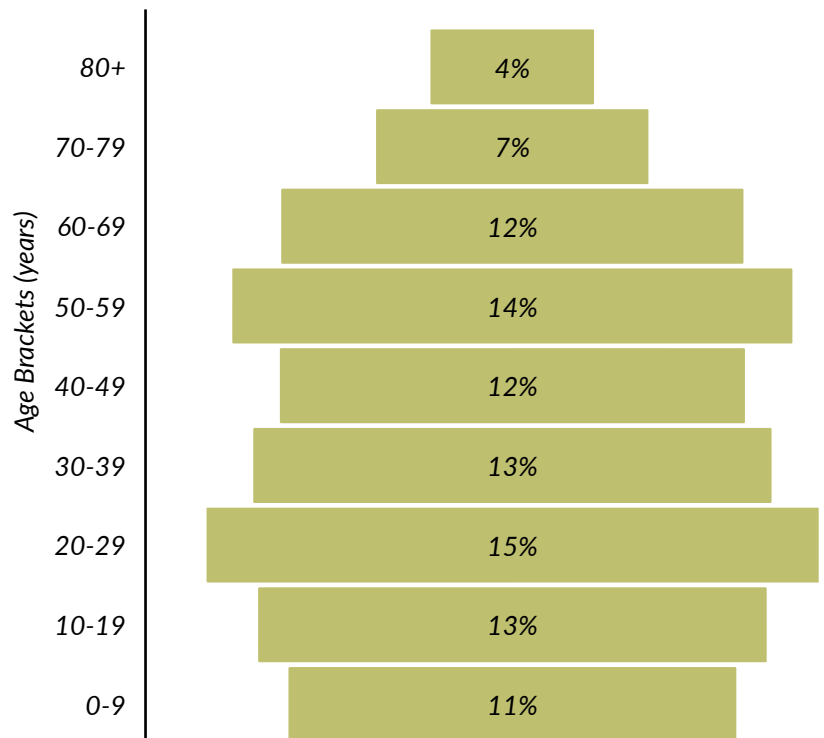
The Wisconsin Department of Administration (WDOA) estimates that Winnebago County’s population in 2023 was 172,369. Between 1980 and 2020 Winnebago County grew approximately 30% and is projected to increase another 9% through 2040. This is a slightly faster projected growth rate than the state overall, as seen in Table 2.1.

Figure 2.2 is a breakdown of the County’s population by age using data American Community Survey (ACS). Nearly a quarter of the County’s population is under 20 years old; however, the share of this age cohort fell 4% since 2010. Conversely, the 65 and above age cohort increase by roughly 27% between 2010 and 2021 and the median age in the County inched up from 27.4 to 38.2. This is on par with demographic changes seen across the state and nationally as more members of the Baby Boomer generation enter retirement and Millennials delay childbearing into their thirties or forego it altogether.

As seen in Table 2.2, the share of households with children under the age of 18 peaked in 2010 at 29.8%, falling to 26.5% in 2021, according to ACS 5-year estimates. Similarly, the average household size fell from 2.33 to 2.29 between 2010 and 2021 despite the total number of households in the County increasing by over 4,000. This suggests an increase in the number of single-person households—a trend consistent with other communities across Wisconsin and the country.

Table 2.2 Household Statistics	
Households	
2000	61,157
2010 ACS	66,694
2021 ACS	71,416
Average Household Size	
2000	2.43
2010 ACS	2.33
2021 ACS	2.29
% of Households with individuals under 18	
2000	23.8%
2010 ACS	29.8%
2021 ACS	26.5%

Figure 2.2: Winnebago County Age Distribution



## 2.3 NATURAL FEATURES

### Surface Water

Winnebago County is entirely within the Fox-Wolf Basin and contains approximately 84,000 acres of surface water—lakes, rivers, and streams known as the “Winnebago System.” This system includes the pool lakes of Lake Winnebago, Poygan, Winneconne, and Butte des Morts along with the main tributary waters of the Upper Fox and Lower Wolf Rivers; two lakes that are not located in the pool are Rush Lake and Little Lake Butte des Morts. The “Winnebago System” is one of Wisconsin’s most significant water resources, comprising 17% of the state’s surface water acreage. The system receives heavy recreational use by boaters, anglers, swimmers, hunters, and trappers. There is also an active commercial setline fishery for catfish. There are a total of 58 public and private boat launch sites located around the shoreline of Lake Winnebago. Winnebago County maintains 7 of these sites, some of which are adjacent to park facilities.

### Wetland and Wildlife Resources

There are approximately 51,400 acres of wetlands in the county. Most are located in the western and northern areas, including Lake Poygan, Rush Lake, Rush/Waukau Creek, and the Fox, Rat, and Wolf Rivers. These wetland areas provide habitat for fish, waterfowl, and other wildlife species and are important for the recharge of aquifers and groundwater protection. The State Wildlife Areas of Deppe Marsh, Poygan Marsh, Wolf River, and Rat River are owned by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), as well as waterfowl areas Ecktein and Uihlein. Wetlands are valuable resources that filter and purify water, maintain and stabilize the quantity of water, and provide important fish and wildlife habitat. Unfortunately, infringing land use changes can quickly and permanently destroy these fragile natural areas. Too often in the past, the benefits of protecting the state’s wetlands were unrecognized and many were drained or filled. Although wetlands have come under the protection of increasingly stringent regulations, the loss of additional wetland acreage remains a threat, particularly in areas where development infringes.

Because Winnebago County is located in what was formerly one of the best regions of the state for duck and pheasant production, the Department of Natural Resources initiated the Glacial Habitat Restoration Area (GHRA) project in the southwestern part of the county. This project is designed to restore wetlands and grasslands on private and public lands to benefit waterfowl, pheasants, and grassland songbirds. Winnebago County also has the State Acres For Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE) program in designated townships within the GHRA that allows landowners to enroll blocks of cropland in an USDA, CRP contract to provide grassland habitat.

### Woodlands

According to a 2015 forest land use inventory analysis by East Central WI RPC, Winnebago County has a total of approximately 154,940 acres of forested land, which is about 9.7 percent of all of the land in Winnebago County. Nearly all of this land is held by private landowners and is widely distributed across the county.

Future trends in forest lands continue to show problems with increasing amounts of parcellation, large deer populations, and invasive species problems. Parcellation makes forest management difficult because of the small size of each unit. Overpopulation of deer and invasive species has made regeneration of many forest types very difficult, with oak/hickory types hit particularly hard because of the slower growth rates of the seedlings. As this cover type ages the understory is being replaced by faster growing and less palatable tree species and/or invasive plants such as buckthorn.

### Fishery Resources

The Winnebago System continues to be known throughout the Midwest as a great fishing area for walleye, white bass, and sturgeon. The county accounts for 513 acres of State Fishery Areas within its boundaries.

The lower 125 miles of the Wolf River and 37 miles of the upper Fox River contain the spawning and nursery grounds for the Winnebago Pool sturgeon and walleye populations. In addition to lake sturgeon, walleye, northern pike and white bass, the major species of the Winnebago Pool fisheries community include freshwater drum, sauger, yellow perch, largemouth and smallmouth bass, panfish, trout, perch, and emerald shiner.



**Natural & Cultural Sites**

Appreciation of the unique ecological, geological, historical, and archaeological heritage of Winnebago County is a significant educational aspect of public outdoor recreation. Many of the historic sites provide evidence of past Native American cultures. Among the most important sites of these sites is Lasley Point Archeological Site near Winneconne. The specific locations of many sites are kept from the general public to prevent destruction of artifacts, while others remain unknown.

**Public Owned Lands**

Land owned by DNR in Winnebago County totals approximately 10,000 plus acres. Nearly 2,379 acres are designated as Federal Fish and Wildlife Areas with waterfowl production areas. The largest contiguous block is the Rat River State Wildlife Area at just over 4,600 acres.

Among the county’s municipalities, DNR holdings are most extensive in the Towns of Wolf River and Winchester where the Rat River flows. The DNR’s holdings generally are considered to provide passive recreational opportunities.

**2.4 EXISTING PARKS & OPEN SPACE**

The following is an overview of Winnebago County’s existing park and recreation facilities. A summary of these facilities and their corresponding acreage is available in Table 2.3, and their locations are indicated on Map 1 in Appendix B.

**Winnebago County Community Park**

Located on CTH Y, Winnebago County Community Park offers an extensive variety of active and passive recreational activities including baseball, soccer, rugby, disc golf, archery, a tennis/basketball court, volleyball nets, a dog park, and extensive walking trails. It is one of the County’s most used parks and its facilities are rented throughout the summer season.

A paved shared-use path system allows access in and around the park’s activity zones. Wayfinding signage provides direction to areas within the park. A detailed park master plan was conducted as part of this CORP update; please see Appendix C for more information.

**Sunnyview Exposition Center**

Located just north of Winnebago County Community Park, the Sunnyview Exposition Center is comprised of the Exposition Building, Covered Arena, and Sunnyview Stadium. These facilities include exhibition halls, a concession building, a covered show arena, and outdoor arena. The Sunnyview Stadium was upgraded with a state-of-the-art production ready stage with seating for up to 31,000, including the grandstands. There is also a clay pull track for truck and tractor pulls, demolition derbies, and other motor vehicle events. Attractions at the Sunnyview Exposition Center provide an array of entertainment offerings throughout the year as well as camping during events.

