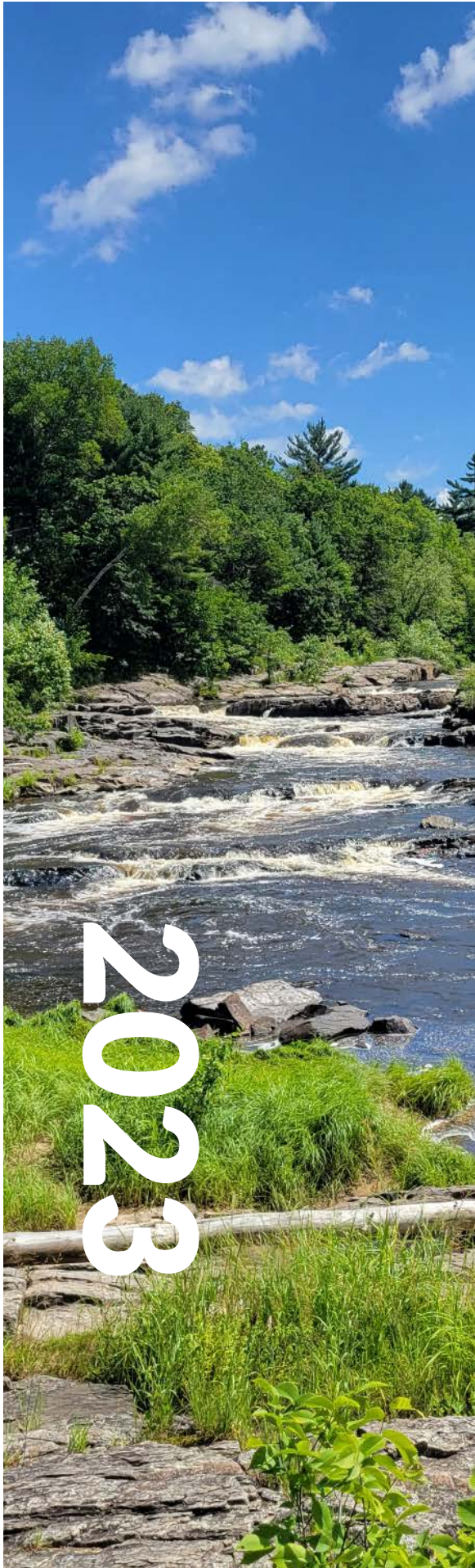




EAU CLAIRE COUNTY
PARKS & FOREST



2023

EAU CLAIRE COUNTY PARKS
**STRATEGIC
IMPLEMENTATION
PLAN**

05/15/2023

Acknowledgments

Thanks to Josh Pedersen, Parks and Forest Director, the Eau Claire County Parks Steering Committee and User Groups for their engagement throughout this Master Planning process.

AYRES Master Plan Document produced by Ayres, 2023.

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INTRODUCTION

Objectives

The Eau Claire County Parks and Forest Department hired the team at Ayres Associates in the summer of 2022 to assist with visioning and master planning efforts for 7 parks and recreation areas within the county park system. These parks include: Lowes Creek County Park, Tower Ridge Recreation Area, Coon Fork County Park, Lake Eau Claire County Park, Big Falls County Park, Harstad County Park, and L.L. Phillips County Park.

The team at Ayres Associates built upon the Eau Claire County Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) completed in the spring of 2022 by the Eau Claire County Parks and Forest Department and the West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission. The goal of this master plan document is to provide additional detail to the CORP with a realistic approach from vision to implementation.

Scope and Methodology

The master planning process was broken down into several critical tasks to achieve well informed and strategic park plans for Eau Claire County.

Task 1: Base Mapping

The first necessary task was to create base maps for each of the 7 parks. A solid understanding of the existing conditions and recommendations was developed through studying GIS (Geographical Information System) data and referencing previously completed Eau Claire County Parks and Forest documents (by others).

Task 2: Park Inventory

Park inventory began with site visits to each of the 7 parks. The Ayres team of experts studied each park and documented observations

VISION

“Eau Claire County provides a diverse park system for all people to experience the water, land and forests of Eau Claire County through a connection to nature and recreation 365 days a year.”

to reference when developing detailed site inventory maps. This thorough understanding of the existing facilities and programming at each park helped to guide discussions and recommendations for improvements. This task culminated in a visioning workshop with the Steering Committee to develop goals and objectives, mission statements, priorities and concerns.

Task 3: Park Survey

Task 3 was a critical time in the master planning process to gather input from the public and stakeholders with the goal to build consensus on a future vision for each park. Conversations continued with the Steering Committee following the visioning workshop. An online survey was also developed and circulated widely through the County website and other platforms. The data gathered from these processes informed preliminary master plans for each park.

Task 4: Present Findings

The preliminary master plans developed with task 3 helped to guide informative discussions with the Steering Committee and various passionate user groups. Feedback from these discussions helped to guide master plan refinement in the last phase of design.

Task 5: Park Designs

One master plan was developed for each of the 7 parks. Accompanying the plan is a mission statement, goals, and existing and proposed park program list. This supporting information helps to develop a unique strategy and sense of place for each park. Plans were reviewed by stakeholder groups throughout the design process and presented to County staff and board for adoption.

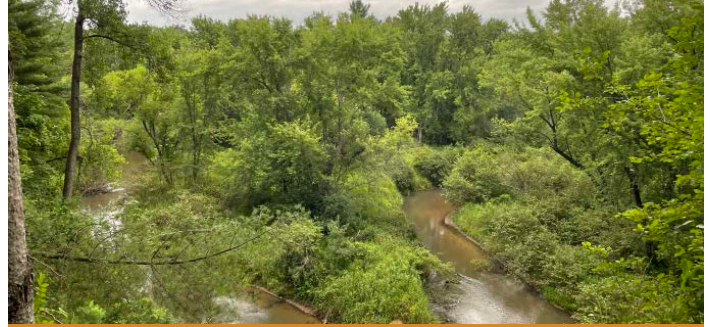


Figure 1. Project Schedule

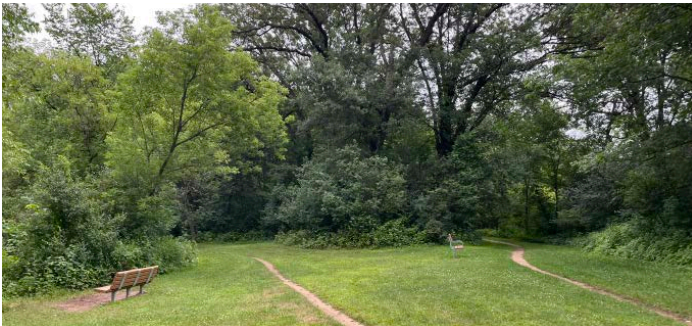
INVENTORY



Bridge over creek



View of creek



Trails diverging



Path infrastructure for biking

Lowes Creek County Park

Lowes Creek County Park is a larger park located just south of the City of Eau Claire. The park is popular for its trail system, particularly for running and mountain biking. The overall forest health is good despite some oak wilt. There are some mature oak and pine trees towards the center of the park on the east side of the creek that are showing signs of mortality. These should be monitored and hazard trees should be proactively managed for safety. The forest would benefit from a non-commercial thinning to promote overall health and minimize future mortality. Buckthorn is a concern at Lowes Creek and should be actively managed with repeated treatments. There are opportunities for prairie restoration and management here, particularly in the clay pit on the eastern side of the park by Highway 93. The park faces erosion issues around the bridge crossing the creek. A long term strategy to mitigate the erosion should be addressed, possibly through alterations to the crown of the road surface to slow the water flow.



Trail signage



Pavilion and amenities



Fitness station



Restroom facilities

Key Takeaways

Pros

- Great access points located on the west side and northeast corner.
- Extensive trail network with options for mountain biking, hiking, trail running, and snow shoeing.
- Great trail exercise stations.
- Good resting points along the trail system.
- Diverse ecosystem ranging from pine forest, early growth forest, riparian habitat, wetland habitat, and upland habitat.
- Electronic pay stations.
- Large parking area.
- Existing mountain biking trail structures.

Cons

- Missing southeast access.
- Limited to 1 narrow access point across the existing creek.
- Invasive buckthorn can be found throughout.
- Existing pavilion and amenities are in poor condition.
- Trail network and signage are rather confusing.
- Trail definition based on use is confusing.
- No paved access.
- Existing pump track is in poor condition and unusable.
- Unpaved parking on west side prioritizes events to the east side.
- Best views and vistas are covered with over grown forest.
- Difficult trail maintenance because of access.



Ski chalet building



Trail grooming equipment



Ski chalet interior



Pavilion with stove

Tower Ridge Recreation Area

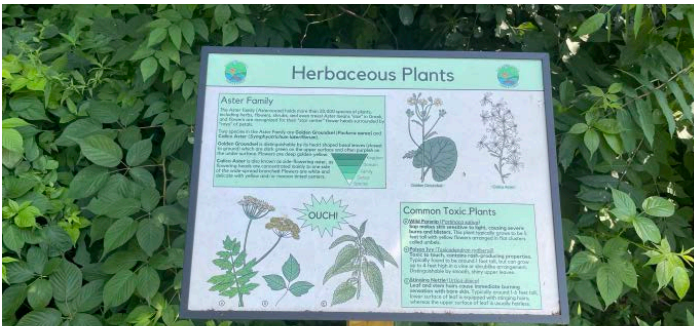
Tower Ridge Recreation Area is the flagship of Eau Claire County's extensive land system, boasting exceptional trails for horseback riding and cross country skiing. The park's western portion features a remarkable 36-hole disc golf course, serving as both a skills course for skiing during winter and lit trails best for night skiing. The youth ski group, which meets every Monday, has grown significantly, potentially causing parking problems. Privately-run, the southern edge of the park houses a shooting range below a high bluff. Recently built, a contemporary ski chalet, complete with restrooms and kitchen, serves as a welcomed amenity for visitors. Park staff constructed a maintenance building, housing ski grooming equipment, along with a smaller garage for disc golf and ski clubs. Excellent wayfinding is present at almost every intersection of the park, although the eastern half is less utilized due to the nature of public access. Unauthorized ATC use can be found along the trails, but controlling access points is a challenge. Perhaps, obstacles to adjacent properties should be considered. Tower Ridge's forest health is relatively good, but oak wilt is present especially among the vast oak found on the disc golf course. Buckthorn is starting to infiltrate, suggesting that management should consider controlling its spread.



Disc golf hole



Trail signage



Educational signage



Shooting range

Key Takeaways

Pros

- 4 seasons event and restroom space.
- Extensive trail network with options for mountain biking, hiking, trail running, snow shoeing, cross country skiing, disc golf, hunting, and horseback riding.
- Well signed trail network.
- Diverse ecosystem with early growth and late growth forest.
- Large parking area at main entrance.
-

Cons

- Not setup to function well from two different points which tends to overload the one point.
- Need to improve amenities, parking and facilities at the north access point.
- Expand winter activities to promote 4 season use.
- Limited camping.
- Close to Eau Claire River but no defined access point.



Pedestrian bridge



Boat landing



Dam at Coon Fork Lake



Boat rentals

Coon Fork County Park

Coon Fork County Park features a sizeable campground and an 80-acre non-motorized lake with several access points for canoes and kayaks. The western side of the park is underutilized, especially away from the lake. There are a few trails passing through the park and connecting to county land. There is an opportunity here for secluded backpack-only access campsites near the lake. The park is looking for FEMA funding for a storm shelter and trying to identify alternative uses for it to justify investment. A garage for a ski trail groomer is also desired here to help maintain the trails. Camping is very popular here. There is a large firewood yard that should be preserved and encouraged to minimize risk of introducing invasive to the park though people carrying in personal firewood. There is also free wifi available in the campground. The forest is relatively young. Mature jack pine has previously been removed from the park. Oak wilt and other concerns are minimal here due to the young age class. The dam and bridge are a great asset to the park. They serve as an iconic focal point and provide excellent views downstream.



Campground entry



Restroom facility



Typical campsite



New playground equipment

Key Takeaways

Pros

- Waterfront camping with a variety of locations.
- Extensive camping sites with great amenities. Electrical hookups, restrooms, showers, playgrounds and trails.
- Large parking area at main entrance.
- Day use park on the west side has a great beach, boat access, playground, fishing piers.
- Signage and wayfinding is clear and concise.
- Vehicle circulation through and around the entire park.
- Staff located on site to assist.
- Waste and water hookups available.
- Trash disposal.
- Great beach on the east side.
- Provide concerts and events for visitors.

Cons

- Need upgrades to amenities on the east side for playground, performances, lighting and paved trail access.
- East side is disconnected from west side.
- Some camping sites along the lake do not provide electrical hookups.
- Existing retaining wall along east side of lake needs to be replaced.
- Existing playgrounds in overnight camping area need to be replaced.
- Half basketball court.
- No handicap accessible boat access.
- West side needs to upgrade restrooms.
- Limited trail connections to surrounding parks.



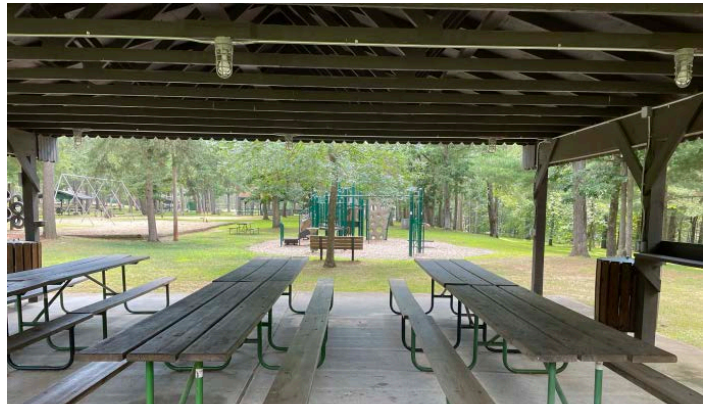
Existing building being considered for removal



Pavilion on Eau Claire River



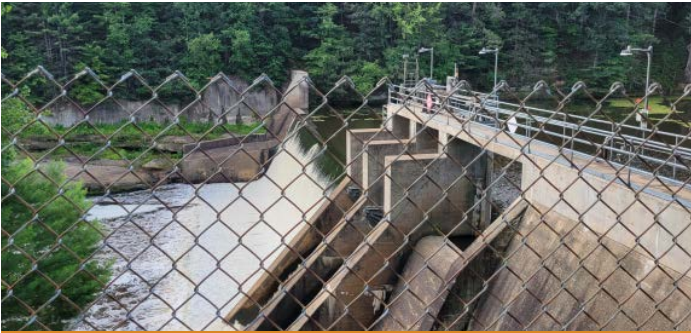
Building amenities



Pavilion at playground

Lake Eau Claire County Park

Lake Eau Claire County Park is a small park located on the Eau Claire River. It is very underutilized and predominately used by locals, often for short visits. The old main building has outlived its usefulness and is being considered for removal. Rentals for weddings and other gatherings have decreased in recent years. The park has large areas of grass amongst mature pine and oaks. The County maintenance staff is based at this park so it is logistically easier to maintain. Trees with root damage and signs of rot should be removed before they become a hazard for park users. The park has a well-constructed fishing dock and rock lined shoreline with good accessibility to the river. There is also a large BBQ near the main building. This unique amenity should be promoted for gatherings. A portage should be considered for paddlers recreating on the river. Improvements could be made to the existing portage on adjacent land that is connected by trail. This park could benefit from increased amenities to encourage more usage.



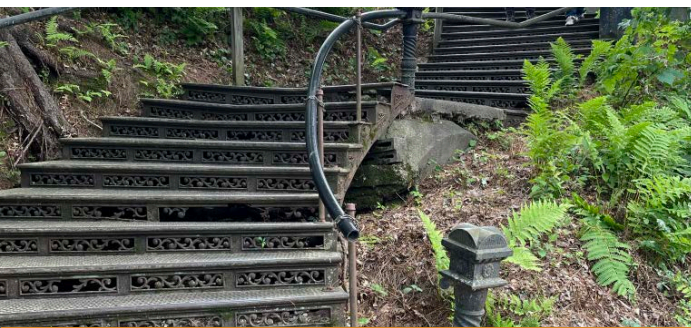
Dam at Eau Claire River



Path along river



Fishing dock



Historic spiral staircase

Key Takeaways

Pros

- Handicap accessibility to Lake Eau Claire.
- Paved parking with great circulation and access.
- Clubhouse with supporting outdoor spaces.
- BBQ pit.
- 4 season restrooms.
- Well staffed and maintained.
- Good signage and wayfinding.
- Existing volleyball courts.
- Shaded playground and lawn space.

Cons

- Aging amenities of playground and some existing structures.
- Clubhouse needs renovations.
- Underutilized potential.
- Stairs down to water do not meet code.
- Poor circulation east west to connect portage trail.
- No visual or physical connection to Eau Claire River below.
- Day use park only.



View of falls



View of beach and falls



View of falls



Great beach conditions

Big Falls County Park

Big Falls County Park is a popular destination due to the beautiful natural features located there. A new parking lot and restrooms were completed this year on the west side of the park. The trails are scheduled to be repaved within the next year. The eastern side of the park is in need of improvements. Direct access to the falls is difficult off the paved paths. An ADA platform should be considered to improve accessibility for the public. There should be some trail maintenance conducted on the eastern side of the park to potentially improve access from that side of the river. There are some sizable concentrations of poison ivy that might be dealt with at that time.



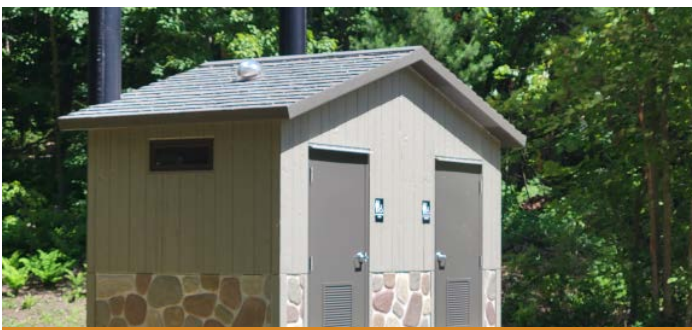
Scenic views



Existing stairs to beach



South entrance signage



Restroom facilities

Key Takeaways

Pros

- Upgraded parking and restrooms.
- Handicap accessible access to water on west side.
- Unique park with amazing access to water and beaches.
- Utilized by multiple user groups including Beaver Creek.
- Picnic areas on the west side.

Cons

- Difficult access to water on the east side.
- Stairs on the west side do not meet code.
- Limited trail loops.
- Poor trail wayfinding and signage.
- No picnic areas on the east side.



Scenic view



Underutilized ball field



Boat launch



Existing furnishings

Harstad County Park

Harstad County Park is a quaint park situated on the serene Eau Claire River, boasting 27 primitive campsites and a canoe/kayak landing. Although it is not heavily trafficked, recent attention has been given to enhance the park. A charming playground has been installed near the river, and a pavilion is slated for construction. The original shelter has already been dismantled to make way for this new addition, and power has been connected to the pavilion location. Initially, management considered using solar power to energize the pavilion, but ultimately dismissed the idea due to maintenance concerns. The park also features a ball field that has been underutilized, raising the possibility of it being removed. Subsequent improvements include establishing an archery range, introducing a group campsite, or creating a walking trail that spans the entire park. The restroom facilities also require modernization and accessibility upgrades. Connection to adjacent Lake Eau Claire County Park is also being contemplated, requiring public land easements. Notably, the existing canoe/kayak landing remains the park's biggest draw, necessitating improved parking in the riverfront area. The park is predominantly forested with majestic pine and oak trees, with some swamp white oak and sycamore trees in the improved area near the river.



Restroom facility



Educational signage



New playground equipment



Sand volleyball

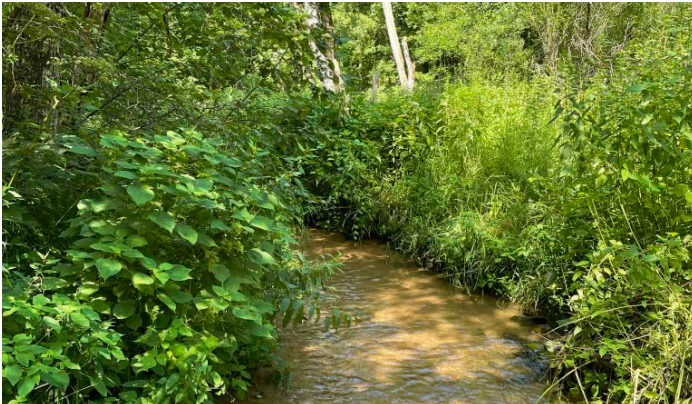
Key Takeaways

Pros

- Recently upgraded playground.
- Planned pavilion upgrades.
- Access to Eau Claire River provides a good canoe and kayak point.
- Great fishing spot.
- Unique point along Eau Claire River with beaches and water access.
- Stair access to water.
- Multiple restrooms in key locations.
- Overnight camping separated from day use.
- Overnight camping with great access to restrooms and amenities.

Cons

- Lower level vehicle access is not well defined.
- Limited pay stations.
- Aging restroom facilities.
- No defined parking area in day use site.
- Underutilized upper park with baseball.
- Undefined and limited trail loops.
- Poor trail wayfinding and signage.
- Overnight camping has limited trail access to water.



Stream



Overgrown vegetation



Restroom facility



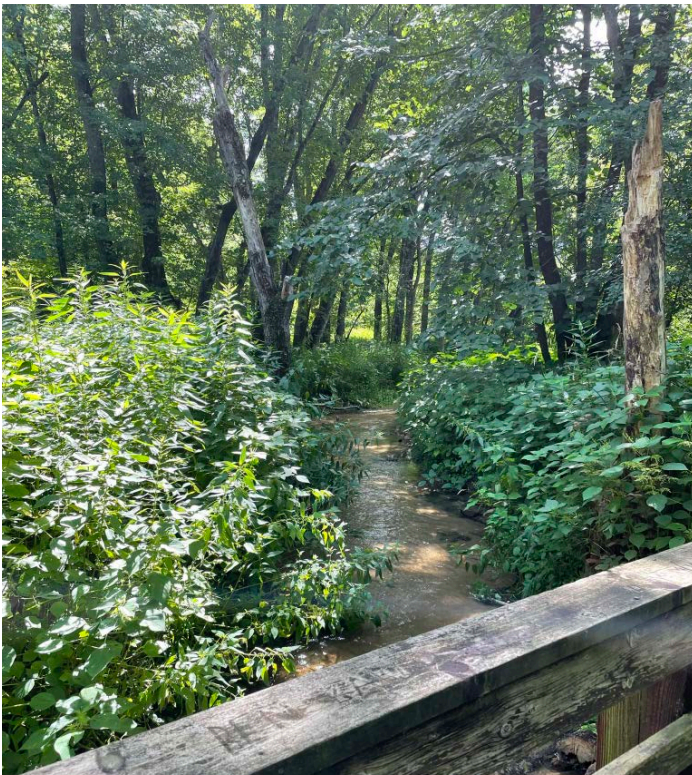
Informational signage

L.L. Phillips County Park

L.L. Phillips County Park, enveloped in dense forestry, offers a charmingly intimate setting for primitive camping. The park boasts a meandering trail network and a petite open campsite/day site spot nestled in its northern reaches. With the potential to expand camping options and upgrade the group site, the park also recently erected a delightful pavilion. While the parking lot boasts an informal and snug aesthetic, there is room for improvement in visibility and accessibility, particularly in aiding law enforcement monitoring. The riparian area of the park lends itself to unique interpretive signage that could foster a deeper sense of connectedness to the park's abundant attractions. The forest itself flourishes, primarily consisting of robust oak, pine, and additional hardwoods. To ensure enduring health and vitality, thinning of some of the pines is duly recommended.



Pedestrian bridge



View of stream from bridge

Key Takeaways

Pros

- Diverse ecosystem with a variety of habitats.
- Well defined trails with good circulation.
- Existing restrooms.
- Upgraded pavilion.
- Good trails for hiking and horseback riding.
- Connects to Eau Claire River trail.

Cons

- Poor vehicle access with limited turning movements allowed.
- No electrical pay station.
- Limited activities and uses.
- Poor wayfinding and signage.
- Limited visibility from main road.

ASSESSMENTS

Three different engagement strategies were used to gather stakeholder and public input for the Eau Claire County Parks master planning process. Outreach included an online survey, user group discussions, and steering committee feedback. The following sections will discuss the main outcomes and lessons learned.

Outreach Survey

The outreach survey was circulated by the Eau Claire County Parks and Forestry department through the County website, social media and other efforts. The survey provided valuable information for the master planning process with 146 responses.

