

# **Elkhart County Parks & Recreation Master Plan 2019 – 2023**



April 2019

Prepared for:  
Elkhart County Parks & Recreation  
Department  
211 W. Lincoln Avenue  
Goshen, IN 46526-3280



Prepared by:  
Lehman & Lehman, Inc.  
Landscape Architecture and Planning  
510 Linconway East  
Mishawaka, IN 46544



*This report documentation was prepared under contract Elkhart County Parks and Recreation by:*

*Charles F. Lehman, ASLA, President  
Lehman & Lehman, Inc.,  
Landscape Architecture and Planning  
510 Lincolnway East  
Mishawaka, Indiana 46544*



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## Introduction

The purpose behind any planning document is to provide a framework in which to complete important tasks. Having a plan allows decision makers to more easily determine where they are, where they want to go, how they will get there, and how they will know when they've arrived.

The Lehman & Lehman Planning Team was retained in December 2017 to prepare a master plan for Elkhart County Parks. This parks master plan was finalized and adopted by the Elkhart County Park Board on April 8, 2019. It will enable the Parks to continue balanced planning for the overall park system, meeting local recreation needs within available resources, and to help the Parks and Recreation Board, community members and leaders to establish their current state of operations, their future desired state, and provide structure to help achieve their goals and to monitor their successes.

## Planning Team

### Elkhart County Park Board

Will Wilson.....	President
Larry Andrews.....	Vice President
John Hardy.....	Secretary
Jeff Burbrink.....	Member
Karen Mackowiak .....	Member
Karin Frey.....	Member
Klauss Mueller .....	Member

### Elkhart County Department of Parks & Recreation

Ronda DeCaire .....	Director
Bernard Cunningham IV.....	Deputy Director of Park Operations
Dr. Kelby Rose.....	Deputy Director of Interpretive Services

### Master Plan Consultant

Charles F. Lehman, ASLA, FRSA  
President, *Lehman & Lehman, Inc.*  
Landscape Architecture and Planning  
Mishawaka, Indiana



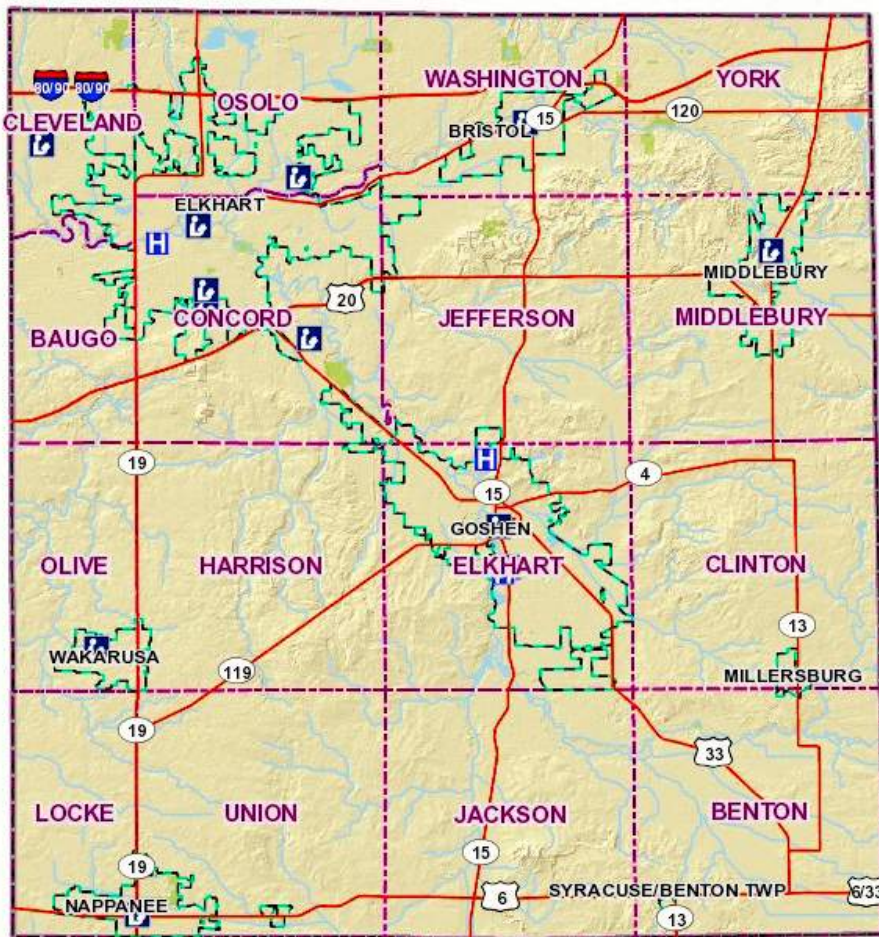


## Planning Area

The planning area for this study is all of Elkhart County, Indiana, which is located in north central Indiana along the Indiana/Michigan state line and contains 463.17 square miles. It is bordered by Cass and St. Joseph Counties, Michigan to the north, Kosciusko County to the south, Lagrange and Noble Counties to the east and St. Joseph County, IN and Marshall County to the west.

Elkhart County encompasses 468 square miles of land.

## Planning Area Map



## Master Plan Goals

Lehman & Lehman, Inc. feels that master planning is undertaken in order to achieve clearly defined strategies and objectives, and to provide recommendations for action on identified future needs tied to those objectives. We believe that the continual participation of the public in the planning process is essential. From a user's perspective, personal involvement in the identification of problems, needs, desires, and ultimately decisions, is much healthier than reacting to decisions already made by management.

The planning process needs to be continuous and must be sensitive to changes of conditions, needs, new information and opportunities. This document should not be considered the "final" plan, which can become irrelevant and stagnant. With annual reviews by the Elkhart County Park Board planning will remain a productive ongoing process facilitating future actions.

The Elkhart County Park Department staff and the Park Board have agreed on the following goals for the 5-Year Parks and Recreation Plan:

- Gather feedback and input from as diverse a group of Elkhart County residents as possible, and report it in an accurate manner.
- Use national recreation standards, combined with a careful needs analysis to create new priorities for parks and recreation in the County.
- Create a plan that is dynamic, and provides pertinent, useful information and guidance for the next five years in Elkhart County.
- Present the plan and gain its acceptance within Elkhart County community.
- Receive approval from IDNR for eligibility for application for Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant programs.
- Use the plan as a springboard to apply for all applicable grants
- Review the Action Plan on an annual basis for the purpose of budgeting and planning.
- Strengthen and Expand Partnerships and Collaborations within the community
- Expand the effectiveness / role of the Friends of the Elkhart County Park Board Members and other non-profit partners as a community engager
- Collaborate with other County Departments in economic development projects and venues and measure the effectiveness as a return on investment



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## Park Agency Profile

### Park Department

**Office Location:**  
211 W. Lincoln Avenue  
Goshen, IN 46526-3280

**Phone:** 574.535.6458  
**Fax:** 574.535.6616  
**Email:** parksinfo@elkhartcounty.com  
**Web:** elkhartcountyparks.org

### Park Department Administrative Staff

Ronda Decaire ..... Director  
Bernard Cunningham IV..... Deputy Director of Park Operations  
Dr. Kelby Rose.....Deputy Director of Interpretive Services

### Park Department History

*(Source: Elkhart County Parks “Currents”, March-June 2017)*

2017 marked 50 years since the park system first began creating public spaces in 1967. The department now encompasses four major parks, several small parks, 36 miles of trails, and historic land for more than 325,000 annual visitors each year. Since its inception, the park department provides the public with recreation, natural diversity and cultural enrichment for all.

In 1966, the newly formed Elkhart County Park & Recreation Board began formulating and executing long-range plans for a park and recreation system. Elected to the original board were President L. Orville Miller, Vice-President Warren Shively, Secretary Cara Jean Baldwin, Dr. Larry Beachy, and Leo Seltenright. The newly formed Park Board began immediate work on the plans for multiple community projects.

The first project proposed to the Park Board in 1967 was from the County Commissioners to establish a portion of the County Home Farm as a public park. After several years of transformation and use by the public, Ox Bow County Park became the first Elkhart County Park and was formally dedicated in 1973. Today, Ox Bow is the most popular park in the system for reservations, field trips, and outdoor recreation.

In 1967, while planning the creation of Ox Bow, the Park Board simultaneously explored other community projects. The board began discussions regarding two parcels of land in the Bristol area to be transformed into park facilities. The first of these properties was the Bristol High School, which Howard Rush purchased and donated to Elkhart County in the May of 1967, which would house the Elkhart County Historical Society’s collections. A year later, in partnership with the Historical Society, the site was dedicated and opened as the Elkhart County Historical Museum. Fifty years later, the museum, and the collaborative efforts of the Parks and Historical Society continue to bring preservation and education to the community.

Bonneyville County Park also had its beginnings in 1967, when a partnership with the Michiana Watershed Inc. was formed to fundraise and acquisition this important historic structure and

surrounding land. A restoration of the Mill in the early 1970's updated the facility and the surrounding property for public use. Bonneyville Mill County Park was fully opened and dedicated to the public in 1974, and today attracts over 10,000 visitors from around the world each year.

In the years that followed, more park properties would be added to the Elkhart County Parks, such as the River Preserve County Park, which includes DeFries Gardens; Treasure Island; Leiber Nature Preserve; Cobus Creek County Park, and an 8.5- mile portion of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail. Boot Lake Nature Preserve was transferred from the City of Elkhart to the Elkhart County Park and Recreation Board in 2017. In 2018 Corson County Park was donated to the Park Department from Coachman Industries co-found Tom Corson. Also part of the Elkhart County Park properties are Six-Span Bridge boat launch site, and the undeveloped properties at Wolf Lake and Turkey Creek.

Back in 1967, the Elkhart County Park & Recreation Board set plans in motion that aimed to enhance quality of life, preserve the County's cultural, historical, and natural resources, and provide educational and recreational opportunities for all. Since then, Elkhart County Parks has expanded its resources and outreach, with new properties, programs, and recreation- al features to meet the needs of the people in Elkhart County, while maintaining goals in preservation. Current Parks Director, Ronda DeCaire reflects on the department's growth in saying, "All of the Park Board members, and previous directors, Dan Seltenright and Larry Neff, had great foresight and awareness by taking care to balance recreational opportunities for a growing population with preservation of the natural and historical spaces found within the Elkhart County Parks."

Park departments across the nation have taken on new roles, and Elkhart County Parks is no different. With a county-wide focus on the Vibrant Communities Initiative, they are excited to be a part of what makes Elkhart County a great place to live, learn, work, and stay healthy. Parks add to the quality of life for residents and help to attract new citizens and businesses, strengthening the economic vitality of the community. They remain dedicated to building a future that maintains connections with the county's natural, cultural, and historic heritage.

## **Mission Statement**

*The Elkhart County Parks Department mission is to enhance the quality of life, preserve the County's cultural, historical, and natural resources; and provide educational and recreational opportunities.*

## **Guiding Principles**

- **Integrity**

The Department will work toward its mission in an honest and ethical fashion. As a result, it will develop a commitment to its customer base and be viewed as dependable in its facilities and services.

- **Accountability**

The Department will strive to be responsive and dependable in dealing with park visitors, citizens and elected officials.

- **Quality Service**

The Department will strive to provide the highest level of service in a fiscally responsible manner bringing excellence to all facilities and services.

- **Teamwork**

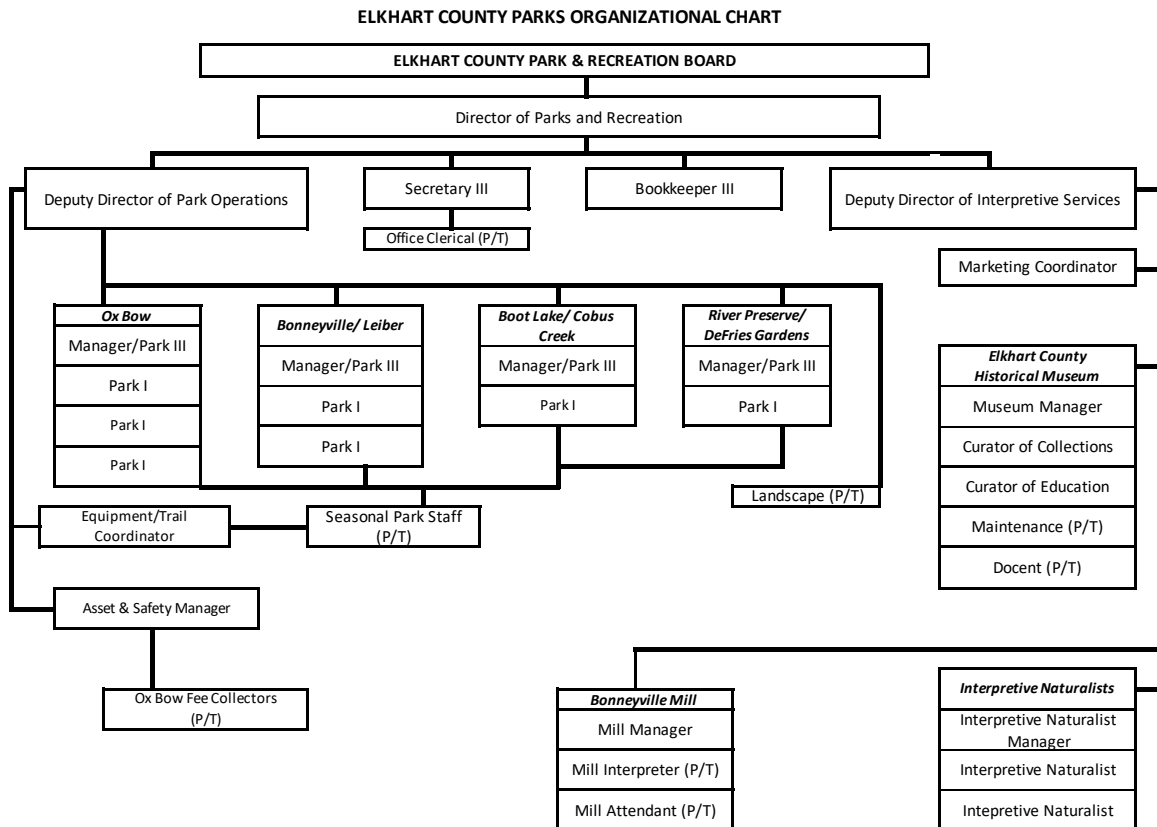
The Department will make every effort to retain a diverse staff who will work together to promote a positive attitude, clear communication and support for each other as well as Department activities.

- **Vision**

The Department will look to the future by using creativity and educational opportunities to develop new programs and services that will manage, protect and maximize our resources on a sustainable basis for present and future generations.

## Organizational Structure

The Elkhart County Parks & Recreation Department is currently organized as follows:



Apr-19

## Elkhart County Park Board

The Elkhart County Park and Recreation Board was established in 1966 under the 1965 Park and Recreation Law. In 1982 the Park Board was re-established under Indiana Code 36-10-3. The seven-member Board is appointed by the County Council, County Commissioners, Circuit Court Judge and the Mayor of Elkhart. The Director of the County Extension Service is an ex-officio member of the Board. The members each serve 4-year staggered terms.

Name	Term Expires
Klaus Mueller .....	12/31/2022
Jeff Burbrink .....	Ex Officio
Karin Frey.....	12/31/2019
Larry Andrews.....	12/31/2020
Karen Mackowiak .....	12/31/2020
John Hardy.....	12/31/2021
William Wilson.....	12/31/2019

The Park Board meets on the second Monday of each month at 4:30 pm at various park locations throughout the year. The Board makes policy and operational decisions, approves requests for use of park facilities, receives updates on departmental activity and approves the annual budget. The meetings are open to the public.

## Park Partnerships

The following volunteer organizations partner with the Elkhart County Parks to help maintain facilities and support programs either financially or through physical volunteer efforts. Most are non-profit organizations with separate boards and separate mission statements. Their mission in assisting the Elkhart County Parks is greatly appreciated by staff and the general public.

### Friends of the Elkhart County Parks

The Friends of the Elkhart County Parks is a small volunteer organization that provides an opportunity for members of our community to share their skills, contributions, and knowledge to support the park system. The organization has assisted in obtaining grants and donations to assist the Park Department with the purchase of equipment and sponsoring events. It is an organization that continues to grow and partner with Elkhart County Parks in various capacities.

