

Village of Big Falls Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

2014 - 2018



East Central Wisconsin
Regional Planning Commission
ECWRPC

Calumet • Menominee • Outagamie • Shawano • Waupaca • Waushara • Winnebago

VILLAGE OF BIG FALLS

5-Year

COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR

RECREATION PLAN

2014-2018

June 2014

Prepared by the

Big Falls Planning Commission and Village Board,

and the

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

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ABSTRACT

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Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2014-2018

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The 2014-2018 version of Big Falls' Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan seeks to help preserve the Village's natural environment and at the same time allow residents and visitors alike to play, learn, enjoy and live in harmony with it. In addition to setting forth new recommendations based on present needs, the adopted plan will enable the Village to once again compete for matching funds available through the Department of Natural Resources' Stewardship Program if available. Funding components of this program, targets monies for parkland acquisition and development projects as well as for numerous other projects and activities that preserve, protect and enhance important land and water-based natural assets. Collectively, other grants are available through the WDNR Stewardship Program and have effectively doubled the local funding commitment for acquisition and development of parkland and other public recreational facilities.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

The Village of Big Falls is a small community located in the north central portion of Waupaca County approximately 21 miles north of the City of Waupaca and is surrounded by the Town of Wyoming. Major highways passing through Big Falls include CTH "C" to the west and CTH "G" radiating northeast from the Village, CTH E to the north which is Main Street, providing access to the City of Marion about 7 miles away along with STH 110. The Little Wolf River flows southeasterly through the north center portion of the community. Big Falls Pond is the major recreational resource for village residents providing public access for fishing and boating. According to the United States Census Bureau, the village has a total area of 0.51 square miles of which, 0.48 square miles is land and 0.03 square miles is water.

POPULATION STATISTICS

Big Falls population in 2010 was at 61 according to the last census. It is expected to maintain its low growth trend, see (Table 1). By the year 2040 it is estimated that the Village will be home to only 48 residents, a decrease of 26.2 percent over current levels. In 2010, 35.5 percent of Village residents were age 65 and over, a higher percentage of elderly than either Waupaca County or the State.

Table 1: Population Trends and Projections, 1950-2040

	<i>Big Falls</i>	<i>Waupaca Co.</i>	<i>Wisconsin</i>
POPULATION GROWTH:			
1950-1980 Change (%)	+16.4	+10.2	+37.0
1980-2010 Change (%)	+ 9.7	+21.4	+ 9.6
2010-2040 Change (%)	-26.2	+ 8.5	+11.5
<i>(61 to 48)</i>			
2010 POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS %:			
Ages 0-19 (%)	6.5	25.7	26.6
Ages 20-64 (%)	58	57.0	60.2
Ages 65 and over (%)	35.5	17.2	<u>13.2</u>

Sources: U.S. Census; 1950 – 2010, *Wisconsin DOA Population Projections, 2013

HOUSING AND INCOME STATISTICS

Estimated median household income in 2011: \$20,700 (it was \$31,806 in 2000), falling into the low to moderate income (LMI) bracket.

Big Falls, LMI of \$20,700 is quite a bit lower than the State average of \$50,395. (41%)
Estimated per capita income in 2011: \$15,259

Estimated median house or condo value in 2011: \$112,279 (it was \$49,300 in 2000)
Fair Market Values in the Village were also lower at \$112,279 versus that of the State average of \$166,700 per dwelling unit.

Mean prices in 2011: All housing units: \$133,565; Detached houses: \$133,565
Median gross rent in 2011: \$538.

ADJACENT COMMUNITIES

The Village generally has a good relationship with the surrounding townships and maintains that small community sense of place with overall quality of life. The Village's rural character and small community base makes the area a great place to live and raise a family.

PLANNING PROCESS

This Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan is the first in many years of recreation planning in the Village of Big Falls. To ensure that the plan is an evolutionary process which identifies realistic local recreational needs as they presently exist, citizen participation has been encouraged throughout its preparation. Citizens were invited to discuss park development needs, and completion of the plan.

A survey was mailed to residents, (detailed results in Appendix A) and a final public hearing was held in July 2014 before the Village Board to encourage further citizen input along with monthly Plan Commission meetings where the public was welcomed.

The 10 Principles of the plan process included:

1. Needs and Wants based on growth projections as well as age of the community.
2. New Trends – Activities, Health, and Environment, What exists now?
3. Public Support and Participation
4. Comprehensive Plan correlation
5. Parks Standards and Provisions
6. Appropriate Multi-Use Sites
7. Consider Unique Features of each Site
8. Look at Problems with over and mis-use of facilities, deteriorating facilities
9. A Feasible 5 Year Action Plan
10. Review Annually & Evaluate

A S.W.O.T.* analysis was conducted with the Planning Commission on November 19, 2013 to determine goals and recommendations for the Village. Below is a summary of the findings from the questions asked in each category:

*S.W.O.T. = Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats

Strengths

“What Unique recreational resources does the Village have?” “What do others see as your Village’s recreational strengths?”

- Great water resources:
 - Fishing
 - Canoeing / Kayaking
 - Waterfalls
 - Little Wolf River and Big Falls Pond
- Quiet area, rural setting
- Environmentally appealing
 - Forested
 - Unique Outcropping Features
- Wild Game – Deer, Wolves, Bobcats, Bear
- Bird Watching – Eagles, Countless Ducks, Herons
- Great Hunting Areas
- Snowmobile Trails
- Possible Walking Trails / Biking Trails

Weaknesses

“What could the Village improve upon in its parks, with the current rec facilities, etc.?” “Where do you have fewer facilities than others?” “What are residents likely to see as a recreational weakness?”

- Playground equipment in Central “Village” Park is ran down
- Powerhouse area by the old swim hole off of Main St. is an eye sore
- Shelters, Picnic areas, and Restroom facilities are deficient at most parks
- Water condition of Pond is not the best
- Visibility and Marketing of the water resources are lacking
- Low Population

Opportunities

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

- Great white water for canoeing and or kayaking exist
- Market by signage or a website, more promotion – social media
- Fishing and Swimming
- Snowmobiling Trails

Threats

“What threats are harming the Village’s recreational areas?” “What is your competition doing better? i.e. City of Clintonville, Little Falls, Town of Wyoming” “How are the Village’s weaknesses being a threat to the parks?”

- Not moving forward, not being proactive
- Weed growth in the pond
- Further loss of population
- Under usage
- No marketing or advertising
- Location itself



CHAPTER 2

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

CHAPTER 2: GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The preparation of Big Falls' most recent comprehensive plan enabled the Village to take a long look at how changes in the area's population and recreational interests have impacted the goals and objectives that will guide the development and operation of its park system for many years. The resulting goals, objectives, and policies that were adopted represent the Village's role in meeting the recreational needs of all residents and visitors to the community.

The goals are stated as a desirable condition to strive for in the future and represent a common ideal of the community that can be achieved through the combined efforts of the Village, civic organizations, and individual citizens. The corresponding objectives and policies provide greater detail and more specific direction for accomplishing the desired goal. Together, the goal, objectives, and policies provide a basis for establishing Village priorities and/or options for the planning, acquisition, renovation, and future development of park and recreational facilities.

GOAL 1: To ensure that adequate open space and recreation facilities are provided for and made accessible to all residents of Big Falls.

Objectives:

- Provide a full range of public recreational facilities and services for use on a year-round basis.
- Provide park and recreation facilities to serve all existing and future residential areas.
- Preserve structures and sites that reflect the historical and natural heritage of the area.
- Encourage development with amenities for residents, including: bike & walking trails, snowmobile trails, fishing areas and open spaces.
- Design ADA accessible active and passive recreational areas and park facilities that can be utilized by the elderly and physically challenged citizens.

GOAL 2: To conserve, protect, and improve the environmental resources of the Village and the surrounding area.

Objectives:

- Ensure that the environmental and aesthetic qualities of the community are considered when planning for future development.
- Protect existing wooded areas and other unique natural areas from urban development.
- Protect environmentally sensitive areas such as floodplains and wetlands from urban development.
- Ensure that future development does not disrupt natural drainageways in the community.
- Reduce the amount of damage which may occur from flooding by providing natural ponds and water directing methods.

GOAL 3: To encourage continued involvement of Big Falls residents when planning for park and recreation development.

Objectives:

- Encourage ongoing participation by all residents at Planning Committee meetings.
- Explore the support of community groups and service organizations for ways of funding and/or improvements to the parks system. Grants may be needed as the population is small as compared to other communities. Consult Waupaca County also as the need would arise.
- Solicit comments from residents on all aspects of park and recreational programming and management.
- Promote the health benefits of outdoor recreation, i.e. trails, water activities, sports, etc.
- Market the recreational resources to encourage tourism to the area by providing information on a website, and/or social media Facebook page.

GOAL 4: Foster the growth of mutually beneficial intergovernmental cooperation with the surrounding Town(s) and Communities.

Objectives:

- Encourage ongoing participation by the public beyond the Village limits at Planning Commission meetings.
- Explore the support of outside community groups and service organizations for ways of funding and/or improvements to the parks system. Look at donations and grants as a way of supporting the facilities in the Village.
- Have shared meetings with the Town of Wyoming, City of Clintonville and City of Marion once a year or more to promote the resources in the area.