Key Findings

Over 75% of the respondents were residents of Eau Claire County and most people were over the age of 34. The highest respondent age group

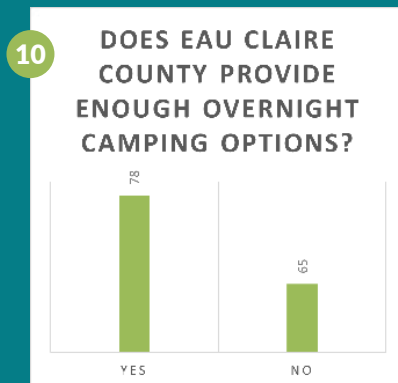
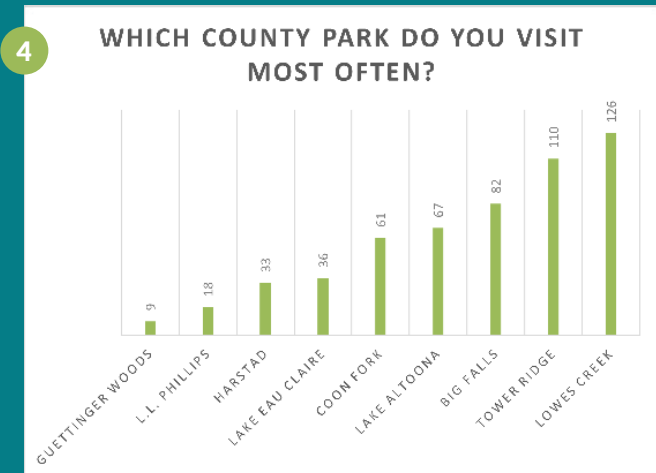
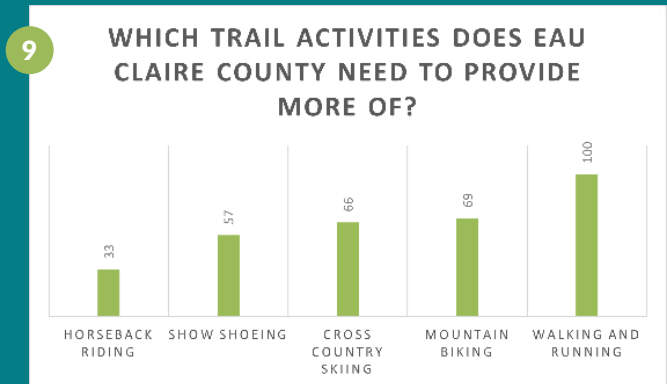
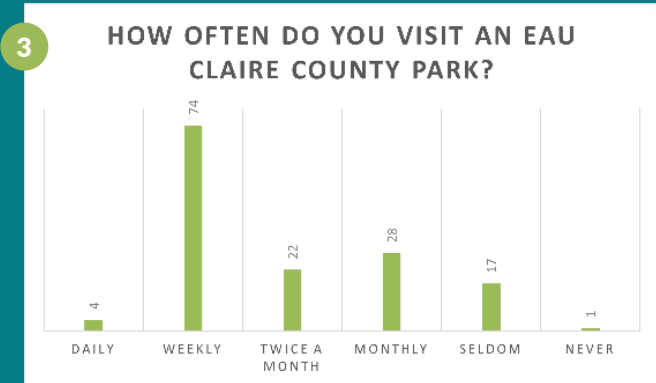
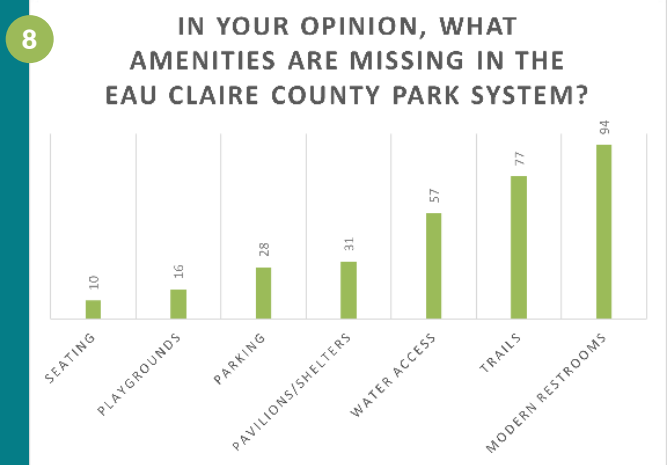
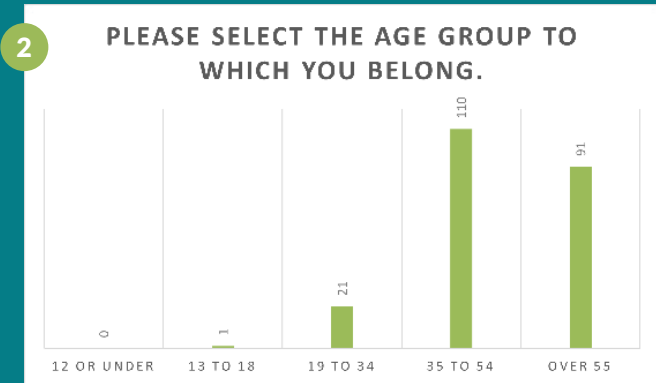
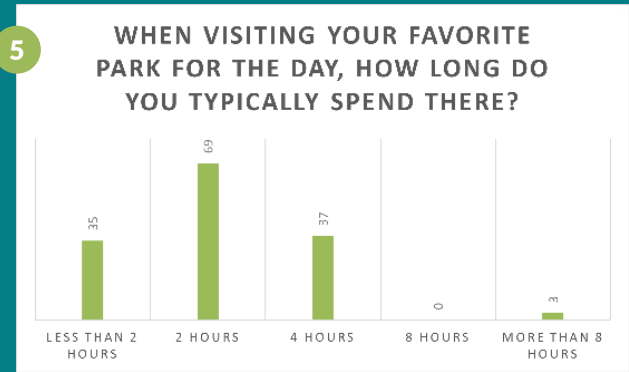
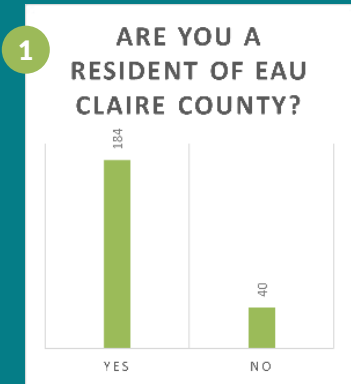
was 35 to 54 years of age, with over 55 years of age following closely behind. The survey results lacked the perspective of the younger generation. Very few respondents visit an Eau Claire County Park daily (4), but many visit weekly. 88% report at least a monthly visit. Lowes Creek and Tower Ridge were reported to be the parks visited most often from the survey results. This could be due to very active user groups at those locations (mountain biking, cross country skiing, horse back riding). Almost 50% of respondents spend about 2 hours at their favorite park. Very few people spend more than 8 hours there. Popular parks mentioned outside the Eau Claire County Park System included: Lake Wissota, Brunet Island, Devils Lake, amongst others. As for biggest challenges, these included funding, maintenance, aging infrastructure and more (see appendix). Modern restrooms and trails were mentioned most as amenities needing improvement. The results on trail activities and overnight camping were fairly split.



6 Is there a County or State Park outside Eau Claire County that you love to spend time in?



7 What do you feel is the biggest challenge facing the Eau Claire County Park System?



User Group Engagement

Chippewa Valley Trail riders

The Chippewa Valley Trail riders is an organization that helps to promote horse trails in the area. According to the interview with a member, Tower Ridge is the most popular destination for this trail use. A map with horse trails is desired for the County Park system. The knowledge is currently only shared by word of mouth. Additional information for water access and trail distance and ride time would be helpful to improve user experience. There could be more promotion of horse back riding on the County website to grow this user group. Trail maintenance is a concern and could be improved.

Lake Altoona Ski Sprites

The Lake Altoona Ski Sprites is an organized group that advocates for waterskiing and boating in the Chippewa Valley. The group performs on Lake Altoona in the summer months. The team is in need of upgraded amenities to improve the user experience at the park. These improvements include: lighting for evening events, sound booth for permanent audio system, and upgraded restroom facilities. A viewing area would improve the experience for the public who come out to watch a show. Water quality is also a concern for the group and the beach has to close at times during the season due to environmental issues.

CORBA Trail Group

The CORBA trail group serves to promote and maintain biking facilities in the Chippewa Valley. Lowes Creek is the most popular destination within the County Park system for mountain biking and winter biking use. In conversations with group board members, it was understood that there are park updates that would improve the user experience for bikers. These include: paving the west side parking lot, adding a skills course, a large pavilion for event use, a bike repair station, especially a pump on the west side of the park. Overall, facilities and amenities need improvements at Lowes Creek. The group would like to see professionally designed and built trails. Grants could help assist this endeavor. The group hopes that the Eau Claire County Parks can become a tournament destination for biking.

EC Ski Striders

The EC Ski Striders rely heavily on Tower Ridge and have already helped to improve this park through their help in maintenance and the building of the Ski Chalet. Their continued support is needed at Tower Ridge and additional parks such as Lowes Creek and Coon Fork to help improve and maintain the existing facilities. Their work on wayfinding and signage at Tower Ridge make them perfect candidates to help improve the wayfinding and signage at other parks. When working on improvements to Tower Ridge, this group should be consulted with on a regular basis.

Regional Synergies

A regional inventory and analysis was conducted to study the distribution of county parks across Eau Claire County and all adjacent counties (Chippewa County, Clark County, Dunn County, Jackson County, and Trempealeau County). 49 county parks were identified amongst the region highlighting that there are a vast amount of recreational opportunities for residents in West Central Wisconsin. To better understand the accessibility of the park systems, a 5-mile buffer from municipalities in the region was drawn. (See page 24-25).

LEGEND

5-Mile buffer from municipalities

County Parks

Eau Claire County Parks

- 1. Beaver Creek Reserve
- 2. Big Falls Park
- 3. Coon Fork Park
- 4. Guettinger Woods
- 5. Harstad Park
- 6. L.L. Phillips Park
- 7. Lake Altoona Park
- 8. Lake Eau Claire County Beach
- 9. Lake Eau Claire Park
- 10. Lowes Creek Park
- 11. Tower Ridge Recreation Area

Chippewa County Parks

- 12. Anson Boat Landing – East
- 13. Anson Boat Landing – West
- 14. Lueck's Landing
- 15. Morris Erickson
- 16. Otter Lake
- 17. Pine Point
- 18. Riverview Reserve
- 19. Round Lake

Clark County Parks

- 20. Black River Recreational Area
- 21. Greenwood Park & Campground
- 22. Levis Mound Recreational Area
- 23. Mead Lake Park and Campground
- 24. Rock Dam Park and Campground
- 25. Russell Memorial Park and Campground
- 26. Sherwood Park and Campground
- 27. Snyder Park and Campground
- 28. Wild Rock Park and Campground
- 29. Wildcat Park

Dunn County Parks

- 30. 22 Mile Ford Park
- 31. Caddie Woodlawn Park
- 32. Champney Park
- 33. Eau Galle Park
- 34. Kleist Landing
- 35. Lambs Creek Park
- 36. Menomin Park
- 37. Northwest Landing
- 38. Peninsula Park
- 39. Pineview Park
- 40. Russian Slough
- 41. Thatcher Park

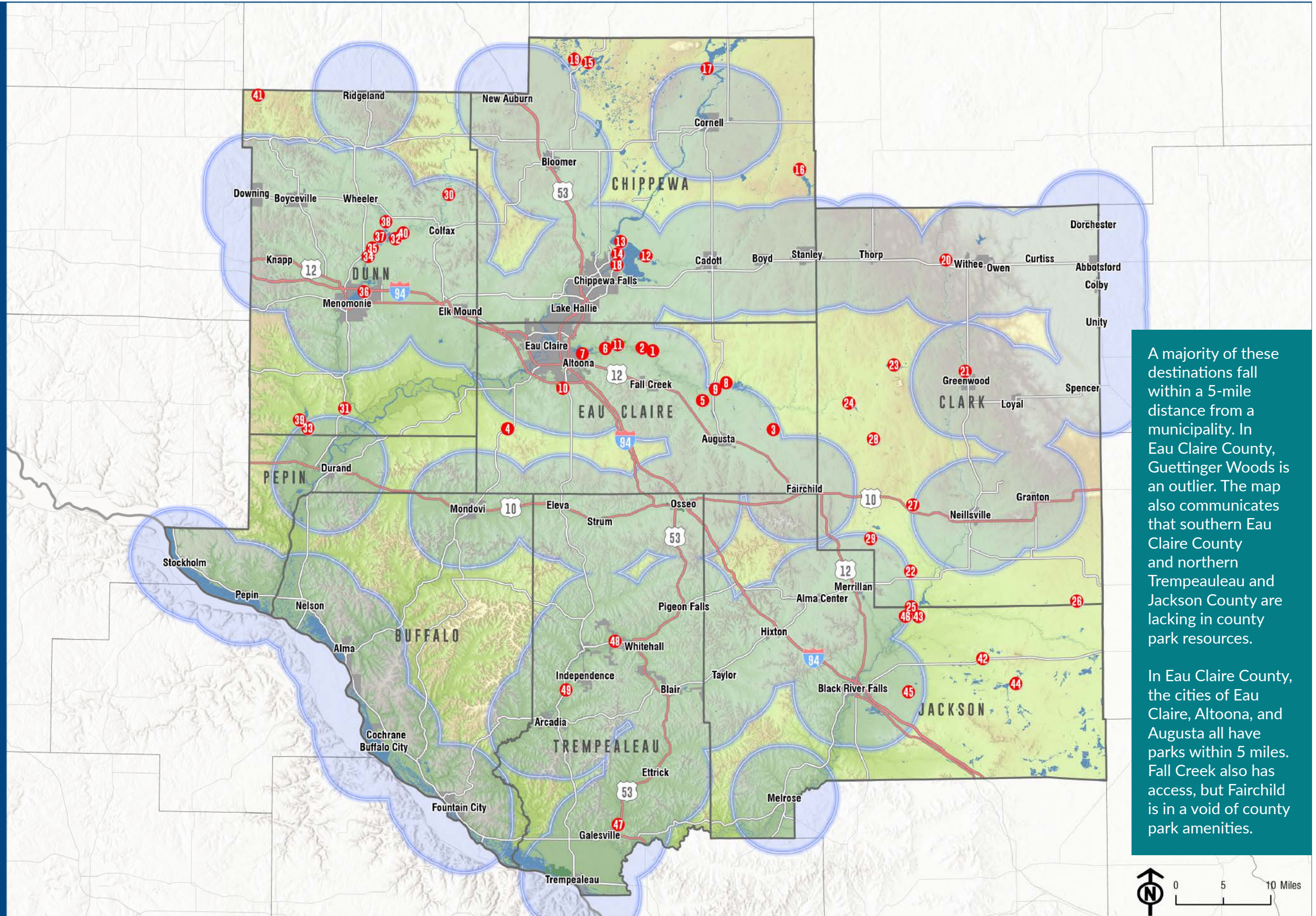
Jackson County Parks

- 42. Crawford Hills County Park
- 43. East Arbutus County Park
- 44. Merlin Lambert County Park
- 45. Wazee Lake Recreation Area
- 46. West Arbutus County Park

Trempealeau County Parks

- 47. County Fair Grounds
- 48. Farm Progress Days Park
- 49. Pietrek County Park

NOTE: There are no County parks in Buffalo County or Pepin County.



A majority of these destinations fall within a 5-mile distance from a municipality. In Eau Claire County, Guettinger Woods is an outlier. The map also communicates that southern Eau Claire County and northern Trempealeau and Jackson County are lacking in county park resources.

In Eau Claire County, the cities of Eau Claire, Altoona, and Augusta all have parks within 5 miles. Fall Creek also has access, but Fairchild is in a void of county park amenities.



Beaver Creek

Beaver Creek uses Big Falls and Coon Fork for kayaking and fishing classes. There are access challenges with these parks, especially when managing a group of 20 children. Different structures to camp site rental should be explored, including first come first serve in some locations. More entry points along the Eau Claire River would be beneficial. Beaver Creek has a campsite along the river. Butterflies for the butterfly house and pond water for pond water experiments are collected from a nearby County forest. Additional improvement ideas include adding areas within the park system to recreate with dogs.

Steering Committee

The Steering Committee served a vital role throughout the master planning process. They helped to kick the project off with site tours at each of the parks included in the plan. They shared their expert advice and experiences.

The group assisted the design team through a visioning process to develop missions and programming direction for each park. The committee also shared their general expertise on the community and park system. Hopes and concerns for the future of the Eau Claire County Parks were also discussed amongst the group to guide the master planning process.

Additional meetings were held with the committee to discuss design direction. Master plans were shared throughout the process to gather feedback and inform modifications and revisions to the plans. Consensus was built through the committee to best serve the greater Eau Claire County community.

A final master plan review was conducted with the committee prior to the adoption of the master plan by the County Board.



Figure 2. Steering Committee Schedule

MASTER PLANS

Process

The master plans were built on a foundation of steering committee visioning and critique. They also incorporated feedback from a successful online survey that received well over 100 responses. It was critical to gather community feedback in order to reflect the most appropriate and highest uses of each park being designed in this process.

The plans emphasize current successes of each location and propose expansions or renovations where necessary in order to improve upon what is already enjoyed. In certain instances, new uses and program are proposed to strengthen interest in a park.

Mission

Mission statements were written for each of the 7 parks being studied for the Master Plan. These

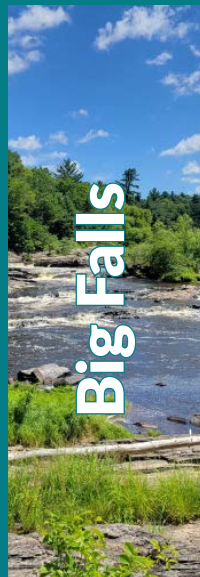
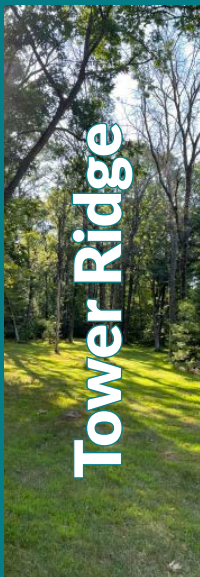
statements helped to provide a unique identify for each destination within the park system. Goals and programming were also a result of these foundational mission statements.

Goals

Goals are an important part of the master planning process because they provide structure to the vision and mission. They are objective oriented statements that help to tell the narrative while also focusing on marketing each park and realistic implementation.

Program

The Eau Claire County park system is popular among the community for rustic and natural qualities. The existing trails are enjoyed by residents who desire to hike, snow shoe, cross country ski, bike, and horse back ride. Other notable existing program elements include:



campsites, beaches, boat landings, fishing piers, shelters, picnic areas, recreational sports courts and fields, playgrounds, and a disc golf and fitness course.

The following are important new program additions that are being proposed in the park master plans.

Adventure Course

Location: Tower Ridge
 Purpose: Take advantage of topography change with ropes course and zip line. Strengthen winter park use with toboggan run and ice skating loop.

Skills Track

Location: Lowes Creek
 Purpose: Additional bike elements will add to the identity of the park and encourage more visitors and use.

Dog Park

Location: Lowes Creek
 Purpose: Provide an opportunity for dogs to run off leash in a controlled environment.

Secluded Campsites

Location: Coon Fork
 Purpose: This more private style of camping will give visitors a new overnight experience. Yurts are planned for Coon Fork.

Accessible Canoe/Kayak Launch

Location: Coon Fork
 Purpose: Accessible water access is important for inclusivity throughout the park system. A new canoe/kayak launch is proposed to allow all visitors to experience paddling.

Playground Upgrades

Location: Coon Fork and Lake Eau Claire
 Purpose: Playground upgrades are proposed to modernize structures and provide safe and exciting play elements to the park system.

Interpretive Signage

Location: Big Falls, Harstad, L.L. Phillips, and Lowes Creek
 Purpose: Signage to help educate visitors on history and environmental topics will build respect and admiration for the parks.



Adventure Course



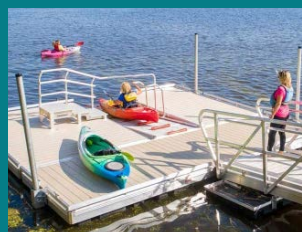
Skills Track



Dog Park



Yurt Campsite



Accessible Launch



Interpretive Signage

LOWES CREEK

Bike



Hike



Ski



Educate



Exercise





Park Mission & Goals

Mission

With an extensive network of trails and unique topography, Lowes Creek Park is a regional destination for all trail related activities. A variety of trails and amenities give day use visitors the opportunity to escape the surrounding urban centers. Active programming provides the opportunity for organized events.

Goals

- 1 Define and improve trail recreation and associated amenities
- 2 Diversify mountain biking trail recreation
- 3 Promote forest health and prairie restoration

Park Program and Amenities

Existing

- Picnic shelter
- Fitness course
- Mountain biking trails
- Skiing trails
- Snow shoeing Trails
- Hiking trails
- Bicycle service station
- Gravel and Paved Parking

Proposed

- Educational trail with interpretive signage
- Trail head upgrades
- Pedestrian event plaza
- Large event pavilion
- Prairie restoration
- Improved wayfinding and signage
- Widen Existing Bridge
- Addition Crossing Point
- Overlook(s)
- Mountain biking skills track
- Parking lot improvements
- Dog park and amenities
- Invasive Buckthorn management
- Additional Parking



TOWER RIDGE

Ski



Golf



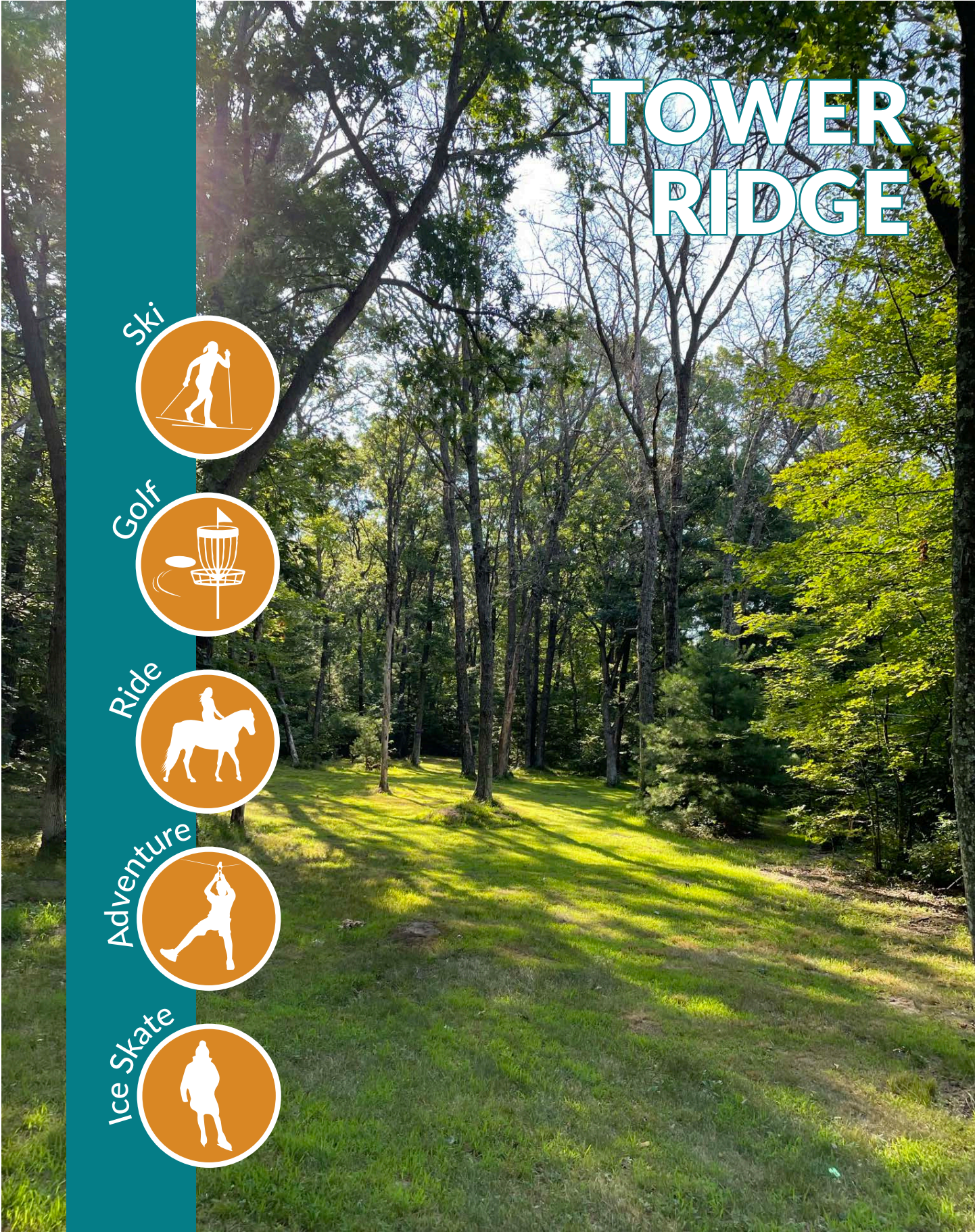
Ride

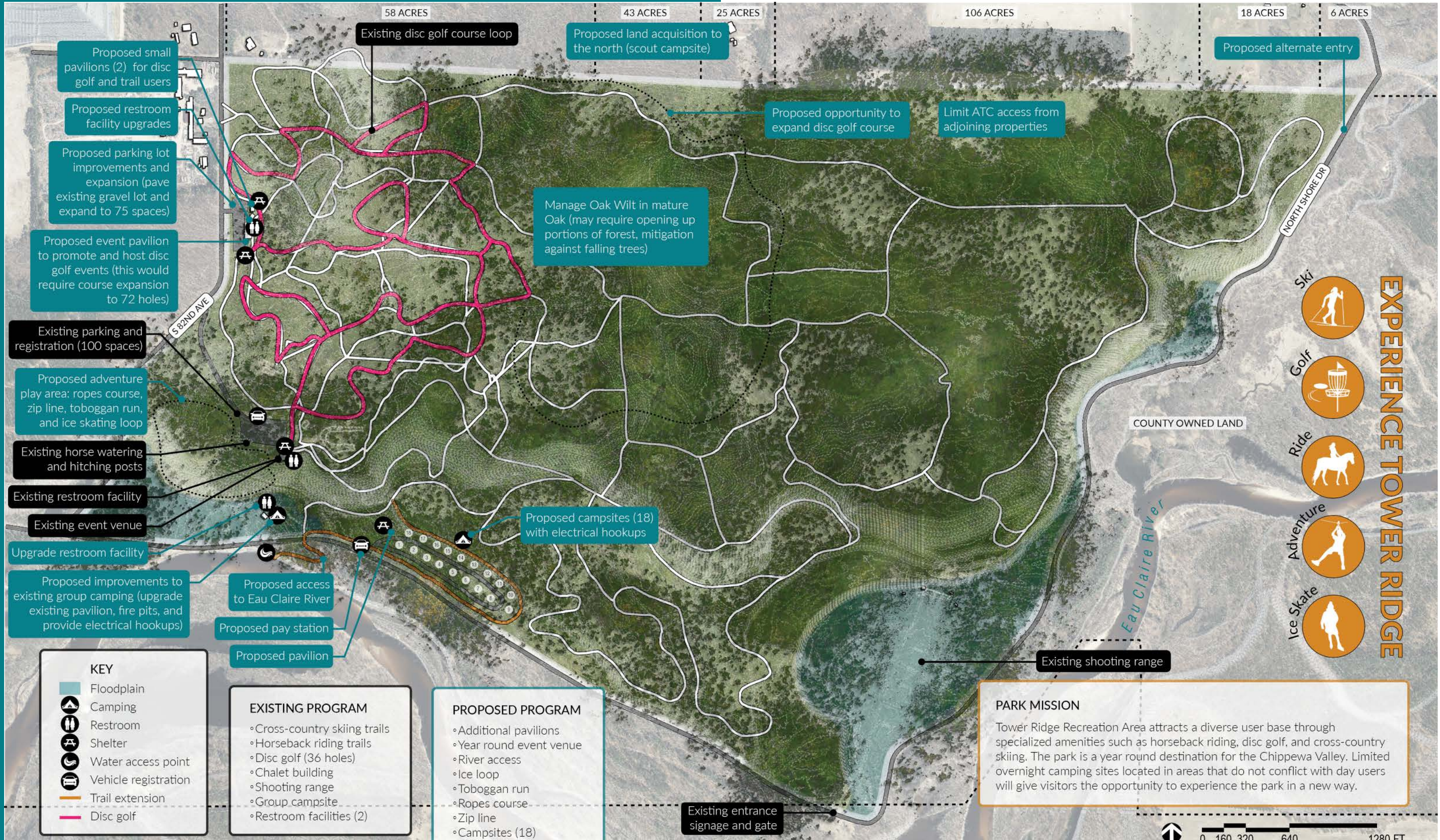


Adventure



Ice Skate





Proposed small pavilions (2) for disc golf and trail users

Proposed restroom facility upgrades

Proposed parking lot improvements and expansion (pave existing gravel lot and expand to 75 spaces)