### Elkhart County Historical Society

Founded in 1896, the Elkhart County Historical Society (ECHS) opened a museum in 1907 at the Elkhart County Courthouse. Throughout the years it moved to various locations until the collection was placed in storage. In 1968 the ECHS partnered with the Elkhart County Parks Department to open the Elkhart County Historical Museum at the former Bristol High School. The Museum has offered publications, research opportunities, exhibits, and programs featuring a collection of over 30,000 artifacts and over 100,000 documents related to Elkhart County history. In 1991, the ECHS became a formal 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization to help support the Elkhart County Historical Museum with fundraising, volunteerism, and other in-kind support. As most historical societies, the ECHS operates as a public trust, serving present and future generations by collecting, preserving, and sharing artifacts, documents, and images pertaining to the unique culture and history of Elkhart County and its environs. The Elkhart



County Parks serves as a partner to house the collection and provides management of staff, interpretive guidance, planning and general operating support of the Museum as one of its many cultural sites within the department as it fits the mission of preservation, recreation, and education.

### **Friends of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail**

The Friends of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail, Inc. is a very successful non-profit corporation dedicated to converting the abandoned Pumpkinvine railroad corridor into a linear park and greenway. The organization is dependent on dedicated volunteers to carry out day-to-day work required to achieve short- and long-term goals. The Friends purchased the Pumpkinvine railroad corridor in 1993 and have since donated a majority of the land to local park departments for design, engineering, and trail construction as matches to grants. The Elkhart County Parks now manages more than 8 miles of the 17-mile-long trail while the Friends of the Pumpkinvine continues to be a source of funding and volunteers.

### **Pumpkinvine Advisory Committee (PAC)**

The Friends of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail, Elkhart County Parks, Goshen City Parks, Town of Middlebury, and Town of Shipshewana formed a committee in 2009 to meet bi-monthly and discuss projects and management of the 17-mile trail system.

### **Southside Disc Golf Association**

The Southside Disc Golf Association is a volunteer group who maintains the Flying Disc Sanctuary at Ox Bow County Park. The Club assists with the maintenance of the trails and baskets as well as sponsors the following local disc golf tournaments: Michiana Ice Bowl, Spring and Fall: King of the Courses, and the Annual Turkey Shoot

### **Northern Indiana Mountain Bike Association (NIMBA)**

The NIMBA constructed a 6.2-mile mountain bike trail at Bonneyville Mill County Park in 2014. They provide volunteers to construct and maintain this new asset to the park system as well as provide leadership in planning mountain bike programs and events.

### **Elkhart County Snowmobile Club**

The Elkhart County Snowmobile Club is a non-profit community club that operates and maintains the Miami Snowmobile Trail in northern Indiana. Snowmobiling is not allowed in Elkhart County Parks except on a small designated portion of the Miami Snowmobile Trail at Bonneyville Mill County Park.

### **Indiana DNR**

The Elkhart County Parks partners with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources to operate Lieber Nature Preserve (Pipewort Pond) in Bristol. This 137-acre parcel is a State Designated Nature Preserve. In addition, Boot Lake Nature Preserve, the newest park addition, is a State Dedicated Nature Preserve and is managed under the guidelines of a Master Plan created by the IDNR. They also partner with the IDNR to assist with prairie burns within Elkhart County. There is potential for partnership with the Elkhart Bog in the near future.

### **Elkhart County Genealogical Society**

The Elkhart County Genealogical Society is a non-profit organization that also finds its home in the Elkhart County Historical Museum. This group of dedicated volunteers seeks to further interest in genealogy in the Michiana area, contributes to the preservation of genealogical and historical records, strives for accuracy in research through careful documentation, and publishes a quarterly journal containing records of the area and other genealogical information of importance to society members. They also assist visitors to the Museum with research.

### **Bristol Alumni Association**

The Bristol Alumni Association is an organization consisting of alumni of the former Bristol School, which was donated to the Elkhart County Parks in 1967 and is now home to the Elkhart County Historical Museum. The association is dedicated to preserving and celebrating the memories, events, people, and school building that played and continue to play an important part in the lives of the alumni and Bristol community. Each year the organization holds an annual event at the former school, bringing together alumni of all generations. The organization has held a fundraising campaign to assist the Elkhart County Parks in much needed building repairs and restoration of the facility such as new carpeting, brick repair work on exterior of gym, and new lighting at entrance.

### **Indiana Master Naturalists/Elkhart County Soil & Water Conservation District**

The staff of the Elkhart County Parks partners with the Elkhart County Soil and Water Conservation District to offer an Indiana Master Naturalist (IMN) program. This natural resource education course takes place each year and provides learning opportunities with various park and environmental agencies throughout the county. As a part of this service learning program for adults, class attendees must complete additional hours of community service. An Elkhart County IMN Alumni Group has formalized and IMN alumni have the opportunity to volunteer 30 additional hours per year and receive further education from the community. Many of the 130 graduates have helped the County Parks through volunteer hours.



### **Volunteers and Volunteer Organizations**

Each year the Elkhart County Parks has over three hundred volunteers who donate 6,000 or more hours to area parks, museums, gardens, and the mill. Individual volunteers assist the Department along with volunteer groups such as the Middlebury Garden Club, The Dahlia Society, Eagle Scouts, Scout Troops, Indiana Master Naturalists, area schools and universities, and many more.

### **Elkhart County's Fiscal Resources**

The Elkhart County Parks has slowly expanded its budget to almost pre-recession numbers. With a healthy county budget, employees have been able to receive their performance appraisals increases the past four years and adjustments have been made to ensure every employee is at mid-grade or above in their pay levels. Staff continues to be cautious of spending, and administration continues to keep funds in reserves for future economic declines.

Many of the department vehicles are beginning to fall under the Elkhart County lease program, and the department has been able to replace much needed vehicles from the fleet. The largest downfall of the budget is not having funds to purchase large capital equipment items, but they are working with staff to consolidate projects and rent equipment when needed.

## Departmental Budget

The Elkhart County Parks and Recreation Board has seen a steady increase in the 1219 general budget since the recession. The Elkhart County Council credits department heads throughout the County for using dollars wisely during and after the economic decline.

In 2017, the department was able to add a new full-time position to manage Boot Lake Nature Preserve. Additional part-time funds were also supplemented as duties increased having a new park. Part-time funds were included for an interpretive naturalist as well as two park service positions.

Two non-reverting accounts supplement the tax-appropriated budget. The 1178 Non-reverting Capital Fund receives its funds from the entrance fees to Ox Bow County Park. This account funds construction projects and land acquisition throughout the park system. The 1179 Non-reverting Operating Fund receives its fund from user fees from the rental of shelters, school field trips, public programs and event, mill flour sales, and other miscellaneous. These funds are used to supplement the tax-appropriated budget to help purchase supplies, services and equipment. Revenue has continued to increase over the past five years.

1219 Park Funds						
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
<b>Personal Services</b>						
	<b>Total Personal Services</b>	<b>1,198,146</b>	<b>1,208,308</b>	<b>1,263,594</b>	<b>1,381,728</b>	<b>1,442,776</b>
<b>Supplies</b>						
	<b>Total Supplies</b>	<b>57,475</b>	<b>60,000</b>	<b>69,325</b>	<b>83,550</b>	<b>88,950</b>
<b>Services and Charges</b>						
	<b>Total Services</b>	<b>115,725</b>	<b>120,870</b>	<b>154,145</b>	<b>163,545</b>	<b>210,200</b>
<b>GRAND TOTALS</b>		<b>1,371,346</b>	<b>1,389,178</b>	<b>1,487,064</b>	<b>1,628,823</b>	<b>1,741,926</b>

Elkhart County Parks Revenue Summary					
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
<b>1178 Non-reverting Capital Fund</b>					
Ox Bow Gate Entry Fees	\$73,678.73	\$98,235.98	\$104,640.66	\$101,036.82	\$105,678.99
<b>1179 Non-reverting Operating Fund</b>					
Rentals (Shelters/Fields)	\$41,688.27	\$49,853.17	\$48,930.56	\$50,036.90	\$51,627.71
School Education Programs	\$26,613.00	\$21,877.74	\$21,648.45	\$20,035.00	\$19,854.00
Public Programs & Events	\$16,393.33	\$17,855.09	\$15,825.18	\$21,826.41	\$19,302.32
Sales (mill flour, vending machines)	\$19,159.47	\$18,660.12	\$20,359.64	\$17,750.73	\$17,392.40
Other fees (Disc golf/archery/photography)	\$2,807.00	\$2,790.50	\$7,486.00	\$7,176.00	\$6,225.00
Misc Revenue	\$2,814.25	\$46,443.01	\$2,957.34	\$2,144.13	\$2,953.76
<b>4909 Donation Fund</b>					
Donations/Endowment/Small Grants	\$59,329.98	\$99,939.36	\$102,254.72	\$205,617.17	\$176,295.86
<b>Totals for user fee revenue &amp; donations</b>	<b>\$242,484.03</b>	<b>\$355,654.97</b>	<b>\$324,102.55</b>	<b>\$425,623.16</b>	<b>\$399,330.04</b>

## Facility Inventory

The Elkhart County Park and Recreation Board currently owns ten parcels of present and future parkland, including two historic sites totaling 1,301 acres. In addition, it owns more than eight miles of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail. The departments also assists the Elkhart County Commissioners and Indiana Departments of Natural Resources in managing several other recreational sites.

Park Operations staff care for the maintenance of these facilities which includes 13 full-time staff and 12 part-time staff which includes the gatehouse at Ox Bow County Park. In addition to maintaining grounds and facilities, they also are responsible for customer assistance and safety in the parks.

### Park Sites – Owned 1,411.22 acres

- Ox Bow County Park – 200 acres
- Bonneyville Mill County Park – 222 acres
- River Preserve County Park – 358 acres\*
- Cobus Creek County Park – 84 acres
- Boot Lake Nature Preserve – 300 acres
- Corson Riverwoods County Parks – 78 acres
- DeFries Gardens – 14 acres
- Elkhart Historical Museum – 1.32 acres
- Treasure Island Park – 4 acres
- Wolf Lake Property – 30 acres
- Turkey Creek Property – 23 acres
- Pumpkinvine Nature Trail – 16.5 miles (120 acres@60' width)

### Park Sites – Managed 178.14 acres

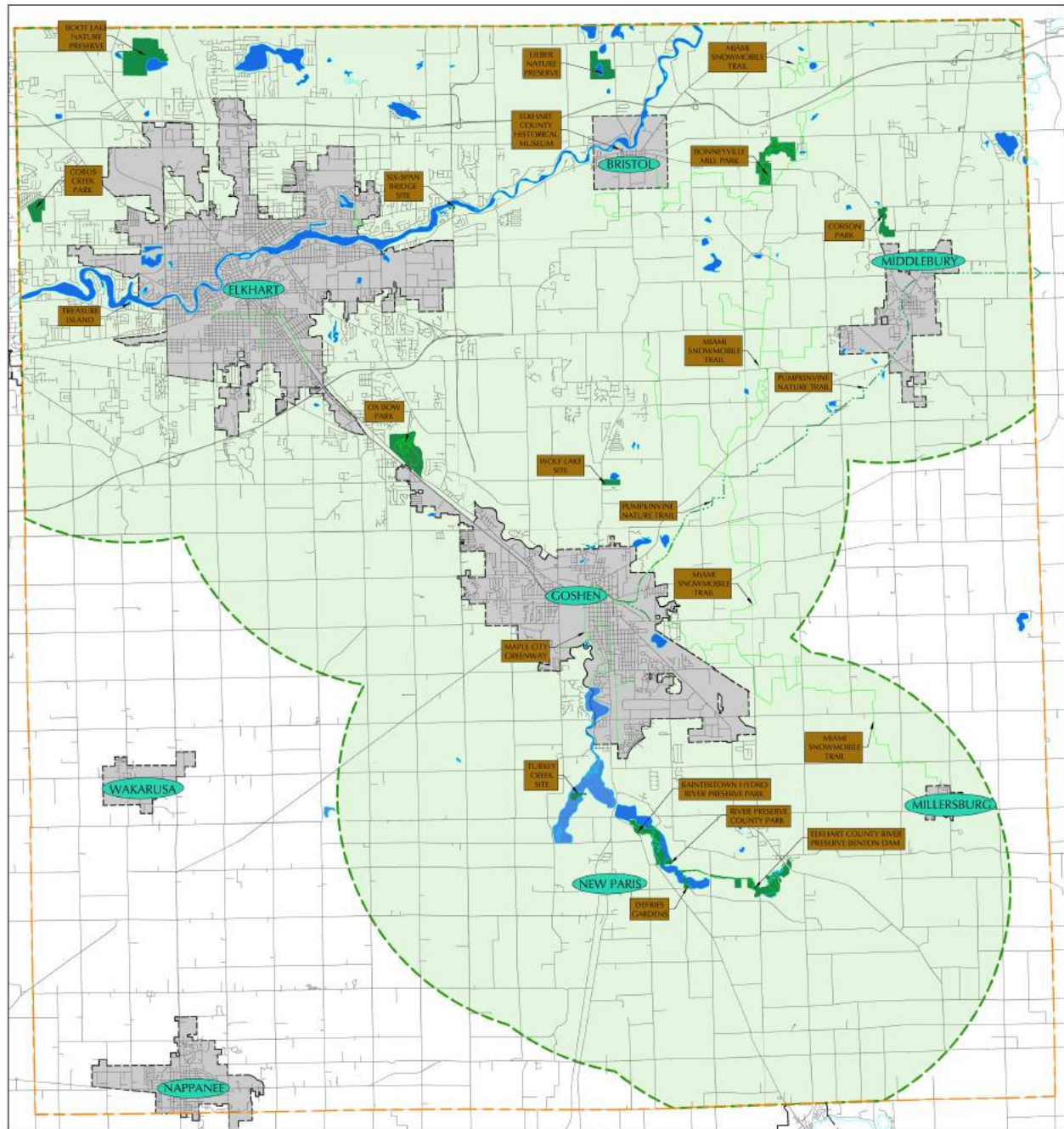
- County Home Property adjoining Ox Bow County Park – 23 acres
- Six-Span Bridge Access Site – 3.14 acres
- Lieber Nature Preserve Preserve – 135 acres
- MapleHeart Trail – 3.5 miles (17 acres @40' width)

\*The River Preserve County Park's acreage has been larger in the past due to an error in how it was measured. In 2017 the property acreage was calculated using GIS.





## Elkhart County Park Facilities Map Locations



This County map illustrates the locations of the various County Park sites along with a 5-mile service radius. Note that there are no County Park facilities in the County's southwestern quadrant.

