

# Village of Oakfield Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

2019 - 2023



**VILLAGE OF OAKFIELD**

**COMPREHENSIVE**

**OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN**

**2019-2023**

**Adopted** November 14, 2018 by Village Board

Prepared by the

Public Parks Committee

and the

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

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

The preparation of the *Village of Oakfield Comprehensive Outdoor and Recreation Plan 2019-2023* was formulated by the Public Parks Committee with assistance from the East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission.

## **VILLAGE GOVERNMENT**

The Public Parks Committee is composed of nine members and meets approximately once a month. The Committee works on planning park and recreational improvements within the Village of Oakfield boundaries.

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>1-1</b>
Planning Area and Geography .....	1-1
History of Recreation Planning in Oakfield .....	1-1
Plan Process.....	1-2
Plan Purpose .....	1-2
Framework for Plan Development.....	1-2
Review of Existing Plans .....	1-2
Village of Oakfield Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2007-2011.....	1-3
Village of Oakfield 2028 Comprehensive Plan .....	1-3
National Parks and Recreation Association Standards .....	1-4
<b>CHAPTER 2: GOALS AND OBJECTIVES.....</b>	<b>2-1</b>
Goals and Objectives .....	2-1
Goal 1: Adequate Facilities.....	2-1
Goal 2: Protection of the Natural Resources.....	2-1
Goal 3: Operation and Maintenance .....	2-2
Goal 4: Connect with the Public and Other Communities .....	2-2
Visioning .....	2-2
Vision Statement .....	2-2
Mission of Oakfield Parks .....	2-3
S.W.O.T. Analysis.....	2-3
<b>CHAPTER 3: RECREATIONAL RESOURCES .....</b>	<b>3-1</b>
Current Conditions .....	3-1
Parks .....	3-1
Oakfield Village Park.....	3-1
Acorn Park.....	3-2
Oak Ridge Heights Green Space .....	3-2
Willow Springs Park .....	3-2
Joint School District #1.....	3-2
Belle Reynolds Nature Trail.....	3-2
State Recreation Areas .....	3-3
Horicon National Wildlife Refuge .....	3-3
Wild Goose State Trail.....	3-3
Natural Features .....	3-3
Land Use.....	3-4
Woodlands .....	3-4
Wetlands .....	3-4
Soils .....	3-4
High Bedrock .....	3-4
High Groundwater.....	3-5
Floodplain Areas .....	3-5
Park Maintenance .....	3-5
<b>CHAPTER 4: RECREATIONAL NEEDS .....</b>	<b>4-1</b>
Recreational Needs .....	4-1
Population and Demographics .....	4-1
Land Needs .....	4-2

Facility Needs .....	4-4
Comparison of Available Standards .....	4-6
Jurisdictional Standards .....	4-6
National Standards .....	4-7
East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission Standards .....	4-7
Regional Greenspace Comparison .....	4-8
Locational Needs and Walkability .....	4-9
Level of Service Area and Park Classifications Descriptions .....	4-10
Community Parks.....	4-10
Neighborhood Parks .....	4-11
Mini-Parks.....	4-11
Open Space and Greenspaces.....	4-12
Special Facility and Natural Areas .....	4-12
Trends .....	4-12
<b>CHAPTER 5: HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT.....</b>	<b>5-1</b>
2018 Waupaca County Health Components and Statistics .....	5-1
The Parks and Health Connection.....	5-3
<b>CHAPTER 6: RECOMMENDATIONS .....</b>	<b>6-1</b>
Recommendations and Improvements for Existing Parks .....	6-1
General Recommendations.....	6-1
Community Parks .....	6-2
Oakfield Village Park.....	6-2
Neighborhood Parks.....	6-2
Acorn Park.....	6-2
Willow Spring Park.....	6-3
Mini-Parks and Green Spaces.....	6-3
Oak Ridge Heights.....	6-3
Special Facilities.....	6-3
Multi-Modal Corridor Review .....	6-3
Pedestrian Facilities .....	6-4
Bicycle Routes.....	6-5
Bicycle Facilities .....	6-6
Multi-Modal Accommodations .....	6-7
Trail Corridors .....	6-7
General and Other Trail Connections .....	6-7
Trail Recommendations.....	6-7
Policy Recommendations.....	6-7
Tree Preservation Ordinance .....	6-7
Special Issues and Programs.....	6-8
Urban Forestry .....	6-8
School Cooperation .....	6-8
Private Sector Cooperation.....	6-8
Accessibility Guidelines .....	6-9
Shared-Use Parks .....	6-9
Maintenance.....	6-9

<b>CHAPTER 7: ACTION PROGRAM .....</b>	<b>7-1</b>
Five Year Action Program, 2019-2023 .....	7-1
Capital Improvements .....	7-1
Project Priority .....	7-1
Common Cost Analysis Estimates .....	7-6

<b>CHAPTER 8: RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION.....</b>	<b>8-1</b>
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## FIGURES

Figure 1: Location Map .....	1-4
Figure 2: Outdoor Recreation Acreage Surplus, 1980-2040 .....	4-3
Figure 3: Walk Score Rating .....	4-10
Figure 4: 2018 Health Factors Map .....	5-2
Figure 5: 2018 Health Outcomes Map.....	5-2
Figure 6: Bicycle Lane.....	6-6
Figure 7: Bicycle Path .....	6-6
Figure 8: Recommended Widths for Bicycle Paths.....	6-6
Figure 9: Recommended Minimum Multi-Use Path Width .....	6-7

## TABLES

Table 1: Existing Park and Recreation Acreage .....	3-1
Table 2: Village of Oakfield Parks and Recreation Amenities Matrix .....	3-5
Table 3: Population Trends and Projections, 1950-2040 .....	4-1
Table 4: Outdoor Recreation Demand, 1980-2040.....	4-3
Table 5: Percent of Village Population by Age: 2016.....	4-3
Table 6: Population Distribution by Age Group.....	4-4
Table 7: Facility Need by Population: General Guidelines .....	4-5
Table 8: Current Ratio per 1,000 Persons vs. Recommended Park Type Today .....	4-8
Table 9: Current Ratio per 1,000 Persons vs. Recommended Park Type Tomorrow .....	4-8
Table 10: Comparison to Surrounding Communities for Outdoor Recreation Today .....	4-9
Table 11: Population in Service Areas by Park Type.....	4-16
Table 12: Wisconsin Recreation Trends.....	4-16
Table 13: Five-Year Action Plan.....	7-2

## MAPS

Map 1: Existing Parks and Recreation .....	3-7
Map 2: Environmental Features .....	3-9
Map 3: Park Level of Service Areas and Population Density .....	4-14

## APPENDICES

Appendix A: Public Meeting Summary and Detailed Survey Results.....	A-1
Appendix B: Funding Resources.....	B-1

## CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

### PLANNING AREA AND GEOGRAPHY

Oakfield is located in the south central portion of Fond du Lac County, in the Town of Oakfield. Fond du Lac County Trunks Y, D and B provide access to the village along with the Wild Goose State Recreation Trail. (See Figure 1 and Map 1) Geographically the village has a notable slope from south to north.

The Village of Oakfield is located about 8 miles from the City of Fond du Lac which is the county seat and primary center of economic activity for the county. The village is also located about 6 miles northeast of the Horicon Marsh which is a noted wildlife sanctuary in Wisconsin.

The Village of Oakfield supports a major food processing industry, stainless steel fabricator, a feed mill, a small custom machining company, a gas station/convenience store, an automotive repair garage, an insurance company, a bank, a Laundromat, two bar/restaurants, hair salon, plumbing business, and an advertising company. The village provides sewer and water service to the residents.

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.

### HISTORY OF RECREATION PLANNING IN THE VILLAGE OF OAKFIELD

*The Village of Oakfield Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2019-2023* provides guidance for future parks and open space development and acquisition which are intended to improve the quality of life for Village residents. Parks, trails, and open space including wetlands, woodlands, stream corridors, and other natural resources provide opportunities for recreating, aesthetics, preserving and enhancing the environment, and shaping the character of a community. Proper implementation of this plan, over time, will provide the town with a park and open space system which is designed to meet the needs of its citizens both in types of facilities and distribution of those facilities.

This plan carries on the history of park and open space planning for residents. Many park development master plans have been created but this is the first CORP. This plan constitutes and carries on the Village's continued efforts to plan and promote recreational opportunities for its residents now represented as a village.

This Outdoor Recreation Plan is a comprehensive revision of the Village of Oakfield's 2007-2011 and 1998-2003 documents. This plan summarizes past developments and updates the long range Village of Oakfield parks planning process through the year 2023.

The existing and the proposed park facility improvements are for the Oakfield Village Park, Acorn Park, Oakview Subdivision Park, a new park at the village pond (Willow Spring Pond), and plans relating to the Wild Goose State Trail. The improvements are addressed based on population trends, anticipated needs and desires of local residents. This recreation plan is a

collaborative effort set forth by the Village of Oakfield Park Committee, Village Board and the residents of the Village of Oakfield.

The review and update of this Outdoor Recreation Plan is intended to maintain Oakfield's eligibility status for State and Federal recreation grant programs. The current plan does not specifically address pursuing any grant funding. However, project costs indicate that without some financial assistance from donations or grants we will probably not have enough funding to complete some of the projects or will have to delay them for some years.

The Village Park's Committee has spent a considerable amount of time updating the outdoor recreational plan. It is intended to be a guide to present and future improvements to our existing recreation facilities. It also addresses some future plans to make improvements to a new village park along North Main Street by the village pond and to start looking at some ideas to improve the Wild Goose Bike Trail land as it passes through the village.

The Fond du Lac County Parks and Recreation Department currently maintains the Wild Goose State Trail. Any improvements proposed by the village parks committee would need to go through the County Planning Department for approval and shared funding to complete the project.

This plan was prepared by the Oakfield Park Committee with assistance from the East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission. The Park Committee and the Village Board are responsible for implementation of the plan. Implementation will be achieved through land dedication, recreational grant funds, fees, donations, and budgetary allotments through the Village Board of Supervisors. Any budgetary allotment from the Board of Trustees is the prerogative of that body. Decisions for funding are made through the budget process, and are based on available funds and consideration of a variety of activities and projects needing financial resources. This plan should not be considered a budgetary document, but as an advisory document.

## **PLANNING PROCESS**

This CORP for 2019 -2023 was formed around the goals and objectives established by the Parks Committee, Village of Oakfield residents, Village of Oakfield Board, and the Fond du Lac County Planning Department. The goals will serve as a guide for future recreation planning and park development. The plan also enables the village to participate in state and federal recreation grant programs.

An online survey was developed by ECWRPC to gather public feedback and comments on improvements. A list of the individuals and organizations were solicited from these individuals and were incorporated into the final draft which was approved by the Village Board following a public comment period. As new improvements and projects come to surface for grant requirements not listed in this plan, an amendment would be required.



## **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 Village of Oakfield's 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. As mentioned earlier, a 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.

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. Within the Village government, this plan was prepared and approved by the Village of Oakfield Park and Recreation Commission, Village of Oakfield Planning Commission, and adopted by the Village of Oakfield Village Board.

## **FRAMEWORK FOR DEVELOPMENT**

### **Review of Existing Plans**

Each of the plans and standards listed 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 Oakfield, and the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA).

#### ***Village of Oakfield Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2007-2011***

The last five year update was completed in 2011 by the Village's Park and Planning Committees. Encompassing a general guide for the development of the parks system, the plan recommended improving and updating playgrounds within the parks as well as other facilities like trails.

#### ***Village of Oakfield Comprehensive Plan 2008-2028***

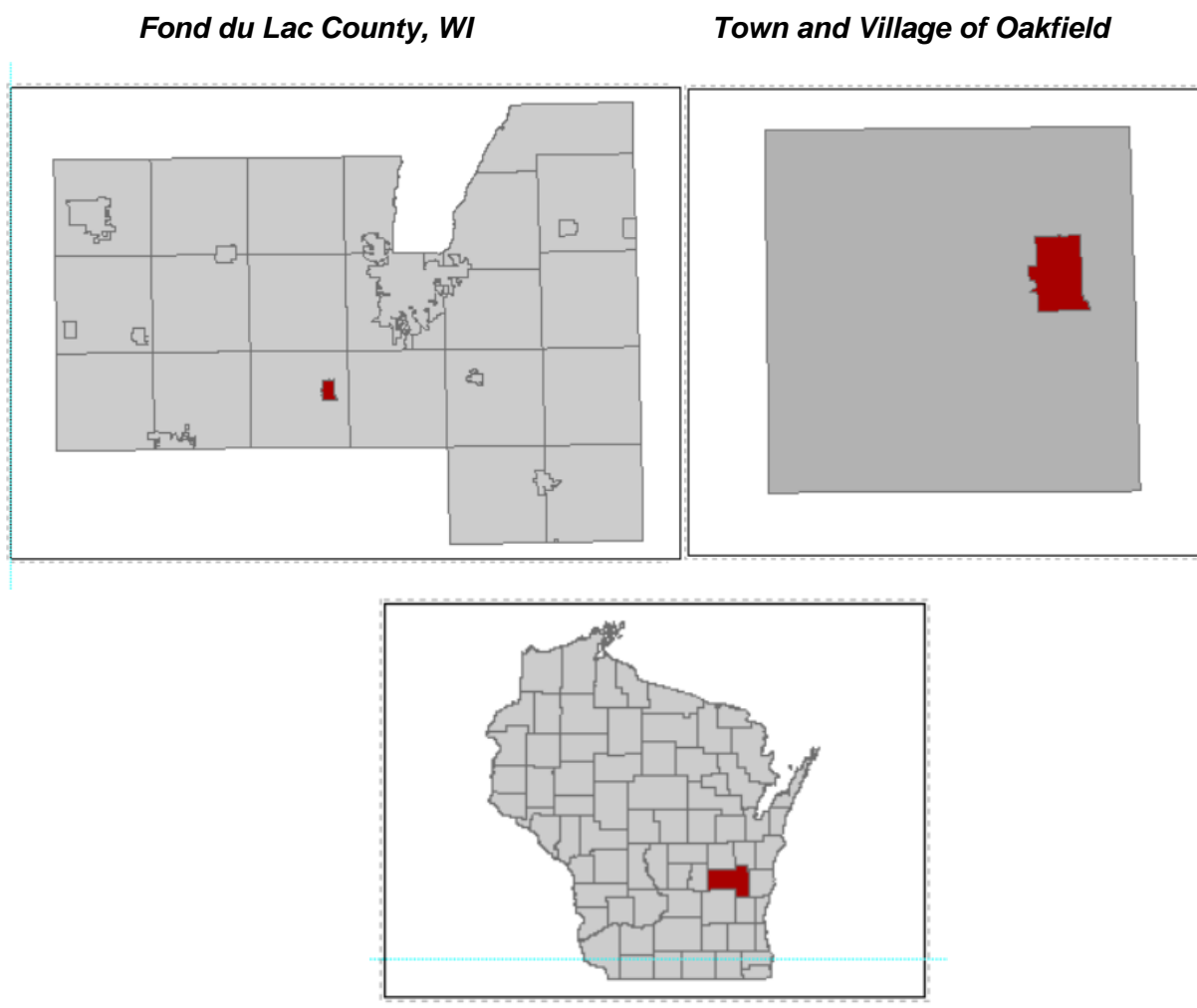
The *2030 Comprehensive Plan* was completed by Martenson and Eisele, Inc. in 2008. The plan recommends the implementation of level for service standards of park types from the NRPA and builds upon the promotion of a variety of recreational opportunities within the community. In the Issues and Opportunities section, citizens identified a need to develop and maintain recreational

activities, specifically the athletic fields, playgrounds, and shelters. This Comprehensive Plan which will be compliant for the next 10 years.

