# Village of Fox Crossing Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

2022 - 2026





# **VILLAGE OF FOX CROSSING**

# COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN

# 2022-2026

Adopted: December 13, 2021

Prepared by the

Fox Crossing Parks and Recreation Department, Amanda Geiser, Director of Parks and Recreation

and the

East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission Trish Nau, Principal Park and Recreation Planner

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The preparation of the *Village of Fox Crossing Comprehensive Outdoor and Recreation Plan* 2022-2026 was formulated by East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission with the Fox Crossing Park Commission and the Village Board.

#### MISSION

Mission Statement: It is the mission of the Fox Crossing Parks and Recreation Department to improve the quality of life for all of Fox Crossing's residents and visitors by providing and promoting well-maintained parks and recreational facilities.

#### VILLAGE OF FOX CROSSING REPRESENTATIVES

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#### Village Staff

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## ABSTRACT

TITLE:	Village of Fox Crossing Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2022-2026
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PLANNING AGENCY:	East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission
SOURCE OF COPIES:	East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission 400 Ahnaip Street, Suite 100 Menasha, WI 54952 (920) 751-4770 www.ecwrpc.org

The 2022-2026 version of Fox Crossing's Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan seeks to help preserve the Village's natural environment and at the same time allow residents and visitors alike to play, learn, enjoy and live in harmony with it. In addition to setting forth new recommendations based on present needs, the adopted plan will enable the Village to once again compete for matching funds available through the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' (WDNR) Stewardship Program if available. Funding components of this program, targets monies for parkland acquisition and development projects as well as for numerous other projects and activities that preserve, protect and enhance important land and water-based natural assets. Collectively, other grants are available through the WDNR Stewardship Program and have effectively doubled the local funding commitment for acquisition and development of parkland and other public recreational facilities.

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# **Chapter 1: Introduction**

# Planning Area and Geography

The planning area used for this plan update is the Village of Fox Crossing municipal boundaries that were recently incorporated from the Town of Menasha in 2016. Fox Crossing is geographically located within the Appleton-Oshkosh-Neenah metropolitan statistical area (MSA), and encompasses 12.5 square miles of area, or 8,171 acres, in the northeastern portion of Winnebago County. It is centrally located within the heart of the Tri-County Urbanized Area, which includes Calumet, Outagamie, and Winnebago Counties. The Town of Grand Chute and the City of Appleton in Outagamie County border the Village on the north. The eastern boundary is commonly shared with the Village of Harrison, the City of Appleton and the City of Menasha. A common southern boundary is shared with the City of Menasha and the shoreline of Lake Winnebago on the east side. On the west side of Little Lake Butte des Morts, the southern boundary is shared with the City of Neenah and the Town of Neenah. Finally, the western limits extend to Clayton Avenue where a common boundary is shared with the Town of Clayton.

To create a Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan or "CORP", information relative to the community must be gathered. This information includes demographics, land use, parks, usage, open space, trails, and environmentally sensitive areas as well as recommendations and a five-year action plan. The plan should look at active as well as passive recreational pursuits and allow for equity and fair access.

# **Plan Purpose**

The purpose of this plan is to develop an updated five-year and long-range action program that can continue to guide the growth of the park system as the community expands and needs change. As a prelude for deriving the action program, the plan inventories existing parks and facilities, determines deficiencies and surpluses within the system, and identifies future recreational needs. These serve as the cornerstone for formulating general and site-specific recommendations, which provide the basis for all projects included in the action program. The second purpose of the plan is to satisfy the mandates of available funding programs. Among these mandates are requirements that all funded projects must be clearly identified and justified in current plans to qualify. Once approved, the communities will once again be eligible for state-administered funding programs, if available, and cost sharing during the interval of 2022-2026.

The success of any type of local planning effort is often dependent on the involvement, support, and active participation of community residents in the plan's preparation. To ensure that a diverse spectrum of citizen viewpoints and concerns contributed to the plan's development, a broad base of citizen support and input was solicited from individuals representing a variety of interests through an online survey. Among the groups contacted were Senior Citizens, Native Americans, youth, and physically handicapped. Persons representing the business community and educational systems were also involved in the plan's preparation. Direct interviews with park users were obtained and interviewed on site and are included within this document.

#### PROJECT TIMELINE

#### March, 2021

- Meeting 1: Review Plan Process with Parks and Recreation Commission
- Update inventory/demographic data and maps

#### April, 2021

- Begin Park Audits
- On-Line Survey Release

#### May, 2021

- <u>Meeting 2</u>: SMART Goals Exercise and SWOT Analysis with Parks and Recreation Commission
- Identify needs, issues, opportunities, and preliminary recommendations

#### June, 2021

- Meeting 3: Discuss Needs Assessment Factsheet (demographics)
- Level of Service Area Analysis Map barriers & underserved areas

#### July - August, 2021

- Public Engagement– Feedback Opportunity
- Target all age groups Online or public meeting forum

#### September, 2021

- Meeting 4: Preliminary Recommendations Survey Results
- 2022– 2026 Action Plan Priorities list 1-3 rankings, CIP review

#### October, 2021

• <u>Meeting 5:</u> Review and Discuss Final Draft, approve for public comment

#### November, 2021

• Approval by Parks and Recreation Commission

#### December, 2021

- Adoption by Village Board
- Incorporate edits/updates to final document
- Distribute final document with resolution for adoption

# **Process for Adoption**

This plan was prepared, approved, and adopted by the Village of Fox Crossing Parks and Recreation Commission and the Board of Trustees. All meetings were properly noticed and provided opportunities for public input on the plan. The Village of Fox Crossing is responsible for implementation of the plan following the guidelines put forth. This plan may be amended if necessary for any changing conditions and/or for grant obtainment. Amendments should require formal approval from the Parks and Recreation Commission. The CORP follows Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources guidelines and should be updated every five years.

# **Summary of Past Plans**

Each of the plans and standards below helped shape the development of the comprehensive outdoor recreation plan. These plans and standards reflect a body of research conducted by East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, the Village of Fox Crossing, and the National Recreation and Parks Association.

# Village of Fox Crossing Parks and Recreation Department

## Mission

Mission Statement: It is the mission of the Fox Crossing Parks and Recreation Department to improve the quality of life for all of Fox Crossing's residents and visitors by providing and promoting well-maintained parks and recreational facilities.



# Village of Fox Crossing Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2017-2021

The last park and recreation plan or CORP, was recommended January 18, 2017 by the Park Commission and adopted officially on January 23, 2017 by Village Board. Recommendations were made to develop Woodland Prairie Park with sustainable practices, update playground equipment, maintain court surfaces, expand the trail system and work with surrounding businesses as well as non-profits as partners. Anunson Farm Park was recommended to be developed and is now completed within the Winding Creek subdivision with two playgrounds, trails, and an open air shelter. This CORP will be an update of the 2017 plan to look at what has been accomplished and new recommendations for the next five years.

### Town of Menasha 2023 Comprehensive Plan

The *Town of Menasha 2023 Comprehensive Plan* (adopted August 2003) recommends the update of the five-year park plan for the 2010-2015 planning period. It also recommends the implementation of the East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission long-range

transportation/land use plans for the Fox Cities, Oshkosh, and Fond du Lac level for service standards of parks.

East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission Long-Range Transportation/Land Use Plan for the Fox Cities, Oshkosh, and Fond du Lac Urban Areas

East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (ECWRPC), as part of its long-range transportation/land use plans for the Fox Cities, Oshkosh, and Fond du Lac Urbanized Areas (adopted in October 2010), identifies a level of service standard for parks.

#### National Recreation and Parks Association Standards

The National Recreation and Parks Association, also has level of service standards for parks. Unlike ECWRPC, the NRPA has level of service standards for open space as well based on national benchmarks.

> "My kids love coming to the park. Fox Crossing has great little parks for my two and three-year old's." ~ Cierra Mueller, Resident



# **CHAPTER 2**

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

# **Chapter 2: Goals and Strategies**

## Objectives

In the Village of Fox Crossing, community goals and strategies provide the essential framework for meeting present and future community desires and needs. The goals and strategies are based upon the collective efforts of the Park Commission (PC) and the Director of Parks and Recreation after identifying specific needs and priorities. Further efforts were also extended to the task of identifying needed Parks and Recreational improvements which will continue to make the Village of Fox Crossing a desirable place to live. A S.M.A.R.T. Goal Exercise and S.W.O.T. analysis was performed at the May 12, 2021 PC meeting.

SMART goals are ones that are <u>Specific</u>, <u>Measurable</u>, <u>Attainable</u>, <u>Relevant</u>, and <u>Time</u> Based. The SWOT analysis identifies the <u>Strengths</u>, <u>Meaknesses</u>, <u>Opportunities</u>, and <u>Threats</u> that are currently facing the Village today.

- **Goals** represent common community ideals that are brought about by a course of action, rather than a physical end product.
- **Strategies** are specific courses of action that can be used by local government, private enterprise, institutions, groups, or individual citizens to accomplish the stated goal.

The following goals and strategies are divided into these 3 categories:

- 1. Parks
- 2. Open Space
- 3. Trails





# 1. Parks

**Goal**: Provide a park and recreational system that will offer a variety of recreational resources for all of our park and recreation guests.

# Strategies:

- **a.** Provide park and recreational facilities to serve all existing and future residential areas.
- Provide active and passive recreational areas to meet the various needs of our community.
- **c.** Use official mapping powers, subdivision ordinances, and zoning ordinance to preserve and add areas designated for future parks and recreation use.
- **d.** Encourage community/school cooperation in providing additional recreation facilities at school sites.
- e. Encourage regional efforts to provide for joint parks for regional use such as dog parks, major regional parks and the preservation of sensitive and significant natural areas.
- f. Locate neighborhood parks within walking distance (approximately ½ mile) of the neighborhoods these parks are intended to serve.
- **g.** Provide sidewalks and trails for safe access wherever possible.

# 2. Open Spaces

**Goal**: Conserve, protect, and improve the environmental resources of the Village.

### Strategies:

**a.** Use zoning ordinances and official mapping powers to protect wetlands,

shorelands, woodlands, and floodplains during park development.

- **b.** Ensure that park development does not disrupt natural drainage in the Village.
- **c.** Preserve structures and sites that reflect the historical and natural heritage of the Village.
- **d.** Preserve land of environmental significance and sensitivity.

# 3. Trails

# **Goal**: Provide a safe and interconnecting trail system for all Village residents.

### Strategies:

- **a.** Connect parks and open spaces with identifiable routes that link to public, residential, commercial, and regional destinations.
- **b.** Update/Amend the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan with a set of guidelines that:
  - 1. Establishes a level of service and estimates potential demand for new trails.
  - Identifies facility types, improvements, signage, and markings.
  - 3. Develops design criteria for trail facilities.
  - 4. Develops an operation and maintenance plan and schedule.
  - Identifies trail acquisition strategies and new funding sources.
  - 6. Improve walkability and safety by adding sidewalks in residential areas.

In formulating goals and strategies, the Park Commission provided their input for the next five years, using the seven topic, 1- 10 score system, (with 10 being the highest). In Table 2-1, an overall average of 8.3 for all topics was determined . Conservation ranked the lowest at 6.75 with the rationale of urbanization taking place from the annexation into a village with cost effectiveness scoring the highest (8.93). Table 2-2 gives the overall results and average scores per topic. These are the scores given by the Park Commission, not the public.

7 Topics	Average Assessment Score (1-10)	<b>Reasons for this score</b>
Health & Fitness	8.0	Many facilities exist to provide diverse physical and mental health options. Disc Golf Course, Mountain Bike Track, Trails, Outdoor Exercise Equipment, Rec Programs, Senior Center Programs, Kayaking, Trail connections need to be improved. Covid inspired people to get out and be healthy.
Variety of Activities	8.3	Children activities, Pickleball, Events (e.g. mud run), Bean Bag Toss, Park Pong, Gardening, Traditional Sports, Exceptional Activity Programming, Fishing
Conservation	6.75	Loss of wildlife habitat corridors as development has increased. Prairie restoration areas, Urban Forest, Environmentally Sound, Conservation is not main focus but exists in Village. Stormwater Control, Rydell Conservancy, Lakeshore restoration
Accessibility and Design	7.67	Village went from rural to urban. Barriers exist as there is an east/west split by the lake, CTH CB, and I41. High traffic and speed areas. Trail gaps exist. Need sidewalks, better trail connections. Neighborhood access to a park is good within ½ mile. ADA updates have been made. Design has good flow.
Partnerships	8.5	Local businesses (e.g. Kwik Trip), great sponsorships, Trail sponsors and donors, intergovernmental cooperation with surrounding communities, Youth Sports Groups, Schools, intercorrelation of programs, "Adopt a Trail" program, Fox Cities Support through Greenways, NEWPRO, and WPRA.
Financial / Cost Effectiveness	8.21	C.I.P. and Budget supported by Village Board. Feasible projects and timeframes with cost. Staff is excellent. Timing is good with projects and budget is balanced. Revenue is stable with disc golf and shelter rentals. (R.O.I)

# Table 2-1: SMART Goals Score Rationales

Quality of Life (Leisure, Travel, Fun, Material)	8.83	Positive area for fun and play. Programs and variety of activities for all ages. Parks are an asset to the community and offer access to the up and coming trends to keep people inspired.	
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#### Table 2-2: SMART Goals Average Results

Торіс				Score	s		Avg.
	8	9	9	7	8	7	8.00
1. Health & Fitness							
	8	8	7	8	10	9	8.33
2. Variety of Activities							
	8	8	6	6	5.5	7	6.75
3. Conservation							
	6	9	8	8	8	7	7.67
4. Accessibility and Design							
	9	9	7	8	9	9	8.50
5. Partnerships							
	7	9	9	7.5	9	6	7.92
6. Financial / Cost Effectiveness						10	10.00
							8.96
7. Quality of Life	8	9	8	9	9	10	8.83
(Leisure, Travel, Fun, Material)							
Overall Average Score							8.3

7 Topics, 1-10 So	core
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So how does Fox Crossing measure up to similar communities in providing the right types of park and recreation to its residents? In comparing the overall average score of the seven topics to other communities who have completed the same exercise, the City of Menasha scored a 7.8, City of Neenah, 8,3. City of Waupaca scored an 8.8 and the City of New London a 7.9. Fox Crossing average of 8.3 falls slightly above the range of those municipalities.

As stated above, a SWOT exercise was also performed to gain insight on additional improvements and recommendations that can be added in as strategies for the next five years. Here are the results showing the pros and cons:

	-
Strengths:	Weaknesses:
<ul> <li>Disc golf course.</li> <li>Traditional sports - many baseball fields.</li> <li>60+ acres of prairie.</li> <li>Nature education.</li> <li>Mountain bike course sets fox crossing apart from other communities.</li> <li>Keeping up with the trends of what people want.</li> <li>New dog park in the works.</li> <li>Youth sports.</li> <li>Trestle trail.</li> <li>Loop the lake trail.</li> <li>Tot lots.</li> <li>Maintenance is good, clean parks.</li> <li>Great community center and parks staff.</li> <li>Little Lake Butte des Morts waterfront.</li> <li>Boat launches as well as canoe and kayaking.</li> <li>Rydell conservancy with trail.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Lack of Trails on the Eastside.</li> <li>Barriers exist – Lake, I41, CTH CB.</li> <li>Trail Connections need to go to destinations – shopping, library, other facilities.</li> <li>Lack of Sidewalks.</li> <li>Trail needed next to O'Hauser Park – limited access.</li> <li>Aquatics are lacking – No Pool.</li> <li>Encroachment on Baseball Fields.</li> <li>No Amphitheatre.</li> <li>Fox Locks – closures.</li> <li>Parking needs to be increased – especially at Fritse Park for trail and park users as well as boating patrons.</li> <li>Dog Park needed – 4-5 Acres maybe too small but a start.</li> </ul>
Opportunities:	Threats:
<ul> <li>Great programming – Community Center.</li> <li>Increase in activity with the new Mountain Bike Pump Track at Woodland Prairie. New to the region.</li> <li>Opportunity to market and promote the parks and programs offered to residents and visitors.</li> <li>Event Space is needed that would draw more interest to the Village.</li> <li>Return on Investment (R.O.I) for shelter rentals and disc golf can be increased with promotions.</li> <li>New parks have been created, Anunson Farm and Woodland Prairie. Official Opening Ceremonies will make them known to the public.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>No trail connectivity, too many gaps to reach destinations.</li> <li>Safety issues with no sidewalks to provide walking access.</li> <li>Winter salt use – shared use shed site</li> <li>The Village is split East and West by the lake – equality and cohesiveness as a community sometimes is lacking.</li> <li>Cost Analysis of improvements</li> <li>Budget and Funding</li> </ul>

# Table 2-3: SWOT Analysis Results

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# **CHAPTER 3**

**RECREATIONAL RESOURCES** 

# **Chapter 3: Recreational Resources**

# **CURRENT CONDITIONS**

Community residents have access to 21 Village parks and open spaces, totaling 261.15 acres. There are also quasi-public sites, 14 schools, clubs, arenas, other open spaces, and a stadium, totaling 403.27 acres that can be used by residents, but are not under Village ownership. Additionally, residents have access to 21 miles of trails that are owned and maintained by the municipality, *(totaling 24.4 acres)*. As shown by Table 3-1 and Map 1, there are a number of amenities provided. Recreational opportunities include baseball diamonds, basketball courts, a disc golf course, fitness areas, pickleball, an ice rink, trails, natural areas, picnic facilities, playground equipment, sledding hills, tennis courts, and volleyball courts.

Determining if a community's open space needs are being met can often be a challenging task. The process depends heavily on input from community residents, officials, and staff. The best guide available for use in this plan includes standards from the National Recreation and Park Association. These standards represent minimum goals and are not applicable to all locations universally. It is also important to understand that each community has unique social, cultural, economic, and geographic factors that may limit the legitimacy of the standards being applied.

# **Existing Parks and Facilities**

**Public** 

Anunson Farm Park:

**Size**: 3.5 acres **Location**: Big Bend Drive (Winding Creek Subdivision) Developed in 2020.

**Facilities**: Two playgrounds, one nature based, an open-air shelter, walking and nature trails, open space area.

21 Parks / Open Spaces 261.15 Acres



# Butte des Morts Park:

Size: 1.6 acres Location: 360 Frances Street, Menasha WI east shore of Little Lake Buttes des Morts. Facilities: Natural area, trail connections to the

lake and playground equipment.

# **Community Center:**

**Size**: 11,000 square foot year-round facility **Location**: 1000 Valley Road, Menasha, WI **Facilities**: Provides space for indoor recreation programs and facility rentals. Typically, recreation programs take place Mondays through Fridays while the majority of the facility rentals occur Fridays through Sundays. Over the past three years, there has been an average of 215 rentals per year. 2020 numbers were affected by COVID-19.





# Fritsch Park:

Size: 18.5 acres

Location: 1651 Sandys Lane, Menasha, WI on the eastern half of the municipality. Facilities: One tennis court with pickle ball lines and one-half court for basketball, a group fitness area, a pavilion with kitchen, picnic tables and warming shelter, playground equipment, restrooms, sledding hill, athletic fields, ping pong and .66 miles of walking trails.



### Fritse Park/Rydell Conservancy:

Size: 15.26 acres

**Location**: 699 North Lake Street, Neenah WI, on the western shore of Little Lake Butte des Morts.

**Facilities**: Upgraded boat launch and parking, boat wash station, picnic tables, playground equipment, restrooms, and sledding hill. Western trailhead for the Fox Cities

Trestle/Friendship trail connecting the Village to the City of Menasha. Year-round two-tiered comfort station with restrooms and an indoor warm shelter, rain garden, and landscaping.

Ten and a half acres of this property, known as the Rydell Conservancy, was acquired from the Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration (NRDA) Fox River PCB Clean-up Settlement in 2003. Trails and picnic areas have been added along with the clearing out of brush. A historic Native American replica burial mound exists on the property. A bridge from the Friendship Trail connects the property along with a historic Native American burial mound.

# Gant Park:

Acquired through NRDA grant funds as a part of the Fox River PCB Clean-up Settlement.

Size: 1.13 acres Location: North of Rydell Conservancy Little Lake Butte des Morts Facilities: Green Space, Bench overlooking Lake Butte des Morts.

#### **Glenview Park:**

Size: 0.55 acre Location: 1425 Deerwood Dr, Neenah, WI Facilities: Playground equipment, picnic tables.

### Kippenhan Park:

Size: 0.33 acre park. Location: 817 Louise Rd., Neenah, WI Facilities: Playground equipment, a connecting path and picnic tables.









# Meadow Heights Park:

Size: 0.15 acres Location: Meadow Heights Subdivision Facilities: Small tot-lot with climbers and slides, and a picnic table.

# O'Hauser Park (North/South):

#### Size: 64.37 acres

**Location**: 1986 O'Leary Road, Neenah, WI **Facilities**: Four baseball/softball fields; an 18-hole disc golf course, playground, wooded natural area with trails; two pavilions with kitchens, picnic tables, grills, and restrooms; sledding hill, a soccer field, tennis courts (2 adult and 2 youth, 4 lined for pickleball), and a volleyball court. Prairie restoration areas have also been designated, developed, or are in the process of being developed.

### Palisades Park:

#### Size: 14.85 acres

**Location**: 2525 Theresa Street, Menasha, WI **Facilities**: Three baseball fields, basketball court, neighborhood connecting trail, playground, picnic tables, grills, restrooms, tennis courts (2 lined for pickleball), and volleyball court. There is also an additional tot-lot play area and gazebo located at the north end of the park.

#### Kuehn:

#### Size: 0.23 acres

**Location**: Schanke Street, south central portion of the Village.

**Facilities**: Playground equipment, picnic table, and a sandbox.









# Schildt Park:

Size: 10.02 acres Location: 1780 Cold Spring Road, Neenah, WI Facilities: A basketball hoop; a pavilion with kitchen, restrooms, picnic tables, and grills; playground equipment, volleyball court, a .33 stone aggregate trail, 30 community garden plots with associated access and parking.



### Strohmeyer Park:

Size: 1.42 acres Location: 669 Margeo Drive, Neenah, WI, west central section of the Village Facilities: Playground equipment and a junior sized basketball court with a surfaced trail leading to both.