Proposed event pavilion to promote and host disc golf events (this would require course expansion to 72 holes)

Existing parking and registration (100 spaces)

Proposed adventure play area: ropes course, zip line, toboggan run, and ice skating loop

Existing horse watering and hitching posts

Existing restroom facility

Existing event venue

Upgrade restroom facility

Proposed improvements to existing group camping (upgrade existing pavilion, fire pits, and provide electrical hookups)

Proposed access to Eau Claire River

Proposed pay station

Proposed pavilion

58 ACRES

43 ACRES

25 ACRES

106 ACRES

18 ACRES

6 ACRES

Existing disc golf course loop

Proposed land acquisition to the north (scout campsite)

Proposed opportunity to expand disc golf course

Limit ATC access from adjoining properties

Proposed alternate entry

Manage Oak Wilt in mature Oak (may require opening up portions of forest, mitigation against falling trees)

Proposed campsites (18) with electrical hookups

COUNTY OWNED LAND

Eau Claire River

Existing shooting range

Existing entrance signage and gate



EXPERIENCE TOWER RIDGE

KEY

- Floodplain
- Camping
- Restroom
- Shelter
- Water access point
- Vehicle registration
- Trail extension
- Disc golf

EXISTING PROGRAM

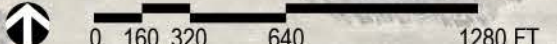
- Cross-country skiing trails
- Horseback riding trails
- Disc golf (36 holes)
- Chalet building
- Shooting range
- Group campsite
- Restroom facilities (2)

PROPOSED PROGRAM

- Additional pavilions
- Year round event venue
- River access
- Ice loop
- Toboggan run
- Ropes course
- Zip line
- Campsites (18)

PARK MISSION

Tower Ridge Recreation Area attracts a diverse user base through specialized amenities such as horseback riding, disc golf, and cross-country skiing. The park is a year round destination for the Chippewa Valley. Limited overnight camping sites located in areas that do not conflict with day users will give visitors the opportunity to experience the park in a new way.



Park Mission & Goals

Mission

Tower Ridge Recreation Area attracts a diverse user base through specialized amenities such as horseback riding, disc golf, and cross-country skiing. The park is a year round destination for the Chippewa Valley. Limited overnight camping sites located in areas that do not conflict with day users will give visitors the opportunity to experience the park in a new way.

Goals

- 1 Create a 4 seasons destination in the Chippewa Valley
- 2 Expand and improve amenities in other locations to promote diversity in events
- 3 Expand overnight camping for events and connect trail system to the Eau Claire River



Park Program and Amenities

Existing

- Cross-country skiing trails
- Horseback riding trails
- Disc golf (36 holes)
- Chalet building
- Group campsite
- Restroom facilities (2)
- Shooting range

Proposed

- Additional pavilions
- Year round event venue
- River access
- Ice loop
- Zip line
- Toboggan run
- Ropes course

COON FORK

Camp



Hike



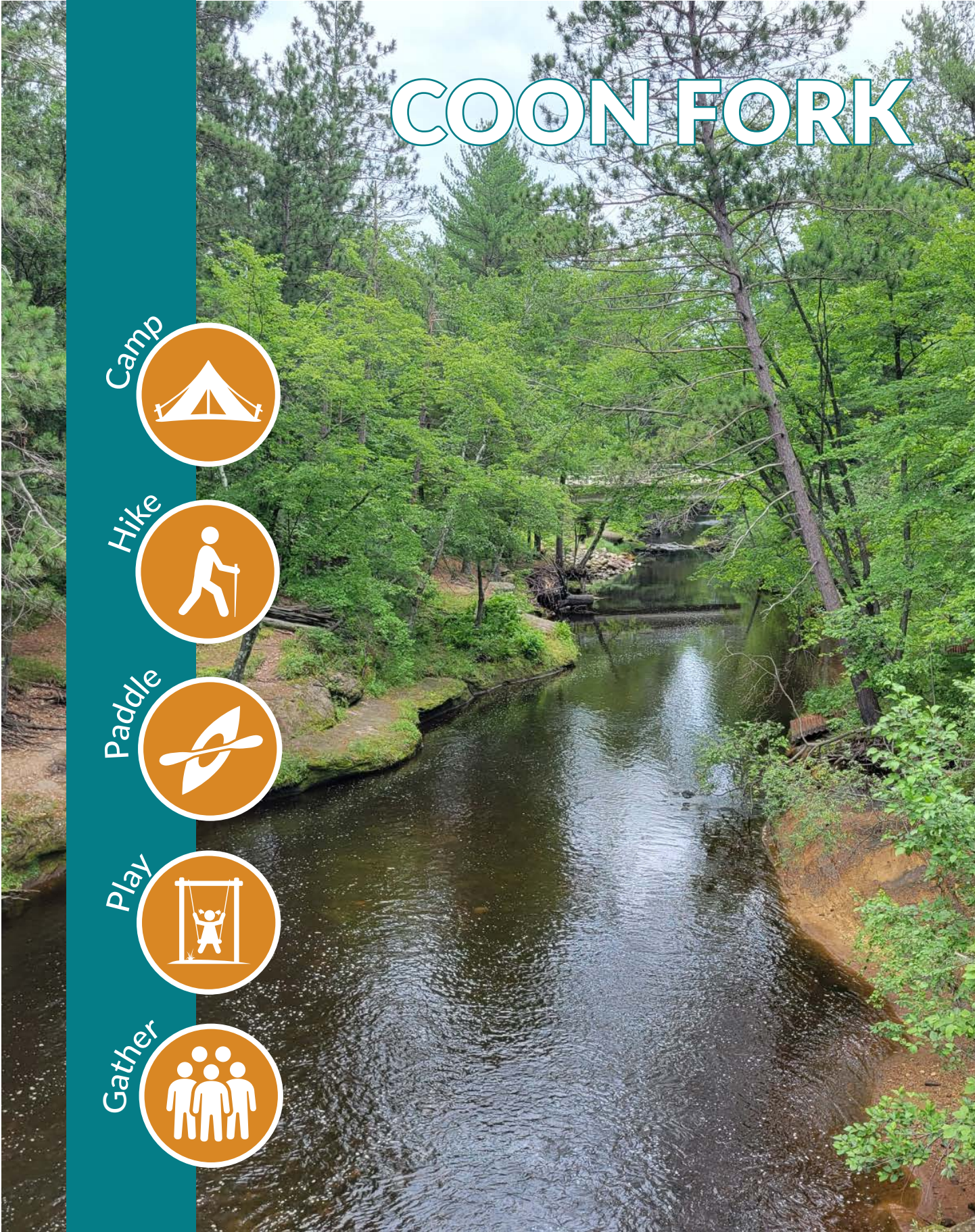
Paddle



Play



Gather





EXPERIENCE COON FORK

KEY

- Floodplain
- Camping
- Restroom
- Shelter
- Water access point
- Overlook
- Playground
- Vehicle Registration
- Trail improvements

Existing sign
Existing vehicle registration station
Existing dumping station
Existing seasonal residence (future rental opportunity)

Proposed addition of full hook-ups (sewer) for sites in D loop (water existing)

Proposed trail connection improvements

Proposed full basketball court

Existing bridge crossing

Existing parking/ access and overlook

Proposed improvements include potential ADA accessible canoe / kayak launch and clearly defining parking for vehicles / trailers at launch

Proposed secluded yurt camping (3)

Existing sign

Existing vehicle registration station

Existing parking (72 spaces)

Upgrade restroom and move closer to beach

Existing ADA accessible fishing pier

Proposed reduction of parking lot (10 spaces)

Proposed ADA accessible canoe and kayak launch for day use

Existing sign
Existing vehicle registration station
Existing dumping station
Existing seasonal residence (future rental opportunity)

Existing sign
Existing vehicle registration station
Existing dumping station
Existing seasonal residence (future rental opportunity)

20 Campsites

31 Campsites

28 Campsites

29 Campsites

Proposed new restroom facility closer to pavilion

Proposed removal of restroom and slide

Proposed ADA accessible route to beach

Proposed access improvements to second beach

Existing parking (40 spaces)

Existing historic monument

Existing volleyball / horseshoe pit

Proposed additional 30 electrical hookups

Proposed powered pump replacement

Proposed replacement of FEMA shelter

Proposed repair or removal of existing retaining wall

Proposed outdoor performance area

Proposed playground upgrades

Proposed bridge crossing

Southwest is day use while northeast is overnight camping

PARK MISSION

Coon Fork Lake Park is a regional destination for overnight camping. A variety of lodging options mixed with multiple amenities make this a prime location for visitors looking to escape into nature.

EXISTING PROGRAM

- Campsites (108)
- Boat landing
- Boat rentals
- Beaches
- Picnic shelters
- Basketball court
- Volleyball/horseshoe pit
- Playgrounds (3)
- Performance area
- Fishing pier
- Restroom facilities (6)

PROPOSED PROGRAM

- Shelter replacement
- Playground upgrades
- Trail improvements
- ADA accessible canoe/kayak launch
- ADA accessible fishing pier
- Secluded campsites (3)
- Expand basketball court



Park Mission & Goals

Mission

Cook Fork Lake Park is a regional destination for overnight camping. A variety of lodging options mixed with multiple amenities make this a prime location for visitors looking to escape into nature.

Goals

- 1 Provide visitors with high quality and diverse variety of amenities
- 2 Provide a variety of camping options for visitors
- 3 Connect Coon Fork to surrounding County property through improvements and connections to key trails

Park Program and Amenities

Existing

- Campsites (108)
- Boat landing
- Boat rentals
- Beaches
- Picnic shelters
- Basketball court
- Volleyball/horseshoe pit
- Playgrounds (3)
- Performance area
- Fishing pier
- Restroom facilities (6)

Proposed

- Shelter replacement
- Playground upgrades
- Trail improvements
- ADA accessible canoe/kayak launch
- ADA accessible pier
- Secluded campsites (3)
- Expand basketball court



LAKE EAU CLAIRE

Paddle



Play



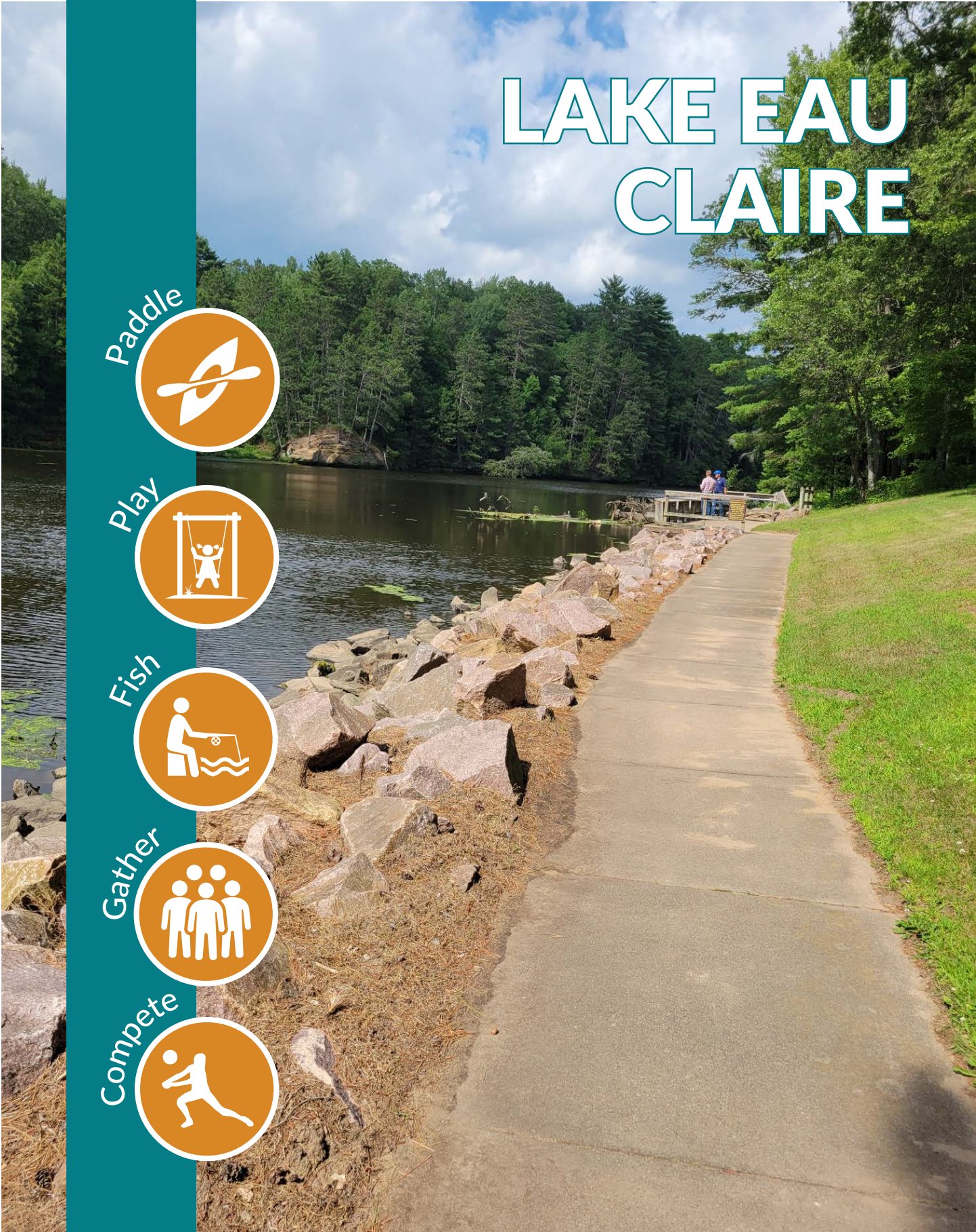
Fish



Gather



Compete



EXPERIENCE LAKE EAU CLAIRE



Park Mission & Goals

Mission

Situated in close proximity to the lake itself, Lake Eau Claire Park provides visitors with a variety of amenities that engage with nature. Blending day use activities and overnight camping will provide the opportunity for visitors to experience these amenities and make Lake Eau Claire a destination for camping and recreation.

Goals

- 1 Expand park program to increase use through all 4 seasons
- 2 Give visitors handicap accessible connections to Lake Eau Claire
- 3 Provide overnight camping and amenities beyond day-use

Park Program and Amenities

Existing

- Picnic shelters
- BBQ grill pit
- Volleyball courts
- Fishing pier
- Accessible playground
- Ranger station
- Materials storage and maintenance yard
- Restroom facilities (3)

Proposed

- Campsites (35)
- Fish cleaning shack
- Overlook
- Open Air Pavillion
- Clubhouse
- Portage point
- Showers
- Restrooms
- Improved Circulation
- Wayfinding and Signage



BIG FALLS

Hike



Paddle



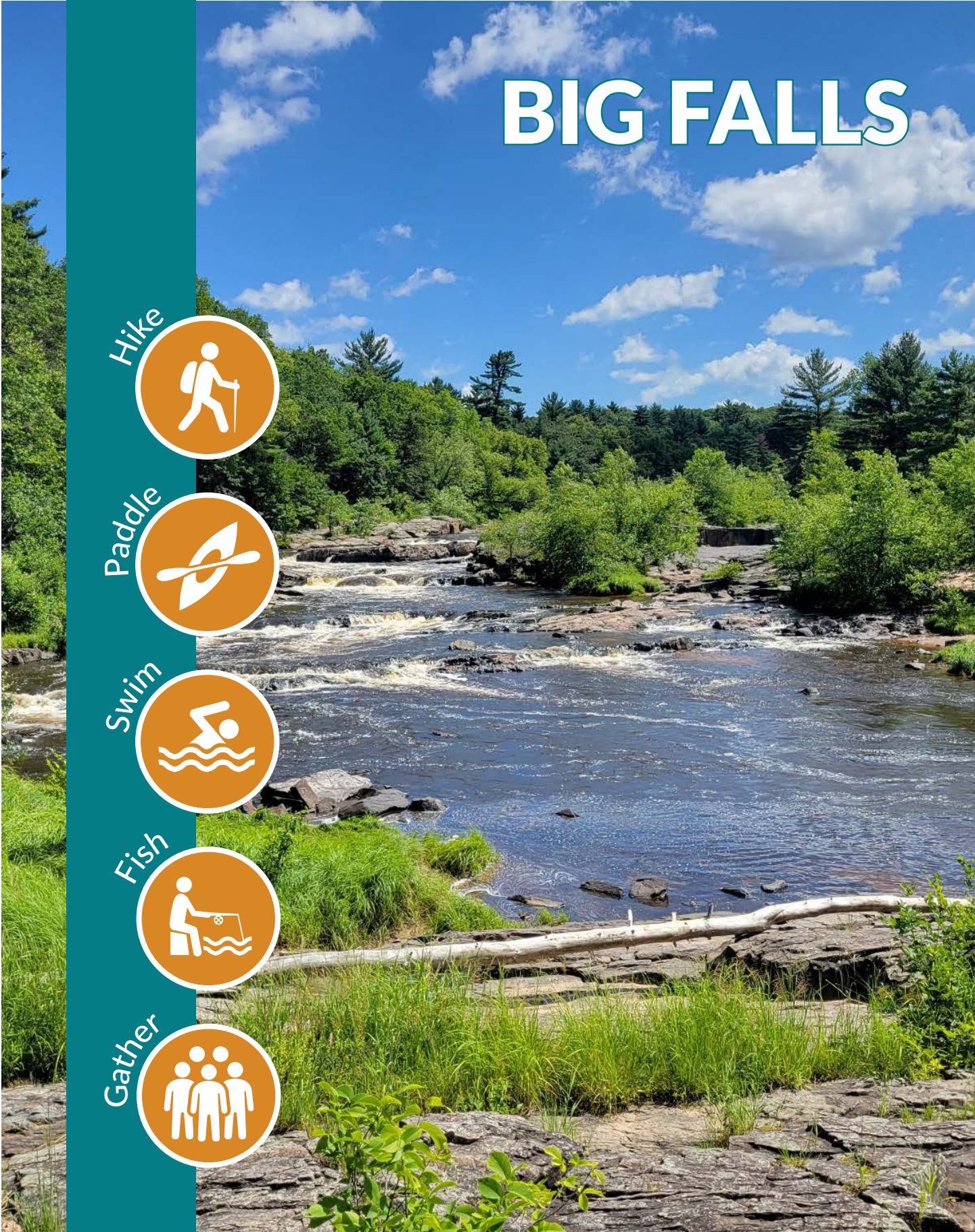
Swim

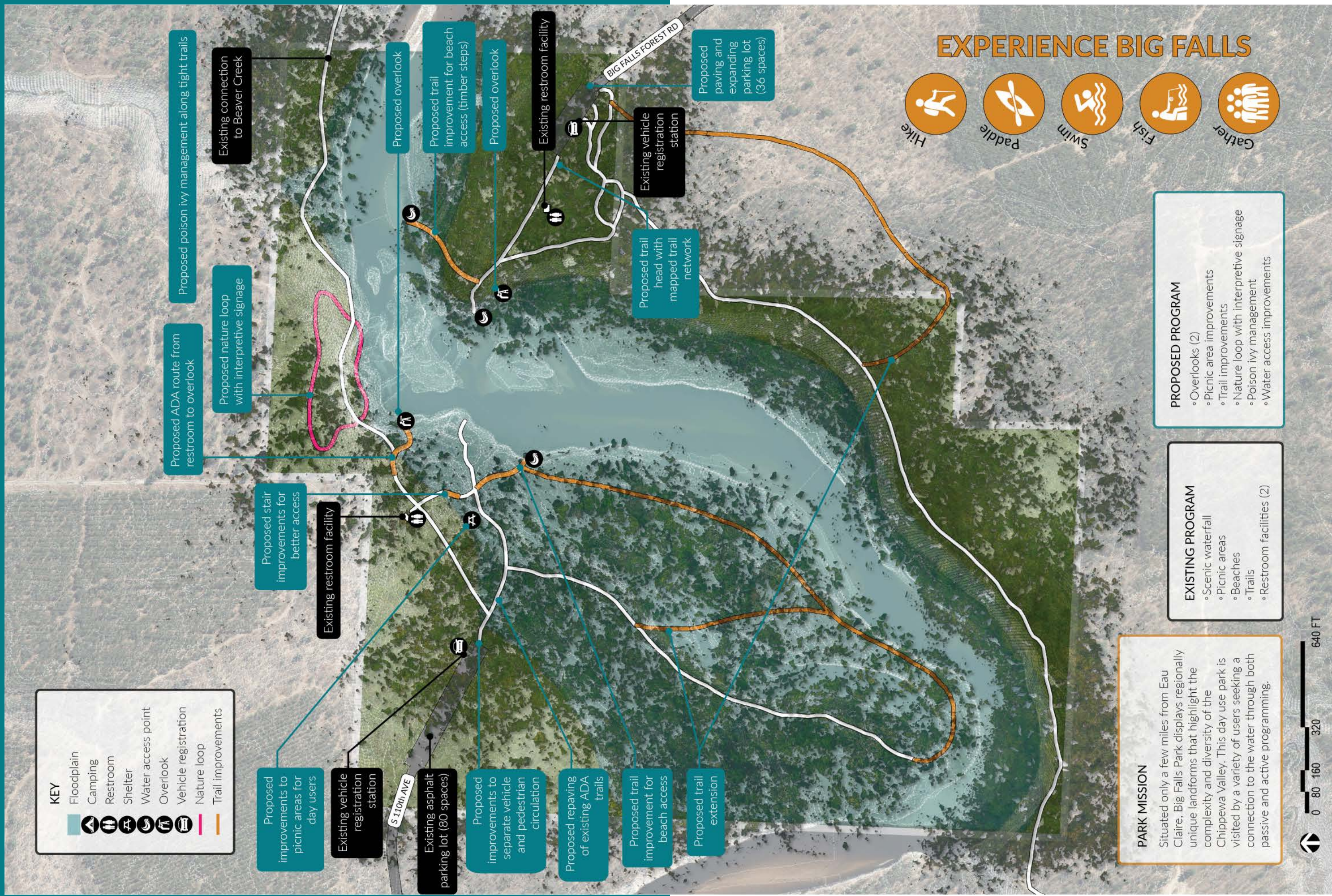


Fish



Gather





KEY

- Floodplain
- Camping
- Restroom
- Shelter
- Water access point
- Overlook
- Vehicle registration
- Nature loop
- Trail improvements

Proposed ADA route from restroom to overlook

Proposed nature loop with interpretive signage

Proposed poison ivy management along tight trails

Existing connection to Beaver Creek

Proposed stair improvements for better access

Existing restroom facility

Proposed improvements to picnic areas for day users

Existing vehicle registration station

S 110th AVE

Existing asphalt parking lot (80 spaces)

Proposed improvements to separate vehicle and pedestrian circulation

Proposed repaving of existing ADA trails

Proposed trail improvement for beach access

Proposed trail extension

Proposed trail head with mapped trail network

Existing restroom facility

Existing vehicle registration station

Proposed paving and expanding parking lot (36 spaces)

BIG FALLS FOREST RD

EXPERIENCE BIG FALLS

- Hike
- Paddle
- Swim
- Fish
- Gather

PARK MISSION

Situated only a few miles from Eau Claire, Big Falls Park displays regionally unique landforms that highlight the complexity and diversity of the Chippewa Valley. This day use park is visited by a variety of users seeking a connection to the water through both passive and active programming.

EXISTING PROGRAM

- Scenic waterfall
- Picnic areas
- Beaches
- Trails
- Restroom facilities (2)

PROPOSED PROGRAM

- Overlooks (2)
- Picnic area improvements
- Trail improvements
- Nature loop with interpretive signage
- Poison ivy management
- Water access improvements



Park Mission & Goals

Mission

Situated only a few miles from Eau Claire, Big Falls Park displays regionally unique landforms that highlight the complexity and diversity of the Chippewa Valley. The day use park is visited by a variety of users seeking a connection to the water through both passive and active programming.