### ***National Parks and Recreation Association Standards***

The National Parks and Recreation 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. Chapter 4 explains the needs and standards in detail.

***Figure 1: Village of Oakfield Locational Maps***





## **CHAPTER 2**

# GOALS AND STRATEGIES

## CHAPTER 2: GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

### STRATEGIES

In the Village of Oakfield, 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 Board, and staff 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 Oakfield a desirable place to live.

**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.



#### **Goal #1: Develop a system of parks and recreation that will improve the quality of life for Oakfield residents.**

##### **Strategies:**

1. Provide recreational facilities with a variety of activities to accommodate the needs of various users, young, elderly and the disabled. Consider safety issues to get to and from the facility.
2. Encourage the participation of community residents in construction and maintenance of park facilities.
3. Acquire and develop park sites and facilities based on recommended standards and the existing distribution of parks.

#### **Goal #2: Emphasis and protect natural resources when improving park spaces.**

##### **Strategies:**

1. Consider environmental impacts in locating and developing all types of recreational facilities.
2. Provide for buildings or intensive or active recreation only in those areas of least environmental sensitivity. Do not locate these facilities in sensitive areas.
3. Acquire and protect properties which are environmentally sensitive or unique.

**Goal #3: Operate and maintain the Village Parks in an efficient and organized manner.**

**Strategies:**

1. Utilize this Outdoor Recreation Plan and Capital Improvement Plan in facility planning and development.
2. Research county, state, federal and private resources to develop and maintain high quality facilities.
3. Utilize, to the fullest extent possible, the skills and energy of village staff, and officials in facility planning, development and operation.
4. Consider volunteers for maintenance whenever possible to improve the parks.

**Goal 4: Encourage public involvement and intergovernmental cooperation with surrounding communities.**

**Strategies:**

1. Encourage increased public use of the school system's indoor and outdoor recreational facilities.
2. Encourage cooperative community/school projects to improve and expand recreational facilities at the public schools and city parks.
3. Conduct public meetings to permit citizen involvement in developing the City's park and recreation plan as well as a survey to gather public input.
4. Encourage participation of elderly and handicapped citizens at park and recreation meetings.

**VISIONING**

**The Vision of Oakfield Parks is:**

*"To bring year around recreational variety and enjoyment through services we provide, by supplying usable, maintained facilities, with access to all; while keeping in good stewardship of fiscal needs for the citizen and visitor alike."*



**Mission of Oakfield Parks:**

*“We believe in Quality of Life and Ideal Community Living in order to provide great recreational services and facilities. By maintaining our parks and making them accessible, we strive for excellence to deliver great green spaces enjoyable for all.”*

**SWOT ANALYSIS**

A S.W.O.T. analysis was performed with the Park and Rec Committee in June of 2018 to develop goals and strategies as well as recommendations. Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats were looked at and analyzed for common themes.

**Strengths**

What unique recreational resources does the Village have?  
What do others see as your Village's recreational strengths?

Good Ball diamond facilities  
Rental Department Facilities  
Have what most are looking for in the parks  
Access to the trail  
Parks within walking distance  
Storywalk in Acorn  
Concession Stand Area  
Good Variety of Facilities  
Uniqueness with the Storywalk  
Water source with the new Park which is something to be proud of  
Lots of potential for improvements and development of what is there  
Ball Tournaments  
Arborists History of the trees  
Naturalist – Plants of the area

**Weaknesses**

What could the Village improve its parks, rec facilities, etc.?  
Where do you have fewer facilities than others?  
What are residents likely to see as recreational weaknesses?

Updated Playground equipment is needed - Willow Spring  
Winter programs/Activities – ice rink?  
Restrooms – none at Acorn  
Lack of Shelters for renting – need more  
Budgeting no money for maintenance to keep up with upkeep  
Variety of activities to keep up trends and funding to do so  
Need more volunteers  
Better Events Marketing  
Undeveloped Area of Oakridge Heights needs to be looked at to serve that neighborhood

### Opportunities

What recreational opportunities does the Village promote?  
What recreational trends could you take advantage of?  
How can you turn your rec strengths into opportunities?

Willow Pond – development with benches, fish  
Disc Golf Course 2-3 holes per acre  
Concert and Ice cream Social at Village Park  
More trees and shelters, aesthetics, benches, - Willow Spring  
Oakridge Height – tot park and picnic area, benches  
Programming  
Movie Night  
Kids Fun Runs or Mud Runs  
5K Fundraisers work with Sponsors  
Night Walk along Story Walk with Glow necklaces  
Host a Chess or Bridge Game Party in the Park in Senior  
Yoga / Zumba  
Ice sculpters  
Winter Candlelight Walks  
Corn Roast / Brat Fry  
  
Farmers Market?

### **Threats**

What threats are harming the Village's recreational areas?

What is your competition doing better, i.e. Village/Village of NFL, City of FDL, Townships surrounding, etc. in their parks?

How are the Village's weaknesses being a threat to the parks and rec department?

Lack of Funding – Budgeting shortfalls

School Referendum - funding resource (shared use facilities)

No Pool / Ice Rinks

Lack of picnics and events – festivals

Location close to FDL

Population base is small

Name Identity – why do you live in the Village of Oakfield?

Pet Friendly Parks – Dog Parks





## **CHAPTER 3**

# RECREATIONAL RESOURCES

## CHAPTER 3: RECREATIONAL RESOURCES

### CURRENT CONDITIONS

The village contains a number of recreational facilities which are village owned, approximately 18.70 acres. The table below lists all recreational land within the village and its acreage. For public use, 66.70 acres exists with one community park, three neighborhood parks, and two mini-parks as well as the school field grounds. See Map #1 for park locations.

**TABLE 1: EXISTING PARK and RECREATION ACREAGE**

Park Name	Acres	Type
Village Park	11.00	Community
Acorn Park	4.00	Neighborhood
Oak Ridge Heights Park	0.25	Mini-Park
Wild Goose Trail Park	2.00	Neighborhood
Willow Spring Park	1.20	Neighborhood
Triangle Park (in Village Park)	0.25	Mini-Park
Total:	18.70	
<b>Joint Schools District #1</b>		
Belle Reynolds Nature Trail	23.60	School
Middle School	10.00	School
High School	13.60	School
Total:	47.20	
Total in Village:	66.70	

### PARKS

#### Oakfield Village Park

The Village Park is located on the northeast side of Oakfield adjacent to the Oakfield High School. The park provides 11 acres of land for recreational use. The park includes one shelter, one concession stand, one rest room building, one softball field with bleachers and lights, one junior softball field, one baseball field with bleachers, a small variety of playground equipment, and two tennis courts. The rest room building also contains general storage and a storage area for athletic field maintenance equipment. The three athletic ball fields are also used in the spring for high school softball and baseball and fall for high school football. They also serve the school physical education program in spring and fall.

During the summer months several local non-profit organizations use the park facilities for weekend festivals and softball tournaments.

Generally the Village Park is considered an athletic facility rather than a family type park offering space for picnicking. The shelter is available for private gatherings. It offers side curtains for use in windy or rainy days.

### **Acorn Park**

The Village of Oakfield purchased the old middle school property from the Oakfield School District after the 1996 tornado that destroyed the school. The intention of the purchase was to develop the land into a park. The park covers 4 acres with many different species of trees planted. It includes a small shelter, campfire pit, playground equipment, paved walking trail with a story, and some open green space. Memorial trees are also being planted in the park in cooperation with the Oakfield Beautification Committee and the Parks Committee. The park land was purchased with a State Block Grant and is supposed to stay park land forever.

### **Oak Ridge Heights Green Space**

Private developers developed 20 acres in the south central area of the village into a residential subdivision containing 33 lots. The village's subdivision ordinance requires developers to deed a portion of the land to the village for green space or park area. The development agreement provided a ¼ acre green space near the entrance of the subdivision. It is currently open green space.

### **Willow Spring Park**

This is a 1.2 acre park/green space located by the Village Garage North on Main Street. A picnic area, trees, pond, and fishing are amenities offered. This is the newest park developed in Oakfield.

## **JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT #1**

The Village of Oakfield has a high school, middle school and an elementary school which are combined into School District #1 and provides 47.2 acres of land for recreation. The high school has a baseball field, practice football field, and a golf putting green. The middle school offers a soccer field. The elementary school offers two playground areas with equipment, basketball hoops, a junior baseball field, and a wooded nature trail.

### **Belle Reynolds Nature Trail**

This facility is located by Belle Reynolds Elementary School and the water tower south off of Oak Street. The trails are linked to the school and offer a nature walk through the wooded area.

## **STATE RECREATION AREAS**

### **Horicon National Wildlife Refuge**

The Horicon National Wildlife Refuge (North 2/3 of marsh) is managed by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. Horicon Marsh Wildlife Area (South 1/3 of marsh) is managed by the Wisconsin DNR. The Horicon Marsh is often referred to as the “Everglades of the North”. The 31,000 acre marsh is one of the best known wetlands in the Midwest.

Horicon Marsh lies in northern Dodge County and southern Fond du Lac County at the junction of the east and west branches of the Rock River.

The marsh provides habitat for up to three hundred fifty varieties of birds including herons, egrets, and numerous song birds. Deer and other small game animals are numerous. In the fall, hundreds of thousands of geese stop at the marsh while migrating south from Canada. Because of the geese, the marsh has become a major tourist attraction. Goose and duck hunters also frequent the area.

### **Wild Goose State Trail**

Department of Natural Resources staff has been encouraging village officials to provide some park type facilities along the trail in the west side of the village. This could be benches or restroom spots.

A small portion of the west side trail land was purchased for the construction of a retirement apartment. It is the desire of the village to develop a portion of the remaining land into a park facility to serve the trail users and to improve the land for easier maintenance and improved aesthetics within the village limits. Discussions between the WDNR, Fond du Lac Planning office and the Village Board have taken place. At the present time no definite plan has been developed for the site. Future discussions will take place when ideas are presented.

The Wild Goose State Park Trail is maintained and operated by Fond du Lac and Dodge Counties, but is owned by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Thirteen miles of the 34 mile trail are in Fond du Lac County. The trail passes through the north central portion of the Village of Oakfield. The trail is constructed on an old railroad right-of-way. Bridges are planked and railed, and the trail is surfaced with compacted limestone screenings.

The all-season recreational trail has quickly become a popular trail for walking, running, and bicycle riding in spring, summer and fall, and snowmobiling in the winter.

## **NATURAL FEATURES**

The Village of Oakfield is bordered on the east and south sides by the Niagara Escarpment which is a unique topographical feature. This escarpment provided an excellent refuge for wildlife on the east and south sides of the village. Campground Creek passes through the north side of the village on private land providing another refuge for wildlife. It is a Green

Infrastructure that interconnects the open space network and offers natural resource values to the area.

## Land Use

Within the Village of Oakfield three major land uses appear and include residential, commercial and industrial. The majority of the commercial uses are located along Main Street in the central area of the village. The industrial uses are concentrated in the west area of the village and the residential is scattered throughout. The majority of the land use is residential, approximately 177 acres or 28% of the land mass.

## Woodlands

Approximately 18 acres of scattered woodlot occurs near the Wild Goose State Trail and in the south central part of the village



## Wetlands

There are few wetland areas in the village. Approximately a little over 33 acres exist along the creeks and streams. The WDNR shows less than 5 acre wetland areas scattered throughout the village. There are no floodplain areas according to FEMA's data.



## SOILS

### ***High Bedrock***

Although there are no areas of high bedrock in the municipality a few deposits lie just outside in the Town of Oakfield to the northeast of the Village. It ranges in depth from surface level to less 60 inches below the surface.

### **High Groundwater**

The Village of Oakfield has approximately 580 acres with high ground water. 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 (100/500 year) are prevalent along the Wolf River and distributed around the village. There are approximately 480 acres that are affected by this designation. Floodway area is in the center of the village where the Wolf River intersects.