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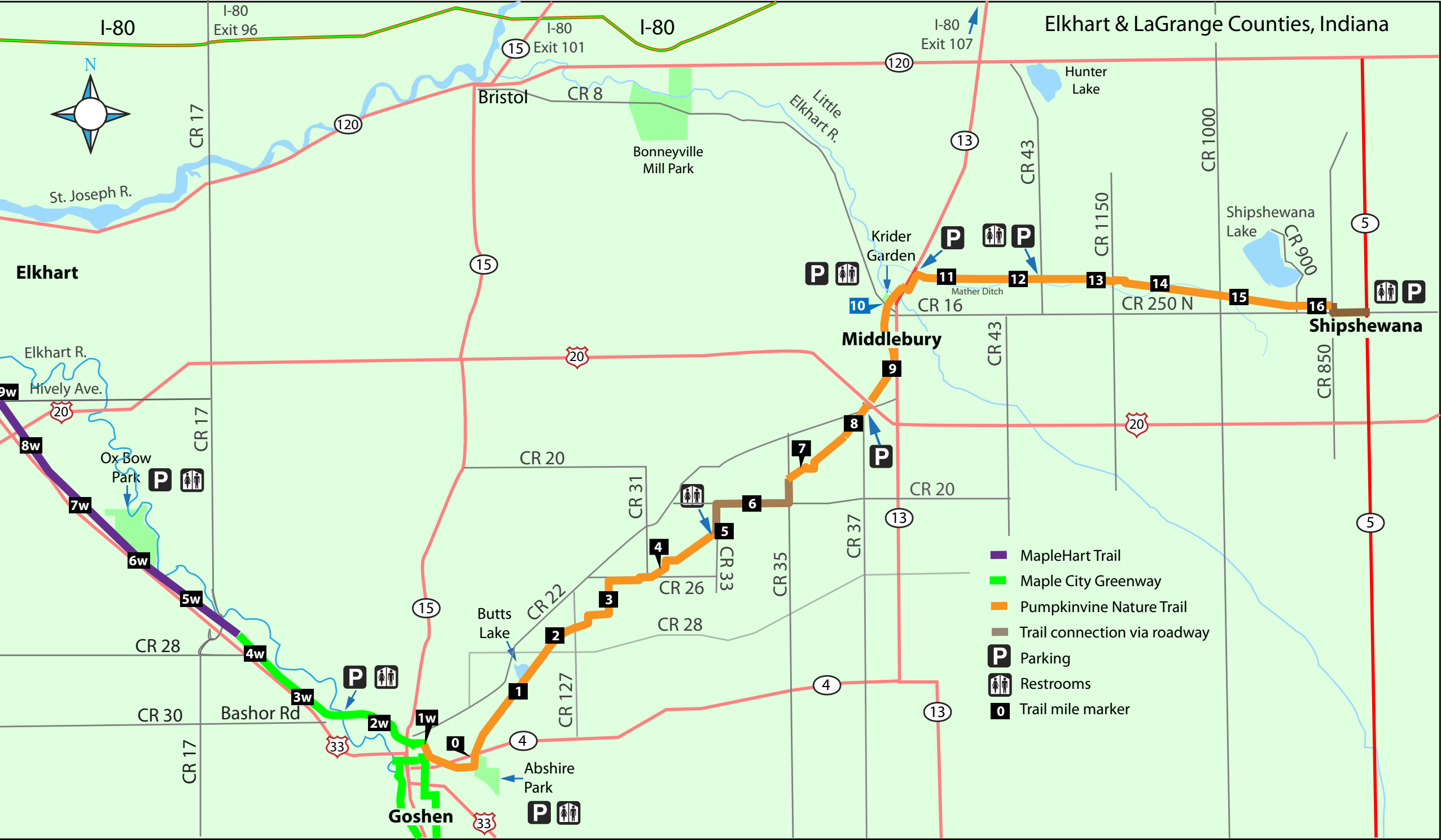
**Park and Recreation Facility Inventory**

Elkhart County Parks has an extensive parks system with 14 parks & recreation facilities totaling 1,571.32 acres. These facilities offer playgrounds, athletic fields/courts, shelters, cross-country skiing, disc golf, mountain bike trails, hiking/walking trails, and access to water sports, such as canoeing and kayaking. Special amenities include a calendar garden, reconstructed one-room school-house, historical museum, and a water-powered flour mill. More information for each park property is provided in the spreadsheet below and on the following pages.

FACILITY INFRASTRUCTURE INVENTORY																
County-Wide Analysis (All Facilities)		PARKS*														
Facility	Current Facilities in the Park Dept.*	Bonneyville Mill Park	Boot Lake Nature Preserve	Cobus Creek Park	Ox Bow Park	River Preserve Park	DeFries Gardens	Treasure Island Park	Pumpkinvine Nature Trail (assume 60' ROW)	Wolf Lake Site (Undeveloped)	Turkey Creek Site (Undeveloped)	Corson Riverwoods County Park (Undeveloped)	Six-Span Bridge Site	Leiber Nature Preserve	Elkhart County Historical Museum	
Baseball Diamonds	0.00															
Softball Diamonds	0.00															
Multi Purpose Fields	2.00				2.00											
Soccer Fields	0.00															
Tennis Courts	0.00															
Running / Walking Track (Comm)	0.00															
Basketball Goals (outdoors)	0.00															
Volleyball Courts (outdoors)	4.00			1.00	3.00											
Skate/Bike Park (Neighborhood)	0.00															
Climbing / Challenge Elements	0.00															
Park Shelters	20.00	7.00		1.00	9.00	3.00										
Park Restrooms	16.00	7.00		1.00		3.00	1.00	1.00	2.00				1.00			
Interpretive Center	2.00	1.00													1.00	
Environmental Center	0.00															
Outdoor Entertainment Venue	0.00															
Recreation Centers (Neighborhood)	0.00															
Playgrounds (Comm./Destination)	5.00			1.00	4.00											
Playgrounds (Neighborhood)	0.00															
Skating Rinks (hockey)	0.00															
Skating Area (non-hockey)	0.00															
Cross-Country Skiing	5.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00										
Swim. Pool / Aquatics Facilities	0.00															
Sprayground / SplashPad	0.00															
Golf Course 18-hole***	0.00															
Disc Golf Course	1.00				1.00											
Driving Range***	0.00															
Dog Park Area	0.00															
Canoe/Kayak Launch	6.00				1.00	5.00										
Maintenance Facilities (Hub)	3.00	1.00			1.00	1.00										
Maintenance Facilities (Satellite)	1.00			1.00												
Multi-use / Nature Pathways (miles)	44.98	7.00	4.00	2.48	9.00	5.80	0.20		16.50							
Bicycle / Mountain Bike Trail (miles)	6.20	6.20														
Park / Open Space Acres	1571.32	222.00	300.00	84.00	200.00	358.00	14.00	4.00	120.00	30.00	23.00	78.00	2.00	135.00	1.32	
* Current Facilities Data. Only Inventory Used to factor current level of service.																

Trails and Greenways

Elkhart County Parks continues to add to their trail network providing over 36 miles of maintained trails throughout the park system including the Pumpkinvine and MapleHeart Trails. With a few connections via roadway the trails connect Elkhart, Goshen, Middlebury and Shipshewana and provide opportunities for walking, running and biking for leisure as well as providing an alternative transportation route to commute between communities to get to work.



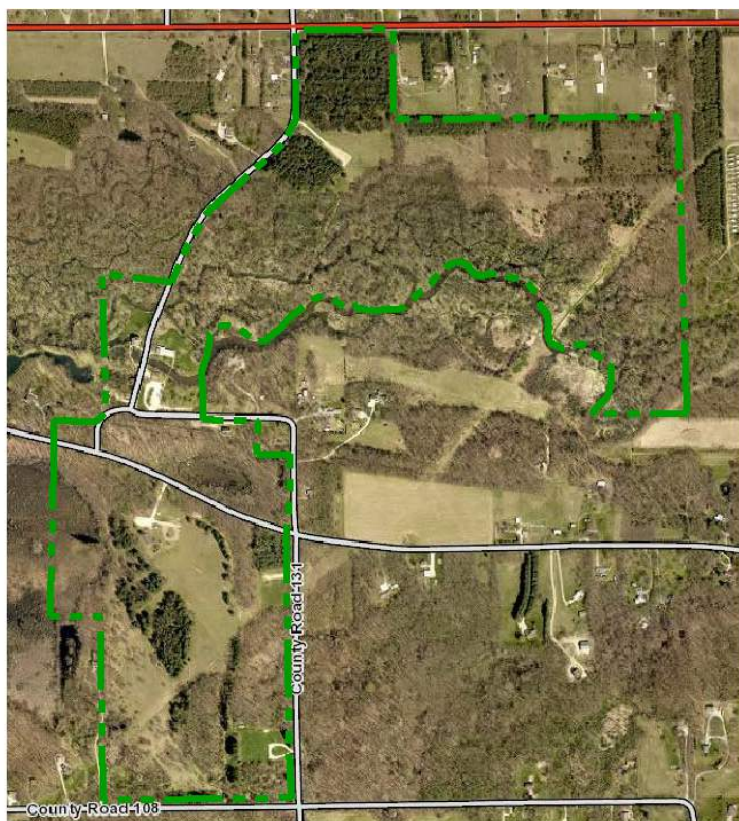


## Bonneyville Mill County Park

Size: 222 acres

53373 C.R. 131 – Bristol

Bonneyville Mill County Park had its beginnings in 1966 when a partnership with the Michiana Watershed, Inc. was formed to fundraise and acquisition the historic grist mill and surrounding land through a three-year option to purchase contract. Bonneyville Mill was a historic grist mill that had been constructed by Edward Bonney in the 1830s. The mill changed ownership many times throughout its history until its last private owner, Frank Mauck sold it to Michiana Watershed. The final payment for the mill and 155 acres was made in November 1969. Restoration of the Mill began in the early 1970s and the property was fully dedicated and opened to the public in May of 1974. The mill staff began



offering historical interpretation to school groups as well as the general public. In the 1980s, an additional 67-acre parcel of land was added to Bonneyville Mill County Park making the park 222 acres. In 2003, the non-profit One Room School House, Inc. completed the moving and restoration of a One Room School House once located on the Bullard Farm to Bonneyville Mill County Park. The facility provides an opportunity for school children to experience life in a One Room School, and the lower level is used for public programs and as a rental facility.

A unique blend of regional history and natural beauty can be found at Bonneyville Mill County Park. 222 acres of gently rolling hills, woodlands, marshes and open meadows form a perfect

background for the picturesque Bonneyville Mill. This park has an historical theme and the main feature is a fully restored, water powered grist mill. The mill is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is a tourist attraction for Elkhart County. Seven miles of developed and undeveloped trails meander through the park providing nature enthusiasts a chance to view abundant wildlife and beautiful wildflowers. The Little Elkhart River offers anglers small-mouth bass and stocked rainbow trout throughout the season. Bonneyville Mill County Park is a designated “wildlife viewing area” in the State of Indiana.

In 2013, the Northern Indiana Mountain Bike Association began construction of a 6.2-mile trail on the south farm of the park. This trail has become an important outdoor adventure course for hundreds of mountain bikers each year and is a regional draw.

During winter Bonneyville Mill County Park offers cross-country skiers miles of challenging terrain and beautiful scenery making it one of the most popular cross-country ski areas in the region. The park's two sledding hills also provide hours of winter fun for the whole family.

Numerous picnic tables can be found throughout the park and are available for public use. Five shelters and the one-room school house community room provide a perfect place for family gatherings, group activities and company events.

## Park Shelters

### Meadow – Capacity - 50

Open-air shelter with beautiful view of surrounding countryside. Large area for recreation. Trails lead through rolling hills, woods and meadows. Close to observation tower, restroom, drinking fountain and open field recreation.

### Lookout – Capacity - 50

Open-air shelter located next to the observation tower. Open area for recreation. Trails lead through rolling hills, woods and meadows. Just a short walk to restroom and drinking fountain.

### Briar Patch – Capacity - 150

Enclosed shelter with picnic tables and electricity. Additional picnic tables and grills are located outside the entrance under a large covered area. Close to trails, restroom, drinking fountain and sledding hills. Briar Patch is open to the public as a warming house December thru February when skiing or sledding.

### Kum Mol Rie – Capacity - 100

Located at the north end of the park off State Road 120. Shelter located near levee trail which winds along river to the mill and the eastern natural area loop trail. Open area for recreation with restroom, drinking fountain and horseshoe pits nearby.

### Valley Line – Capacity - 50

Located on hill overlooking the mill valley. Shelter provides a quiet setting with views of Bonneyville Mill and the Valley Line pond.

### Feedlot – Capacity - 150

Covered, accessible shelter located in the heart of the Mill Valley across from Bonneyville Mill. Close to trails, canal and river. Open areas for recreation.

### Cara Jean Baldwin One Room School – Capacity - 35

Located in the mill valley, is a reconstructed turn-of-the century school house. The Elkhart County Park Foundation Community Room in the lower level of the school is reservable and includes a small kitchen, restrooms, tables and chairs and a wood-burning fireplace.



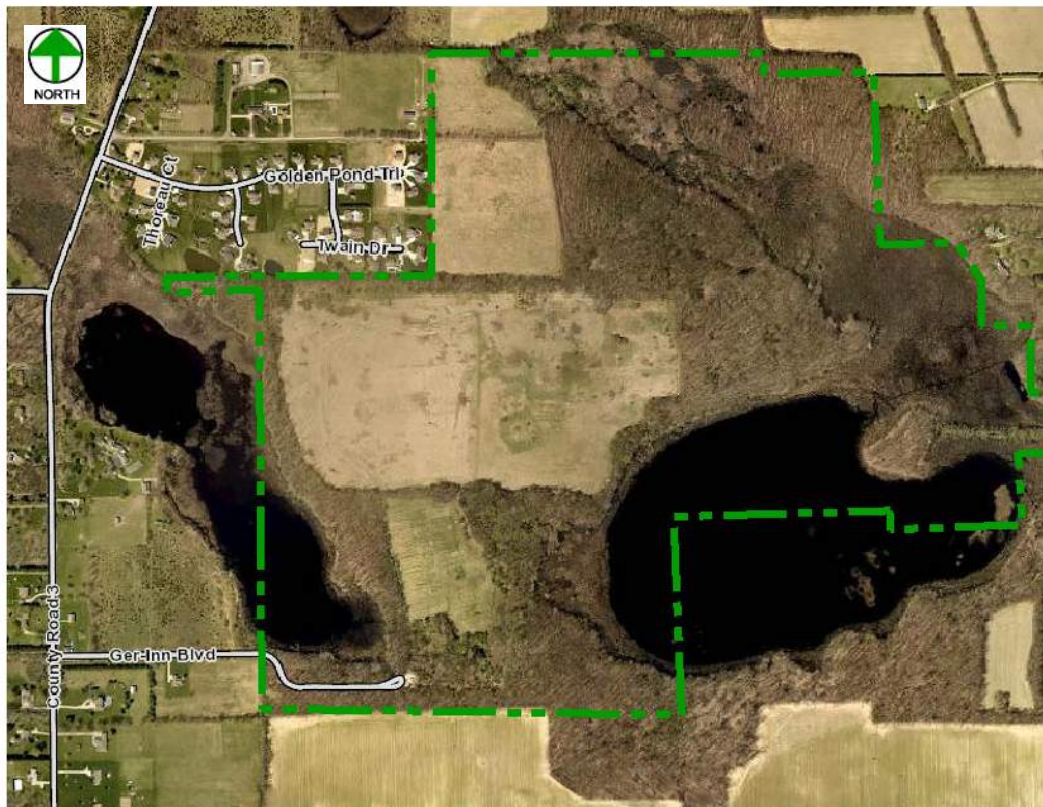
## Boot Lake Nature Preserve

Size: 300 acres

Located on Williams Lane off of CR 3

In 2017 Boot Lake Nature Preserve was transferred from the City of Elkhart to the Elkhart County Parks and Recreation Board after discussions of the transfer first took place in 1999. This 300-acre state dedicated nature preserve protects a 90-acre tall grass prairie, two wetlands including a rare type of peaty muck flat, state endangered plants and animals such as the Purple Bladderwort and Blanding's Turtle, and over 219 species of birds. A portion of the land was once the 'city sludge farm' which was professionally removed by private companies and then natural areas later restored by Elkhart EnviroCorps, an AmeriCorps National Service program. After restoration and additional land acquisition the Indiana DNR designated the property as a state nature preserve in 2003.

After a decade of neglect with the demise of the AmeriCorps program, Boot Lake has received much needed revitalization. Increased safety, regularly established park hours, and a daily staff presence have assisted with much blight. In its first year a new wetland overlook, updated kiosks, and cleanup of site by staff and volunteers have made a difference on visitor impact.





## Cobus Creek Park

Size: 84 acres

Located at 30680 C.R. 8 – Elkhart

In 2004, the Elkhart County Park and Recreation Board purchased an 84-acre parcel of land that included 3,300 feet on Cobus Creek, one of several designated cold-water trout streams in northern Indiana. In 2005, the department received a \$200,000 Land and Water Conservation Fund grant to construct an entrance road, parking, shelter, restrooms, playground, sensory garden, prairie, and fishing pier.

Cobus Creek County Park is located in the northwest corner of Elkhart County in Cleveland Township. The 84-acre parcel is situated on the south side of County Road 8, east of the Elkhart/St. Joseph County line. The main focus of the park is the preservation and enhancement of natural areas and open green space. The property contains 17 acres of wet meadow, 13 acres of wet woods, 18 acres of woods, 30 acres of former farm fields, a 5-acre pond, 1-acre meadow and a stream. The stream, Cobus Creek, is a cold-water stream running approximately 3,300 lineal feet from north to south. The stream is a designated trout stream and was featured on the 1952 Indiana trout stamp.