### Westfield Park:

Size: 0.52 acres Location: 1338 Fieldstone Court, Neenah WI, in the central portion of the Village. Facilities: Playground equipment with spring toys and a paved path to the park.



# Wittmann Park:

Size: 25.03 acres Location: 920 Airport Road, Menasha, WI Facilities: A tree house themed playground equipment with a climbing wall and rock feature and a newer pavilion that has restrooms, a kitchen, and soccer storage which was completed in 2015. Completed in 2016 is a new access road, tennis/pickleball/basketball courts, an access path and looping stone aggregate trail and revision of the northernmost field.



# Woodland Prairie Park: (formerly CB Park)

#### Size: 64 acres

**Location**: CTH CB, east of the Village Municipal Complex

**Facilities**: Areas of forested land, leased farmed land, a cell tower, mountain bike trails and pump track, wood chipped/stone aggregate trails and a material storage site.

In June of 2019, a new conceptual master plan was approved for the site. Conceptual plans call for a



sustainable wood playground with an environmental theme, a community center building, a large picnic area to hold events, shelter/restroom facilities, and winter activity areas. Native prairie vegetation is included in the master plan.

### **Open Space**

#### Annex Lane:

Size: .58 acres

**Location**: Open space on Little Lake Buttes des Morts, in northeastern part of the Village. **Details**: It is wholly contained in ECWRPC's defined environmentally sensitive area.

### Brighton Beach Open Space:

Size: 8.98 acres
Location: The Brighton Beach Open Space was acquired through a settlement with Warehouse Specialists.
Details: Substantial acreage of wetlands, woodlands, and 100 and 500-year floodplains.

### Gateway Meadows Open Space:

**Size**: 13.56 acres **Location**: Gateway Meadows Subdivision on the west side. **Details**: Wetlands and woodlands within the subdivision, undeveloped

### Stroebe-Pearl-Cox Open Space:

**Size**: 12.34 acres

**Location**: Preserve on Stroebe Island in the north central section of the Village of Fox Crossing **Details**: Encompasses wetlands, woodlands, 100-year flood plain, and marsh bottoms.

# Wildlife Heights Open Space:

#### Size: 4.06 acres

**Location**: Preserve in the Wildlife Heights Subdivision in the southwest portion of the municipality.

**Details**: The site encompasses wetlands, woodlands, and intermittent navigable stream. Like the Prairie Creek Open Space, Wildlife Heights Private Open Space was set aside when the subdivision was platted. It is a privately held 6.70 acres of wetlands and woodlands for subdivision residents.

# Trails

Map 1 shows the existing 21 miles of trails in the Village that are located along CTH II, CTH CB south of East Shady Lane, USH 10 between Fritse Park and Clayton Avenue and along East Shady Lane from just east of CTH CB to Irish Road. Existing trails on the east side of the Village are along STH 114 or Plank Road and USH 10.

The Fox Cities State Trestle-Friendship Trail connects the Village east/west over Little Lake Butte des Morts, while the CB Trail runs north/south and is part of the Fox Cities Paper Trail connection. The Trestle Trail also links to the Loop the Lake Trail going east towards the City of Menasha. On-street and off-street trails exist throughout the Village interconnecting it to parks and recreational facilities.



# **Quasi-Public Community Facilities**

Within the Village of Fox Crossing and the Fox Valley there are other park and recreational facilities that complement the Village's parks system. Several of these facilities can be classified as quasi-public, while the remaining facilities are associated with the school districts serving the Village of Fox Crossing residents. Most of these recreation facilities are located within the community, or in close proximity to the Village boundaries.

### Heckrodt Wetland Reserve: https://www.heckrodtnaturecenter.org/

Heckrodt Wetland Reserve is a sixty-five acre urban nature reserve with habitats that include wetlands, marsh, open water, open field, and woodlands. The Reserve has a 4,000 square foot Nature Center with exhibits, a meeting room, amphitheater, library, and two miles of elevated boardwalk trails.

# Prairie Creek Open Space:

Prairie Creek Open Space was set aside when the Prairie Creek Subdivision was platted. It is 1.92 acres set aside for subdivision use.

#### Stroebe Island Marsh:

The Stroebe Island Marsh was acquired through NRDA grant funds as a part of the Fox River PCB Clean-up Settlement. It is 34.58 acres held in public trust by the Northeast Wisconsin Land Trust. This land allows residents access to Little Lake Buttes des Morts and Mudd Creek and preserves marsh, wetlands, floodplain, and woodlands.

#### Wild Ones Ecological Center: https://foxvalleyarea.wildones.org/

The National Headquarters for Wild Ones is located along Little Lake Butte des Morts. The 12 acre site offers a variety of educational opportunities for individuals desiring to learn about natural landscaping.

#### Tri-County Ice Arena: https://www.appletonice.org/

This facility is located on the west side at 700 East Shady Lane. The arena has an ice rink and spectator viewing area. The facility is used for ice-skating, hockey and other related sporting events, as well as a display center for trade shows. The arena has joined efforts with Appleton Ice Family Ice Center to save on costs and to provide space and scheduling for hockey teams and ice skating.

### Local Sports Organizations

#### Appleton Little League: https://www.appletonlittleleague.org/

Youth baseball organization that utilizes Palisades Park ball diamond for games, practices, and tournaments.

#### FC Menasha: https://www.fcmenasha.org/

FC Menasha is a non-profit organization that operates soccer programs, games and tournaments on the Main Complex on Earl Street and at Wittmann Park off of Airport Road. Ball

handling skills as well as clinic camps are also offered at the facility. FC Menasha leases eight acres of land from the Village.

#### Suburban Athletics: https://www.suburbanathletics.com/

Suburban Athletics is a Non-Profit 501(c)3 organization whose purpose is to provide youth in the Fox Valley a quality baseball program that promotes teamwork, self-esteem, and increase skill knowledge in a safe, non-threatening environment. Teams play at O'Hauser Park South.

#### Youth Sports Baseball: https://www.menashayouthsports.org/

The 10.5 acre site for Youth Sports is located on Earl Street, north of Airport Road. Facilities include shelter/concession stand, restrooms, baseball/softball diamonds, a basketball court, soccer fields, and parking areas. Teams also play on ball diamonds at Palisades Park located off of Valley Road.

#### Private

#### Butte des Morts Country Club:

The Butte des Morts Country Club, open to members and guests only, is located at the intersection of County Road BB and Bluemound Road. The 143.18 acre site provides an 18-hole golf course, driving range, tennis courts, a swimming pool, pro-shop, and clubhouse facilities.

#### Schools

There are several school facilities that provide recreational opportunities for Village of Fox Crossing residents. On the east side these facilities include the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh - Fox Cities Campus, Maplewood Middle School, and Gegan Elementary School. On the west side, Spring Road Elementary School is available for recreational use.

#### University of Wisconsin Oshkosh – Fox Cities Campus:

The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh - Fox Cities Campus is located at 1478 Midway Road in the City of Menasha. Outdoor recreational facilities include several soccer fields, tennis courts and hard surfaced multi-purpose courts. The campus underwent a major expansion program a few years ago which included the construction of a new gymnasium, arboretum and performing arts center. The indoor planetarium offers shows during the year and a chance for stargazing opportunities at night. The campus is also home to the Weis Earth Science Museum which offers a place to learn about Wisconsin's mineral and fossil history.

# St Mary's Central High School:

St. Mary's Central High School has a stadium for football, baseball diamonds, an indoor gymnasium and tennis courts. The school recently received some land to be used as a nature area adjacent to the school.

#### Maplewood Middle School:

Maplewood Middle School is located at 1600 Midway Road in the City of Menasha. Outdoor recreational facilities include open playfields, multi-purpose hard courts, and an indoor gymnasium. Additional recreational facilities may be provided by the Menasha School District in the near future.

#### Gegan Elementary School:

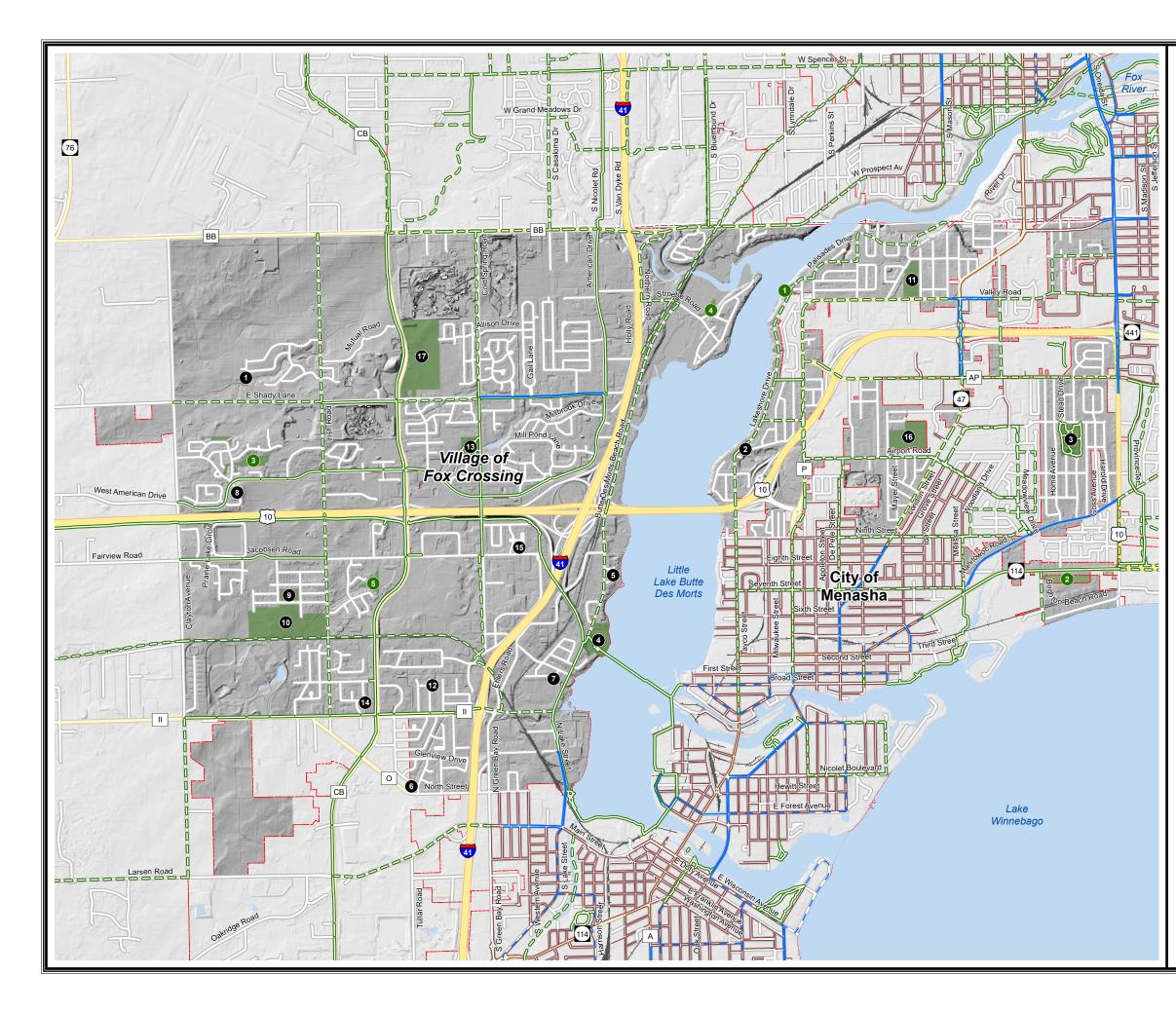
This elementary school is operated by the Menasha Joint School District and is located at 675 Airport Road in the City of Menasha. It has a gymnasium, open playfield, hard surfaced play courts, and playground apparatus.

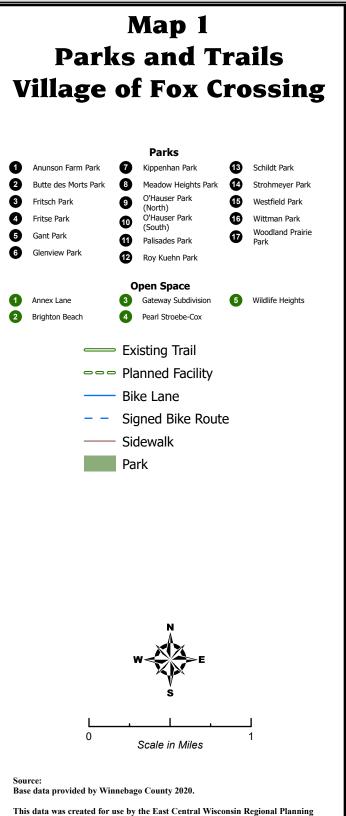
#### Spring Road Elementary School:

This elementary school is located at 1191 County Road II. It is operated by the Neenah Joint School District and provides various recreational facilities. It has a gymnasium, softball diamonds, open playfield, play courts and playground equipment.

### Nathan Calder Stadium:

Nathan Calder Stadium is located at 600 Eleventh Street in the City of Menasha. The stadium provides an excellent site for football games, track meets and other outdoor sporting events. The Menasha Joint School District uses the facility extensively for their respective athletic events during the fall and spring seasons.





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Map II	Туре	PARK NAME	ACRES	BASEBALL/SOFTBALL	BASKETBALL COURT	BOAT LAUNCH	CORNHOLE / BEAN BAG TOSS	CANOE/KAYAK LAUNCH	CLUBHOUSE/ GUEST CTR.	DISC GOLF	FISHING	FITNESS ZONE	FOOTBALL FIELD	GOLF COURSE	ICE RINK	INDOOR GYMNASIUM	NATURAL AREA / TRAIL	OPEN PLAYFIELD	PAVILION w/Kitchen	PARKING	PARK PONG	PICNIC TABLES / GRILLS	PLAYGROUND EQUIP.	RESTROOMS	SHELTER (Open)	SLEDDING HILL	SNOW SHOE/XC (informal)	SOCCER FIELDS	NIMMING POOL	TENNIS COURTS	VOLLEYBALL COURT
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### Table 3-1: Park, Open Space, and Community Facility System

East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

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East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

#### LAND USE

The historic, existing, and future land use will be the determining factor in both supply and demand for parks and open space facilities. The type, amount, and distribution of land uses determine where and how much supply and demand will be generated.

#### **Historic Growth**

The pattern of growth in the Village of Fox Crossing can be described in terms of location using north and south I-41 as an east and west dividing line. Development east of I-41 is older than the development west of the interstate. The eastern portion of was developed between the 1930s and the 1970s with pockets of newer infill development. The oldest development is along Little Lake Buttes des Morts while the newer development is inland. West of I-41 development occurred between the 1960s and 2003. Older development on the west side of the Village occurred primarily south of Jacobsen Road.

#### **Current Land Use\***

The primary use of land in the Village of Fox Crossing is residential use, totaling 27.3 percent. Following residential uses are transportation (18.1%), agriculture (17.9%), industrial (16.9%), open spaces (7.8%), vacant (5.9%), public/institutional (2.2%), recreational (2.0%), and commercial (1.8%). Equating this to urban and rural uses, urban uses amount to 66.4 percent while 33.6 percent is rural. Urban uses consist of residential, transportation, industrial, and commercial, while rural uses are agricultural, vacant, wetlands, woodlands, and recreational.

#### **Future Land Use\***

Projected future development will also be primarily urban in nature. Future projected urban and rural uses amount to 79.7 percent as urban while 20.3 percent remains rural. Residential land uses remain the predominant projected land use at 31.6 percent. Following residential uses are industrial (20.9%), transportation (18.1%), agricultural (9.6%), open space (7.8%), commercial (5.8%), institutional (3.2%), recreational (2.8%), and vacant land.

\*These projections assume no loss of open space and no loss in recreational lands. This is not to say that recreational lands will not be accumulated, simply that the quantity is unknown. These numbers will be used for baseline projections.

#### NATURAL RESOURCE FEATURES

#### **Environmentally Sensitive Areas**

Environmentally sensitive areas are identified by the East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (ECWRPC) for preservation from infringement by sewered development. As ECWRPC defines these areas as environmentally sensitive and are comprised of the following:

- Lakes and streams shown on the United States Geographic Survey maps and adjacent shoreland buffer areas.
- Wetlands shown on the Wisconsin Wetland Inventory Maps (Department of Natural Resources).
- Floodways as delineated on the official Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) Flood Boundary and Floodway Maps.

As shown on Map 2, Environmental Features, the Village of Fox Crossing has 2,201 acres of environmentally sensitive lands. A large majority of these lands have already been developed, with the exception of portions of undeveloped lands in the western section of the municipality.

In addition to, the designations of environmentally sensitive, and other areas with natural characteristics, could impact environmental quality or development potential have been identified by ECWRPC. These are said to have "limiting environmental conditions," and include areas with high bedrock, high groundwater, and floodplain areas.

#### High Bedrock

Areas of high bedrock can be found in several areas of the municipality. High bedrock can be found at the intersection of County BB and Cold Spring Road, south USH 10, and the intersection of 9<sup>th</sup> Street and Manitowoc Street. It ranges in depth from surface level to thirty inches below the surface.

#### High Groundwater

The Village of Fox Crossing has a number of areas with high ground water. Areas with the highest groundwater can be found near Little Lake Butte des Morts, along Mud Creek, Stroebe Island, Brighton Beach, and near Lake Winnebago. Groundwater in these areas is at surface level or above surface. The remainder has levels of water ranging from two-four feet below the surface.

#### Floodplain Areas

Floodplain areas are prevalent along Little Lake Butte des Morts, Brighton Beach, Stroebe Island, Mud Creek, and along Millbrook Creek. There are over 980 acres classified as 100-year floodplain as determined by FEMA and 47 acres that are included within the floodway zone along the tributaries flowing west from Little Lake Butte des Morts.

#### Wetlands

According to the WDNR wetland delineations, there are over 420 acres of marshy areas that are greater than 5 acres in size. There are also 44 smaller wet areas of 3 acres or less that occur across the Village. These are mostly ponds that have been excavated or are too small to delineate. Some may occur in the spring during a heavy rain season or snow melt.

#### Woodlands

Woodland areas can be found in varying degrees throughout the Village. According to the 2015 land use data, there are approximately over 2,050 acres of woods in the Village. On the eastside pockets of woodlands can be found in undeveloped or undevelopable lands such as areas of steep slopes. The largest stands of forested lands can be found on the west side in the Stroebe Island Marsh, in park lands, around the municipal complex, north of Shady Lane and west of Cold Spring Road. Smaller pockets can be found dispersed throughout the remainder of the west side (Map 3).

#### Soils

There are a mix of soil types located in Fox Crossing. They can be classified as loam, silt loam, silty clay loam, clay, and mucky fine sand. A few gravel pits and quarries do exist in the northwest and in the southeast where depth to bedrock is less than 60 inches. Other areas are prime farmland where not developed. The soils that are mucky or clay would have to be drained or tiled to allow for better farming. Elevation of the Village is pretty flat with 0-6% slopes. A few areas of eroded slopes of 6-12% are located just northwest of Stroebe Open Space and the area surrounding Butte des Morts Park. The overall elevation of the area is 768 feet above sea level.

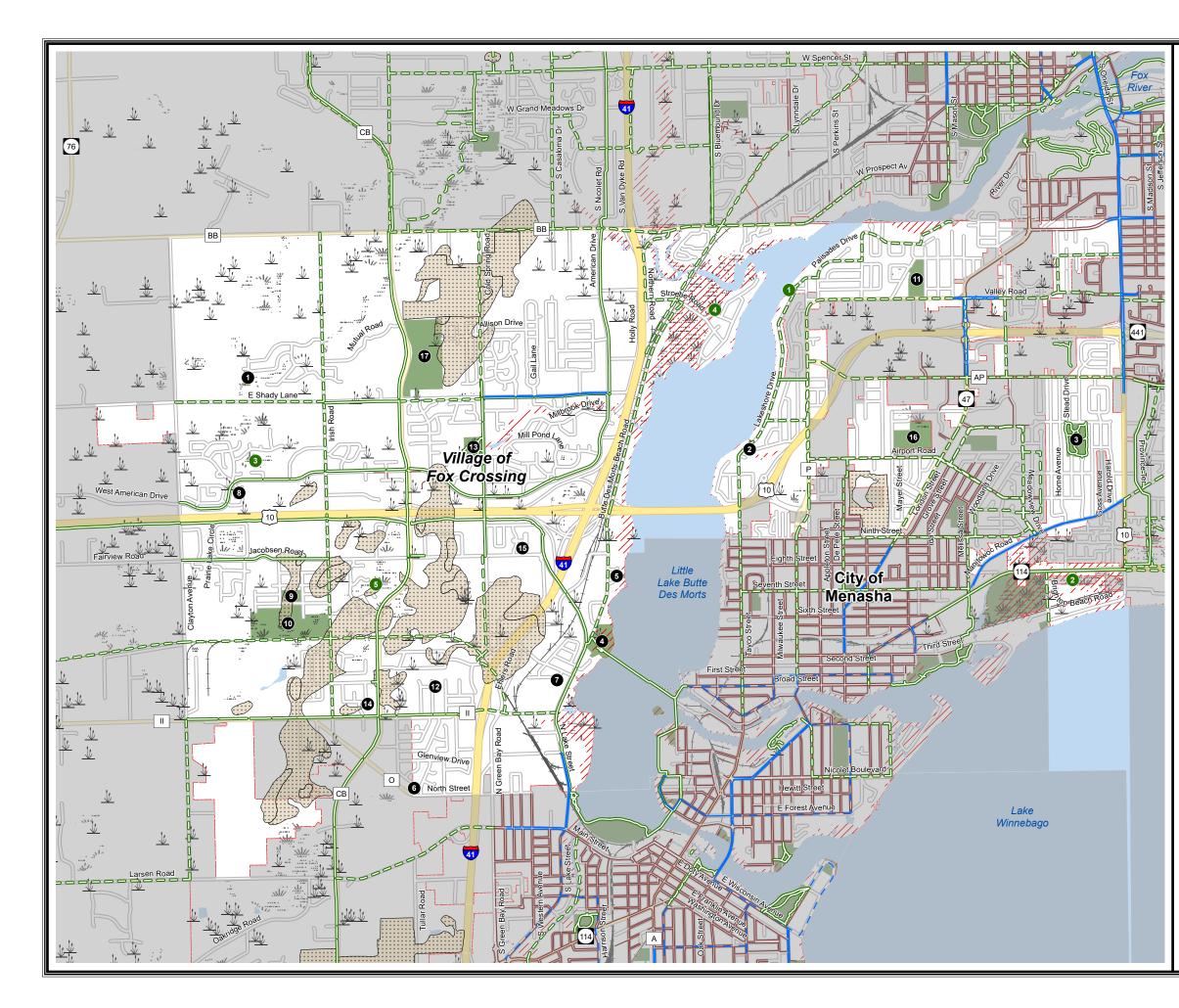
#### Climate

The weather is temperate and can vary with highs for summer up to 95 degrees Fahrenheit and winters getting to below zero. Average low is 10 degrees and the average high temperature is 81.