## **PARK MAINTENANCE**






All park land and facilities owned by the Village of Oakfield are maintained by the Village Public Works personnel. The village employs one full time public utilities employee and a few part time seasonal employees. It is anticipated that the village will not be able to increase the number of public works employees for park maintenance over the next five years. Volunteers from the local clubs assist to maintain the athletic fields and landscaping.

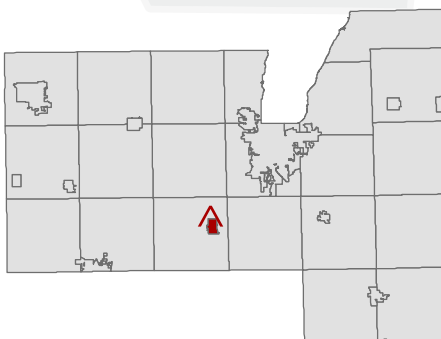
**Table 2: Village of Oakfield Parks and Recreation Amenities**

		Amphitheatre	Ball Diamonds	Basketball Courts	Bike Racks	Boat Launch \ Dock	Concessions	Fishing Piers	Horseshoe Pit	Kiosk \ Signage	Landscaping	Open Space	Parking	Playground Area	Picnic Area	Prairie Area	Port-a-Potty	Restrooms	Shelter (open)	Shelter (enclosed)	Sledding Hill	Soccer	Swimming	Tennis	Trails	Volleyball
Acres																										
<b>Mini-Parks</b>																										
<b>Oak Ridge Heights Park</b>	.25											X														
<b>Neighborhood Parks</b>																										
<b>Acorn Park</b>	4.00										X	X	X	X	X				X						X	
<b>Willow Spring Park</b>	1.20							X				X														
<b>Community Parks</b>																										
<b>Oakfield Village Park</b>	11.25		X	X			X				X	X	X		X			X	X					X		
<b>Special Facility</b>																										
<b>Wild Goose Trail*</b>	2.00																								X	
<b>Total Acres:</b>	18.70																									

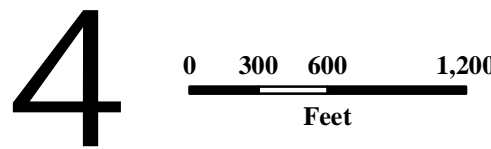
\*Width of trail within the village boundary.

# Map 1: Village of Oakfield Park and Recreation Areas Fond du Lac County, WI

- Legend**
- 
Water
  - 
Village Parks
  - 
Wildgoose State Trail
  - 
Village Owned Parcels
  - 
Right of Way



Source: Basemap data provided by Fond du Lac County GIS Land Information Office, 2018. Parks data taken from County Parcel data.



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PREPARED SEPTEMBER 2018 BY:  

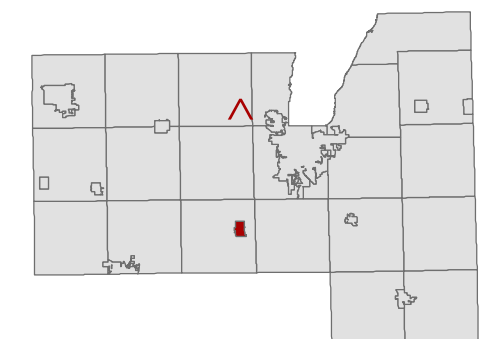
**ECWRPC**



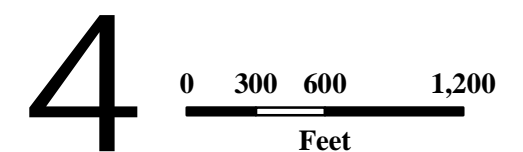
# Village of Oakfield Environmental Features Fond du Lac County, WI

## Legend

-  Wetlands Less than 5 acres
-  Bedrock Less than 60 inches
-  Wetlands Greater than 5 acres
-  Woodlands
-  Groundwater Less than 2 feet
-  Village Parks
-  Wildgoose State Trail
-  Water

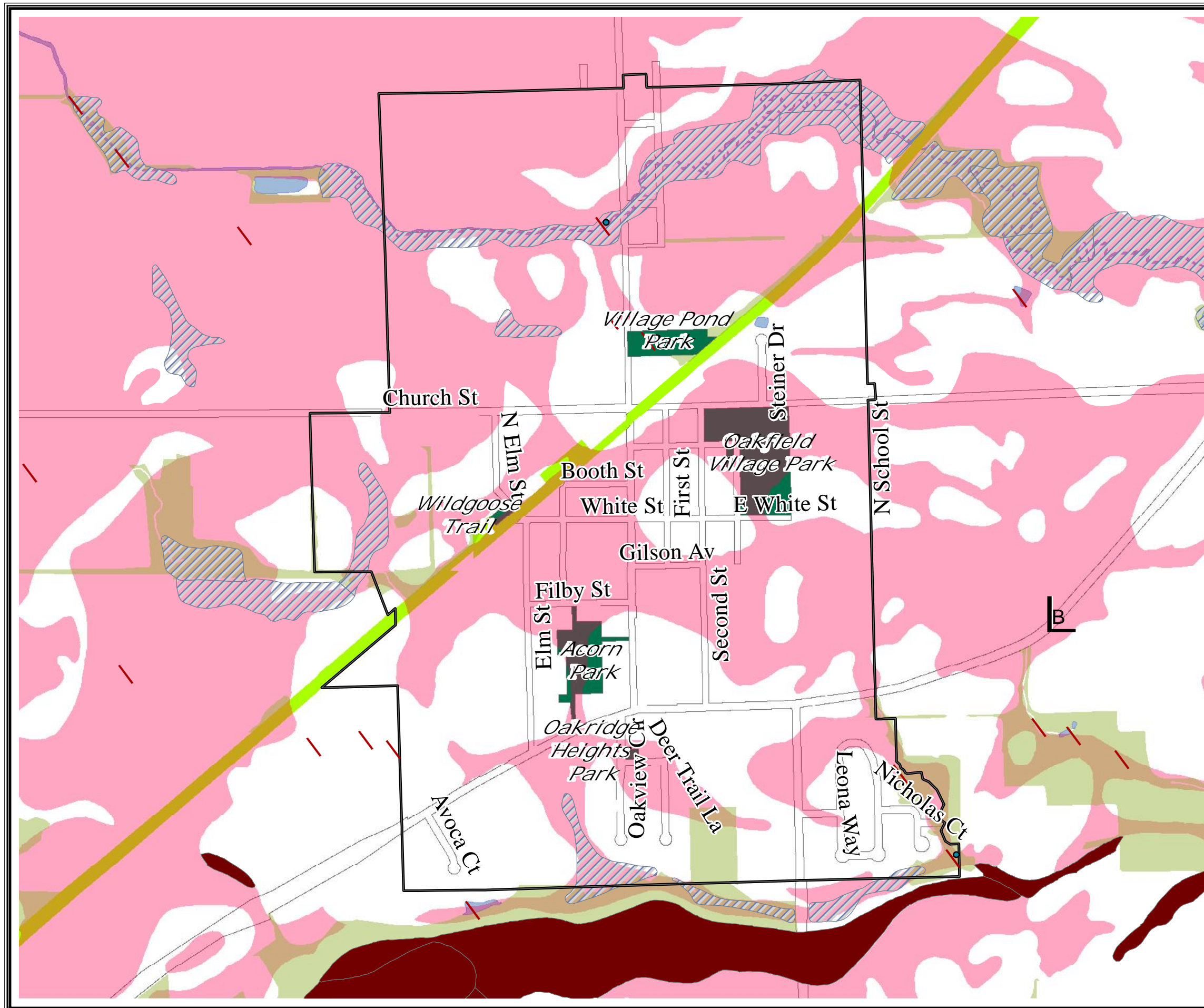


Sources: Soils data provided by the NRCS, Wetland WDNR and WildGoos State Trail. Woodlands taken from ECWRPC 2015 land use data.



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PREPARED MAY 2018 BY:





## **CHAPTER 4**

# RECREATIONAL NEEDS

## CHAPTER 4: RECREATIONAL NEEDS

### RECREATIONAL NEEDS

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 2010), has identified a level of service standard for parks, which is 10 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. The high density category is defined as 3 or more residential units per acre. Not a state statute per se, but a guide to look at how many services/acres vs. population base are needed.

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. This is based on the guidelines found in the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, Appendix F<sup>1</sup>.

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 Oakfield, citizen input is equally useful when identifying park and recreation desires.

### POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS

The Village of Oakfield has an estimated population of 1,053 today. (Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016). Based on 2015 DOA estimates, the municipality is currently home to 2,394 residents with steady growth to continue in the future. Projections indicate that its population will increase by about 15 percent from current levels, reaching just over 1,215 people by 2040. (2016-2040) During this timeframe, both the State of Wisconsin and Fond du Lac County are expected to experience modest population gains, (Table 5).

**Table 3: Population Trends and Projections, 1940-2040**

Year	Population	% Change	Number Change
1940	655	--	--
1950	697	6.41	42
1960	772	10.76	75
1970	918	18.91	146
1980	990	7.84	72
1990	1003	1.31	13
2000	1012	0.9	9

<sup>1</sup> [https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/planning/scorp/pdfs/WI\\_SCORP\\_2011\\_16\\_append.pdf](https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/planning/scorp/pdfs/WI_SCORP_2011_16_append.pdf)

2010	1075	6.22	63
2016*	1053	-2.05	-22
2020*	1140	8.26	87
2025*	1175	3.07	35
2030*	1205	2.55	30
2035*	1220	1.24	15
2040*	1215	-0.41	-5

Source: Census 2010 Data, and Department of Administration projections 2013-2014\*. 2018 population = 1101

## 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 as a minimal increase in population is expected by 2040. Maintaining the current parks system, should be one of the top priorities in accommodating its residents.

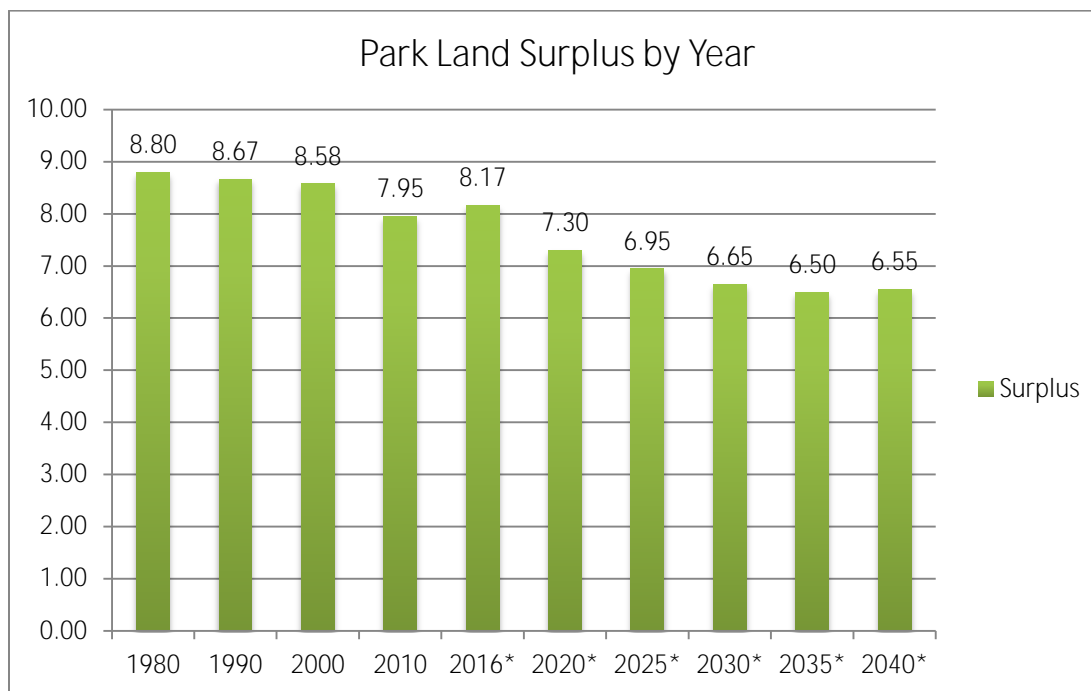
Based on community increases, park and open space acreage is sufficient to support its growing population, Table 3. By 2040, the Village of Oakfield will still have over 6 acres required to support its citizens recreational land needs with the current population projections, Table 4.

**Table 4: Outdoor Recreation Demand, 1980-2040  
 Public Population Demand Projection**

Year	Park Acres*	Population*	Demand Projection (10 A/1,000 capita)	Deficiency/ Surplus (in acres)
1980	18.70	990	9.90	8.80
1990	18.70	1003	10.03	8.67
2000	18.70	1012	10.12	8.58
2010	18.70	1075	10.75	7.95
<b>2016*</b>	<b>18.70</b>	<b>1053</b>	<b>10.53</b>	<b>8.17</b>
2020*	18.70	1140	11.40	7.30
2025*	18.70	1175	11.75	6.95
2030*	18.70	1205	12.05	6.65
2035*	18.70	1220	12.20	6.50
<b>2040*</b>	<b>18.70</b>	<b>1215</b>	<b>12.15</b>	<b>6.55</b>

\*Sources: Park acres taken from Fond du Lac County GIS parcel layer, current population 2010 Census and Factfinder and DOA projections, 2013..

**Figure 2: Outdoor Recreation Acreage Surplus, 1980-2040**



\* Includes recreational areas within the corporate limits that are owned and maintained by the Village as well as school park areas. 2016-2040, DOA population projections, 2013.

## 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 Oakfield's population distribution by age group compares closely with that of Fond du Lac County (Table 5). Most of the residents living within the municipal boundaries are between the ages of 25-44, which is approximately 1/3 of the population (38.9 median age) which inhibits middle age trends. Recreational facilities should be planned with this in mind to accommodate this age group. Approximately 18% of the population is under the age of 14, while 12.5% of the population is over the age of 65. (Table 4)

**Table 5: Percent of Village Population by Age: 2016**

	Under 5 years	5 – 14 years	15-24 years	25 – 44 years	45 – 54 years	55-64 years	Over 65 years
Village of Oakfield	7.5%	10.5%	10.4%	30.3%	16.6%	12.3	12.5%

\*Sources: 2010 Census and Factfinder American Community Survey (ACS), 2016.