Development of the park began in 2007. Proposed development included an entry drive, parking, walking trail, picnic shelter, restroom, playground, fishing access and a sensory garden. This park provides additional recreational opportunities in northwest Elkhart County such as playground, volleyball, open field recreation, hiking, jogging, bird & wildlife viewing, fishing and cross-country skiing.



# Ox Bow Park

Size: 200 acres

Location: 23033 County Road 45,  
Goshen, IN 46528

In 1967 the Park Board and County administrators began planning the transfer and transformation of the County Home farm in Dunlap into a county park. The property was formally transferred in 1968 and named Ox Bow County Park in 1969. The property was designed and created with a vision to provide nature education and recreational space as well as ecological preservation along the Elkhart River. Although the park was already in use by



the public, a grand opening was held, and the park was formally dedicated in 1973. In 1980, the County Home was demolished, and an additional portion of land was leased to the Park Board by the County Commissioners.

Today, Ox Bow's 200 acres is the most popular park in the system for reservations, field trips and outdoor recreation. Over five miles of nature trails lead hikers through meadows, marsh, woodland and prairies supporting a wide variety of plant and animal species. Deer, fox, raccoons and an abundance of songbirds are just a few of the wildlife that call Ox Bow home. The site contains a combination of open space and various habitats. The topography is generally flat with some rolling areas. The park also contains the remnants of an oxbow lake and two County Home cemeteries.

Ox Bow provides four seasons of outdoor enjoyment with well-maintained picnic areas, seven open shelters and one winterized shelter. Volleyball courts, horseshoe pits and playgrounds can be found throughout the park. Other features include an archery range, observation tower, open play fields, canoe launch, open-air chapel and a 24-hole disc golf course. During the winter months, you can find groomed trails for cross country skiing as well as two sledding hills and a warming house.



## **Park Shelters**

### **Fisherman's Camp – Capacity - 70**

Open-air shelter located on the banks of the Elkhart River close to the canoe launch, observation tower and the Red Pines Campfire Area. Shelter includes campfire area, playground equipment, volleyball court, horseshoe pit, open play field, open-air chapel and trails are nearby. Handicap-accessible restroom, drinking fountain and picnic sites.

### **Coffee Tree – Capacity - 50**

Open-air shelter with good views of the Elkhart River. Shelter includes a campfire area and a horseshoe pit is nearby. The shelter is located near several trails and just a short walk to the observation tower. Handicap-accessible picnic sites. Restroom and drinking fountain across road.

### **Honey Locust Shelter – Capacity - 70**

Open-air shelter located near the oxbow of the Elkhart River. Hiking trails lead along the river, oxbow and through beautiful woodlands. It's a short walk to the spillway and fishing areas. Shelter includes a campfire area. A playground, horseshoe pit and volleyball court are nearby. Handicap-accessible restroom, drinking fountain and picnic sites.

### **Black Maple – Capacity - 60**

Open-air shelter located in the heart of the park. The spillway and fishing pier are just across the road providing excellent fishing opportunities. The trails lead through the woodlands and board-walked wetlands with good wildlife viewing. A short walk will take you to the disc golf course or across the theme bridge to a playground area, open play field and volleyball court. Shelter includes a campfire area. Handicap-accessible restroom, drinking fountain and picnic sites.

### **Cottonwood – Capacity - 70**

Open-air shelter overlooking the beautiful wetlands. The shelter is located across the road from the archery range and open play field with plenty of room for ball sports. Hiking trails, playground equipment, horseshoe pit and volleyball court are nearby. Shelter includes a campfire area. Handicap-accessible restroom, drinking fountain and overlook of Ox Bow wetland.

### **Farmstead – Capacity - 50**

Open-air shelter located adjacent to the disc golf course. Secluded off the main roadway, the area provides good opportunities for viewing wildlife. The shelter is close to the spillway and fishing pier. Nearby trails lead you along the oxbow and wetland areas. Handicap-accessible restroom and drinking fountain.

### **Stable – Capacity - 110**

Open-air shelter adjacent to the first tee of the disc golf course. Hiking trails, horseshoe pit and a volleyball court are nearby. Handicap-accessible restroom and drinking fountain.

### **Ox Bow Haus – Capacity - 50**

Enclosed shelter with electricity and modern restroom facilities. Tables and chairs are provided. Picnic tables and grills located on back deck. Wood burning stove provides warmth during cooler months. Hiking trails, open play field, playground and volleyball court are nearby. Ox Bow Haus is open to the public as a warming house December thru February.

## River Preserve Park

Size: 358 acres

Located at 67380 C.R. 29 – New Paris

The River Preserve County Park was donated to the Elkhart County Parks in 1971 by the Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO). The property included a canal system and hydro plants at Baintertown and Benton as well as the Goshen Dam. The property has as much historical significance as it does natural resources. The Baintertown area was once known as “Wyland Town” when the Wyland brothers and their families came from Ohio in 1831 to build a mill race, saw mill, and 18-room stone house. They later added a grist mill and woolen mill. In the 1900s the area was owned by several power companies who harnessed energy from the hydroelectric power. Later, three additional properties were donated within the watershed including 26 acres adjacent to the Baintertown section of the River Preserve, 23 acres of land near the River Preserve known as the Turkey Creek site, and the 14-acre DeFries Gardens.



Although the River Preserve County Park was previously reported in prior Master Plans and publication to be over 1,135 acres, the property was accurately calculated in 2017 with the use of GIS and measures approximately 358 acres, still giving it the honor of presently being the largest park in the County Parks system.

Located on the Elkhart River between the town of Benton and the dam on the south side of Goshen. Once the site of early mill operations and hydroelectric generation, the park contains the dams, canals and foundations of an earlier day.

Visitors to the park will experience the natural beauty of Elkhart County. Wetlands along the Elkhart River provide excellent habitat for a wide variety of plant and animal species. The park is included in the Indiana Wildlife Viewing Guide, a listing of the top 80 wildlife viewing areas in the state of Indiana. The River Preserve provides visitors excellent opportunities for picnicking, fishing, canoeing, hiking and nature study.

## Park Shelters

**Baintertown Park:** Capacity: 50

**Benton Spillway:** Capacity: 25

## Access Sites

**Baintertown Hydro:** 0.5 miles east of State Road 15 on County Road 29. Site contains a hydroelectric power plant, fishing and small boat/canoe access to the canal and Elkhart River, picnic site, trail.

**Baintertown Park:** 67380 County Road 29, New Paris, 1 mile east of State Road 15 on County Road 29, north at County Road 142. Site contains, accessible parking, trails, open shelter, accessible latrine, drinking fountain, picnic sites, fishing and small boat/canoe access to the canal system.



**Baintertown Dam and Wetland:** CR 142 east of the Baintertown Park, New Paris. Site contains a seasonal restroom, trails, picnic sites, fishing, wildlife viewing, and small boat/canoe access to the Baintertown Canal.

**Benton Hydro:** 1-1.5 miles west of U.S. 33 on County Road 44, south ½ miles on County Road 127. Site contains trails, picnic site, fishing and small boat/canoe access to the canal system.

**Benton Spillway:** 68552 County Road 31, New Paris, 2 miles south of U.S. 33 on County Road 31. Site contains a dam, spillway, canal, accessible latrine, drinking fountain, open shelter, trails, fishing and small boat/canoe access to the canal system, wildlife viewing area.

**Benton Landing:** an accessible IDNR public access site, located at 68105 US 33, Goshen, north side of Elkhart River Bridge on U.S. 33 in Benton, parking lot on west side of the road. Site contains picnic area, seasonal latrine, fishing and small boat/canoe access to the Elkhart River.



# DeFries Gardens

Size: 14 acres

Located at 17477 C.R. 46 – New Paris

A 14-acre parcel within the River Preserve County Park known as DeFries Gardens was donated by the late Mrs. Elisabeth DeFries in 1995. Mrs. DeFries later funded a Calendar Garden designed by Jon Cutrell as well as gifted the department a \$1.5M endowment through the Community Foundation of Elkhart County when she passed away in 2011 to care for the garden in perpetuity. This endowment allows for contracted maintenance care, part-time garden staff, plant material purchases, as well as large projects. Some of the past projects including the construction of the Winter House, Green House, Fall House, Summer pavilion that are showcased in the Calendar Garden. As well as the remodel of a garage into a potting shed. Future projects include transformation of the former DeFries

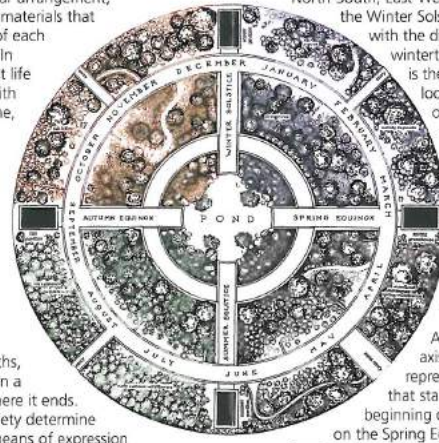
## What is a Calendar Garden?

The Calendar Garden can be seen as a large scale model of the annual cycle. The months flow clockwise in a circular arrangement, incorporating plant materials that express the drama of each succeeding season. In addition to the plant life that is associated with each moment in time, cultural symbols are incorporated to make a unified model of culture and nature. The garden can be created in any part of the world because we now share the same method of marking the flow of time – twelve named months, 365 days arranged in a circle, beginning where it ends. Geography and society determine what the possible means of expression are for any given location. Both the natural world and the cultural sphere are unique to any locale but can be expressed in this commonly shared model.



## The Four Seasons Model

Since we are in a Temperate Zone typified by four distinct seasons, the cycle is laid out on North-South, East-West axis. Due north is the Winter Solstice, associating with the direction of cold and wintertime. To the south is the Summer Solstice looking in the direction of the sun, warm and the tropics. To the east, where day dawns, the growing year begins with the Spring Equinox. Subsequently, west represent fading of the year as well as the day.



At the end of each axis is a small pavilion representing the season that starts on that day. Following the beginning of the growing season on the Spring Equinox the structure is a functional greenhouse. The Summer Pavilion is to be an open room to represent the time of year we are outside with no protection. A series of steps leads to a deck on top, a lookout point view the garden also representing the summer at its peak. The Autumn pavilion is enclosed back but with double Victorian doors that open in nice weather to a porch supported by anti limestone pillars. This structure reflects the season when we can still spend time comfortably outside but can also retreat inside in cool weather. The winter pavilion will be all enclosed with a fire and old stained glass windows to have a feel the holiday season it stands on.



residence into a rental and program facility.

The site presently is home to the park manager office, maintenance facility, gardens, the former residence and parking. Visitors can enjoy the trail, Calendar Garden, homestead gardens, modern restroom and canoe access to the Elkhart River.



## Treasure Island

Size: 4 acres

Location: 56225 Armour Avenue, Elkhart, IN 46516

Located off County Road 16, 8/10 of a mile west of State Road 19 in Elkhart, IN.

Treasure Island is a 4 acre partially wooded site located on the banks of the lower St. Joseph River. The park offers picnicking, fishing and canoe access to the river.



## Pumpkinvine Nature Trail

Size: 8 Miles owned by Elkhart County Parks

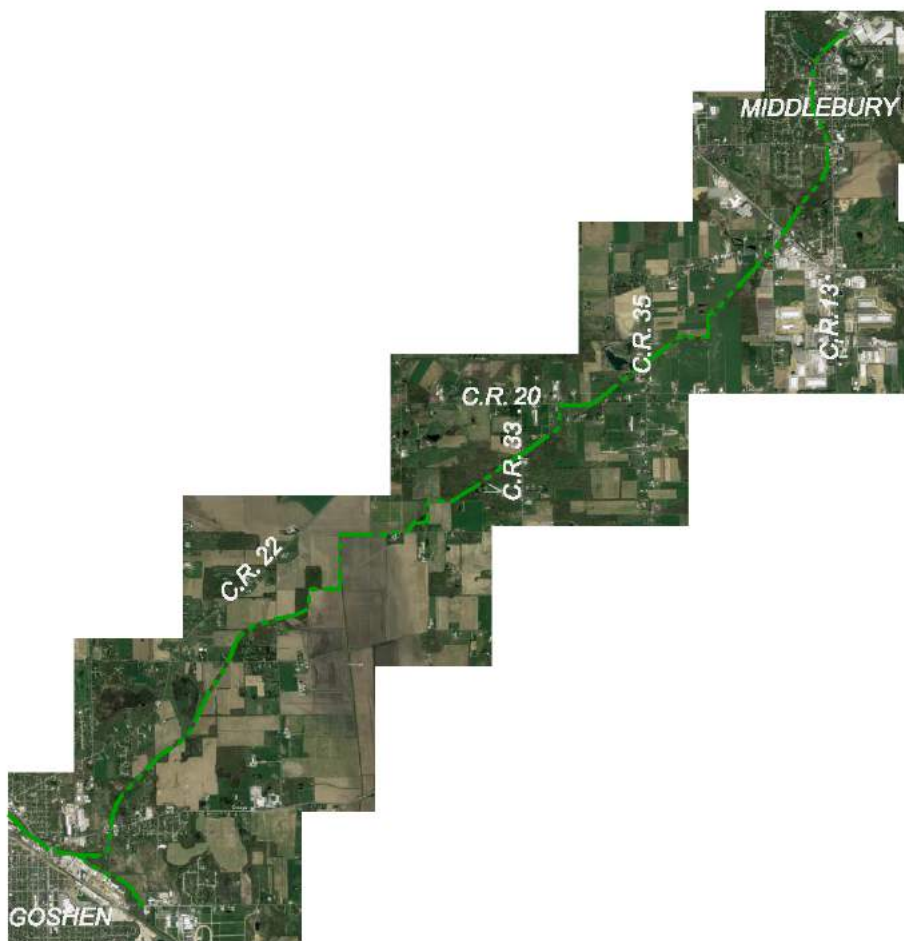
Total trail length: 16.5 miles (at 50' Width = 100 acres)

Location: Goshen to Shipshewana

The Pumpkinvine Nature Trail is a 16.50-mile linear park and greenway developed mainly on the former Pumpkinvine railroad corridor. The history of the Friends of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail dates back to the late 1990s when a group of citizens saw a vision of turning an abandoned railroad bed into a multi-use trail. Many years and legal battles were spent acquisitioning the parcels, but today the trail is used by thousands and its vision of a community asset has been fulfilled.

The Pumpkinvine has been a trail project woven together piece by piece. The Friends of the Pumpkinvine submitted a Transportation Enhancement Grant to establish the trail from Middlebury to the Elkhart /LaGrange County line in 2003. Between 2008 and 2012 the Elkhart County Parks wrote additional grants including a Transportation Enhancement Grant, an Eli Lilly grant, an Indiana State Trails Grant, an American Recovery (Stimulus) Grant, and a Recreational Trails Grant in order to complete the sections that have been donated to the Elkhart County Parks by the Friends of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail. Today, the Elkhart County Parks owns and maintains more than 8 miles of the Pumpkinvine.

The trail is a delight for walkers, runners, roller bladers, cross-country skiers and bikers as they travel through urban areas, small towns and agricultural communities.