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CHAPTER 3

RECREATIONAL RESOURCES

CHAPTER 3: RECREATIONAL RESOURCES

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Existing Recreational Facilities

Over 12 acres of outdoor recreational lands are currently available for use by Big Falls' area residents (Table 2 and Map 1). This acreage is contained in three park sites; with the most acreage coming from the newest New North Park; and several access sites on the Little Wolf River. A number of these access points serve as canoe and boat launches. There is also plenty of public open space owned by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources within a 5 mile radius from the Village center. Keller County Park also exists a few miles to the northeast along with private facilities such as Farmer Gene's Campground in Marion and Glen Carin Golf Course in Ogdensburg.

Table 2: Existing Park and Recreation Acreage, 2013

	<u>Area Recreational Land</u>			
Recreation Area	Village Owned	County Owned	State Owned	Private Owned
Andy's Park	1.31			
Big Falls Boat Landing	.33			
Big Falls New North Park	10.70			
Farmer Gene's Campground (<i>Marion</i>)				34.37
Glen Carin Golf Course (<i>Ogdensburg</i>)				160.00
Keller County Park		81.8		
WDNR Forest Crop Lands			39.3	
WDNR Managed Forest Lands*			22,035.25	
Total Recreational Land	12.34	81.8	22,074.55	194.37

Snowmobile Trails (miles) 407.5
 Shoreline Access (miles) 1512.75

*Using a 5 mile radius from Big Falls.

Andy's Park

About 1.3 acres of village-owned property is allocated to Andy's Park, located in the southeastern portion of the community. Formally known as Central Park, the park was renamed to Andy's Park in honor of the long time park keeper Andy at the Village Board meeting on June 12, 2014. Facilities include an open shelter with enclosed storage, a basketball court, pit restrooms, picnic tables, a variety of play equipment, and grass volleyball court open area.



Big Falls Boat Landing

On a 1/3 of an acre, the Big Falls Boat Landing provides public access to the Big Falls Pond and Little Wolf River flowage. A picnic area exists with permanent tables overlooking the pond and river with attractive granite rock outcroppings that create a natural path to the water. The shoreline hosts a fishing dock with a paved boat launch which provides water access. There is also a gravel parking lot across the street for trailers.




Map 1


Existing Park & Rec Areas


Village of Big Falls


Waupaca County, Wisconsin


Legend


 Dams

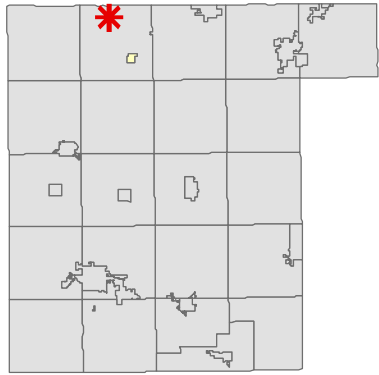
 Boat Launches, Public


 Parcel Lines

 Water

 Town of Wyoming

 Village of Big Falls





Source: Waupaca County

Land Information Department, 2013.

0 150 300 600

Feet

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New North Park

Occupying just over 10.7 acres, New North Park provides additional space for events such as the Annual Corn Roast held in August. The site has a steep passage down to a flat lying area with picnic tables and shade trees overlooking the Dam which makes this a great spot to relax. The park also has added space below the rock escarpment and down to the river's edge. Wildflower patches exist in the park which would make a great picnic area or a disc golf course in the flat space. The river in this section has a more laminar flow. A graded trail serves for maintenance needs and walking.



Area Private Facilities

Glen Carin Golf Course

South of Big Falls, just off of CTH E, lays the 18-hole Glen Carin Golf Course in Ogdensburg. The course winds through 6200 yards of woodlands, Rolling Meadows, and marshlands. Two of the 9 holes are carved from over 160 acres of Wisconsin countryside. The Scottish design calls upon the natural terrain to challenge the golfer's physical ability and skill. It is located 20 minutes from the City of Waupaca and only a 5 minutes' drive from the Village

Farmer Gene's Campground

This private campground is host to over 100 daily and seasonal sites and is located on Kinney Lake. The campground owners host many events over the summer months and remain open to seasonal campers in the winter. A great place to camp and unwind with access to the lake, a swimming pool, pavilion, and playground areas.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

Natural Resources

A wide variety of outdoor recreational opportunities are available in and around the Village of Big Falls. Big Falls Pond and Spaulding Creek comprise the primary surface water in the Big Falls area. The outlet stream, which flows out of Big Falls Pond is a great spot for boaters, and fishermen, and swimmers down to the Little Falls area where the stream widens. Several scattered and heavily wooded areas can be found throughout the Village. These areas all provide unique recreational opportunities and possess scenic values that enhance the landscape of the environment.

Keller Whitcomb Creek Woods State Natural Area (SNA), the Mud Lake Bog SNA, neighboring Little Falls, down river and Big Falls Pond itself along with woodlands and wetlands are the primary natural resources in the Big Falls area. Keller County Park is located just to the Northeast along CTH G approximately 3 miles from the Village.

Keller Whitcomb Creek Woods State Natural Area

Located within the Whitcomb Creek Fishery Area south of Big Falls, this 128 acre parcel is situated in a depression of glacial till; Keller Whitcomb Creek Woods features a diversity of natural communities on undulating topography. It encompasses the headwaters of Whitcomb Creek, a sandy bottomed, fast-flowing Class I trout stream with naturally reproducing brown and brook trout. The stream receives abundant water from tributary spring runs that line the bank. Springy pockets in low areas near the stream support a wet-mesic forest dominated by white cedar with black ash, balsam fir, red maple, and white pine. Upland edges have a greater canopy diversity including yellow birch, white birch, and hemlock. The ground layer is diverse with more than 18 species of fern. Other plant species include wild sarsaparilla, evergreen sedge, three-leaved goldthread, cinnamon fern, naked miterwort, Canada bunchberry, and yellow bluebead lily. Also present is a good quality northern dry-mesic forest of white and red pine along with red and white oak. Understory species include early low blueberry, maple-leaved Viburnum, alternate-leaved dogwood, gaywings, Canada mayflower, partridgeberry, and American starflower. The area is rich in wildlife. Of interest are winter wren, veery, raven, and the red-shouldered hawk (*Buteo lineatus*), a state threatened species. Other animals include a diverse assemblage of passerines, ruffed grouse, red fox, common snakes, and occasional waterfowl and mink. Keller Whitcomb Creek Woods is owned by the DNR and was designated a State Natural Area in 1980.

Mud Lake Bog State Natural Area

West of Big Falls about 3 miles is the Mud Lake Bog SNA. This area features 30-acre of undisturbed and undeveloped alkaline bog lake surrounded by a large northern mesic forest. The shallow, muck Bottom Lake lies in a well-defined basin and is fed by springs with an east side outlet leading to the Little Wolf River one mile to the south. Yellow and white water-lilies occur across the open water and a fringe zone of quaking sedge mat is best developed on the northwest corner of the lake. Behind the narrow mat is a more stabilized bog zone containing black spruce and tamarack with a sphagnum and ericaceous understory including leather-leaf and bog-rosemary. Some white pine is also present. An abrupt 15-foot rise marks the boundary between the bog and surrounding second growth northern mesic forest, which affords excellent protection to the lake and wetland. Mallards and blue-winged teal nest in the area while other

migrating waterfowl use the area for resting. Black terns (*Chlidonias niger*) along with green herons have been observed in summer. Two rare plants, downy willow herb (*Epilobium strictum*) and the few-flowered spike-rush (*Eleocharis quinqueflora*), also occur here. Mud Lake Bog is owned by the DNR and was designated a State Natural Area in 1977.

Keller County Park

Keller Park is located on CTH G in the Town of Dupont in the north central portion of Waupaca County between Marion and Big Falls. The site is heavily wooded with a mixture of hardwood and coniferous trees. The Lake is 21 acres and is an impoundment of the South Branch of the Pigeon River which flows through the park. The Lake provides scenic beauty, swimming, boating, fishing opportunities, and picnicking. The dam and spillway are located within the park which is now 80 acres in size. The entire road system now exists in the park and includes restrooms, large open shelter with 20 tables, paved basketball court, playground equipment, parking areas, hiking trails and many separate picnic areas.

Big Falls Pond

Big Falls Pond is a 23 acre impoundment of the North Branch of the Little Wolf River. It has a maximum depth of 13 feet with a mean depth of 4 feet. Fish include Panfish, Largemouth Bass and Smallmouth Bass. It is a drainage lake with in the Wolf River Basin and Little Wolf River. Access to the Pond includes a paved boat ramp with a small trailer parking area. The improved boat ramp is used as a take-out point for canoeists on the river. Predominately a wooded shoreline with granite rock outcroppings, make this an attractive site to picnic.

Little Wolf River

Great angling, swimming, and tubing opportunities exist, as well as kayaking and canoeing. The class III & IV rapids make for a unique recreational experience along with the serenity, beauty, and rural setting like you are up north but in central Wisconsin. Eagles, countless ducks, herons exist along its borders while waterfalls and hidden secrets are just waiting to be discovered.










Woodlands and Wetlands

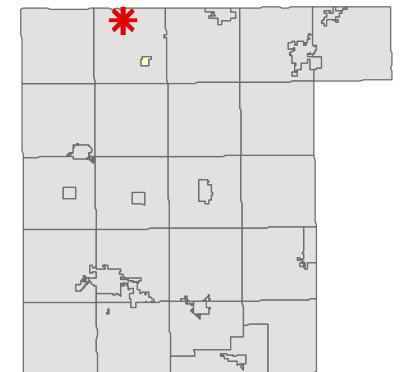
Wooded areas are scattered throughout the Village and account for almost 50% of the land mass or 158.65 acres out of 321. Much of the area to the north of the village is also wooded or forested/scrub wetlands. Wetlands account for about 60 acres of the Village land base or 19%.