**Table 6: Population Distribution by Age Group (2016 Profile Data)**

Age	Village of Oakfield		Fond du Lac Co.		State of Wis.	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
0-4	77	7.3	5,695	5.6	340,319	5.9
5-14	111	10.5	12,789	12.5	736,002	12.8
15-24	110	10.4	13,009	12.8	787,225	13.7
<b>25-44</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>30.3</b>	<b>24,076</b>	<b>23.6</b>	<b>1,421,007</b>	<b>24.7</b>
45-54	175	16.6	15,021	14.7	815,403	14.2
55-64	129	12.3	14,509	14.2	779,622	13.5
65+	132	12.5	16,869	16.5	875,220	15.2
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>1,053</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>101,968</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>5,754,798</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: ACS Demographic Profile Data by Age and Sex, 2016.

Typically one general facility is needed per 3,000 capita for a village this size depending on the type of facility. This could be less or more depending on needs and trends of the community. The table below shows facility need by population of 1,053 today and those needed to support the 2040 growing population base of 1,215.

**Table 7: Facility Need By Population: General Guidelines\***

Activity/ Facility	Recommended Space Requirements	Service Radius and Location Notes	Number of Units per Population	General Std Needed for Village Today	General Std Needed for Village Tomorrow	Current Facilities Available
<b>Baseball</b> Official  Little League	3.0 to 3.85 acre minimum  1.2 acre minimum	¼ to ½ mile Unlighted part of neighborhood complex; lighted fields part of community	1 per 5,000; Lighted 1 per 30,000 unlighted	.2106	.243	2 Baseball
<b>Basketball</b> Youth  High school	2,400 – 3,036 vs. 5,040 – 7,280 s.f.	¼ to ½ mile Usually in school, recreation center or church facility; safe walking or bike access; outdoor courts in neighborhood and community parks, plus active recreation	1 per 5,000	.2106	.243	5 Courts

<b>Football</b>	Minimum 1.5 acres	15 – 30 minute travel time Usually part of sports complex in community park or adjacent to school	1 per 20,000	0.05265	.06075	2 Fields
<b>Horseshoe</b>	20' x 70' area	¼ to ½ mile Unlighted part of neighborhood complex;	1 per 2,000	.5265	.6075	1 Pit
<b>Soccer</b>	1.7 to 2.1 acres	1 to 2 miles Youth soccer on smaller fields adjacent to larger soccer fields or neighborhood parks	1 per 10,000	.1053	.1215	1 Field
<b>Softball</b>	1.5 to 2.0 acres	¼ to ½ mile May also be used for youth baseball	1 per 5,000 (if also used for youth baseball)	.2106	.243	4 Fields
<b>Swimming Pools</b>	Varies on size of pool & amenities; usually ½ to 2 acre site	15 – 30 minutes travel time  Pools for general community use should be planned for teaching, competitive & recreational purposes with enough depth (3.4m) to accommodate 1m to 3m diving boards; located in a community park or school site	1 per 20,000 (pools should accommodate 3% to 5% of total population at a time)	0	0	0
<b>Tennis</b>	Minimum of 7,200 s.f. single court area (2 acres per complex	¼ to ½ mile Best in groups of 2 to 4 courts; located in neighborhood community park or near school site	1 court per 2,000	.5265	.6075	2 Courts
<b>Volleyball</b>	Minimum 4,000 s.f.	½ to 1 mile Usually in school, recreation center or church facility; safe walking or bike access; outdoor courts in neighborhood and community parks, plus active recreation areas in other park settings	1 court per 5,000	.2106	.243	0



<b>Total land Acreage</b>		Various types of parks mini, neighborhood, community, regional, conservation, etc.	10 acres per 1,000	8.17 surplus 0	6.55 surplus 0	18.70 current
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*\*More facilities may be needed based on trends and demand. Based on 2016 population of 1052 and 2040, 1,215. General requirements are represented and to be used as a guide in development..*

## 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:

Does “developed acreage” include golf courses”? What about indoor and passive facilities?

What are the standards for skate parks? Ice Arenas? Public Art? Etc.?

What if it’s an urban land locked community? What if it’s a small village surrounded by open federal lands?

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?

We will attempt to answer these questions through the next list of standard requirements. There are three available standards that are typically used as a benchmark in a community for the region. These are jurisdictional, national (NRPA, NPS), and regional-based (ECWRPC).

### Jurisdictional Standards

While immediate land needs show the village as adequate but there are also jurisdictional standards of what the state, county, surrounding communities and private sector are required to provide in terms of recreation.

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 Oakfield currently provides 5+ acres needed of parks, recreation, and open space lands per 1,000 residents when looking at all park types as a system. Table 10 below breaks down the different categories to assist the Village in planning for future types of parks 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 10 indicates the national standard ranges for community parks, neighborhood parks, mini-parks and open space.

**Table 7: NRPA Standards for Parks**

Park Type	Acres Standard per 1,000 capita
Community Park	8.0-10.0
Neighborhood Park	1.0-2.0
Mini-Park	0.25-0.50
<b>Total: (10 avg.)</b>	<b>9.25-14.5</b>

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, Oakfield 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 the Village 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. Table 8 highlights the ratio of acres per 1,000 persons when looking exclusively at community park, neighborhood, and mini-park types based on today's population. When combined to reflect the NRPA standard, a minimal deficiency in community park space exists at

.02 acres today. (1,053) But the total of all park types, includes a surplus of 5.54 acres and is within the range of the requirement 9.5-14.5 acres. (13.16, Table 8 below)

**Table 8: Current Ratio per 1,000 Persons vs. Recommended Park Type Today**

Type	Current # Acres	Acre Ratio per 1,000 persons Needed*	Recommended Acres per 1,000 persons**	Surplus / Deficiency
Community Park	10.51	10.53	10	-.02
Neighborhood Park	4.88	2.11	2	2.77
Mini-Park	3.31	0.53	0.5	2.78
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18.70</b>	<b>13.16</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>5.54</b>

\*1,053, 2016 projected population base for today / high end calculated which includes passive open space acreage.

\*\*ECWRPC standard for community parks and NRPA standard for neighborhood parks, mini-parks, and open space.

When looking solely at park type and population projection for 2040, 1,215, the picture for what's needed tomorrow still includes a surplus of 3 acres overall but short 2.15 for community park space. The village will be short two plus acres overall if the current level of parks acreage remains the same.

**Table 9: Current Ratio per 1,000 Persons vs. Recommended Park Type Ratio Tomorrow**

Type	Current # Acres	Acre Ratio per 1,000 persons needed*	Recommended Acres per 1,000 persons**	Surplus / Deficiency
Community Park	10.51	12.15	10	-2.15
Neighborhood Park	4.88	2.43	2	2.45
Mini-Park	3.31	0.61	0.5	2.70
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18.70</b>	<b>15.19</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>3.00</b>

## REGIONAL GREENSPACE COMPARISON

Neighboring communities were researched for actual populations and green spaces. These parks and facilities also provide a level of service to Oakfield's population base and are usually

located out of the ½ 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.

**Table 10: Comparison to Surrounding Communities for Outdoor Recreation Demand Today**

Community	Active Park Acres	2040 Population Projection	Demand Projection (10 acres/1,000 pop.)	Deficiency / Surplus (in acres)
City of Appleton	633.00	72,810	728.1	-95.10
City of Neenah	349.00	25,723	257.23	91.77
Village of Little Chute	178.00	10,432	104.32	73.68
City of Two Rivers	256.00	11,669	116.69	139.31
Village of Greenville	213.60	10,309	103.09	110.51
Village of Kimberly	140.00	6,559	65.59	74.41
City of Menasha	226.00	17,407	174.07	51.93
City of Chilton	53.00	3,932	39.32	13.68
City of Kaukauna	740.00	15,627	156.27	583.73
City of Fond du Lac	650.00	43,100	431	219.00
Village of Oakfield	18.70	1,215	12.15	6.55
Village of Sherwood	70.00	2,740	27.40	42.60
Town of Grand Chute	383.00	21,288	212.88	170.12
City of Oshkosh	361.00	66,325	663.25	-302.25

As compared to other communities and being an urban-based municipality, Oakfield falls within adequate parameters for acres of recreation for its growing population today at a surplus of 6.55 acres per 1,000 capita. Intergovernmental cooperation and partnerships could assist the Village on providing even more opportunities within its boundaries as well as sharing in the costs of maintaining park spaces.

## LOCATIONAL NEEDS AND WALKABILITY

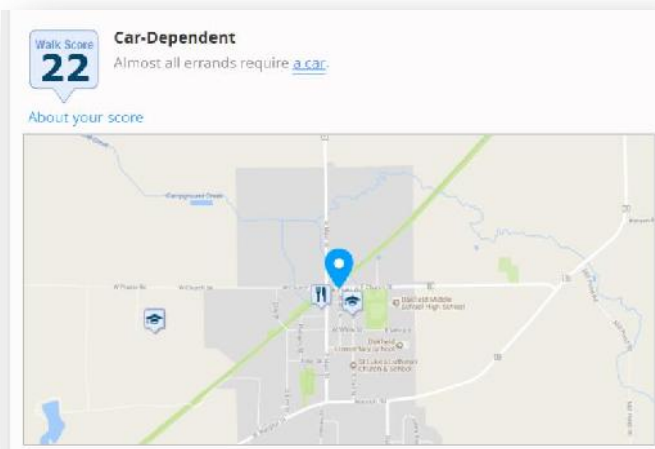
It is desirable that recreational opportunities be within convenient walking distance of each of a community's residents. With its compact development pattern and distribution of existing parks and schools, residents walk to an existing recreation facility varies. A ½ mile (neighborhood park level of 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 Oakfield, the neighborhood populations are split by Main Street going through the center of the Village east and west. County Highways B and D are also major arterials. In doing so with these barriers, the Village is split up into thirds separating neighborhoods and ease of walkability. Fortunately the major residential areas are located in the center of the Village.

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, specifically to the south of Grant Street. When looking at places to recreate, we use the Walk Score® website to analyze how walkable a community is. The Oakfield community has an overall score of 22 (Car-Dependent) on a scale of 1-100 with 100 being a walker's paradise from the center of downtown. Almost all errands require a car to restaurants, groceries, and entertainment.

A sidewalk inventory and analysis can show where gaps exist. Map 4 shows barriers and where trail/sidewalk connections are located in conjunction to the parks system. A sidewalk and complete streets policy when road improvements are updated should be adopted. ECWRPC is working on a regional complete streets policy to assist with trails and connections.

**Figure 3: Walk Score Rating**



## LEVEL OF SERVICE AREA AND PARK CLASSIFICATIONS 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 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.

### Community Parks – Village Park

These parks serve several neighborhoods within a one-two mile radius. Typically, these parks are twenty-five acres or more but can be less depending on size of municipality. 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 is by vehicle, biking, and on foot. These parks should be linked to the parks system, existing and future trail network and sidewalks as much as possible.

### **Neighborhood Parks – Acorn Park and Willow Springs**

Neighborhood parks serve residential areas within a half mile walking distance. 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;	landscaping;
play fields/open space;	sport field/court;
picnic tables;	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.

### **Mini-Parks – Oakridge Heights**

Mini-parks are those that service a limited population or specific group such as tots or senior citizens. They have a quarter mile or a smaller service area, 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.

## 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 one-two acres per 1,000 persons and two-five mile radius. 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);                | * areas of high groundwater;           |
| * environmental corridors or linear parkways;                                     | * woodlands;                           |
| * creeks/streams/wetlands/drainage-ways/ rivers/ponds/lakes/floodplains; ravines; | * steep sloped areas (12% or greater); |
|   | and                                    |
|   | * minimal landscaping areas.           |

## Special Facility and Natural Areas

- \* Considerable amount of undeveloped land for people of all ages.
- \* Description: A park of good environmental quality greater in area than a community park with good accessibility by auto serving a large urban area or portions of a county.
- \* Maximum Service Radius:

Natural Area: One-half hour driving time or ten miles.

County Parks: One-half hour driving time or 15 miles.

- \* Typically developed in conjunction with a unique environmental, historical, etc. feature of the urban area or county.

### General Facilities:

- \* 30 to 50 percent extensive/passive recreation area

- \* Individual and group picnicking (shelters and pavilions are desirable to accommodate large groups or gatherings)
- \* Play apparatus (creative and/or conventional)
- \* Senior citizens area
- \* Sand volleyball courts
- \* Open play areas
- \* Night lighting
- \* Shelter and restroom facilities
- \* Water impoundment or swimming facility
- \* Park pavilion
- \* Special events or attractions (i.e., amphitheater, caves, viewing tower, other unique attractions/facilities)
- \* Boating and/or fishing access (launching/mooring facilities desirable)
- \* Bicycle trails
- \* On-site parking adequate to accommodate demand

Recommended Population Standard: Five acres per 1,000 population

There is an overlap of these service areas (Map 3) reiterating the fact the Village has adequate parks and recreational facilities to support its residents. Village Park supports 100%+ of the population base.

The typical park and recreation agency offers one park for every 2,266 residents served, with 9.6 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents (NRPA metric). Oakfield has 3-4 “traditional parks” for 1,100 residents. This means that one park can serve all residents with plenty of room for more patrons than the typical municipality.



Park and recreation agencies are as diverse as the communities that they serve, and what works well for one agency may not be best for your agency. Therefore, a benchmark is needed to best identify the best practices to optimally serve your community. With a community the size of Oakfield, 10 acres per 1,000 residents works the best in determining need of additional park spaces.