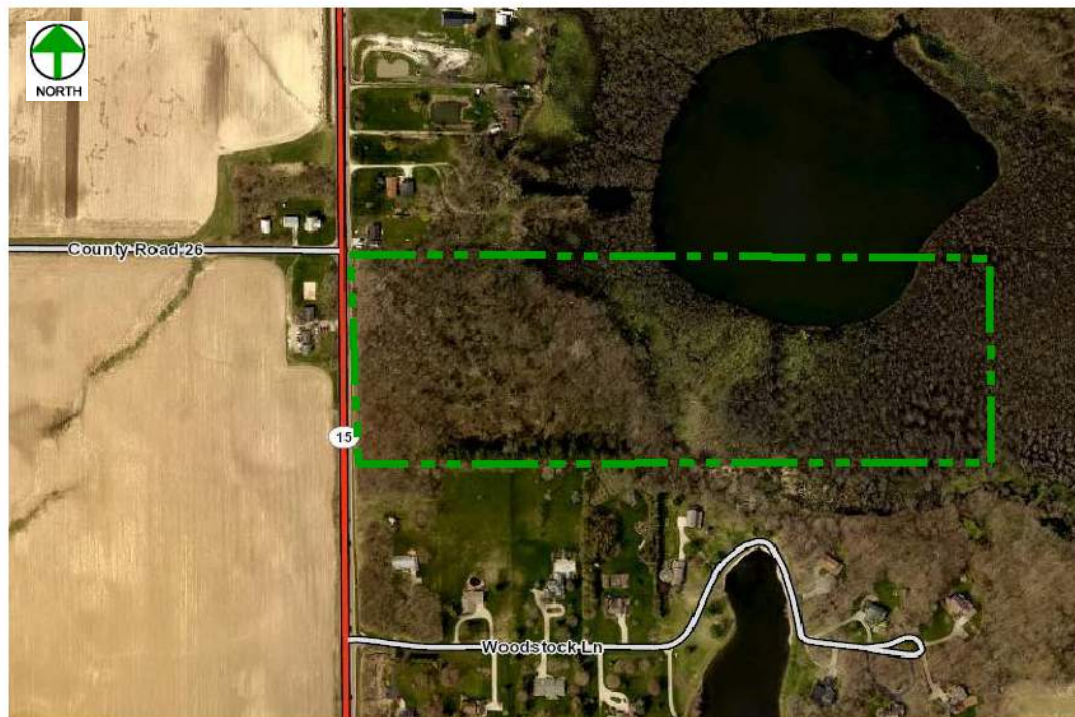
## Undeveloped Park Land

### Wolf Lake Site

Size: 30 acres

Located two miles north of Goshen along S.R. 15

Wolf Lake is one of the few undeveloped lakes in the county. The site contains a variety of habitats from open meadows, wet woodlands, marsh and the lake itself. The property has been land banked as a preserve by the department since its donation in 1975. Presently there is no public access to the property. The site is currently undeveloped and has the potential to offer a small parking lot and trail.





## Turkey Creek Site

Size: 23 acres

Located at the junction of Turkey Creek and the Elkhart River

This small 23-acre site is located at the point where the Turkey Creek joins the Elkhart River. Currently there is no public access to the site and, therefore, it is best use is of preservation of habitat.

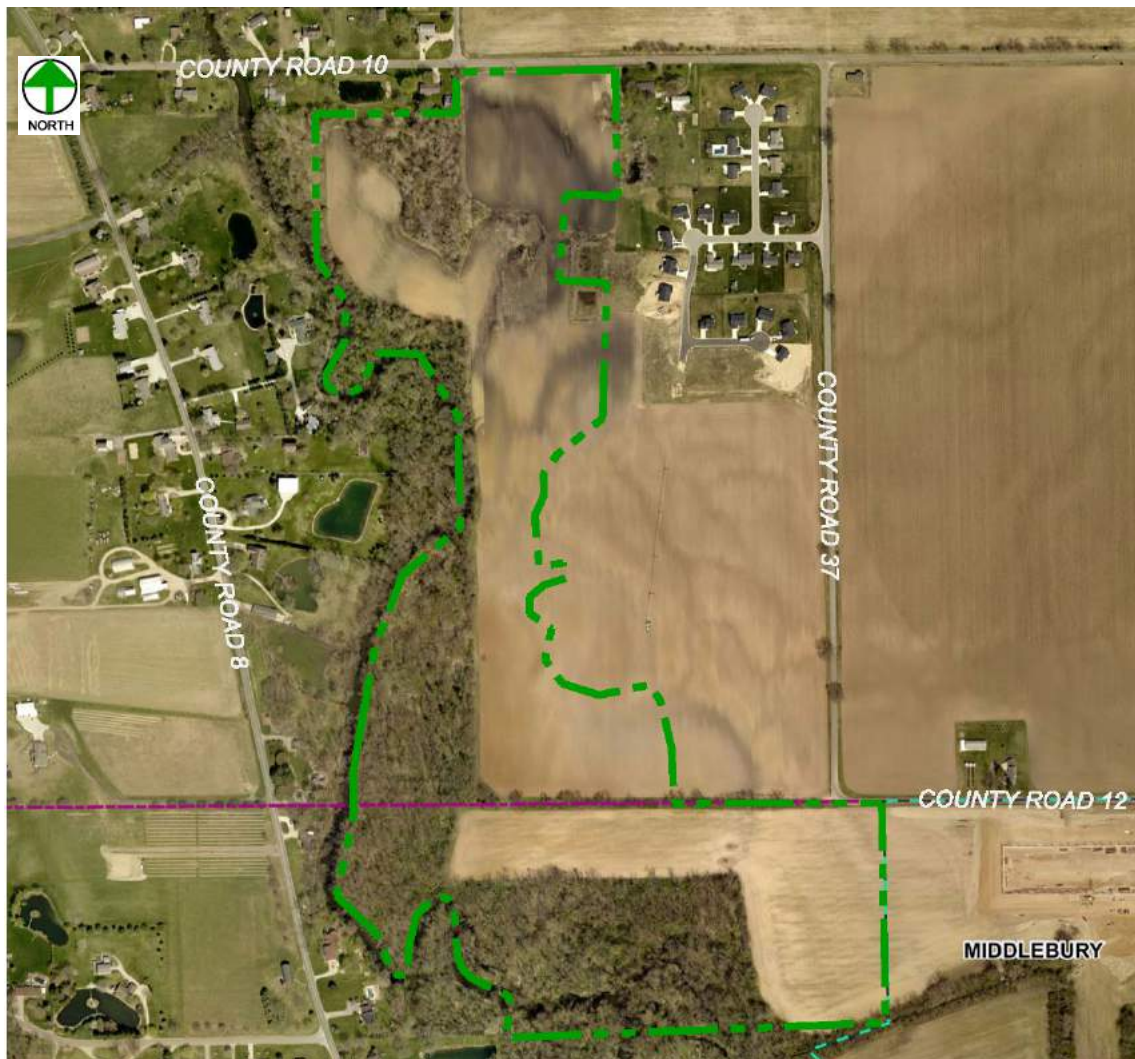


## Corson Riverwoods County Park

Size: 78 acres

Located along the Little Elkhart River between County Road 10 and County Road 12

In 2018 this parcel of land located north of Middlebury was gifted by Mr. Tom Corson, founder of Coachman Industries. This site protects over 1 mile of cold-water trout stream along the Little Elkhart River and provides a buffer to this important habitat. Future restoration and development of the site will be similar to Cobus Creek as corn field is transformed to prairie, parking, small pavilion, and trails.



## Historical Sites

### Bonneyville Mill

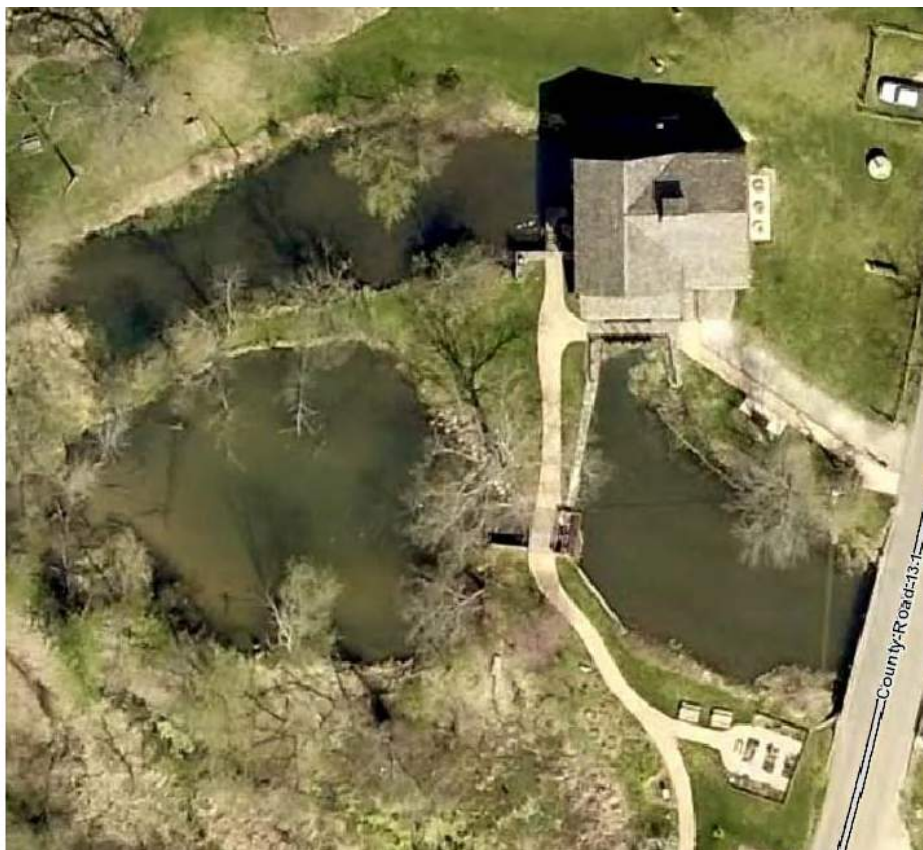
Located at 53373 C.R. 131 – Bristol

Established in the mid-1830's, Bonneyville Mill has produced quality, stone ground flour for over 175 years. Each year the mill's historical interpreters lead thousands of visitors who come to the mill to experience the grinding of flour and experience this beautiful structure. The staff at Bonneyville Mill demonstrates and explains how water power has been harnessed to grind grain into flour and sells the flour to help raise revenue.

Not only does the mill attract local visitors and school groups, it also attracts many tourists. Each year people sign the guest register from around the world. In the past five years, visitors have come from the following:

- 2013 – 43 States; 23 Foreign Countries
- 2014 – 45 States; 21 Foreign Countries
- 2015 – 42 States; 22 Foreign Countries
- 2016 38 – States 20; Foreign Countries
- 2017 39 – States; 16 Foreign Countries

The Mill is a part of the heritage tourism of Elkhart County and brings with it a strong economic impact with tourists spending money at local gas stations, restaurants, motels, and shopping centers.



To increase local and out-of-town tourism, the Mill continues to be a part of the Elkhart County & Convention Visitors Bureau's Quilt Garden Tour with the display of a Quilt Mural on the barn. In 2018, the Mill participated in the Faces of Middlebury tour where a painted cutout of a wheat farmer was on



display for photo opportunities. The Mill itself is said to be one of the most photographed locations in Elkhart County.

The mill is open to the public from May through October. Mill hours are 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday.

### **Historical Education**

Bonneyville Mill provides historical education programs for students each year. These students hear the story of Edward Bonney and explore how the 180 year old mill continues to grind flour. Scheduled mill tours can be geared toward particular areas of interest (History, Science, Social Studies, Nutrition, etc.) when requested. In addition, the interpretive naturalists and museum staff also provide programs at the One Room School House located at Bonneyville Mill County Park.

## **Elkhart County Historical Museum**

Size: 1.32 Acres

Located at 304 W. Vistula Street – Bristol

The Elkhart County Parks is unique for a local park system in that it models many state and national parks in which preservation of history is important part of its mission.

Part of the uniqueness began shortly after the department was founded when the partnership was created between the Elkhart County Historical Society and Elkhart County Parks and Recreation Board to create the Elkhart County Historical Museum in 1968. Through the efforts of countless individuals, the museum has become one of the foremost institutions in northern Indiana dedicated to preserving and educating the public about local history. In 1991, the Elkhart County Parks assumed general operating support of the staff and operations of the Museum in partnership with the Society's collection. The Elkhart County Historical Society become a formal independent 501 (c)3 non-profit and continued to assist with fundraising, volunteerism, and other in-kind support for the preservation of its collection.

Today with professional staff, the Museum is dedicated to fostering appreciation and preservation of local history and culture through exhibits, education programs, and an accessible library and archives. Visitors to the museum can explore and engage with over 20,000 years of Elkhart County history, 30,000 artifacts and over 100,000 documents related to Elkhart County history that the Society has collected since 1896.

The Elkhart County Genealogy Society and Elkhart County Sports Hall of Fame are also located within the museum and partner with the museum to provide public educational opportunities. The Sports Hall of Fame installed a new interactive kiosk in 2015 as a tool to research past recipients of their awards.

The museum serves over 6,000 people annually through programs, tours and general visitors and a major special event off-site called the Gathering at Five Medals. With the change of a technology driven society, the museum provides numerous learning opportunities, utilizing social media and access of archives through its website.

The current hours of Museum operation are Tuesday-Saturday 9 a.m.- 5 p.m.

The museum has hosted several temporary exhibits designed by staff members, community groups, and loaned by other organizations. These exhibits have included: Heritage Quilt Challenge Exhibit (2013)

Change-ing Money Through the Years (2013) For Love, For Friends, For Questions: Elkhart's Partly Dave Coffeehouse (2013) Top it Off: Hat Exhibit (2013) Auto Indiana (2014) Hoosiers and their Hooch: Perspectives on Prohibition (2014) Elkhart's First 20,000 Years (2015) Tribute to the Troops Display (2015) March Madness (2016) Hoosier Cartoons and Comics (2016) The Great War: From Ration Lines to Front Lines (2016) Bicentennial Torch Exhibit (2017) World War I: 100 Year Anniversary (2018)

The museum, in conjunction with many community partners, offers between 20 and 30 educational events annually. Programs for school groups provide interactive opportunities for students, pre-school age through college.

Researchers from Elkhart County and across the country draw on the wide range of resources available in the collection of the Elkhart County Historical Society. Museum staff and volunteers assist professional and amateur historians and genealogists with research, providing access to one-of-a-kind material and offering tutorials for beginning researchers. The large historical collection continues to be made increasingly public by museum staff.

In 2012 the Elkhart County Parks, Elkhart County Historical Society, and the Corson Family Foundation provided the support necessary to remodel a room to host the Corson Library and Special Collections Reading Room. In addition, a partnership with the Elkhart Public Library has provided web access to local history books and files through a professional library catalog. Archival materials are also becoming increasingly accessible to researchers as museum staff and volunteers develop archival finding aids and make them available on the web.

In 2015, the Christine Brown Education Lab was completed to honor past supporter and former educator Chris Brown. The Lab provides an area for small programs and an opportunity for visitors to see collections being processed.

The Elkhart County Historical Museum is fortunate that many non-profit organizations and members of the community are dedicated to helping the museum achieve its goals.



## Field Trips and Museum Tours

School programs have been developed to cover various themes that are relevant to local history. Museum staff and volunteers present each topic through informative and interactive lessons. Reproduction artifacts and documented historic activities are included to provide students with a unique immersion experience. Each program was designed with an emphasis on state standards, and the programs are routinely updated to meet evolving curriculum requirements. The museum offers the following field trips for children:

- Everyday Items from the Past
- Our Story: Elkhart County
- Regional Native American History
- 19<sup>th</sup> Century School Lesson (held off-site at the One Room Schoolhouse)

## Museum Public Programs

Over the past five years, there has been various programs offered by the staff of the Elkhart County Historical Museum. The hiring of professional museum staff over the past decade has greatly expanded the number of programs, as well as quality at the museum. The diversity of programming has helped increase attendance at this site. In addition, the Museum staff leads the department staff and volunteers in planning the Gathering at Five Medals. This is a major three day event in which involves over 190 re-enactors with encampments at the River Preserve County Park.

Past public programs include:

Tuesday Tours Series:

- |                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| ▪ Occupations of the Past      | ▪ Band Instrument Capitol                          |
| ▪ On the Home Front            | ▪ Pioneer Era of Elkhart County                    |
| ▪ Ridin' Rails & Blowin' Horns | ▪ Sneak Peak of Partly Dave                        |
| ▪ Native Americans             | ▪ Elkhart County History in Artifacts              |
| ▪ Behind the Scenes            | ▪ How to Use the Museum Library                    |
| ▪ Decorative Arts              | ▪ Five Medals & Moran: Native Americans in Elkhart |
| ▪ "Rich" History               | ▪ All Trains Go Through Elkhart                    |
| ▪ The Old General Store        |  |

Quilt Study Day

Valentine's Day at the Museum

Collection Curiosities

Palm Sunday Tornado Remembrance

Spring Break History Days

History Library Roundtable

Grace Lawn Cemetery Tour

Managing the Landscape

Quilt Garden & Heritage Quilt Challenge

Reception

Walking Tour of Elkhart

Baintertown Park Tour

Civil War Sesquicentennial Celebration

Tour of Bristol School

How to Start Your House History

Treasures from the Archives

Elkhart County Genealogical Society Annual Workshop

History of Military Uniforms

The Elkhart County Home

Family Fun Day (Series):

- Hats! -The Ice Ages
- The Elcar 500
- Will You Be My Valentine?
- American Girl Doll Day
- Spring Cleaning!
- Hooves, Horns, Tracks & Tails
- For the Troops
- Bristol School Homecoming Tour
- Atlatl Competition

Exhibit and Coffee Talk

Trivia Night at the Museum

Elkhart's Automotive History

Cemetery Preservation

Museum After Hours Open House

What Can Your Historic Photos Tell You

Seeing the Bias in Your Research

Book Signings with Local Authors:

- Murder at the Museum
- Railroading on the Wabash Fourth District

Caring for Your Family Heirlooms

House History Research Night

Treasures from the Collection: Quilts and Coverlets

Story of the Palm Sunday Tornadoes

Curator Chat: Elkhart County's First 20,000 Years

The Great War Lecture Series:

- Mennonites during WW I
- Influenza 1918

Historic Maps and What They Tell Us

Treasures from the Archives

Atlatl Class

Elkhart's Early Settlement

Elkhart County's 20,000 Years Kids Day

Surviving the Cold

Adopt an Artifact

The C.G. Conn Factory Fires

The Do's and Don'ts of Museum Donations

Artifact Interpretation Class

Archeology Month Presentation

Museum Open House: Rank Our Exhibits!