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Map 2 Environmental Resources Village of Big Falls Area Waupaca County, Wisconsin

Legend

-  Campgrounds, Private
-  Boat Launches, Public
-  Recreational Parks
-  Slopes >12%
-  Wetlands
-  DNR Forest Crop Areas
-  DNR Managed Forest Lands
-  Water
-  Village of Big Falls



Sources: Waupaca County Land Information Department, 2013.
WDNR wetlands and managed forest lands,
NRCS soil slopes



0 0.125 0.25 0.5
Miles

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ECWRPC



CHAPTER 4

RECREATIONAL NEEDS

CHAPTER 4: RECREATIONAL NEEDS

RECREATIONAL NEEDS

East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission Standards:

East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (ECWRPC), as part of its *Long-Range Transportation/Land Use Plan for the Fox Cities, Oshkosh, and Fond du Lac Urban Areas* (October 2010), has identified a level of service standard for parks, which is 10 acres for every 1,000 residents. ECWRPC created residential standards based on density for various services such as sanitary sewer, water supply, street network, and parks. The high density category is defined as 3 or more residential units per acre.

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

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

LAND NEEDS

Land demand standards of 10 acres of public owned open space for every 1,000 residents (61) provides a useful barometer for determining whether a community has adequate parkland to meet the recreational needs of its residents. Based on this standard, the Village of Big Falls' park and recreational acreage of 12.34, more than adequately meets the need to satisfy present and future populations, 2040 (48).

LOCATIONAL NEEDS

The recreational needs of communities as small and compact as Big Falls can often be met with one conveniently located park if it provides the range of recreational facilities desired by Village residents. This is particularly true if no natural or man-made barriers exist which impede the free flow of pedestrian movement between various areas in the community. An example in Big Falls is the Little Wolf River and Big Falls Pond, which can be crossed in only one location within the Village, CTH G/E. The location of New North Park immediately adjacent to this crossing with the availability of other recreational sites and the concentration of residential development suggest that no important locational needs exist in Big Falls. Andy's Park still remains the best in terms of walkability as it is located with the residential neighborhood. Connecting trails to each park creating a system would eliminate on-street travel. Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT) is minimal on the 3 County Highways of C, E, G and Main Street. CTH C/E southeast of the Village receives on average 490 vehicles, CTH C to the north, 260, and CTH G by New North Park gets 560 cars a year but still higher speeds exist.

FACILITY NEEDS

While Big Falls has enough parkland for providing a variety of recreational facilities, some facilities continue to be unavailable or in short supply. The high percentage of elderly living in the Village indicates that particular attention should be given to providing recreational opportunities for these residents.

The Planning Commission members and residents have identified the need for the following recreational facilities:




- Additional shoreline fishing
- Canoe / Kayaking intake – outtake points
- Restrooms / Shelter & Picnic Upgrades
- Additional /Updated Playground Equipment
- Potential Walking and Biking Trail Connections
- Basketball Court Upgrade
- Shuffleboard Courts
- Horseshoe Pits
- Swimming / Tubing Locations on the River

In addition, specific needs have been identified at individual sites. These will be discussed in detail as recommendations in Chapter 6.

RECREATIONAL TRENDS

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

Table 3: Wisconsin Recreation Trends

Increasing Demand 	Adventure racing	Both as individual and group activity
	Driving for pleasure	Easy activity for aging baby boomers
	Developed/RV camping	Baby boomers continue to drive demand
	Kayaking	Participants attracted by cheap entry
	Visit a dog park	Urban residents driving demand
	Soccer outdoors	Urban youth driving demand
	BMX biking	X Games popularity may be driving force
	Climbing	Indoor climbing leading to outdoor climbing
	Stand up paddling	Popularity is sweeping the country
	Triathlon	Varying distances allowed for growth
	Off-road vehicle driving	Post-recession growth continues
	Gardening/landscaping	"Grow Local" concept taking hold
Stable Demand 	Walk for Pleasure	Market saturation
	Running or jogging	Gen Y replacing baby boomers
	Water parks	Recession caused growth to slow
	Motor boating	Easy access to resources
	Day hiking	Popular with many generations
	Golf	Time constraints does not allow for growth
	Tent camping	Stable, but growth is illusive
	Snowboarding	May have peaked after 20 years of growth
	Trail running	Stable niche with Gen Y
	View wildlife	Activity spans generations
	Bicycle	Popular with easy access
	Snowshoeing	After large growth, this has stabilized
Decreasing Demand 	Hunting	Generational loss and private access
	Inline skating	6 years of decreasing participation
	Skateboard parks	Youth are free-skating with longboards
	Horseback riding	Recession impact caused decrease
	Softball	Baby boomers leaving the sport
	Downhill skiing	Baby boom generation not being replaced

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

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CHAPTER 5

HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT

CHAPTER 5: HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT

COUNTY HEALTH COMPONENTS AND STATISTICS

With obesity rates on the rise, Big Falls' need to promote active communities should be a priority. From the 2013 Waupaca County Health Rankings*, (with 1 being the best), Waupaca County is rated 45 overall out of 72 for health outcomes and 43 out of 72 for health factors, up from 2012 where 54 for outcomes and 50 health factors was charted. When compared to the other counties in the state, these County Health Rankings illustrate what we know when it comes to what's making people sick or healthy, but understanding Big Falls through Waupaca County's rankings is only one component of improving the community's health. The "*Roadmaps to Health*" Action Center provides tools to help groups work together to create healthier places to live, learn, work and play. For example, In Shawano County, the group Shawano "Pathways" is one such group who has started this process in working with the East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission by obtaining a Transform Wisconsin grant.

Improving community health requires people from multiple fields to work collaboratively on an ongoing cycle of activities. Communities may be at different points in this process. Still within the recommendations for active living, the County has developed a bicycle and pedestrian plan to help guide this process. A plan of this nature will help fill in those voided connections residents are asking for while still planning for future active communities.



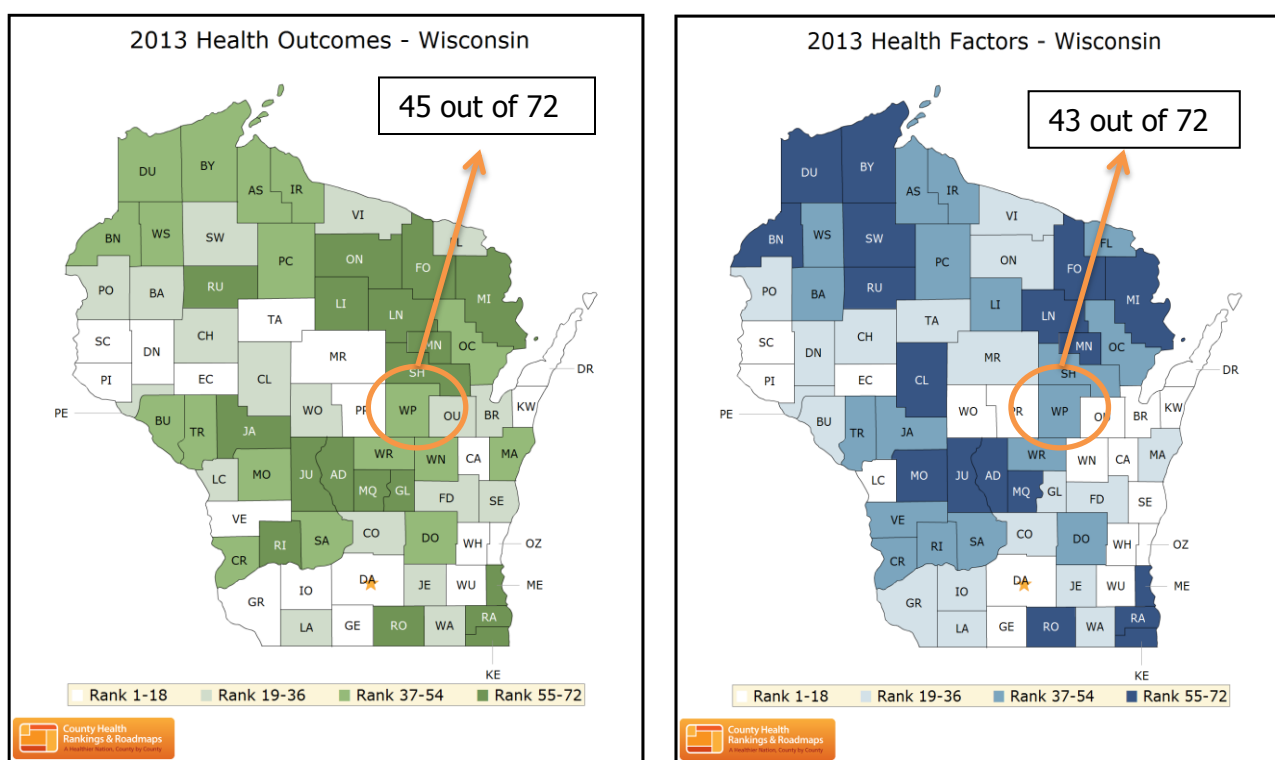
To enable and encourage the citizens of Big Falls to be physically active, a strengthening of the support and funding for the Village's park and recreation, facilities, and recreational programming should be looked at. "Park Prescriptions" should be written so to speak to encourage active use and enjoyment of what the Village has to offer. Improvements that would positively benefit public health and recreation are updating the mostly used Community Parks such as Central and the New North Park, and adding new play equipment to the neighborhood playgrounds. Also, the addition of more multi-use trail connections in general would help encourage an active lifestyle. Careful attention should be given to areas of people with lesser means so they have at least an equal level of opportunity for physical activity. This goes back to the Goal 1 and Objectives of making the facilities ADA accessible. In many small communities, low income neighborhoods can often lack quality recreational programs, playgrounds and parks. They can also be hindered in accessing nearby facilities by physical and land use barriers (i.e. transportation, water corridors and industry).