Table 2.3 Winnebago County Parks, Boat Launches, and Trails		
1	Asylum Point Park & Boat Landing	79.1
2	Black Wolf Boat Landing	3.3
3	Boom Bay Boat Landing	0.8
4	Coughlin Nature Area	35.1
5	Eureka - Boat Landing	6.3
6	Grundman Park/Osh-O-Nee Boat Landing	12.1
7	Ken Robl Conservation Park	39.0
8	Lake Butte Des Morts - Boat Landing	1.6
9	Lake Poygan - Boat Landing	1.5
10	Lasley Point Archeological Site	47.7
11	Dr. Donald and Bernadette Netzer Nature Area	40.0
12	Shangri La Point Nature Preserve	55.0
13	Sunnyview Exposition Center	154.7
14	Waukau Creek Nature Preserve & Waukau Dam	65.4
15	Winnebago County Community Park	244.8
16	Jerry Finch Winnebago County Dog Park	4.5
<b>Park &amp; Boat Launches TOTAL (Acres)</b>		<b>790.9</b>
17	WIOUWASH Trail	16.8
18	Mascoutin Valley State Trail	5.3
19	Tribal Heritage Crossing	1.4
<b>State Trails TOTAL (Miles)</b>		<b>23.5</b>

### **Asylum Point Park and Boat Landing**

Located about a quarter mile west of CTH A in the southeast corner of the Town of Oshkosh, this park includes a portable toilet (seasonal), public boat launch, picnic facilities, a historic lighthouse, parking, and opportunities for wildlife viewing. Swimming is not recommended due to possible E Coli contamination in Lake Winnebago; the County's Health Department monitors water quality throughout the area.

### **Black Wolf Boat Landing at Nagy Park**

This park and boat landing is located in the Town of Black Wolf off the southwest shore of Lake Winnebago. It has boat trailer parking, a public boat launch, restrooms, and a picnic area.

### **Boom Bay Boat Landing**

This landing derives its name from the rafts of logs or "booms" that logging companies once secured in a section of the bay north of the current launch area. The current landing opens onto the east side of Lake Poygan. The site hosts a portable toilet (seasonal), parking, and a public boat launch.

### **Eureka Boat Landing**

A huge fishing site, this landing is especially popular in the spring, during the walleye and bass runs on the Fox River. Anglers also pursue catfish from a wharf along the shoreline and from boats, which can be launched from three ramps at the landing. Amenities include picnic tables, a picnic shelter, portable toilet (seasonal), playground, and public boat launch.

### **Jerry Finch Dog Park**

Jerry Finch Dog Park is a fenced, woodsy, off-leash dog park that provides a safe and secure environment for owners to exercise their dogs. The park includes ample parking, a small dog/puppy area, a large dog area, and trails.

### **Osh-O-Nee Boat Landing at Grundman Park**

Anglers and boaters can access Lake Winnebago via public launch ramps and two docks. The landing is known for its walleye and perch fishing access and scenic picnic spot. The park and landing are located on the east side of Grundman Lane. The landing hosts picnic tables, an event kiosk, and a portable toilet (seasonal).

The Winnebago County Board of Supervisors approved \$1.8 million to improve and renovate this landing. Supporting grants from the Fox River/Green Bay Natural Resource Trustee Council and the WI DNR Recreational Boating Fund are funding approximately 63% the project. The improvements will address several issues at the boat landing, including expanded parking, larger staging area, additional launches, safer layout, improved lighting, bathroom facilities, small shelter, floating dock, kayak launch, and enhanced walking trail. Construction began in spring 2023 and is expected to be complete before spring 2024.

### **Lake Butte des Morts Boat Landing**

Popular for its fishing and boating access to Lake Butte Des Morts, this landing provides an ADA fishing pier, harbor and public boat launch. The landing hosts picnic tables, a picnic shelter, and a portable toilet (seasonal).

### **Lake Poygan Boat Landing**

This landing provides access to the south shore of Lake Poygan, offering excellent fishing year-round. A picnic table, a portable toilet (seasonal), and public boat launch are on site.

### **Waukau Creek Nature Preserve and Waukau Dam**

This 65-acre preserve features Waukau Creek (formerly known as Rush Creek), the only flowing stream in the county, and is located north of the Village of Waukau on Delhi Road off of CTH K. Self-guided nature trails with interpretive signs teach hikers of all ages about the site. The trails are rustic and spur self-guided x-country skiing or snow-shoeing opportunities in the winter. Picnic tables, portable toilet (seasonal), and a rough fish holding pond with many fish species are among the other amenities. The WDNR holds regulation devices on the pond that control water levels and diverts the flow into the creek. Wildlife viewing of many birds can also be seen including kingfishers, green herons, and mallards. The Town of Rushford also utilizes a dry hydrant to fill their tanker trucks from the pond in emergencies.





*WIOUWASH State Trail*

### **Coughlin Nature Area**

Located off of CTH Y next to the J.P. Coughlin Center and a short walk from Winnebago County Park, the Coughlin Nature Area offers one mile of walking paths with educational signage about the site's wildlife. During the winter months, the paths become snowshoe trails. Dedicated in October 1998, the area also includes a Memorial Tree Grove.

### **Lasley Point Archeological Site**

The wilds of the Lasley Point Archeological Site mark the spot where a Native American village once thrived. Between 1200 and 1500 AD, this 47.7-acre area supported an Oneota Indian village. In the early 1940's, and as late as 2017, archaeological digs took place in the area uncovering broken bone tools, shells, human bones, copper flakes, charcoal, and pottery; early garden beds and cache pits were also discovered. The area was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1979 and was purchased two years later by the Winnebago County Historical Society. The site currently supports beautiful oak, hickory, basswood, and ash woodlands with dense shrubbery underneath.

Trails weave throughout the woods, offering glimpses of the numerous varieties of wildflowers during the warm season. In the winter months, the site hosts self-guided cross-country ski and snowshoe trails. The archeological site also supports sizable populations of small mammals and songbirds. A small parking area is located off Lasley Point Road. Camping is prohibited and no dogs are allowed on the site.

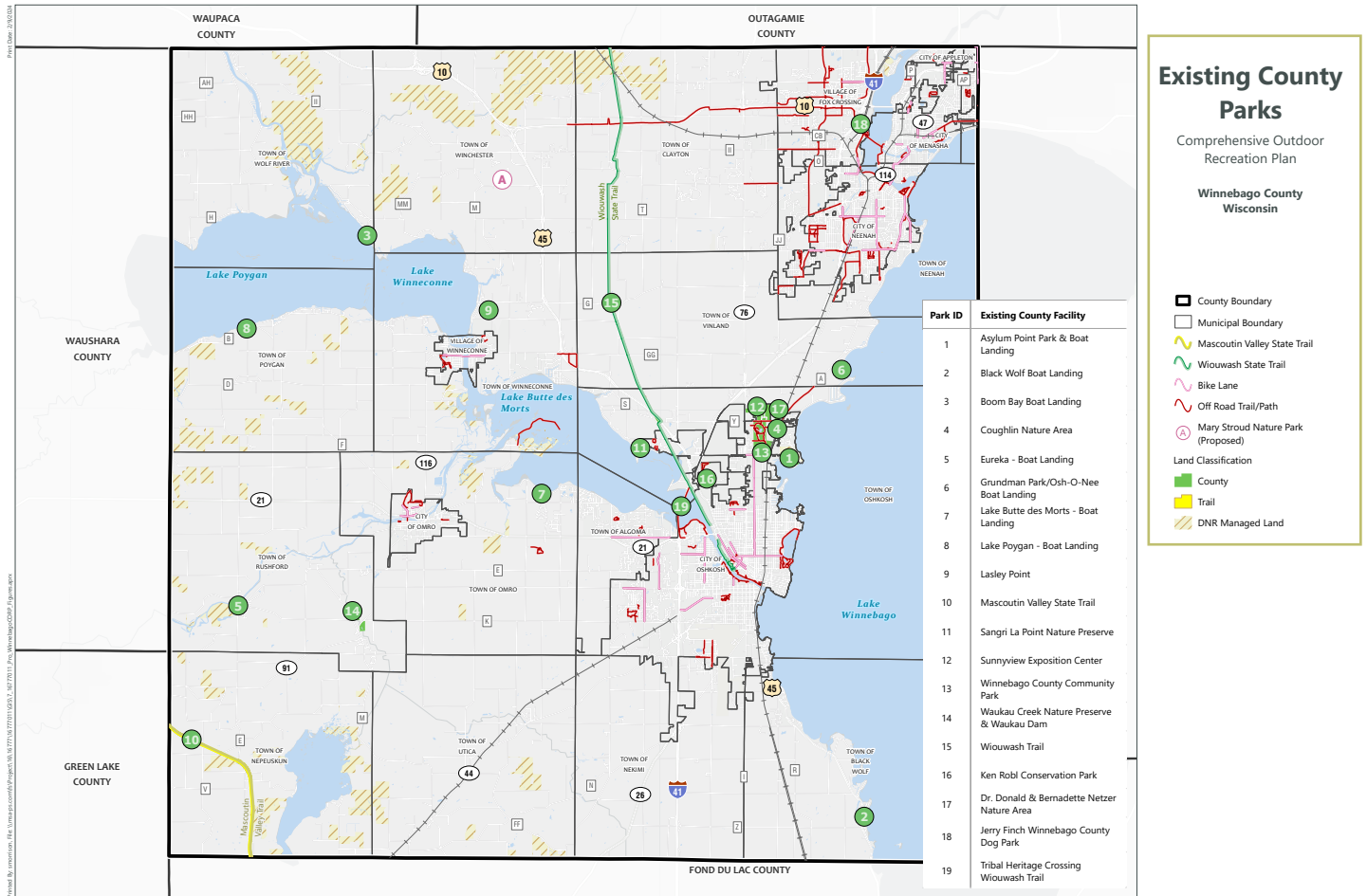
### **Ken Robl Conservation Park**

Located at 3396 Walter Street in Oshkosh, this conservation park was dedicated on July 18, 2018. The site includes hiking and biking trails, and two ponds. People can view wildlife or fish from an accessible pier made of recycled plastic. This site was formerly a landfill and was converted into a park as part of a remediation program funded by Winnebago County Solid Waste Department's trust. A fence separates the remaining landfill operations and mound.