An Evening with Daniel Boone

Museum Guided Tour Series:

- What is That? -Ted Drake
- Cooking Through the Years
- American Settlement

Quilt Garden Tour Celebration

Colonial Culinary Workshop: History in the Tasting

The Story of Maude Essig

The Old General Store

Museum After Dark: Scavenger Hunt

Megaafauna of Elkhart County

From France to Statehood

The Union's Youngest: Avery Brown & his Drum

Elkhart County's Top 10 Moments in History

Did the Underground Railroad Stop in Elkhart County?

People of Elkhart (Series):

- E. Hill Turnock
- Charles Gordone
- Emma Malloy
- John Jackson
- The Horticulturists
- The Illustrators

Places of Elkhart (Series):

- Lost Buildings
- County Home
- Elkhart County Courthouse

History Day Camps:

- Civil War Day Camp
- Pioneer Life Day Camp
- Teen Curator Summer Camp

Elkhart's Infernos

Middlebury Walking Tour

Bristol Walking Tour

Nappanee Walking Tour

Quilts from the Collection

Quilt Identification Day

Paleo Night

Escape the Museum

- CG Conn
- Jack Cooper
- Edward Bonney
- The Potawatomi
- Maude Essig
- Dr. Miles

- Baintertown
- Bristol Fruit Hills
- Goshen



## Park Partnerships

### Six-Span Bridge Site

Size: 3.14 acres

Located at 54424 S.R. 120 – Elkhart

This is a two-acre site on the upper St. Joseph River with a boat launching facility that was constructed by the Elkhart County Commissioners to provide river access for boats, kayaks and canoes. Future plans are to expand the capacity of the site to include a separate ADA accessible dock for kayaks and canoes, a picnic shelter, and restoration of a pole barn into a program facility/meeting space. Funds for the project will come through the Redevelopment Commission and ownership will be maintained by the County Commissioners.





## Lieber Nature Preserve

Size: 135 acres

Located at 51602 C.R 23 – Bristol

The preservation of Pipewort Pond and the surrounding property is a partnership with the Indiana Division of Nature Preserves. The 135-acre preserve features a cranberry bog, wildlife viewing and a variety of Indiana's endangered and threatened plant species. The site is open to the public for hiking and nature study.



## Park Programs and Events

The Interpretive Services Division houses the interpretation, education, event planning, marketing, and volunteer section of the department. The nine full-time and four part-time staff have offices divided among Ox Bow County Park, Bonneyville Mill, and the Elkhart County Historical Museum.

### Interpretive Programming

The interpretive Services staff provide a diverse selection of recreation, education and leisure opportunities to area residents. Elkhart County Parks offers educational programming that focuses on natural and historical interpretation, as well recreation opportunities that encourage people to be more active in the outdoors. Staff provide these opportunities through field trips, bus tours, day camps, monthly public programs, community outreach, and special events. Two staff naturalists are Certified Heritage Interpreters, and one museum staff is a Certified Interpretive Guide through the National Association of Interpretation (NAI).

The team builds partnerships within the community including with the Elkhart County Soil and Water Conservation District, Indiana Master Naturalist program, Elkhart Food Council, local Group of Regional Environmental Educators Network (GREEN), and are presently participating in an NAI Regional Conference planning committee.

### Interpretive Naturalists

#### Environmental Education Field Trips

Environmental education is offered by three full-time staff of the Interpretive Naturalist Section. Education programs provide hands-on activities and group hikes at the various county park sites. The Interpretive Naturalist staff also provides off-site programs for schools, clubs and other groups. To encourage participation of schools, programs are designed to meet Indiana State Standards for curriculum requirements. Schools from all seven school corporations within Elkhart County attend fields trip, as well as other schools from adjoining counties.

The following programs are offered year-round:

- Animal Habitats
- Animal Adaptations
- Animal Tracks & Sign
- Animals of Indiana
- Benefits of Bats
- Birds
- Mammals
- Insects
- Fish
- Reptiles & Amphibians
- Weather & Clouds
- Recycling
- Predators & Prey
- Geologic Forces
- Wild About Wetlands
- Survival Skills
- Orienteering & Maps
- Nature Hikes

A unique partnership with Concord Ox Bow Elementary school began in 2013 and continues today. The school has land that adjoins Ox Bow County Park, allowing for field trips to take place without the need for bus transportation. The school requests visits from the interpretive naturalists three times per year per grade. The program enhances the science programs taught at Concord Ox Bow Elementary school.

## Monthly Public Programs

The Elkhart County Parks Interpretive Naturalists provide a wide variety of monthly Public Programs to the general public. These interpretive programs consist of a wide variety of topics related to the natural, environmental, and cultural environment. Topics presented over the past five years include:

### ***Programs offered as series:***

- Hiking Club (Monthly: March to Nov. in different locations)
- Nature Nuts (Monthly preschool program)
- Science Sleuths (Monthly)
- Wednesday Bird Walks (bi-monthly)
- Mommy Stroller Meetup (2017 Series)
- Nature Readers Book Club (2018 Series)
- Family Nature Fun Day (2017-18 Series):
- Tower Tunes Concert Series (2016-2017)

### ***Educator Workshops:***

- Flying Wild Workshop
- Growing Up Wild Workshop
- Hoosier Riverwatch Volunteer Training
- GoFishIN Crew Captain's Workshop
- Project WET Workshop
- Leopold Education Project

### ***Natural History:***

- Fauna
- The American Woodcock
- Frogs
- Reptiles and Amphibians
- Our Furry Friends
- Amazing Mammals

- Scat
- Bat House Workshops
- Timberdoodle Trek
- Animal Tracks
- River Otters
- In Search of the Camouflaged Looper
- Wildlife Hike
- Indiana Wildlife
- Birding by Ear Workshops
- Evening Sound Walk
- The American Beaver
- Make a Bluebird Box
- Raptor Experience
- JeopBirdy
- Sparrow ID Workshop
- Weekend Bird Walk
- Birding 101 Workshop
- Tea and Titmice
- Wildlife Rehabilitation
- Nature Game Night

### ***Natural History: Flora***

- Winter Tree ID
- Fall Tree ID Hike
- DeFries Calendar Garden Tour
- Traditional Herbal Uses
- Wild Edibles
- DeFries Gardens Spring Plant Exchange

- DeFries Gardens Fall Plant Exchange
- Cobus Creek Fall Plant Exchange
- The Incredible, Edible Acorn

#### ***Outdoor Recreation Skills***

- Annual Fishing Contest
- Cast Iron Cooking and Dutch Oven
- Homemade Butter
- Wild Edibles Hike
- Ox Bow Family Campout
- Cross Country Ski Workshop
- Archery Classes
- Tubing the Elkhart River
- Bonneyville Mountain Bike Hike
- Backyard Maple Syrup Making
- Family Learn to Fish Workshop
- Nature and Photography

#### ***Astronomy***

- Winter Constellations
- Constellations of the Summer Skies

#### ***Regional Tours***

- Buffalo Ranch Tour
- Kellogg Bird Sanctuary Tour
- Gene Stratton Porter Rome City Tour
- Sandhill Crane Migration tour
- Worm Farm Tour
- Wastewater Treatment Tour

#### ***Arts in the Parks/Hands-on Learning***

- Christmas Card Watercolor Class
- Learn to Draw
- Pinecone Wreath
- Recycled Adirondack Ski Chair
- Fun N' Easy Watercolor Course

- Spring Fever: Scrapbooking & Craft Day
- Paper Flying Machines
- Handmade Christmas Ornaments
- Homemade Natural Dog Treats
- Paint & Pastry
- Corn Cob Jelly and Butter
- Corn Husk Dolls
- Thanksgiving Centerpiece
- Christmas Door Wreath
- Coffee Filter Wreath Workshop
- Wine Cork Birdhouse Workshop
- Nature Sketching Studio
- Coloring Book Night for Adults

#### ***Cultural/Historical Programs***

- Day in a One Room Schoolhouse
- History of Ox Bow County Park Hike
- Gold Panning the Elkhart River
- History of the River Preserve
- 1850 Pioneer School Day
- Back to School Day

#### ***General Hikes***

- Cobus Creek Nature Hike
- Midnight Hike
- Fall Nature Hike
- Exploring Spring
- Bonneyville After Dark
- Family Night Hike
- Winter Scavenger Hunt
- Boot Lake Hike
- Ox Bow Park in the Dark
- Winter Wildlife Hike
- Scavenger Hunt



### ***Holiday Theme/Miscellaneous Programs***

- Picnic with Your Pup
- Haunted Michiana
- St. Patrick's Day Treasure Hunt
- Christmas Magic Show
- Junior Ranger Day
- Rocks, Minerals, and Fossils
- What Makes a Photo Award Winning
- Tower Power
- April Family Easter Egg Hunt
- Grandparents in the Park: Earth Day
- Grandparents in the Park: Fall Fun!
- Nature Game Night

### ***Volunteer Programs:***

- Indiana Master Naturalist Course
- Weekday Warrior Volunteer Series:
- DeFries Gardens Work Day

- Tree Work Day
- Painting Project
- Museum Deep Clean
- Five Medals Prep
- Cobus Stream
- Ox Bow Firewood
- Pumpkinvine Trail

### ***Volunteer Work Days:***

- DeFries Gardens
- Pumpkinvine
- Bonneyville
- Ox Bow
- Baintertown

### ***Day Camps:***

- Jr. IMN Day Camp
- Nature Explorer Day Camp
- Adventure Day Camp

## **Major Special Events**

The Elkhart County Parks expanded the number of major special events over the past decade as well as continued traditional favorites. Major events are defined as those that are a half day or longer, involve multiple staff and facilities, extended planning time, and often attract 100 to several thousand people.

***Bark in the Park*** is was an event centered around 'man's best friend' the canine. The first event was held in 2010 when several hundred people and their pet dogs joined Interpretive staff for trail walk, disc dog show, police K-9 demonstration, agility demonstration, booths, and much more. Portions of the event benefitted local dog rescues.

**The Bug Day** event continues to be popular in celebration of insects. Area agencies host insect related booths, insect snacks are served, and programs and activities are held centered on the insect world.

The ***DeFries Gardens Art Show*** was a collaborative event with the Goshen Painters Guild. This event was held from 2010 to 2013 and was a big hit with local artists as well as art and nature lovers. Over 60 artists entered works of art into this juried art show that also featured live music and the wonderful background of DeFries Gardens. Over 500 visitors attended the event each year.

***Elkhart County Parks Photo Contest*** is an annual event to promote the environmental, recreational and historical resources of Elkhart County. Local judges choose winners and then all

photos are placed on display for over a week. Several hundred people attend this week-long event and affiliated programs each year.

***The Gathering of Five Medals*** event at the River Preserve County Park replaced the former Flintlock and Tomahawk re-enactment that was once held on the Museum grounds. With the involvement of more Museum and park staff, volunteers, and a larger area, this event now attracts over 2,500 people and includes a school day that gives more than 1,500 children the opportunity to interact with the re-enactment sites.

***Halloween Campfire and Hayrides*** continue to be popular as this multi-day event often attracts over 300 visitors to Ox Bow County Park in the evening hours to enjoy a campfire, food, decorated woods, and hayride through the darkness of the park. A 'scary night' was added in recent years in which volunteers add elements of spooky fun to the hayride.



***Holiday at the Mill*** is an event that was added in 2011. It is held in November, after the closing of the mill for the season and features Bonneyville Mill decorated for the holiday season. Flour and corn meal are sold, cookies are available for sampling, items are sold in the gift shop, children visit with Santa, and hands-on crafts are offered. The event attracts several hundred people each year.

***Sno-Glo/Chillfest*** have been events that featured snow related activities. These events can sometimes be a challenge as winter weather in northern Indiana does not always offer snow.

***Bonneyville Heritage Day*** In 2015, the Elkhart County Parks held its last Bonneyville Heritage Day (the former Bonneyville Celebration.) The cost of the event continued to rise, many volunteer exhibitors have passed away, and attendance began to decline. Time and energy are now focused on the Gathering of Five Medals, which has become the department's signature event.

#### **Partner Special Events:**

*The Elkhart County Parks works with other agencies to provide special events to the community.*

***Annual Pumpkinvine Bike Ride*** – The Friends of the Pumpkinvine sponsor an annual fundraising bike ride each year to help raise funds for the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail which has been donated to area agencies. The interpretive team and park staff help to operate sag stops during this event.

***Elkhart County 4-H Fair*** – Each year the Elkhart County Parks rents a booth at the local fair. Over 25,000 visitors come by to visit the displays, turtle tank, and to talk with park staff and volunteers.

***Sectional/Regional Cross-Country Meets*** – The Elkhart County Parks serves as the home course for two area high school cross country teams, as well as sectional, regional, and two conference final meets.

# Compliance with State and Federal Regulations

## ***Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)***

The Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed into law on July 26, 1990, by President George H. W. Bush. This law is an attempt to achieve inclusion in society for individuals with disabilities. It does this by codifying requirements that create the conditions to permit individuals with disabilities of all kinds equal access to all parts of society. The ADA differs from the individual state discrimination laws in that it has a more sweeping range and applies retroactively to existing facilities.

In conjunction with updating the 2019-2023 Five Year Master Plan, the Elkhart County Parks director worked with the Elkhart County ADA Coordinator, Katie Niblock, to use the guidelines and template she has designed for self-evaluation of Elkhart County facilities. In addition, she will assist with the grievance procedure.

The Elkhart County Park & Recreation Department complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which prohibits discrimination in the provision of services, programs or facilities to individuals with disabilities

## **Elkhart County Parks & Recreation Accessibility**

Elkhart County strives to provide park and recreation facilities and programs that are accessible to people with disabilities. Every effort is made by the Elkhart County Parks and Recreation Department to provide accessible facilities as plans are made for the improvement and expansion of park facilities. These efforts include, but are not limited to, provision of accessible play equipment, shelters, picnic tables, and restroom facilities for all new park improvements.

The Elkhart County Parks and Recreation Department plans on adapting and improving access to all of its facilities as the needs and requirements of the population evolve. Annual assessments are conducted for accessibility of facilities. Older facilities are brought into compliance on an annual basis based on replacement schedules and priority, and financial opportunities.

Older facilities are the most challenging, but as new amenities area updated and created, the Elkhart County Parks looks forward to creating an even more inclusive park experience.

The ADA Transition Plan is included in the Action Plan in Section E and can also be found in the Appendix of this document.





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## Community Profile

### History and Settlement

Prior to the settlement of Elkhart County, the area was home of the Potawatomi Indians who mostly lived on the prairie fringes along the Elkhart River and the St. Joseph River. In addition, the Miami Indians would travel through the county as well. By 1838 most of the Potawatomi had been removed to Indiana territory or assimilated into small family units throughout the county.

The first settlers followed the old Indian trail now a military trail from Fort Wayne in the early 1820's. By 1828 there were two distinct settlement areas. One was near the confluence of the Elkhart River with the St. Joseph River in what is today Elkhart. The other was on the Elkhart Prairie in the vicinity of Goshen. These came from Ohio, Pennsylvania, and in the northern part of the county from New England and settled near the present towns of Elkhart, Goshen, and Bristol. The county was organized in 1830 and one theory is that it was named for a small island at the confluence of the St. Joseph and Elkhart Rivers shaped like an Elk's heart.