Goals

- 1 Improve pedestrian connections to key areas on the west and east side
- 2 Improve educational opportunities and wayfinding for day use visitors
- 3 Connect existing trails into surrounding county trail system and provide looped walking trails

Park Program and Amenities

Existing

- Scenic waterfall
- Picnic areas
- Beaches
- Trails
- Restroom facilities (2)

Proposed

- Overlooks (2)
- Picnic area improvements
- Trail improvements
- Nature loop with interpretive signs
- Poison ivy management
- Water access improvements



HARSTAD

Hike



Paddle



Camp



Play



Gather



EXPERIENCE HARSTAD



KEY

- Floodplain
- Camping
- Restroom
- Shelter
- Water access point
- Overlook
- Vehicle registration
- Playground
- Nature loop
- New trails

Proposed semi-private rent-able space for events

Proposed nature trail

Proposed parking lot improvements (32 spaces)

Proposed removal of existing ball diamond backstop

Proposed group campsite (8)

Proposed access to new amenities

Proposed restroom facility

Existing vehicle registration station

Existing handicap accessible restroom facility

Proposed trail kiosk

Existing restrooms

Existing volleyball pit

Existing new playground

Proposed overlook

Proposed trimming to raise branch height and provide views

Existing new pavilion

Planned rain garden for pavilion

Proposed overlook with interpretive signage on history

Proposed seasonal material storage

Existing canoe landing

Proposed trail connection to Lake Eau Claire

Proposed trail and improved access

Proposed parking lot modifications to improve circulation (30 spaces)

Eau Claire River

Bridge Creek

COUNTY ROAD HHH

Existing campsites (27)

PARK MISSION

Harstad Park offers a variety of group and individual programming that caters to both short term camping and day use visitors. River access and connection to the water draw a wide range of visitors.

EXISTING PROGRAM

- Campsites (27)
- Picnic shelter
- Playground
- Ball diamond
- Volleyball pit
- Canoe/kayak launch
- Natural beach fishing hole
- Restroom facilities (4)

PROPOSED PROGRAM

- Semi-private rent-able space
- Group campsite (8)
- New playground
- Improved water access
- Walking trail with interpretive area (ecology and history)
- Overlooks (2)
- Parking lot and vehicular circulation improvements
- Connect with Lake Eau Claire through easement



Park Mission & Goals

Mission

Harstad Park offers a variety of group and individual programming that caters to both short term camping and day use visitors. River access and connection to the water draw a wide range of visitors.

Goals

- 1 Improve trail connections and experience from camping and day use areas to Eau Claire River
- 2 Expand overnight camping and provide group camping location
- 3 Improve vehicle circulation and wayfinding to major park areas

Park Program and Amenities

Existing

- Campsites (27)
- Picnic shelter
- Playground
- Pavillion / Shelter
- Ball diamond
- Volleyball pit
- Canoe/kayak launch
- Natural beach fishing hole
- Restroom facilities (4)

Proposed

- Semi-private rent-able space
- Group campsite
- Improve water access
- Wayfinding and Signage
- Walking trail with interpretive area (ecology and history)
- Overlooks (2)
- Parking lot and vehicular circulation improvements
- Connect with Lake Eau Claire through easement



L.L. PHILLIPS

Hike



Camp



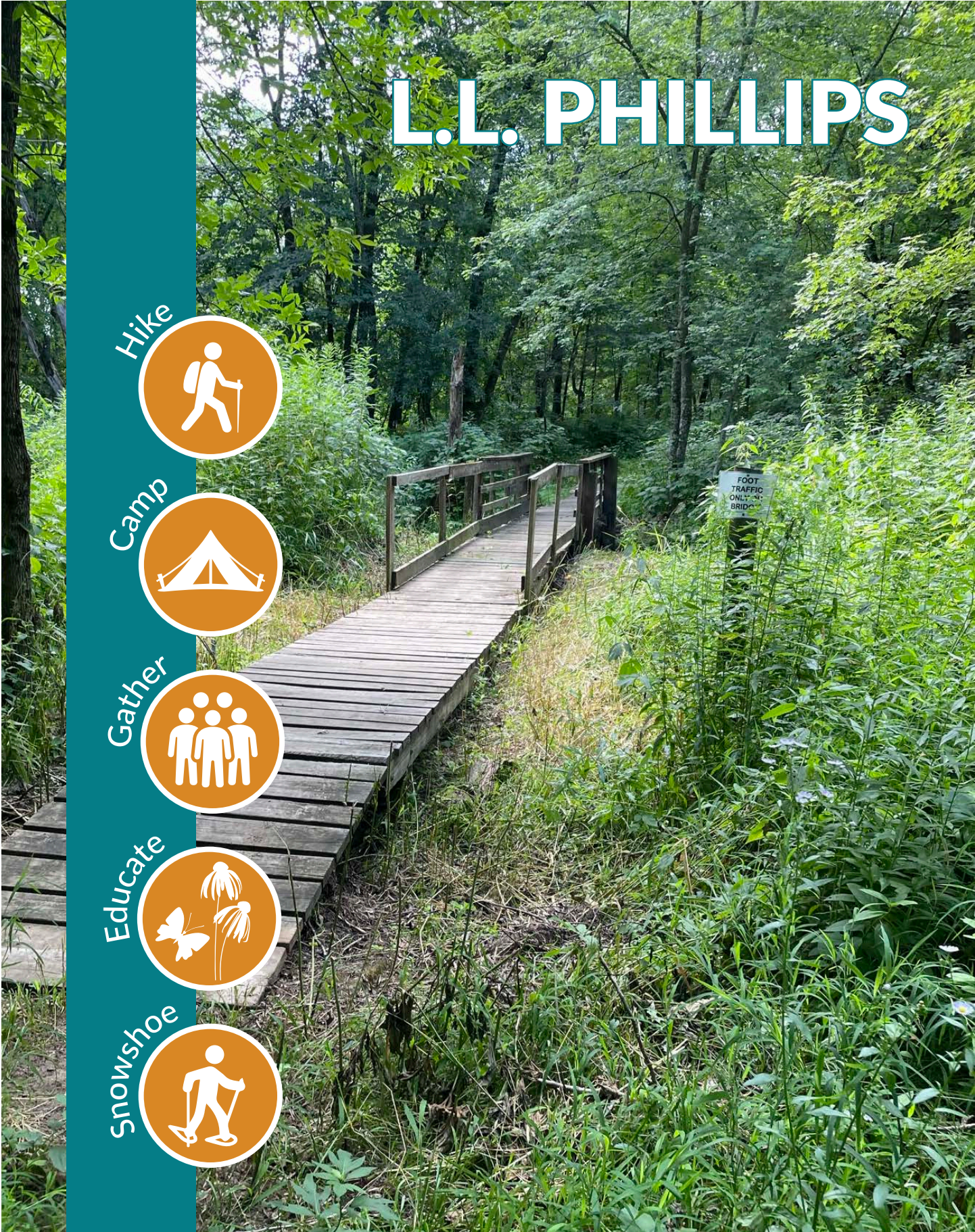
Gather



Educate



Snowshoe



KEY

- Floodplain
- Camping
- Restroom
- Shelter
- Vehicle Registration
- Additional trail

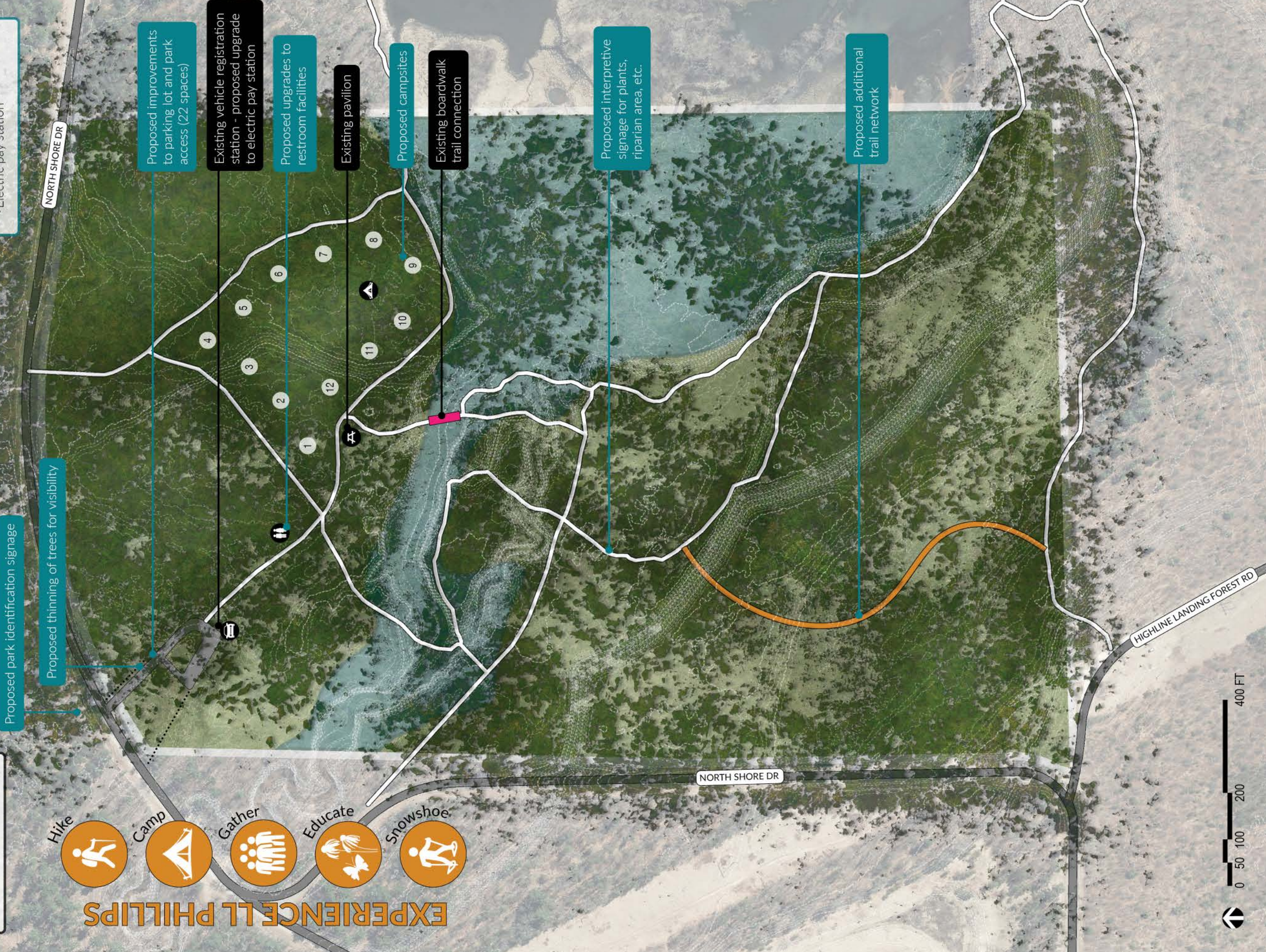
PARK MISSION
 LL Phillips Park is a rustic camping destination for people looking for a wilderness camping experience close to the city.

EXISTING PROGRAM

- Hiking trails
- Snowshoe trails
- Pavilion

PROPOSED PROGRAM

- Rustic campsites (12)
- Handicap accessible campsites
- Fire circles
- Improved trail network
- Educational nature walk (interpretive signage)
- Monument entrance sign
- Electric pay station



EXPERIENCE LL PHILLIPS

- Hike
- Camp
- Gather
- Educate
- Snowshoe

Proposed park identification signage

Proposed thinning of trees for visibility

Proposed improvements to parking lot and park access (22 spaces)

Existing vehicle registration station - proposed upgrade to electric pay station

Proposed upgrades to restroom facilities

Existing pavilion

Proposed campsites

Existing boardwalk trail connection

Proposed interpretive signage for plants, riparian area, etc.

Proposed additional trail network

Park Mission & Goals

Mission

L.L. Phillips Park is a rustic camping destination for people looking for a wilderness camping experience close to the city.

Goals

- 1 Improve trail connections, wayfinding and signage
- 2 Improve visibility to entrance and vehicle circulation
- 3 Provide visitors with a unique camping experience

Park Program and Amenities

Existing

- Hiking trails
- Snowshoe trails
- Pavilion
- Gravel Parking
- Manual Pay station
- Boardwalk
- Restroom
- Fire Pits

Proposed

- Rustic campsites
- Handicap accessible campsites
- Fire circles
- Improved trail network
- Educational nature walk (interpretive signage)
- Monument entrance sign
- Electric pay station



STANDARDS



Pavilion

Manufacturer: Custom

Contact Info:

Model:

Size:

Mounting Type: Surface mounted on concrete foundations.

Approximate Price: \$90,000.00



Restroom

Manufacturer: Huffcut

Contact Info: 4154 123rd Street, Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

Model: Bobcat and Badger vault with no water or plumbing.

Size: Varies depending on number of stalls.

Materials: Metal roof to match pavilion roofing, timber frame support structure, vertical board and batten.

Mounting Type: Concrete with concrete handicap accessibility.



Bench

Manufacturer: DuMor Inc.

Contact Info: P.O. Box 142, Mifflintown, PA 17059, 800.000.4018, sales@dumor.com

Model: 56 Series, Backed and 105 Series un-backed.

Size: 6'-8'

Materials: Powder coated metal supports black and douglas fir.

Mounting Type: Surface mounted on concrete.

Approximate Price : \$950.00



Picnic Table

Manufacturer: DuMor Inc.

Contact Info: P.O. Box 142, Mifflintown, PA 17059, 800.000.4018, sales@dumor.com

Model: 75 Series

Size: 6'-8'

Materials: Powder coated metal supports black and douglas fir.

Mounting Type: Surface mounted on concrete.

Approximate Price : \$950.00



Trash Receptacle

Manufacturer: DuMor Inc.

Contact Info: P.O. Box 142, Mifflintown, PA 17059, 800.000.4018, sales@dumor.com

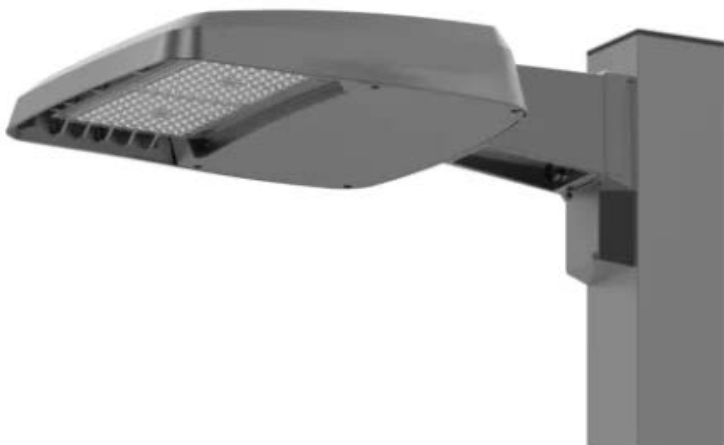
Model: 70 Series

Size: 22 gal.

Materials: Powder coated metal supports black and douglas fir.

Mounting Type: Surface mounted on concrete

Approximate Price : \$1,250.00



Light

Manufacturer:

Contact Info:

Model:

Size:

Mounting Type:

Approximate Price : \$950.00



Pay Kiosk

Manufacturer: Custom

Contact Info:

Model:

Size:

Mounting Type:

Approximate Price :



Monument Signage

Manufacturer: Custom

Contact Info:

Model:

Size:

Mounting Type:

Approximate Price :



Map Kiosk

Manufacturer: Custom structure with map and mounting hardware supplied by gopher signs inc.

Contact Info: 103 Highway 22 E, Clear Lake, SD 57226, gophersign.com, 605.874.2186

Model: Custom

Size: Varies

Mounting Type: Embed in concrete

Color: Treated timber structure, metal roof to match pavilion and signage to match standard black.

Approximate Price : \$1,250.00



Wayfinding

Manufacturer: Gopher Sign Company

Contact Info: 103 Highway 22 E, Clear Lake, SD 57226, gophersign.com, 605.874.2186

Model: Single Post Upright

Size: sign 12" x 24"

Mounting Type: Surface mounted or embed into concrete foundations.

Color: Powder coated black to match other furniture.

Approximate Price : \$500.00



Interpretive Signage

Manufacturer: Gopher Sign Company

Contact Info: 103 Highway 22 E, Clear Lake, SD 57226, gophersign.com, 605.874.2186

Model: Cantilever

Size: 24" - 36" high x 18' x 60" wide

Mounting Type: Surface mounted or embed into concrete foundations.

Color: Powder coated black to match other furniture.

Approximate Price : \$850.00



Bike Service Station

Manufacturer: Duo-Guard

Contact Info:

Model: Bicycle Repair Station – Type 1A – BBR-S01A

Materials:

Size:

Mounting Type: Surface mounted to a concrete foundation.

Approximate Price : \$1,750.00

IMPLEMENTATION

Objective

From the inception of this project, our dedicated team has been tirelessly working towards the ultimate goal of identifying a comprehensive long-term vision for each of the parks that we have identified. Our team has developed a comprehensive master plan that will be an invaluable resource when it comes to decision-making, pinpointing funding strategies, and identifying key projects.

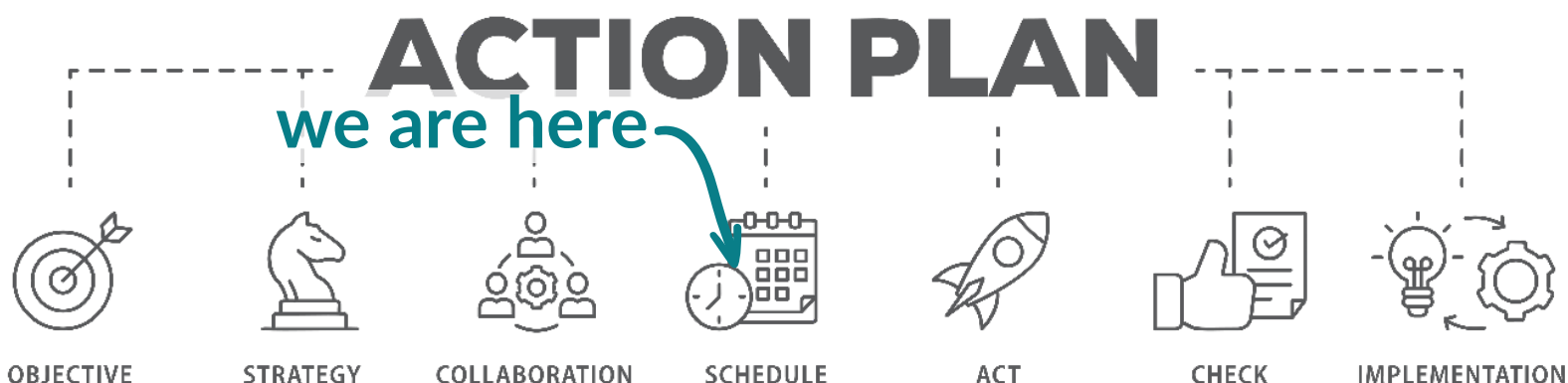
The successful implementation of each park master plan is of utmost importance to us and we are committed to accomplishing the envisioned goals within this document. In all, our goal is to provide the residents of Eau Claire County with a diverse park system that enables them to experience the beauty of the water, land, and forests of our county, and enjoy recreational activities all year round.

“Eau Claire County provides a diverse park system for all people to experience the water, land and forests of Eau Claire County through a connection to nature and recreation 365 days a year.”

To ensure that our plan is practical, we have broken down the implementation process into three distinct categories. The first category is designed to create a solid timeline for each park, which will serve as the foundation for all steps forward.

In the second category, we have included details about the resources that will be needed to ensure the successful implementation of the park master plans. This includes everything from financial resources to labor and equipment.

Lastly, we have included a detailed list of tasks that includes both critical milestones and important objectives to be achieved. By breaking our plan down in this manner, we can ensure that we focus on the most important and practical pieces of our overall vision.



Resources

As we move forward with future phases of the master plan, it would be wise to refer to the resources at our disposal for both financial and production support. The subsequent pages provide a comprehensive overview of the individuals, partners, and funding sources that can aid us in our efforts to develop the upcoming stages of Eau Claire County Parks.

Partners:

Partners and responsibility for future improvements should be spread out to multiple stakeholders. The following is a list of potential stakeholders who were involved in the process and should be leveraged for implementing future phases.

1. Eau Claire County Staff
2. CORBA
3. Beaver Creek Reserve
4. City of Eau Claire Staff
5. Wisconsin DNR Staff
6. Chippewa Valley Trail Riders
7. Lake Altoona Ski Sprites
8. Ski Striders
9. Steering Committee Members
10. Visit Eau Claire (Rural Partners Network)
11. Chippewa Valley Disc Golf Organization

Grants / Public Funding: Abbreviation in matrix (GPF)

Wisconsin DNR Grants

Land and Water Conservation Fund

Funds acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities.

Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program

Stewardship program protects water quality and fisheries and expanded outdoor recreation opportunities by preserving acres around lakes.

Recreational Trails Program

Reimbursement for development and maintenance of recreational trails and related facilities for motorized and non-motorized uses.

Recreational Boating Facilities Grant

Funds capital improvements to provide safe recreational boating facilities, conduct feasibility studies, purchase aquatic weed harvesting equipment, purchase navigational aids, dredge waterways, and chemically treat Eurasian watermilfoil.

Sport Fish Restoration Program

Funds fishery projects, boating access, and aquatic education.

Dam Removal Grants

Reimbursement for 100 percent of eligible project costs up to a maximum of \$50,000 to remove a dam.

Municipal Flood Control Grant

Funds for acquisition of property, vacant land, structure removal, flood proofing, administrative support.

Municipal Dam Grant Program

Funds maintenance, repair, modification, or abandonment and removal of municipally owned dams.

Urban Non-point Source Construction Grant

Funds detention ponds, infiltration areas, shoreline stabilization, and land acquisition and permanent easement costs.

Urban Non-point Source Stormwater Grant

Funds stormwater management planning, ordinance development, and public education.

Multimodal Local Supplement Program

Provides grants for up to 90% of total eligible costs for multimodal transportation projects on the local system.

Municipal Street Discretionary Improvement Program

Assists local governments by paying up to 50% of costs to improve deteriorated county highways, town roads, and municipal streets.

Wisconsin Economic Development Grants**Vibrant Spaces Grant:**

Design to assist with creating vibrant and engaging communities that promote improved sense of place and quality of life.

Community Development Investment Grant:

Supports urban, small city and rural community redevelopment efforts by providing financial incentives for shovel ready projects with emphasis on, but not limited to downtown community driven efforts.

Capital Improvement Plan - Abbreviation in Matrix (CIP)

One way to guarantee funding for necessary improvements is to plan ahead. To do so, it's important to identify recurring projects that require updates on a regular basis, and ensure they are included in the capital improvement plan. For more information on routine maintenance costs, refer to the project and task list provided below.

To enhance the park system and ensure the ability to secure further funding in the future, it's also wise to allocate additional funding towards high-impact projects. This could include expanding camping sites and improving amenities. Additionally, because many restroom facilities throughout the park system are aging, it's recommended to include a recurring budget for restroom upgrades in the CIP. Finally, prioritizing a recurring budget for wayfinding and signage updates is also recommended. By planning ahead and ensuring these important areas are included in the budget, you'll be able to make necessary improvements while securing the necessary funding to keep your operation running smoothly.

Donations - Abbreviation in Matrix (DON)

Establishing a well-structured channel for donors to contribute to park improvement initiatives offers numerous benefits. Donor support can act as a vital source of funding for much-needed repairs and upgrades to park facilities, thereby enhancing the overall quality of the park experience. Though it is ideal to explore and capitalize on as many opportunities as possible, research suggests that certain improvement projects enjoy greater donor support when compared to others.

Playgrounds, pavilions, and benches are but a few examples of physical objects that invariably work well when naming rights are assigned to donors. Larger improvement projects, however, those that exceed the \$250,000 mark, require a more strategic and creative approach. By investing in a funding strategy team that typically costs approximately \$8,000, park managers can not only promote the project but also raise awareness regarding its potential benefits and significance. While such large-scale projects undoubtedly benefit from greater public exposure, they often require at least one significant contributor to ensure that they make a meaningful impact.

Furthermore, donor support can also help to build stronger partnerships between local government agencies, community groups, and private organizations, leading to more collaborative and holistic efforts in improving public spaces for the benefit of all. By engaging and involving more stakeholders in the process, park management can experience a greater sense of community engagement and participation in the improvement work. In turn, this can create a more vibrant, inclusive, and well-maintained park environment that truly enriches the quality of life within the broader community.

Project and Task Matrix

The order and price of the projects and tasks below are based on known information at this time. As time progresses, priorities will likely change and new opportunities will present themselves. This list should be viewed as a guide and not a hard set of rules to follow. Allow for 3%-6% increase in pricing every year beyond 2023.