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

Parks, playgrounds, and open spaces provide opportunities for physical activity. However, the presence of facilities is not enough to make sure they are being used for the greatest benefit of all. Factors such as location, accessibility, programming, connectivity, safety and aesthetics all

play a role in the use of public facilities. By incorporating natural and design elements that have cultural or homeland meaning, will also help represent minority populations. Investing in consistent/uniform signage that aids people in identifying trails, places to be active, and other rec opportunities, should be considered. Promoting and marketing concepts should be developed along with the funding resources identified such as studies done through the Transform Wisconsin grant program.

Below are 2 maps that demonstrate where the County stands in the state as compared to the other 72 counties with 1 being the healthiest. Factors such as smoking, obesity rates, drinking excessively, STD's and motor vehicle crashes make up the first map, while outcomes such as premature death, poor to fair health, poor physical days, low birth weight, and poor mental days are shown on the second map. The rankings comparing the rest of the state are as follows:



Multi-modal transportation such as walking, biking, and public transportation can also help enhance the health and overall physical activity of all residents, by improving air quality and the environment, and reducing overall traffic congestion. Numerous residents choose to walk, bike, and/or utilize public transportation as a primary means of transportation due to cost of vehicle ownership and maintenance, environmental choice, healthy lifestyle choice, etc. These types of initiatives are recognized at the state, national, and international-level to create safe, convenient, affordable, and fun opportunities for residents to walk, bike, and/or utilize public transportation as a primary means of transportation. Health and safety should be a priority concern to the citizens of Big Falls, while Safe Routes to School programs can assist communities and encourage children to walk and bike to school.



CHAPTER 6

RECOMMENDATIONS

CHAPTER 6: RECOMMENDATIONS

Although Big Falls currently has enough land set aside for recreational use to accommodate its population, some recreation facilities are in short supply or are simply not available in all portions of the community. In addition, many existing facilities are in need of major renovation or refurbishing if they are to continue providing quality recreational opportunities. To more accurately assess the needs as they relate to the Village of Big Falls, the Planning Commission conducted a thorough analysis of its parks and recreational facilities. The needs they identified focused on specific recreational facilities currently not available, in limited supply, or in need of additional improvement or expansion. They determined that adding or upgrading these facilities will help achieve the Village's goal of providing residents with a wide variety of recreational opportunities.

The recommendations proposed in this plan are intended to serve as a guide for the future development of park and recreation areas in the Village. Although some of the proposals may not be feasible in the near future, they represent courses of action that should be taken if the opportunity or need arises. Proposals that are feasible for implementation within the next few years are included in the community's five-year action program. Plan proposals should be reviewed annually by the Village citizens to accommodate changing needs of the community. Cost estimates are project specific and are not included initially with this plan document.

PUBLIC SURVEY SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS

A public survey was conducted in the fall of 2013, early 2014, and asked 10 questions conducive to residential satisfaction, needs and wants, and overall facility use. Safety concerns in walking and biking was also included as well as a questions about activity, and maintenance concerns. Below is a summary of the findings. For detailed results and analysis of the survey, please see Appendix A.

Survey Response rate: 100%, 14 residents completed the survey: 4% of the population base

Highlights included:

- 78.6 % knew their neighbors with 71.4% who thought there was a strong sense of community.
- 36.7% were very satisfied with the parks they visited.
- Most residents who visited the parks, 50% said they felt very safe doing so.
- Trails for walking and biking are needed as well as connections to each park, **83.8%**.
- Restrooms, picnic areas, and playground upgrades are needed at Central and North Parks.
- Fishing dock improvements are needed at the boat launch.
- Maintenance of the parks was stated as very well maintained but facilities are getting aged.
- Fishing Tournaments, canoe/kayaking were the highest activities residents participated in.

- Events such as concerts, flea markets, brat fry's, bingo, and potlucks were stated in the comments as additional events residents would like.

PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

The recommendations developed by the Planning Commission are intended to serve as a guide for the future development of park and recreation areas in the Village of Big Falls. They are also meant to meet the existing recreational needs of local residents while conserving, protecting and improving the environmental resources of the community and surrounding area. Because these needs could change, the recommendations should be reviewed on an annual basis.

To establish a community-wide recreation system that provides a wide variety of accessible recreation activities to all segments of the Village, the Plan Commission recommends that the following actions be undertaken:

Big Falls Boat Landing and Park (Map 3)

- Upgrade fishing dock; keep in contact with the County for maintenance concerns.
- Upgrade the parking area with fresh gravel or asphalt.
- Add a trail connection to New North Park
- Promote boat washing to remove invasive species, provide a station

Andy's Park (Map 4)

- Upgrade existing restrooms, remove vaults.
- Update old play equipment for safety concerns, i.e. merry-go-round, add park benches.
- Remove Basketball hoop on grass area, move to paved area.
- Remove the sand volleyball courts or upgrade with fresh sand base determined by use.
- Shuffle board courts and/or horseshoe pits should be added.
- Consider a Farmers Market in the summer months.
- Add an on-street trail connection to New North Park

New North Park (Map 5)

- Develop a small picnic area with grilling units.
- Add a playground with park benches.
- Consider developing a swimming area with beach near the island sand bar on the Little Wolf.
- Designate prairie areas with wildflowers, a butterfly garden could be created
- A sledding hill could be created in the clearing.
- Consider XC ski trails through the park which could be multi-use as hiking in the summer.
- Upgrade the parking area.
- Construct restrooms with a pavilion, consider adding water.
- Construct a trail system through the park
- Add an on-street trail connection to the Boat Landing.
- Develop a place for a sledding hill for the winter months
- Create a Master Plan to show where additional facilities should go, i.e. disc golf course, tennis court, horseshoe pits, etc.

Possible New Recreational Area

- Village owned property off of N. Main Street could be a potential shoreline fishing area below the dam on the Little Wolf River. This area is wooded so a path would have to be cleared and maintained.

Other General Recommendations

- Develop a Senior Citizens/Youth Center in the community – Possibly at Village Hall
- Develop a recreational program, environmental education, or have bingo, potluck events etc...(trends)
- Work with Community Volunteers on tasks; create groups/clubs of interest.
- Step up efforts to control weed growth on the pond.
- Monitor Invasive species – Aquatic and Terrestrial based
- Develop a tree and landscaping program. Look into becoming a Tree City USA member*.
- A linear recreational system through the Village should be looked at to promote biking and walking.
- Development of a Village Bike and Pedestrian trail plan should be considered.
- Promote the water resources in the area. There are canoe/ kayaking and tubing opportunities galore. A small business could be developed or work with the area campgrounds.
- Contact Little Falls and combine resources if possible.
- Market and advertise the resources via website(s) and social media outlets to build a tourism base and perhaps encourage population growth to the area. Develop a new logo or brand for the Village.
- Consistent signage for each park should be added to promote the area. Volunteer groups could help create a design.
- A lighting plan for all parks should be looked at. LED is inexpensive way to add safety to the recreational areas.
- If there is enough interest, develop a community garden to assist in the camaraderie of neighbors working for something good in their Village. **

*Tree City USA qualifications exist of a Tree Board or Department, a Tree Care Ordinance, a Community Forestry Program with an Annual Budget of at Least \$2 per Capita, (in Big Falls case it would be just over \$100, \$122), and an Arbor Day Observance and Proclamation.

<http://www.arborday.org/programs/treeCityUSA/standards.cfm>


**The National Recreation and Park Association, (NRPA) has \$10,000 grants through the Darden Foundation to help “Grow Your Park”.


1. Community gardens create and strengthen intergenerational connections.
2. Community gardens revitalize neighborhood parks.
3. Community gardens provide fresh, natural and affordable produce.
4. Community gardens promote self-sufficiency.
5. Community gardens promote connections to the natural environment and “green” career paths.


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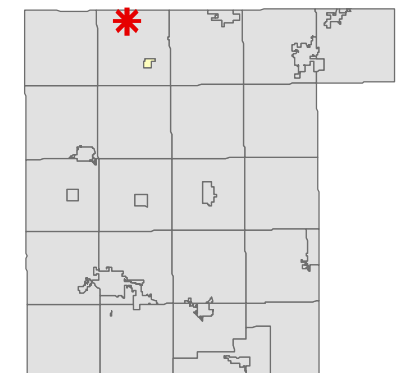
Map 3 Existing Park & Rec Areas Village of Big Falls Waupaca County, Wisconsin Big Falls Boat Launch & Park Aerial View .33 Acres

Legend

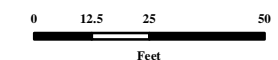
 Boat Launches, Public

 Big Falls Park

 Parcel Lines



Source: Waupaca County
Land Information Department, 2013.