Today, Elkhart County is divided into sixteen townships. The largest city in the county is Elkhart, with Goshen being the second largest and the county seat. The city of Nappanee and the incorporated towns of Middlebury, Bristol, Wakarusa, and Millersburg are also in Elkhart County, along with New Paris, the largest unincorporated town in the state of Indiana. These communities were originally developed as small agricultural trading centers and now have a diversified manufacturing base.

### Location of Elkhart County

Elkhart County is part of the Elkhart-Goshen Metropolitan Statistical Area, which in turn is part of the South Bend-Elkhart-Mishawaka Combined Statistical Area. Located along the Indiana / Michigan border, it is also considered part of the broader region of Northern Indiana known as Michiana. Containing 463.17 square miles, the area is referred to as the recreation vehicle (RV) capital of the world and is known for its sizable Amish and Old Order Mennonite population.

### Distances from Elkhart County, Indiana

#### City / Location ..... Miles

Chicago, IL..... 124

Indianapolis, IN ..... 141

Detroit, MI ..... 200

Cincinnati, OH ..... 240



# Elkhart County Government

## Elkhart County Board of Commissioners

Elkhart County is governed by a board of three county commissioners. The commissioners are elected from separate commissioner districts by vote of the county as a whole. The Board of Commissioners constitutes the legislative body of the county for ordinance purposes and is the executive branch of the County. The board is responsible for county buildings, lands and property; purchasing and authorizing payments; signing contracts; supervising and directing County departments; and performing many other governing functions.

### Elkhart County Board of Commissioners Members

Mike Yoder, President ..... District 2  
Frank Lucchese, Vice-President ..... District 1  
Suzanne Weirick ..... District 3

## Elkhart County Council

The financial powers of the County are placed in the County Council. The Council appropriates all funds and levies all County taxes. There are seven Council members, four Council districts, with one member from each district, and three Council members elected at large.

### Council Districts:

- 1 – Concord, Osolo and Washington Township
- 2 – Concord, Baugo, Cleveland Townships
- 3 – Concord, Jefferson and Elkhart Township
- 4 – Concord, Locke, Union, Benton, Clinton, Harrison, Jackson, Middlebury, Olive and York Townships

### Elkhart County Council Members

Doug Graham..... District 1  
Randall Yohn ..... District 2  
Darryl Riegsecker ..... District 3  
David Hess ..... District 4  
John Letherman, President..... At-Large  
Thomas Stump ..... At-Large  
Tina Wenger ..... At-Large

## **Major Industries** *(Source: Economic Development Corporation of Elkhart County)*

Elkhart County is known as the “RV Capital of the World”. There is also a variety of other industries, such as advanced manufacturing, healthcare, government and education. The largest employers in Elkhart County are:

- |                                     |                                       |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Thor Industries, Inc. (13,622)   | 6. Elkhart Community Schools (1,800)  |
| 2. Forest River, Inc. (10,000)      | 7. Goshen Health (1,517)              |
| 3. Lippert Components, Inc. (5,500) | 8. Goshen Community Schools (1,442)   |
| 4. Beacon Health System (2,600)     | 9. Supreme Industries (1,200)         |
| 5. Patrick Industries (2,900)       | 10. Elkhart County Government (1,021) |

## **Transportation** *(Source: Greater Elkhart Chamber)*

There are 216 miles of highways in Elkhart County including 21 miles of the Indiana Toll Road, 91 miles of federal highways, and 104 miles of state highways. County Roads, most of which are paved, cover 1,340 miles. These highways and roads crisscross the county so that all parts are accessible.

The major traffic corridors connecting Elkhart County to other areas include:

- |                                   |                                |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| • US 31 corridor                  | • CR 6/Cleveland Road corridor |
| • CR 17 corridor                  | • US 20 corridor               |
| • Nappanee Street/ SR 19 corridor | • US 33 corridor               |

Four railroad lines serve the county with 60 miles of track. Amtrak offers the only rail passenger service from Elkhart County. The Robert R. Young Memorial Railroad Yard is a major freight yard providing a rail route for westbound freight shipments from the east through Chicago and also serves points in northern and central Indiana.

Three airports serve small private planes and small corporate jets.

Greyhound Bus Lines and Coach USA Lines service Elkhart County. There is also a Trolley Interurban Bus Service that runs through Elkhart and Goshen.

## **Natural Features and Landscape** *(Source: Soil Survey of Elkhart County, Indiana)*

### **Physiography, Relief, and Drainage**

Elkhart County is mainly in the St. Joseph drainage basin, the mouth of which is at St. Joseph, Michigan. This basin drains into Lake Michigan and subsequently into the Atlantic Ocean. A very small area in the southwestern part of the county is in the Kankakee River drainage basin, which drains into the Mississippi River.

The 573-square-mile area drained by the Elkhart River, upstream from Goshen, includes about 120 square miles in southeastern Elkhart County. Many abandoned meanders occur in the Elkhart River Valley. Solomon Creek is a small stream that has a wide valley. Haphazard drainage patterns mark moraine areas in the county, and local watershed divides occur near the crests of the moraines.



There are several lakes in the county, and most of them are shallow. Gauging stations are located on Heaton, Hunter, Indiana, Simonton, and Wolf Lakes. Stream gauging stations are located on the St. Joseph River at Elkhart, on Christiana Creek at Elkhart, and on the Elkhart River at Goshen.

## **Climate**

In winter, the average temperature is 25.9 degrees F and the average daily minimum temperature is 18.5 degrees. The lowest temperature on record, which occurred at Goshen College on January 21, 1984, was -24 degrees. In summer, the average temperature is 71 degrees and the average daily maximum temperature is 82 degrees. The highest temperature on record, which occurred at Goshen College on June 25, 1988, was 102 degrees.

The average annual total precipitation is about 35.27 inches. Of this total, about 20.4 inches, or 58 percent, usually falls in May through October. The growing season for most crops falls within this period. The heaviest 1-day rainfall during the period of record was 5.7 inches on July 26, 1981. Thunderstorms occur on about 42 days each year, and most occur between April and September.

The average seasonal snowfall is 38.4 inches. The greatest snow depth at any one time during the period of record was 28 inches recorded on January 27, 1978. On an average, 54 days per year have at least 1 inch of snow on the ground. The heaviest 1-day snowfall on record was 14 inches recorded on January 26, 1978.

The average relative humidity in midafternoon is about 62 percent. Humidity is higher at night, and the average at dawn is about 82 percent. The sun shines about 73 percent of the time possible in summer and 44 percent in winter. The prevailing wind is from the west or southwest. Average windspeed is highest, between 11 and 12 miles per hour, from December to April.

As a result of climate change, the region will experience occasional changes or natural catastrophies from time to time. One such event was a major 500-year flood event in February 2018. Many homes and businesses experienced major damage throughout the floodplains of Elkhart County. Most of the Elkhart County Parks include rivers within their parks, but fortunately the Elkhart County Parks did not receive a lot of permanent damage from the flooding due to the fact that there are no enclosed buildings located within the floodplains. Department staff did encounter clean-up in some areas of flood debris and some damage to board walks, but nothing permanent.

The Elkhart County Parks and Recreation Board does have ownership of the Goshen Dam. Floodwater levels were at the highest ever seen at the Goshen Dam. Staff monitored for a Level 3 and reminded all emergency personel of the emergency plan for the Goshen Dam.

## **Water Resources**

The principal surface-water feature in the northern part of Elkhart County is the St. Joseph River. This river enters the county from Michigan in the northeastern part of the county, near Bristol. It then flows west across the county and through Elkhart into St. Joseph County. The county is divided by the Elkhart River, which enters at the southeast corner of the county and flows to the northwest to Elkhart, where it joins the St. Joseph River. The two major lakes in the county are Simonton and Heaton Lakes. Both are at the northern edge of the county and north of the St. Joseph River.

The St. Joseph River basin presents one of the most complex geological settings in Indiana resulting from the impact of three major ice lobes, a thick mass of glacial materials, and an

irregular bedrock surface. Because of this complexity, the delineation of distinct aquifers may not be possible in some areas. Seven regional aquifer systems are identified within the river basin based on similarities in geological environments. Four aquifer systems have been identified in Elkhart County. These are the Nappanee, the St. Joseph, the Howe, and the Natural Lakes and Moraines aquifer systems. In very general terms, however, the county can be divided into two regions—an upland area to the south and a river valley area to the north. The thick glacial till of the upland area over the deep aquifer system provides aquifer protection because of the low permeability of the glacial till. Sandy and loamy soils and shallow aquifers are dominant in the north and the river valley area. Because the soils are highly permeable and the water table is at or near the surface in many areas, this region is highly susceptible to ground-water contamination.

Most of the county's population and manufacturing is in the river valley area. Because of existing ground-water contamination and the potential for additional contamination, the St. Joseph aquifer system in the northern and northeastern parts of the county and extending toward the southwest to the county line and into St. Joseph County has been designated a "Sole Source Aquifer." To receive this Federal designation under the Safe Drinking Water Act, the aquifer must supply at least 50 percent of the drinking water in an area with no alternative supply available in comparable quantity or quality.

The bedrock underlying Elkhart County is of Devonian and Mississippian age. Most wells in the county are screened in glacial materials well above the bedrock. The aquifers provide one of the most abundant water supplies in Indiana. Withdrawals of 200 to 500 gallons per minute are common. Continuous well yields of 500 to 1,500 gallons per minute are common in areas where sand and gravel deposits are thick. In contrast, the presence of thick localized clay deposits in the southern part of the county may make a sufficient domestic supply of 10 gallons per minute difficult to obtain.

Regionally, the direction of the flow of ground water generally follows the topography and ultimately is toward the St. Joseph River and its major tributaries.

## **Major Rivers**

The main rivers that run through Elkhart County are the St. Joseph River and the Elkhart River that meanders through the shallow Goshen Dam Pond. The St. Joseph River, which ends in Lake Michigan, is in the backyards of some of the nicest homes in Elkhart. With Greenleaf Boulevard to the north and Jackson Boulevard to the south, the river is a backdrop and playground for hundreds of residents.

The waterways aren't just the playgrounds of those who live on or near them. They enhance the "quality of life" that community leaders tout as a necessary ingredient in attracting people to move to or continue living in this part of the world.

A new parking lot at the revamped Six Span Bridge has 65 spaces for fishermen or boaters. During the summer, bass tournaments happen twice each week on the river. It is also a popular launch site for canoe and kayak users.

## **Forest Resources**

Elkhart County has very diverse native habitat areas due to the glacial action of the past. The native vegetation in Elkhart County was mainly deciduous oak-hickory hardwood forests and three natural prairies. In the northern portion of the county there were several areas of oak savannahs

intertwined with the bogs and lakes of the region. Differences in natural soil drainage and variations in the kind of parent material affected the composition of the vegetative cover. Elkhart County had many shallow lakes, marshes and swamps that dotted the landscape. With advent of farming many were drained and the marshes many times drained. Remnants plant life from these remains can be found at Elkhart Bog and Leiber Nature Preserve. Animal life has suffered as man has made its mark on the land through time. Though many large mammals, birds, fish, reptiles, and amphibians are now extinct in Elkhart County. It should be noted that a few species have returned. Success stories include the beaver, coyote, otter, turkey, walleye, muskie, and bald eagles along the St. Joseph River. The occasional badger and bobcat are sighted as well.

Elkhart County Parks has a wide variety of habitats that are protected throughout its park system. Wetlands, rivers, meadow, tall-grass prairie, riparian habitats, upland hardwood forests, and cold-water trout streams are found throughout the park system. A majority of these landscapes are not pristine as much of the land had already been transformed prior to coming into the department. For example Cobus Creek County Park was used as farmland but the field has been transformed into tall grass prairie. Ox Bow County Park was once home to the County Poor Farm and Boot Lake Nature Preserve was once a city sludge farm. As a result, invasive species are found within each and every park. This list includes; tree of heaven, garlic mustard, Siberian elm, bush honeysuckle, glossy buckthorne, autumn olive, multi-flower rose, oriental bittersweet, and reed canary grass with bush honeysuckle being the most wide-spread throughout the park system. At this time, the department does not have land management staff to survey and remove all of its invasive species. Park operations staff does evaluate and remove invasives from areas that are most sensitive. Invasive species are a constant challenge and will continue to be in the future.



## Historic and Cultural Features *(Source: [www.amishcountry.org/](http://www.amishcountry.org/))*

### Downtowns

In downtown Elkhart the 1848 brick home of the city's founder, Havilah Beardsley, flanks the north end of Main Street and the NYC RR Museum with rare rolling stock borders the southern end of downtown. The historic Lerner Theatre, is the cornerstone of the downtown Arts & Entertainment District. The Midwest Museum of American Art, housed in neo-classical style bank building, stands at the center of the district.

The 1870 courthouse anchors downtown Goshen with its Main Street lined with refurbished brick buildings housing shops, coffee houses and bookstores. A fortress-like police booth stands on the courthouse square as a monument to the days when John Dillinger was the bane of local bankers. Down the street a red and white stripe awning adorns the Olympia Candy Kitchen where little has changed since it opened in 1912.

The rhythms of Amish life mesh easily with modern-day small town America in downtown Nappanee. Traveling down Main Street, US 6 or the Grand Army of the Republic Highway, one passes 19th century storefronts housing businesses from antique stores to butcher shops. In the early 1900's the Coppes brothers brought national attention to Nappanee with their ingenious "Dutch kitchenette". A remarkable collection of these cabinets is displayed at the Nappanee Center along with other remnants of the city's past. Amish Acres historic farmstead and heritage resort which echoes the simple life of the Amish sits at the edge of downtown.

### Neighborhoods

Elkhart County's historic neighborhoods tell rich stories about this area's people, heritage and businesses. Following the arrival of the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railroad shops in the 1860's, the State-Division Street Historic District just east of Elkhart's Main Street ranked as the city's "first fashionable subdivision". Today looking at Elkhart's historic neighborhoods' Italianate, Queen Anne, Four Square and Bungalow homes along with duplexes and flats, it's easy to imagine the economically diverse population that settled here.

Before Europeans came to this area, a major Potawatomi trail traveled through Goshen's Dickerson Landing Neighborhood that borders the east side of the Elkhart River. It's one of the oldest areas in the city. Later the nation's first transcontinental highway, the Lincoln Highway, ran through the neighborhood. You can still cross the historic Fort Wayne Street Bridge that spans the river. And downtown, the 1870 Elkhart County Courthouse anchors the Goshen Historic District.

In 1874 Nappanee entrepreneurs seized the dream of the village of Locke by luring the B&O Railroad to their town's doorstep. Nappanee thrived; Locke did not. But Locke's entrepreneurial spirit lived. Villagers moved three buildings via sled 2 ½ miles from their quiet town to booming Nappanee. Those same buildings still stand in the Downtown Nappanee Historic District as does the city's refurbished railroad depot— a fitting monument to Nappanee's victory.

### Communities

The city of Elkhart sprung up at the conflux of the St. Joseph and Elkhart Rivers. Business flourished and entrepreneurs built lavish homes like Ruthmere, today a house museum. Railroads ruled in Elkhart's early history and celebrated at the NYC RR Museum. By mid-1930 Shult began producing travel trailers, leading the way to Elkhart becoming the world's "RV Capital".



A historic courthouse anchors downtown Goshen with its Main Street lined with refurbished brick buildings. Mid-town, a fortress-like police booth stands as a monument to the days when John Dillinger was the bane of local bankers. A restored Old Bag Factory houses shops of working artisans while Goshen College influences a lively art scene.

Bristol was home to Indiana's first consolidated school. The school building is now the Elkhart County Historical Museum. Bristol also boasts the county's oldest church, and Indiana's historic gristmill, Bonneyville Mill, just outside the town.

Once, Middlebury's Main Street was a main route to and from Indianapolis. Today Queen Anne and Gothic Revival homes capture the feeling of bygone days. A town landmark, Krider Gardens, contains vestiges of a 1933 Chicago World's Fair exhibit.

In 1874 a B&O Railroad route paved the way for Nappanee. Around that same time Amish pioneer, Christian Stahly, came to the area to purchase an 80-acre farm for his son. That farm is now Amish Acres, preserved for visitors to experience the rustic life of the Amish at the turn of the last century.