Location	Project/ Task	Description	Cost	Time Frame	Financial Assistance	Assistance
Tower Ridge	Oak Wilt Management (ongoing)	Oak wilt is prevalent at Lowes Creek and will continue to create maintenance issues related to downed trees near trails. An external logging company should be hired to remove a majority of trees that are already dead and likely to create issues in the future.	\$10,000	Annual	CIP, STAFF	1.,
Lowes Creek	Native Prairie Restoration (ongoing)	Provide yearly maintenance and labor to reestablish a biologically diverse native prairie.	\$6,000	Annual	CIP, GPF, STAFF	1.,
Lowes Creek	Buckthorn Management	Buckthorn is a predominate species at Lowes Creek. Develop a yearly management plan to help control and reduce the prevalence.	\$6,000	Annual	CIP, GPF, STAFF	1.,
County Wide	Wayfinding and Signage Master Plan	Hire a consultant to develop wayfinding and signage standards and details, along with a master plan for sign locations.	\$40,000	2023 -2024	CIP	1.,6.
Lowes Creek	Upgrade Wayfinding and Signage	Work with a sign company to manufacture and install wayfinding and signage as developed in the wayfinding and signage master plan.	\$50,000	2024-2027	CIP, GPF	1.,6.
Lowes Creek	Add Wayfinding and Signage	Add vehicle and pedestrian wayfinding and signage to help identify major elements and clarify park layout.	\$25,000	2024-2027	CIP, GPF	1.,6
Lowes Creek	Thin Upland Pines	Thin the existing upland pines to increase biodiversity.	\$10,000	2024-2027	CIP or STAFF	1.,
Tower Ridge	Southern Campsite Establishment	Establish a campground that does not conflict with day use visitors of the park. Includes developing campsites with electrical hookups, restrooms and gravel vehicle access.	\$125,000	2024-2027	CIP, Staff, GPF	1.,

Location	Project/ Task	Description	Cost	Time Frame	Financial	Assistance
Coon Fork	Add Wayfinding and Signage	Add vehicle and pedestrian wayfinding and signage to help identify major elements and clarify park layout.	\$35,000	2024-2027	CIP, GPF	1.,6
Coon Fork	Replace Existing Pump	Replacing of the existing pump to reduce maintenance and increase demand.	\$15,000	2024-2027	CIP	1.
Coon Fork	Expand Electrical to Existing Campsites	The premier camping sites along the lake lack electrical hookups, includes running electrical wire and providing power pedestals.	\$125,000	2024-2027	CIP, GPF	1.
Big Falls	Add Wayfinding and Signage	Add vehicle and pedestrian wayfinding and signage to help identify major elements and clarify park layout.	\$25,000	2024-2027	CIP, GPF	1.,3.,10.
Big Falls	Add Trail Loop and Wayfinding	Extend existing trails and provide wayfinding on both the east and west side. Includes unpaved trail establishment and wayfinding and signage.	\$50,000	2024-2027	CIP, GPF	1.,3.,10.
Big Falls	Expand East Side Parking and Improve Roadway	Expand the east side parking to help promote better usability and reduced demand on the west side. Includes paved parking, improved vehicle access and upgraded controlled access.	\$100,000	2024-2027	CIP, GPF	1.
Harstad	Add Wayfinding and Signage	Add vehicle and pedestrian wayfinding and signage to help identify major elements and clarify park layout.	\$25,000	2024-2027	CIP, GPF	1.,10.
Harstad	Improve and Expand Trails	Improve the existing trails and expand new trails. Includes unpaved trails being developed, interpretive signage and overlooks.	\$25,000	2024-2027	CIP, GPF	1.,3.,10.
Harstad	Improve Existing Day Use Parking	Clean up day use parking to provide day use visitors better access and give more parking stalls. Includes asphalt paving, signage and concrete sidewalks.	\$100,000	2024-2027	CIP	1.
Lake Eau Claire	Add Wayfinding and Signage	Add vehicle and pedestrian wayfinding and signage to help identify major elements and clarify park layout.	\$25,000	2024-2027	CIP, GPF	1.,3.,9.,10.

Location	Project/ Task	Description	Cost	Time Frame	Financial	Assistance
Lake Eau Claire	Establish Campsites and Amenities	Establish a new campground to help promote overnight use. Includes gravel vehicle circulation, signage and wayfinding, electrical, gates, restrooms, trail connections, activity lawn and clearing of vegetation.	\$250,000	2024-2027	CIP, GPF DON	1.,9.,10.
Lake Eau Claire	Improve Existing Clubhouse to Pavilion	Convert existing clubhouse to open air pavilion	-	2024-2027	CIP, DON	1.,3.,5.,10.
Lake Eau Claire	Build New Clubhouse	Establish a new clubhouse to promote seasonal events, include cost of new clubhouse with pedestrian circulation and site furniture.	-	2024-2027	CIP, CON	1.,3.,5.,10.
LL Phillips	Expand Trails, Add Wayfinding and Signage	Add vehicle and pedestrian wayfinding and signage to help identify major elements and clarify park layout.	\$25,000	2024-2027	CIP, GPF	1.,5.,6.,10.,
LL Phillips	Improve Existing Parking	Existing parking lot is hidden and difficult to navigate. Includes clearing and grubbing, expanded gravel parking, electronic pay kiosk and gated access.	\$35,000	2024-2027	CIP, GPF	1.,6.,11.,
LL Phillips	Replace Existing Restrooms	Existing restrooms will have reached the end of their life and should be replaced with a precast concrete vault toilet.	\$75,000	2024-2027	CIP, GPF	1.,3.,6.,10.,
LL Phillips	Establish Rustic Campsites	Establish rustic camping spots. Includes clearing of areas, signage, fire rings and trail access	-	2024-2027	CIP, GPF, DON	1.,3.,6.,10.,11.
Lowes Creek	Develop Dog Park	Develop a new dog park to increase use of Lowes Creek and provide alternate amenities for visitors. Includes fencing, water station, disposal station, seating and shade structure.	\$150,000	2027-2030	CIP, GPF, DON	1.,5.,
Lowes Creek	Add Southern Bridge Crossing	Install a new bridge in the approximate location identified on the plan. This will give users better access east west and provide increased trail use.	\$375,000	2027-2030	CIP, GPF, DON	1.,2.,5.,6.,8., 10.

Location	Project/ Task	Description	Cost	Time Frame	Financial	Assistance
Lowes Creek	Western Trail Head Improvements	Improve western trail head to improve access and give users options for gathering. Includes new pavilion, picnic tables, bike racks, and seating.	\$100,000	2027-2030	CIP, GPF, DON	1.,2.,5.,6.,8.,10.
Lowes Creek	Mountain Bike Trail Improvements and Structures	Improve the existing mountain biking trails and build approximately 5-10 structures for advanced mountain biking.	\$150,000	2027-2030	CIP, GPF, DON	2.,10.
Lowes Creek	Develop Southeast Trail Head Improvements	Develop the southeastern trail head to help provide an alternate access point. This includes parking, pay station, map kiosk, pavilion and seating.	\$250,000	2027-2030	CIP, GPF, DON	1.,2.,5.,6.,8.,10.
Lowes Creek	Develop Mountain Biking Skills Course	Develop a mountain bike skills course with the assistance of CORBA.	\$150,000	2027-2030	CIP, GPF, DON	2.,10
Tower Ridge	Expand Winter Activities (sled hill, skate loop, toboggan run and trails)	Includes clearing trees for a sled hill, establishing a skating loop through the forest and building a winter toboggan run.	\$100,000	2027-2030	CIP, GPF, DON	1.,2.,6.,10
Tower Ridge	Adventure Course	Establish an adventure course to increase diversity of amenities for users visiting during the summer months.	\$175,000	2027-2030	CIP, GPF, DON	1.,2.,9.,10.
Tower Ridge	Expand Outdoor Area Around Chalet	Improve and expand the outdoor space around the existing chalet to give both winter and summer users opportunities to gather outside. Include paved area, overlook deck new grill, seating, heating elements and lighting.	\$200,000	2027-2030	CIP, DON	1.,2
Tower Ridge	Improve Existing Lions Club Camping	The amenities at the existing campground have reached the end of their life. Upgrades need to be made to increase use. Includes new gate, renovate existing pavilion, electrical hookups, fire and upgraded restrooms.	\$250,000	2027-2030	CIP, GPF, DON	1.,3.,6.

Location	Project/ Task	Description	Cost	Time Frame	Financial Assistance	
Tower Ridge	Northern Trail Head Improvements	With the high level of amenities at the southern trail head, the northern trail head does not see much use. Upgraded amenities will help to spread out density of users. Includes new restrooms, expanded parking, large pavilion with seating, (2) small pavilions with seating, trash receptacles, and lighting.	\$450,000	2027-2030	CIP, GPF, DON	1.,2.,9.,10.,11.
Coon Fork	Improve Trail Connections without Bridge	Expand trail connections to help visitors connect to surrounding trail networks and help to connect the east and west sides. Includes wayfinding and signage and clearing trails.	\$150,000	2027-2030	CIP, GPF, DON	1.,
Coon Fork	Improve Trail Connections with Bridge	Expand trail connections to help visitors connect to surrounding trail networks and help to connect the east and west sides. Includes wayfinding and signage, clearing trails and a bridge crossing.	\$400,000	2027-2030	CIP, GPF,	1.,
Coon Fork	Replace Existing Restrooms (west side)	The existing restrooms are reaching the end of life and do not match the same level of quality as the other improvements. Includes a precast concrete vault toilet with up to 3 different units.	\$200,000	2027-2030	CIP, GPF,	1.,
Coon Fork	Develop Yurt Camping	Establish up to 3 yurt camping sites to give visitors who don't own camping equipment a new experience. Includes yurt with structures, restrooms and floating dock.	\$250,000	2027-2030	CIP, GPF, DON	1.,5.,10.
Coon Fork	Upgrade Park Amenities	Upgrade existing playgrounds, flexible performance area with electrical, basketball court, and improved beach access.	\$650,000	2027-2030	CIP, GPF, DON	1.,5.,10.
Big Falls	Improve Access and Amenities	Improve access from east side to lower level amenities and water. Includes timber stairs and paved trail access.	\$300,000	2027-2030	CIP,	1.,3.,5.,10.

Location	Project/ Task	Description	Cost	Time Frame	Financial Assistance	
Big Falls	Add Overlook and ADA Accessibility Improvements	Develop an ADA overlook on the west side to provide better access to high quality falls. Include timber overlook structure, seating, paved access and interpretive signage.	\$350,000	2027-2030	CIP, GPF, DON	1.,3.,5.,10.
Harstad	Add Upper Level Group Camping	Add group camping site to better utilize space and provide camping options. Includes gates, electrical, gravel vehicle access, restroom with water, and trail connections	\$250,000	2027-2030	CIP, GPF,	1.,5.,10.
Lake Eau Claire	Replace Existing Playground	Existing playground does not meet code requirements and should be replaced as soon as possible.	\$350,000	2027-2030	CIP, GPF, DON	1.,3.,5.,10.
LL Phillips	Add Monument Sign	Install a new monument sign that matches county park standards.	\$10,000	2027-2030	CIP,	1.,3.,10.
LL Phillips	Rebuild Existing Boardwalk Crossing	Rebuild wooden boardwalk crossing to help create access north south.	\$75,000	2027-2030	CIP, STAFF	1.
County Wide	Develop ATV / UTV Specific Camping Site	Identify and establish a ATV / UTV specific camping site that does not conflict with other camping.	\$125,000	2027-2030	CIP, STAFF	1.,5.,10.
Lake Eau Claire	Restore Existing Stairs	Restore existing historic stairs and add site electrical.	\$25,000	2027-2030	CIP, STAFF	1.
Lowes Creek	Widen Existing Bridge	Expand the width of the existing bridge to allow for ease of maintenance and improved access east west. Stabilize and regrade western slope to reduce erosion and increase access.	\$375,000	2030-2033	CIP, GPF, DON	1.,5.,10.
Tower Ridge	Trail Extension to River	Provide a clear crossing point for trail use to connect from the Eau Claire River trail to Lowes Creek trail. Includes establishing a beach, wayfinding and signage, crosswalk, pedestrian crossing signage and trail improvements.	\$50,000	2030-2033	CIP, GPF, DON	1.,5.
Coon Fork	Replace Retaining Wall	The existing retaining wall is in poor shape and needs to be replaced, replace with modular block or natural stone.	\$75,000	2030-2033	CIP	1.

Location	Project/ Task	Description	Cost	Time Frame	Financial Assistance	
Coon Fork	Install ADA Canoe and Kayak Launch	Provide visitors with mobility issues access to use the water, includes (2) handicap accessible floating canoe and kayak launches.	\$75,000	2030-2033	CIP, GPF, DON	1.,3.,5.,10.
Coon Fork	Add Full Hookups for Water and Sewer in D-Loop	Provide full hookups for visitors for water and sewer to expand level of use.	\$300,000	2030-2033	CIP	1.
Harstad	Pave Vehicle Access and Parking to Lower Level	Pave vehicle access and parking lot to lower level to improve access to Eau Claire River, includes asphalt paving, asphalt parking lot with drop-off and signage.	\$125,000	2030-2033	CIP	1.
Harstad	Replace Existing Restrooms	(3) Existing restrooms will have reached the end of their life and should be replaced with a precast concrete vault toilet	\$200,000	2030-2033	CIP, GPF,	1.,5.,10.
Lake Eau Claire	Expand Trails	Expand the existing trail network to help link day use and overnight use together and provide handicap accessibility from the park.	\$75,000	2030-2033	CIP, GPF,	1.,5.,10.

APPENDIX

Site Visit Notes (July 20/21, 2022)

Lowes Creek County Park

This is a larger park close to Eau Claire. Overall park usage is geared heavily to trails (running and mountain biking).

Forest Management: Xeric, nutrient poor sandy out wash soils on a sizable park bisected by a narrow creek in a floodplain surrounded by steep slopes. The upland portion of the park is mostly flat. Mostly forested with a mix of pin oak, some white and red oak, red pine, white pine, jack pine, and associated species. There are some larger, healthy specimens of white spruce planted along the trails on the western side of the park. There is a very large borrow pit on the eastern side of the park abutting highway 93. It was previously used as a clay mine for fill on other projects in the county and has since been converted into a matrix of grasslands and small localized wetlands. Prairie management could be an option in this area.

Overall forest health is good although some oak wilt was noted. The oak stand in the center of the park on the east side of the creek has a mixture of over mature oak and pine that are showing signs of mortality. There are several small young stands of red and white pine, some of which overstocked and would benefit from a non-commercial thinning to promote overall health and minimize future mortality. Buckthorn was noted in the riparian zone and on the eastern side of the park. Josh said that one area had been treated once to reduce the impact of the buckthorn; this area could be considered for repeated treatments and actively managed to mitigate invasives.

Some management recommendations:

OW and mortality in large oaks is a concern for creating hazard trees; consider proactively removing infected and dying trees within the first year or two before their root base rots out and they risk falling across trails.

Prairie management in clay pit area.

Consider crowning roads and creating diversion push-outs on steep slopes on the bridge approaches to mitigate erosion issue. The park staff continues to dump bark chips on the slopes, but eventually all of that will migrate into the stream, so permanent solutions are a better long term alternative. Some minor alterations to the shape of the road surface will slow down water flow and minimize erosion.

Harstad County Park

This is a smaller park on the Eau Claire River with light use, mostly confined to 27 unimproved camp sites and a canoe/kayak landing.

Forest Management: Xeric, nutrient poor sandy out wash soils covered by pine and oak. There is some basswood and intermediate tolerant hardwoods near the river. The park has planted swamp white oak and sycamore in the improved section of the park near the river.

Notes:

New playground near the river (silt fence still present).

Plans exist for a new pavilion, the original one having already been torn down.

Management has researched option to run power to the pavilion, and possibly the campground hosts' campsite. Solar was discussed as an option but dismissed to concerns about managing the batteries in the winter.

The ball field is very underutilized, so options were discussed including an archery range, large-group campsite, or walking trail (to extend around the perimeter of the park).

Restrooms could benefit from updating and improved accessibility.

The main use of the park is for the canoe landing.

Linking this park with Lake Eau Claire Park (about 2 miles) away with a non-motorized trail was discussed; easements across public land would be required and the river creates an obstacle for easy access between the parks.

Need better, clearly defined parking near the river area (canoe landing and pavilion/playground area).

Coon Fork County Park

This park features a sizable campground and an 80-acre non-motorized lake with several access points for canoes and kayaks. Most management recommendations are related to these features.

The forest is young pine (red, white and jack pine) on a sandy out wash site where the previous mature jack pine had been commercially removed over 10 years ago. Forest health and vigor are good and oak wilt and other issues are minimal due to the young age class. Long term, there might be some consideration to non-commercially thin areas along trails, but no action is needed currently.

The western side of the park is underutilized, especially away from the lake. There are a few trails passing through the park and connecting to county land. This might be a good opportunity to include a couple of primitive backpack-only access campsites near the lake.

Other comments:

There is a large firewood yard; encourage continued use of this to minimize risk of introducing invasives to the park by camper bringing their own firewood

Free wifi available in the campground

Park is looking for FEMA funding for a storm shelter (and trying to identify alternative uses for it to justify investment).

Park wants a garage for a ski trail groomer.

Dam and bridge are a great focal point, excellent scenery in the dells downstream.

Lake Eau Claire County Park

This is a small park on the Eau Claire River, and is very underutilized. Predominantly used by locals, often for short visits due to nostalgia. The old main building has outlived its usefulness and is being considered for removal. It has poor air flow and is seeing reduced usage for weddings and other gatherings in recent years.

The park has large areas of grass amongst mature white and red pine and oaks, and is time consuming to maintain. Fortunately, the County's maintenance staff is based out of this park so it is logistically easier to maintain.

Recommendations and notes:

Maintain mature trees in groups to minimize risk of wind throw.

Remove trees with visible root damage (mostly due to mowing) before they become a fall hazard.

Most trees are likely less than 100 years old and should still have decades remaining if they are well maintained. Some pin oak may be nearing maturity and should be removed if signs of rot are noted before they become a hazard. I observed multiple trees with swollen boles which is a common sign of advanced rot in oaks.

There is a very well-constructed fishing dock and improved rock lined shoreline with good accessibility to the river.

The very large BBQ pit near the main building is likely underutilized. Promote this site for community gatherings to take advantage of this rare amenity.

Chris and I explored the kayak portage down the road on the VFW (American Legion?) land. It was very steep with irregular steps. Although not located on parkland, the trail leading to this site extends through this park. Consider allocating resources to improving the steps down to the portage. It appears to be very underutilized.

Big question: What is the draw at this park? It needs a purpose to justify further improvements.

Tower Ridge Recreation Area

This very large park is the largest in the Eau Claire County Park system, aside from the general county land system. The primary usage of this park is the extensive trail network for horseback riding and cross country skiing. There is also a privately run shooting range on the southern edge of the park below the high bluff. A local disc golf club maintains a 36-hole course on the western part of the rec area.

The park is mostly forested and ranges from a mixture of large oak, pine (white, red and jack) and associated species on the ridges and hills to oak, pine, red maple and basswood on the flood plain. Overall, the health of the pine looks good, with some notable younger jack pine and a mix of oak and pine in the northeastern corner of the park. Oak wilt is fairly advanced throughout the park, especially in the large oak that dominate the disc golf course. Buckthorn is just starting to infiltrate the park. Consider managing soon before it is too late to control its spread.

Some of the trails are lighted for night skiing, and the disc gold course doubles as a skills course for

skiing in the winter. There is a locally-organized youth ski group with a large presence on the trails on Monday nights. Parking may be inadequate if this group continues to grow. A ski chalet with restrooms and a kitchen were constructed recently and are a welcomed amenity on this park. The maintenance building was constructed by park staff and houses the ski grooming equipment and features a smaller attached garage for use by the disc golf (e.g. for storing equipment) and ski clubs (e.g. for waxing skis). Signage throughout the park is excellent and present at nearly every intersection.

Due to the nature of the public access, the eastern half of the park is less utilized than the western half (too far from the trail heads for many people). This may be an attractive feature of the park, however, if there are enough locals interested in getting away from the more densely packed activities.

There is some unauthorized ATC use of the trails, but this is difficult to stop due to nearby public access points. It might be necessary to consider obstacles to adjacent property access points if damage from ATVs becomes unacceptable. Consider using water bars, diversions and crowning the slopes on the steeper sections of trail where erosion is occurring (e.g. down to the flood plain in the south).

LL Phillips County Park

This small park is nearly completely forested with potential for primitive camping. The oak, pine and other hardwoods on the park are in good condition. Some of the pine could benefit from thinning to maintain health and vigor.

There is a low density trail network in the park and a small open campsite/day site area in the northern part of the park. There is an opportunity to expand primitive camping options in the park and to upgrade the group site; Josh mentioned plans to build a new small pavilion on that site. The parking lot is small with ill-defined spots. Consider opening the lot more to improve visibility from the main road for law enforcement to monitor it for dumping, vagrancy, etc. Add interpretative signs to improve the accessibility and connectedness to the unique attributes of this park (especially the riparian area).

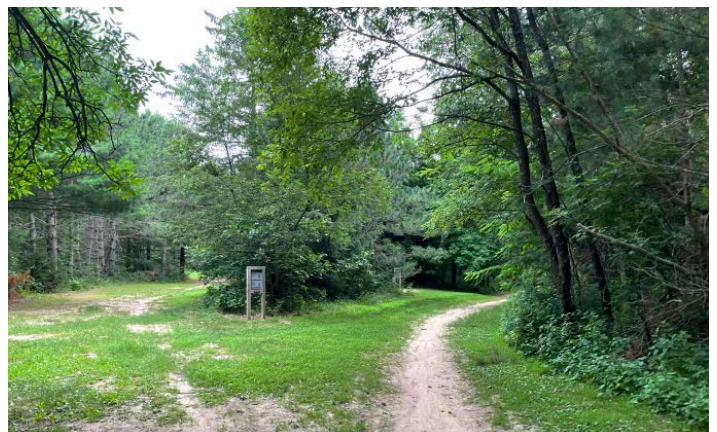
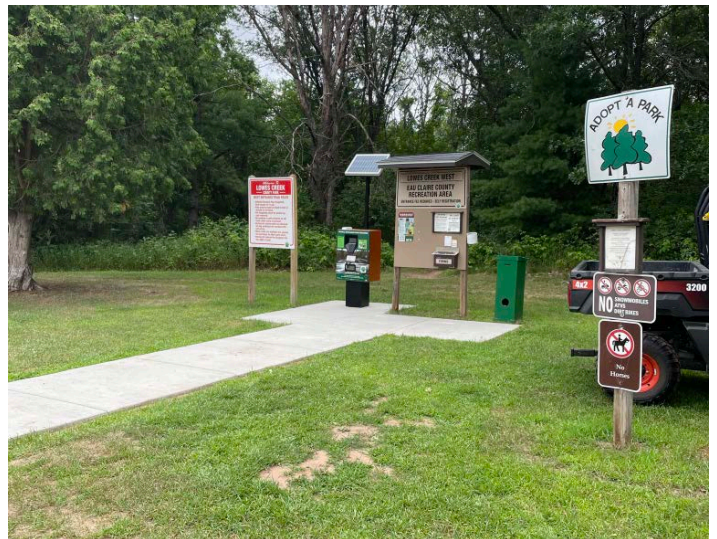
Big Falls County Park

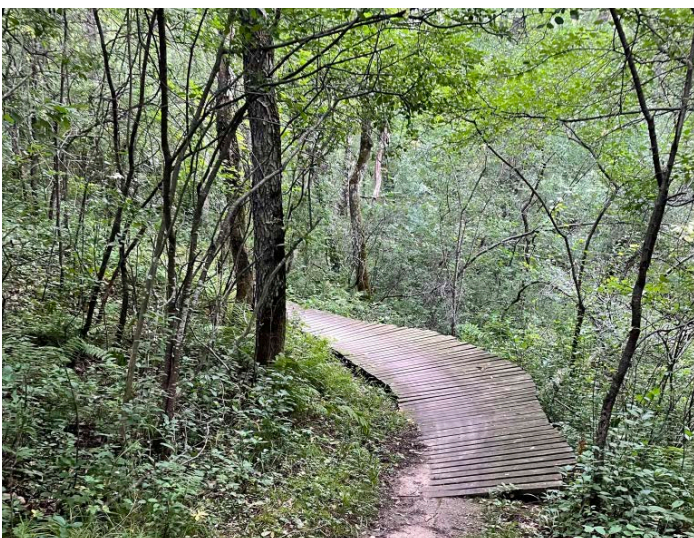
This park is well known in the county for the beautiful natural features. A new parking lot on the west side and restrooms were completed this year. The trails are scheduled to be repaved within the next year (this fall?). The eastern side is largely unimproved. Direct access to the falls is difficult off the paved paths. There was considerable discussion about creating an ADA platform to improve accessibility for the public. There should be some trail maintenance conducted on the eastern side of the park to potentially improve access from that side of the river. There are some sizable concentrations of poison ivy that might be dealt with at that time.