#### ACCESSIBILITY

Local government guidance is covered under Title III of the Wisconsin Administrative Code. A new section was added in 2010 to cover the path of travel to get to a public facility or amenity. The Title III regulations are based on section 303(a)(2) of the ADA, 42 U.S.C. 12183(a)(2), and states "when an entity undertakes an alteration to a place of public accommodation or commercial facility that affects or could affect the usability of or access to an area that contains a primary function, the entity shall ensure that, to the maximum extent feasible, the path of travel to the altered area--and the restrooms, telephones, and drinking fountains serving it--is readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities, including individuals who use wheelchairs." This becomes important when new facilities are developed within parks. They have to be free of barriers with surfacing that can accommodate all abilities. The recommendations chapter will address certain parks that could use some updating to accommodate Title III requirements.

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#### Source:

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Parks created from parcel data and trails provided by Winnebago County. Soil data provided by NRCS-USDA Web Soil Survey (WSS), accessed 2013. Wetland Data, WDNR 2015. Floodplain Data, FEMA 2017. Base data provided by Regional Counties 2020.

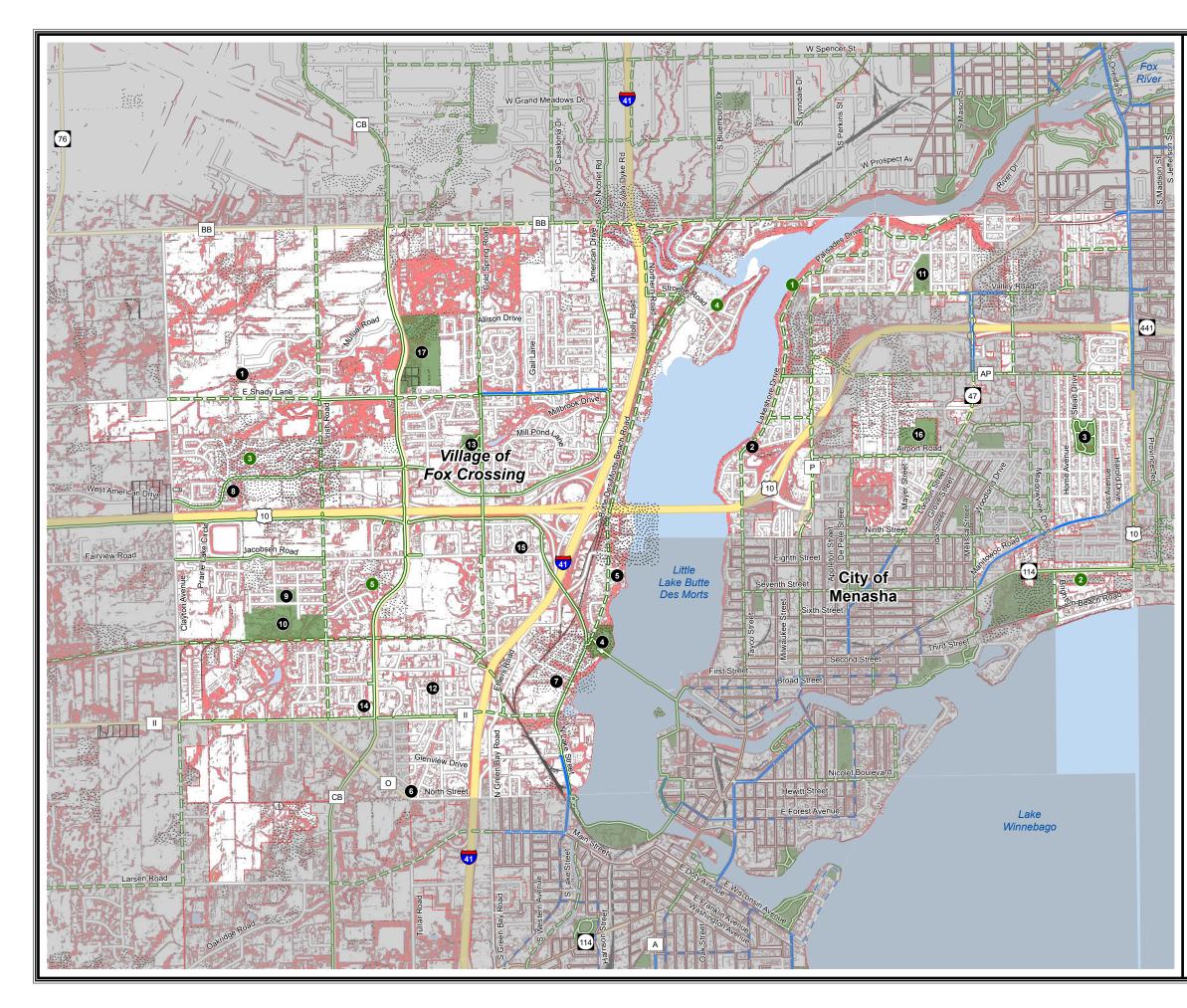
Scale in Miles

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# CHAPTER 4

**RECREATIONAL NEEDS** 

### **Chapter 4: Recreational Needs**

#### OUTDOOR RECREATION NEEDS ASSESSMENT

As a policy, park and recreation programs should have a five-year cycle update for the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans (CORP). This will make the Village eligible to compete for Stewardship funding and other available grants if so needed.

Park and recreation needs may include the demand for additional park land to accommodate new facilities, requirements for additional parks in areas where new residential growth is occurring, or the need for new or improved park facilities and equipment. Generally, recreation standards are used to identify these necessities. However, in communities the size of the Village of Fox Crossing, citizen input is equally useful when identifying park and recreation desires.

#### **POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS<sup>1</sup>**

The Village of Fox Crossing has a population of 19,239 (Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020, Table 4-1). Based on DOA projections, the municipality has steady growth and will continue to grow in the future. Projections indicate that its population will increase by about 20 percent from current levels, reaching just over 23,000 people by 2040. Recent incorporation into a village reflects this growth trend. During this timeframe, both the State of Wisconsin and Winnebago County are expected to experience modest population gains. The median age for Fox Crossing is 37.9.

Table 4-2 shows the breakdown of gender and age groups. Fox Crossing is split 50/50 male and female with a few more males. The 20-29 year-old age group makes up the bulk of the population base. There is still a mix of 55-59 year-old's that fall within the population so activities and programs should reflect all age groups.

Year	Population	Growth	% Change
1950	3,007		
1960	5,480	2,473	45.13%
1970	8,682	3,202	36.88%
1980	12,226	3,544	28.99%
1990	13,975	1,749	12.52%
2000	15,858	1,883	11.87%
2010	18,498	2,640	16.65%

#### Table 4-1: Population Trends and Projections, 1950-2040

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 2020 Census Population is used where available and American Community Survey ACS, current data 2015-2019.

	2015*	18,950	452	2.44%
Today	2020	19,239	1,120	1.53%
Future	2025*	21,080	1,010	9.57%
	2030*	22,020	940	4.46%
	2035*	22,680	660	3.00%
	2040*	23,140	460	2.03%

Source: Census 2020 Data, and Department of Administration projections 2013-2014\*.

	Tot	al	Ma	e	Fem	ale
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent
Total population	18,841	100.00%	9,537	50.62%	9,304	49.38%
Under 5 years	1,126	5.98%	813	4.32%	313	1.66%
5 to 9 years	747	3.96%	386	2.05%	361	1.92%
10 to 14 years	986	5.23%	532	2.82%	454	2.41%
15 to 19 years	991	5.26%	514	2.73%	477	2.53%
20 to 24 years	1,940	10.30%	743	3.94%	1,197	6.35%
25 to 29 years	1,667	8.85%	901	4.78%	766	4.07%
30 to 34 years	985	5.23%	457	2.43%	528	2.80%
35 to 39 years	1,406	7.46%	774	4.11%	632	3.35%
40 to 44 years	749	3.98%	438	2.32%	311	1.65%
45 to 49 years	1,087	5.77%	475	2.52%	612	3.25%
50 to 54 years	1,381	7.33%	713	3.78%	668	3.55%
55 to 59 years	1,602	8.50%	895	4.75%	707	3.75%
60 to 64 years	1,128	5.99%	466	2.47%	662	3.51%
65 to 69 years	1,110	5.89%	497	2.64%	613	3.25%
70 to 74 years	733	3.89%	325	1.72%	408	2.17%
75 to 79 years	495	2.63%	244	1.30%	251	1.33%
80 to 84 years	411	2.18%	193	1.02%	218	1.16%
85 years and over	297	1.58%	171	0.91%	126	0.67%

#### Table 4-2: Population by Age and Gender, 2015-2019

Sources: ACS 2015-2019 B01001

#### Ethnic Background

The race of a community or ethnic diversity can determine the culture that exists in the area. Social groups maintain traditions and what type of recreational activities they choose. Skateboarding or hockey may be popular in one area of the country and traditional sports such as baseball, basketball, and football in another. By knowing what ethnic groups live, work, and

Red shaded cells represent Bottom three results within column

play in the Village of Fox Crossing can help determine need and what trends park users are looking for.

Ethnicity in Fox Crossing is predominately white at over 89%, with Black or African American 1.9%, with Asians making up 3.6% and Hispanic or Latino, 3.7% of the population base. Estimates for the years 2015-2019 are shown in Table 4-3 below.

Fox Crossing										
Subject	2015-20	019								
RACE	Estimate	%								
Total population	18,841	100%								
One race	18,301	97.1%								
White	16,843	89.4%								
Black or African American	355	1.9%								
American Indian and Alaska Native	93	0.5%								
Asian	683	3.6%								
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0	0.0%								
Some Other Race	327	1.7%								
Two or More Races	540	2.9%								
HISPANIC OR LATINO										
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	851	4.5%								
Mexican	704	3.7%								
Puerto Rican	6	0.0%								
Cuban	-	0.0%								
Other Hispanic or Latino	51	0.3%								
Not Hispanic or Latino	17,990	95.5%								

#### Table 4-3: Diversity Characteristics, 2015-2019

Source: U.S. Census 2000/2010 (P3,P4,PCT11) and ACS 2015-2019 B02001 and B03001

#### **Employment / Unemployment**

Those residents over 16 who are employed are over 67% so available jobs in around the Village are plentiful. This higher than both the County and the State.

	Fox Crossing		Winnel Cour	•	Wisconsin		
			Estimate	%	Estimate	%	
Population 16 and over	15,850	100.0%	139,430	100.0%	4,659,582	100.0%	

#### Table 4-4: Labor Force, 2015-2019

In labor force	10,736	67.7%	90,796	65.1%	3,097,113	66.5%
Civilian labor force	10,736	67.7%	90,771	65.1%	3,093,923	66.4%
Employed	10,486	66.2%	87,992	63.1%	2,982,359	64.0%
Unemployed	250	1.6%	2,779	2.0%	111,564	2.4%
Armed Forces	0	0.0%	25	0.0%	3,190	0.1%
Not in labor force	5,114	32.3%	48,634	34.9%	1,562,469	33.5%

Sources: ACS 2015-2019 B23025

#### Economy

As shown by the labor force, the economy and income of those residing in Fox Crossing is holding steady. The median family income is higher than both the County and the State as well as the per capita income. The median household income is a bit lower but still comparable.

#### Table 4-5: Income Characteristics, 2015-2019

	Media	n HH Income	Median Family Income	Per Capita Income	
		2015-2019	2015-2019	2015-2019	
	E	stimate	Estimate	Estimate	
Fox Crossing	\$	58,090	\$80,433	\$42,978	
Winnebago County	\$	58,543	\$77,242	\$32,571	
Wisconsin	\$	61,747	\$78,679	\$33,375	

Sources: ACS 2006-2010 & 2015-2019 B19013, B19113, and B19301

#### LAND NEEDS

Land demand standards of 10 acres of publicly owned open space for every 1,000 residents provides a useful barometer for determining whether a community has adequate parkland to meet the recreational needs of its residents. Looking solely at the total recreational acreage currently owned by the Village, the acreage is adequate today but Fox Crossing should consider acquiring additional park land in the future as a significant increase in population pushes up the demand for major types of active recreational facilities. Maintaining the current parks system, should be one of the top priorities in accommodating its residents.

Based on community increases, park and open space acreage is adequate to support the Village's growing population, Table 4-6. By 2040, Fox Crossing will still have 29.75 acres in surplus to support its citizens using recreational <u>land</u> needs standards with the current population projections. This is including undeveloped green space located wit in the municipality. When looking solely at active park space, there will be a deficiency of 10.46 acres by 2040 to support the population base that is projected. (Table 4-7)

Year	Population	Land Demand 10 A / 1,000 pop.	Park <u>and</u> Open Space Acres	Deficiency / Surplus
2000	15,858	158.58	261.15	102.57
2010	18,498	184.98	261.15	76.17
2015*	18,950	189.5	261.15	71.65
Today 2020	19,239	192.39	261.15	68.76
Future 2025*	21,080	210.8	261.15	50.35
2030*	22,020	220.2	261.15	40.95
2035*	22,680	226.8	261.15	34.35
2040*	23,140	231.4	261.15	29.75

Table 4-6: Outdoor Recreation Demand

Source: DOA population projections, 2020 US Census Data, ECWRPC calculations.

\*Open space acres account for 40.21 acres of the land mass.

Year	Population	Land Demand 10 A / 1,000 pop.	Active Park Acres Only	Deficiency / Surplus
2000	15,858	158.58	220.94	62.36
2010	18,498	184.98	220.94	35.96
2015*	18,950	189.5	220.94	31.44
Today 2020	19,239	192.39	220.94	28.55
Future 2025*	21,080	210.8	220.94	10.14
2030*	22,020	220.2	220.94	0.74
2035*	22,680	226.8	220.94	-5.86
2040*	23,140	231.4	220.94	-10.46

Table 4-7: Active Park Land Demand Projections

Source: DOA population projections, ECWRPC calculations \*\* Includes recreational areas within the corporate limits that are owned and maintained by the Village.

#### FACILITY NEEDS

The composition of a community's population can provide insight into the need for emphasizing specific types of recreational opportunities. The Village of Fox Crossing's population distribution

by age group compares closely with that of Winnebago County (Table 4-9). Most of the residents living within the municipal boundaries are between the ages of 20-44 at 34.1% (38.5 median age) which inhibits younger and middle age trends. Recreational facilities should be planned with this in mind to accommodate this age group. Approximately 18.0% of the population is under the age of 19, while 2.4% of the population is over the age of 85. (Figure 4-1)

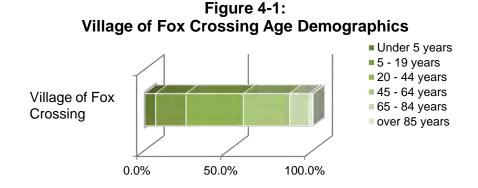


Table 4-8: Population by Age Group

			20 - 44 years			Over 85 years
Village of Fox Crossing	6.5%	18.0%	34.1%	27.5%	11.5%	2.4%

#### Table 4-9: Population Distribution by Age Group (2010 Profile Data)

	Village of Fox Crossing		Winnebago Co.		State of Wis.			
Age	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%		
0-4	1,207	6.5	11,702	6.6	358,443	6.3		
5-14	2,199	11.9	24,850	14.0	744,544	13.1		
15-24	2,324	12.6	23,215	13.2	785,761	13.8		
25-44	5,125	27.7	48,111	27.3	1,447,360	25.4		
45-54	2,843	15.4	28,090	15.9	873,753	15.4		
55-64	2,242	12.1	19,893	11.2	699,811	12.3		
65+	2,558	13.8	20,834	11.8	777,314	13.8		
TOTAL:	18,498	100	176,695	100	5,686,986	100		

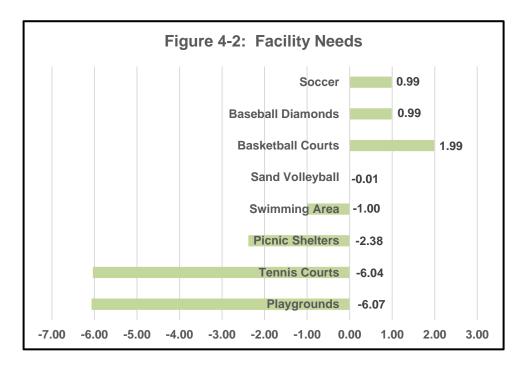
Source: ACS Demographic Profile Data by Age and Sex, 2010.

Public properties including 16 parks and 5 open space sites include a total of 21 locations at 261.15 acres. Typically, 1 park is needed per 3,000 capita for a village this size. It currently has 16 to accommodate all its residents. However, when looking at facility types within a park, based on the current population of 19,239, there are some facilities that are under the threshold as shown by Table 4-10 and Figure 4-2. Playgrounds, Tennis Courts, and Picnic Shelters are below the benchmark that is needed to support the population base at this time. More should be added in the future as well as a possible aquatic feature like a splashpad as the community continues to grow in size.

Facility Type	Std 1 per Pop	Have	Needed	Meets Std +/-
Baseball Diamonds	5,000	5	4.01	0.99
Basketball Courts	5,000	6	4.01	1.99
Playgrounds	1,000	14	20.07	-6.07
Picnic Shelters	1,500	11	13.38	-2.38
Soccer	10,000	3	2.01	0.99
Swimming Area	20,000	0	1.00	-1.00
Tennis Courts	2,000	4	10.04	-6.04
Sand Volleyball	5,000	4	4.01	-0.01

Table 4-10: Facility Need by Population: General Guidelines\*

\*More facilities may be needed based on trends and demand. These are all facilities within the Village boundaries not just what Fox Crossing maintains. (Schools and Private Facilities)



#### COMPARISON OF AVAILABLE STANDARDS

In conducting planning work, it is important to realize that the above standards can be valuable when referenced as "norms" for capacity, but not necessarily as the target standards for which a community should strive. Each community is different and there are many varying factors which are not addressed by the standards above.

For example: (The What If's)

- Does "developed acreage" include golf courses"? What about indoor and passive facilities?
- What are the standards for skate parks? Splashpads? Art displays? Etc.?
- What if it's an urban land-locked community? What if it's a small village surrounded by open land?
- What about quality and condition? What if there's a bunch of ball fields, but they haven't been maintained in the last ten years?
- What about open space and how is it defined?

There are three available standards that are typically used as a benchmark in a community for the region. These are jurisdictional, national (NRPA), and regional-based (ECWRPC).

#### **Jurisdictional Standards**

While immediate land needs show that Fox Crossing is adequate, there are also jurisdictional standards to consider in terms of state, county, the surrounding communities, and the private sector as they are required to also provide a certain number of recreational acres.

- Recreational Lands Provided by the State----- 70 acres/1,000
- Recreational Lands Provided by the County------ 15 acres/1,000
- Recreational Lands Provided by the Local Community-10 acres/1,000
- Recreational Lands Provided by the Private Sector----- 5 acres/1,000

The Village of Fox Crossing currently provides 16.39 acres of parks, recreation, and open space lands per 1,000 residents when looking at <u>all</u> park types as a system. Table 4-11 below breaks down the different categories to assist in planning for future <u>types of parks</u> needed.

#### **National Standards**

To determine the land required to meet community need for parks and open spaces, the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) has developed a level of service standard meaning per park type how many acres are needed. The prevailing national standard for neighborhood and community parks ranges from 9.25-14.5 acres per 1,000 people, which will be used as the criteria to evaluate level of service standards for parks and open space.

As the Village becomes more urbanized, resulting in higher densities, it is important to explore ways to preserve or attain additional property in order to meet the desired level of service standard. Table 4-11 indicates the national standard ranges for community parks, neighborhood parks, mini-parks and open space.

Туре	Acres per 1,000 persons			
Community Park	8.0-10.0			
Neighborhood Park	1.0-2.0			
Mini-Park	0.25-0.50			
Open Space	1-2			
Total:	9.25-14.5			

#### Table 4-11: NRPA Standards for Parks and Open Spaces

Source: National Recreation and Parks Association

#### East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission Standards

East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (ECWRPC), as part of its *Long-Range Transportation/Land Use Plan for the Fox Cities, Oshkosh, and Fond du Lac Urban Areas* (October 2015), has identified a level of service standard for parks, which is ten acres for every 1,000 residents. ECWRPC created residential standards based on density for various services such as sanitary sewer, water supply, street network, and parks. Their high density category is defined as three or more residential units per acre.

As part of the update to the comprehensive plan, the Village identifies low density as three-five units per acre, medium density as six-ten units per acre, and high density as twelve or more units per acre. Therefore, Fox Crossing would be encouraged by ECWRPC to apply the high density standard for the specified services, such as parks, since it is classified as an urban area. If Fox Crossing applies a level of service standard, then it addresses needed services as development is proposed or as population growth occurs.

Therefore, the ECWRPC level of service standard used for this analysis is ten acres per 1,000 residents. Each park provides a half mile service area. Table 4-12 highlights the ratio of recommended acres per 1,000 persons for community parks, neighborhood parks, mini-parks, and open spaces based on today's population.