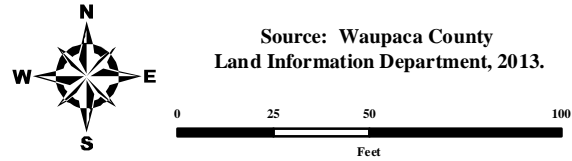
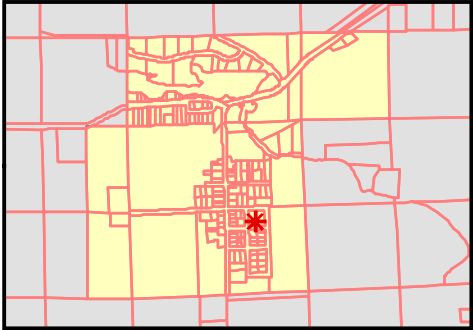
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East Central Wisconsin
Regional Planning Commission
ECWRPC





Map 4 **Andy's Park Aerial View** **Village of Big Falls** **Waupaca County, Wisconsin** **Possible Future Facilities** **1.31 acres**














Source: Waupaca County
 Land Information Department, 2013.

PREPARED JUNE 2014 BY:
 East Central Wisconsin
 Regional Planning Commission
ECWRPC

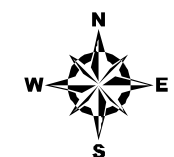
Map 5 New North Park - Aerial View Village of Big Falls Waupaca County, Wisconsin Possible Future Facilities

10.70 Acres

Legend

-  Hiking Trail
-  Parking
-  Picnic Area
-  Playground
-  Restrooms
-  Sledding
-  Swimming
-  Dams
-  Boat Launches, Public
-  New North Park
-  2 Foot Contours

Source: Waupaca County
Land Information Department, 2013.



0 50 100 200
Feet

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PREPARED JUNE 2014 BY:





CHAPTER 7

ACTION PROGRAM

CHAPTER 7: ACTION PROGRAM

5 YEAR ACTION PROGRAM, 2014-2018

The projects listed below, Table 4, comprise the action program set forth by the Big Falls Planning Commission for implementation during the next 5 years and beyond. This action program is based on priority level by year to serve as a guide in planning for future facilities. These were formulated to see where the Village should be expending its resources from 2014-2018. This will also assist service clubs and organizations to select potential park improvement projects. As updates and development nears, cost estimates should be researched to assist in project budgeting.

Many of the projects identified in the action program are potential candidates for receiving cost sharing monies available through DNR while others could be developed through the in-kind efforts and/or monetary support of volunteers and community organizations. River projects, for example, may be more likely to be funded by the Village with monetary support from the business community. Playground grants should be considered to replace the worn out and unsafe equipment at Andy's Park and also new apparatus for the new North Park. Appendix B, lists available funding sources.

This plan also works to develop and manage a working system of park and recreational facilities for the Village of Big Falls. It has been prepared to respond to expressed desires of its residents by conforming to the comprehensive plan of the Village as accepted standards for provision of facilities. It provides the basic information and direction for future actions of the Village's Planning Commission and the Village Board. Much work remains to implement what is in the plan. This will require a critical investigation of all proposals, acquisitions, and development to examine their consistency as the Village Planning Commission and Board approval of all acquisition/selling of parklands, easements and trails, either by purchase or donations.

Table 4: Five Year Action Plan – List of Priorities

Needed Now 2014-15,	Short-Term 2016,	Long Term 2017-18	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
GENERAL IMPROVEMENTS FOR ALL PARKS							
ADA Accessible Compliance Upgrades (Title III)					X		
Play apparatus assessment update/phase out old equipment, add new	X						
Consistent signage for each park						X	
Develop a lighting plan, LED							X
Develop a senior/youth program center at Village Hall, Bingo, etc.		X					
Tree program & landscaping, become a Tree City USA member					X		
Consider benches near the playgrounds		X					
Consider security cameras as parks get more developed.							X
Market resources to increase tourism via website, social media, brand	X						
Subtotal of Priorities: (amount of projects)	3	2	1	1	1	1	1
TRAILS							
Develop a Village bike and pedestrian plan		X					
Create low maintenance paths to link Andy's Park to North Park and the boat landing						X	
Subtotal of Priorities: (amount of projects)		1				1	
PARKS & FACILITIES							
BIG FALLS BOAT LANDING AND PICNIC AREA							
Upgrade fishing dock, safety concerns, work with County	X						
Consider paving the parking area							X
Provide a boat wash station to control weeds and invasive species					X		
Subtotal of Priorities: (amount of projects)	1				1		1
ANDY'S PARK							
Upgrade existing restrooms, remove vaults.					X		
Update old play equipment	X						
Update basketball hoop and backboard, remove by volleyball court		X		X			
Update sand volleyball courts or remove							
Add horseshoe pits		X					
Add a shuffleboard court		X					
Consider a Farmer's Market or other events throughout the year	X						
Subtotal of Priorities: (amount of projects)	2	3	2				

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
NEW NORTH PARK					
Develop a small picnic area with grilling units and an open shelter		X			
Upgrade the parking area.					X
Construct restrooms with a pavilion				X	
Construct a trail system through the park			X		
Add a trail connection to the Boat Landing			X		
Add playground equipment		X			
Develop a place for a sledding hill for the winter months			X		
Create a Master Site Plan – disc golf, horseshoe pits, trails	X				
Subtotal of Priorities: (amount of projects)	1	2	3	1	1
PRIORITY SUMMARY: (Number of Projects by Year) Needed Now 2014-15, Short-Term 2016, Long Term 2017-18	7	8	7	3	3

TOTAL NUMBER OF PROJECT PRIORITIES*:

- **Needed Now 2014-15: 15**
- **Short-Term 2016: 7**
- **Long Term 2017-18: 6**

*All these projects will depend on community support, funding available, and Village resources to complete. Please see Appendix B for Funding Resources and Opportunities that should be researched and taken advantage of. Page B-4 gives extended websites for grant opportunities.

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CHAPTER 8

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-1

**TO ADOPT THE 2014-2018
VILLAGE OF BIG FALLS
COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN**

WHEREAS, the Village of Big Falls intends to provide its residents and visitors with adequate park and recreational opportunities and protect its unique natural and cultural resources; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Big Falls has been working with East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission in updating its Outdoor Recreation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Big Falls Planning Commission on July 10, 2014 has recommended the Village Board adoption of the Village of Big Falls 2014-2018 Comprehensive Outdoor and Recreation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Big Falls 2014-2018 Comprehensive Outdoor and Recreation Plan encompasses a general outline and plan for the recreational development of the Village's parks system until the year 2019; and

WHEREAS, adoption of said plan also recommends developing a tree maintenance program and strategy, maintaining fishing piers and docking areas and developing the waterfront areas, updating facilities to comply with ADA Title III rules and having consistent signage throughout the parks, as well as installing boat wash stations for aquatic invasive species control; and

WHEREAS, County adoption of said plan is required for the Village of Big Falls to become eligible for cost sharing aid programs administered by the State of Wisconsin.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BIG FALLS VILLAGE BOARD in session this 14th day of August 2014, that the Village of Big Falls Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (2014-2018) be adopted as the approved recreation plan for the Village of Big Falls.

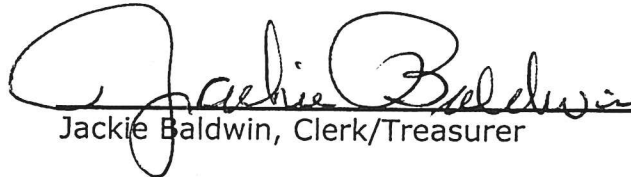
Roll Call on Resolution # 2014-1



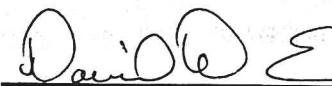
John Durie, Village President

Ayes 3 Nays 0 Absent

Passed and adopted this 14th day
of August, 2014



Jackie Baldwin, Clerk/Treasurer



Dave Eisele, Plan Commission Chair

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APPENDICES



APPENDIX A

DETAILED SURVEY RESULTS

Village of Big Falls Parks & Recreation

2013-2014

SURVEY RESULTS & ANALYSIS

Summary

Total Started Survey: 14

Total Finished Survey: 14 (100%)

March 18, 2014

Village parks are the following:

- Big Falls Boat Landing and Picnic Area
- Central Park
- New North Park



<https://sites.google.com/site/villageofbigfallswius/>

Assistance provided by the East
Central Wisconsin Regional Planning



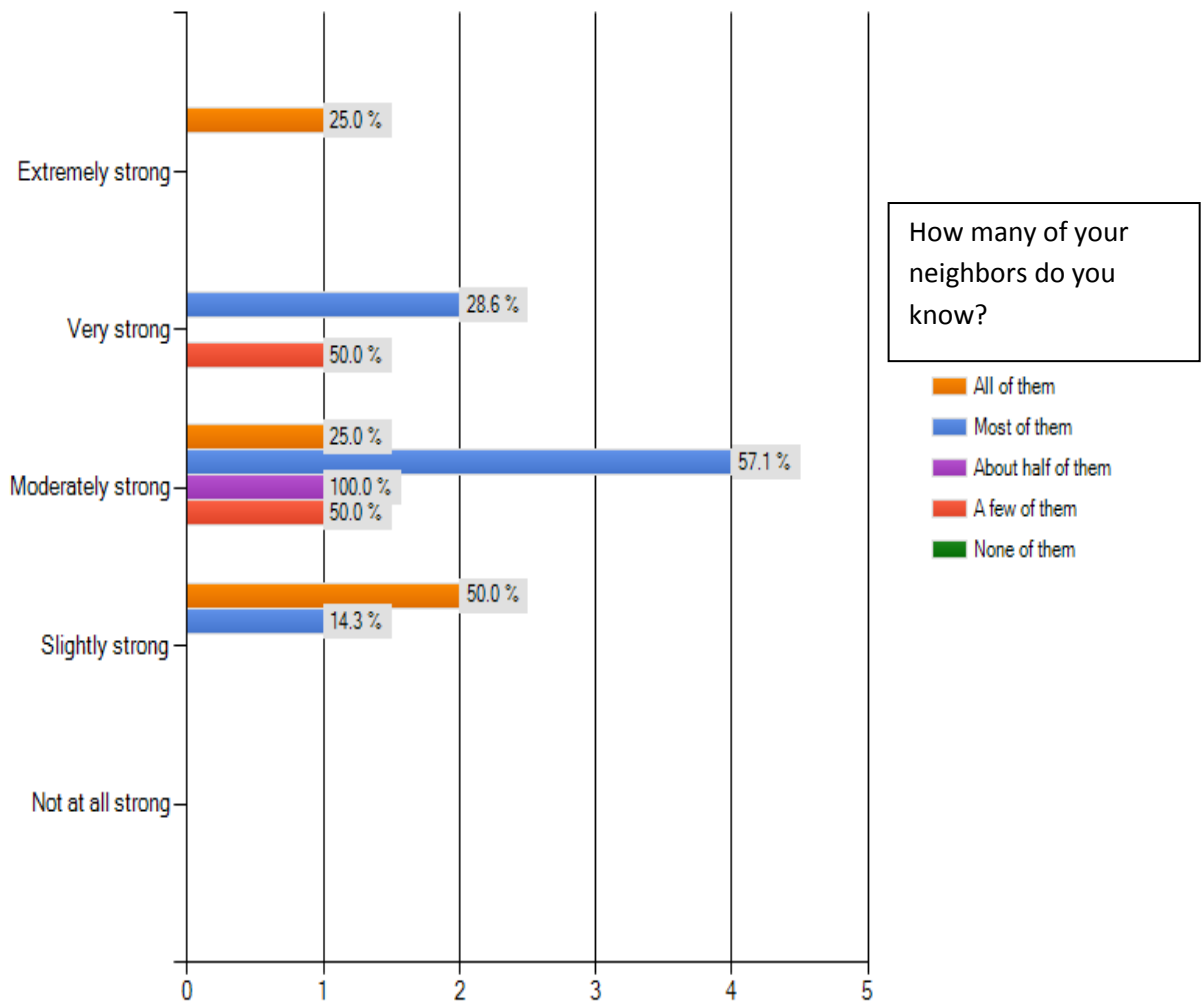
Village of Big Falls – Survey Analysis-CrossTabs

Info/Demographics

Sense of Community and Neighbors:

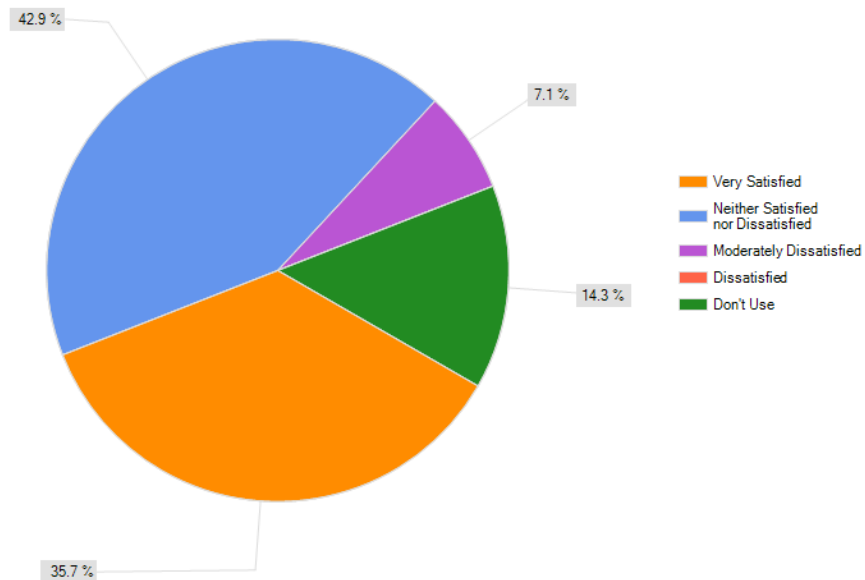
- 78.6% knew most or all of their neighbors,
- 71.4% stated there was a strong sense of Community.

How strong is the sense of community in the Village of Big Falls?



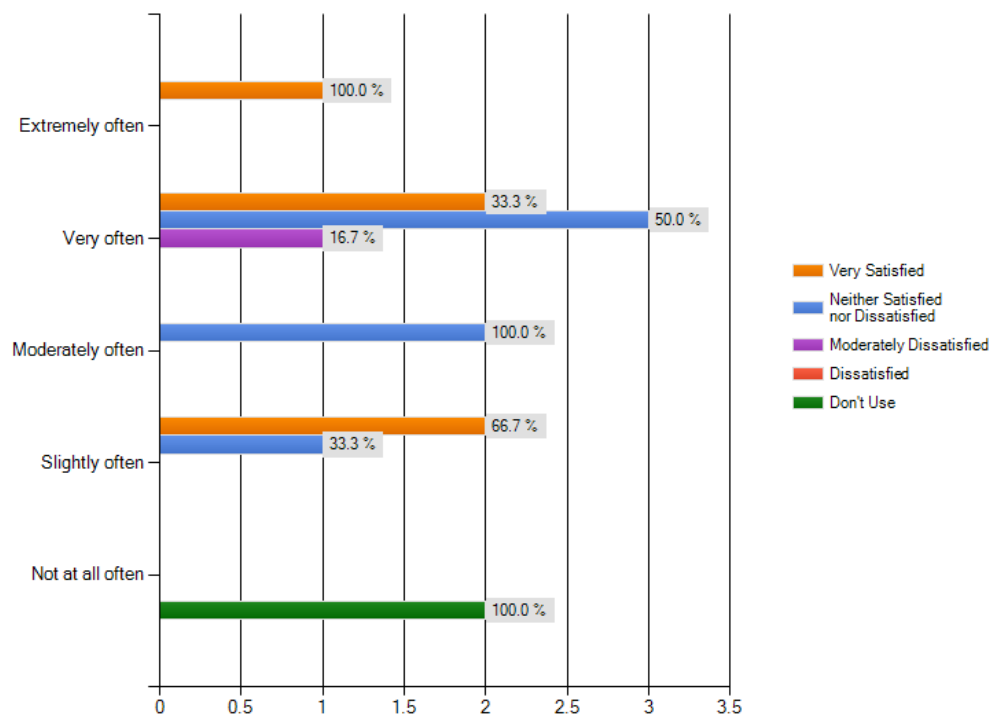
Satisfaction: ***All Parks and Facilities - Overall***

How satisfied are you with the parks in Big Falls?