Landfilling was complete in 1989, with a final cover was installed in 1991. The site sat idle until the park was established in 2018. It is named after Ken Robl in honor of his 39 years as a Winnebago County Board member and Solid Waste Committee participant.



Figure 2.1 Existing Parks & Trails Map



### Netzer Nature Area

The Netzer Nature Area is the most recent parkland to be acquired by Winnebago County, with 20 acres purchases in 2019 and another 20 acres purchased in 2023. This area is located just north of the Sunnyview Exposition Center and is named in honor of Dr. Donald (Doc) and Bernadette Netzer. The area is not currently open to the public.

### Mascoutin Valley State Recreational Trail

The Winnebago County portion of the Mascoutin Valley State Trail is 5.3 miles long. The trail provides a beautiful backdrop for walking, hiking, bicycling, and horseback riding during the summer and cross-country skiing and snowmobiling during the winter.

With a crushed limestone base, the trail runs through the southwest corner of Winnebago County and continues on into both Green Lake and Fond du Lac Counties. The trail also passes through the Eldorado Marsh and ends in the City of Berlin. While is a state trail, the portion of the trail that cuts through Winnebago is maintained by the County.

### WIOUWASH State Recreational Trail

The WIOUWASH trail runs on an abandoned 21.8-mile railroad corridor and is named for the 4 counties it crosses through: Winnebago, Outagamie, Waupaca, and Shawano. A part of the Rails to Trails Program of the WDNR, its flat base is good for walkers, hikers, bikers, horseback riders, and snowmobilers. The Winnebago County portion of the trail runs from Oshkosh north through Winnebago and Outagamie counties and ends in the Village of Hortonville. The trail will ultimately extend from Oshkosh northward through Langlade County. It enters Shawano County near Split Rock and passes through the Villages of Tigerton, Wittenberg, Eland, and Birnamwood near the county’s western border. Several gaps must be developed before a continuous trail is in place (including the segment from Birnamwood north through Aniwa to the Langlade County line). Ongoing efforts are underway to acquire right-of-way or obtain the necessary easements to complete the trail. Once completed, the Shawano County portion of the WIOUWASH Trail will be approximately 30 miles in length.

### **Tribal Heritage Crossing Trail**

The Tribal Heritage Crossing is a unique bicycle and pedestrian crossing over Lake Butte des Morts along US 41 and connects to the WIOUWASH trail at its north edge. The Lake Butte Des Morts causeway originally opened in 1955 and underwent rehabilitation in 2013, which included the creation of the protected bicycle and pedestrian path. The Tribal Heritage Crossing provides access to fishing and recounts the history of Wisconsin's eleven original Native American Tribes via an information kiosk overlooking the lake. There are 13 overlooks along the crossing, each featuring educational signage.

## **2.5 REGIONAL RECREATION DESTINATIONS**

Within an hour drive of Winnebago County's Community Park and Sunnyview Expo Center are 4 state park facilities: Hartman Creek State Park, Lost Dauphin State Park, Heritage Hill State Park, and High Cliff State Park. Even more state parks are located along the shores of Lake Michigan, about a 90-minute drive away, making Winnebago County a central destination for recreational opportunities. The City of Madison and Wisconsin Dells are just under 2 hours away and also offer exceptional camping, hiking, boating, fishing, and tourism prospects.



*Asylum Point County Park and Boat Landing*



Winnebago County  
Parks



# CHAPTER 3

## GOALS & STRATEGIES

# GOALS & STRATEGIES

## 3.1 GOALS, OBJECTIVES, & POLICIES

### Parks Mission & Vision Statement

“Winnebago County is committed to providing equitable and high-quality open spaces to its residents by emphasizing the distribution of recreation within the urban areas as well as giving consideration to the rural places.”

### Outdoor Recreation

**Goal 1:** Provide, throughout Winnebago County, a planned system of parks and recreation areas that will enable county residents and visitors to participate in and enjoy a diversity of recreational activities.

#### Objectives:

- Use sound planning principles in the design and development of all parks and park facilities by ensuring cost-effective measures in initial design and future maintenance.
- Acquire and develop recreation lands needed to meet the demand for high quality recreational facilities for the residents of Winnebago County.
- Cooperate with other public and private entities in identifying jurisdictional responsibility for providing needed recreational areas.
- Encourage maximum and appropriate use of all public recreation lands within the county. As part of this objective, encourage a policy of intergovernmental cooperation, particularly between communities and adjacent towns, in providing and utilizing recreational facilities, as a way of avoiding unnecessary duplication of facilities and associated costs.
- Preserve, obtain, and develop an appropriate level of public access to rivers, lakes, and streams to maximize their potential as recreational resources.
- Link major county and community recreation areas by utilizing natural watercourses, geologic features, and transportation or utility rights-of-way.

- Encourage a high standard of maintenance in the county park system as a way of promoting the county’s park and recreation facilities.
- Promote linkages to trails on-street and off where appropriate, to provide a county network.
- Create ADA compliant trails and boat landings (where possible) to accommodate individuals who are physically challenged by providing a safe recreational activity, making it accessible to all.
- Encourage partnership with re:Th!nk Winnebago on health issues related to recreational resources and planning.

### Natural & Cultural Resources

**Goal 2:** Preserve scarce and valuable resources important to the ecological, sociological, and economic life of the county.

#### Objectives:

- Encourage the preservation and enhancement of the county’s natural features and protect them from encroachment by all man-made intensive development.
- Protect and preserve the intrinsic value of the county’s wildlife and fishery resources.
- Work with the Winnebago County Land & Water Conservation Department to conserve trees and other vegetation needed to prevent erosion, siltation and floods, and to protect air and water quality.
- Maintain the quality of the county’s lakes, by leveraging the means to prevent or minimize the introduction of invasive species. Work with the WDNR Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator for the Region.
- Conserve lands with soils and terrain highly suitable for agricultural activity. Preserve wetlands necessary for continued fisheries and wildlife habitats and groundwater recharge purposes.
- Use Winnebago County’s Geographic Information System (WINGS) to identify all recreational and cultural sites in the county, including cemeteries.

## Public Participation

**Goal 3:** To encourage continued involvement of all county residents when planning for parks and recreational development.

### Objectives:

- Encourage ongoing participation by all residents at County Parks Committee meetings.
- Continue to keep good relationships with surrounding property owners adjacent to county owned parks and facilities.
- Keep in contact with local municipalities within the county and use the resources they offer as a support network.
- Explore the support of community groups, service organizations, clubs, and volunteers to secure potential funding and/or for make improvements to the county parks system through increased recreational opportunities, i.e. re:Th!nk Winnebago, WPRA, NEWPRO, Rotary, Fox Cities Greenways, BAGO Tracks and Trails, Oshkosh Cycling Club and the like.
- Continue to solicit comments from residents on all aspects of park and recreational programming and management via emails, online polls, surveys, etc.
- Encourage residents to support the Sesquicentennial “Memorial Tree Grove” and benches along trails and in parks through donations.
- Continue partner relationship with Convention & Visitor’s Bureau to collaborate on marketing efforts.

## COMPLYING WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

The ADA, enacted in 1990, clearly states the right of equal access for persons to local government services, including parks. On September 15, 2010 the Department of Justice published revised final regulations implementing the Americans with Disabilities Act. The 2010 Standards included new provisions for accessible design for recreational facilities such as playgrounds, swimming pools, fishing and golf facilities. Similar to when the original 1991 ADA Standards were adopted for public buildings, a community is required to complete a self-evaluation of their recreational facilities for ADA compliance by March 15, 2012. Those communities with 50 or more full or part-time employees are also required to develop a Transition Plan, which identifies what corrective work will be completed, when it will be completed, and the individual responsible for the corrective work. Any new recreational facilities designed, constructed, or shaped after March 15, 2012 are subject to the 2010 Standards. Any alteration (not simple maintenance, but something that changes the way the site is used) must make the element altered accessible and must create an accessible path of travel through the site or facility to that element.

There are some fundamental differences in how accessibility in the outdoors is accommodated compared to indoors or the built environment. While restrooms, shelters, interpretive centers, and parking lots, for example, need to follow detailed ADA guidelines, other improvements such as trails or swimming beach areas, for example, do not necessarily need to follow indoor or built environment ramp grades or surfacing requirements. A good rule of thumb for the City to follow is that anything constructed must not make the outdoor experience anymore difficult than what occurs naturally. Mother Nature does not have to comply with ADA, but the City does.

The New England ADA Center is a good resource to use and offers checklists to evaluate accessibility at existing park facilities. The fillable checklist forms can be found here: <http://www.adachecklist.org/checklist.html#rec>



Winnebago County  
Parks

# CHAPTER 4

## ANALYSIS OF NEEDS AND DEMANDS

# ANALYSIS OF NEEDS & DEMANDS

This chapter presents an analysis of how well the County's existing park and recreation facilities satisfy current needs. The adequacy of the County's existing park and recreation systems are evaluated using the following methods:

- **Quantitative Analysis** – an analysis of existing county parkland acreage against projected population growth and national and county service standards
- **Geographic Analysis** - an analysis of geographic access to the county's park and recreational facilities
- **Qualitative Analysis** - a summary of the public input gathered through community surveys, public input meetings, and focus groups.
- **Regional & State Insights** - a summary of the demand trends in recreational amenities at the regional and state level.

- This acreage primarily includes state and/or federal forests, wildlife areas, hunting preserves, and other lands which have development limited to that needed to accommodate extensive recreational activities such as hiking, nature study, cross-country skiing, hunting and fishing.