Туре	# Acres	Acre Ratio per 1,000 persons* 19,239	Recommended Acres per 1,000 persons**	Surplus / Deficiency
Community Park	211.53	10.99	10	0.99
Neighborhood Park	7.63	0.40	2	-1.60
Mini-Park	1.78	0.09	0.5	-0.41
Open Space	40.21	2.09	2	0
TOTAL	261.15	13.57	14.5	-0.93

#### Table 4-12: <u>Current</u> Acres Per 1,000 Persons per Park Type Acres Recommended

\*19,239 2020 US Census population data. Includes passive open space acreage.

\*\*ECWRPC standard for community parks and NRPA standard for neighborhood parks, mini-parks, and open space. Source: Village of Fox Crossing, 2021.

As Table 4-12 infers, the Village of Fox Crossing exceeds the level of service standard for community parks by a half acre and is right at 0 for acreage of open space. When open space is not considered, then the Village is at 10.54 acres per 1,000 persons; therefore, it is just over the desired level of service standard. ECWRPC does not specify a level standard for open space, but the NRPA standard is one to two acres per 1,000 persons. The community meets and this standard for open space. Table 4-13 below is a summary of all standards and where the Village of Fox Crossing stands in terms of park need.

	Jurisdictional	National (NRPA)	ECWRPC							
Category		Acres per Population								
State	70 / 1,000									
County	15 / 1,000									
Local	10 / 1,000	9.25-14.5 / 1,000	10 / 1,000							
Private	5 / 1,000									
Community Park		8.0-10.0 / 1,000								
Neighborhood Park		1.0-2.0								
Mini-Park		0.25-0.50								
Open Space		1-2 / 1,000								
Villag	e of Fox Crossing	(all standards app	lied)							

#### Table 4-13: Comparison of All Three Standards

	Jurisdictional	National (NRPA)	ECWRPC
	Ac	res per Populatio	n
Local	16.39 / 1,000		16.39 / 1,000
Community			
Park		10.54	.54 / 1,000
Neighborhood			
Park		0.38	-1.62 / 1,000
Mini-Park		0.09	-0.41 / 1,000
			0 (even) /
Open Space		2	1,000

#### **REGIONAL GREENSPACE COMPARISON**

Neighboring communities were researched for actual populations and green spaces. These parks and facilities also provide a level of service to Fox Crossing's population base and are usually located out of the  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile walking distance for residents but are important to note as alternate opportunities for residents. Most visitors to parks don't realize where one jurisdiction ends and the other begins.

Community	Active Park Acres	2020 Population	Demand Projection (10 acres/1,000 pop.)	Deficiency / Surplus (in acres)
City of Oshkosh	361	69,250	692.5	-331.5
City of Appleton	609.9	75,644	756.44	-146.54
City of Chilton	53	4,080	40.8	12.2
Village of Kimberly	106.3	7,320	73.2	33.1
Village of Sherwood	70	3,271	32.71	37.29
City of Menasha	226	18,268	182.68	43.32
Village of Combined Locks	82.48	3,634	36.34	46.14
Village of Little Chute	178	11,619	116.19	61.81
Village of Fox Crossing	261.15	19,239	192.39	68.76
City of Neenah	349	27,319	273.19	75.81
Village of Greenville	213.6	12,450	124.5	89.1
Town of Grand Chute	383	23,980	239.8	143.2
City of Fond du Lac	650	44,678	446.78	203.22
City of Kaukauna	740	17,089	170.89	569.11

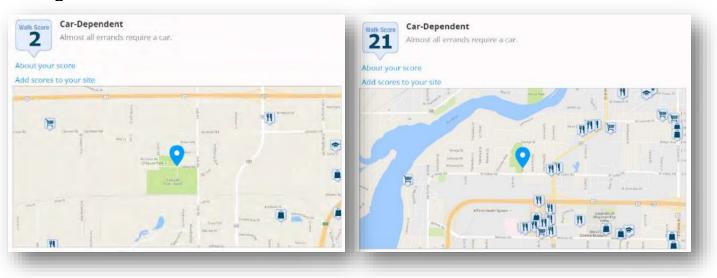
## Table 4-14: Comparison to Surrounding Communities for<br/>Outdoor Recreation Demand Today

As compared to other communities its size, and being an urban-based municipality, Fox Crossing falls within adequate parameters for acres of recreation for its growing population today at a surplus of 68.76 acres per 1,000 capita. Intergovernmental cooperation and partnerships could assist on providing even more opportunities within its boundaries as well as purchasing more land for the future as more active park space may be needed by 2040.

#### LOCATIONAL NEEDS

It is desirable that recreational opportunities be within convenient walking distance of each of a community's residents. With its compact development pattern and distribution of existing parks and schools, residents walk to an existing recreation facility varies. A ½ mile (neighborhood park level of service) is ideal as a walking distance but also looking at safety and use of sidewalks, trails, and bike paths. When residents are separated from the nearest park or school by natural barriers such as streams or man-made barriers such as busy streets, they are considered to be less adequately served because these features hinder a direct or safe walk. This is a particular concern for children and disabled or elderly residents.

In Fox Crossing, over half of the neighborhood population is west of I-41 with approximately 11,000 residents as compared to 8,000 on the eastside. As new development encroaches upon agricultural land, parks will need to be made available to serve those growing subdivisions as well as to support the current population in the surrounding area. When looking at places to recreate, we use the Walk Score® website to analyze how walkable a community is. The West-Side community has an overall score of 2 (Car-Dependent) on a scale of 1-100 with 100 being a walker's paradise to downtown. Almost all errands require a car to restaurants, groceries, and entertainment. On the East-Side from the Community Center / Palisades Park, the Walk Score® increases to 21 which is still car-dependent but with trails one can travel to restaurants and other amenities within 10 to 20 minutes.



#### Figure 4-3: Walk Score® Westside

#### Figure 4-4: Walk Score® Eastside

Source: walkscore.com

#### PARK CLASSIFICATIONS AND SERVICE AREA DESCRIPTIONS

The following classifications are derived from *the 2011-2016 Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan* – Appendix E, and the *Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenways Guidelines* – A project of the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) and the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration. They have been modified to fit local conditions. These classifications can be used as a guideline for understanding what services are typically provided as well as the area that each park typically serves, (Map 4).

#### **Community Parks**

These parks serve several neighborhoods within a <u>one-two mile radius</u>. Typically, these parks are twenty-five acres or more. Community parks address broad base community-wide needs. For example, community parks provide athletic fields while preserving areas for passive recreational uses. Amenities typically include:

- athletic courts, fields, or playfields;
- boat launches;
- ice rinks;
- landscaped/natural areas with trails;
- parking;
- pavilion/shelter with kitchen;
- picnic tables/grills;
- playground equipment;

- restrooms;
- sledding hills/tobogganing runs; and
- swimming pools.

Accessibility should be by vehicle, biking, and on foot. These parks should be linked to the public transportation system, existing and future trail network and sidewalks.

Fox Crossing has seven community parks totaling 212.53 acres. The parks have many of the typical amenities, except for a swimming pool. The complete list of parks and amenities is listed in the following table:

COMMUNITY PARKS	ACRES	BASEBALL/SOFTBALL	BASKETBALL COURT	BOAT LAUNCH	CANOE/KAYAK LAUNCH	DISC GOLF	FISHING	FITNESS ZONES	ICE RINK	MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL	NATURAL AREA / TRAIL	OPEN PLAYFIELD	PAVILION W/KITCHENS	PARKING	PICKLE BALL COURT	PICNIC TABLES / GRILLS	PLAYGROUND EQUIP.	PUMP TRACK	RESTROOMS	SHELTER	SLEDDING HILL	SNOW SHOE/XC (informal)	SOCCER FIELDS	TABLE TENNIS	TENNIS COURTS	TRAILS	VOLLEYBALL COURT
Fritsch	18.49		х					Х	Х		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		Х		Х		Х	х	Х	Х	
Fritse/Rydell	15.26			Х	x		Х				Х			Х		х	Х		Х	Х	Х	х				Х	
O'Hauser (N/S)	64.37	х				х					Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х		Х		Х	х			Х		Х
Palisades	14.85	х	Х									Х	Х	Х		Х	Х		Х						Х	Х	Х
Schildt	10.02		Х								Х	Х	Х	Х		х	Х		Х								Х
Wittmann	25.03	х	Х											Х	Х	Х	Х		Х				Х		Х		
Woodland Prairie	64.51									Х	Х							Х				х					
Total:	212.53																										

Table 4-15: Amenities in Community Parks

Source: Village of Fox Crossing, 2021.

#### **Neighborhood Parks**

Neighborhood parks serve residential areas within <u>a half mile walking distance</u>. The minimum desirable size varies from two – twenty acres. Neighborhood parks have a mix of active and passive uses. Usually, 50 percent of the area of a neighborhood park is used for active recreation and fifty percent is passive recreation, such as undeveloped natural areas. This limits problems such as noise, overuse, and congestion. Development and amenities typically include:

- playground equipment;
- play fields/open space;
- picnic tables;
- landscaping;
- sport field/court;
- pedestrian path; and trails;
- parking.

Access by foot should be made possible, especially since these parks are designed for children. One should not have to cross a collector or arterial to access the park. Ideally, trails, sidewalks, or low volume minor streets should be used as a linkage from the residential area to the neighborhood park.

There are four neighborhood parks totaling 7.63 acres in the Village of Fox Crossing. The neighborhood parks possess many of the typical features. A complete list of amenities is shown in the following table:

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS	ACRES	BASEBALL/SOFTBALL FIELD	BASKETBALL COURT	DRINKING FOUNTAIN / WATER	NATURAL AREA / TRAIL	OPEN PLAYFIELD	PARKING	PICNIC TABLES / GRILLS	PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT	SOCCER FIELDS	TENNIS COURTS	VOLLEYBALL COURT
Anunson Farm	3.5				Х	Х	Х	Х	Х			
Butte des Morts	1.58				Х		Х		Х			
Gant	1.13				Х							
Strohmeyer	1.42		Х			Х			Х			
Total:	7.63											

Table 4-16: Amenities in Neighborhood Parks

Source: Village of Fox Crossing 2021.

#### Mini-Parks

Mini-parks are those that service a limited population or specific group such as tots or senior citizens. They have <u>a quarter mile or a smaller service area</u>, and are usually less than an acre in size. These parks are generally situated in neighborhoods, apartment complexes, village house developments, or senior housing complexes.

Development and amenities typically include:

- playground equipment;
- landscaped sitting areas; and
- picnic tables.

Access to those parks should be located centrally within a neighborhood or housing development to provide easy access. There are five mini-parks totaling 1.78 acres in the Village of Fox Crossing. The mini-parks possess many of the typical amenities. A complete list of parks and amenities is shown in the following table:

MINI-PARKS	ACRES	NATURAL AREA / TRAIL	PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT
Glenview	0.55		Х
Kippenhan	0.33		Х
Meadow Heights	0.15		Х
Roy Kuehn	0.23		Х
Westfield	0.52		Х
Total:	1.78		

Table 4-17: Amenities in Mini-Parks

Source: Village of Fox Crossing 2021.

#### PARK ACREAGE NEEDS PER TYPE

According to the calculations below (per 1,000 capita) in utilizing 10 acres for community parks, two acres for neighborhood parks, and .5 acres for mini-parks standards, the municipality is sufficient with community parks until the year 2030 but will need more acreage by 2035.

Year	Population	# Acres per 1,000 Persons	Desired # Acres per 1,000 Persons*	Community Park Acres Provided per 1,000	Acres Needed (surplus / deficiency)
2010	18,498	18.5	10.0	11.44	1.44
2015	18,950	19.0	10.0	11.16	1.16
2020	19,239	19.2	10.0	10.99	0.99
2025	21,020	21.0	10.0	10.06	0.06
2030	21,080	21.1	10.0	10.03	0.03
2035	22,680	22.7	10.0	9.33	-0.67
2040	23,140	23.1	10.0	9.14	-0.86

#### Table 4-18: Community Park Needs Based on 30-Year Population Projections

\* Desired # of acres per 1,000 persons based on level of service recommendation by ECWRPC Source: Village of Fox Crossing 2015; WDOA 2014 population projections. 2020 US Census

#### Table 4-19: Neighborhood Park Needs Based on 30-Year Population Projections

Year	Population	# acres per 1,000 persons	Desired # acres per 1,000 persons*	Neighborhood Park Acres Provided per 1,000	Acres needed (surplus / deficiency)
2010	18,498	18.5	2	0.41	-1.59
2015	18,950	19.0	2	0.40	-1.60
2020	19,239	19.2	2	0.38	-1.62
2025	21,020	21.0	2	0.36	-1.64
2030	21,080	21.1	2	0.36	-1.64
2035	22,680	22.7	2	0.34	-1.66
2040	23,140	23.1	2	0.33	-1.67

\* Desired # of acres per 1,000 persons based on level of service recommendation by ECWRPC Source: Village of Fox Crossing 2021; WDOA 2014 population projections. 2020 US Census

Year	Population	# acres per 1,000 persons	Desired # acres per 1,000 persons*	Mini-Park Acres Provided per 1,000	Acres needed (surplus / deficiency)
2010	18,498	18.5	0.5	0.096	-0.404
2015	18,950	19.0	0.5	0.094	-0.406
2020	19,239	19.2	0.5	0.092	-0.413
2025	21,020	21.0	0.5	0.085	-0.415
2030	21,080	21.1	0.5	0.084	-0.416
2035	22,680	22.7	0.5	0.078	-0.422
2040	23,140	23.1	0.5	0.077	-0.423

#### Table 4-20: Mini-Park Needs Based on 30-Year Population Projections

\* Desired # of acres per 1,000 persons based on level of service recommendation by ECWRPC Source: Village of Fox Crossing 2021; WDOA 2014 population projections. 2020 US Census

When looking at neighborhood parks and mini-parks, there is a current shortage for those types of parks of 0.4 to 1.62 acres per 1,000 residents. As subdivisions grow, so should these types of parks to support the residential base. More acreage is needed for neighborhood parks at this time. The Village should consider acquiring more land and/or converting some of the undeveloped open spaces as there is a surplus of land currently. Map 5 depicts possible vacant land that would aid in future park creation and is discussed further in Chapter 6 Recommendations.

#### **Open Space / Greenspace**

Open spaces are parcels of land or areas that are reserved for the preservation of unique land, water, vegetative, historic, and other aesthetic features in their natural state. Open spaces should then be addressed separately from park settings. These areas may be publicly or privately owned.

Open spaces may serve certain portions or the entire community. The size and level of service of open space areas varies with the type of use. The normal standard is <u>one-two acres per</u> <u>1,000 persons and two-five mile radius</u>. Access is important since these areas provide a visual and psychological relief from urban development.

Often, these areas take advantage of streams and other natural features, which then help preserve areas for wildlife and other environmental assets of a community. Urban green spaces can be used for linking open spaces/parks, public facilities, preserving natural resources/wildlife, preserving areas not suitable for development, and addressing the lack of open space in an area. These areas can be used as a less expensive means of addressing stormwater management. Open green space areas may or may not have to be improved but some amenities or characteristics may include:

- walking/hiking trails (abandoned railroad lines, right of ways);
- environmental corridors or linear parkways;
- creeks/streams/wetlands/drainage-ways/ rivers/ponds/lakes/floodplains;
- ravines;
- areas of high groundwater;
- woodlands;
- steep sloped areas (12% or greater); and
- minimal landscaping areas.

Fox Crossing possesses many of the natural amenities which could be utilized for open space preservation. These sites are very difficult however to access by the normal citizen. Attempts to create better access have been blocked due to privacy and locational issues.

Open Space	Acres
Annex Lane	0.58
Brighton Beach Open Space	8.99
Gateway Open Space	13.56
Pearl Stroebe-Cox Open Space	12.34
Wildlife Heights	4.06
Trails (17 miles)	24.44
Total:	63.97

#### Table 4-21: Open Spaces

Source: Village of Fox Crossing, 2021

#### Table 4-22: Population in All Service Areas\*

Population in Service Area			Percent of Population Served2020202519,23921,080		Residential Acres in
Park Type	CY 2020	FY 2025	% Today	% Tomorrow	Service Area
Mini-Parks	1,229	1,265	6.12%	6.00%	157.99
Neighborhood Parks	3,988	4,081	19.87%	19.36%	368.83
Community Parks	29,992	30,618	149.44%	145.25%	1743.67
Open Space	54,301	55,566	270.56%	263.60%	7402.03*

\*Population is based off of EMSI population database joined to the service areas. Some overlap exists in buffered areas as well as servicing outside of the municipal boundary. (See Map 4)

\*\*% LOS allocations are based off today's 2020 total population numbers, 19,239, U.S. Census.

In looking at the number of people being serviced, Table 4-22 gives a breakdown of each park type within the service area boundaries. This information can assist the parks department in planning for future residential use as well as additional park space as needed. Mini-parks and neighborhood parks include residents within the municipal boundary where community parks and open space areas are serving those within Fox Crossing but also the surrounding communities as well, hence the greater than 100% LOS rating. There are approximately 2,073 acres of residential land within the community.

#### **REGION TRENDS**

To effectively provide the right type of recreational activities and facilities, the Village needs to better understand broader recreational trends. Appendix 8, Recreation Opportunities Analysis, from the 2019-2023 Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, identifies trends in outdoor recreational preferences. Below is a table that represents the needs, trends, and activities for the Lake Winnebago Waterways Region as a whole.

A diversity of recreation needs was identified by the public in the region as in high demand. These included:

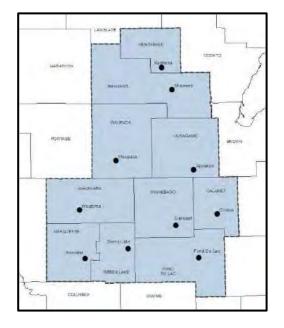
- Hiking/walking/running trails
- Horseback riding trails
- Trails for motorized recreation
- Camping rustic/quiet campgrounds
- Bicycle trails both paved and natural surface

Top activities that the WDNR found that could add to Return on Investment from the public participating are:

### PUBLIC SURVEY SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS

A public survey was conducted from April to September, 2021 and asked

#### Figure 4-5: Lake Winnebago Waterways Region



- ATV/UTV Riding
- Bicycling paved trails
- Camping tent
- Camping RV/pop-up
- Canoeing/kayaking
- Cross-country skiing/snowshoeing
- Fishing from a boat, canoe or kayak
- Hiking, walking and running on trails
- Horseback riding
- Wildlife/bird watching

questions conducive to residential satisfaction, needs and wants, and overall facility use, safety concerns in walking and biking were also included as well as a question for

supporting more parks and trails. Below is a summary of the findings. For detailed results of the survey, please see Appendix A.

Survey Response rate: 152 total participants with 137 who completed the survey. (90%) completion rate

#### Parks maintained by the Village are the following:

- 1. Anunson Farm Park (neighborhood park)
- 2. Butte des Morts Park (neighborhood park)
- 3. Fritsch Park (community park)
- 4. Fritse Park / Rydell Conservancy (community park)
- 5. Gant Park (neighborhood park)
- 6. Glenview (mini-park)
- 7. Kippenhan Park (mini-park)
- 8. Meadow Heights (mini-park)
- 9. O'Hauser Park (community park)
- 10. Palisades Park (community park)
- 11. Roy Kuehn Park (mini-park)
- 12. Schildt Park (community park)
- 13. Strohmeyer (neighborhood park)
- 14. Westfield Park (mini-park)
- 15. Wittmann Park (community park)
- 16. Woodland Prairie Park (community park)

#### SATISFACTION

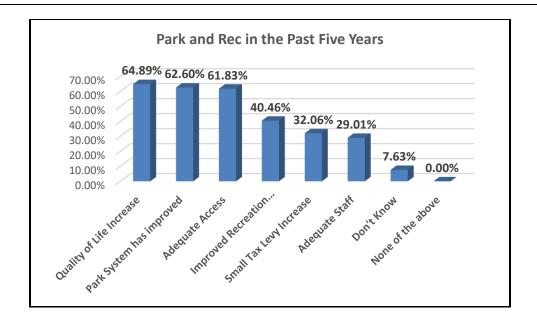
#### Top 3 parks visited:

- Fritse Park / Rydell Conservancy / Trestle Trail = 75%, 100 visitors
- 2. O'Hauser Park = 58%, 77 visitors
- 3. Fritsch Park = 53%, 70 visitors



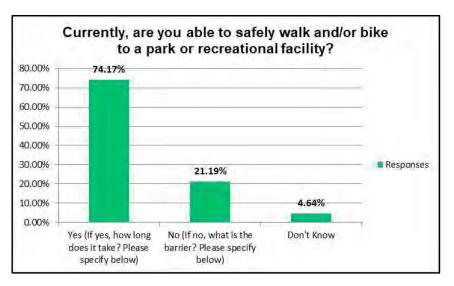
Satisfaction rate of conditions for all parks showed most participants said Village parks were either in Very Good or Excellent condition, 75%.

Overall satisfaction of Village Parks in the past Five Years:



#### PARK ACCESS

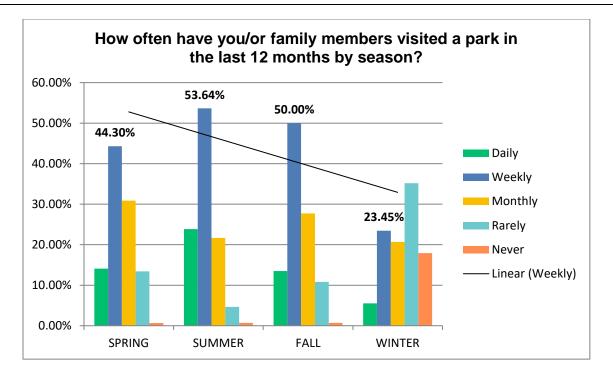
The average walking time to a park is 10 minutes and is usually within a half mile of a person's residence. Out of the 144 that answered the survey, 73% or 104 of all participants said they could safely get to their destination either by bicycle or walking. Of the 22% who said no, comments showed a trail or path on Irish or Clayton Road is needed. Sidewalks were needed on the eastside to get to Fritsch Park. Winchester



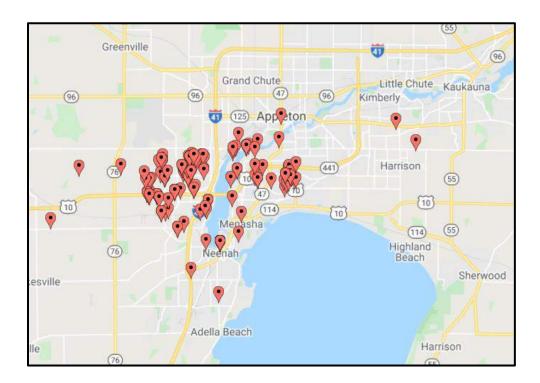
Road is a barrier with busy traffic as there is no safe access to Lake Street. Jacobson Road is also a busy street with traffic even though there is a trail to Fritse Park.