Site quality can also be categorized to look at type of use as well as improvement issues:

CLASS A

High level of service: fine ornamental lawns, golf and lawn bowling greens, and irrigated sports fields

commercial lawns, boulevards, recreational fields, and golf fairways

CLASS C:

Low level of service: meadows, picnic areas, rough grass, undeveloped and natural areas

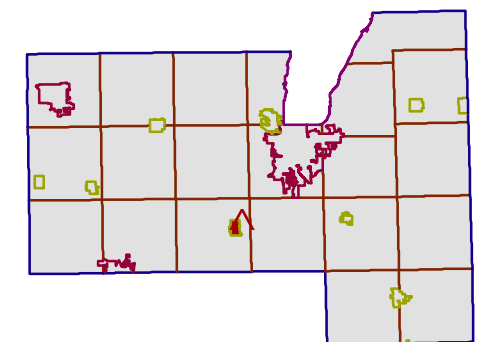
CLASS B:

Moderate level of service: general park areas, residential and

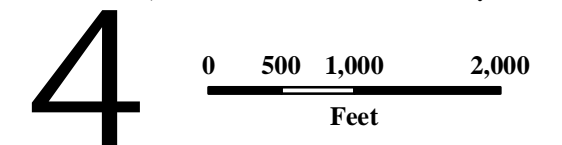
# Village of Oakfield Level of Service Areas Fond du Lac County, WI

## Legend

- Mini-Parks Qrt Mile LOS
- Neighborhood Parks Half Mile LOS
- Community Parks 1 Mile LOS
- Mini-Parks
- Community Parks
- Neighborhood Parks
- Water
- Wildgoose State Trail
- Right of Way
- Residential Areas



Source: Basemap data provided by Fond du Lac County GIS Land Information Office, 2018. Parks data taken from County Parcel data.



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 JUNE 2018 BY:



Park Type	2010	%	2017	%	2022	%
Community Parks	1130	107%	1093	104%	1081	103%
Neighborhood Parks	951	90%	920	87%	911	87%
Mini-Parks	709	67%	686	65%	679	64%



In looking at the number of people being serviced, Table 11 gives a breakdown of each park type within the buffered service area boundaries. This information can assist the parks commission in planning for future parks where residential development occurs. Mini-parks and neighborhood parks include residents within the village boundary where community parks are serving those within the Village but also the surrounding communities as well, hence the greater than 100% LOS rating. The parks in the village currently serve the population base and beyond the boundary into the Town of Oakfield. The Village has plenty of acreage for its needs but should look at improvements, maintenance, and possibly newer facilities. This will be in addressed in Chapter 6 of the Recommendations section.

**Table 11: Population in Service Areas by Park Type**


Park Type	Population and % by Year in Service Area					
	2010	% of Base	2017	% of Base	2022	% of Base
Community Parks (1 Mile)	1130	107%	1093	104%	1081	103%
Neighborhood Park (1/2 Mile)	951	90%	920	87%	911	87%
Mini-Park (1/4 Mile)	709	67%	686	65%	679	64%



*\*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 3) \*\*\*LOS allocations are based off today's 2016 total population numbers, 1053.*

## TRENDS

To effectively provide the right type of recreational activities and facilities, the Village needs to better understand broader recreational trends. The following table is from the 2011-2016 Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan and identifies trends in outdoor recreational preferences. Below is a table that represents the trends and activities for the state as a whole:

**Table 12: Wisconsin Recreation Trends**

Increasing Demand 	Adventure racing	Both as individual and group activity
	Driving for pleasure	Easy activity for aging baby boomers
	Developed/RV camping	Baby boomers continue to drive demand
	Kayaking	Participants attracted by cheap entry
	Visit a dog park	Urban residents driving demand
	Soccer outdoors	Urban youth driving demand
	BMX biking	X Games popularity may be driving force
	Climbing	Indoor climbing leading to outdoor climbing
	Stand up paddling	Popularity is sweeping the country
	Triathlon	Varying distances allowed for growth
	Off-road vehicle driving	Post-recession growth continues
	Gardening/landscaping	"Grow Local" concept taking hold

<b>Stable Demand</b>  	Walk for pleasure	Market saturation
	Running or jogging	Gen Y replacing baby boomers
	Water parks	Recession caused growth to slow
	Motor boating	Easy access to resources
	Day hiking	Popular with many generations
	Golf	Time constraints does not allow for growth
	Tent camping	Stable, but growth is illusive
	Snowboarding	May have peaked after 20 years of growth
	Trail running	Stable niche with Gen Y
	View wildlife	Activity spans generations
	Bicycle	Popular with easy access
	Snowshoeing	After large growth, this has stabilized
<b>Decreasing Demand</b>  	Hunting	Generational loss and private access
	Inline skating	6 years of decreasing participation
	Skateboard parks	Youth are free-skating with longboards
	Horseback riding	Recession impact caused decrease
	Softball	Baby boomers leaving the sport
	Downhill skiing	Baby boom generation not being replaced

Source: 2011-2016 Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, August 2012.

Trends for the Village do not necessarily follow the statewide trends as baseball/softball is a pretty big part of the user base. Picnicking, bicycling, walking/hiking are increasing trends within the Village as well as an aquatics type of facility that residents are asking for. The detailed survey in Appendix A gives a little more insight on what the Community considers a “hot” recreational topic.



## **CHAPTER 5**

# HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT

## CHAPTER 5: HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT

### 2018 FOND DU LAC COUNTY HEALTH COMPONENTS AND STATISTICS

With obesity rates on the rise, the Village of Oakfield's need to promote active communities should be a top priority. From the 2018 Fond du Lac County Health Rankings\*, (with 1 being the best), Fond du Lac County is rated 37 overall out of 72 in the state for healthy outcomes (today) and 19 out of 72 for health factors (tomorrow). These statistics are the same for 2017 where the county was at 37 in health outcomes and but down from 14 to 19 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 Oakfield through the Fond du Lac County's rankings is only one component of improving the community's health. The "*Roadmaps to Health*" Action Center provides tools to help groups work together to create healthier places to live, learn, work and play.

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.

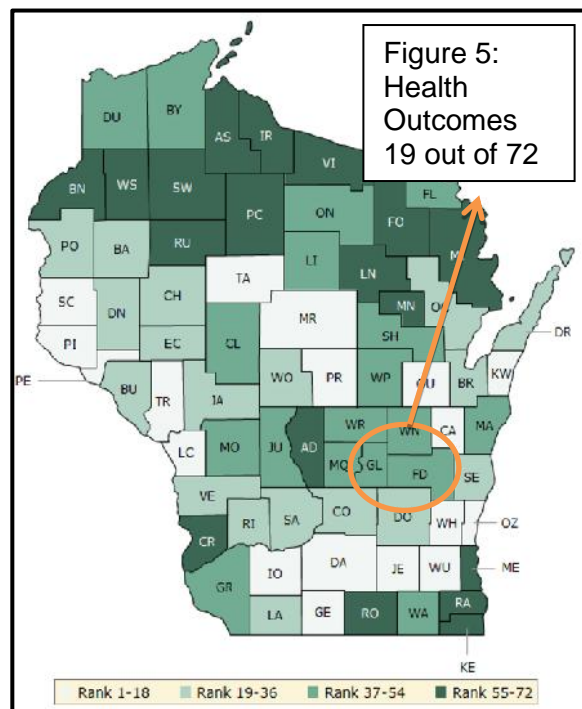
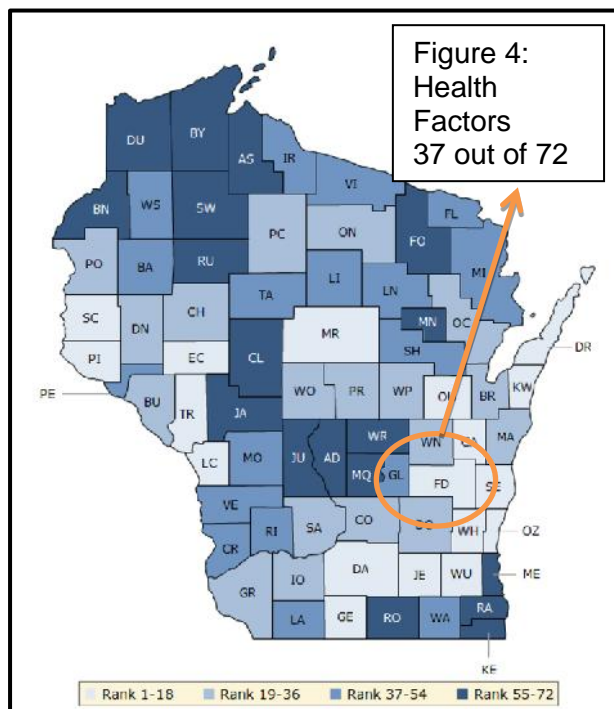


To enable and encourage the citizens of the Village of Oakfield to be physically active, a strengthening of the support and funding for the Parks and Recreation facilities and recreational programming should be looked at. "Park Prescriptions" should be written so to speak to encourage active use and enjoyment of what the town 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 Goal 1, Objective 1 of making the facilities ADA accessible as well as offering a variety of facilities to accommodate all. 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, non-profits, 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. Promoting and marketing concepts should be developed along with the funding resources identified such as studies done through the Transform Wisconsin grant program. A community health assessment report exists for Fond du Lac County<sup>1</sup> to correlate how health data is used and reflected on the overall quality of life.



Above are 2 maps that demonstrate where the county stands in the state as compared to the other 72 counties with 1 being the healthiest. Factors such as smoking, obesity rates, drinking excessively, STD's, and motor vehicle crashes make up the first map,

while outcomes such as premature death, poor to fair health, poor physical days, low birth weight, and poor mental days are shown on the second map. The rankings comparing the rest of the state are as follows:

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 town 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 Oakfield. Safe Routes to School programs can assist

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.fdlco.wi.gov/departments/departments-f-m/health-department/community-health-assessment>.

communities and encourage children to walk and bike to school as long as connections are in place and barriers are crossed.

In addition to the Safe Routes to School program, the National Recreation and Park Association is spear heading a new concept for Safe Routes to Parks<sup>2</sup> as well. This campaign focuses on implementing environmental, policy, and program strategies that create safe and equitable access to parks for all people. The goal is to develop a 10-Minute Walk Promotion to increase safe connections and ways to get to parks.



## 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 **increase exercise**. 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 **reduce stress** 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 **variety of amenities** can attract different users, i.e. skateparks, basketball and tennis courts, baseball, paths, and therefore encourage fun activities.
6. Dedicated **fitness zone exercise areas** encourage exercise and increase park use. The Village of Oakfield 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 **activities and programming** 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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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.nrpa.org/Safe-Routes-To-Parks/>



## **CHAPTER 6**

# RECOMMENDATIONS

## CHAPTER 6: RECOMMENDATIONS

As Chapter 4 reflects, the Village of Oakfield 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, ECWRPC conducted a thorough analysis of its parks and recreational facilities. The needs 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 to increase the quality of life.

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 Committee and Village Board to accommodate changing costs as well as needs of the community.

### RECOMMENDATIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS FOR EXISTING PARKS

#### General Recommendations

- a. According to the village's current number of recreational acres available, no additional land is required as the population is holding steady or minimally declining.
- b. Development and improvements of parks and open space should follow sustainability policy and industry best practices, i.e. parking, playgrounds, sports fields, and trails.
- c. Ensure that active and passive recreational areas and facilities are ADA compliant and meet the various needs of the community.
- d. The Village should consider doing an *Economic Impact Study Analysis* of its parks and recreational programs to show value and what type of tourism dollars are being added to the community and the economy. This would assist in grants and donations to marketing what is available.
- e. Considerations should be given to develop programming. Many residents have requested separate village programming for both summer and winter as well as for age based activities. More winter programming / events should be added, i.e. temporary sledding hill, xc-ski grooming (races), candle light walks on the trails, etc. (*Survey Comments, 2018 Parks Survey Results*)
- f. Consider updating and adding more restrooms to the park system. (Acorn Park)
- g. Increase the lighting for all parks and update to sustainable LED where possible. This will save money in the long term.
- h. Consider more marketing of your park resources via website and social media outlets.



## Community Parks

1

### Oakfield Village Park

Add wayfinding signage for patrons.  
Evaluate the basketball court surfacing.  
Consider adding another basketball and/or pickleball court.  
Improve the dugouts for the ball diamonds.  
Reduce vandalism by adding security cameras.  
Update playground equipment and inspect for hazards, add benches.  
Pave and stripe extended parking area.  
Consider a fitness workout area close to the playground.  
Add to the nature areas along the trails with a walking arboretum and educational component – work with schools and gardening clubs to create. This would include preserving the wetlands and marshes surrounding the park for land acquisition.



## Neighborhood Parks

1

### Acorn Park

Construct a wayfinding sign directing traffic to the park.  
Create a master plan to update the park.  
Install more benches close to activity zones.  
Re-evaluate the *StoryWalk* and update displays over time  
Consider fitness stations close to playground areas.  
Consider additional programming  
Install trail signage and add trail system connections to get to the park and within the park itself (perimeter trail) to get to activity zones, trail markers with *StoryWalk*.



Upgrade current facilities to make ADA compliant, i.e. playgrounds  
Add restrooms.

2

### **Willow Spring Park**

Add wayfinding signage to get to the park.  
Add a picnic area near the shore to include a small shelter.

Add a recycle fishing line PVC collection tube.

Develop a master plan to accommodate ADA accessibility, walkways, etc.

Plant more shade trees, i.e. landscaping plan. Privacy fencing could be an option.

Add more benches for fishing

Create a walkway around the pond

Install a bike rack – look to the FVTC program, non-profits, clubs, or sponsorships for donations.



## **Mini-Parks and Green Spaces**

1

### **Oak Ridge Heights Park (undeveloped)**

Possible future amenities in the park may include:

- A picnic area with a shelter and a playground.
- Presently this is open space within the subdivision.
- A designated pet area could be created.