- 30 acres of active recreational open space. This acreage includes portions of state and other regional/county parks designed to accommodate intensive recreational activities such as picnic areas, campgrounds, swimming beaches, ball fields, and play areas. Also included are privately operated facilities such as campgrounds and golf courses that are open to the general public, and parkland owned by local municipalities. This standard is broken by entity as follows:

- Active parkland provided by the County: 15 acres/1,000
- Active parkland provided by local municipalities: 10 acres/1,000
- Active parkland provided by the private sector: 5 acres/1,000

## 4.1 QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS

To determine the overall demand for park and recreational land in Winnebago County, the county utilizes a standard of a minimum of 100 acres of available open space/outdoor recreational land per 1,000 people. According to the Wisconsin Department of Administration (WDOA), the County's population in 2023 was 172,369 people. Applying the 100 acres per 1,000 people standard, the County (inclusive of parks owned by municipalities located within the county) should be providing approximately 17,237 acres, comprised of a 70/30 split of passive and active recreational space as noted below:

The 10 acres of parkland per 1,000 provided by local municipalities (Neenah, Oshkosh, Menasha, etc.) standard comes from the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) and it intended to serve residents local, day-to-day recreational needs. In 2023, the County has an overall surplus of 1,194 acres of parkland. However, it is not meeting the standards for County-owned facilities or municipally owned facilities. Looking forward to 2040, a deficit of 284 acres of total parkland is projected as the population is expected to grow by over 15,000 people.

Table 4.1 Winnebago County Parkland Acreage Demand Analysis

Standard	Existing Acres	Recommended Acres Needed per 1,000 People by Year					Surplus or Deficiency (+/-)				
		2023	2025	2030	2035	2040	2023	2025	2030	2035	2040
Jurisdiction	Provided	172,369	177,554	182,835	185,771	187,147					
State/ Federal (70A/1,000)	13,197	12,066	12,429	12,798	13,004	13,100	1,131	768	399	193	97
County (15A/1,000)	2,532	2,586	2,663	2,743	2,787	2,807	-54	-131	-211	-255	-275
Private Sector (5A/1,000)	1,404	862	888	914	929	936	542	516	490	475	468
Municipalities (10A/1,000)	1,298	1,724	1,776	1,828	1,858	1,871	-426	-478	-531	-560	-574
<b>Total (100 acres/1,000)</b>	<b>18,431</b>	<b>17,237</b>	<b>17,755</b>	<b>18,283</b>	<b>18,577</b>	<b>18,715</b>	<b>1,194</b>	<b>675</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>-146</b>	<b>-284</b>



## 4.2 GEOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

Appendix B, Map 2 in the appendix depicts the park service area for Winnebago County. To evaluate how well the county's park facilities are distributed geographically throughout the county, a 15-minute driving radius was drawn around each county-owned facility. These radii are combined together to represent the total area within the county (in green) where a county-owned park, nature area, or boat landing can be reached within a roughly 15-minute drive. Overall, Map 2 shows that the majority of the county is covered by the 15-minute drive park service area standard and extends into all adjacent counties bordering Winnebago. County residential zoning districts are represented on Map 2 in the areas not covered by the park service area to reflect where residents are most likely to live; this includes small areas along the southern shore of Lake Butte des Morts, northern shore of Lake Poygan, and in the Town of Wolf River. The northwest corner of the County (Town of Wolf River) is the primary area of the county not within a roughly 15-minute drive of a county-owned recreational facility.

Esri ArcGIS Business Analyst was utilized to gain specific insight into the demographic makeup of individuals within a 15-minute drive of each facility (Appendix A, Supplemental Tables). Table 4.1 summarizes key demographic data for 2022 and projected changes through 2027. Key takeaways from this analysis include:

- Many areas around the county are projected to lose population by 2027, with the 15-minute driving radius around the Lake Butte Des Morts boat landing seeing the largest decrease (-300 people).
- All areas of the county are projected to see increase in their non-white populations through 2027, with increases ranging from 0.3% to 1.3%.
- With the exception of the driving service area around the Lake Poygan boat landing, all county-owned facilities are expected to see a slight decrease in the youth population (under 20 years old). The youth population around the Lake Poygan boat landing is projected to increase from 11% to 20% between 2022 and 2027.
- All areas of the county are projected to see increase in their senior populations through 2027, with the 15-minute driving radius around the Sunnyview Expo Center seeing the largest increase at 7.7%.
- The county facility with residents with lowest 2022 median income within a 15-minute drive was Asylum Point Park and Boat Landing at \$37,711; the Boom Bay Boat Landing had the highest median income residents within a 15-minute drive at \$93,578.



*Coughlin Nature Preserve*

## 4.3 QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS

### County Park System-Wide Survey

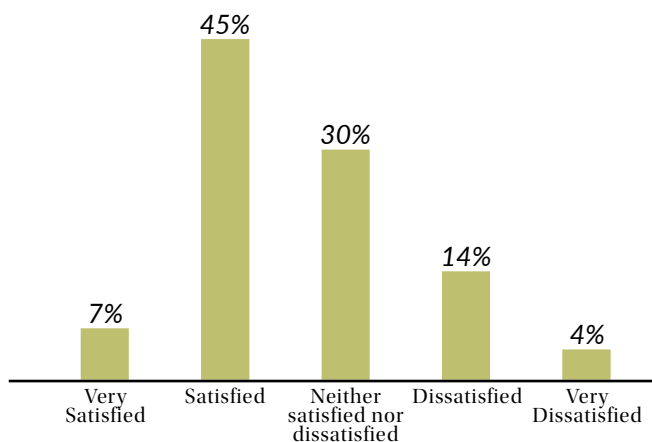
Community members participating in this survey overall noted a desire to see dedicated bike routes that connect to the Wiouwash State Trail and the cities and park systems of Oshkosh, Neenah, Algoma, and Winneconne to each other, especially through natural, scenic areas and along the lakes. Additionally, these community members would like to see safety improvements through protected bike lanes along busier streets, or paved trail sections separate from the roads. Other than walking or biking, survey takers enjoy participating in many other active recreation opportunities in the parks throughout Winnebago County, especially pickleball, soccer, disc golf, boating, and fishing.

Total Responses: ~548<sup>1</sup>

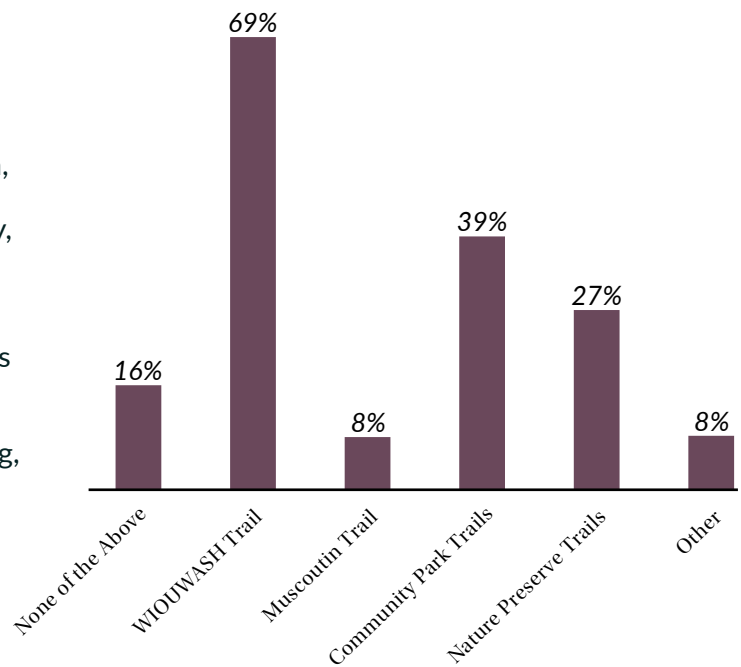
### Respondent Demographics:

- 87% between 35 and 65+ years old
- 50% had children under the age of 18 living at home
- 54% lived in the City of Oshkosh and 12% in the Town of Algoma
- 61% have lived in Winnebago County for more than 20 years.

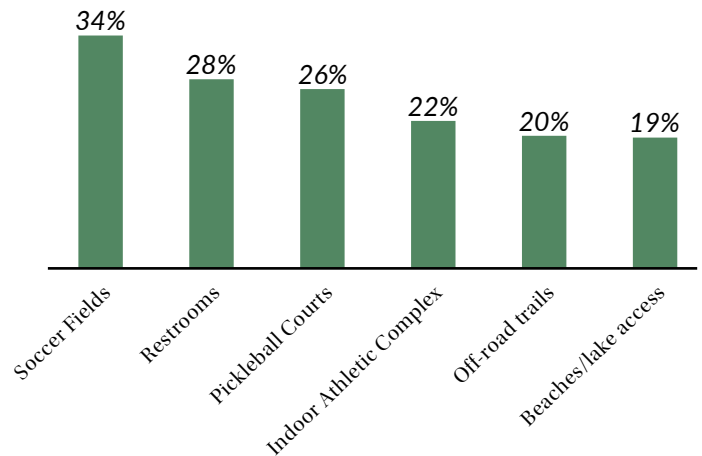
Please select your satisfaction level with the condition of the parks/facilities you visit.



What trail(s) do you use in Winnebago County?