APPENDIX

Site Visit Images (July 20/21, 2022)

Lowes Creek County Park

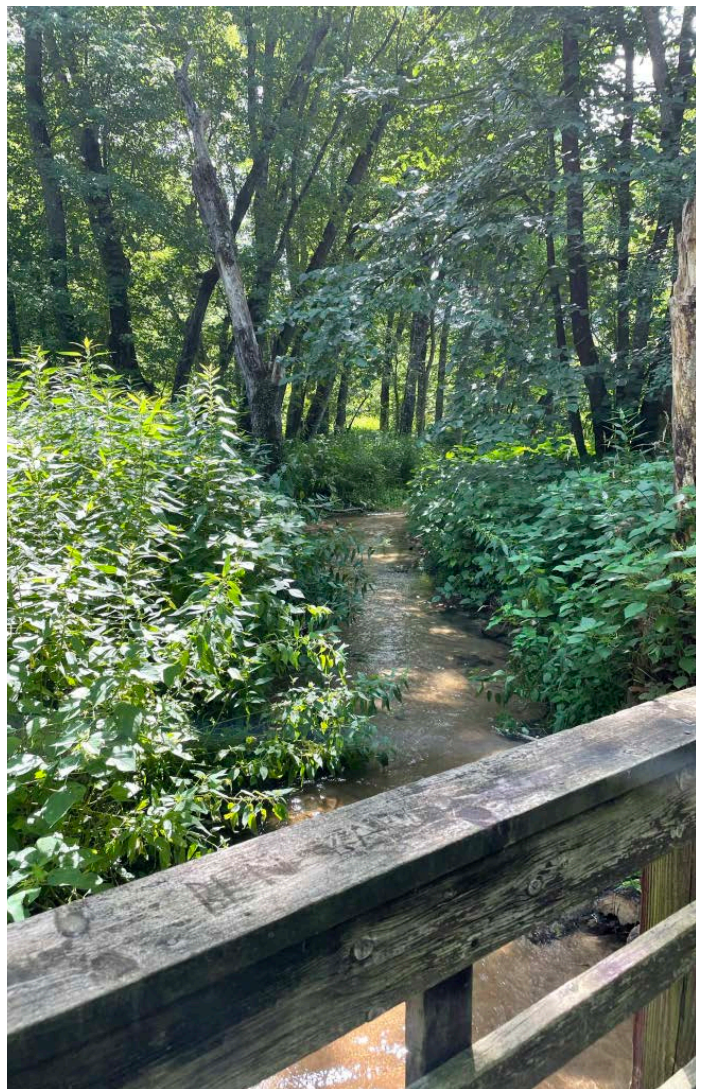
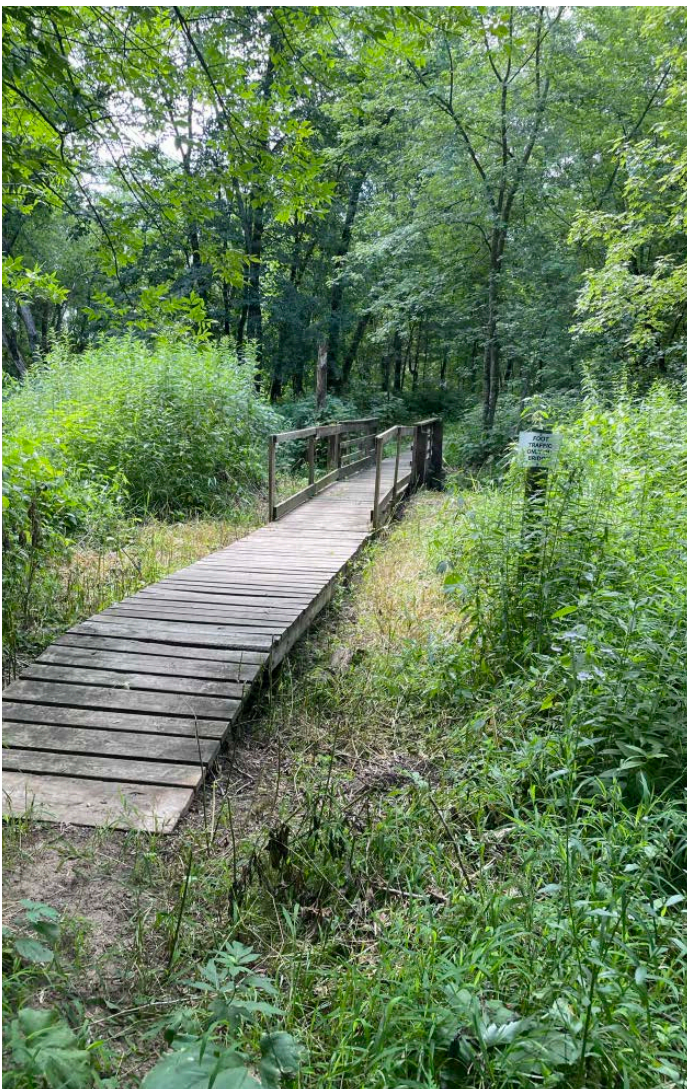




Harstad County Park



LL Phillips County Park



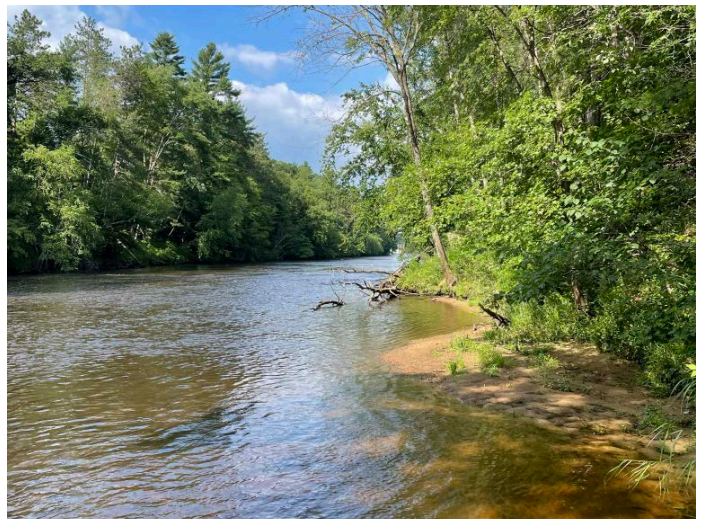
Coon Fork County Park





Lake Eau Claire County Park



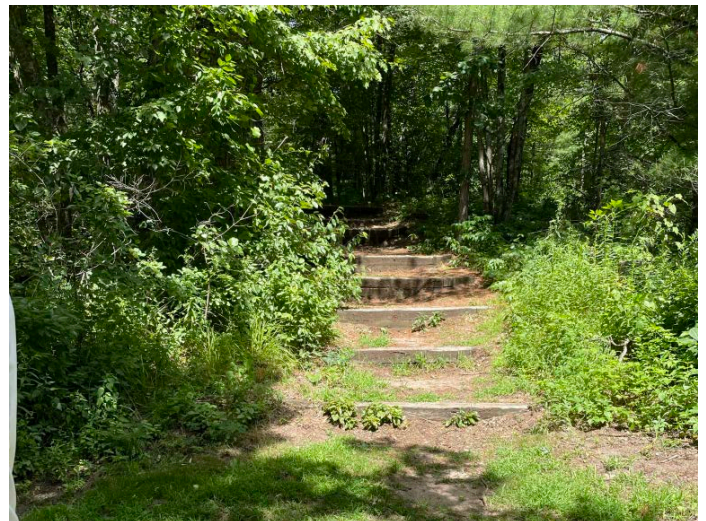


Tower Ridge Recreation Area





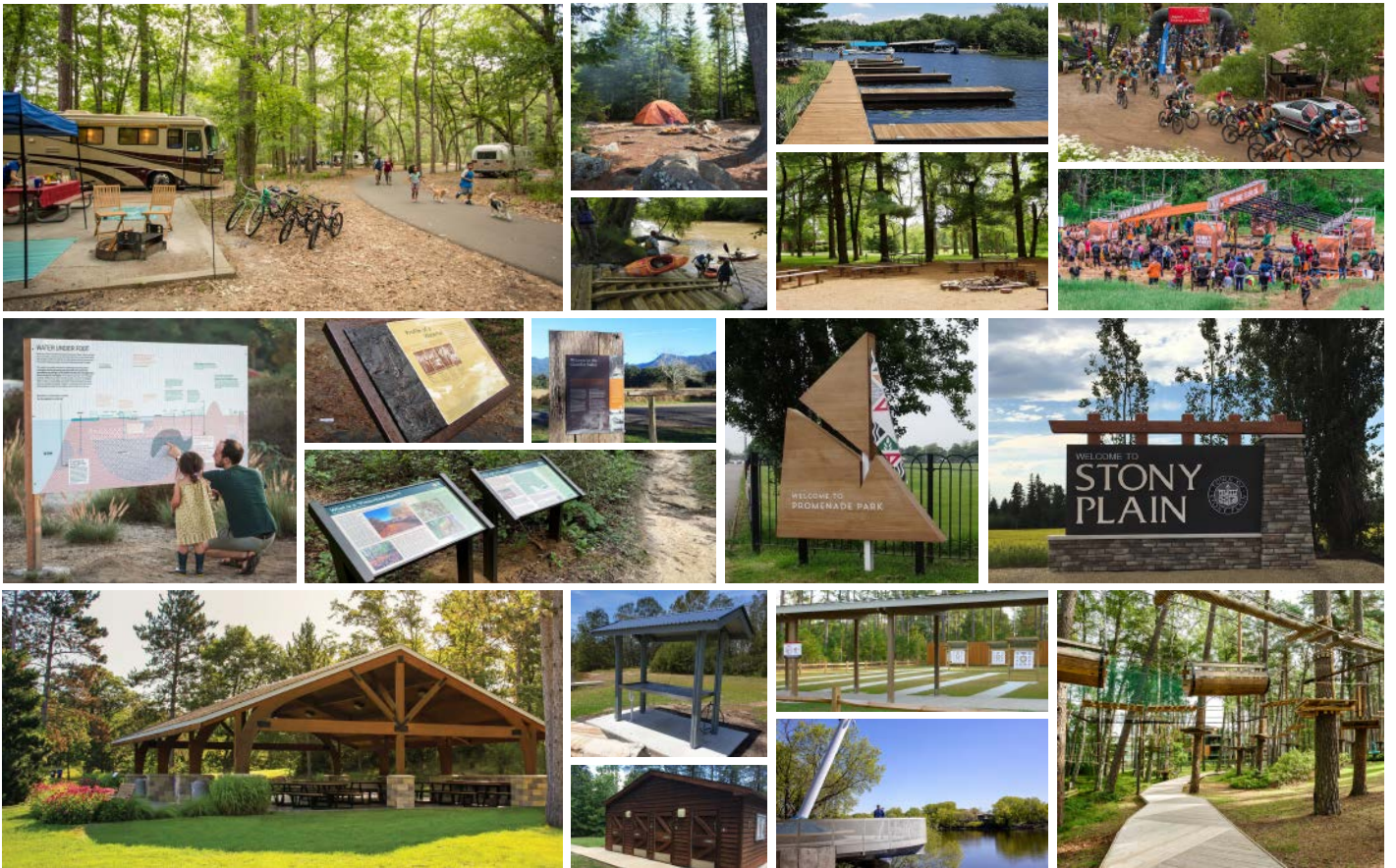
Big Falls County Park





APPENDIX

Precedent Images



Visioning Questions

QUESTIONS | EAU CLAIRE COUNTY PARKS VISIONING WORKSHOP | 08.16.2022



- 1 In one word, describe the identity of the Eau Claire County community? List 3.
 - Conservative, frugal, artsy
 - Outdoor adventure, caring, relationship
 - Forward, educated, supporters (of parks)
- 2 What ways do people in Eau Claire County connect? (Family, Environmental Clubs, Sports..) List 3.
 - Televised sports, bars, family
 - Clubs of all sorts, family connection, work connection, sports
 - Community events
- 3 What are the current strengths of the Eau Claire County Park system? List 3.
 - Access, trails, camping
 - Nice variety of parks located throughout the county, parks are well cared for and utilized appropriately, activities available are variable
 - Water (eau claire river connections, Coon Fork Lake), locations of the parks well thought out, partnerships with many different organizations (COBRA, Ski Striders, CVDGO, etc.), existing trails (lowes creek, tower ridge)
- 4 What do you value most about the park system? List 3.
 - Access, trails, camping
 - That we have them. Being able to use pavilions and what not.
 - Variety, seasonal uses for all types, heavily wooded parks with mature trees
- 5 If you could introduce a new use/activity into the park system, what would it be? List 3.
 - Orienteering, adaptive trails, adventure racing set course
 - Having enough pavilions would be helpful, disc golf seems to be a popular sport, more established hiking trails, more water opportunities, more winter sports opportunities-cross country ski trails for instance
 - Sledding hill, ATV campground, cool playgrounds (cast concrete structures, etc), stuff you see on \$300,000+ playgrounds. Would be great to have one facility with a true master piece playground.
- 6 What are the most significant challenges the parks system will face in the next 5 years? List 3.
 - Encroachment, lack of funding, baseball fields
 - Vandalism. Although we tend to be pretty good humans, there are always a few. Ongoing maintenance needed- which costs money. Upgrade in items/supplies for various parks.
 - As much as I hate to say, the lake quality issues at lake altoona are not going away. I have heard board members say that they will not support capital projects at LA until the water is cleaned up. Technology advancements, staffing.
- 7 What are some of the most exciting opportunities for the parks system in the next 5 years? List 3.
 - Increased funding, community involvement, accessible
 - The fact that we are planning this and increasing opportunities for folks. I feel like after COVID, people want connection. If we continued to build our parks, the people will come. Bringing more people outside.
 - Continued improvement with ADA updates to all parks, camping opportunities increasing (yurts, possible campground additions, rustic camping). continued increased funding for capital from county administrator and board.
- 8 In one word, how will people describe the county park system ten years from now? List 3.
 - Fun, funded, accessible trails
 - Fun, exciting, connection
 - Progressive, leader in parks development and management in the state, opportunities for all ages and abilities.

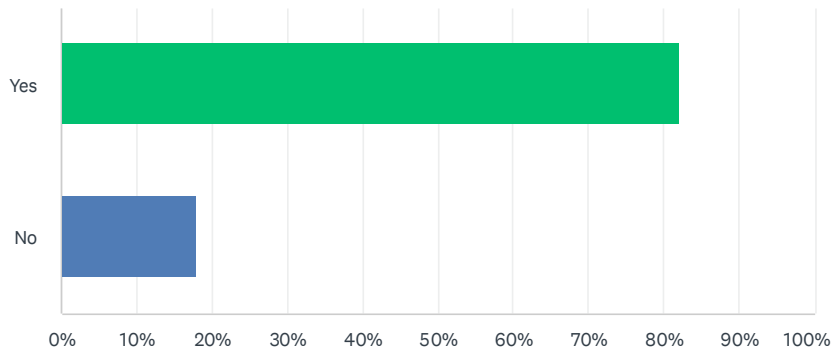
APPENDIX

Survey Results

Eau Claire County Parks Master Plan

Q1 Are you a resident of Eau Claire County?

Answered: 224 Skipped: 0

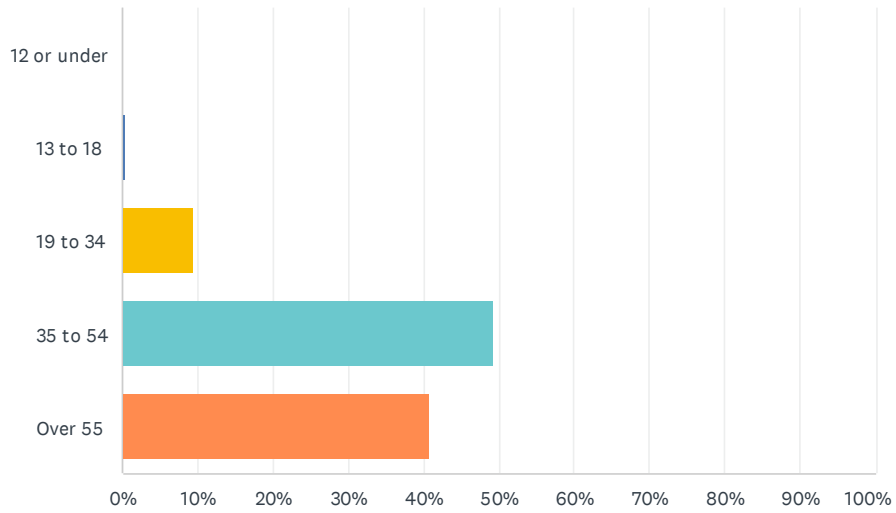


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	82.14%	184
No	17.86%	40
TOTAL		224

Eau Claire County Parks Master Plan

Q2 Please select the age group to which you belong.

Answered: 223 Skipped: 1

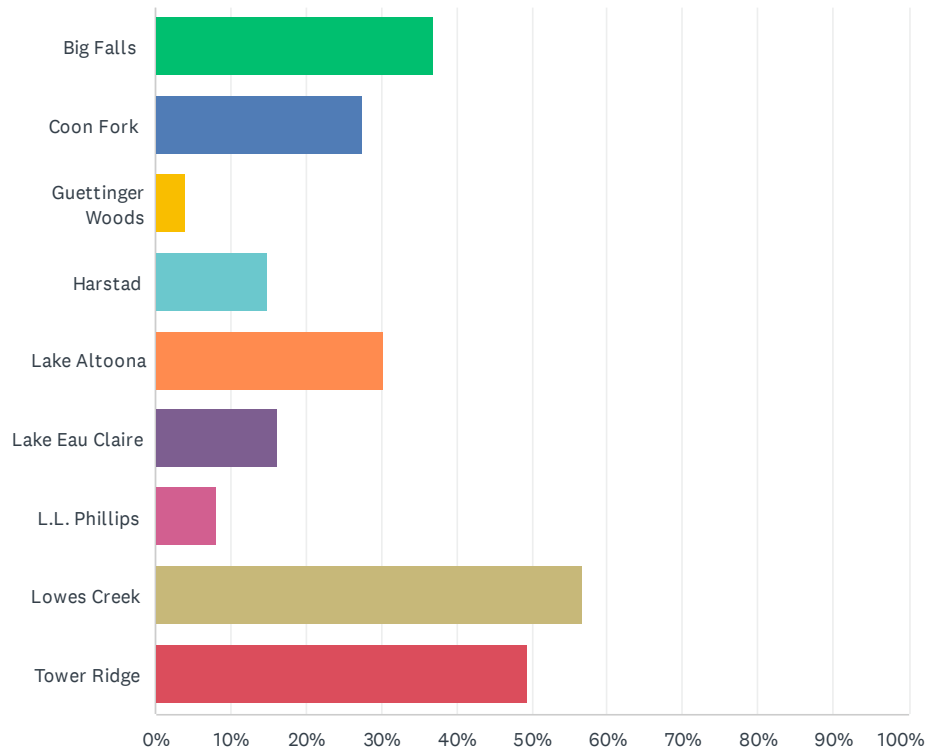


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
12 or under	0.00%	0
13 to 18	0.45%	1
19 to 34	9.42%	21
35 to 54	49.33%	110
Over 55	40.81%	91
TOTAL		223

Eau Claire County Parks Master Plan

Q3 Which County Parks do you visit most often? (Select 3)

Answered: 222 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Big Falls	36.94% 82
Coon Fork	27.48% 61
Guettinger Woods	4.05% 9
Harstad	14.86% 33
Lake Altoona	30.18% 67
Lake Eau Claire	16.22% 36
L.L. Phillips	8.11% 18
Lowes Creek	56.76% 126
Tower Ridge	49.55% 110
Total Respondents: 222	

Q4 What do you feel is the biggest challenge facing the Eau Claire County Park System?

Answered: 152 Skipped: 72

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I am not sure where all of them are located, as I new to the area.	5/4/2023 4:04 PM
2	Not micro managing them.	5/4/2023 3:34 PM
3	Water quality	5/4/2023 1:27 PM
4	Financial Resources	5/4/2023 9:08 AM
5	Providing great facilities, yet keeping the cost down.	5/4/2023 8:33 AM
6	Water quality issues for lakes	5/4/2023 8:25 AM
7	Parking & cost	5/4/2023 8:21 AM
8	Very frustrating trying to find cost vehicle passes online. I'd suggest using language more like "Parking Fee" or "Entry Fee", and it would be helpful to list those costs on the main Parks & Forest webpage (https://www.eauclairecounty.gov/our-government/departments-and-facilities/departments-directory/parks-forest). I often end up choosing city or state parks because Eau Claire County is not good at making it easy for me to know how and how much to pay.	5/4/2023 8:08 AM
9	Lack of accessibility, diversity	5/3/2023 4:23 PM
10	The lack of movement on making updates to the trail systems in the past 5-10 years.	5/3/2023 3:38 PM
11	Awareness of their existence/presence. I'm a heavy user of Lowes Creek and frequently find myself amazed when I meet fellow community members and they have no awareness to everything the park has to offer for outdoor recreation.	5/3/2023 3:32 PM
12	Overuse, loss of quiet	5/3/2023 2:23 PM
13	good directions on getting to all of them. adequate parking. good maps of the parks. information on the best activities at each park	5/3/2023 2:21 PM
14	Limited bathroom options when walking trails	5/3/2023 2:18 PM
15	Funding, apparently. Trails are in rough shape for years at a time.	5/3/2023 2:16 PM
16	The biggest challenge to the EC County Park system is the incredible investment happening in other communities with more and better single track and ski trails, nice facilities for families and visitors, and excellent branding/marketing/signage/maps. Eau Claire is falling well behind in this regard.	5/3/2023 2:12 PM
17	Not being maintained or updated. Lake Eau Claire only has 1 usable boat landing for boats and it is extremely steep and slanted from years of power-loading yet nothing is done to fix or maintain this even though this Lake is extremely popular. Troubled Waters needs a better kayak/canoe landing, if it was put on the other side of the bridge on the small chunk of land owned by the County it would be a much smoother process.	5/2/2023 11:21 AM
18	Funding and collective community push for further development	4/28/2023 1:48 PM
19	Parking, and its enforcement	4/26/2023 7:59 AM
20	City of Eau Claire annexing the Lowes Creek park	4/25/2023 10:35 AM
21	Funding/staffing	4/21/2023 4:17 PM
22	Maintaining existing facilities and planning for expanded use in the future	4/18/2023 6:19 PM
23	Proper timely management	4/15/2023 12:27 PM

24	People who just can't leave the place like they found it before you no it the places	4/15/2023 5:43 AM
25	idk	4/13/2023 11:49 AM
26	Bad bathrooms	4/12/2023 12:38 AM
27	Self funding operations while putting money into county general fund without reserves for parks improvements or capital purchases.	4/10/2023 10:45 PM
28	Park attendants for the parks. We need more Park attendants to help maintain and secure our beautiful parks.	4/8/2023 7:16 AM
29	Possibly shrinking of parks nearby Eau Claire- I honestly don't know how annexation would impact Lowes Creek Park but would appreciate if this was more widely reported- just an unknown is all. Thanks!	4/7/2023 2:45 PM
30	Possibly shrinking of parks nearby Eau Claire- I honestly don't know how annexation would impact Lowes Creek Park but would appreciate if this was more widely reported- just an unknown is all. Thanks!	4/7/2023 11:14 AM
31	As a ECC employee I do not know what the other parks are or where they are located - unless I search for these as a visitor.	4/5/2023 1:21 PM
32	No defined trails. Especially at Big Falls. It's tough to go out there, or send friends and family, because there is only a short trail down to the beach.	4/5/2023 9:29 AM
33	Would be nice to see the ice rinks use a machine to smooth the ice, they have been pretty rough when we have tried to ice skate	4/5/2023 9:29 AM
34	Upkeep, looks like the last time the county spent any money on Harstad was in the 1950's.	4/5/2023 7:21 AM
35	ToTo have the many types of recreation available that people request or expect.	4/4/2023 3:39 PM
36	Not enough funding to complete major park renovations that are needed. Current facilities are very dated in many of the parks	4/4/2023 1:24 PM
37	Sharing with all user groups where conflicts can occur such as dog/trap encounters. Loud gunshot noise scaring horses. Keeping illegal users out such as the dirt bikes tearing up Tower Ridge and other trails.	4/4/2023 12:03 PM
38	Staffing for upkeep of trails and facilities	4/4/2023 10:08 AM
39	Maintenance of property and buildings	4/4/2023 7:45 AM
40	Littering.	4/3/2023 10:25 PM
41	Grooming at Tower Ridge. People walking on ski trail at Lowes Creek. Parking lot at Tower.	4/3/2023 10:01 PM
42	Park maintenance and grooming	4/3/2023 8:52 PM
43	Lack of funding from the state	4/3/2023 8:03 PM
44	Lack of volunteers for Lowes Creek	4/3/2023 7:15 PM
45	sharing resources among various groups	4/3/2023 5:49 PM
46	Grooming	4/3/2023 5:03 PM
47	No atv/Utv trails in the town of Seymour.	4/3/2023 12:37 PM
48	The rough boat landings on Lake Eau Claire. They are not good and continue to get worse.	4/3/2023 12:27 PM
49	Modern facilities and amenities.	4/3/2023 11:51 AM
50	Litter	4/3/2023 11:40 AM
51	Funding and volunteerism to keep up with user group needs	4/3/2023 10:42 AM
52	Keeping them clean and well maintained	4/3/2023 10:35 AM
53	Maintenance and upgraded.	4/3/2023 10:35 AM
54	Invasive species Increased usage at Lowes creek Park, not a bad thing but creates conflicts	4/3/2023 10:29 AM

55	Winter trail etiquette. It's so frustrating to see ski trails and winter biking trails ruined by uninformed users right after they're groomed.	4/3/2023 9:59 AM
56	Multi-use demands: skiing, hiking, cycling, running. Trails are showing wear/stress. Preservation of wild areas.	4/3/2023 8:26 AM
57	Maintaining their quality. The citizenry has to care about them, i.e., it's not something more funding can fix or maintain, the county's citizens must decide not to litter the parks, the citizenry must decide to volunteer to maintain the parks, particularly preventing invasives like buckthorns, etc., or excessive deer populations from taking over the parks, and the citizenry must decide not to let it ever be overtaken by vagrants or those flagrantly breaking laws. So far, so good, but as we grow and as our culture degrades, I see these as the long term hurdles.	11/26/2022 10:05 AM
58	Can only speak to Tower Ridge. Would like to see more horse trails	11/21/2022 7:42 AM
59	\$\$	11/18/2022 8:13 AM
60	Snow making	11/12/2022 11:44 PM
61	Maintenance; keeping trails in good shape to support different activities and ski grooming	11/12/2022 10:27 AM
62	Funding for maintenance	11/12/2022 8:23 AM
63	Keeping safe and clean	11/11/2022 10:23 PM
64	Lack of progressive mountain bike trails.	11/11/2022 7:23 PM
65	It is a fast growing city	11/11/2022 7:18 PM
66	Money to make improvements. Have to rely a lot on volunteers to do the work.	11/11/2022 5:19 PM
67	Need more challenging mountain bike trails.	11/11/2022 4:38 PM
68	Lack of restroom facilities, general maintenance	11/11/2022 4:18 PM
69	Funding	11/11/2022 3:01 PM
70	Funding	11/11/2022 3:00 PM
71	The increase in population and the effect it will have on (specifically) lowes creek. I am a CORBA trail liaison and understand that the increase population of people close to the park will mean a very large increase in traffic. This needs to be addressed prior to the developments in that area, not after the people have moved in.	11/11/2022 2:47 PM
72	No dogs allowed in some of the parks.	11/11/2022 2:42 PM
73	Too reliant on volunteer maintenance and funding is limited to just maintenance it seems. There is little time and little money by the County given to physical improvements. I am specifically talking about offroad biking trails. I would like to see funding directed to help the extensive volunteer work done.	11/11/2022 2:19 PM
74	Lack of resources?	11/11/2022 1:34 PM
75	Getting people to buy passes to access Lowes	11/11/2022 12:57 PM
76	More biking infrastructure needed	11/11/2022 12:16 PM
77	Knowledge that the MTB trails exist.	11/11/2022 12:01 PM
78	Resources (money)	11/11/2022 11:43 AM
79	Neighboring businesses attempting to infringe on the park with development	11/11/2022 11:18 AM
80	Lack of facilities at trail head. No bathrooms, showers, pavilions. Add a pump track. Cities really into biking are adding this option built by professionals in the art.	11/11/2022 11:06 AM
81	Funding and professional trail builders. The locals have done what they can, but trails built by professionals being in a lot of tourism business. We have a strong community of bikers, runners, and skiers as well as people just out for a nice walk.	11/11/2022 11:01 AM
82	Need more mtb trails and features. Skills parks and fun things for kids and adults to practice on. More features in the trails	11/11/2022 10:52 AM