## **Special Facilities**

1

### **Wild Goose State Trail**

Add a picnic area in the green space next to the trail

Consider a seasonal restroom facility for trail users



Work with Fond du Lac County on  
Improvements  
Connect to park system if possible. (Willow  
Spring and Acorn Parks)



## MULTI-MODAL CORRIDOR REVIEW

The City of Fond du Lac as developed a *Bicycle and Pedestrian Facility* plan in 2013. Such a plan considers local levels of service for trail provisions; recommend areas of first priority for development and also acquisition. The Village should consider working with the City and County of Fond du Lac to develop its own connections to other communities.

*The vision of such a plan could be : “To develop an interconnected network of intra- and inter-community linkages; ultimately enabling bicyclists and pedestrians to travel safely and conveniently to destinations within and beyond the Village of Oakfield.”*

Multimodal accommodations in a community must serve various user groups, such as bicyclists, in-line skaters, wheelchair users, and pedestrians. This makes it necessary to look at the corridors from a variety of user points of view.

The recommendations in this plan are based on several widely recognized publications. The main publications used include the following:

- *Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG)*
- *Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities*, The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO)
- *Pedestrian Facilities Users Guide*, U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration.
- *The Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)*
- *Wisconsin Bicycle Planning Guidance*, Guidelines for Metropolitan Planning Organizations and Communities in Planning and Developing Bicycle Facilities, Wisconsin Translink-21.
- *Wisconsin Pedestrian Planning Guidance*, Guidelines for Metropolitan Planning Organizations and Communities in Planning and Developing Bicycle Facilities, Wisconsin Translink-21.

## Pedestrian Facilities

Walkways are areas set aside for people traveling on foot. The best walkways are those that will make people feel safe, have good access, are aesthetically pleasing and attract pedestrians.

**Sidewalks or Walkway:** Sidewalks and walkways are “Pedestrian Lanes” that provide people with space to travel within the public right-of-way that is separated from roadway vehicles.

**Curb Ramps:** Curb ramps or Wheelchair ramps provide access between the sidewalk and roadway for people using wheelchairs, strollers, walkers, crutches, handcars, bicycles, and also for pedestrians with mobility impairments who have trouble stepping up and down high curbs.

**Marked Crosswalks and Enhancements:** Marked Crosswalks indicate optimal or preferred locations for pedestrians to cross as well as show areas where vehicles must yield to pedestrians.

**Roadway Lighting Improvements:** Quality lighting and adequate placement can add dramatically to the comfort and safety of pedestrians. Without sufficient lighting motorists may not be able to see the pedestrians in adjacent walkways.

**Street Furniture and Walking Environments:** Sidewalks should be a continuous system that has access to various goods, services, transit, and homes. Well developed and well used walking environments are enhanced by the use of street furniture such as benches, shelters, trash receptacles, and water fountains.

## Bicycle Routes

The goal of a bicycle route system is to provide bicyclists with good mobility and access within the major transportation corridors. Mobility is the ability to move from one place to another in the most direct route and with the fewest interruptions. Access is the ability to get where you want to go once you have reached the general area of your destination.

To meet these goals, various criteria have been used to determine route placement and what facilities will be used on these routes. Three general approaches are usually used to place routes:

Space bicycle routes ¼ to ½ mile apart throughout the urbanized area. This method has the advantage of consistency but does not lend itself well to areas that have a large number of barriers to transportation like lakes, rivers, hills, or freeways. Transportation barriers force a deviation in the grid and may leave key areas unserved (Wisconsin Translink-21, 19-20).

Ensure that important trip generators and destinations are connected by bicycle routes. This has the advantage of serving the most bicyclists, but again it may leave some areas unserved.

Attempt to provide all arterial streets with wide curb lanes or bicycle lanes. This approach addresses the observation that bicyclists tend to have the same desired destinations as motorists and tend to use the same transportation corridors. However, because of right-of-way and other limitations this may not always be possible. Any new street should follow the “Complete Streets” policy which the town should consider adopting.

Other factors to be considered include safety (actual and perceived); cost, and how well the route system will integrate with other modes of transportation. Because of the unique



characteristics of the Town of Dayton, a combined approach which employs components from all of the above approaches should be used to best serve bicyclists.

## Bicycle Facilities

Once you have decided to place a bicycle facility within a corridor, the type of bicycle facility to be used must be selected. The types of facilities typically used are listed below:

**Route Signs:** All routes, regardless of facility type, should be marked with route signs. This makes it easier for bicyclists to use the system. Routes should also be given names which describe the route (i.e. University Route).

**Shared Roadway:** Many residential streets are perfectly acceptable for bicycling without any further improvements. On these streets, route signs are used to indicate a preferred route of travel for bicyclists.

**Paved Shoulders:** Paved shoulders are typically used on roads without curb and gutter. They provide bicyclists with a smooth surface outside of the main travel portion of the road on which to operate. Roads with paved shoulders are also much safer for motor vehicle drivers in that these roads experience far fewer head-on collisions.

**Wide Curb Lanes:** Wide curb lanes are the minimum treatment for arterial streets. Wide curb lanes allow bicyclists and motorists to share a travel lane without adversely affecting each other. On streets without parking, wide curb lanes are typically 14-15 feet wide. This does not include the curb and gutter section. Wide curb lanes also benefit motor vehicle traffic. In fact, wide curb lanes were originally designed to improve motor vehicle traffic flow.

**Bicycle Lanes:** Bicycle lanes are a portion of the roadway which has been designated by striping, signing, and pavement markings for the preferential or exclusive use of bicyclists. They are usually 4-6 feet wide. Bicycle lanes are perceived by many bicyclists as being safer and thus encourage bicycling on these facilities. (See figure 5.)

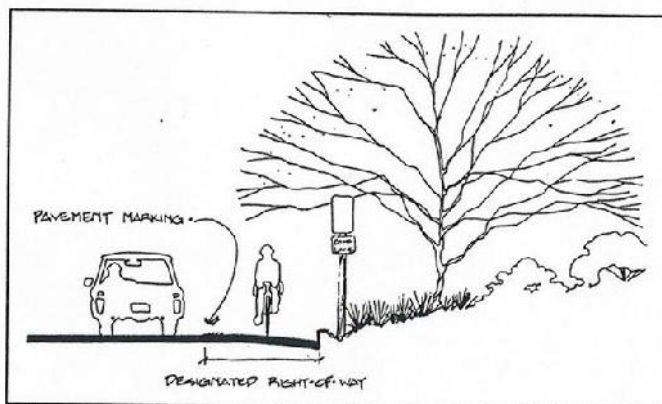


Figure 6: Bicycle Lane

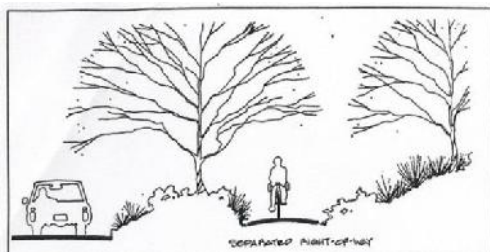


Figure 7: Bicycle Path

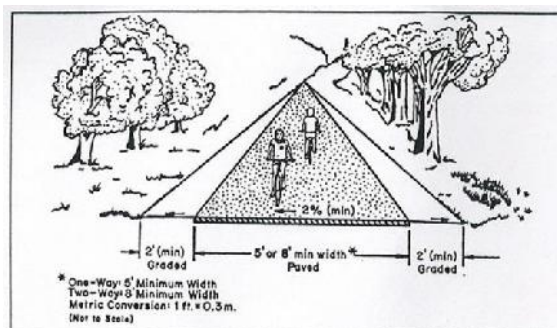


Figure 8: Recommended Widths for Bicycle

**Bicycle Paths:** Bicycle paths are a bicycle facility separated from the roadway by some sort of barrier or space (see figure 7). The recommended minimum widths for bicycle paths are 5-foot for a one-way path and 8-foot for a two-way path.

For paths used by pedestrians as well as bicyclists, the minimum recommended path width is 10', figure 8.

## MULTI-MODAL ACCOMMODATIONS

The following is a list of potential multi-modal corridors. These areas have been chosen based on guidelines described in this study, the town's comprehensive plan update including land use and roadway classification.

A multi-use recreational trail system should be developed in the Town of Dayton. This trail system would connect residential areas to recreational spaces. A bike and pedestrian facility plan should be developed that establishes a local level of service for trail provision, recommends areas of first priority for development and acquisition, and recommends improvements to existing facilities.

## TRAIL CORRIDORS

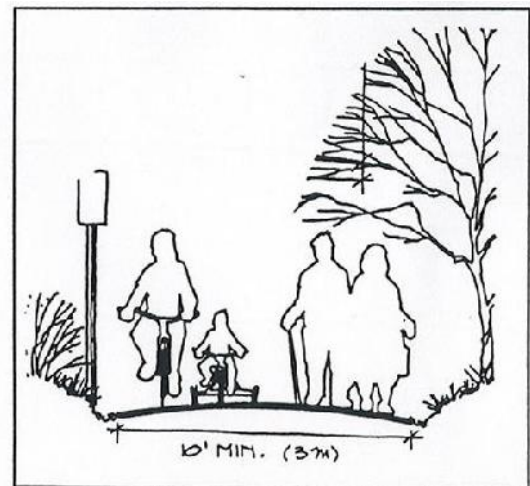
### *General and Other Trail Connections*

These selected corridor routes provide connections to daily trip generators (i.e., parks, schools, natural resource areas, and lakes). Review of specific routes for perceived and actual safety concerns need to be studied on a case by case basis. Upon design of these facilities, final determination of the specific "type" of accommodation shall be established by the Village of Oakfield.

### **Trail Recommendations:**

Evaluate on-street trails within the Village boundary and connecting to the Wild Goose State Trail.

**Figure 9: Recommended Minimum Multi-use Path Width (Harris et al., 341-6)**



## POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

### **Tree Preservation Ordinance**

Oakfield 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 Oakfield 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 communities 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. Consider adding a Complete Streets Policy for access to destinations.

### **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. Residents are unaware of municipal boundaries and these possibilities should be explored. Village Park and the Middle School are adjacent to each other and offer opportunities for improvements with cost efficiency for both entities.

### **Maintenance**

Inspection of park and recreation facilities indicated that village facilities are well-maintained. Well-maintained park areas not only protect public investment, but ensure safety. 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 state’s NR151 Regulations.
- This is based on acreages of five or more for fertilizer runoff.
- Encourage 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 monthly playground inspections.

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





## **CHAPTER 7**

### **ACTION PROGRAM**

## CHAPTER 7: ACTION PROGRAM

### 5 YEAR ACTION PROGRAM, 2019-2023

The projects listed below in Table 10, comprise the action program set forth by the Village of Oakfield Park Committee and the 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 2019-2023 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 Oakfield. 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 five-year period. Cost estimates are provided to assist the Village in preparing for funding.

A 4-5% 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 Committee and the public survey results. 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. *The funding listed below is to be used as a guide in future park and recreational planning and not a representation of actual money the Village will or is spending. Upgrades and improvements should be done in phases with funds earmarked in the budget.*

**Table 13: Five - Year Action Plan**

(List of future projects and estimates for various projects from recommendations Chapter 6, not all costs are listed in current CIP)

**Needed Now 2019-20,      Short-Term 2021,      Long Term 2022-23+**

Community Parks							
		Estimated Cost	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Village Park							
1	Wayfinding Signage (\$500-\$2000 per sign)	\$8,640		\$8,640			
2	Basketball Court Resurfacing (cement)	\$7,250		\$7,250			
3	Dugout Improvements	\$3,500	\$3,500				
4	Add In Security Cameras (3)	\$1500	\$1,500				
5	Playground Equipment Upgrades	\$25,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
6	Fitness Stations	\$22,000		\$10,000	\$10,000	\$2,000	
7	Pave Parking areas and stripe	\$56,000				\$25,000	\$21,000
8	Benches	\$5,100	\$5,100				
Subtotal		\$128,990	\$15,100	\$20,980	\$15,000	\$32,000	\$26,000
Neighborhood Park							
		Estimated Cost	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Acorn Park							
1	Wayfinding Signage (\$500-\$2000 per sign)	\$8,640		\$8,640			
2	Permanent Restrooms (ADA)	\$150,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000		
3	Benches	\$5,100	\$5,100				
4	Fitness Zone	\$16,400				\$8,400	\$8,000
5	Update Storywalk signage	\$1,500	\$1,500				
Subtotal		\$181,640	\$56,600	\$58,640	\$50,000	\$8,400	\$8,000
Willow Creek Park							
1	Approximately ¼ mi Paved Trails around pond (ADA accessible, \$3,800 / mile \$1.30 per sq. ft.)	\$950	\$950				
2	Wayfinding Signage (\$500-\$2000 per sign)	\$8,640		\$8,640			
3	LED Lighting	\$16,400					\$16,400
4	Picnic Open Shelter	\$7,840				\$7,840	
5	Recycle Fishing Line Tubes (5)	\$15.00	\$15.00				

6	Small Parking area (3500 sq. ft.)	\$10,000	\$10,000				
7	Benches	\$500	\$500				
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>\$44,345</b>	<b>\$11,465</b>	<b>\$8,640</b>		<b>\$7,840</b>	<b>\$16,400</b>
<b>Mini Park</b>							
		<b>Estimated Cost</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Oak Ridge Heights</b>							
1	Wayfinding and Park Signage (\$500-\$2000 per sign)	\$1,000	\$1,000				
2	Picnic Area / Open Shelter	\$15,600				\$10,000	\$5,600
3	Restrooms (could be seasonal to start)	\$52,000		\$22,000	\$30,000		
4	Shade Trees	\$5,000	\$5,000				
5	Benches 5	\$500	\$500				
6	Bike Racks (2)	\$850	\$850				
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>\$74,950</b>	<b>\$22,000</b>	<b>\$22,000</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>	<b>\$5,600</b>