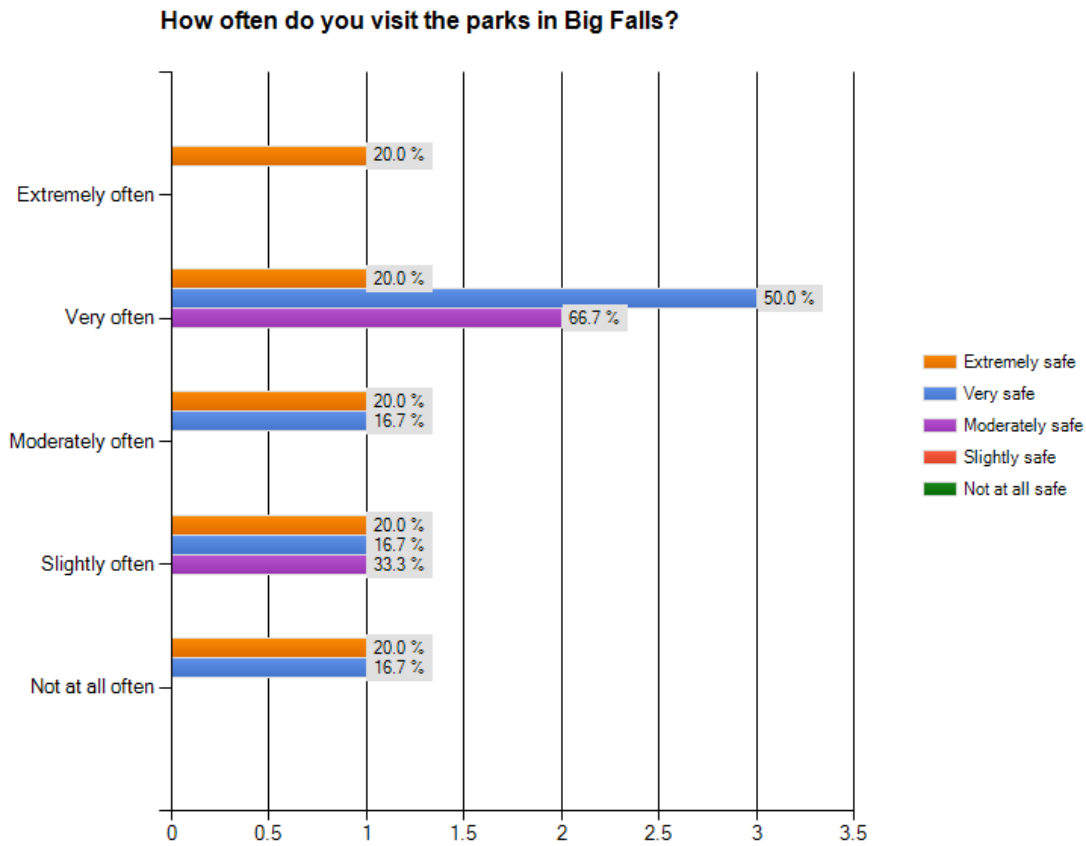


Satisfaction & Use of Parks

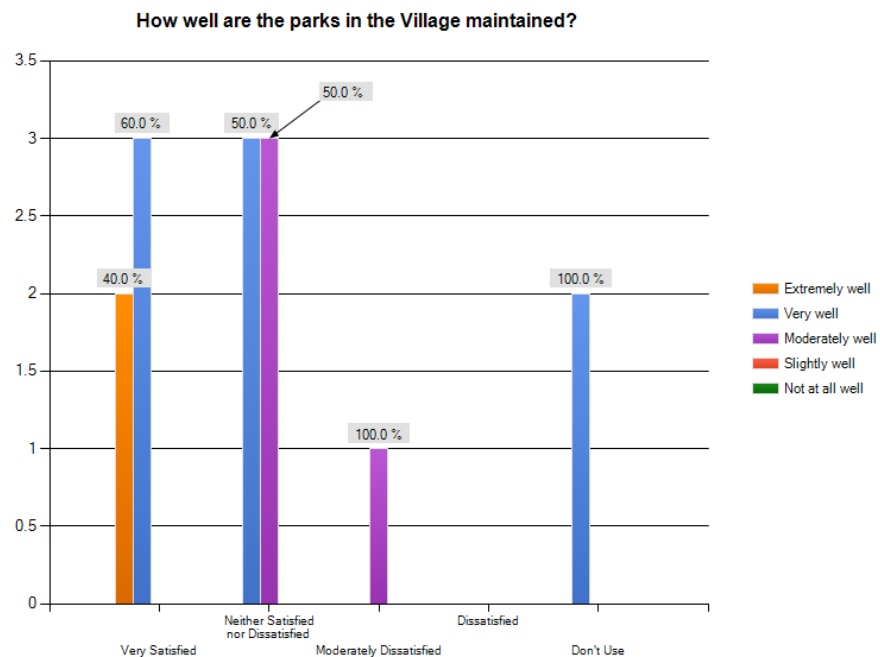
How satisfied are you with the parks in Big Falls?



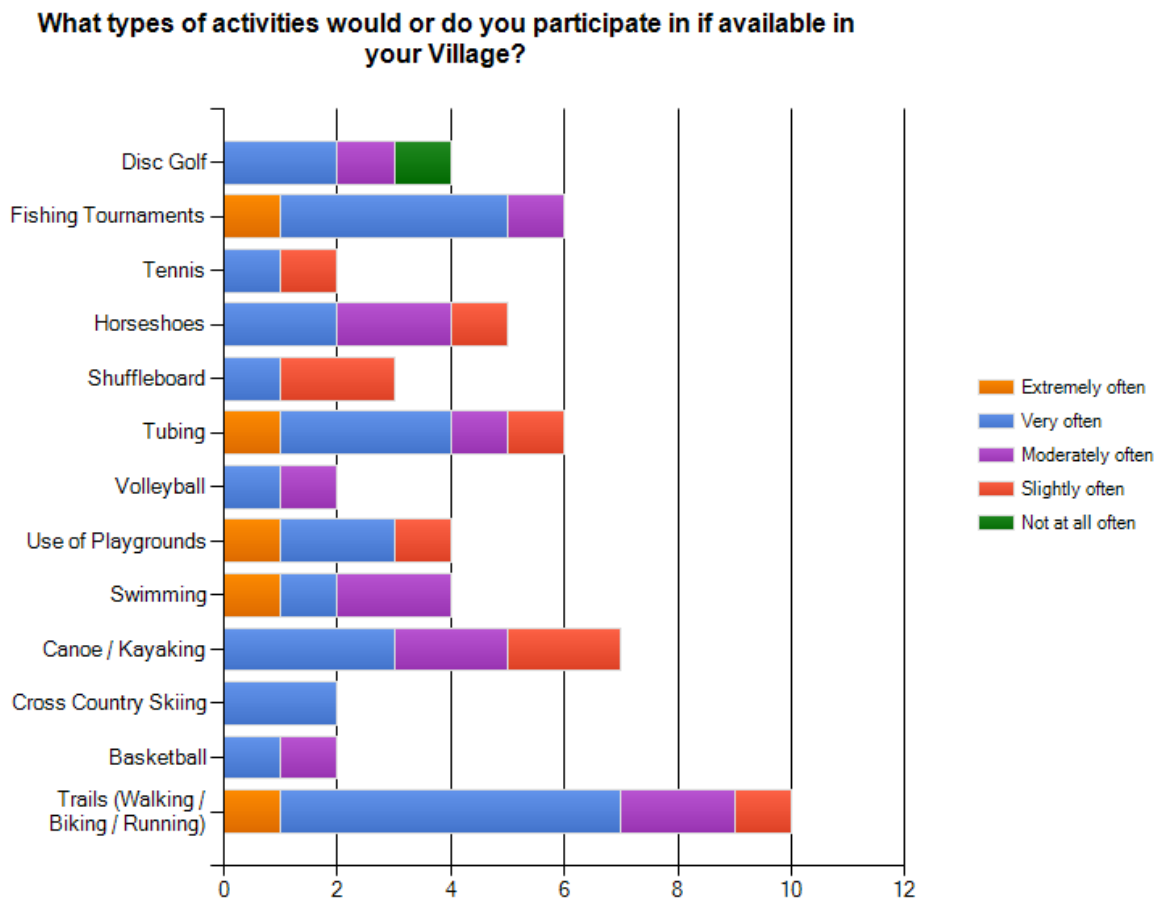
Safety and Use:



Maintenance Concerns

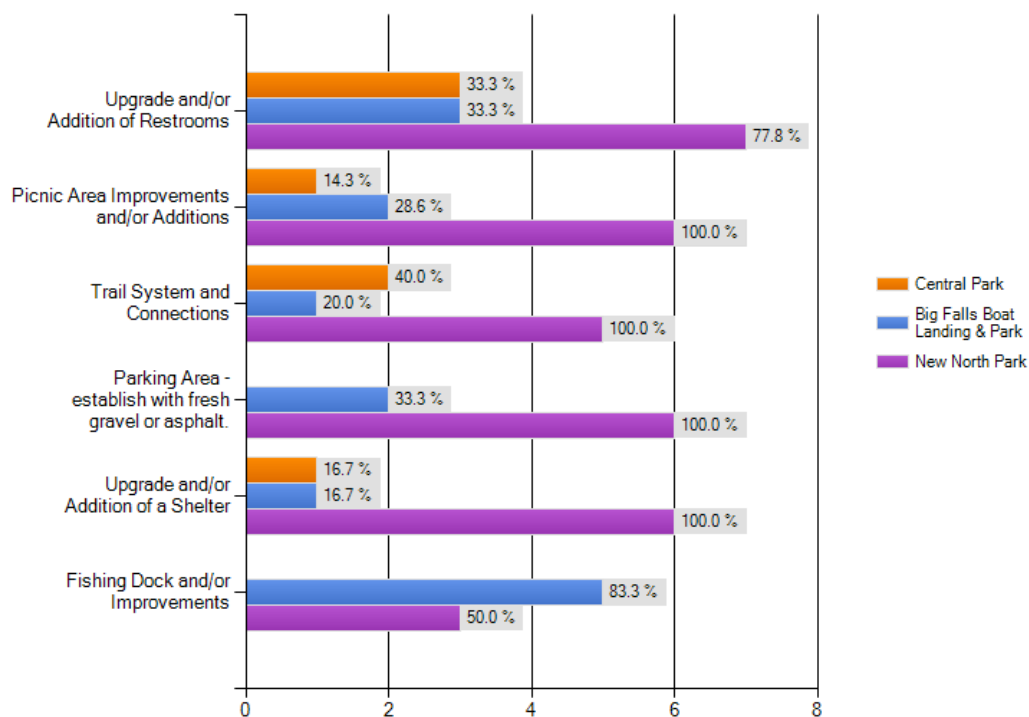


Use of Facilities – Existing and Future:


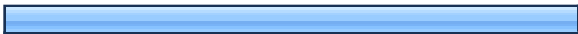




Need & Preferences




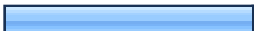
What do you feel is needed at the parks in the Village? (Mark all that apply.)



