

CHAPTER 3

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND STANDARDS

INTRODUCTION

Planning is a rational process for formulating goals and objectives and through the preparation and implementation of plans, meeting those objectives. The formulation of objectives is an essential task which must be undertaken before a plan can be written. The Village, as part of its 2035 comprehensive planning program completed in 2009, prepared a comprehensive set of park and related open space preservation, acquisition and development objectives. Because the 2035 Comprehensive Plan provides an overview of the park and open space facilities as an integral part of a community-wide system and includes objectives and standards had also been prepared which address regional, community and neighborhood, as well as open space facilities in the Village. This chapter updates the set of goals, objectives, and standards that will serve as the basis for the recommendations in this Plan.



Lake Andrea

BASIC DEFINITIONS

The following basic definitions are being used to explain the Park planning process:

Goals: Goals are broad statements that express the Village's general park and open space priorities. Goals are formulated based on the identification of keys issues, opportunities, and problems that affect the park system.

Objectives: Objectives are more specific than goals and are usually attainable through strategic planning and implementation activities. Implementation of an objective contributes to the fulfillment of a goal.

Standards: Standards are the quantitative measurements of how well the community's existing facilities are meeting the needs of its residents and to plan for future facilities based on projected population growth.

The following list of goals, objectives, and standards is based on the information that has been presented in this Plan through the public participation plan process.

GOALS:

Provide a sufficient number of parks, recreational facilities, and open space areas to enhance the health and welfare of all Village residents and visitors. Protect the many natural, historical, archeological sites and other archeological resources in the Village that contribute to the Village's history and its quality of life. Preserve and enhance the Village's natural resources, parks and open space sites. Provide a comprehensive system of parks and open spaces to enhance the quality of the environment and life and to allow residents with adequate opportunities to participate in resource and non-resource-oriented outdoor recreation activities.



Jerome Creek

OBJECTIVES:

1. Identify, acquire and provide land for quality public outdoor recreation sites and adequate open space in the Village.
2. Prepare marketing information and educate the community about the park and recreational opportunities and facilities available in the Village.
3. Preserve the Village’s natural, cultural and archeological resources and amenities for the benefit of current and future community residents and businesses.
4. Provide off-street and on-street interconnected bike and walking trails and related public open space areas that will provide Village residents and community businesses with adequate opportunities to participate in a wide range of outdoor activities.
5. Continue to maintain and provide upgrades to the Village’s existing park sites and park facilities.

STANDARDS:

1. **Regional Parks:** Regional parks are large outdoor recreation sites that are able to accommodate visitors from multiple counties. Such sites contain both active recreational and passive natural resources. That is, they provide amenities for active recreational opportunities and nature-based recreational activities for area residents to enjoy in the natural environment.



Prairie Springs Park

Service Area: 10-mile service radius.

Desirable Size: 250 acres or more.

Acres per 1,000 Population: 5.3 acres (the minimum per capita acreage requirements apply to the total population of the region).

Basic Facilities and Activities:

- Active recreational facilities such as areas for swimming and boating, biking/walking/skiing trails, playfields, and indoor recreational facilities;
- Passive recreational facilities such as walking/running trails/paths, picnic/sitting areas, and nature study areas;
- Service buildings for shelter, storage, and restrooms;
- Lighting for security at night; and
- Adequate off-street parking spaces.



Donald H. Wruck Beach Pavilion at Prairie Springs Park

2. **Community Parks:** Community parks are intermediate in size and are able to accommodate visitors from the surrounding community and multiple neighborhoods. These sites focus on both the developed aspects of the park, such as playfields and tennis courts, as well as the natural-resource amenities.

Service Area: 2.0 mile service radius.

Desirable Size: 25-99 acres.

Acres per 1,000 Population: 2.2 acres (For community and neighborhood parks, the minimum per capita acreage requirements apply to the population of the region residing in urban areas).

Basic Facilities and Activities:

- Active recreational facilities such as areas for swimming and boating, biking/walking/skiing trails, playfields, playgrounds, tennis courts, and basketball courts;
- Passive recreational facilities such as walking/running trails/paths, picnic/sitting areas, and nature study areas;
- Service buildings for shelter, storage, and restrooms;
- Lighting for security at night; and
- Adequate off-street parking spaces, where the size of the park and the neighborhood context allow.



Village Green Park



Sledding Hill under construction in Ingram Park



Fishing Pond under construction in Ingram Park

3. **Neighborhood Parks:** Neighborhood parks are small sites designed to accommodate the surrounding neighborhood. Like community parks, neighborhood parks may or may not contain natural resource elements. The parks provide playground equipment and playfields and can often be found in more densely populated areas.

Service Area: 0.5-1.0 mile service radius (A 0.5-mile service radius applies to high-density urban areas; a 0.75-mile service radius applies to medium-density urban areas; and a 1.0-mile service radius applies to low-density urban areas).

Desirable Size: Up to 25 acres.

Acres per 1,000 Population: 1.7 acres (For community and neighborhood parks, the minimum per capita acreage requirements apply to the population of the region residing in urban areas).