#### PARK USAGE

Most parks were utilized during the non-snow months on a weekly basis with summer and fall the peak use times of year. Winter activities and events could increase park usage but most citizens prefer mild climates to be outdoors.

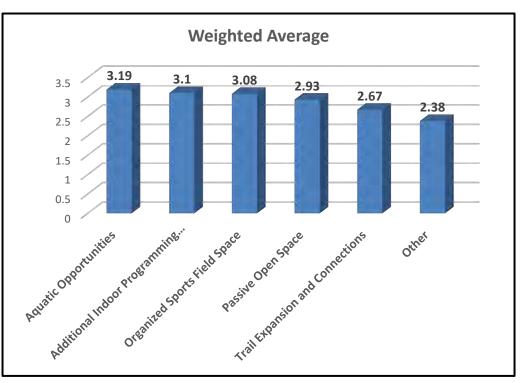


#### **Locations of Survey Participants**



#### **ACTIVITIES NEED**

Survey participants were asked to rank activities they felt were most to most least important in the Village on a scale of one to five. In taking the average of all scores, aquatic opportunities ranked the highest, followed by indoor programming.

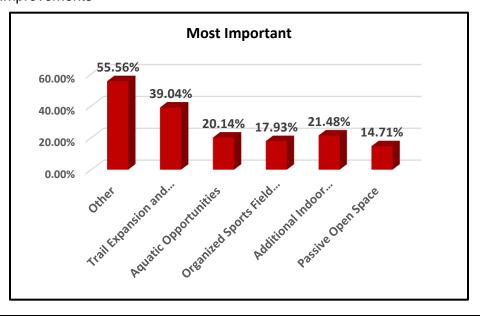


needs shade trail equipment Dog park community parks

trees playground play

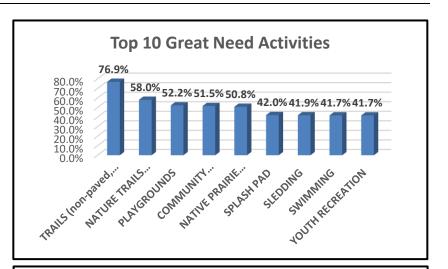
However, when looking solely at what citizens felt the most important (1), many clicked the other button and listed the following:

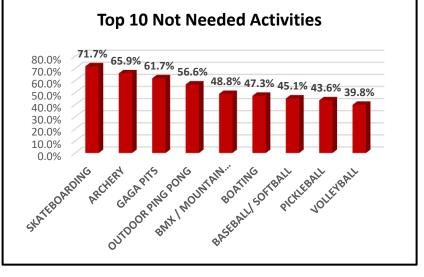
- Dog Park
- Pickle Ball Courts
- Pool
- Playgrounds
- Trees and Shade
- General Improvements



### Top 10 Great Need and Not Needed Activities

The public responded stating trails and playgrounds were a top need in Fox Crossing with skateboarding, archery, and gaga pits a low need at this time. Trends have changed over time as trails have become more popular along with events for the public to get outdoors and socialize. Especially since the recent pandemic this is noticeable in the responses.

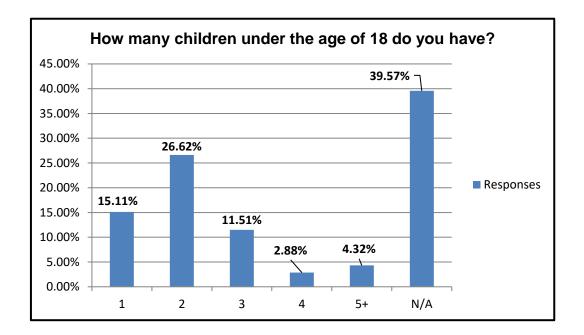


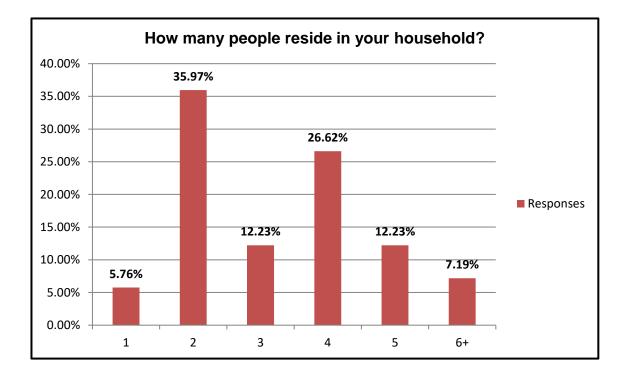


#### DEMOGRAPHICS

When you cross reference the household size and number of children present, data shows a higher number of couples living than those that have children within the family unit.

The American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimate shows 18.2% of the current population base ins under 18 years of age. The average family size is listed at 2.84 persons which reflects the park and recreation demographic survey results





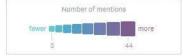
#### **COMMENTS RECEIVED**

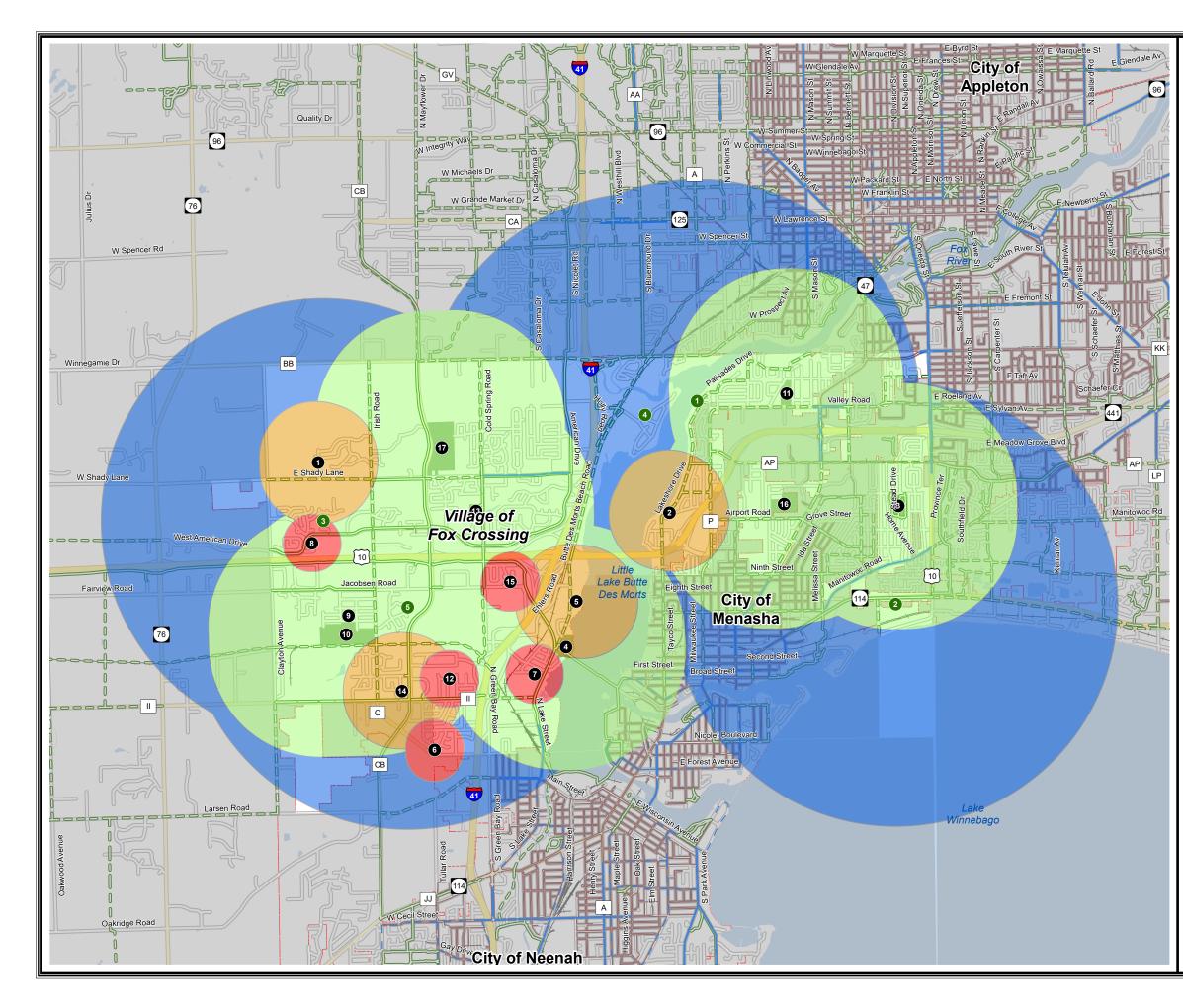
- Anunson Farm needs shade sails over playground slides, too hot to slide down when sun is beating down on them.
- · More dedicated Pickleball courts and more activities for seniors.
- Flashing beacon to cross Cold Spring Road
- Walk/Bike Path along Irish Road
- · Shade sail over Exercise Equipment at Fritsch
- Electric/Pedal Bike rentals
- Aquatics Splashpad or Pool
- Dog Park
- Dog Waste Bags and Garbage Bins along trails
- Small Play Area on Strobe Island
- Swings or GaGa Pit at Meadow Heights
- Landscape Improvements
- Park at Strobe Island
- Swings at Meadow Hts.
- · Glenview Maintenance needed, lower swings
- Volunteer Park Clean Up Days
- More Sidewalks for Access
- Trail Plowing in Winter
- More Trash Cans and removal
- Trail to O'Hauser

great Maybe trail youth parks Summer See nice

need many also support local businesses dog park rec

dog park visited walking programs Thank seems biking trails really people added love see connecting woodland prairie use crossing







#### Source:

Parks created from parcel data and trails provided by Winnebago County. Level of Service population from ESRI Business Analyst 2019. Base data provided by Regional Counties 2020.

This data was created for use by the East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission Geographic Information System. Any other use/application of this information is the responsibility of the user and such use/application is at their own risk. East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission disclaims all liability regarding fitness of the information for any use other than for East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission business.

PREPARED DECEMBER 2021 BY:





# **CHAPTER 5**

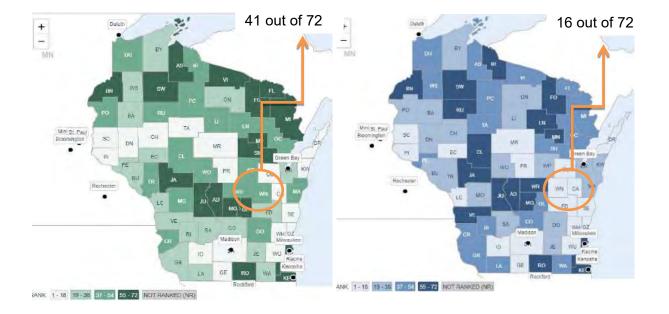
HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT

# **Chapter 5: Health Needs Assessment**

# 2021 COUNTY HEALTH COMPONENTS AND STATISTICS

Improving community health requires people from multiple fields to work collaboratively on an ongoing cycle of activities. Communities may be at different points in this process. Still within the recommendations for active living, ECWRPC has developed a regional bicycle and pedestrian plan to help guide this process. A plan of this nature will help fill in those voided connections residents are asking for while still planning for future active communities. The "*Roadmaps to Health*" Action Center provides tools to help groups work together to create healthier places to live, learn, work and play.

With obesity rates on the rise, Fox Crossing's need to promote active recreation should be a priority. From the 2021 Winnebago <u>County</u> Health Rankings\*, (with 1 being the best), Winnebago County is rated 41 overall out of 72 for health outcomes and 16 out of 72 for health factors. When compared to the other counties in the state, these County Health Rankings illustrate what we know when it comes to what's making people sick or healthy, but understanding the Village of Fox Crossing through Winnebago County's rankings is only one component of improving the community's health. Outside groups to move health initiatives forward will be the key to assist in promoting healthy lifestyles and living. The "<u>re:Th!nk Winnebago</u>" group has started this process in working with the East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (ECWRPC) on active communities and the healthy living partnership.



# Figure 5-1: Overall County Health Outcomes and Factors Ratings

To enable and encourage the citizens of the Village of Fox Crossing to be physically active, a strengthening of the support and funding for the Parks and Recreation facilities and recreational programming should be looked at. "Park Prescriptions" should be written to encourage active use and enjoyment of what Fox Crossing has to offer. Improvements that would positively benefit public health and recreation are maintaining and adding more amenities to the existing Neighborhood and Community Parks to support its growing population base. Also adding more multi-use trail connections in general would help promote a healthy lifestyle and active living. Careful attention should be given to areas of people with lesser means so they have at least an equal level of opportunity for physical activity. This goes back to the <u>Goal 1, Strategy i</u> of making the facilities ADA accessible. In many large cities, low income neighborhoods can often lack quality recreational programs, playgrounds and parks. They can also be hindered in accessing nearby facilities by physical and land use barriers (i.e. transportation, water corridors and industry).

Continued support with community partnerships such as sport clubs, organizations, nonprofits, citizen groups, companies, and other interested parties to develop, fund and operate recreation programs, leagues, and events are desired. These partnerships are invaluable to help provide the opportunities for people to be physically active.

Parks, playgrounds, and open spaces provide opportunities for physical activity. However, the presence of facilities is not enough to make sure they are being used for the greatest benefit of all. Factors such as location, accessibility, programming, connectivity, safety and aesthetics all play a role in the use of public facilities. By incorporating natural and design elements that have cultural or homeland meaning, will also help represent minority populations. Investing in consistent/uniform signage that aids people in identifying trails, places to be active, and other rec opportunities, should be considered. Fox Crossing has worked with the United Way and Essity to provide signage at Fritsch Park to promote activities to get children moving.





Multi-modal transportation such as walking, biking, and public transportation can also help enhance the health and overall physical activity of all residents, by improving air quality and the environment, and reducing overall traffic congestion. Numerous village residents choose to walk, bike, and/or utilize public transportation as a primary means of transportation due to cost of vehicle ownership and maintenance, environmental choice, healthy lifestyle choice, etc. These types of initiatives are recognized at the state, national, and international-level to create safe, convenient, affordable, and

fun opportunities for residents to walk, bike, and/or utilize public transportation as a primary means of transportation. Health and safety should be a priority concern to the citizens of the Village of Fox Crossing. Safe Routes to School programs can assist communities and encourage children to walk and bike to school as long as connections are in place and barriers are crossed.

### THE PARKS AND HEALTH CONNECTION

Lastly, according to a publication from the Trust for Public Land, there are 8 ways that parks can improve your overall health:

- 1. Parks <u>increase exercise</u>. People who live closer to parks are shown to exercise more as the opportunity is there and people who regularly use parks get more exercise than people who don't.
- 2. Most moderate exercise takes place in parks, approximately 12%. Parks are where people get the **kind of exercise** their bodies need most.
- 3. Parks <u>reduce stress</u> and clear the mind. Outdoor areas boost focus and promote relaxation as the term being one with nature implies.
- 4. A park makeover with **aesthetically pleasing** spaces encourages use and promotes public health habits.
- 5. A <u>variety of amenities</u> can attract different users, i.e. skateparks, basketball and tennis courts, baseball, paths, and therefore encourage fun activities.
- Dedicated <u>fitness zone exercise areas</u> encourage exercise and increase park use. The Village of Fox Crossing just put in workout benches at Fritsch Park where parents can get in reps while watching their kids play on the playground. Body fitness stations are becoming popular to encourage adults to workout.
- 7. Supervised <u>activities and programming</u> maximize a park's public health benefit. Getting people out and moving in a fun active setting is the best medicine.
- 8. Exercise is one of the cheapest ways to stay healthy. By promoting healthy habits, parks can help **reduce health care costs**.

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RECOMMENDATIONS

# **Chapter 6: Recommendations**

As Chapter 4 reflects, the Village of Fox Crossing currently has adequate land for recreational use to accommodate its population but should look at future growth concerns and add parks when new development takes place. To more accurately assess the needs, the Parks Commission conducted a thorough analysis of its parks and recreational facilities. The needs they identified focused on specific recreational facilities currently not available, in limited supply, or in demand of additional improvement or expansion based on trends. They determined that adding or upgrading these facilities will help achieve the Village's goal of providing residents with a wide variety of recreational opportunities.

The proposals in this plan are intended to serve as a guide for the future development of park and recreation areas in the Village. Although some of the recommendations may not be feasible in the near future, they represent courses of action that should be taken if the opportunity or need arises. Projects that are feasible for implementation within the next few years are included in the community's five-year action program, Chapter 7. These should be reviewed annually by the Parks Commission to accommodate changing costs as well as needs of the community.

### SUGGESTIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS

#### General

- a. Ensure that active and passive recreational areas and facilities are ADA compliant and meet the various needs of the community.
- b. Redevelopment of parks and open space should follow the sustainability policy and industry best practices.
- c. The Village should consider doing an <u>Economic Impact Study Analysis</u> of its parks and recreational programs to show value and what type of tourism dollars are being added to the community and the economy.

#### (On-going projects)

- d. Beautification projects, such as flower bed plantings, should continue to be maintained by volunteers where feasible.
- e. Trails and Parking areas continue to be sealed and clear coated.
- f. Performed spring playground inspections and made repairs as necessary.
- g. Completed the park & trail system tree inventory.
- h. Arbor Day events at different parks
- i. Installation of memorial trees and benches in various locations

Here is a list of accomplishments completed by year 2017-2020 from capital improvement projects:

2020	<ul> <li>Anunson Farm Park - developed, including site excavation and the installation of two playgrounds, an open-air shelter, asphalt and nature trails and an open space area</li> <li>Fritse Park - 2 benches installed at top of sledding hill</li> <li>In response to the COVID-19 Pandemic with increased park usage, successfully kept restrooms and pavilions clean to ensure participant safety</li> <li>Jacobson Road Trail was completed from CB to Coldspring Road</li> <li>Memorial Program – 4 stationary benches installed, 1 swing bench installed, 7 trees planted</li> <li>O'Hauser Park (north) - painted inside and out, automatic door locks installed, bag toss installed</li> <li>O'Hauser Park (south) - tennis courts resurfaced, disc golf course saw record breaking use</li> <li>Palisades Park – Fixed upper lot crack sealed, tennis court fencing repaired</li> <li>Performed spring and fall playground inspections and made repairs as necessary</li> <li>Rydell Conservancy - work included successful installation of pedestrian bridge, connecting trails and memorial benches</li> <li>Trails - seal coating and crack seal work done on CB Trail, W. American Dr. Trail and E. Shady Ln. Trail</li> <li>Wittmann Park - gag pit installed</li> <li>Woodland Prairie Park - with the help of a volunteer group, snow shoe and mountain bike trails were installed, park use dramatically increased</li> </ul>
<b>2019</b>	<ul> <li>Crack filled and seal coated parking lots and trails</li> <li>Placed 3 new baskets on the Disc Golf Course</li> <li>Continued improvements at Rydell property with dedicated volunteer group</li> <li>Arbor Day Celebration held at Palisades Park</li> <li>Removed all Ash trees removed from Palisades Park</li> <li>Completed the Park &amp; Trail System tree inventory</li> <li>Performed spring playground inspections and made repairs as necessary</li> <li>Design work and footings started on the Rydell Conservancy pedestrian bridge</li> <li>Performed the installation of memorial trees and benches in various locations</li> <li>Roof was replaced on the O'Hauser Park South pavilion</li> </ul>

# 2019

- Anunson Farm Park Master Plan Completed
- Woodland Prairie Park Master Plan Completed
- With assistance from the Fire Department, the property at 1386 E. Shady Lane was demolished
- Updated security camera system at Fritse Park
- Installed a Bike Fix-It Station on American Drive trail
- Schlidt Park new roof for shelter is still pending

# **2018**

- Crack filled and seal coated parking lots and trails
- Placed 7 new baskets on the Disc Golf Course
- Continued improvements at O'Hauser Park and the Rydell Property with volunteer group assistance
- Hosted Arbor Day celebration at New Hope Christian School
- Installed gas line to Fritsch Park Pavilion and replaced electric furnace with a gas furnace
- Resurfaced basketball and tennis courts and new volleyball court at Palisades Park
- Performed spring and fall playground inspections and made repairs as necessary
- Installed a Bike Fix-It Station at Fritse Park
- Kuehn Park complete playground update
- Landscaped areas were redone at Pearl Stroebe-Cox, Fritse Park and Fritsch Park.
- Woodland Prairie Park Master Plan was started

# 2017

- Crack filled and seal coated parking lots and trails
- Placed 4 new baskets on the Disc Golf Course
- Replaced dilapidated bridge at O'Hauser Park South
- Continued improvements at O'Hauser Park and the Rydell Property with our very dedicated volunteer group
- Held our first Arbor Day Celebration Event (on Arbor Day) at Spring Road Elementary
- Re-evaluated the layout of the Fritsch Park ice rink and will level mounds in center tor larger skating surface
- Performed spring and fall playground inspections and made repairs as necessary
- Removed the Gant Park barn, silo and foundation, and boat dock
- Ice Rink at Fritsch Park was reconfigured to make it more functional
- Finished Phases II & III of Wittman Park Improvements
- Removed all buckthorn from Pearl Stroebe-Cox Park
- Installed water lines and prepared Wittman Park Community Gardens

#### 2022-2026 Future Recommendations:

List of specific accomplishments completed from the last plan are listed in GREEN:

### **Community Parks**



# Fritsch

- Consider a rain garden in the non-activity areas as to cut down on mowing time and to control lingering flooding issues
- Replace Fitness Equipment
- Assess the continued drainage issues
- Work with volunteers for plantings by exercise area
- Reduce mulch tramples by exercise area (cow paths) by adding in a permanent pathway
- Reduce vandalism by adding security cameras



#### Fritse:

- Keep Trestle Trail Kiosk up to date, replace map
- Upgrade cameras along the trail
- Add a paving extension additional parking for boat trailers
- Add an ADA kayak or canoe launch closest to the trail

#### Rydell:

- Install trail signage and update trail system
- Continue with shoreline habitat restoration and invasive removals



O'Hauser – North / South / Disc Golf Course

#### Park:

- Consider additional parking areas, resurface South parking lot
- Further develop the nature walk trails









- Expand nature trails to incorporate the southwest wetlands with boardwalks/bridge
- Possibly add more garbage receptacles

#### Disc Golf Course:

- Continue to improve the disc golf course with new baskets when worn
- Periodically check users for passes
- Add a free-standing shelter



# Palisades

- Improve drainage issues for south / southwest areas of park
  - Road construction/improvements with culverts
  - Work in partnership with WisDOT on a stormwater study
  - Rain Garden could be installed to assist in water drainage and also be added as an educational tool.