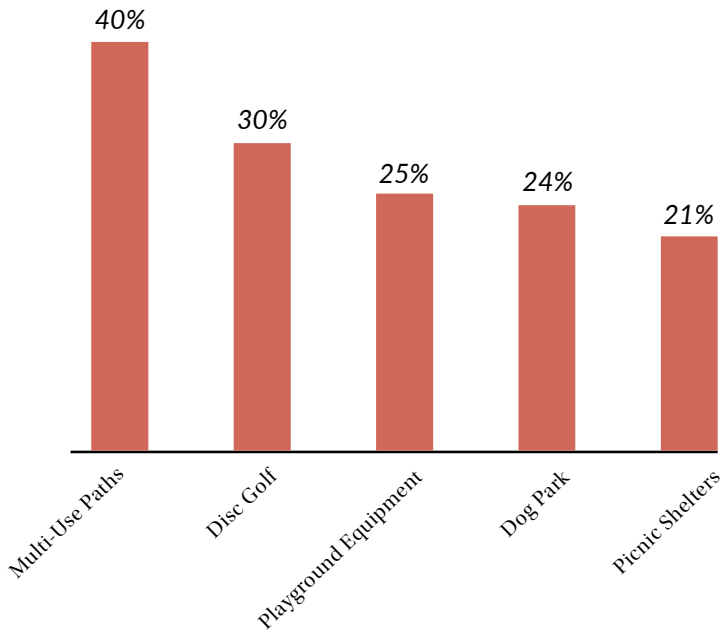


Which of the following amenities would you like to be added, improved, or expanded either by public or private entities?



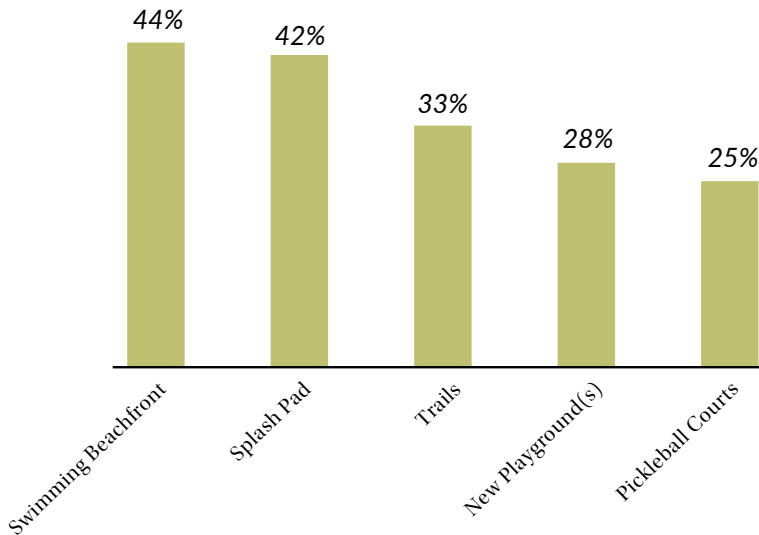
<sup>1</sup> Survey questions were not required; therefore, the response rate varies question by question. 548 people answered the first survey question while 208 people answered the last. There was a total of 20 questions.

What Facilities do members of your household enjoy or use most frequently at Winnebago County Community Park?



Winnebago County Community Park

Are there new facilities you'd like to see added to the park in the coming years?



### Winnebago Community Park Survey

Survey respondents indicated that many facilities in need of attention at Winnebago Community Park, especially the disc golf courses, the dog park, the playground equipment, the rugby fields, and the sports courts. Survey takers would like to see various improvements around the park, including more pickleball courts, updated playground equipment, and improved disc golf course amenities. Overall, community members enjoy the serenity and natural beauty of Winnebago Community Park and the many amenities available there.

Total Responses: ~291 <sup>2</sup>

#### Respondent Demographics:

- 60% between 19 and 44 years old
- 53% did not have children under the age of 18 living at home
- 56% lived in the City of Oshkosh
- 50% have lived in Winnebago County for more than 20 years.

<sup>2</sup> Survey questions were not required; therefore, the response rate varies question by question. 291 people answered the first survey question while 114 people answered the last. There was a total of 11 questions.



## Public Input Meetings

Two public input meetings (PIM) were held during this planning process. The first PIM was held on August 1, 2023, and the second was held on December 5, 2023; both meetings were open to the public and held at the James P. Coughlin Center.

PIM 1 was attended by approximately seven members of the public and was dedicated to:

- Promoting the county-wide parks survey (via QR code)
- Reviewing the purpose of a CORP and its connection to state grant programs
- Providing an overview of the planning process
- Soliciting feedback on desired improvements to existing county park and recreation facilities

PIM 2 was also attended by approximately seven members of the public and was dedicated to:

- Soliciting feedback on the draft recommended improvements for new and existing park facilities (See Chapter 6 CIP Tables)
- Soliciting feedback on the final design concept for the Winnebago County Park Master Plan

## Winnebago County Park Design Charrette

On August 29, 2023, a focused design charrette was facilitated by MSA Landscape Architects to develop a preliminary design concept for updating the facilities at Winnebago County Community Park. This intensive design workshop was a key part of developing the master plan for the park. The workshop included members of the Winnebago County Parks and Recreation Committee and Parks and Recreation Department staff. The rough agenda for the charrette is noted below:

- On site tour with County Parks and Recreation Department staff and SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Treats) discussion.
- Meeting with Parks and Recreation Committee Members to discuss program development, community needs, and goals.
- Preliminary design and concept development by MSA Landscape Architects.
- Preliminary concept presentation to County Staff and wrap-up discussion.

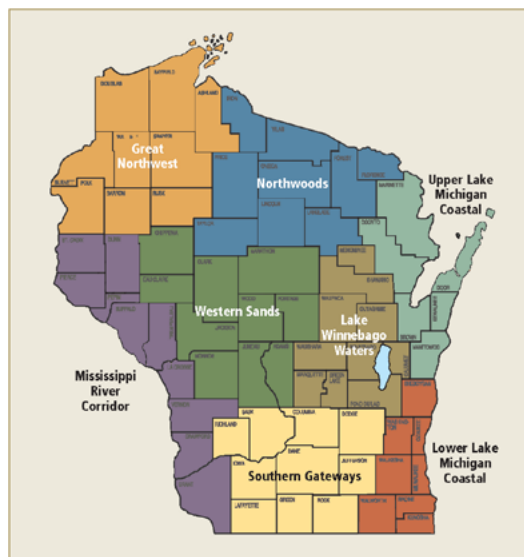


Results from Winnebago County Park Design Charrette

## Focus Groups

Three focus groups were held to gather input from specific park users and stakeholder groups regarding the County's boat launch and trail facilities, as well as a dedicated focus group for improving Winnebago County Community Park. The focus groups related to boat launches and trails were held virtually while the Winnebago County Community Park focus group was held in person at the James P. Coughlin Center. The Parks and Recreation Department compiled a list of relevant stakeholders (ex. Fox Cities Greenways, Winnebago Snowmobile Alliance, Oshkosh Youth Rugby, Oshkosh Youth Soccer, etc.) to invite to each focus group. A summary of the feedback gathered from each meeting is provided below; this feedback helped develop the recommended improvements included in Chapter 5.

Figure 2.4 Statewide DNR Regions (2022)  
 Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources



## 4.4 REGIONAL & STATE INSIGHTS

Winnebago County is located within the Lake Winnebago Waters region, as designated in the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) for 2019-2023. The plan notes the following future recreation needs for this region as the highest priority:

- Bicycling – bicycling touring/road riding
- Bicycling – mountain biking/off-road biking
- Bird or wildlife watching
- Camping – developed
- Camping – primitive
- Canoeing or kayaking
- Cross country skiing
- Dog walking
- Fishing – lake fishing from a boat, canoe or kayak
- Fishing – lake fishing from shore or a pier
- Fishing – river fishing from a boat, canoe or kayak
- Fishing – stream or river fishing from shore or wading
- Hiking, walking, trail running, backpacking
- Hunting – big game
- Motorboating (waterski/tubing, personal watercraft)
- Nature photography
- Participating in nature-based education programs
- Picnicking
- Swimming in lakes and rivers
- Visiting a beach, beach walking

### Focus Groups

#### Boat Launch Focus Group (10/3/2023)

- The county should explore purchasing land near the Black Wolf Boat Launch to expand its parking facilities since the parking lot is often full during the boating season.
- The county should ensure all launches have life preservers.
- Long-term, the County should prioritize restrooms (permanent or outhouses) at each launch.

#### Trail Users Focus Group (9/28/2023)

- The County’s top priority should be developing safe bicycle and pedestrian connections to the Mascoutin and WIOUWASH state trails from each municipality within the County.
- A safe east-west bicycle/pedestrian connection is needed in the Town of Winneconne, as well as a connection to Lake Butte Des Morts and the WIOUWASH state trail.
- Breezewood Ln is good corridor to connect the City of Neenah to the WIOUWASH state trail, and there is land potentially available to build a parking lot/information kiosk near the intersection of the state trail and Breezewood.
- The County should explore opportunities to continue the off-road trail along Hwy A to connect Neenah and Oshkosh.

#### Winnebago County Community Park (9/18/2023)

- For rugby users, field 3 is the highest priority for maintenance, but their top priority long-term is adding another field.
- The top priority for disc golf users is replacing the existing baskets.
- Pickleball users would like to see up to eight additional courts added, with lights long-term.
- The top priorities for soccer organizations were to reseed or replace the turf for existing fields, create safe pedestrian paths to the fields away from roads and parking lots, and add additional fields over the long-term.
- The top priority for organizers with the Hmong Community Festivals (held at the park on Memorial and Labor Day) were to expand parking opportunities and protect the open areas near east of the soccer fields for their softball tournaments held during the festivals. Stabilizing the field/open area along the northwest edge of the park from flooding to allow for flexible parking during the festivals was also identified.



Winnebago County  
Parks



# CHAPTER 5

## RECOMMENDATIONS

# RECOMMENDATIONS

The quantitative, qualitative, and geographic analysis discussed in Chapter 4 reveals the need for improvements to existing facilities, as well as the potential acquisition and development of new sites for future recreational use. It should be noted that some of the recommendations may require considerable cooperation with others, including local civic and business associations, Winnebago County municipalities, and State agencies. In nearly every case, more detailed planning, engineering, study, budgeting, and/or discussion will be necessary before decisions are made to actually acquire land or construct recreational facilities.