Basic Facilities and Activities:

- Active recreational facilities such as playfields, tennis courts, basketball courts, playgrounds, and ice-skating rinks;
- Passive recreational facilities such as picnic/sitting areas and nature study areas;
- Service buildings for shelter, storage, and restrooms;
- Lighting for security at night; and
- Adequate off-street parking spaces.



Becker Park



Pleasant Prairie Park

4. **School Parks:** School parks have many of the same characteristics as neighborhood or community parks, depending on their size. As such, school parks primarily serve as locations for active recreational facilities associated with school functions; however, these sites can and do benefit the surrounding community during off-school hours. These parks may be owned and maintained by the Village or the Kenosha Unified School District (KUSD), but are open to all neighborhood residents.

Service Area: 0.5-1.0 mile service radius.

Desirable Size: Up to 99 acres (School parks are typically the size of neighborhood parks (up to 25 acres), but are sometimes as large as a community park (25-99 acres).

Acres per 1,000 Population: 1.6 acres (For Community and Neighborhood Parks, the minimum per capita acreage requirements apply to the population of the region residing in urban areas).

Basic Facilities and Activities:

- Active recreational facilities such as playfields, tennis courts, basketball courts, playgrounds, and ice-skating rinks;
- Passive recreational facilities such as picnic/sitting areas and nature study areas;
- Service buildings for shelter and storage;
- Lighting for security at night; and
- Adequate off-street parking spaces.



Pleasant Prairie School Park



Prairie Lane School Park



Whittier School Park

5. **Special Open Space Areas:** Areas of open space that cannot be measured by a quantifiable standard because of their unique and diverse contributions to the community. Special Open Space Areas enhance an overall park and open space system by maintaining and improving the community's natural resource base, accommodating special activities that are not included in other parks, and providing interconnections between isolated parks and recreation areas.



Lake Michigan

Examples of Special Open Space Areas are varied but can include those lands that accommodate passive or special recreational activities, such as golf courses, sledding/skiing hills, marinas, beaches, display gardens, arboreta, and outdoor amphitheatres, areas of historical or archaeological significance, as well as lands that have been protected for their environmental significance or sensitivity and provide limited opportunity for recreational use. Examples of the latter may include water bodies, floodplains, wetlands, shorelands and shoreland setback areas, drainage ways, stormwater management basins, conveyance routes, environmental corridors or isolated natural areas, wildlife habitat, areas of rare or endangered plant or animal species, prairie remnants, and restoration areas.



Des Plaines River

Service Area: Variable—depends on function.

Desirable Size: Variable—depends on function.

Acres per 1,000 Population: Variable- most Special Open Space Areas are not included in the overall community calculation of park and recreation space per 1,000 persons.

Basic Facilities and Activities: Variable, but some may include:

- Active recreational facilities such as areas for swimming and boating, skiing hills, biking/walking/running/skiing trails and paths, skating rinks, and golf courses;
- Passive recreational facilities such as walking trails, picnic/sitting areas, and natural study areas;
- Service buildings for shelter, equipment storage/rental, concessions, and restrooms;
- Nature centers and educational facilities;
- Signage, trail markers, trash receptacles, information booths;
- Lighting for security at night; and
- Off-street parking spaces if appropriate to the area.

6. **Recreation Trails:** See the *Village of Pleasant Prairie 2010 Bicycle and Pedestrian Trails Plan* as adopted on April 19, 2010 by Ordinance #10-27 for information related to Recreational Trails.



Prairie Farms Trail under construction



Prairie Farms Trail under construction



Lake Andrea Trail



Barnes Creek Bridge



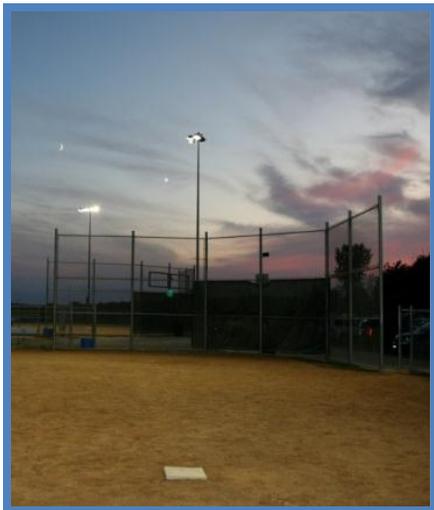
Kenosha County Bike Trail

7. **Outdoor Recreational Facilities:** The Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) also developed, and this Plan endorses, standards for the provision of outdoor recreational facilities. Such standards are expressed as a ratio of the number of facilities recommended per 1,000 residents (Table 3.1).

**TABLE 3.1
PER CAPITA REQUIREMENTS FOR
OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL FACILITIES**

Facility	Facilities per 1,000 Residents
Baseball Diamonds	0.10
Basketball Goals	1.13
Ice-skating Rink	0.15
Playfield	0.50
Playgrounds	0.42
Softball Diamonds	0.60
Tennis Courts	0.60
Soccer Fields	0.86
Swimming Pool	0.15

Source: SEWRPC.



Ball Field at Prairie Springs Park



Lake Andrea

8. **Accessibility-Universal Design and ADA Compliance:** Park and recreational facilities must be designed to be barrier-free and accessible to all park users whenever possible to meet the guidelines of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Furthermore, universal design standards serve as guidelines for complying with federal ADA regulations, and are required for most grant-in-aid programs.