- Move volleyball court poles and replace curbing
- Add a crushed limestone trail on north end of park
- Replace roof on community



# Schildt / Community Gardens

- Prepare conceptual site master plan for the south portion of the park to possibly include:
  - A new parking lot configuration is needed. Current angle parking is awkward with flow of traffic in and out of park.
  - Trail connections (path to Benjamin Ct.)
  - Evaluate volleyball court usage and upgrade with lighting (6 poles)
  - Upgrade play equipment
  - o Add an archery range
  - Pervious pavement upgrades (2018)
  - Swing benches near playground
  - o Creek bed restoration
  - New roof for shelter (in progress, 2019)
  - Shade trees and prairie areas





- o Develop use plan for granary volunteer labor community garden
- o ADA accessibility throughout
- Work with stormwater utility in a cooperative effort to create a dual function area (in progress)

# Wittmann

- Construct a native prairie area/wetland project in the north part of the park – Community Gardens area was created at the south end
- Consider increasing the soccer play areas
- Add landscaping to parking lot and shelter
- Restripe and repave parking lot
- Consider adding a park sign on shelter visible from Airport Road

# Woodland Prairie

- Revise the concept master plan completed in 2008 to start implementing the strategies and development of the park
- Explore the possibility of an adventure type park (American Ninja Warrior) with obstacle courses or a mountain bike pump track
- Impact fee study should be redone to accommodate for the current rate changes and new development that is occurring (Village vs. Town rates)
- to nanges and Village vs.
- Add in nature trails throughout property (in progress)
- Keep the property nature-based vs. sports oriented as the name implies

#### **Neighborhood Parks**

# Anunson Farm

- Develop a master plan with road access to the park once 70% of residential development is complete in the bordering east neighborhood.
- Consider purchasing an extra three acres north for additional space (land fee in fieu of development revenue)







- Keep the woodland areas a priority
- Consider garbage and recycling containers
- Possible amenities in the park may include:
  - Play Structure(s)
  - o Picnic areas
  - o **Trails**
  - o Open Shelter
  - o Lighting
  - o Shade Sail above Play Structure



# Butte des Morts

- Continue with the shoreline restoration as needed
- Add a swing set near the playground
- Add an ADA kayak launch
- Replace playground equipment



# Gant

- Develop a master plan
- Remediate the shoreline (add rock to help with erosion)
- Clear brush and weeds from site to open up water view and fishing area
- Add benches and a sign
- Identify and eradicate invasive species such as Buckthorn, Purple Loosestrife, Canadian Thistle, and Mustard Weed should any exist
- Remove the current pier as it is unsafe
- Add a picnic area and designated walkway to water
- Consider a privacy fence on the north side of property line in correlation with the neighbors



# Strohmeyer

 Consider more benches near the playground area







- Maintain the basketball court surface
- Add in more shade trees or consider a shade canopy
- Surface needed for bike rack, access path

#### Mini-Parks



#### Glenview

- Update playground equipment to meet safety standards, lower baby swings for easier lifting
- Add bigger kids swings
- Work with the Town of Neenah and the WisDOT to address drainage areas to the Green Valley Ditch with road improvements and detention ponds. Current culvert exists.
- Replace older playground equipment
- Provide a walkway to play area



# Kippenhan

- Add more benches look for donations to assist in the additions
- Replace playground equipment



# Meadow Heights

- Evaluate play equipment and replace or add new structures as needed
- Swings are needed and asked for by residents
- Plant more shade trees, i.e. landscaping plan
- Add more benches



#### Kuehn

- Update the playground equipment as use dictates
- Add some benches close to playground
- Install a bike rack look to the FVTC program, Rotary, or sponsorships for donations









• Add in new base, make park more aesthetically pleasing (landscaping plan)



# Westfield

- Maintain the current playground equipment
- Add wayfinding signage to get to the park
- Install a bike rack look to the FVTC program, Rotary, or sponsorships for donations



General park equipment to include replacement of picnic tables through out the park system in the five year span.

# NEW SITES FOR POSSIBLE EXPANSION AND DEVELOPMENT

As was stated in the last park plan update, the following areas should be explored for park development and expansion: (Map 5)

- Site A: A neighborhood park site should be considered in the northeast corner of the Village bordered by Calumet and Oneida Streets as this area lacks park and recreational facilities. This may not be feasible as all parcels are developed but could be set as a long-term goal and work with the City of Appleton on shared use.
- Site B: A neighborhood park should be considered in this area to alleviate the lack of park facilities northeast of the intersection of Cold Spring Road and East Shady Lane. A road barrier currently exists. Alternatively, Woodland Prairie Park should be developed with trail connections along Allison Drive to link the subdivision.
- Site C: This site could be developed as a community park or even a <u>regional park</u> with the surrounding communities and business partnerships. (*Town of Clayton (west) and Village of Greenville (north)*. This would assist in the maintenance concerns and help with budget costs. It has forested lands, navigable streams, as well as area for play fields. As Wittmann Park and Fritsch Park are both defined as community parks, a community park is proposed to maintain park levels and compensate for an increased population base. The area is approximately 450 acres that would be better served as a regional preserve park.
- Site D: The Village-owned landfill has the potential to be utilized for such facilities as sledding and tobogganing hill-runs, cross-country skiing and terrain courses for non-motorized dirt or mountain bike trails. The west section could be used for cross country skiing and snowshoeing, a golf course, playfields, trails, etc. This would be a long-term project for development.

- Site E: This corridor should be considered for a trail that would connect to the developed Anunson Farm Park and Woodland Prairie, as well as Site D. Note, these properties are within Environmentally Sensitive Areas and trail flooding should be considered when planning a connection. A potential partner could be the Secura Insurance and other businesses in the area. Another entrance from the round-a-bout of CB and Mutual Way to Woodland Prairie should be made available to access the trails. Pedestrian access from the eastside off of Allison Drive and overpass connecting the CB trail to the west should also be considered following the master plan guidelines.
- Site F: A neighborhood park should be considered in this vicinity that could incorporate the Department of Natural Resources identified wetlands and an area for playfields, playground equipment, and other amenities while connecting to the Gateway Subdivision. This site will supplement Meadow Heights Park, which is located on the south side of the heavily used West American Drive. The area west of Irish Road, North of Hwy 10 east of Clayton Ave and south of E. Shady Lane, which includes significant residential areas, does not have safe "*walkable*" access to a neighborhood or community park.
- Site G: When the property at the southwest corner of Jacobsen Road and County Highway CB develops, the wetlands and additional acreage should be purchased, when available, to expand the Wildlife Heights Open Space to include an area for playground equipment.
- Site H: A section of the property to the west of Schildt Park should be dedicated for the expansion of the park to serve the neighborhood off of Benjamin Ct. A trail could then be linked to the park.

#### **Open Space Areas (passive areas)**

Fox Crossing currently has 2 acres per 1,000 person ratio which meets the NRPA 2.0 acres per 1,000 person ratio for open space. The Village should still proceed to protect and preserve environmentally sensitive areas. It does suggest using a holistic method of partnering environmentally sensitive areas with active recreation areas within community and neighborhood parks. Many of the sites recommended for expansion and development in the park section above recommend acquisition of open space along with active areas.

As a whole, land that becomes available along the shores of Little Lake Butte des Morts should be considered for acquisition. There are minimal public access points to Little Lake Butte des Morts and this is a water resource that could be enjoyed by the entire community.

#### PUBLIC RECOMMENDATIONS

On July 20, 2021, at Schildt Park during a local event, attendees were asked to take a pack of 10 \$1,000 bills and distribute the play money among 10 amenity boxes they thought should be added to the parks system. Of the participants, 25% said they would spend money on a splashpad, followed by playgrounds (17%) and exercise equipment (12%). The full results are listed in the table below:

Ranking	Money Box	Amount	%
1	Splashpad	\$ 49,000.00	25%
2	Playground	\$ 34,000.00	17%
3	Exercise Equipment	\$ 24,000.00	12%
4	Ball Diamonds	\$ 21,000.00	11%
5	Nature Areas	\$ 22,000.00	11%
6	Trails	\$ 19,000.00	10%
7	Kayak / Boat Launches	\$ 12,000.00	6%
8	Shelter	\$ 9,000.00	5%
9	Court Sports	\$ 8,000.00	4%
10	Event Spaces	\$ 2,000.00	1%
	Total Collected:	\$ 200,000.00	100%

Next, attendees were asked to place checkmarks where they thought Fox Crossing had too many amenities, too few, or just right. The information gathered will give the Parks Commission a snapshot of where to concentrate their efforts for the next 5 years.

#### Table 6-2: Survey Activity Results by Need

Feature	More	Less	All Good
Amphitheater			1
Boat / Kayak Launches	1		1
Ball Diamonds	1		1
Basketball Courts			1
Educational Areas	3		1
Fishing Areas			1
Ice Skating Rink	2		1
Playgrounds	2		1
Picnic Areas	2		1
Pet Friendly Areas	3		1

Multi-Use Trails	3		
Nature Areas / Wildlife			
Viewing	2		1
Pickleball Courts			1
Splashpad	4		
Total:	23		12

#### **Comments Received**

- Great community always hosting family friendly events
- **Anunson Farm** needs shade sails over playground slides, too hot to slide down when sun is beating down on them.

"We have been coming here for years! Love the parks." ~ Bethany Ernst, Resident

# POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

#### **Tree Preservation Ordinance**

Fox Crossing should consider adopting a tree preservation ordinance. Such an ordinance would aid in choosing areas of dedication for parks. As stated in the last section, active recreation parks should be located next to environmentally sensitive areas. Additionally, this ordinance would protect the aesthetics and character which trees provide to a community. Trees have also been proven to add economic value to residents in reduced cooling costs, increased property value, and ecological benefits of reduced pollutants. (These properties are further described in the Introduction). Added economic benefits can be obtained by being designated a Tree City USA by The National Arbor Day Foundation. In some cases preferential status is assigned to municipalities that are designated a Tree City when applying for grants.

Tree preservation ordinances are directed at preserving native and historical trees or providing provisions for replacement of trees should removal be necessary on public and private property. This type of ordinance is usually enacted during the land development (e.g. Site Plan Review, Subdivision/Land Division) process. In the preservation portion of the ordinance, certain species of trees or trees of a certain size are preserved. Should these trees be removed, the replacement portion of the ordinance is enacted. Replacement of trees can be governed by:

- sliding scales;
- percentage replacement;
- off-site reforestation; and
- flexible no-net loss formulas.

#### SPECIAL ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

#### **Urban Forestry**

The Village of Fox Crossing should continue its Urban Forestry program, and with the Tree City USA designation, clean air and water, aesthetics and community image are greatly increased by urban forestry. An updated tree inventory could assist in keeping the urban forest healthy. Utilizing software programs such as iTree can help.

#### **School Cooperation**

School Districts are important entities in the community's open and recreation space. Combined planning is instrumental to secure adequate facilities which are maintained well for use of the entire community. Shared planning efforts may assist in developing the number of active recreation spaces, maintenance responsibilities and costs, as well as cooperation of use and operations of all facilities. Open communication and utilizing all available land and resources will continue to provide the community positive results for active recreational lands.

#### **Private Sector Cooperation**

Due to current funding constraints on municipal governments throughout the State of Wisconsin, the private sector and user groups are beginning to assist in park development and ongoing site maintenance. User group, such as the Lion's Club, have established relationships with Menasha in assisting park facility donation practices. The Village needs to continue this open communication as well as developing on-going agreements which allow user groups to assist in funding or providing "in-kind" funding for the development and maintenance of athletic fields and areas they are directly using.

#### **Accessibility Guidelines**

Accessible describes a site, building, facility, or portion thereof that complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) as interpreted by the Department of Commerce in the Wisconsin Administrative Code and Register for Barrier-Free Design. Newly designed or newly constructed and altered recreation facilities shall comply with the applicable requirements for accessibility to buildings and facilities by individuals with disabilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990.

#### Shared-Use Parks<sup>1</sup>

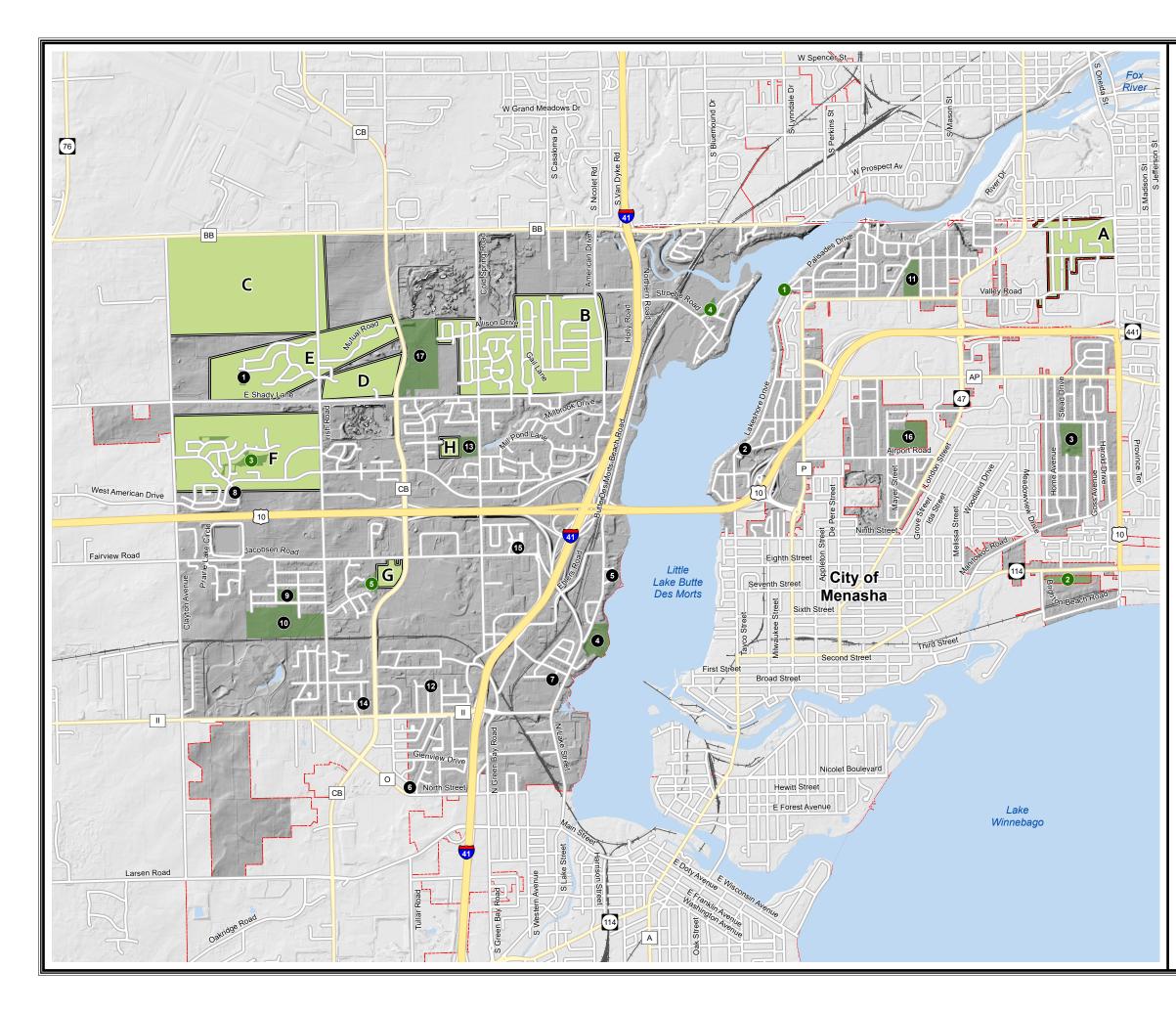
Park development, improvement and maintenance are costly and especially difficult with shrinking budgets. This plan incorporates several joint park developments with neighboring communities. Parks should and do serve everyone and not just the individuals that live within your community. The development of parks with neighboring communities will spread these costs out to two or more communities and provide a park that serves residents in adjacent communities. The Cities of Neenah and Menasha have already shown an interest in jointly developing recreational facilities such as the trestle trail loop project. Residents are unaware of municipal boundaries and these possibilities should be explored.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>http://www.publichealthlawcenter.org/resources/wisconsin-school-district-resources-recreational-use-school-property</u>

#### Maintenance

Inspection of park and recreation facilities indicated that Village facilities are well-maintained. Sustainable park areas not only protect public investment, but ensure safety. Park staff should continue to provide services, which adequately operate and maintain park and recreation areas and facilities. To ensure continued excellence in park maintenance, the following policies should continue to be implemented:

- Provide routine maintenance and cleanliness for all facilities.
- Provide for non-recurring maintenance needs, repairs and replacements.
- Annually inspect all facilities for safety and maintenance needs.
- Appropriate funds to meet the needs for proper maintenance.
- Maintain facilities to meet the standards of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- Develop athletic field maintenance programs to meet the states NR151 Regulations.
- Encourage park staff to attend training conferences to continuing education opportunities.
- Set standards for mowing heights and frequency.
- Set standards for infield maintenance, "lip" reduction, etc.
- Set standards for removal of a field for use based on safety concerns and field conditions.
- Develop a list of when events should be cancelled and who makes the call.
- Complete and document seasonal playground inspections, (spring and fall).





Source:

Base data provided by Winnebago County 2020.

This data was created for use by the East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission Geographic Information System. Any other use/application of this information is the responsibility of the user and such use/application is at their own risk. East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission disclaims all liability regarding fitness of the information for any use other than for East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission business.

PREPARED DECEMBER 2021 BY:



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ACTION PROGRAM

# **Chapter 7: Action Plan**

# 5-YEAR ACTION PLAN, 2022-2026

The projects listed below in Table 7-1, comprise the action program set forth by the Village of Fox Crossing Park Commission and Village Board for implementation during the next five years and beyond. This action program is based on priority level by year to serve as a guide in planning for future facilities. These were formulated to see where the community should be expending its resources from 2022-2026 and beyond. This will also assist service clubs and organizations to select potential park improvement projects if so inclined. As updates and development nears, more costs should be researched to assist in project budgeting and be included within the estimated Capital Improvement Program (CIP).

Many of the projects identified in the action program are potential candidates for receiving cost sharing monies available through the WDNR, WisDOT, etc., while others could be developed through the efforts and/or monetary support of volunteers and community organizations.

This plan works to develop and manage a working system of park and recreational facilities for the Village of Fox Crossing. It has been prepared to respond to expressed desires from its residents and to conform to the comprehensive plan as accepted standards for provision of facilities. It provides the basic information and direction for future actions but considerable work remains to implement the proposals.

# **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS**

The following section provides a plan for implementing the recommendations over the next fiveyear period. Cost estimates are provided to assist in preparing for future funding.

A 4% inflationary factor has been built into the capital improvement plan. The estimates provided are for the total cost of the project, and do not take into account any potential funding assistance, even though some projects may qualify for grant funding but usually a match is required. The capital improvements included in this plan were determined through input from staff and residents through public surveys and meetings.

# **Project Priority**

In order to provide a concise action plan for the recommended projects, a priority year for each project was established with input from the Park Commission. Ultimately the priority and the dollar amounts spent on each project will be decided by the Village Board on a project by project basis. Estimates will change per year and inflation rates as well as available grants and funding resources.

#### Table 7-1: Five-Year Strategies and Recommendations

(List of future projects and estimates for various projects from recommendations Chapter 6 and the current CIP for 2022-2026.)