The recommendations of this plan are divided into five major sections:

1. General Park System Recommendations
2. Recommendations for existing park facilities
3. Recommendations for new park facilities
4. Recommendations for recreational trails

The timeline for completion of the recommendations is within the next five years, or the life of this plan. Due to budgetary constraints, it is unlikely that all of the recommendations within this chapter will be implemented in the next five years. Maintenance and improvement projects will be prioritized on an annual basis by the Parks & Expo Director in conjunction with the County Board of Supervisors as part of the annual budget process. Any of the recommendations regarding new park locations will require extensive coordination; therefore, the timing is more variable.

## 5.1 GENERAL PARK SYSTEM RECOMMENDATIONS

### Natural & Cultural Resources

Winnebago County's numerous natural and cultural resources make it a popular recreation area for residents and visitors while providing an enhanced quality of life. The county's natural resources offer a wide variety of passive recreational opportunities that require a minimum amount of development, while its cultural resources provide insight into the county's past which, if lost, are irreplaceable. The County, therefore, should take an active role in preserving and enhancing these unique resources. To do this, it is recommended that the County:

- Continue to work with local municipalities to encourage changes/updates to adopted local land use plans, which are used to provide insight into the county-wide outdoor recreation plan. Such plans have enabled the County and local units of government to make more informed and effective decisions on future land use proposals.
- Encourage innovative development proposals that protect important resources, such as wetlands, lakeshores, river corridors, prime agricultural lands, and other areas of natural or cultural significance. Strategies that stimulate this type of development should be encouraged in all local land use plans and, if necessary, appropriate language added to County-administered zoning and subdivision ordinances. The County's Solid Waste Management Plan, Farmland Preservation Plan, and the Land and Water Resources Management Plan are existing documents that provide a sound basis for wise use of these resources.

- Continue to encourage farmers to implement sound agricultural practices, particularly those that control erosion and protect groundwater as well as run-off of phosphorus and nitrates via the County's Conservation Management Plan.
- Continue to support efforts by the WDNR and other public and private entities to ensure the long-term protection of high-quality wildlife and fishery resources within the county. These resources, not only have intrinsic value, but support the quality of life enjoyed by county residents, provide recreational opportunities, and contribute to local economies.
- Continue to work with the WDNR, other state agencies, and the private sector to provide multiple-use facilities for activities such as; hiking, nature study, cross-country skiing, hunting, and fishing where appropriate on county and state-owned lands.
- Make use of the County's Geographic Information System (GIS) (WINGS) to identify archeological and historical sites within the county, including cemeteries whenever possible. As a component of this activity, encourage local historical societies to work closely with the County to collectively undertake an up-to-date inventory of these sites. Steps should be taken to have significant sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places were pertinent. Additional promotion of historic sites should be considered.
- Maintain efforts to identify prioritize, survey, and clearly mark existing county park.
- boundaries. Marked boundary lines are important not only for park users and maintenance personnel, but also for adjacent property owners.
- Continue to work with groups such as re:Th!nk Winnebago to promote healthy lifestyles and active recreation opportunities throughout the county, while supporting Safe Routes to School (SRTS) and Safe Routes to Parks (SRTP) programs and leaders.



*Ken Robl Conservation Park*

**Parks & Recreation Maintenance**

The recommendations proposed are to be used as a guide for implementing the County's 5-year action program. Among the highlights are; placing emphasis on ADA compliance for all existing and new facilities, upgrading restrooms and other ancillary facilities, and maintaining existing recreational opportunities through an adequate maintenance program. These improvements will make the county's parks more user-friendly and more attractive for group outings. The committee has also made recommendations to address those recreational opportunities that are not necessarily dependent on publicly owned land such as clubs and groups. These opportunities are an important ingredient of the county's overall recreational system and attract visitor dollars for the economy. With the new Sunnyview Stadium stage, more events can be added as well as a tourism base for concerts.



*Sunnyville Exposition Center*

## 5.2 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EXISTING PARKS & TRAIL FACILITIES

The following section details specific recommendations for each existing county-owned facility. Table 6.1 in Chapter 6 summarizes these recommendations, and includes timeframes for implementation.

### **County-Wide Boat Recommendations**

- Ensure all county boat launches have life preservers.

### **County-Wide Trail Recommendations**

- Pave from UW-O to Lake Butte Des Morts Drive.

- Explore opportunities to extend existing trail along Hwy A to connect the Cities of Neenah and Oshkosh, as identified in the 2021 Appleton and Oshkosh MPO Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan.
- Prioritize safe pedestrian/bicycle access to both state trails from all the municipalities in the county.
- Explore opportunities for connecting the Village of Winneconne and Town of Winneconne to the WIOUWASH Trail.

# BOAT LAUNCHES





# ASLYLUM POINT PARK & BOAT LANDING

Park Address: 3395 Sherman Road  
Oshkosh, WI  
Park Size: 79.1 acres

Recommendations		
Improvement	Priority	Cost Estimate
Add a self service kayak rental station.	High	\$13,333
Replace sign by boat landing.	Medium	\$5,000
Continue to maintain light house and pursue possibility of lighting it with a low solar intensity light.	Low	Maintenance
Continue to work with the WDNR and review lease on five year basis and address water quality issues for the lake.	High	\$0

## SITE PHOTOS







Park Address: 6850 Fond Du Lac Rd  
 Oshkosh, WI  
 Park Size: 3.3 acres

## BLACK WOLF BOAT LANDING (NAGY PARK)

Recommendations		
Improvement	Priority	Cost Estimate
Explore opportunities to expand parking, including purchasing adjacent land and/or reconfiguring current lot.	Medium	TBD
Add more lighting for safety.	Medium	~\$20,000
Maintain roof of restroom facility	Medium	Maintenance



# BOOM BAY BOAT LANDING

Park Address: 7499 Richter Ln  
Larsen, WI  
Park Size: 0.8 acres

Recommendations		
Improvement	Priority	Cost Estimate
Install signage or hazard buoys to divert boaters aware from shallow/hazardous areas.	High	~400/bouy
Repair and repave parking lot.	High	\$125,000

## SITE PHOTOS







Park Address: 3101 Liberty St  
Eureka, WI  
Park Size: 6.3 acres

# EUREKA BOAT LANDING

Recommendations		
Improvement	Priority	Cost Estimate
Repair concrete landing on Fox River.	High	\$125,000
Add a self service kayak rental station.	High	\$13,333
Replace playground and dredge landing.	Low	\$300,000
Trim trees next to pier.	Medium	Maintenance
Update historical site and marker by adding a crushed gravel path from parking area to the sign and well as a path to the launch and pier.	Low	\$100,000

## SITE PHOTOS







# GRUNDMAN PARK/ OSH-O-NEE BOAT LANDING

Park Address: Grundman Ln  
Oshkosh, WI  
Park Size: 12.1 acres

Recommendations		
Improvement	Priority	Cost Estimate
Add a self service kayak rental station.	High	\$13,333
Clear out vegetation growth and brush at the launch, causeway path and main sign. Update main sign to consistent signage.	Medium	Maintenance

## SITE PHOTOS





Park Address: 8816 Poygan Shores Ln  
Winneconne, WI  
Park Size: 6.3 acres

# LAKE POYGAN BOAT LANDING

Recommendations		
Improvement	Priority	Cost Estimate
Repair Landing.	High	\$200,000





# LAKE BUTTE DES MORTS BOAT LANDING

Park Address: 210 Robert Street  
Park Size: 1.4 acres

Recommendations		
Improvement	Priority	Cost Estimate
Improvement Projects: Add additional parking; dredge boat landing; add restroom; update site lighting; and add a self service kayak rental stations.	Medium	2025: \$129,990 2026: \$1,299,840



# NATURE PRESERVES & CONSERVATION PARKS



# KEN ROBL CONSERVATION PARK

Park Address: 3396 Walter St  
Oshkosh, WI  
Park Size: 39.0 acres

Recommendations		
Improvement	Priority	Cost Estimate
Maintain pond weeds and fix areas of washout on trails.	Low	Maintenance

## SITE PHOTOS







Park Address: 625 E City Road Y  
 Winneconne, WI  
 Park Size: 35.1 acres

# COUGHLIN NATURE AREA

Recommendations		
Improvement	Priority	Cost Estimate
Replace dedication sign and install a consistent main entrance sign.	Medium	\$1,000-\$2,500
Remove planter boxes at entrance and construct an appropriate formal entrance statement.	Medium	\$1,000-\$2,500
Maintain trails and clear brush on a routine basis. Remove or replace aluminum vole habitat areas. Add mile markers.	Medium	Maintenance
Initiate Invasive Species Control program. Work with the WDNR on prescribed burns and rotate areas from year to year.	Medium	Maintenance

## SITE PHOTOS





# SHANGRI LA POINT NATURE PRESERVE

Park Address: Shangri La Point Rd  
Oshkosh, WI  
Park Size: 55.0 acres

Recommendations		
Improvement	Priority	Cost Estimate
Add parking and provide site access.	Medium	\$287,580





Park Address: 2951 Delhi Road  
Omro, WI  
Park Size: 65.4 acres

# WAUKAU CREEK NATURE PRESERVE AND DAM

Recommendations		
Improvement	Priority	Cost Estimate
Park improvements/Enhancements: repave parking lot, add site lighting, reinforce pond embankment, install additional fishing docks, and improve access to single track bike trail.	High	2024: \$751,816 2025: \$751,816
Reroute trail system due to wash out and repair approaches to bridges.	High	Maintenance
Install an education kiosk with an updated map to serve the trail; the Audubon Society uses the trails as a teaching tool.	Medium	\$2,500
Install limited picnic facilities.	Low	\$25,000