83	Trail Maintenance. People walking dogs off leash on trails.	11/11/2022 10:34 AM
84	Lack of government funding of trail improvements	11/11/2022 10:06 AM
85	Over crowded mtb trails with walkers/runners who use ear buds	11/11/2022 9:18 AM
86	vandals	11/11/2022 5:26 AM
87	Grooming ski trails. Keep users from walking on groomed ski trails.	11/10/2022 9:10 PM
88	Day-to-day maintenance. Tower Ridge is an amazing resource, but the grooming there is terrible. People get injured and equipment is damaged because of the lack of attention and care to a potentially great trail system.	11/10/2022 8:15 PM
89	With the very heavy usage of Tower Ridge ski area in the winter along with very poor and lack of quality snow grooming for cross county skiing I believe it should get the highest amount of resources.	11/10/2022 6:58 PM
90	Finances	11/10/2022 6:27 PM
91	Pleasing the wide variety of user groups. Truly a challenge, but I appreciate all of the Eau Claire County's efforts.	11/10/2022 5:32 PM
92	All parks are really great! I love the private/public partnership with Pinehurst	11/10/2022 4:54 PM
93	Funding for trails. Challenges with garbage and dumping	11/9/2022 10:35 AM
94	I'd imagine funding. Would like to see more/better/faster winter grooming of ski and bike trails, as well as fall maintenance of trails with blowing off leaves, etc	11/9/2022 10:06 AM
95	Keeping walkers off of the ski trails. Oak leaves on the Tower Ridge Ski Trails.	11/9/2022 8:42 AM
96	Grooming info. Would like to easily find out if trails have been groomed before going out.	11/9/2022 7:20 AM
97	People abusing them. Not paying fees. Not following rules. Dogs off leashes. Walking on groomed skitrails	11/8/2022 8:01 PM
98	Not a big enough draw for tourists. Our parks could be a bigger economic driver if they had a few more features.	11/8/2022 8:00 PM
99	Users aren't good stewards.	11/8/2022 8:00 PM
100	Funding and balancing incompatible uses	11/8/2022 7:57 PM
101	I wish Lowes Creek had an indoor facility to use similar to Tower Ridge and some of the city parks.	11/8/2022 4:30 PM
102	Holding onto prioritizing the value of the parks and their land from encroachment of development, lack of funding to properly maintain, or in the face of conflicting priorities.	11/8/2022 3:27 PM
103	deterioration of Lake Altoona water quality	11/7/2022 10:56 AM
104	Fee system while other counties and cities are free.	11/3/2022 11:52 PM
105	Connecting them by bikes/walking trails	11/3/2022 5:55 PM
106	Funding to keep them updated so residence and non-residence visit and enjoy them.	11/3/2022 7:13 AM
107	The fee system	11/2/2022 2:20 PM
108	the public not cleaning up after them selves	11/1/2022 1:57 PM
109	Camping opportunities which have amenities like showers etc.	11/1/2022 8:14 AM
110	Not very up dated	10/31/2022 10:40 PM
111	Maintenance	10/31/2022 2:11 PM
112	Needs more promotion about cool activities that people can do at county parks - as a six-year resident of EC and an avid hiker/outdoorsperson I know very little about some of our county parks and what they have to offer. General education would help! Also more picnic tables.	10/31/2022 1:20 PM
113	Funding for upkeep/maintenance, upgrades to infrastructure or addition of new modern features.	10/31/2022 1:18 PM

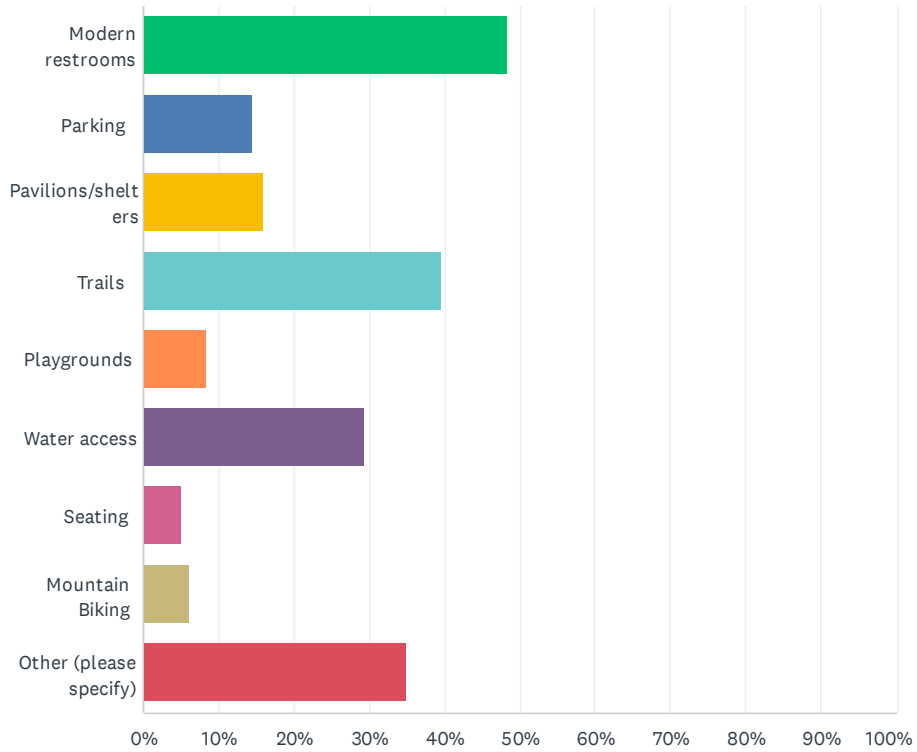
114	Lack of quality boat landings	10/31/2022 1:00 PM
115	Specific to Lake Altoona-algae blooms	10/31/2022 12:33 PM
116	Cleanup of water	10/31/2022 11:55 AM
117	I was just at Big Falls this weekend. I did not have cash to pay-did not realize that there were fees. I thought about families that cannot afford to pay the minimal fees and how that would direct them somewhere else. Are the fees really necessary to keep the park open? We love nature and buy passes, pay fees etc. because we can, but what about families who don't want to spend their money to go to a park when there are many other free options. Also the gravel road going in on the south side prevented us from going in because our vehicle could not handle it.	10/31/2022 11:49 AM
118	Keeping them accessible to everyone - including those with financial or transportation barriers.	10/31/2022 11:45 AM
119	don't know since I typically do not utilize the parks	10/31/2022 11:41 AM
120	Accomodations & funding	10/31/2022 11:38 AM
121	funding	10/31/2022 11:22 AM
122	Resource Allocation	10/31/2022 11:05 AM
123	New upgrades to park facilities. I'm guessing funding is hard to come by.	10/31/2022 11:04 AM
124	Aging infrastructure.	10/31/2022 11:01 AM
125	decreased revenue	10/31/2022 10:52 AM
126	paying every time	10/31/2022 10:52 AM
127	modernizing too much so that nature gets lost in blur of life	10/26/2022 11:00 PM
128	Roads and parking lots at Lowes Creek have potholes and damage from vehicles spinning out in the parking lot/roads.	10/26/2022 9:42 PM
129	Keeping all users happy and getting along	10/25/2022 6:58 PM
130	Consistent, annual capital improvement dollars to freshen up the park system.	10/25/2022 1:30 PM
131	Money	10/24/2022 6:53 PM
132	Up keep	10/24/2022 6:10 PM
133	Maintenance	10/21/2022 7:29 AM
134	Meeting the needs of multiple user groups without bastardizing the parks themselves.	10/20/2022 6:13 PM
135	More horse trails needed	10/20/2022 5:21 PM
136	Sustainability	10/20/2022 5:03 PM
137	Funds for improvement	10/20/2022 4:02 PM
138	Eventually it will be parking as the parks get more people coming to them	10/20/2022 2:45 PM
139	Keeping trails open. I just think it's a lot of work. But they are very well kept.	10/20/2022 11:43 AM
140	Keeping the younger generation interested in outdoor activities.	10/20/2022 10:08 AM
141	More requests from various user groups for recreational opportunities and few people to volunteer	10/20/2022 9:24 AM
142	Aging structures at some of the parks. Fee based system is likely a deterrent for some potential park users.	10/19/2022 10:08 PM
143	Over crowding	10/19/2022 11:07 AM
144	We also spend time at Backwater and Hamilton Falls, enjoy horseback riding	10/19/2022 6:29 AM
145	Housing developments	10/18/2022 7:23 PM
146	Budget?	10/18/2022 4:56 PM

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147	Education on appropriate trail usage by hikers, bikers, skiers during the various seasons and what using the trails during unstable times can do to their conditions.	10/18/2022 2:49 PM
148	Growing the Education. Wildlife and wild places is not getting easier; it's our obligation to offer continuous learning in this area.	10/18/2022 12:41 PM
149	Need for updated amenities. Mostly flush toilets and fresh water.	10/18/2022 11:30 AM
150	Balancing multiple use and interests without damage to ecosystems. Vandalism and garbage.	10/18/2022 7:52 AM
151	consistency of appearance and maintenance	10/17/2022 8:22 PM
152	Financial and Personnel resources.	10/17/2022 12:56 PM

Q5 In your opinion, what amenities need the most improvements in the Eau Claire County Park System?

Answered: 194 Skipped: 30



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Modern restrooms	48.45%	94
Parking	14.43%	28
Pavilions/shelters	15.98%	31
Trails	39.69%	77
Playgrounds	8.25%	16
Water access	29.38%	57
Seating	5.15%	10
Mountain Biking	6.19%	12
Other (please specify)	35.05%	68
Total Respondents: 194		

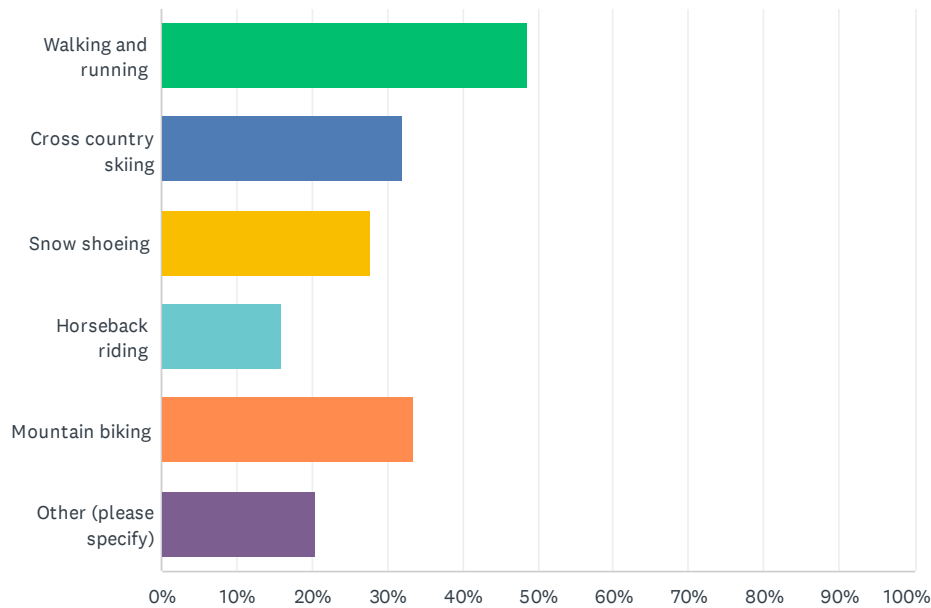
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
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1	More and IMPROVED boat landings on the lake.	5/4/2023 3:34 PM
2	Pavilion/shelters, specifically rentable indoor lodge-type space	5/4/2023 1:27 PM
3	modern restrooms in camping areas	5/4/2023 9:08 AM
4	minor upgrades to restrooms - for vault toilets - state of the art	5/4/2023 8:33 AM
5	Better marketing/communication of what's available	5/4/2023 8:08 AM
6	Winter Fat Biking	5/3/2023 3:38 PM
7	Boat Landing care/maintenance, card payment machines at the parks in Augusta, more care to the small spots like Troubled Waters	5/2/2023 11:21 AM
8	Stop lowering the water level in lake altoona. Ruins spawning habitat and boat launch in early spring. Put the docks in as soon as the park opens so paying customers can launch a boat!!	4/15/2023 12:27 PM
9	Natural settings for screening between campsites. Group camp sites.	4/10/2023 10:45 PM
10	Updates to the pit toilet buildings. Enhance the view of the river at the canoe of Harstad. More information signs at the parks (rules, directions, trails, boundaries, etc). Blacktop or improved base course for parks roads that are un-paved.	4/8/2023 7:16 AM
11	Education /Nature /Animal / Preservation	4/5/2023 1:21 PM
12	Fat tire biking.	4/5/2023 7:21 AM
13	snowmobile trails	4/4/2023 3:39 PM
14	Signage on trails for increased compliance on ski trails, better grooming on ski trails	4/4/2023 10:08 AM
15	Horse riding trails and amenities	4/4/2023 7:45 AM
16	More trash/recycling receptacles	4/3/2023 10:25 PM
17	Xc grooming	4/3/2023 8:52 PM
18	Bathroom at Lowes Creek expo entrance	4/3/2023 7:15 PM
19	Proper ski trail grooming	4/3/2023 5:03 PM
20	Nothing	4/3/2023 11:40 AM
21	Ability to groom snow for ski trails and make snow	4/3/2023 10:35 AM
22	We have enough amenities, we just need to maintain them.	11/26/2022 10:05 AM
23	designated horse trails whenever feasible	11/21/2022 7:42 AM
24	I don't think anything is missing	11/13/2022 8:17 PM
25	Snow making	11/12/2022 11:44 PM
26	More trails would be awesome !	11/11/2022 10:23 PM
27	Lights	11/11/2022 7:18 PM
28	Skills park area	11/11/2022 4:38 PM
29	Drinkable water	11/11/2022 3:00 PM
30	Offroad biking infrastructure	11/11/2022 2:19 PM
31	Lights at Lowes Creek expo side trail entrance. Lights on paths fun too. Also pay station by the expo entrance. I think a lot of people have annual pass, but I do see people who come and use it without pain. Not sure why, maybe they don't have cash.	11/11/2022 12:55 PM
32	Skills course at Lowe's for mountain bikers	11/11/2022 11:43 AM
33	Trash receptacles, Dog waste bags	11/11/2022 11:18 AM
34	Pump tracks.	11/11/2022 11:06 AM
35	Mountain bike skills park	11/11/2022 10:06 AM

36	Trail maintenance/mowing	11/11/2022 9:18 AM
37	none	11/11/2022 5:26 AM
38	Quality grooming	11/10/2022 8:15 PM
39	Improve frequency of grooming of ski trails.	11/10/2022 6:27 PM
40	I would like have water access at boat landings that are safe for the bottom of a kayak, canoe or board. Often the boat landing is rough cement and damaging to the bottom of these types of water craft.	11/10/2022 5:47 PM
41	More camping opportunities with nice amenities. Check out Washington County Parks, Minnesota.	11/10/2022 5:32 PM
42	Snowmaking	11/10/2022 4:54 PM
43	Kayak park, like in Wausau. More winter fat biking and nordic skiing.	11/9/2022 10:06 AM
44	Cross country trails regularly groomed and cared for at Lowes creek and info readily available about tower ridge	11/9/2022 7:20 AM
45	Bike park & expansion of Nordic ski trail systems	11/8/2022 8:00 PM
46	More trails and trail care would make them even better.	11/8/2022 3:27 PM
47	Garbage cans	11/3/2022 11:52 PM
48	None	11/2/2022 12:25 PM
49	camping opportunities	11/1/2022 8:14 AM
50	Vehicle parking at Lake Altoona for vehicles with boat trailers. Park rangers that have more authority than booking sites, changing garbage and checking parking lots for stickers. Strict & prompt enforcement of non-paying park users	10/31/2022 1:18 PM
51	Swimming areas	10/31/2022 1:00 PM
52	None	10/31/2022 12:33 PM
53	I am happy with them. I noted funding because they probably could use more help?	10/31/2022 11:22 AM
54	none.	10/31/2022 11:01 AM
55	Strategically located features that accentuate the natural beauty of the parks; and more interpretive signage and stuff for classrooms to learn in the parks	10/25/2022 1:30 PM
56	Trails that can accommodate elderly/disabled	10/24/2022 6:53 PM
57	horse accessibility and parking	10/23/2022 8:22 AM
58	Multi access	10/21/2022 7:29 AM
59	Wifi	10/20/2022 9:09 PM
60	Camping with horses	10/20/2022 7:14 PM
61	Horse trails	10/20/2022 5:21 PM
62	horse camp ground	10/20/2022 10:33 AM
63	Horseback trails	10/20/2022 9:24 AM
64	Manmade snow system	10/19/2022 11:27 AM
65	I personally like rustic	10/18/2022 7:23 PM
66	Camping	10/18/2022 3:52 PM
67	Research and Eduction	10/18/2022 12:41 PM
68	Sufficient grooming equipment and budgeted time for winter trail grooming.	10/17/2022 12:56 PM

Q6 Which trail activities does Eau Claire County need to provide more of?

Answered: 206 Skipped: 18



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Walking and running	48.54% 100
Cross country skiing	32.04% 66
Snow shoeing	27.67% 57
Horseback riding	16.02% 33
Mountain biking	33.50% 69
Other (please specify)	20.39% 42
Total Respondents: 206	

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	An ATV trail options	5/4/2023 3:34 PM
2	sign guided botanical/ecological hiking tours	5/4/2023 8:08 AM
3	KID FRIENDLY	5/3/2023 4:23 PM
4	Winter Fat Biking	5/3/2023 3:38 PM
5	I don't know if we need more - but more accessible trails would be ideal, by that I mean ones you don't have to drive 10+ mins to get to.	5/3/2023 3:32 PM
6	ATV UTV	5/3/2023 3:26 PM
7	Smooth paved biking/running	5/3/2023 2:16 PM

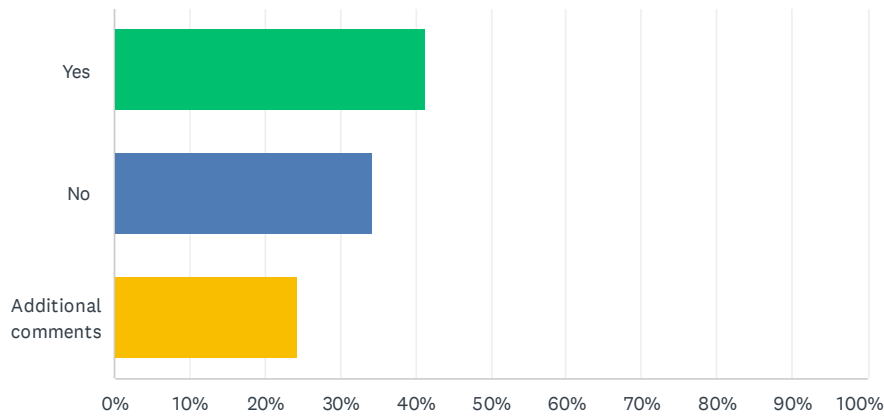
8	Maintain the quality of existing trails through engagement of user groups. Then think about additional trail miles.	4/21/2023 4:17 PM
9	Shooting ranges	4/15/2023 5:43 AM
10	Trails well maintained. Maybe separate bike from walking. mandate ears on the environment rather than earbuds.	4/10/2023 10:45 PM
11	Education /Nature / Animal / Preservation	4/5/2023 1:21 PM
12	Multi-use trails, fat tire for the sand.	4/5/2023 7:21 AM
13	many people use snowmobile trails that are not for their use.	4/4/2023 3:39 PM
14	all of these are already provided. Don't need more, just need to take care of existing better!	4/4/2023 1:24 PM
15	more horse trails in the county forest	4/3/2023 5:49 PM
16	ATV/Snowmobile	4/3/2023 12:37 PM
17	maintain/improve what we have.	4/3/2023 11:51 AM
18	Rollerskiing(not necessarily in a county park, but paved trails in the county need work)	4/3/2023 10:35 AM
19	I think we have enough trails	4/3/2023 10:29 AM
20	We have enough of these, we just need to maintain them	11/26/2022 10:05 AM
21	I think it does an excellent job maintaining existing trail activities	11/13/2022 8:17 PM
22	Doing well; just too much overlap activity on some trails	11/12/2022 10:27 AM
23	Pickle ball	11/11/2022 10:23 PM
24	Skate park for skateboards/scooters and a basic pump track and or skills area for mountain bikes!	11/11/2022 1:05 PM
25	Eau Claire is becoming a popular spot for mountain biking, or mountain biking is growing! A bike playground with rollers and Wood features outside of the trails would be amazingly fun! Generally, more mountain bike trails in the area would be fabulous. Those in the area who are mountain bike would love to help build those trails, put it out there, we will come!	11/11/2022 12:55 PM
26	Skills courses for Mt. Biking	11/11/2022 11:01 AM
27	XC trails need frequent, skilled grooming.	11/10/2022 5:32 PM
28	Safer access to Chippewa bike trail on highway 37	11/9/2022 7:20 AM
29	Bike park	11/8/2022 8:00 PM
30	Snowmobile and 4 wheel Off road Automobile Trails	11/3/2022 11:52 PM
31	I only walk, trails are adequate	11/2/2022 12:25 PM
32	Eau Claire County does a great job with the trail system.	11/1/2022 8:14 AM
33	I think there are enough trail activities but the overall facilities could be improved.	10/31/2022 2:11 PM
34	We have plenty of all thee above...You cant make more boat friendly lakes, so im content with what we currently have available.	10/31/2022 1:18 PM
35	Besides Altoona beach there is a lack of quality swimming areas	10/31/2022 1:00 PM
36	None	10/31/2022 12:33 PM
37	kayak and canoeing	10/31/2022 11:05 AM
38	fewer ATVs, more non-motorized trails.	10/31/2022 11:01 AM
39	Trails seem to be adequate, good diversity now	10/25/2022 1:30 PM
40	Marked horse trails in county forests	10/20/2022 2:45 PM
41	Trails are good. Except maybe develop one that circles Coon Fork Lake.	10/18/2022 11:30 AM

42 Off road motorcycle trails, dirt bike tracks

10/18/2022 8:40 AM

Q7 Does Eau Claire County provide enough overnight camping options?

Answered: 189 Skipped: 35



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	41.27%	78
No	34.39%	65
Additional comments	24.34%	46
TOTAL		189

#	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS	DATE
1	Not sure.	5/4/2023 4:04 PM
2	Camping continues to grow as a community interest	5/4/2023 9:08 AM
3	I don't camp at the EC Co. Parks	5/4/2023 8:33 AM
4	Not an expert in this area of endeavour	5/4/2023 8:08 AM
5	Most parks that come to mind close at 11pm and offer no overnight camping...even in tents.	5/3/2023 3:38 PM
6	No, based on the popularity of Cook Forks	4/21/2023 4:17 PM
7	NA	4/18/2023 6:19 PM
8	Need electric to all sites	4/12/2023 12:38 AM
9	We are close to capacity. Improve harstad offerings so more use desired. Explore expansion at coon fork - more acres not more sites on same footprint.	4/10/2023 10:45 PM
10	You need more less dense camp grounds. Hike in type	4/8/2023 7:16 AM
11	river campsites would be neat	4/4/2023 1:24 PM
12	maybe for people, but horse camping place where ATVs are not allowed would be nice. Not at Tower Ridge!	4/3/2023 5:49 PM
13	A camping option near the city that isn't isn't a parking lot in a field would attract more users	4/3/2023 10:42 AM
14	Not sure.	4/3/2023 8:26 AM

15	no comment	11/26/2022 10:05 AM
16	Not for horse camping	11/21/2022 7:42 AM
17	Not really clear on camping area available currently so cannot provide valuable input.	11/11/2022 10:23 PM
18	n/a	11/11/2022 1:34 PM
19	I don't really know	11/10/2022 8:38 PM
20	no opinion	11/10/2022 6:27 PM
21	We have camped at many nice county parks in other places that are clearly money makers. Build nice facilities and campers will pay top dollar.	11/10/2022 5:32 PM
22	Unsure	11/10/2022 4:54 PM
23	Can't say. Don't camp any more.	11/9/2022 8:42 AM
24	No - as more sports such as mt biking, trail running gain interest there is an opportunity to have camping to support those activities / events/	11/8/2022 4:30 PM
25	I don't know	11/8/2022 2:59 PM
26	no opinion	11/3/2022 5:55 PM
27	I'm not sure on the tourism aspect but seems like limited options	11/3/2022 7:13 AM
28	It would be nice to see more campgrounds in the area (not like harstad) but those with amenities that we do not likley have funds to make :)	10/31/2022 1:18 PM
29	I don't camp, so can't answer this question.	10/31/2022 12:33 PM
30	Unsure	10/31/2022 11:49 AM
31	don't know	10/31/2022 11:41 AM
32	I am not much of a camper but would go to Coon Forks.	10/31/2022 11:22 AM
33	Would love to see more parks offer camping options	10/31/2022 11:01 AM
34	Keep some rustic camping	10/26/2022 11:00 PM
35	Equestrian camping at Tower Ridge would be awesome!	10/25/2022 6:58 PM
36	more nature camping, Eau Claire river campsites???	10/25/2022 1:30 PM
37	Don't know	10/24/2022 6:53 PM
38	Horse camping	10/20/2022 5:21 PM
39	I think a horse camp by Hwy G parking lot would be welcome and well used. Tower Ridge is too close to town, too heavily used by several groups to be suitable for horse camping. I feel it would create conflicts with other user groups. In addition, the horse trails would suffer from any significant increase in use.	10/20/2022 5:03 PM
40	Undecided; we tend to camp further from home than within the county	10/20/2022 11:48 AM
41	?	10/18/2022 7:23 PM
42	NA	10/18/2022 12:41 PM
43	add another loop at Coon Fork. Never allow ATV and UTV traffic in parks. Flush toilets and updated well/water access needed at Harstad.	10/18/2022 11:30 AM
44	Could always have more	10/18/2022 8:40 AM
45	need locations in other parts of the County	10/17/2022 8:22 PM
46	Unsure since I am a resident I don't typically camp here.	10/17/2022 12:56 PM

Q8 If you could wave a magic wand, what one thing would you like to see at any park in the Eau Claire County Park System?