Summary Totals by Improvement Year and Park Type						
	Est. Costs	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023+
<b>Type</b>						
<b>Community Village</b>	\$128,990	\$15,100	\$20,980	\$15,000	\$32,000	\$26,000
<b>Neighborhood Parks</b> <i>Acorn and Willow Spring</i>	\$225,985	\$68,065	\$67,280	\$50,000	\$16,240	\$24,400
<b>Mini</b> <i>Oak Ridge Heights</i>	\$74,950	\$22,000	\$22,000	\$30,000	\$10,000	\$5,600

<b>Totals: Five Year Capital Improvement Total for all Years and Parks =</b>	<b>\$429,925</b>	<b>\$105, 165</b>	<b>\$110,260</b>	<b>\$95,000</b>	<b>\$58,240</b>	<b>\$56,000</b>

**UNIT COSTS FOR TRAIL ELEMENTS (INSTALLED)**

<b>Trail Element</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Price per unit (year 2009 Construction)</b>
Clearing and grubbing	Acre	\$2,550.00
Grading for hard-surfaced trails	Mile	\$3,800.00
Grading for natural-surfaced trails	Mile	\$3,200.00
Granular surfacing	Sq. ft.	\$.50
Granular subbase	Sq. ft.	\$.50
Asphalt surfacing	Sq. ft.	\$1.30
Concrete	Sq. ft.	\$3.00
Wood chips	Sq. ft.	\$.50
Seeding/mulching	Acre	\$2,040.00
Other costs (drainage, signage, Mile and support services)		10% of trail cost
Planning	Mile	2% of trail cost
Preliminary design	Mile	2% of trail cost
Construction documents	Mile	5% of trail cost
Construction services	Mile	5% of trail cost
Administration	Mile	5% of trail cost



## **CHAPTER 8**

### **RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2018-12**

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING  
the  
COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN 2019-2023**

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Commission of the Village of Oakfield, Wisconsin has prepared and adopted an updated Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan dated November, 2018; and

WHEREAS, such a plan is required to maintain eligibility to participate in the following grant programs: Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), Aids for the Acquisition and Development of Local Parks (ADLP), Urban Green Space Grants (UGS) and Urban Rivers Grant Program (URGP).

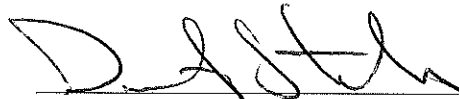
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY Village Board OF THE VILLAGE OF OAKFIELD, WISCONSIN this 14<sup>th</sup> day of November 2018, that the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2019-2023 is hereby adopted.

Recommended by: PUBLIC PARKS  
COMMITTEE

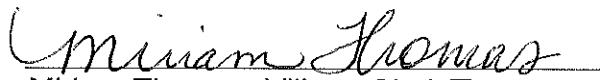
Moved: \_\_\_\_\_

Passed: \_\_\_\_\_

**VILLAGE OF OAKFIELD, WISCONSIN**



Dennis Steinke, Village President



Miriam Thomas, Village Clerk/Treasurer



## **APPENDIX A**

### **SURVEY ANALYSIS**



## APPENDIX A: SURVEY RESULTS

### SURVEY BACKGROUND

As part of the Village's citizen participation process for the update of its Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP), an on-line community survey was developed and administered by the project consultant, East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, utilizing GetFeedBack.com. The survey was made available to residents between June 1, 2018 and September 3, 2018 and consisted of a series of nine park questions and seven basic demographic questions, 16 in total. The data generated will be reviewed by the Park Committee, Village Staff and the consultant to consider in the plan development process.

### Survey Questions

The 19 questions were designed to gauge attitudes towards existing and future park use, satisfaction, and maintenance issues, as well as to generate ideas on how the Village can better plan for new, or alter current, park spaces in response to current and future needs.

1. What Village parks/facilities have you visited in the past year?
2. How likely are you to recommend the parks you visit in Oakfield to a friend or family member?
3. How satisfied are you with the parks in Oakfield?
4. What type of park amenities do you think the Village should invest more in?
5. What type of trails do you think the Village should invest more in?
6. Please rank the quality of each current facility type.
7. Please rank your priorities for maintenance concerns.
8. Please identify how/what Village parks and recreation facilities or programs should be funded.
9. How do you get information about parks and rec programs?
10. What is your age?
11. What are the ages of your children?
12. How many total reside in your household including yourself?
13. What is your gender?
14. Would you like to volunteer to help Oakfield Parks?
15. What is your street address with zip code?
16. Lastly, if you could give us some feedback on how Oakfield Parks and Recreation can be improved, what would you say?

### Survey Results

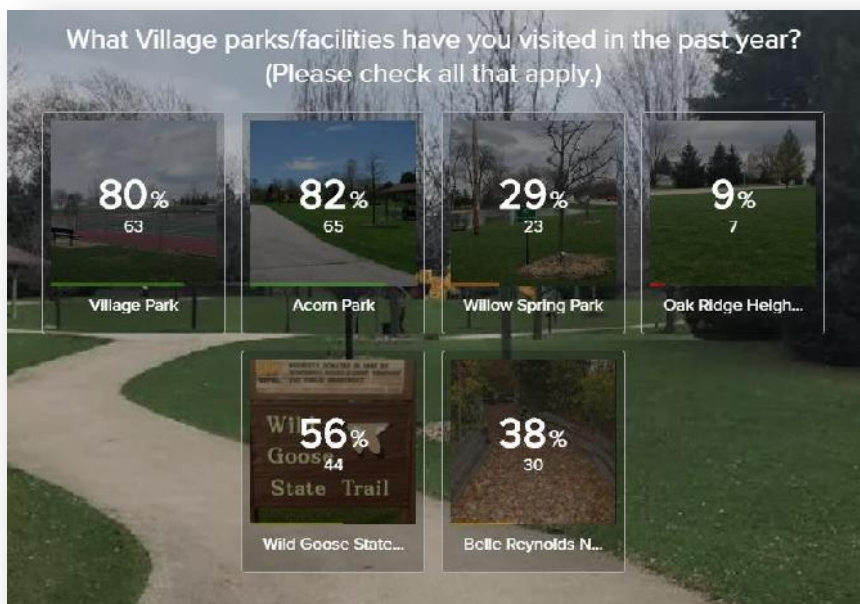
The Village promoted the survey's availability through a number of methods, including emails, its website, meeting announcements and social media. However, even with all these efforts, only a total of 79 individuals completed all or most of the survey. Some respondents did not answer all questions but 116 started the survey.

Using the 116 figure, the total respondent represents only 11.0% of the Village's total population. Therefore, the survey results are not being claimed as 'scientifically valid". However, for the purposes of the CORP Update, it does provide a good overview of probable issues and opportunities facing the community.

Data generated for all questions is contained on the following pages and consists of an initial summary table showing categories and frequencies with the raw data tables.

### **Question 1: Usage**

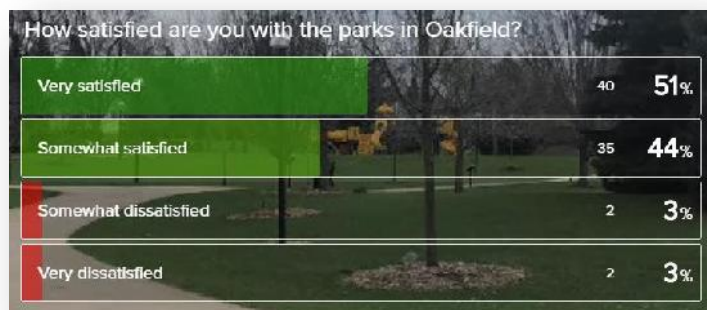
Acorn and Village Park most used with the Wild Goose Trail



### **Question 2: Recommendation** Oakfield Parks are highly recommended by users!

50 of the respondents recommend the parks they visit. That's almost half of all users.

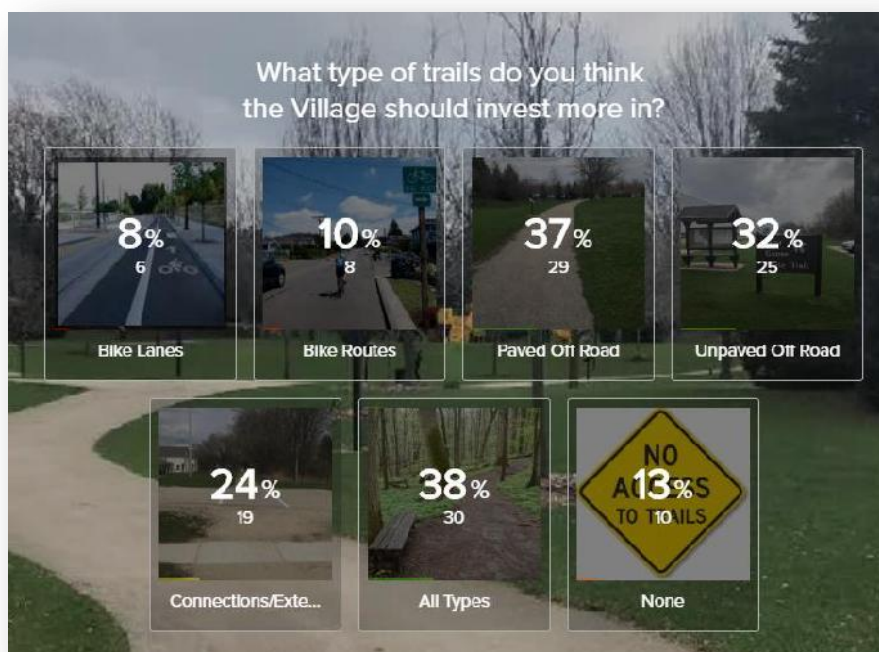
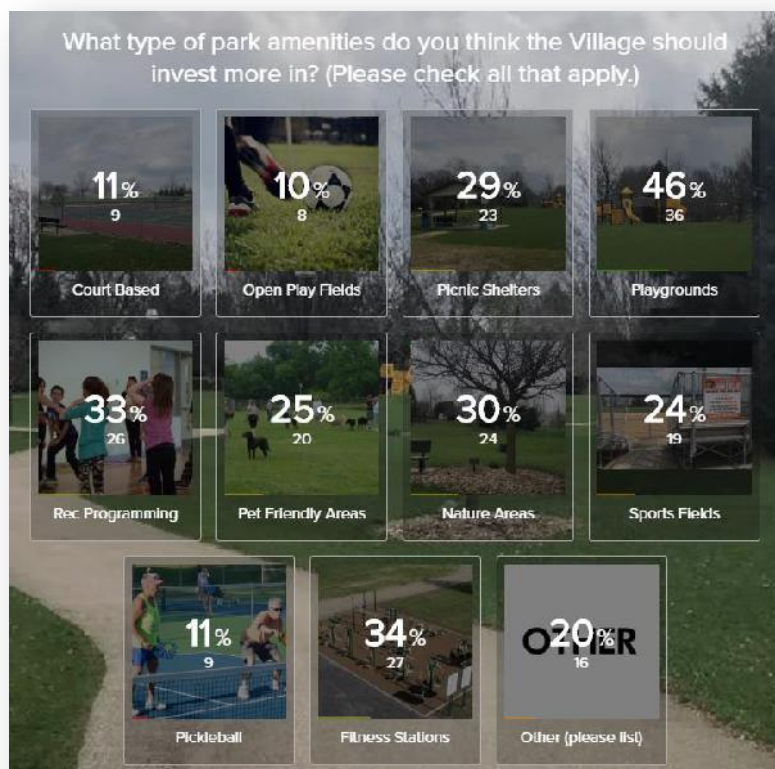
### **Question 3: Satisfaction Rating:** Very Satisfied, 51%, 44% said Somewhat Satisfied!



**Q4. Investments to the Parks?** Playgrounds, Fitness Stations, and Programming were the top three.

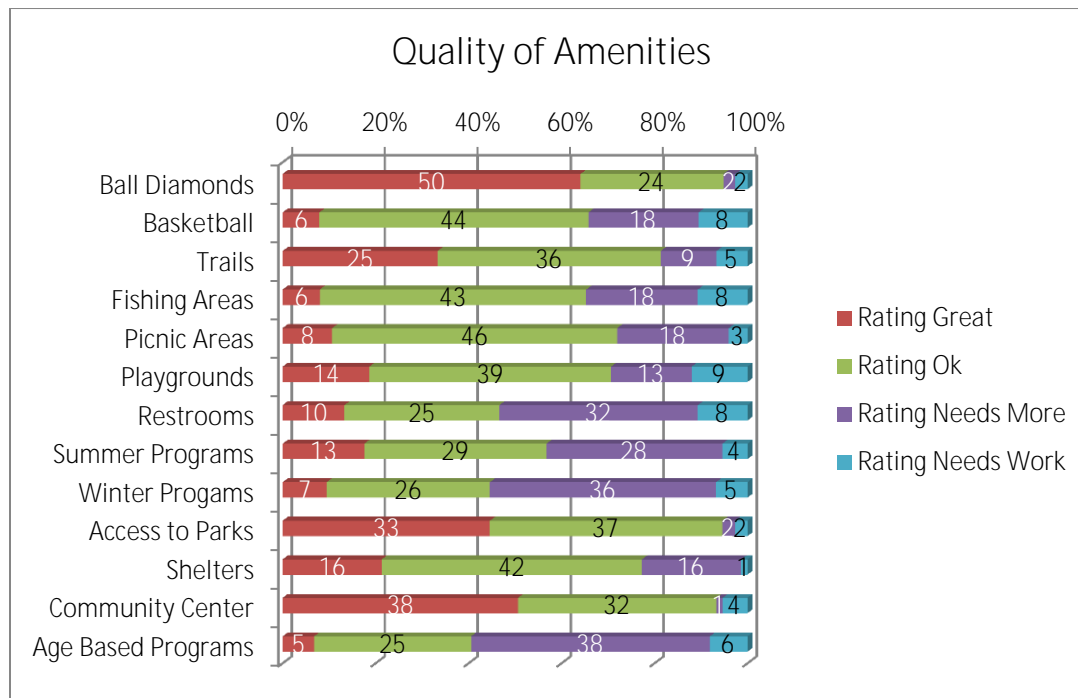
Other: A pool or splashpad was the top answer.