## SITE PHOTOS





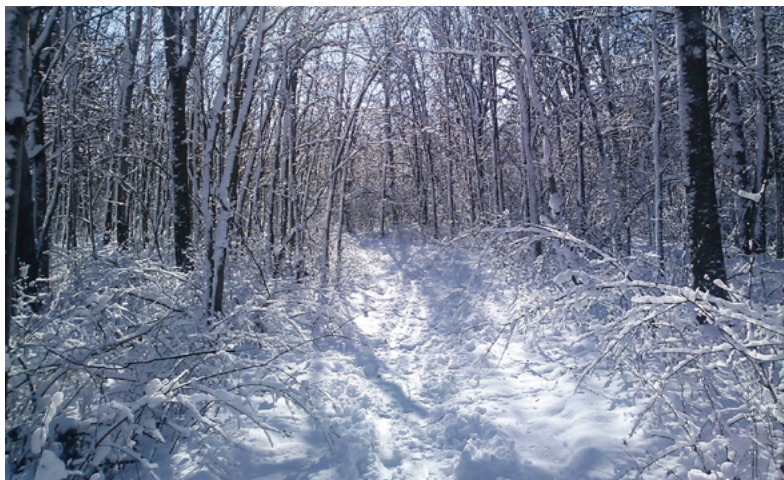


# LASLEY POINT ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE

Park Address: 5832 Lasley Point Road  
Winneconne, WI  
Park Size: 47.7 acres

Recommendations		
Improvement	Priority	Cost Estimate
Develop site plan for property.	High	\$30,000
Maintain an accessible trail wherever possible (with exceptions since the site is protected by the State Historical Society and UW Madison). Develop video links to Facebook or web pages showing trails and routes as an alternative to hiking the trails. Continue to use hand labor from corrections when and where feasible.	Medium	Maintenance
Maintain the parking area. (Site is hidden from road, i.e. brush growth near sign and parking area).	High	Maintenance

## SITE PHOTOS





# Winnebago County Parks

# COMMUNITY PARKS & FACILITIES





Park Address: 500 E County Road Y  
 Oshkosh, WI  
 Park Size: 154.7 acres

# SUNNYVIEW EXPOSITION CENTER

Recommendations		
Improvement	Priority	Cost Estimate
Sunnyview West Campus Improvements - Repave main parking lot, update site lighting, add archway, install new storm water pond.	High	2024: \$443,253 2025: \$4,432,535
Replace breakout room dividers.	Medium	\$150,000
Reseal expo floor.	Medium	\$200,000
Fix Insulation, Sandblast and Paint Steel in the Covered Arena	Medium	\$500,000

## SITE PHOTOS





# WINNEBAGO COUNTY COMMUNITY PARK

Park Address: 500 E County Road Y  
Oshkosh, WI  
Park Size: 244.8 acres

Recommendations		
Improvement	Priority	Cost Estimate
Phase 1		
Replace Playground 3 and Construct a new shelter/ concessions stand.	High	\$1,000,000
Build the 3rd and 4th rugby field and remove the south softball field.	High	\$250,000
Properly till, grade, and seed 4 soccer fields.	High	\$360,000
Add an additional soccer field with irrigation.	High	\$250,000
Repair shelters 1, 2, and 4 and provide for ADA accommodations.	High	\$250,000
Repair and repave north parking lots. Seal Trail	High	\$257,000
Install new disc golf baskets throughout course.	High	Maintenance
Add 8 pickleball courts.	High	\$400,000



Recommendations		
Improvement	Priority	Cost Estimate
Phase II/Phase III		
Regrade area south of the dog park along the eastern edge of the park to mitigate flooding and allow for flexible parking space during large community events.	Low	\$30,000-\$40,000
Add a playground at the Soccer Shelter.	Medium	\$300,000
Replace existing pavilion near ponds with a new events center featuring outdoor gathering areas, boardwalk, and gazebo.	Medium	2026: \$450,000 2027: \$3,000,000
Enhance playground 2.	Low	\$80,000-\$100,000
Add a new parking lot west of the new rugby field (where existing south ballfield is located).	High	\$400,000-\$500,000
Install new walking paths in the southern portion of the park around soccer fields and archery course (see master plan concept).	Medium	\$300,000-\$400,000
Replace main entrance signs with updated consistent signage.	Medium	\$10,000
Install lighting at pickle ball courts.	Low	\$100,000

# SITE PHOTOS





# JERRY FINCH DOG PARK

Park Address: 210 Robert Street  
Park Size: 1.4 acres

Recommendations		
Improvement	Priority	Cost Estimate
Pave entrance to Jerry Finch Dog Park.	High	TBD

*Photo from user Fox River Kayaking Company on Google*



# TRAILS



# WIOUWASH STATE RECREATION TRAIL

Trail Address: Oshkosh to Larsen, WI  
Size: 21.8 miles

Recommendations		
Improvement	Priority	Cost Estimate
Explore possible bicycle/pedestrian pathways to connect the Town of Winneconnie to Lake Butte des Morts and the Wiouwash Trail.	Low	TBD
Develop county-owned property at the intersection of the Wiouwash Trail and Breezewood Ln into a parking lot with restroom facilities and potential pump track.	Medium	\$150,000
Improve bicycle safety (ex. protected bike lane) along Breezewood Ln to create a safe east-west connection to the Wiouwash Trail from the City of Neenah.	Medium	TBD
Explore bicycle safety enhancements along Hwy 10 to provide access to the Wiouwash Trail from the City off Appleton.	Medium	TBD
Widen bridges for snowmobile trails.	Low	\$500,000
Create a safe east-west bicycle/pedestrian crossing over Hwy 41 that connects to the Wiouwash Trail.	Medium	\$700,000
Maintain parking areas along the trail wherever possible.	Medium	Maintenance
Conduct necessary repairs to trail surface on an ongoing basis.	Medium	Maintenance



Trail Address: Ripon to Berlin, WI  
 Size: 5.3 miles

# MASCOUTIN VALLEY STATE RECREATION TRAIL

Recommendations		
Improvement	Priority	Cost Estimate
Investigate additional off-street parking along the trail.	Low	TBD
Necessary repairs to trail surface should be maintained.	Medium	Maintenance





*Asylum Point Park*

## 5.3 PROPOSED NEW PARKLAND

### **Mary Stroud Nature Center**

30 acres of land owned by the Stroud Family, located in the northern part of the county off of Grandview Rd, are proposed to become the Mary Stroud Nature Center. Acquisition of this land by the County is proposed at the time of this plan's writing with a timeline has yet to be determined.

## 5.4 PROPOSED NEW TRAILS

### **Future Trail from the City of Menasha to High Cliff State Park**

The City of Menasha, Fox Cities Community Foundation, East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, and several other communities and community partners are working together to complete a vision of connecting the Fox Cities trail system to High Cliff State Park. Guided by a master plan that was completed in 2022, this connection would allow bicyclists and pedestrians the opportunity to safely access High Cliff State Park. Once completed, this connection would provide a seamless route from Loop the Little Lake and traverse through Menasha, Harrison, and Sherwood, eventually leading to the state park. This connection will fill in critical gaps in the current trail network by improving existing trails and adding bike lanes and additional trails. In addition to connecting to the state park, residents would have improved access to local parks and community service facilities.

# CHAPTER 6

## IMPLEMENTATION

# IMPLEMENTATION

## 6.1 FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Maintenance and operational expenses for Parks & Recreation Departments are generally funded through property taxes and user fees. As the park system grows, the funding needed to meet the basic maintenance and operational costs also grows. Often there are insufficient funds to undertake major capital improvement projects. There are a wide variety of potential funding sources to assist with up-front capital costs, including acquisition of land and the development of new recreational facilities.

### **Grant Programs**

An important source of funding are grant programs offered by state and federal agencies, especially the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Table 6.1 provides a summary of common state and federal park and recreation grant programs. The table is not an exhaustive list of grant programs, rather those that are typically used by municipalities. Other grant programs may exist and information regarding funding details shown in Table 6.1 should be verified with grant providers prior to seeking grant funding.

### **Community Fundraising & Volunteer Groups**

Community groups and civic organizations are sometimes willing to organize fundraising efforts to assist with costs, and they may also be able to marshal volunteer labor to assist with small development projects such as trail creation or playground installations. Local business and corporate support should also be sought. Funders can be acknowledged with plaques, signs, or walkway bricks, including the option of park or feature naming rights for major donors.

### **501(c)3 Foundation**

The County can set up an endowment fund as an additional means of providing continual financial support for park acquisition and development. An endowment fund works like a permanent savings account. The amount individuals give, which is the principal, is never spent. Only the interest income is spent, thereby providing a continual source of monies. A park endowment fund can provide a means for residents to make gifts of any size (including estate bequests), with the certainty that the money donated will only be used for the advancement of recreation in the community. Gifts to an endowment fund are typically tax deductible under federal and state law.

### **Tax Increment Financing (TIF)**

As part of a broader plan to redevelop an area, the County can use tax increment financing to assist with parkland or trail acquisition and development. There are some limitations to what revenues from a TIF district can be used to pay for, generally the costs of constructing public buildings cannot be funded with TIF. TID are typically created for the purpose stimulating redevelopment and new public and private investments.

### **Parkland Dedication**

Per the County's Subdivision and Platting Ordinance (Chapter 18):

- Whenever a proposed park, playground, public access, open space site or other public land, other than streets or drainageways, designated in the adopted regional and County comprehensive plan components is embraced, all or in part, in a tract of land to be divided, such proposed public lands shall be made a part of the plat and shall either be dedicated to the public or reserved for acquisition at undeveloped land costs for a period not to exceed three years between the applicant and the public agency having jurisdiction. If the reserved land is not acquired by such public agency within the above time limit, the land shall be released to the owner.