1. How many of your neighbors do you know?

		Response Percent	Response Count
All of them		28.6%	4
Most of them		50.0%	7
About half of them		7.1%	1
A few of them		14.3%	2
None of them		0.0%	0
answered question			14
skipped question			0




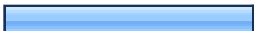

2. How strong is the sense of community in the Village of Big Falls?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Extremely strong		7.1%	1
Very strong		21.4%	3
Moderately strong		50.0%	7
Slightly strong		21.4%	3
Not at all strong		0.0%	0
answered question			14
skipped question			0

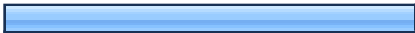



3. What types of events would you attend if they were held in your community?

	Response Count
	11
answered question	11
skipped question	3

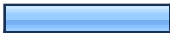


4. How often do you visit the parks in Big Falls?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Extremely often		7.1%	1
Very often		42.9%	6
Moderately often		14.3%	2
Slightly often		21.4%	3
Not at all often		14.3%	2
		answered question	14
		skipped question	0




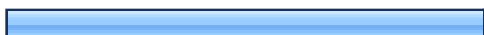









5. How satisfied are you with the parks in Big Falls?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Very Satisfied		35.7%	5
Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied		42.9%	6
Moderately Dissatisfied		7.1%	1
Dissatisfied		0.0%	0
Don't Use		14.3%	2
answered question			14
skipped question			0

6. How well are the parks in the Village maintained?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Extremely well		14.3%	2
Very well		57.1%	8
Moderately well		28.6%	4
Slightly well		0.0%	0
Not at all well		0.0%	0
answered question			14
skipped question			0




7. What types of activities would or do you participate in if available in your Village?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Disc Golf		33.3%	4
Fishing Tournaments		50.0%	6
Tennis		16.7%	2
Horseshoes		41.7%	5
Shuffleboard		25.0%	3
Tubing		50.0%	6
Volleyball		16.7%	2
Use of Playgrounds		33.3%	4
Swimming		33.3%	4
Canoe / Kayaking		58.3%	7
Cross Country Skiing		16.7%	2
Basketball		16.7%	2
Trails (Walking / Biking / Running)		83.3%	10
Other (please specify)			6
answered question			12

8. What do you feel is needed at the parks in the Village? (Mark all that apply.)

	Central Park	Big Falls Boat Landing & Park	New North Park	Rating Count
Upgrade and/or Addition of Restrooms	33.3% (3)	33.3% (3)	77.8% (7)	9
Trail System and Connections	40.0% (2)	20.0% (1)	100.0% (5)	5
Parking Area - establish with fresh gravel or asphalt.	0.0% (0)	33.3% (2)	100.0% (6)	6
Upgrade and/or Addition of a Shelter	16.7% (1)	16.7% (1)	100.0% (6)	6
Fishing Dock and/or Improvements	0.0% (0)	83.3% (5)	50.0% (3)	6
Picnic Area Improvements and/or Additions	14.3% (1)	28.6% (2)	100.0% (7)	7
			Other (please specify)	4

9. How safe do you feel in this community?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Extremely safe		35.7%	5
Very safe		42.9%	6
Moderately safe		21.4%	3
Slightly safe		0.0%	0
Not at all safe		0.0%	0
answered question			14
skipped question			0

10. What changes would most improve the parks & rec in the Village?

	Response Count
	6
answered question	6
skipped question	8

11. Any other comments?

**Response
Count**

6

answered question

6

skipped question

8

Q3. What types of events would you attend if they were held in your community?

1	Flea market	Mar 17, 2014 6:27 PM
2	Coran roast/bingo. Community fry out. Community rummage & bake sale.	Mar 17, 2014 6:26 PM
3	Village picnic with games/cards. Same time every year?	Mar 17, 2014 6:21 PM
4	Music	Mar 17, 2014 6:18 PM
5	None, only corn roast	Mar 17, 2014 6:16 PM
6	Winter sports	Mar 17, 2014 6:14 PM
7	concerts	Feb 1, 2014 3:04 PM
8	Ice races on Big Falls Pond Ice fishing derby on Big Falls Pond Bicycle rallies in BFs Craft fairs Snowmobile races on BFs Pond	Dec 29, 2013 2:14 PM
9	swap meets tractor pulls old tractor shows fire works flee markets fairs with rides old car shows craft fairs fishing tourneys ice and open water	Dec 18, 2013 12:09 PM
10	Community potlucks, picnics, flea markets,	Dec 17, 2013 5:50 PM
11	Picnics, parades,	Dec 10, 2013 6:58 AM

Q7. What types of activities would or do you participate in if available in your Village?

1	A decent swimming hole for adults and beach for little ones.	Mar 17, 2014 6:27 PM
2	Organize a park recreation program once a week for kids (chess, checkers, games, crafts, crepe paper parade (decorate bikes), etc.	Mar 17, 2014 6:26 PM
3	Softball	Mar 17, 2014 6:18 PM
4	None, my ages is 87 years old	Mar 17, 2014 6:16 PM
5	Tobaggan sleding-North park Sitting in the pools in the falls at North Park. floating down stream in the currants produced by the hydro plant water	Dec 29, 2013 2:14 PM
6	frisbee golf, anything that can cater to the children. a family looks for a place to live as what it can offer the family ice skating, hockey playing, and not shutting off the pond for motorcycle racing (several residents are not in favor of this activity and do feel it should be stopped. It wrecks the pond for any additional use due to the high snow banks, no ice fishing on the track, etc. This needs to be a place for families to use.	Dec 18, 2013 12:09 PM

Q8. What do you feel is needed at the parks in the Village? (Mark all that apply.)

1	Someone to keep central park clean. Empty trash in timely manner in Big Falls boat landing & Park. Light on the flag or remove it entirely. Replace flag in a timely manner. Trash removal & lawn cutting in New North Park.	Mar 17, 2014 6:26 PM
2	The Big Falls boat landing gets heavy use by canoeists and kayakers, a parking area has been graded but needs black top surface, it also could use a restroom facility. The picnic tables and grills need maintenance. North park needs more tables and shelter and restroom facility. A sandy beach area would be nice down in the flats along the river. Develop a self guided nature trail and preserving the wild flower areas that bloom spring to fall.	Dec 29, 2013 2:14 PM
3	move the rest rooms in central park so as elderly folks can use them upgrading the child play area to more modern and up to date equipment.	Dec 18, 2013 12:09 PM
4	Central Park could use some new and updated playground equipment.	Dec 10, 2013 6:58 AM

Q10. What changes would most improve the parks & rec in the Village?

1	Why can't we use the Marion Police? Not having certain neighbors getting involved with the children playing. It should be a place they can play without being told to go home or disciplined.	Mar 17, 2014 6:26 PM
2	Relocate power poles from ballfield in Central Park. Shuffle board in Central Park.	Mar 17, 2014 6:18 PM
3	I don't know because I go only once a year to the Big Falls Corn Roast at the park. Then there's so many people there that you can not see what's wrong with the park.	Mar 17, 2014 6:16 PM
4	A picnic shelter at North Park, more picnic tables, restroom facility. It would be nice to have a water well. A paved or nicely graveled parking area at the Boat Landing New childrens play apparatus at Central Park	Dec 29, 2013 2:14 PM
5	moving the rest room in central park INVOLVED the children the adults will love you	Dec 18, 2013 12:09 PM
6	Bathrooms at the new North park. Also, new rec equipment in Central Park. A well at Central Park for water would be nice.	Dec 10, 2013 6:58 AM

Q11. Any other comments?

1	Horizontal parking in front of the bars (Main Street). It is dangerous for kids and adults walking in the road (the corn roast is only for one day a year. Change signs for that one day).	Mar 17, 2014 6:26 PM
2	Give credit to Andy for all his help & hours mowing & watching over the Village Park. He got trees planted, too & watered them everyday. Get the Bow Club & Lions Club & VFW involved in more community events.	Mar 17, 2014 6:21 PM
3	No	Mar 17, 2014 6:16 PM
4	A few improvements to the new north park would be nice. I wouldn't want to see it turned into a campground, that would bring too many people and the noise, etc. that comes along with it.	Jan 27, 2014 6:44 PM
5	It seems to me that a snowmobile trail head would be desirable for this area. The Village could also be promoted as a trail head site for bicycle touring using roads that are lightly traveled by automobiles in the Big Falls vicinity. I see this as family type of activity having riding circuits of a few miles to up to 50 miles for the more aggressive riders.	Dec 29, 2013 2:14 PM
6	I am very proud of being a resident of this fine town. I am happy with the way it is being run and the peacefulness of it. The nature alone is breath taking, as well as the fresh air. I am concerned how ever with the age of the community in general. We have to attract things for the younger crowd like I have listed above. Teenagers, and ther friends and parents that bring their kids and their friends. People are becomeing more and more interested in tubing down the river. They can bring their family and enjoy a day out on the river. Now take that same concept and place it on the parks, what can hold the families interest. A fair with crafts, for the mom, old cars or tractors for day and some games and possibly a ride for the kids. Also families also like being seperate. The kids can go to day camp where as once a week you have camp for the kids that shows them skills, teaches them nature, and they have fun. that is what the town needs more for families to do. There is a very nice playground area in keller park but I feel it does not get the usage as say the same equipment in central park, that the kids are playing on the the parents are relaxing have a ice cream cone from the sweet shop.	Dec 18, 2013 12:09 PM

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APPENDIX B

FUNDING RESOURCES

APPENDIX B: GRANTS AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

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

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

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

Community Grants:

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

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

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

Sports Field Grants:

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

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

Playground Grants:

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

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

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

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

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

Educational: (Could use for landscaping also)

<http://eeinwisconsin.org/core/item/topic.aspx?s=0.0.0.2209&tid=85010>

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

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

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