Needed Now 2022-23 Short-Term 2024 Long Term 2025-26+

	Est. Cost	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Fritsch						
Fitness Equipment Replacement				\$43,000		
Rain Garden Installation					\$15,600	
Subtotal	\$58,600			\$43,000	\$15,600	
		2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Fritse / Rydell						
ADA kayak or canoe launch			\$75,000			
Asphalt Paving Extension – boat trailer parking			Long-T	erm		
Rydell Site - shoreline restoration					\$121,800	L
Subtotal	\$196,800		\$75,000		\$121,800	
		2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
O'Hauser – North/South/Disc						
Disc Golf Free Standing Shelter			\$40,000			
OHS Parking Lot Expansion and Larsen Field renovation			\$300,000			
Nature Walk Trails – SW Corner, Permit/Engineering					\$7,840	
Expand nature trails to incorporate the southwest wetlands						
with boardwalks/bridge						\$46,400
Possibly add more garbage receptacles		\$1,000				
Subtotal	\$395,240	\$1,000	\$340,000		\$7,840	\$46,400
		2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Palisades						
Rain Garden Installation					\$15,600	
Crushed Limestone Trail on north end of park				\$10,000		
Community Center Roof Replacement						\$61,000
Subtotal	\$86,600			\$10,000	\$15,600	\$61,00

Village of Fox Crossing Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2022-2026 Chapter 7: Action Plan

	Est. Cost	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Schildt*						
West Expansion of Park					\$300,800	
Playground Equipment Update					\$100,000	-
Archery Range					\$20,000	-
Pervious surface over current gravel base parking						-
lot/entrance					\$27,000	
Pervious Pavement					\$108,000	
Creek Bed Restoration					\$27,000	
Volleyball Ct Restoration					\$16,200	-
Lighting (6) @\$4000 + 4%					\$25,920	
Connecting path to Benjamin Ct					\$10,800	
Building- ADA Consideration and Roof Replacement					\$112,000	
Plant shade trees and prairie					\$45,680	
Subtotal	\$793,400				\$793,400	
*Items in blue boxes above should be done in						
conjunction with the stormwater project.		2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Wittmann			• • • • • • •			
Add landscaping to parking lot and shelter			\$12,000			
Park signage on new shelter	¢47.000			\$5,000		
Subtotal	\$17,000		\$12,000	\$5,000		
		2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Woodland Prairie						
Master Plan – Begin Development Phases* Long term funding and Grants		\$10,000	\$300,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	
Subtotal	\$4,310,000	\$10,000	\$300,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	
Gustolar		φ10,000	ψ000,000	φ2,000,000	φ2,000,000	
Neighborhood Parks						
	Est. Cost	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Anunson Farm	LSI. COSI		2023	2024	2023	2020
Shade Sail over Playground		\$456				
Subtotal	\$456	\$ <b>456</b>				
Subiolai	••••	\$456 2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Butte des Morts		2022	2025	2024	2023	2020
Add an ADA kayak launch			\$25,462			
Replace playground equipment						
Shoreline restoration			\$37,000 \$97,529			
	\$125,000		\$87,538			
Subtotal	+ -= 2,000	2022	\$125,000	2024	2025	2026
Cont		2022	2023	2024	2025	2020
Gant Demodiate the Charaline					ф <u>г</u> г 000	
Remediate the Shoreline			#40.000		\$55,000	
Eradicate Invasive Species / Clear Tree Branches			\$10,000			<b><b><b></b></b></b>
Parking Lot and Drive				<b>AF 000</b>		\$50,00
Add path/trails to shoreline (natural base)				\$5,000		
Subtotal	\$120,000		\$10,000	\$5,000	\$55,000	\$50,0

		Est. Cost	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Strohmeyer							
Additional Benches			\$1,500				
Plant Shade Trees					\$1,730		
Access Path							\$15,20
	Subtotal	\$18,430	\$1,500		\$1,730		\$15,20
Mini-Parks							
		Est. Cost	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Glenview							
Replace and Update Play Structure					\$35,000		
	Subtotal	\$35,000			\$35,000		
			2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Kippenhan							
Replace Play Structure						\$46,000	
Additional Benches				\$1000			
	Subtotal	\$47,000		\$1000		\$46,000	
			2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·							
Meadow Heights							
Additional Play Equipment with Swings				\$20,000	<b>*</b> 4 <b>=</b> 000		
Plant Shade Trees / Landscape Plan			<b>.</b>		\$15,000		
Add Benches			\$1000				
	Subtotal	\$36,000	\$1000	\$20,000	\$15,000		
			2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Roy Kuehn							
Add Benches			\$1500				
Add Bike Racks		¢0.450	\$650				
	Subtotal	\$2,150	\$2,150				
			2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Westfield							
Play Equipment						\$46,000	
Wayfinding Signage (Off Jacobsen)						\$6,500	
Add Bike Racks					\$650		
	Subtotal	\$53,150			\$650	\$52,500	
General Park Equipment			2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Picnic Table Replacement				\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,00
	Subtotal	\$80,000		\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,00

Summary Totals by Year and Park Type*									
	Est. Costs	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026			
Туре									
Community	\$5,857,640	\$11,000	\$727,000	\$2,058,000	\$2,954,240	\$170,400			
Neighborhood	\$263,886	\$1,956	\$135,000	\$6,730	\$55,000	\$65,200			
Mini	\$173,300	\$3,150	\$21,000	\$50,650	\$98,500	\$ <i>0</i>			
General	\$80,000	\$0	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000			
Totals: <u>Five</u> Year Capital Improvement Total for all Years and Parks =	\$6,374,826	\$16,106	\$903,000	\$2,135,380	\$3,127,740	\$255,600			

\*Costs of all projects within the Recommendations Chapter 6 and Capital Improvement Program for 2022-2026. These are estimated <u>costs if all projects were approved</u> through the five-year period. The Park Commission and the Village Board do not need to budget and spend these amounts. The improvements listed give an estimate of what it would cost to update these parks. Rationales for updates are represented within Chapter 2, Goals and Chapter 4, Needs Assessment based on the public survey and opinions. Years 2024-2025 assume development of Woodland Prairie. Phases may go beyond 2026 depending on funding. Page intentionally left blank.



# **RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION**

# RES #211213-2 <u>ADOPT VILLAGE OF FOX CROSSING COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR</u> <u>RECREATION PLAN FOR 2022-2026</u>

WHEREAS, the Park Commission has adopted and recommended approval of an update to the Village of Fox Crossing Five-Year Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan for 2022-2026; and

WHEREAS, this plan update will be included into the Village of Fox Crossing Comprehensive Plan by reference; and

WHEREAS, the approval of this plan update is necessary for future grant applications.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Village of Fox Crossing Board of Trustees hereby approves the update to the Village of Fox Crossing Five-Year Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2022-2026.

Adopted this 13<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2021

Requested by: Amanda Geiser, Director of Parks & Recreation Submitted by: Dale A. Youngquist, Village President

1. Junisain

Dale A. Youngquist, Village President

Attest: Darla M. Fink, Village Clerk



SURVEY SUMMARY

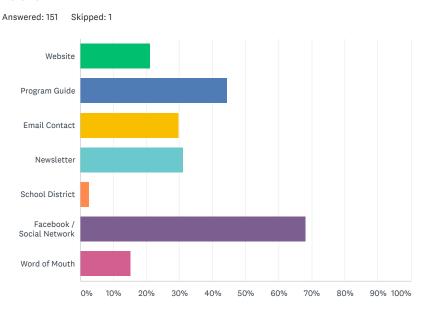
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# Survey Results

All Pages 🔻

### Q1

How do you receive your information about parks and recreation programs or activities? (Please check all that apply.)



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Website	21.19%	32
Program Guide	44.37%	67
Email Contact	29.80%	45
Newsletter	31.13%	47
School District	2.65%	4
Facebook / Social Network	68.21%	103

15.23%

23

Total Respondents: 151 Comments (2)

Word of Mouth

I like time to see it in written form and then check back for dates, times, etc.

6/16/2021 11:57 AM

Text

4/14/2021 8:19 PM

COPY

Share Link https:

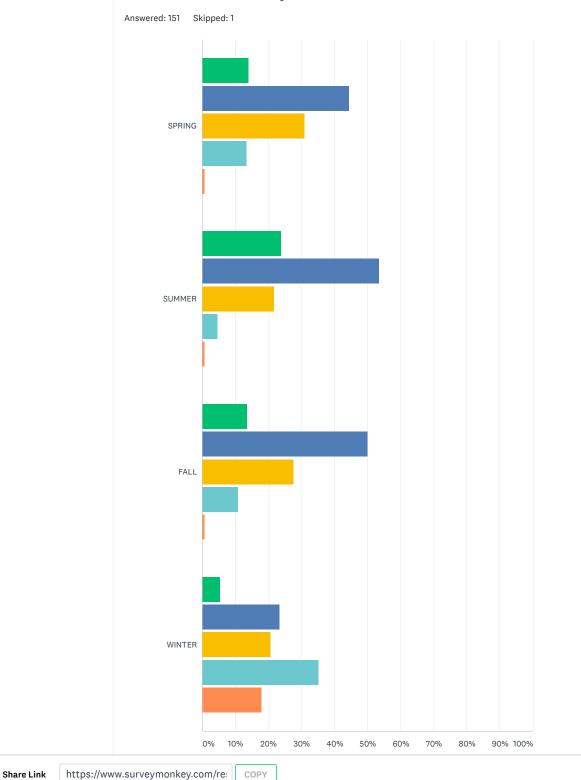
https://www.surveymonkey.com/re

SIGN UP FREE

 $\bigcirc$ 

### Q2

How often have you/or family members visited a park in the last 12 months by season?



https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-CBRXFW8Y9/

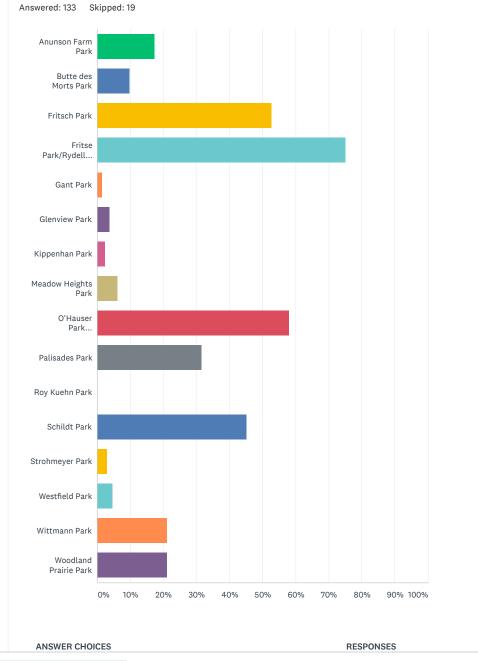
SIGN UP FREE

 $\mathcal{Q}$ 

	PAILI	WELINE!	PIONTIL			RESPONDENTS
SPRING	14.09%	44.30%	30.87%	13.42%	0.67%	
	21	66	46	20	1	149
SUMMER	23.84%	53.64%	21.85%	4.64%	0.66%	
	36	81	33	7	1	151
FALL	13.51%	50.00%	27.70%	10.81%	0.68%	
	20	74	41	16	1	148
WINTER	5.52%	23.45%	20.69%	35.17%	17.93%	
	8	34	30	51	26	145

### Q3

Which village parks listed have you been to? Please check all that apply.



https://www.surveymonkey.com/res

COPY

SIGN UP FREE

 $\mathcal{Q}$ 

THESE FAIR/HYDER FIOPERLY/ HESLE HAR	10.1070	100
Gant Park	1.50%	2
Glenview Park	3.76%	5
Kippenhan Park	2.26%	3
Meadow Heights Park	6.02%	8
O'Hauser Park (north/south)	57.89%	77
Palisades Park	31.58%	42
Roy Kuehn Park	0.00%	0
Schildt Park	45.11%	60
Strohmeyer Park	3.01%	4
Westfield Park	4.51%	6
Wittmann Park	21.05%	28
Woodland Prairie Park	21.05%	28
Total Respondents: 133		

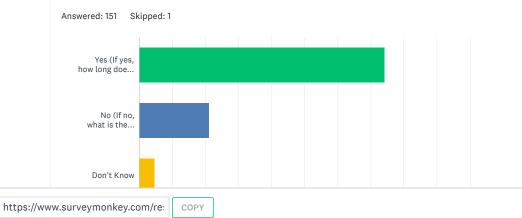
### Q4

Please rank your overall satisfaction with the condition of the parks you have visited?



### **Q**5

Currently, are you able to safely walk and/or bike to a park or recreational facility?



152 responses

Share Link

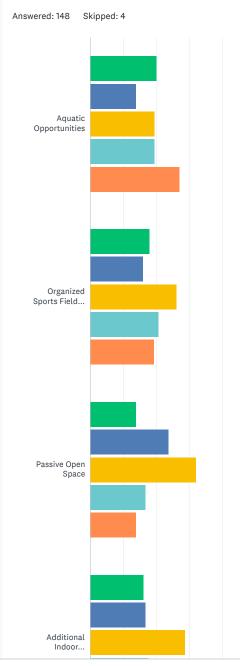


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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	S
Yes (If yes, how long does it take? Please specify below)	74.17%	112
No (If no, what is the barrier? Please specify below)	21.19%	32
Don't Know	4.64%	7
TOTAL		151
Comments (114)		

### **Q**6

Please RANK the following items from 1 being the most important to 5 being the least important in the order Fox Crossing should consider.

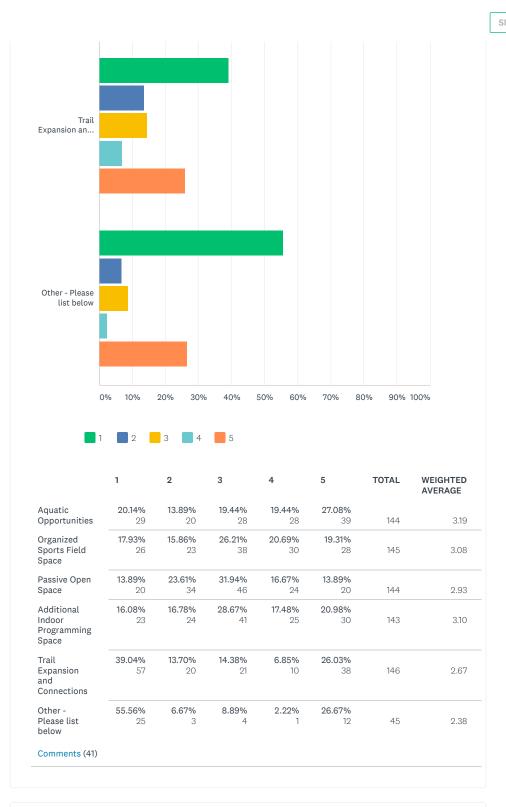


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### Q7

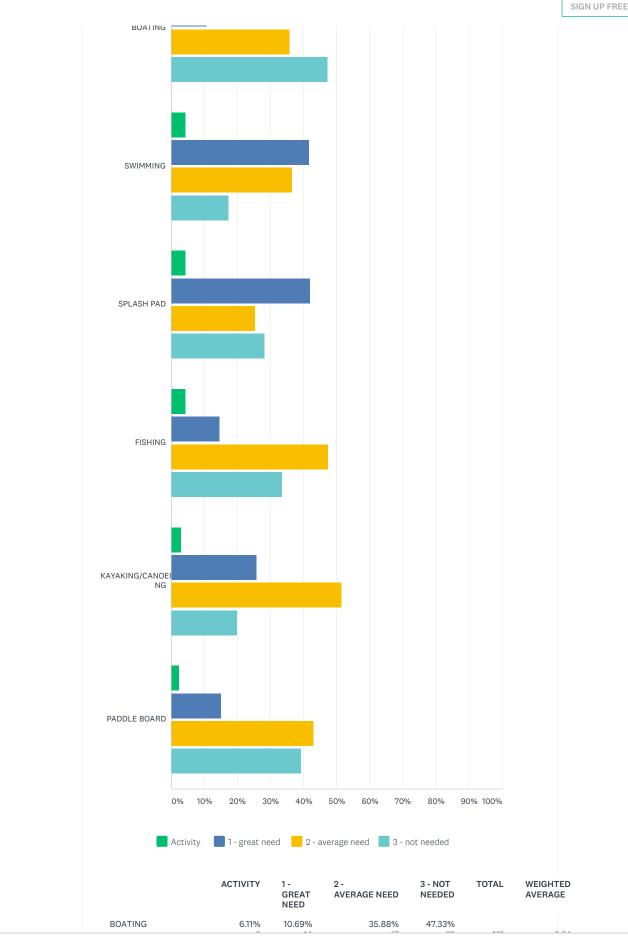
Which WATER BASED ACTIVITIES listed do you or your family participate in? Please check all that apply and rank by need with 1 - being great need, 2 – average need, and 3 – not needed.

Answered: 142 Skipped: 10

COPY



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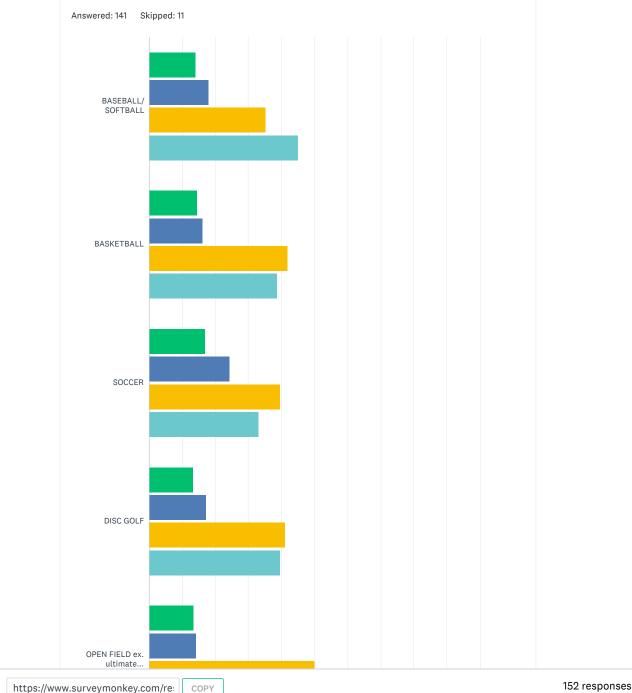
	SIGN	UP	FREE	
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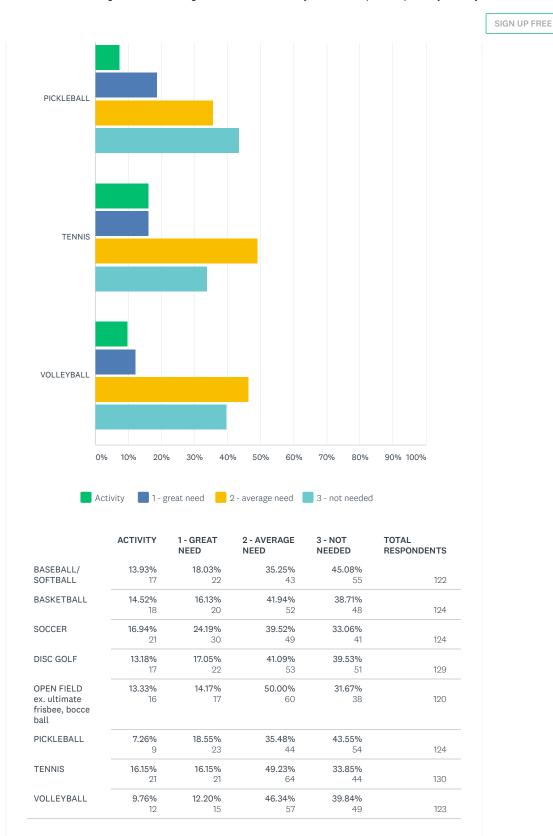
FISHING	4.38%	14.60%	47.45%	33.58%		
	6	20	65	46	137	3.10
KAYAKING/CANOEING	2.94%	25.74%	51.47%	19.85%		
	4	35	70	27	136	2.88
PADDLE BOARD	2.27%	15.15%	43.18%	39.39%		
	3	20	57	52	132	3.20

### **Q**8

Which SPORTS ACTIVITIES listed do you or your family participate in? Please check all that apply and rank by need with 1 - being great need, 2 – average need, and 3 – not needed.



Share Link



### **Q**9

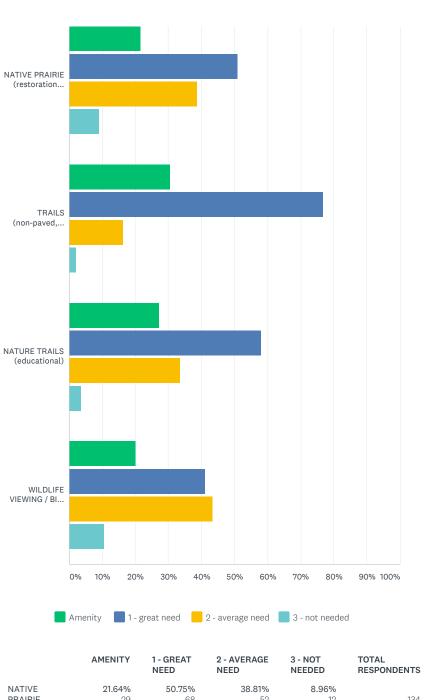
Which NATURE BASED AMENITY listed does you or your family use? Please check all that apply and rank by need with 1 - being great need, 2 – average need, and 3 – not

152 responses

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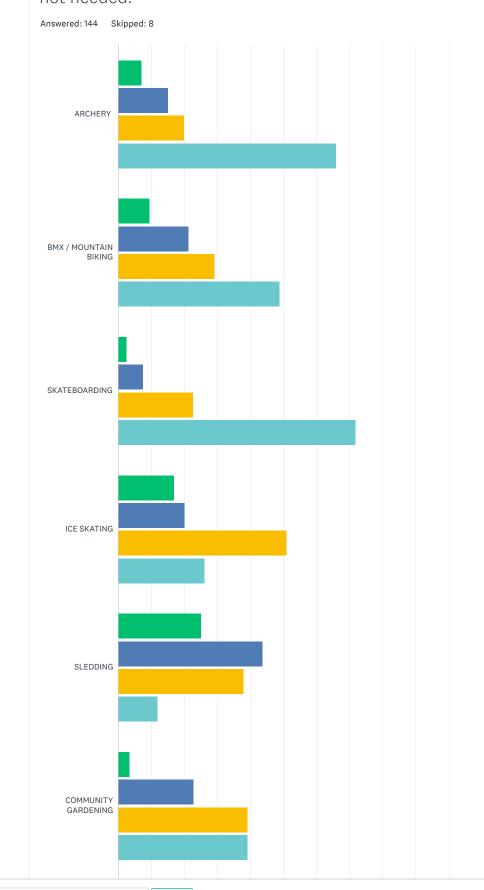


	AMENITY	1 - GREAT NEED	2 - AVERAGE NEED	3 - NOT NEEDED	TOTAL RESPONDENTS
NATIVE PRAIRIE (restorations / preservation)	<b>21.64%</b> 29	<b>50.75%</b> 68	<b>38.81%</b> 52	<b>8.96%</b> 12	134
TRAILS (non- paved, multi- use, walking, hiking, snow shoeing, cross country skiing)	<b>30.61%</b> 45	<b>76.87%</b> 113	16.33% 24	<b>2.04%</b> 3	147
NATURE TRAILS (educational)	<b>27.27%</b> 39	<b>58.04%</b> 83	<b>33.57%</b> 48	<b>3.50%</b> 5	143
WILDLIFE VIEWING / BIRD WATCHING	<b>20.15%</b> 27	<b>41.04%</b> 55	<b>43.28%</b> 58	<b>10.45%</b> 14	134

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# need with 1 - being great need, 2 – average need, and 3 – not needed.