*Eureka Boat Landing*

## 6.2 PLAN ADOPTION & AMENDMENT PROCEDURES

### **Parks and Recreation Committee Recommendation**

The Committee should meet to review the plan and pass a motion to recommend approval of the plan or plan amendment by the County Board of Supervisors.

### **Public Hearing**

Prior to adopting this plan, or plan amendment, the county can hold at least one public hearing to discuss the proposed plan or plan amendment; however, a public hearing is not required by the DNR to adopt this plan. If a public hearing is held, at least 30 days prior to the hearing a Class 1 notice must be published that contains, at minimum, the following:

- The date, time, and location of the hearing.
- A summary of the proposed plan or plan amendment.
- The local government staff who may be contacted for additional information.
- Where to inspect and how to obtain a copy of the proposed plan or amendment before the hearing.

The notice should also provide a method for submitting written comments, and those comments should be read or summarized at the public hearing.

### **Plan Adoption**

The plan and any future amendments become official County policy when the Board of Supervisors passes, by a majority vote of all elected members, an adoption resolution. The Board may choose to revise the plan after it has been recommended by the Parks and Recreation Committee, and after a public hearing (optional).

### **Plan Amendment vs. Plan Update**

Amendments can be made at any time, but it is best practice that the County should not amend the plan more than once per year. A common recommended approach is to establish a consistent annual schedule for consideration of minor plan amendments as needed. This plan should be updated every five years in order to maintain eligibility the WDNR Knowles-Nelson Stewardship grant funding program. Unlike an amendment, a plan update should revisit the entirety of the plan content and include more robust opportunities for public participation.

Table 6.1 CIP Recommendations					Funding Source KEY		
					5-Year County CIP	Spirit Fund/ ARPA	Operating
2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029+		
Priority Level							
<b>Boat Launch</b>							
<b>Asylum Point Park &amp; Boat Landing</b>							
Add a self service kayak rental station.	High	\$13,333					
Replace sign by boat landing.	Medium	\$5,000					
Continue to maintain light house and pursue possibility of lighting it with a low solar intensity light.	Low						TBD
Continue to work with the WDNR and review lease on five year basis and address water quality issues for the lake.	High	\$0					
<b>Black Wolf Boat Landing (Nagy Park)</b>							
Explore opportunities to expand parking, including purchasing adjacent land and/or reconfiguring current lot.	Medium				TBD		
Add more lighting for safety.	Medium						~\$20,000
Maintain roof of restroom facility	Medium					Maintenance	
<b>Boom Bay Boat Landing</b>							
Install signage or hazard buoys to divert boaters aware from shallow/hazardous areas.	High		~\$400/buoy				
Repair and repave parking lot.	High		\$125,000				
<b>Eureka Boat Landing</b>							
Repair concrete landing on Fox River.	High		\$125,000				
Add a self service kayak rental station.	High		\$13,333				
Replace playground and dredge landing.	Low						\$300,000
Trim trees next to pier.	Medium					Maintenance	
Update historical site and marker by adding a crushed gravel path from parking area to the sign and well as a path to the launch and pier.	Low						\$100,000
<b>Grundman Park / Osh-O-Nea Boat Landing</b>							
Add a self service kayak rental station.	High		\$13,333				
Clear out vegetation growth and brush at the launch, causeway path and main sign. Update main sign to consistent signage.	Medium					Maintenance	
<b>Lake Butte Des Morts Boat Landing</b>							
Improvement Projects: Add additional parking; dredge boat landing; add restroom; update site lighting; and add a self service kayak rental stations.	Medium		\$129,990		\$1,299,840		

							Funding Source KEY					
							5-Year County CIP	Spirit Fund/ ARPA	Operating			
Table 6.1 CIP Recommendations							2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029+
							Priority Level					
<b>Lake Poygan Boat Landing</b>												
Repair Landing.							High		\$200,000			
<b>County-Wide Boat Launch Recommendations</b>												
Ensure all county boat launches have life preservers.							Low					Maintenance
Nature Preserves & Conservation Park												
<b>Ken Robl Conservation Park</b>												
Maintain pond weeds and fix areas of washout on trails.							Low					Maintenance
<b>Coughlin Nature Area</b>												
Replace dedication sign and install a consistent main entrance sign.							Medium		\$1,000-\$2,500			
Remove planter boxes at entrance and construct an appropriate formal entrance statement.							Medium		\$1,000-\$2,500			
Maintain trails and clear brush on a routine basis. Remove or replace aluminum vole habitat areas. Add mile markers.							Medium					Maintenance
Initiate Invasive Species Control program. Work with the WDNR on prescribed burns and rotate areas from year to year.							Medium					Maintenance
<b>Shangri La Point Nature Preserve</b>												
Add parking and provide site access.							Medium					\$287,580
<b>Waukau Creek Nature Preserve and Waukau Dam</b>												
Park improvements/Enhancements: repave parking lot, add site lighting, reinforce pond embankment, install additional fishing docks, and improve access to single track bike trail.							High	\$751,816	\$751,816			
Reroute trail system due to wash out and repair approaches to bridges.							High	Maintenance				
Install an education kiosk with an updated map to serve the trail; the Audubon Society uses the trails as a teaching tool.							Medium		\$2,500			



Table 6.1 CIP Recommendations	Priority Level	2024	2025	2026	Funding Source KEY		
					5-Year County CIP	Spirit Fund/ ARPA	Operating
Install limited picnic facilities.	Low				2027	2028	2029+
<b>Lasley Point Archeological Site</b>							
Develop site plan for property.	High		\$30,000			\$25,000	
Maintain an accessible trail wherever possible (with exceptions since the site is protected by the State Historical Society and UW Madison). Develop video links to Facebook or web pages showing trails and routes as an alternative to hiking the trails. Continue to use hand labor from corrections when and where feasible.	Medium				Maintenance		
Maintain the parking area. (Site is hidden from road, i.e. brush growth near sign and parking area).	High	Maintenance					
<b>Community Parks &amp; Facilities</b>							
<b>Sunnyview Exposition Center</b>							
Sunnyview West Campus Improvements - Repave main parking lot, update site lighting, add archway, install new storm water pond.	High	\$443,253	\$4,432,535				
Replace breakout room dividers.	Medium	\$150,000					
Reseal expo floor.	Medium	\$200,000					
Fix Insulation, Sandblast and Paint Steel in the Covered Arena	Medium					\$500,000	
<b>Winnebago County Community Park</b>							
PHASE I:							
Replace Playground 3 and Construct a new shelter/concessions stand.	High	\$1,000,000					
Build the 3rd and 4th rugby field and remove the south softball field.	High	\$250,000					
Properly fill, grade, and seed 4 soccer fields.	High	\$360,000					
Add an additional soccer field with irrigation.	High	\$250,000					
Repair shelters 1, 2, and 4 and provide for ADA accommodations.	High	\$250,000					
Repair and repave north parking lots. Seal Trail	High	\$257,000					
Install new disc golf baskets throughout course.	High	Maintenance					

Table 6.1 CIP Recommendations							Funding Source KEY		
							5-Year County CIP	Spirit Fund/ ARPA	Operating
Priority Level	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029+			
Add 8 pickleball courts.		\$400,000							
PHASE II/PHASE III:									
Regrade area south of the dog park along the eastern edge of the park to mitigate flooding and allow for flexible parking space during large community events.	Low					\$30,000- \$40,000			
Add a playground at the Soccer Shelter.	Medium				\$300,000				
Replace existing pavilion near ponds with a new events center featuring outdoor gathering areas, boardwalk, and gazebo.	Medium		\$450,000						
Enhance playground 2.	Low				\$80,000-\$100,000				
Add a new parking lot west of the new rugby field (where existing south ballfield is located).	High	\$400,000-\$500,000							
Install new walking paths in the southern portion of the park around soccer fields and archery course (see master plan concept).	Medium					\$300,000- \$400,000			
Replace main entrance signs with updated consistent signage.	Medium	\$10,000							
Install lighting at pickle ball courts.	Low					\$100,000			
<b>Jerry Finch Winnebago County Dog Park</b>									
Pave entrance to Jerry Finch Dog Park.	High	\$60,000							
Trails									
<b>Wiuowash State Trail</b>									
Explore possible bicycle/pedestrian pathways to connect the Town of Winneconnie to Lake Butte des Morfs and the Wiuowash Trail.	Low					TBD			
Develop county-owned property at the intersection of the Wiuowash Trail and Breezewood Ln into a parking lot with restroom facilities and potential pump track.	Medium				\$150,000				
Improve bicycle safety (ex. protected bike lane) along Breezewood Ln to create a safe east-west connection to the Wiuowash Trail from the City of Neenah.	Medium					TBD			
Explore bicycle safety enhancements along Hwy 10 to provide access to the Wiuowash Trail from the City off Appleton.	Medium					TBD			
Widen bridges for snowmobile trails.	Low					\$500,000			

							Funding Source KEY					
							5-Year County CIP	Spirit Fund/ ARPA	Operating			
							2027	2028	2029+			
Table 6.1 CIP Recommendations							2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029+
							Priority Level					
Create a safe east-west bicycle/pedestrian crossing over Hwy 41 that connects to the Wiouwash Trail.							Medium					\$700,000
Maintain parking areas along the trail wherever possible.							Medium					
Conduct necessary repairs to trail surface on an ongoing basis.							Medium					
<b>Mascoutin State Trail</b>												
Investigate additional off-street parking along the trail.							Low					
Necessary repairs to trail surface should be maintained.							Medium					
<b>County-Wide Trail Recommendations</b>												
Pave from UW-O to Lake Butte des Morts Drive.							High	\$500,000				
Explore opportunities to extend existing trail along Hwy A to connect the Cities of Neenah and Oshkosh, as identified in the 2021 Appleton and Oshkosh MPO Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan.							Medium					TBD
Prioritize safe pedestrian/bicycle access to both state trails from all the municipalities in the county.							High					TBD