Answered: 61 Skipped: 163

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Not sure.	5/4/2023 4:04 PM
2	Allow family friendly dogs. Not being able to bring the family pet after they spend much alone time during working hours keeps families from leaving them at home even longer-by not visiting local parks.	5/4/2023 3:34 PM
3	Overnight tent camping spots with privacy (not very near neighbors). We have given up camping due to noise problems.	5/4/2023 1:27 PM
4	Kayak/canoe rentals	5/4/2023 9:08 AM
5	Free parking & access for all residents in all county parks	5/4/2023 8:21 AM
6	Small boat only (kayaks/canoes/waterboards) boat launch areas.	5/4/2023 8:08 AM
7	Areas for dogs off leash	5/3/2023 6:56 PM
8	More art, and diversity	5/3/2023 4:23 PM
9	More picnic areas	5/3/2023 3:55 PM
10	Biking allowed at tower ridge.	5/3/2023 3:38 PM
11	Meeting point where the community can gather - a la warming houses but also ones that function in the Summer. In a dream world this would be for winter and summer trail users to change/get water/warm up in the winter/socialize and enjoy the community of outdoor recreation together. Many people utilize the parks but we are unaware of each other presence because we pass each other on the trails without the opportunity to connect and understand each other.	5/3/2023 3:32 PM
12	Bigger pavilions for larger groups	5/3/2023 3:26 PM
13	The grooming of XC trails is sub-standard. Tower Ridge was supposed to have priority grooming right after snowfalls, regardless of weekends or holidays.	5/3/2023 2:23 PM
14	More bathrooms along the walking trails	5/3/2023 2:18 PM
15	Trails protected from traffic and kept up to make them usable by children. Right now they're downright dangerous for non-mtb riders.	5/3/2023 2:16 PM
16	Treat Lowes Creek Park like the jewel it is with indoor facilities on both sides, running water, and a more professional presentation of signage, branding, and education.	5/3/2023 2:12 PM
17	host more events to bring awareness	5/3/2023 2:12 PM
18	If I could have one thing it would be more space surrounding Lake Eau Claire for campsites or Cabins or some type of area people could rent where they could enjoy the water. Lake Eau Claire housing is extremely expensive and packed in the area tight making it nearly impossible for outsiders who don't already live there to enjoy the park for long periods of time. The Lake Eau Claire Clubhouse would be a great place to add on a fun area like this too.	5/2/2023 11:21 AM
19	Spaces built for people of all abilities.	4/28/2023 1:48 PM
20	kayak/canoe friendly launching systems in county parks	4/26/2023 7:59 AM
21	more overnight camping electrical sites at Coon Fork	4/25/2023 10:35 AM
22	double boat launch at both Eau Claire Lake landings.	4/24/2023 2:08 PM
23	Consolidated general signage. Too many signs in different places leads to people claiming	4/21/2023 4:17 PM

	ignorance of rules such as leashing dogs.	
24	Residents that camp in county park rather than go to Corporate camp grounds that often have more entertainment for kids. MMaybe the Parks could partner with Beaver Creek to provide a weekly "nature" discussion to increase kids knowledge of local fauna and flora	4/20/2023 7:41 AM
25	recreational equipment available to rent	4/18/2023 6:19 PM
26	Manage lake altoona properly as stated above.	4/15/2023 12:27 PM
27	Bigger thrash cans	4/15/2023 5:43 AM
28	TREE FORT	4/13/2023 11:49 AM
29	More electric sites	4/12/2023 12:38 AM
30	Broadband. Silent sports respect. Volume levels down between camp sites. Generators far away from tents unless agreed to.	4/10/2023 10:45 PM
31	Observation area over looking the Eau Claire River at Harstad. Canoe rental at area at the public boat landing at Coon Forks. On-site park attendants 24hrs 7 days a week at the campgrounds!!	4/8/2023 7:16 AM
32	Reservable camping spots.	4/7/2023 2:45 PM
33	Reservable camping spots.	4/7/2023 11:14 AM
34	I feel ECC employees could be the parks best ambassadors when speaking with family & friends. When visiting the parks ECC employees would provide a sense of ownership - another set of watchful eyes and another set of helpful hands beautifying the location. Other Counties encourage their employees to visit the parks as an employee benefit at no cost and value the Employee component.	4/5/2023 1:21 PM
35	Trail system at Big Falls.	4/5/2023 9:29 AM
36	A smaller/affordable ski hill with a T-Bar, something similar to Bruce Mound	4/5/2023 9:29 AM
37	Maintenance, designate campsite as Hammock ready. Sink some poles in the ground to hang hammocks at campsites. So I can ride my bike out QQ and would like to stop for the night along the EC River. It wouldn't be that hard to create a bike hammock camping only spot. A couple poles and no car parking. Think Ebikes. Allow over night bike camping at the Loins Park.	4/5/2023 7:21 AM
38	rest rooms, shelters parking	4/4/2023 3:39 PM
39	Playgrounds that are more all abilities friendly. And some with unique structures (custom concrete structures). A playground in the \$250,000+ range!	4/4/2023 1:24 PM
40	Parking at K Bridge not so steep. It would be nice if it wasn't so far/hard to haul kayaks there to the parking lot. 😊	4/4/2023 12:03 PM
41	Good parking, easy access to biffy and refuse disposal, potable water access	4/4/2023 10:08 AM
42	Toilets	4/4/2023 7:45 AM
43	Less litter and more trash/recycling receptacles.	4/3/2023 10:25 PM
44	Supervision of trail use. No walking on ski trails during ski season.	4/3/2023 10:01 PM
45	Kayak rentals	4/3/2023 9:08 PM
46	X county ski trails groomed more often!	4/3/2023 8:54 PM
47	Prioritize xc grooming on a schedule	4/3/2023 8:52 PM
48	Flush toilets and more x country skiing trails	4/3/2023 8:03 PM
49	Provide more camping area at Coon Fork, maybe over on the ski trails?	4/3/2023 7:15 PM
50	a canoe slide at County D bridge and better parking at the EC river landing off Channey RD and another horse parking lot somewhere on Channey west of the bridge over the north fork.	4/3/2023 5:49 PM
51	Free parking at tower ridge	4/3/2023 5:03 PM

52	More ATV/Snowmobile trails	4/3/2023 12:37 PM
53	Better boat landings on Lake Eau Claire	4/3/2023 12:27 PM
54	Camper cabins at Coon Fork.	4/3/2023 11:51 AM
55	More parking at the boat landings. Better boat ramps!	4/3/2023 11:10 AM
56	Funding to bring in professional trail builders to modernize our systems and relieve the load on volunteers.	4/3/2023 10:42 AM
57	Less dog restrictions	4/3/2023 10:35 AM
58	Man made snow loops somewhere that were regularly snowed and groomed.	4/3/2023 10:35 AM
59	A large covered pavilion with year-round restrooms at expo side of Lowes creek Park and parking lot improvement there	4/3/2023 10:29 AM
60	More messaging around trail do's/don'ts	4/3/2023 9:59 AM
61	More trails, less mountain biking dominance.	4/3/2023 8:26 AM

Q9 Do you have any additional ideas, comments, or questions you would like to share?

Answered: 109 Skipped: 115

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	No	5/4/2023 3:34 PM
2	It would be nice to have just a launching fee at the Eau Claire parks. I often just need to throw a canoe in at Harstad and park my vehicle there. I'm only there for 15 minutes but have to pay the whole day-use fee. For amenities offered, there's not much at LL Phillips park to warrant fees charged.	5/4/2023 8:33 AM
3	Add \$30 to my taxes each year, so I can just visit the parks. I often end up visiting Eau Claire city parks, as I don't have to think about per use fees.	5/4/2023 8:08 AM
4	Make these accessible!	5/3/2023 4:23 PM
5	Seems like there is finally movement in updating how the parks are being maintained / improved. Looking forward to seeing changes made soon :)	5/3/2023 3:38 PM
6	Better mapping of atv/utv routes	5/3/2023 3:26 PM
7	Really excited about the trail coming near Rod n Gun park. Keep it up!	5/3/2023 2:16 PM
8	We have such incredible parks, but they could really be elevated to include more recreational opportunities. More trails of all kinds would be great, including mountain biking, hiking, cross country skiing, etc and keeping them separate from one another so hikers are not walking on bike or ski trails. Big Falls has 135 acres but no trails of any kind?? Also, it would be cool to have more rock climbing opportunities set up. Focus on accessibility is key to making outdoor spaces available to all.	4/28/2023 1:48 PM
9	Overall, you guys do a great job and I truly enjoy EC County Parks	4/26/2023 7:59 AM
10	Engagement of user groups supporting the parks they use. E.g. school cross country teams (coaches) that park across the street to avoid paying for park passes for practices. Perhaps these groups could be allowed access for practices in exchange for a certain number of volunteer hours doing trail work.	4/21/2023 4:17 PM
11	Eau Claire County has a great array of county parks with various recreational opportunities maintaining the diversity of these parks is the challenge for the county	4/18/2023 6:19 PM
12	Manage lake altoona properly for paying customers as stated above	4/15/2023 12:27 PM
13	hammock park would be nice	4/13/2023 11:49 AM
14	Awesome staff	4/12/2023 12:38 AM
15	Encourage food trucks, entertainment calendar to draw campers to parks. Promote on social media.	4/10/2023 10:45 PM
16	Please put used fishing line containers at Harstad, Lake Eau Claire and Coon Forks. Signs at Harstad to let people canoeing know approximately how long it takes to float down to Fall Creek and that there is no outlet until Fall Creek. We have seen this kind of signage on the Black River. Many people think it takes about an hour but it actually takes 4hrs depending on water level.	4/8/2023 7:16 AM
17	Just the future about Lowes Creek would be helpful. Thanks!	4/7/2023 2:45 PM
18	Just the future about Lowes Creek would be helpful. Thanks!	4/7/2023 11:14 AM
19	Happy Earth Day celebrations	4/5/2023 1:21 PM
20	We love the parks here and that the cross country ski trails are groomed!	4/5/2023 9:29 AM

21	Single track trails, not the highways like at Tower Ridge. It's like skiing at a Golf Course.	4/5/2023 7:21 AM
22	It is difficult be everything to all the needs, wants & requests.	4/4/2023 3:39 PM
23	Keep up the good work. Parks are well kept and maintenance is good. Just need more updates overall.	4/4/2023 1:24 PM
24	It would be nice for hikers/snowshoers to be able to park at Tower Ridge parking lot in winter without having to have a ski pass. Keeping trails as natural looking as possible. Only as wide as needed. Overall the parks are gems in Eau Claire County!	4/4/2023 12:03 PM
25	Campaign to enforce winter trail compliance of sharing. Resources for grooming are being wasted as walkers ruin trails, despite 1:1 education and signage. There is a very poor attitude of animosity towards skiers. Perhaps a fining system should be instituted?	4/4/2023 10:08 AM
26	Please, please put out more trash cans! It is so sad to see how much trash is left in our parks, especially Big Falls.	4/3/2023 10:25 PM
27	Tower Ridge parking lot is hazard.	4/3/2023 10:01 PM
28	Thank you for asking!	4/3/2023 8:52 PM
29	Needles in the vault toilets at Lowes Creek	4/3/2023 7:15 PM
30	The county does a great job. Thankful for the work they put in	4/3/2023 5:03 PM
31	Do not ever allow ATVs/UTVs in existing campgrounds. Have fat bikes for rent at Coon Fork.	4/3/2023 11:51 AM
32	Kudos to our park maintenance crew. They do a great job maintaining the parks.	4/3/2023 10:35 AM
33	Thank you for asking the users these questions	4/3/2023 10:29 AM
34	I think Eau Claire County needs to learn to do more with less. I'm fine with paying taxes to support services. I want good local services. However, our tax rate per \$100k of property value are some of the highest in the country. I realize this is a mix of county, city, and school tax, but your role, the county role, is a big piece of the pie. Throwing more \$ at situations is not always the answer. It will be easy for you to point to this survey as an excuse to raise taxes. I challenge you to maintain present services with present budgets, or budgets capped by inflation increases, and that's it. Our parks are a crown jewel of our county. They must be maintained.	11/26/2022 10:05 AM
35	Whenever possible and feasible, increase designated horse trails and horse camping. Thank you for enlisting input from the public.	11/21/2022 7:42 AM
36	Keep improving	11/18/2022 8:13 AM
37	Would love to have a county wide effort for man-made snowmaking cross country ski trails. If cities of similar size: Rochester, MN. Duluth, MN. Hayward, WI can do this, then we certainly can. There is a significant amount of private funding that can be leveraged. Make it happen.	11/14/2022 3:55 PM
38	I think the existing facilities need to be maintained well rather than continuing to expand	11/13/2022 8:17 PM
39	I'd like to see more mountain biking courses for beginners and more canoe/kayak landings/put ins.	11/12/2022 4:44 PM
40	Feel very lucky to have such great parks with outdoor recreational activities so accessible	11/12/2022 10:27 AM
41	Would love to see investment in additional cycling skills park at Lowes Creek County Park.	11/12/2022 8:23 AM
42	Would love if CORBA group could help get mountain bike trails in at Elk Mound Hill as well as Hoffman Hills.	11/11/2022 10:23 PM
43	I would love to see a mountain bike skills area added. As far as restrooms , I actually like the quaint pit toilets at the west end of Lowes creek. The communal modern restrooms on the east end freak me out. I never use them. One time my friends went in the bathroom early one morning by the expo center and there was a (male) cross dresser in the women's restroom. It made me realize that you never know who else is in there with you. I'll take the single, private pit toilets any day!	11/11/2022 8:41 PM
44	Would love a mountain bike training course for practicing at Lowes creek. I believe there used to be on by the Lowes creek road entrance.	11/11/2022 6:08 PM

45	It would be nice if the city would invest a bit more into the parks dedicated to silent sports such as hiking and mountain biking. It seems ost of the time and materials for trail construction and maintenance are donated by the organizations. Look at what they've been able to accomplish with just the county's permission to work in the parks. Just think of what they could do if projects could be funded a bit financially by the city!	11/11/2022 4:18 PM
46	It would be nice to have better trail access and places to hike around the big falls area. The trails around there and super defined in most areas which can lead to people trampling the local foliage in areas.	11/11/2022 3:01 PM
47	I would like to see additional funding going to CORBA to expand/better maintain the mountain bike trails at Lowe's creek.	11/11/2022 3:00 PM
48	As a CORBA volunteer with close to 200 hours dedicated to silent sports in 2022 alone, I feel the county needs to recognize the efforts of their volunteer organizations and step up to address their concerns regarding the potential for a substantial increase in foot traffic. The city and county have been dependent on volunteers to provide areas for silent sports in the area, and it would be nice to see more time and money be dedicated to those organizations to help maintain and advance the trail systems	11/11/2022 2:47 PM
49	If you fund the volunteers with some money, they WILL build great things.	11/11/2022 2:19 PM
50	My son is very into mountain biking. I'm realizing what a wonderful multiage activity it is. Please consider adding more trails within our park system.	11/11/2022 1:34 PM
51	Would loooove a place to bring the kids with various levels (including really easy) ramps/boards etc to have fun on while building some mountain biking skills. :). Have also seen communities with really neat pump tracks.	11/11/2022 1:05 PM
52	Lowe's winter trail grooming is ruined by walkers. This is an ongoing problem. Money and energy spent on ski trails is wasted because of misusing ski trails. Informing these people is met with anger and vitriol!!!! Despite postings, they refuse to comply. Very disappointing and unacceptable of our fellow park users. Those that use Lowes without buying a pass are NOT doing their fair share of support, and somehow must be encouraged to STEP UP! I see this most at Fair entrance. Thank you.	11/11/2022 12:57 PM
53	I love the parks and all the hard work being done in Eau Claire. I was born there and I return a few times each year to visit family. I enjoy all the public spaces!	11/11/2022 12:55 PM
54	I'd love to see improvement of MTB trail systems and awareness of who takes care of them.	11/11/2022 12:01 PM
55	It would be great to see a bike park/skills park/pump track added to the trail system at Lowe's creek.	11/11/2022 11:43 AM
56	If trash receptacles and dog waste bags were available, it would encourage more people to clean up after their dogs.	11/11/2022 11:18 AM
57	Consider communities like Hayward, Cuyuna and Copper Harbor have. Bring something like that closer to Eau Claire. Silent sports are incredibly popular and good for the community as well as public health.	11/11/2022 11:01 AM
58	Build a skills area at Lowes and pump track and practice jumps	11/11/2022 10:52 AM
59	The mountain biking community has been strong here for 15 years, and youth mountain biking programs have become very popular (over 100 participants this year alone). Lowes Creek County Park needs a mountain bike skills park with features to help riders build their abilities and have more fun with the sport. Skills parks have become more and more common in other counties with mountain bike systems, Eau Claire has a good base of volunteers that would help maintain a park, and the west side of Lowes Creek has an ideal piece of land that is currently mostly unused. Organizations like CORBA and Eau Claire Youth Cycling have expressed interest in helping raise funds for such a project, but to be done right, the County should spearhead the effort and put its weight behind getting it done.	11/11/2022 10:06 AM
60	EC County should stop changing a fee for the Lowes Creek trails unless they plan on doing most of the trail construction and maintenance, including mowing.	11/11/2022 9:18 AM
61	Thanks for all the excellent improvements! Especially within the last several years. Keep up the great work, the community appreciates it.	11/11/2022 5:26 AM
62	Groom. Groom. Groom. Cross country skiing is terrible with quality grooming.	11/10/2022 8:15 PM

63	It is very irritating that there is an extra fee if I use a second car to ski at Tower Ridge. There are two of us in our household and we have two cars, but I can not always have access to the car with the pass. Hope you can change that fee structure. At times our schedules do not allow us to ski at the same time but it is the same house hold.	11/10/2022 5:47 PM
64	I have also seen nice pavilions with restrooms and meeting spaces that are very desirable to rent for events in other counties. Provides nice amenities for county residents, and creates source of income for county. Win, win.	11/10/2022 5:32 PM
65	Keep up great work with your parks! Think Pinehurst can do snowmaking someday? Would help for a lot of winter activities	11/10/2022 4:54 PM
66	In favor of the improvements in buildings at various parks. Consider more ski/snowshoe trails at parks on closed roads	11/9/2022 10:35 AM
67	Becoming an attraction for mountain biking, winter fat biking, kayaking, and skiing would pay dividends economically across the county as they have in other Midwestern regions. Investments in these sports should be made.	11/9/2022 10:06 AM
68	Trails for snowshoeing need to be marked better at tower ridge and be included in the larger map. Tiny brown signs in a brown tree forest are impossible. And the lack of marks on the regular trail signs lends me to get lost very regularly!!	11/9/2022 9:44 AM
69	Tower Ridge ski trails need to be groomed more than once per week. Grooming needs to be done when grooming conditions are best and may be outside of normal employee hours. Grooming from 10pm to 8am allows trails to set up before skiers use them. Packing early snow and grooming for even small snow fall amounts helps establish and preserve base. Thanks for your efforts.	11/9/2022 9:44 AM
70	Would love to see more designated Skijor options for dogs on ski trails	11/9/2022 9:27 AM
71	We appreciate having great county parks!	11/9/2022 8:42 AM
72	Issues of people not paying fees. Not following rules. Dogs off leashes. Treating it like free dog park. Walking on groomed ski trails	11/8/2022 8:01 PM
73	I would love to see more winter grooming updates on the Facebook page - this would help people from town and out of town know when trails are freshly groomed. The field at Lowes Creek is the perfect location for a bike park like Carver Lake in Woodbury. Pinehurst made an attempt with the pump track, but missed the mark a bit. With the mountain biking infrastructure at Lowes already it's the perfect place and long overdue.	11/8/2022 8:00 PM
74	Reduce erosion along Eau Claire river	11/7/2022 10:56 AM
75	A horse camping lot would be a great addition Eau County to bring in more tourists!	11/7/2022 8:07 AM
76	Would like to have safe biking options to work	11/3/2022 5:55 PM
77	In these difficult financial times, it appears people are staying closer to home, therefore keeping up the parks to provide residence with healthy activities in our parks are important.	11/3/2022 7:13 AM
78	No	10/31/2022 10:40 PM
79	Altoona Beach is a great facility but the frequency of water quality closures is concerning.	10/31/2022 2:11 PM
80	Parks should allow dogs as many families do not prefer to leave the dog home if going to spend any amount of time in the parks. ALL boat ramps are extremely steep and 4wd is needed on lake Eau Claire. Also there is a lack of ATV routes and trail systems near and around Eau Claire.	10/31/2022 1:00 PM
81	No	10/31/2022 12:33 PM
82	no	10/31/2022 11:41 AM
83	no. I love our park system as it is. Maybe some restrooms could be updated, which is a funding issue but overall, happy to have the parks.	10/31/2022 11:22 AM
84	Seems like the Department is making a valiant effort to improve parks and bring ideas forward. Hopefully the County Board will support improving recreation and parks in the County for the future.	10/31/2022 11:04 AM

85	Parks staff do an excellent job maintaining the trails and parks. County Board needs to give more money to Parks for replacing aging buildings.	10/31/2022 11:01 AM
86	Lowes Creek Park: Adding a pump track to Lowes Creek Park on the West would be a great addition (should be on concrete or blacktop). This would allow younger and older Mountain bikers to hone their skills prior to hitting harder trails in the park.	10/26/2022 9:42 PM
87	County parks have great leadership and dedicated staff. Recent improvements have been appreciated, we hope to see more in the upcoming years!	10/25/2022 1:30 PM
88	Park with hills and prairie	10/24/2022 6:53 PM
89	I appreciate Tower Ridge's parking and trails for the equestrian community. Thank you!!!	10/23/2022 8:22 AM
90	Parks are important to the community.	10/21/2022 7:29 AM
91	I do not visit an Eau Claire County Park per se but I very much enjoy the county forest horseback riding trails at Backwater an Hamilton Falls.	10/20/2022 10:21 PM
92	If camping were provided for horses it would bring rider to the area.. I ride with people that would come to Tower Ridge (or Backwater trail) if they could camp with horses. The new bathroom at Backwater is appreciated.	10/20/2022 7:14 PM
93	Tower Ridge is becoming overused because of the development of many user groups. This is not the place for a campground for horses or other users.	10/20/2022 6:13 PM
94	More horse trails and overnight horse camping needed	10/20/2022 5:21 PM
95	It would be great to have a horse camp near Tower Ridge!	10/20/2022 4:02 PM
96	Tower ridge horse camping	10/20/2022 2:45 PM
97	If there was overnight camping for horses more people would be able to use the trails. It is too far a drive for me to go for one day.	10/20/2022 10:33 AM
98	A horse campground at Tower Ridge would certainly bring more users & the county would definately make more money for future developements.	10/20/2022 10:08 AM
99	Developed Horse camping opportunities near Tower Ridge would be a definite draw to the county.	10/20/2022 9:24 AM
100	EC County does a great job in maintaining the parks! Very clean and well kept.	10/19/2022 11:07 AM
101	I enjoy other parks in other counties and I don't have to pay a parking tag. Why does eau Claire require this and where does the money go? I would think that the parks would get better use without this fee.	10/19/2022 10:46 AM
102	Keep EC County parks county owned, please and thank you! :)	10/18/2022 5:07 PM
103	I love what our community has. There's always room for improvement.	10/18/2022 4:56 PM
104	Invest in your staff. Finding/keeping seasonal workers is tough for you and them. Making these folks fulltime year-round will allow you to attract the best and keep the best. It's time to stop treating the parks like is an after-thought.	10/18/2022 12:41 PM
105	Modern seating/tables with umbrellas closer to beaches. Buffet style shelters and pavilions. Smaller shelters scattered through parks that fit one to two tables and provide a grill and garbage can. Vault toilets are dark /poor lighting and old and need replacing. Have a heated shower/flush toilets at Coon Fork that are open through deer gun season. Fishing pier on the campground side at Coon Fork. Coon Forks shower buildings need to be updated. Get rid of the pay showers. All of the playground equipment in the Coon Fork campground needs to be updated.	10/18/2022 11:30 AM
106	There is an opportunity to upgrade the camping at the Expo Center. More and better electrical hookups add water and an RV Dump station with a pay kiosk that has a code for campers.	10/18/2022 9:11 AM
107	Work together with pinehurst park in eau claire and outdoor more incorporated and get the tow rope installed on pinehurst hill for skiing and snowboarding. The tow is already purchased by the non profit. Let's make pinehurst a winter park destination with tubing, skiing, snowboarding, or a bike lift to get to the top with your bike.	10/18/2022 8:40 AM
108	I love Eau Claire!	10/18/2022 8:40 AM

109	More disc golf courses please hire professionals to make them https://udisc.com/disc-golf-growth-report	10/18/2022 8:29 AM
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APPENDIX

Supporting Documents

Lake Eau Claire County Park Clubhouse Study

Coon Forks Office and Restroom Facility Plans

Eau Claire County Outdoor Recreation Plan

Land Stewardship 2150