152 responses

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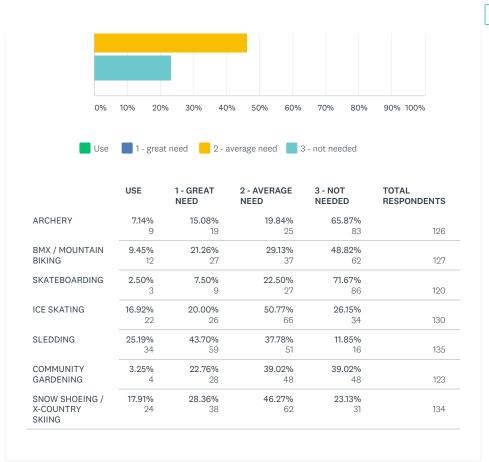
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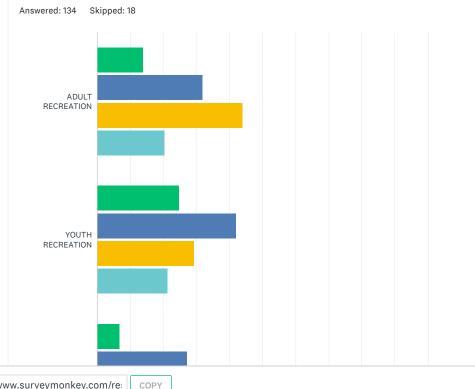


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### Q11

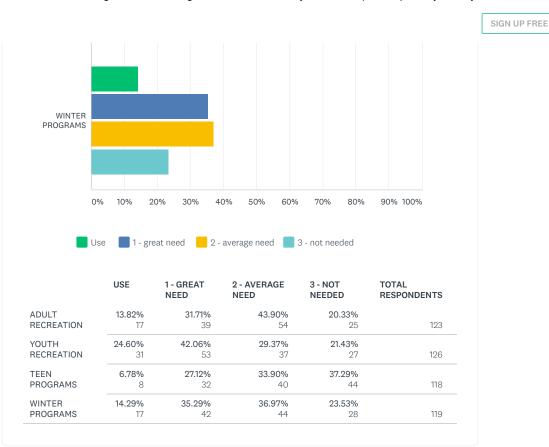
Which PROGRAMS listed does you or your family use? Please check all that apply and rank by need with 1 - being great need, 2 – average need, and 3 – not needed.



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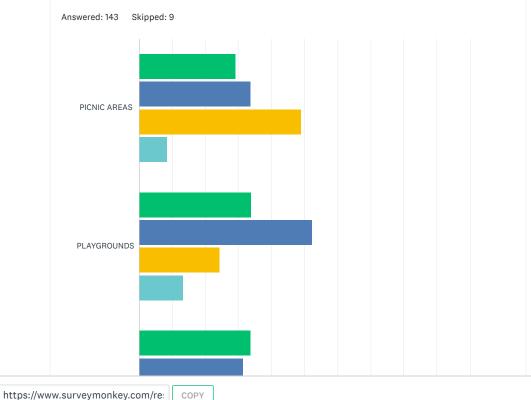
9/8/2021

Village of Fox Crossing Parks and Rec Survey, 2021 - Responses | SurveyMonkey



### Q12

Which TRADITIONAL PARK AMENITIES listed does you or your family use? Please check all that apply and rank by need with 1 - being great need, 2 – average need, and 3 – not needed.



152 responses

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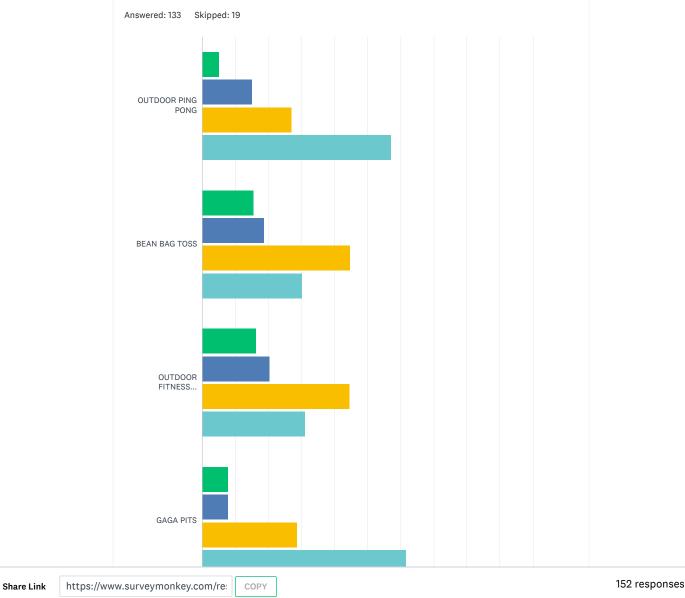
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0%	10% 2	0% 30% 4	0% 50% 60%	70% 80%	90% 100%
Us	e 🔲 1 - gre	at need 📒 2 -	average need 📃 :	3 - not needed	
	USE	1 - GREAT NEED	2 - AVERAGE NEED	3 - NOT NEEDED	TOTAL RESPONDENTS
		NLLD	NEED	NEEDED	RESI ORDERING
PICNIC AREAS	29.01%	33.59%	48.85%	8.40%	RESPONDENTS
PICNIC AREAS	<b>29.01%</b> 38				131
		33.59%	48.85%	8.40%	
	38	<b>33.59%</b> 44	<b>48.85%</b> 64	8.40% 11	
PICNIC AREAS PLAYGROUNDS PARK	38 33.82%	33.59% 44 52.21%	48.85% 64 24.26%	8.40% 11 13.24%	131

# Q13

Which TRENDY AMENITY listed do you or your family use? Please check all that apply and rank by need with 1 - being great need, 2 – average need, and 3 – not needed.



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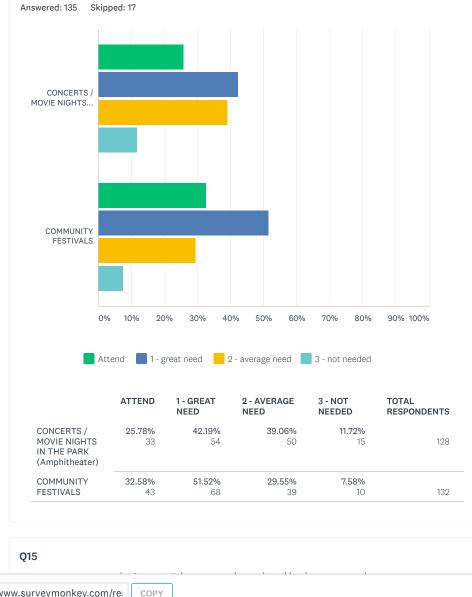
	USE	1 - GREAT NEED	2 - AVERAGE NEED	3 - NOT NEEDED	TOTAL RESPONDENTS
OUTDOOR	5.04%	15.13%	26.89%	57.14%	
PING PONG	6	18	32	68	119
BEAN BAG	15.45%	18.70%	44.72%	30.08%	
TOSS	19	23	55	37	123
OUTDOOR	16.41%	20.31%	44.53%	31.25%	
FITNESS EQUIPMENT	21	26	57	40	128
GAGA PITS	7.83%	7.83%	28.70%	61.74%	
	9	9	33	71	115

1 - great need 2 - average need 3 - not needed

### Q14

Use

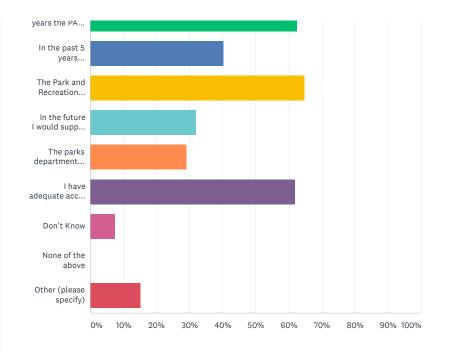
Which SPECIAL EVENTS listed does you or your family attend? Please check all that apply and rank by need with 1 - being great need, 2 - average need, and 3 - not needed.



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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPON	SES
In the past 5 years the PARK SYSTEM has improved	62.60%	82
In the past 5 years RECREATIONAL PROGRAMMING has improved	40.46%	53
The Park and Recreation department has a POSITIVE impact on your quality of life	64.89%	85
In the future I would support a small tax levy increase to improve and develop park and recreation facilities	32.06%	42
The parks department staff is adequate	29.01%	38
I have adequate access to a park (10 minute walk)	61.83%	81
Don't Know	7.63%	10
None of the above	0.00%	0
Other (please specify) Responses	15.27%	20
Total Respondents: 131		

# Q16

Answered: 139 Skipped: 13

# What street do you live on? We respect your privacy for reference only.

ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
Street	Responses	98.56%	137
City	Responses	93.53%	130
State	Responses	92.81%	129
Zip Code	Responses	93.53%	130

Q17

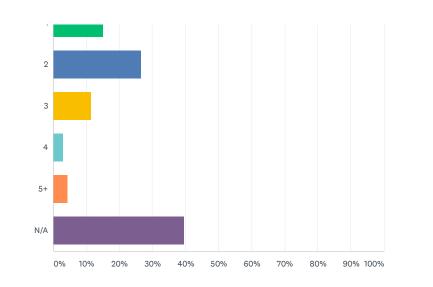
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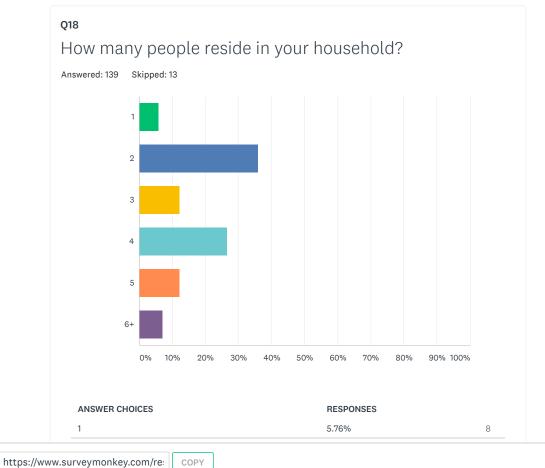
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
1	15.11%	21
2	26.62%	37
3	11.51%	16
4	2.88%	4
5+	4.32%	6
N/A	39.57%	55
TOTAL		139



https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-CBRXFW8Y9/

6+ TOTAL	7.19%	10 <b>139</b>
Q19		
	y other comments to help us im reational services for Fox Crossi	
	e to understand the tree plan at Shildt park. It felt like this yea near the playground. My baby sits in a blanket in the shade ne ldren play.	
walking/biking trails. I wish woods and prairies. As I sai which I see is a future planr past Green Bay Road, prefe more thing I'd like to see so it would be great if the towi the rest of the farm fields w	woodland prairie park. My wife and I mainly use parks for pave O'hauser had more of that. We also like natural walking trails id earlier, I wish Irish had a paved trail connecting Winchester I ned addition. I also wish the Winchester paved trail going east trably all the way to the trail. I'm not sure if this is planned or I omeday. If the farm on the corner of Irish and highway 10 ever n bought the wooded section that the friendship trail cuts thr vould turn into subdivisions, but that section of trail is a nice b veled for some ugly new house or apartment. ImQJfviZDD4QA	through to American, extended not. One sells, I think bugh. I know
Please provide as much gre	en space as possible.	•

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152 responses

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GRANTS & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

# **APPENDIX B: Funding Resources**

The Village of Fox Crossing will continue to identify and leverage a mix of funding resources and partnership support from a wide variety of potential sources for outdoor recreation improvements and maintenance. Village financial resources potentially include standard operating budgets and general fund dollars, capital improvements budgets, loans, and bonding. Donations of volunteer time, dollars, or property from local residents, businesses, foundations, and partner organizations are becoming increasingly important. Successful partnerships with private organizations, clubs, and nonprofits demonstrates the Village does not have to "do it all" on its own. The most appropriate mix of such funding sources for future outdoor recreation projects should be identified and incorporated into the five-year capital improvements plan.

Grant dollars from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (e.g. Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program), Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Federal sources (e.g. Recreational Trails Act, Land & Water Conservation Fund), or foundations have long been key to major park improvements in Wisconsin communities. Additional grant dollars are available depending on the nature of the activity or attributes unique to the site (e.g. historic preservation, acquisition of floodplain conservation).

# WISCONSIN DNR STEWARDSHIP GRANTS

*Current Contact: Jessica Terrien, Northeast District 920-662-5137* 

# Stewardship Local Assistance, Acquisition and Development of Local Parks (ADLP) Subprogram

**Purpose:** The ADLP program helps communities and organizations acquire land for public nature-based outdoor recreation and improve community recreation areas.

**Allocation:** Funds are allocated on a regional basis, proportional to population. Projects compete against other projects from their region.

**Eligible Applicants:** Towns, villages, cities, counties, tribal governments, and Nonprofit Conservation Organizations (NCO). NCOs may only apply for ADLP grants to support land acquisition projects.

**Eligible Projects:** Land acquisition and development projects that provide opportunities for nature-based recreation are eligible for ADLP grants.

**Funding Priorities:** ADLP funding priorities include projects that:

- Support a local CORP;
- Support multiple uses;
- Are of regional/statewide significance;
- Result in a first-of-a-kind facility for the applicant;
- Involve two or more governmental agencies;
- Provide accessible recreation opportunities; and
- Have other priority characteristics specified in statute/code.

# Development Rights (ADR) Subprogram

**Purpose:** The purpose of the ADR program is to protect natural, agricultural, and forest lands that provide nature-based outdoor recreation by purchasing development rights and compensating landowners for limited future development on their land.

Allocation: Projects compete statewide.

**Eligible Applicants:** Towns, villages, cities, counties, tribal governments, and NCOs.

**Eligible Projects:** ADR grants may only be used to support projects that acquire development rights to support nature-based outdoor recreation.

**Funding Priorities:** The following types of property are given priority consideration for ADR grant funding:

- Land with water frontage;
- Land that provides a buffer between developed and natural areas; Land that connects existing natural resource protection areas;
- Land located within Department project boundaries; and
- Land with other priority characteristics specified in statute/code.

# Stewardship Local Assistance, Urban Green Space (UGS) Subprogram

**Purpose:** The UGS program supports acquisition of land for open natural areas and community gardens within or in close proximity to urban areas.

Allocation: Projects compete statewide.

**Eligible Applicants:** Towns, villages, cities, counties, tribal governments, NCOs, sanitary districts, and public inland lake protection and rehabilitation districts.

**Eligible Projects:** Projects that acquire land within or in proximity to urban areas that provides open space, protects unique natural features, and/or provides opportunities for community gardening are eligible to apply for UGS grants. Development projects are not eligible for UGS grants.

**Funding Priorities:** UGS funding priorities include acquisition of land that:

- Preserves land on the natural heritage inventory database;
- Implements elements of approved water quality plans or initiatives;
- Has unique natural features;
- Provides linear corridor connecting open natural areas;
- Has water frontage;
- Is of regional or statewide significance;
- Provides area for community gardens; and
- Has other priority characteristics specified in statute/code.

# Stewardship Local Assistance, Urban Rivers (UR) Subprogram

**Purpose:** The UR program helps restore and preserve the character of urban river corridors through the acquisition and development of land adjacent to rivers.

**Allocation:** Projects compete statewide. No applicant can receive more than 20% of the UR funds allocated in any fiscal year.

**Eligible Applicants:** Towns, villages, cities, counties, tribal governments, and NCOs.

**Eligible Projects:** Land acquisition and development projects that provide opportunities for nature-based outdoor recreation are eligible for UR grants.

**Funding Priorities:** UR program funding priorities include projects that: Restore river corridors following dam removal;

- Support redevelopment of brownfields;
- Acquire land with unique natural or aesthetic values;
- Acquire land that connects with previous land acquisitions;
- Provide outdoor recreation opportunities for diverse urban populations;
- Provide new or expanded access to urban waterways;
- Support local/regional plans; and
- Have other priority characteristics specified in statute/code.

# Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

**Purpose:** The federal LWCF program supports development of high-quality outdoor recreation amenities in local communities.

**Allocation:** Projects compete statewide. There is a 50% local match per project due every May 1

**Eligible Applicants:** Towns, villages, cities, counties, tribal governments, and school districts. NCOs are not eligible to receive LWCF grants. A CORP is required.

**Eligible Projects:** Generally, all acquisition and development projects that are eligible under the ADLP, UGS, and UR Stewardship subprograms are also eligible for LWCF grants. In addition, projects that provide outdoor recreation facilities that are not exclusively nature-based, such as active sports facilities, are eligible for LWCF grants. Some exceptions apply, such as cases where the applicant intends to meet their match requirement with federal funds. Contact a regional Grant Specialist for details.

**Funding Priorities:** LWCF funding priorities include projects that:

- Meet the needs of urban areas;
- Provide recreation opportunities for diverse populations;
- Acquire land in areas with limited outdoor recreation facilities;
- Provide multi-use and multi-season facilities;
- Enhance or preserve natural beauty;
- Are proposed by applicants which have financial resources to adequately maintain and operate the project; and
- Have other priority characteristics specified in law/code.

# Recreational Trails Program (RTP)

**Purpose:** The federal RTP is administered in all states and is for the development and maintenance of recreational trails and trail-related facilities for both motorized and non-motorized recreational trail uses.

**Allocation:** Eligible sponsors may be reimbursed for up to 50% of eligible project costs.

**Eligible Applicants:** Towns, villages, cities, counties, tribal governing bodies, school districts, state agencies, federal agencies or incorporated organizations are eligible to apply for funds. Incorporated organizations are those that are incorporated under s. 181.32, Wis. Stats., whose primary purpose is promoting, encouraging or engaging in outdoor recreation trails activities.

**Eligible Projects:** Eligible projects in order of priority are:

- Maintenance and restoration of existing trails
- Development and rehabilitation of trailside and trailhead facilities and trail linkages
- Construction of new trails (with certain restrictions on federal lands\*);
- Acquisition of easements and fee simple title to property for recreational trails or recreational trail corridors (must comply with the provisions of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended)

\*Construction of new trails crossing federal lands only where permissible under other law, necessary and required by a statewide comprehensive outdoor recreation plan, approved by the DNR and the administering federal agency and consistent with applicable federal land management plans and policies.

**Funding Priorities:** Non-motorized 30%, Motorized 30%, Diversified 40%

# Wisconsin Urban Forest Assessment (WisUFA)

*Current Contact: Chase O'Brien, Urban Forestry Grants Manager 608-640-6143* 

**Purpose:** Assistance for tree maintenance, planting, and public awareness.

**Allocation:** \$1,000 to \$25,000 of grants awarded with a 50% local match per project due on October 1. **Eligible Applicants:** Towns, villages, cities, counties, tribal governments, and NCOs. **Eligible Projects:** 

- New, innovative projects that will develop sustainable urban and community forestry programs, not to subsidize routine forestry activities.
- Competitive start-up cost-share grants of up to \$5,000. Available to communities that want to start or restart an urban forestry program.
- Catastrophic storm grants fund tree repair, removal or replacement within urban areas following a catastrophic storm event for which the governor has declared a state of emergency under s. 323.10, Wis. Stats.

**Funding Priorities:** Funding is prioritized for communities needing to develop an urban forestry plan. This includes worker training and street tree inventories.

# WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION GRANTS

*Current Contact: Sandy Carpenter, Northeast Region* 920-492-5681

# Surface Transportation Program – Urban (STP-Urban)

**Purpose:** Provides flexible funds that can be spent on a wide variety of projects, including roadway, bridges, transit facilities, and bike and pedestrian facilities.

**Allocation:** A 20% match is required. Nonconstruction projects must be over \$25,000, and construction projects must be over \$100,000. Cycles are usually February of each year.

Eligible Applicants: For urban areas, annual

funding for each of the two categories (5,000 to 20,000 and 20,000 to 50,000 in population) continues to be allocated by population

# **Eligible Projects:**

- Complete Streets<sup>1</sup> Roadways designed and operated to enable safe, convenient, and comfortable access and travel for all users. Pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and public transport users of all ages and abilities are able to safely and comfortably move along and across a complete street.
- Accessible Sidewalks and Street
   Crossings
- Planning and design of pedestrian accommodations.

# Safe Routes to School Grant Program (SRTS) and Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)

**Purpose:** Federal and State assistance to combat childhood obesity and reestablish walking and bicycling to school safely.

Allocation: 20% local match per project by an eligible local sponsor

**Eligible Applicants:** Local and regional governments, schools and districts, non-profits, tribal governments, public land agencies, transit agencies, and regional transportation authorities.

# **Eligible Projects:**

 The project must fit within one of the federal eligibility categories and must comply with any additional WisDOT TAP policies as outlined in these guidelines.

- The project must relate to surface transportation.
- The project must have an eligible sponsor.
- The project must be selected through a competitive process.

# Other Grant Links

<u>Community Grants:</u> https://www.cffoxvalley.org/

# Sports Field Grants:

# Major League Baseball

https://www.mlb.com/mlbcommunity/healthy-relationshipscommunity-grants

# Playground Grants:

### Burke

http://www.bciburke.com/grants.html

### Miracle

http://www.miracle-recreation.com/purchaseoptions/playground-grants.html

# Landscape Structures

<u>http://www.playlsi.com/Research-</u> <u>Plan/Playground-</u> <u>Planning/Financing/Playground-</u> Grants/Pages/Playground-Grants.aspx

# **Play & Park Structures**

https://www.playandpark.com/funding/grantopportunities

<sup>1</sup> 

https://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/projects/multimodal/pe d.aspx

<u>Educational:</u> (Could be used for landscaping also)

Environmental Education in Wisconsin <u>http://eeinwisconsin.org/core</u>

*National*: The National Parks and Recreation Association has fundraising ideas and resources along with grants for parks.

### NRPA

http://www.nrpa.org/fundraising-resources/

# Misc:

Fitness Equipment

### **ExoFit Outdoor Fitness**

www.exo.fit/grant

# Amazon Smile Program

https://smile.amazon.com/

# **Park Foundation**

https://parkfoundation.org/applying/

### EAST CENTRAL WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Jeff Nooyen, Chair Alice Connors, Vice-Chair Melissa Kraemer Badtke, Secretary-Treasurer

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