**Q5. Trails** – Participants thought the village should look at all types of trails and connections, 38% with 37% for paved off road and 32% for unpaved off road.



**Q6. Participants were asked to rank the quality of the amenities in Oakfield Parks.**

They were to choose **Great**, **Ok**, **Needs More**, or **Needs Work** for categories. Here are the results:



**Great:** Ball Diamonds, Community Center, and Trails

**Ok:** Picnic Areas, Basketball, Fishing Areas, Shelters

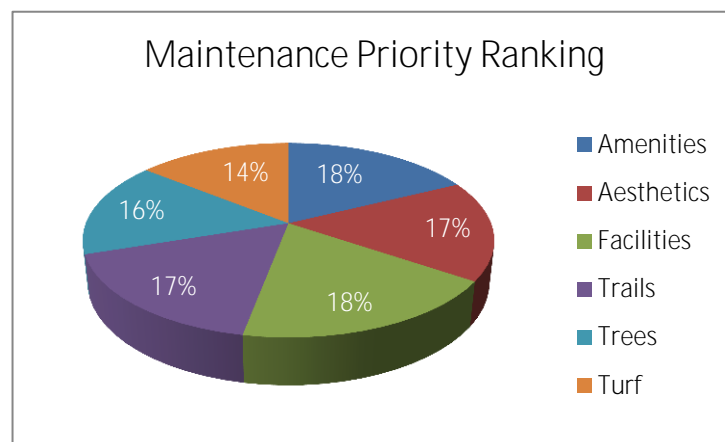
**Need More:** Programs - Aged-Based and Winter / Restrooms

**Needs Work:** Playgrounds, Basketball, Restrooms, and Fishing Areas

**Q7. Maintenance Concerns – Priority Rankings: 1-5 with 5 being top priority**

The village should put its resources in maintaining amenities such as picnic areas and playgrounds as well as facilities such as restrooms and shelters first. Then trails and landscaping with tree and turf care last.

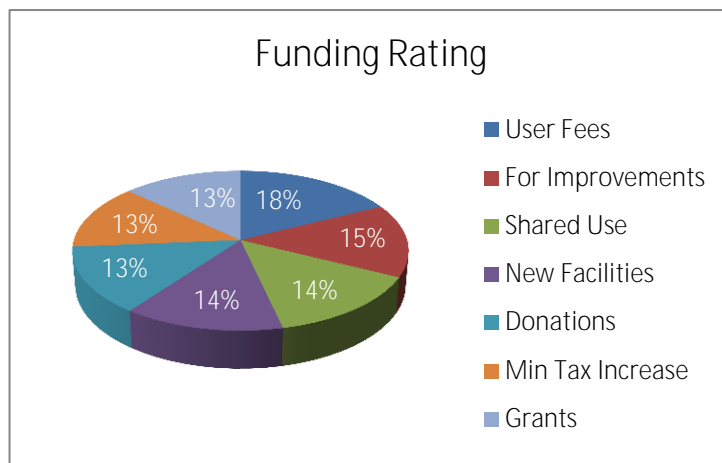
Maintenance Priority		
Type	Ranking	Level
Facilities	3.74	1
Amenities	3.57	2
Trails	3.41	3
Aesthetics	3.36	4
Trees	3.18	5
Turf	2.87	6





**Q8. Funding Priority Needs:** How and What:

Type	Funding Rating	Priority
User Fees	3.6	1
For Improvements	3.04	2
Shared Use	2.88	3
New Facilities	2.8	4
Donations	2.78	5
Min Tax Increase	2.71	6
Grants	2.69	7



Most patrons said to collect user fees and money received should be used for improvements vs. for new facilities. Oakfield has plenty of facilities and park amenities, they just need some upkeep.

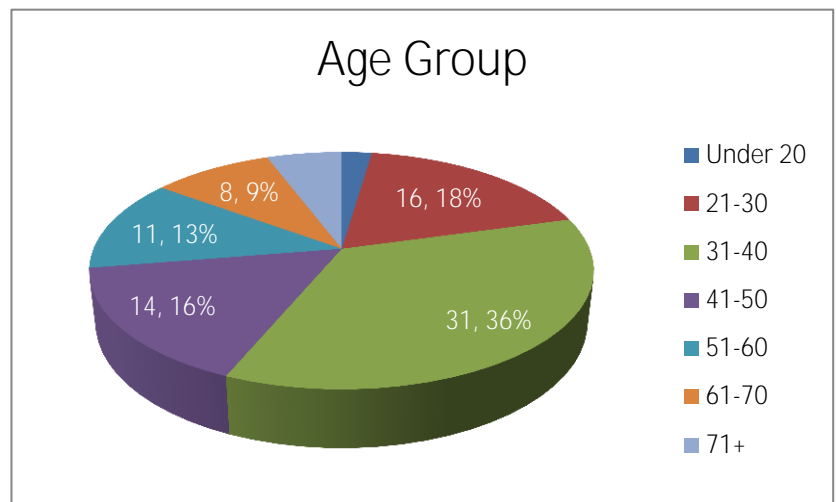
**Q9. Information Method on Programs:**

Most info was obtained through Social Media such as the Facebook page. Other materials came from the Quarterly Newsletter or Word of Mouth. The Village should maintain their Facebook page for event postings and other program information.



## DEMOGRAPHICS

**Age of survey participant:** Most Common Age group was 31-40



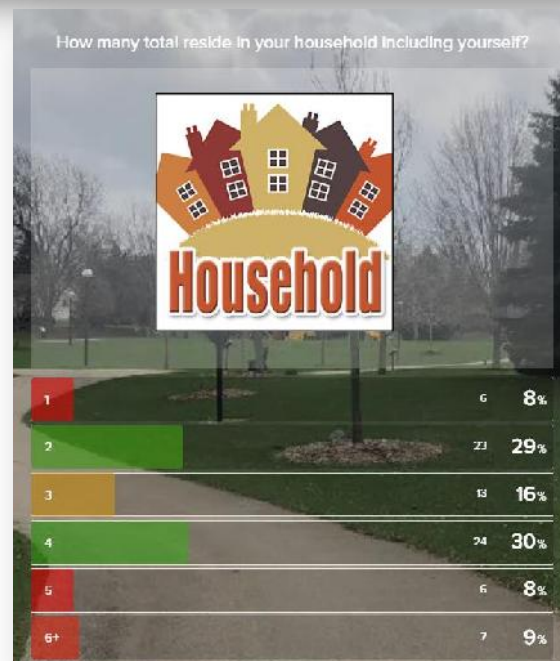
### Ages of children:

0-5 and 6-12 made up almost 50% in the survey participants.



**Number in household:** 4 and 2 were the most common family sizes, 59%

**Gender** of person filling out survey: Most were female



**Location of**  
user/participant:

Most users resided within the Village boundaries but had some as far as North Fond du Lac and St. Anna.



**Volunteers**

Committee: 9, 11%  
Maintenance Help: 7, 9%

16 community members were willing to help support the parks system by volunteering their time and resources.



**Common Comments made:**

- Need more Restrooms
- Splashpad
- General Maintenance and Upkeep
- Benches
- Pet Areas
- More Programs and Events
- Ball Diamond Lights



**APPENDIX B**

GRANTS & FUNDING  
OPPORTUNITIES



## APPENDIX B: GRANTS AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

<b>Program</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Deadlines</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Contact</b>
<b>Wisconsin Stewardship Programs</b>						
Acquisition of Development Rights	Acquire development rights for nature-based outdoor recreation areas and activities	\$1.6 M available per year  50% local match	May 1	Funds available for areas where restrictions on residential, commercial & industrial development  May include enhancements of outdoor recreation	WDNR	Chris Halbur, Northeast District 920-662-5121
Aids for the Acquisition and Development of Local Parks (ADLP)	Acquire or develop public, nature-based outdoor recreation areas and facilities	\$4 M available per year 50% local match	May 1	A comprehensive outdoor recreation plan is required  Priority for land acquisition Projects must comply with ADA	WDNR	Chris Halbur, Northeast District 920-662-5121
Urban Greenspace Program (UGP)	Acquire land to provide natural space within or near urban areas, or to protect scenic or ecological features	\$1.6 M available per year 50% local match	May 1	A comprehensive outdoor recreation plan is required.  Projects must comply with ADA	WDNR	Chris Halbur, Northeast District 920-662-5121
Urban Rivers Grant Program (URGP)	Acquire land, or rights in lands, adjacent to urban rivers for the purpose of preserving or restoring them for economic revitalization or nature-based outdoor recreation activities	\$800,000 available per year 50% local match	May 1	A comprehensive outdoor recreation plan is required.  Projects must comply with ADA	WDNR	Chris Halbur, Northeast District 920-662-5121
Land & Water Conservation Fund (LAWCON)	Acquire or develop public outdoor recreation areas and facilities	50% local match per project	May 1	A comprehensive outdoor recreation plan is required	WDNR	Chris Halbur, Northeast District 920-662-5121
Recreational Trails Act (RTA)	Provide funds for maintenance, development, rehabilitation, and acquisition of non-motorized multi-trails	50% local match per project	May 1	Funds may only be used on trails identified in or that further a goal of a local, county or state plan Funds may be used on trails that are in SCORP a state park plan	WDNR	Chris Halbur, Northeast District 920-662-5121

<b>Program</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Deadlines</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Wisconsin Main Street Community Program	Comprehensive downtown revitalization program, which includes Streetscape improvements	Wisc. Dept. of Commerce	No Date	General downtown Program.  May benefit trail enhancements through streetscaping	National Main Street Center	Bureau of Downtown Development 608-266-7531
Surface Transportation Environment Cooperative Research Program	Evaluate transportation control measures. Improve understanding of transportation demand factors. Develop performance indicators that will facilitate the analysis of transportation alternatives	20% local match per project	No Date	Money available for: development of national bicycle safety education curriculum grants to a national not-for-profit organization engages in promoting bicycle and pedestrian safety study of the safety issues attendant to the transportation of children to and from school by various transportation	FHWA	US Dept. of Transportation 202-366-4000
Urban Forestry Grants	Assistance for tree maintenance, planting, and public awareness	\$1,000 to \$25,00 of grants awarded with a 50% local match	October 1	Funding is prioritized for communities needing to develop an urban forestry plan, needing worker training, and needing to conduct a street tree inventory	WDNR Urban Forestry	<b>Tracy Salisbury</b> 2984 Shawano Ave Green Bay, WI 54313-6727 <b>Phone:</b> 920-662-5450 <b>Fax:</b> 920-662-5159 <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:Tracy.Salisbury@Wisconsin.gov">Tracy.Salisbury@Wisconsin.gov</a>

Program	Purpose	Details	Deadlines	Notes	Agency	Contact
<b>Transportation Grants</b>						
<b>Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)</b>	Provide facilities for pedestrians and bicyclists. Provides funding for rehabilitating and operating historic transportation buildings and structures as well as "Main Streets"	Funded with TE-Map 21 21  20% required match	February	Not a grant program. 80% of funds are reimbursed if all federal guidelines are met. Project must relate to surface transportation.  Construction projects must be over \$100,000  Non-construction projects must be over \$25,000	WisDOT	Tressie Kamp  608-266-3973  <a href="http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/map21">http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/map21</a>
Surface Discretionary Grant Program (STP-D)	Provides flexible funds that can be spent on a wide variety of projects, including roadway, bridges, transit facilities, and bike and pedestrian facilities	Funded with TE-Map 21  20% match required	February	Any project that fosters alternatives to single-occupancy vehicle trips  Facilities for pedestrians and bicyclists  System-wide bicycle planning  Construction projects must be over \$100,000  Non-construction projects must be over \$25,000	WisDOT	Tressie Kamp  608-266-3973
Safe Routes to School Grant Program (SRTS)	Intended to combat childhood obesity and reestablish walking and biking to school	Funded with TE-Map 21	December	Funding for bicycle and pedestrian facilities  Funding for pedestrian and bicycle safety and programs	WisDOT	Renee Callaway  608-266-3973
Section 5309 (old Section 3 discretionary funds)	Transit capital projects; included intermodal facilities such as bicycle racks on buses and bicycle parking at transit stations;	20% local match per project	Early Spring	Funding for this program is allocated on a discretionary basis  Congress reserves money each year  Administration can pick the projects	WisDOT Bureau of Transit	Ron Morse  608-266-1650

**Community Grants:**

Wisconsin Community Fund: These are for non-profits groups.

<http://www.forwardci.org/wisconsin-community-fund>

<http://www.cffoxvalley.org/page.aspx?pid=873>

<https://corporate.homedepot.com/grants/community-impact-grants>

**Sports Field Grants:**

<https://www.responsiblesports.com/programs/grants/rules>

<http://www.hksportsfields.com/sports-complex-financing/>

**Playground Grants:**

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

<http://www.miracle-recreation.com/purchase-options/playground-grants.html>

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

<http://korkatblog.com/playground-grants/>

<http://www.letsplay.com/get-involved/about-playground-grants?gclid=CJzZ2N792bgCFZA-Mgod6AsA6Q>

**Educational:** (Could be used for landscaping also)

<http://eeinwisconsin.org/core>

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

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

**Other:**

Fitness Equipment - [www.exo.fit/grant](http://www.exo.fit/grant) Will match 50% for 2018.

Amazon Smile Program - <https://smile.amazon.com/>

## EAST CENTRAL WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

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Jeff Nooyen, Vice-Chair  
Eric Fowle, Secretary-Treasurer

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