## Recreation

Elkhart County offers a wide array of options for leisure time activities and recreational opportunities through the County Parks and the many local parks and natural areas throughout the county. The Pumpkinvine Nature Trail offers hiking or biking through 25 miles of city streets, riverside paths and Amish countryside. Urban trails such as the MapleHeart, the Millrace Canal and the Ridge Run also offer a glimpse of trendy city life. The St. Joseph and Elkhart Rivers and Goshen's Millrace Canal provide fishing opportunities and scenic views for canoeing and kayaking, and the NIBCO Water & Ice Park offers ice skating under the lights in downtown Elkhart.

## Vibrant Communities

Elkhart County Parks staff have been involved with the Vibrant Communities initiative since 2016 when the Community Foundation of Elkhart County and the Elkhart County and Convention Visitors partnered to collaborate with community leaders, governmental agencies, businesses, and the general community. After months of planning meetings, brainstorm sessions and surveys, a comprehensive list of 77 Action Agenda items was created to help spur economic growth through quality of place and shape the future of Elkhart County. Among this list were several park and trail related goals including the need to complete the 40-mile looped trail system in Elkhart County that would include connecting the Pumpkinvine, MapleHeart and Quaker Trace trails. In addition, completion of the greenspace addition next to Six Span boat launch for canoe/kayak launch and the need for an interpretive center at Ox Bow County Park highlight the list.

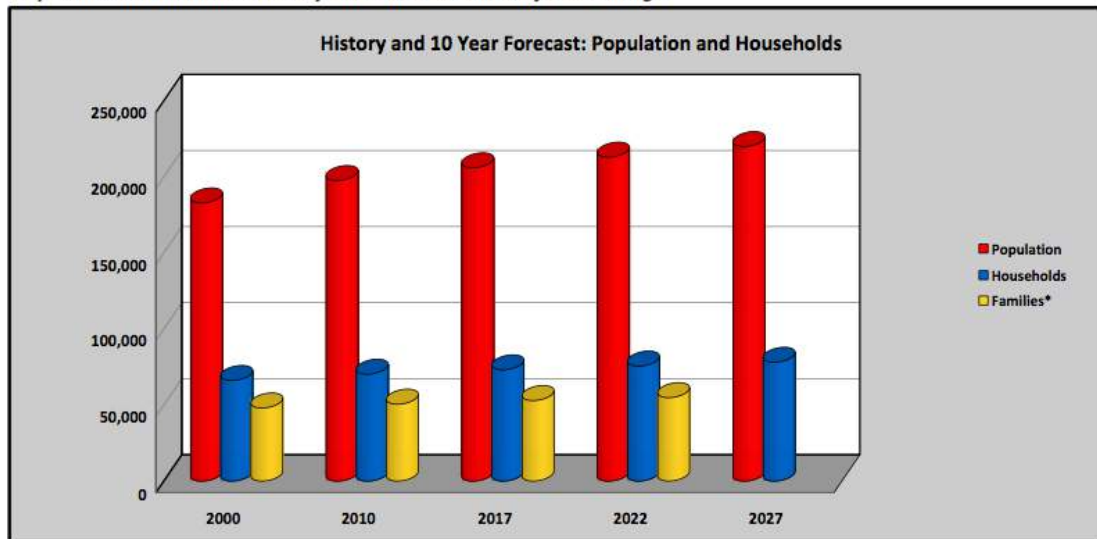


## Demographics *(Source: Decision InSite/Mission InSite)*

Demographic information is useful in the Master Planning process as the park system prepares to meet ongoing and changing needs based upon the existing and future population changes and characteristics of Elkhart County. The ages of various participants, the number of users and socio-economic status are key factors in determining successful programming.

Population is the most basic demographic characteristic. It indicates how many persons reside within an area and how that total changes over time as the future population is forecast over 10 years.

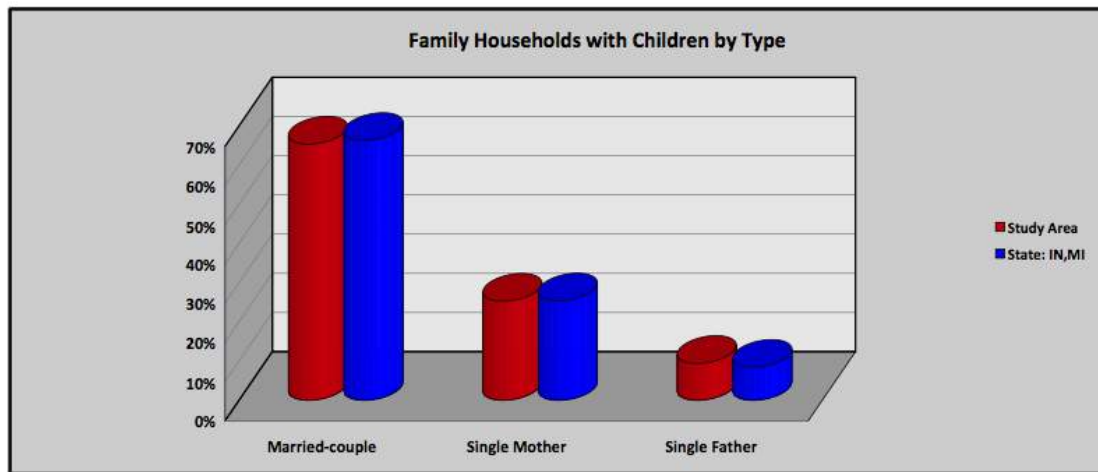
**Population and Household History with 5 and 10 Year Projected Change**



**Population, Households & Families**

	2000	2010	2017	2022	2027
Population	182,810	197,559	205,923	212,934	219,874
Population Change		14,749	8,364	7,011	6,940
Percent Change		8.1%	4.2%	3.4%	3.3%
Households	66,131	70,244	73,117	75,588	78,073
Households Change		4,113	2,873	2,471	0
Percent Change		6.2%	4.1%	3.4%	0.0%
Population / Households	2.76	2.81	2.82	2.82	2.82
Population / Households Change		0.05	0.00	0.00	-0.00
Percent Change		1.7%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Family Households	48,047	50,542	52,929	54,852	
Family Households Change		2,495	2,387	1,923	
Percent Change		5.2%	4.7%	3.6%	

Family households with children are changing. The traditional married couple structure is evolving into many different expressions in which children are being raised. This data provides an insight into the family structures within the study area and then compares them to the state.



The diversity of a community is shaped by the racial/ethnicity of the people in it but also people's age, education and income.

#### Race and Ethnic History and Trends

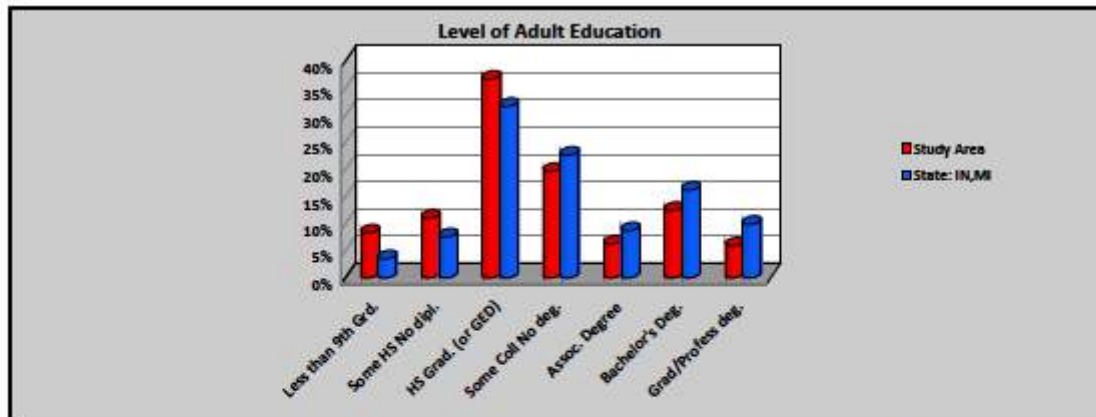
Racial/Ethnicity by Year	Actual Population by Year			2010 to 2022 Change	Percent of all Pop by Year			2010 to 2022 % Change
	2010	2017	2022		2010%	2017%	2022%	
Asian (Non-Hisp)	1,879	1,962	2,156	277	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	0.1%
Black/African American (Non-Hisp)	10,989	11,228	11,513	524	5.6%	5.5%	5.4%	-0.2%
White (Non-Hisp)	152,555	158,773	163,701	11,146	77.2%	77.1%	76.9%	-0.3%
Hispanic or Latino	27,886	29,385	30,660	2,774	14.1%	14.3%	14.4%	0.3%
Pac Is/Am Ind/Oth (Non-Hisp)	4,250	4,575	4,904	654	2.2%	2.2%	2.3%	0.2%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>197,559</b>	<b>205,923</b>	<b>212,934</b>	<b>15,375</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	

Phase of Life presents how a community changes and people age through their various life phases.

Phase of Life presents how a community changes and people age through their various life phases.

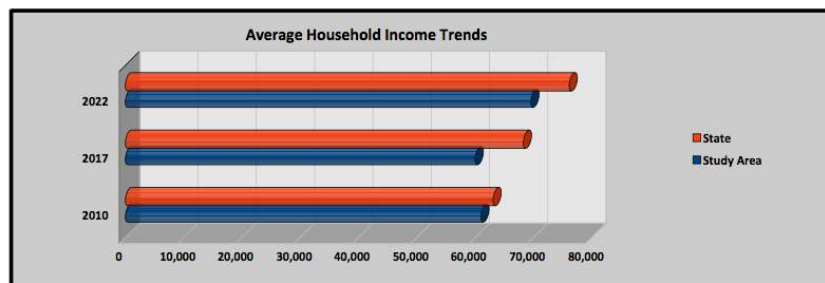
Phase of Life	Actual Population by Year & Phase				Percent of Pop by Year & Phase			
	2010	2017	2022	2027	2010%	2017%	2022%	2027%
Before Formal Schooling: 0 to 4	16,039	12,787	13,138	13,980	8.1%	6.2%	6.2%	6.4%
Required Formal Schooling: 5 to 17	40,136	40,048	36,917	34,351	20.3%	19.4%	17.3%	15.6%
College/Career Starts: 18 to 24	17,603	21,616	23,341	23,846	8.9%	10.5%	11.0%	10.8%
Singles & Young Families: 25 to 34	25,303	25,590	28,568	31,657	12.8%	12.4%	13.4%	14.4%
Families & Empty Nesters: 35 to 54	52,611	51,427	50,786	51,392	26.6%	25.0%	23.9%	23.4%
Enrichment Yrs Singles/Cpls: 55 to 64	21,905	24,936	25,702	25,440	11.1%	12.1%	12.1%	11.6%
Retirement Opportunities: 65 & over	23,962	29,519	34,482	39,208	12.1%	14.3%	16.2%	17.8%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>197,559</b>	<b>205,923</b>	<b>212,934</b>	<b>219,874</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

The following presents the adult population within the study area 25 years of age and older by the level of education completed.



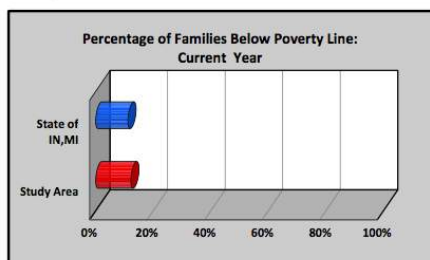
Education Level of Adults 18 Years and Older	Actual Hhlds by Year			Percent of all Hhlds by Year		
	2017	2022	Change	2017%	2022%	% Change
Less than 9th Grade	10,871	11,927	1056	8.3%	8.5%	0.3%
Some High School, No diploma	14,424	14,582	158	11.0%	10.5%	-0.5%
High School Graduate (or GED)	48,191	50,276	2085	36.7%	36.0%	-0.6%
Some College, No degree	25,790	27,380	1590	19.6%	19.6%	0.0%
Associate Degree	8,173	9,026	853	6.2%	6.5%	0.3%
Bachelor's Degree	16,324	17,992	1668	12.4%	12.9%	0.5%
Graduate or Professional school degree	7,699	8,355	656	5.9%	6.0%	0.1%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>131,472</b>	<b>139,538</b>	<b>8,066</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	

Financial resources available is an indicator of community opportunity or distress. Three variables are presented in this category: 1) Household Income, 2) Family Income and 3) Poverty.



Income Trends: Households and Families				
	2010	2017	2022	2010 to 2022 Change
Average Household Income	60,976	60,001	69,549	8,573
Median Household Income	47,658	48,364	56,587	8,929
Per Capita Income	21,681	21,304	24,689	3008
Median Family Income		55,771	55,474	55,474

#### Poverty



Poverty Level	Pop	Area % Pop	IN,MI % Pop
Above poverty level	46,473	87.8%	88.8%
Below poverty level	6,456	12.2%	11.2%
	52,929	100.0%	100.0%

## Demographic / Socio-Economic Analysis *(Source: stats.Indiana.edu)*

The population of Elkhart County has increased from 197,561 in 2010 to 205,032 in 2017 and is projected to reach 212,036 in 2020. The largest sections of the population are between 25 – 44 years old (24.9%) and those 45 – 64 (24.4%). These groups form the “young families” and the “empty nesters”.

The average age is 35.4, which is in the age group that recent trends show pursues active recreation such as softball, visits to zoos and theme parks. As they age preferences turn to tennis, golf, skiing and jogging. Those 65 and older have become more active than in the past and are staying active longer, recognizing that regular physical activity substantially increases life expectancy and improves quality of life.

Income may increase as the residents’ age and many families expand to two incomes, which could provide more discretionary funds for entertainment. The median household income for Elkhart County residents is \$54,582, higher than the median household income for the State of Indiana (\$52,289). The poverty rate for the county is 13.2%, below the State rate of 19.1%. These statistics can be at least partially attributed to Elkhart being considered the “RV Capital of the World”.

Eighty percent of the population has received a high school diploma, or equivalent. Just over 18% has a bachelor degree or higher.

Elkhart County is a predominately white community (89.6%) with a growing number of those of Hispanic origin (15.5%). Six percent of the Elkhart County population is Black/African-American.

Part of this data tracking will include the monitoring of those members of the communities in the county that are users of the programs and services offered by the Parks Department. Tracking can be in the form of the users’ profile, i.e., ages, gender, family, etc. Also, using surveys after each program to determine satisfaction, needs, etc. This user information can help the department determine which programs/services should be added or eliminated.

This will also be useful information as the county continues to monitor population growth, along with the school corporation projections of the student population, for forecasting park & recreation needs.

As residential growth and neighborhoods develop trails and greenways will become a recreation infrastructure that will become an important part of the implementation strategy allowing for connectivity throughout the county.

The demographic of the new residents (i.e., empty nesters, growing young families, etc.) will be studied annually, along with new housing starts to determine how new residential developments are being marketed. Working closely with the school corporations and studying changes in student demographics will provide additional insight for future planning.

The strategic implementation of these actions will need to be studied and evaluated on an annual basis with adjustments in programs, services and facilities evaluated annually

Recognizing all of the components that make up the Elkhart County population, as well as the projected growth, will help the park department determine strategic actions, promotion and improvement of quality of life venues for the community. Elkhart County Parks staff is constantly working on the diversification of program offerings each year to meet the needs of constituents. For example, Wednesday morning bird walks have been popular with the ‘empty



nest' crowd who have the flexibility to attend a weekday program. There have also been surprises with some audiences reached. For example, when the Hiking Club was created it was intended to attract young families with an emphasis on improving their health, instead it attracted a very diverse group of people age-wise and many folks who rather walk with others than alone in a park, including seniors and the physically challenged.

Other diverse populations that utilize parks for large family picnics include the Amish community at Bonneyville Mill and the Latino community at Ox Bow County Park. The traditions of these cultures make use of the park system to create everlasting memories. The strategic implementation of actions will continue to be studied and evaluated on an annual basis, with special attention to more outreach programs to diverse socio-economic backgrounds.





## Section D: Public Participation

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## **Public Participation**

### ***Park and Recreation Issues***

The Elkhart County Parks Department recognizes the importance of providing service to the community. The best way to provide service to the community is to ask what their needs, opinions, and preferences are, and apply that information to future planning. For this Master Plan several methods of public input were used: Public Meetings, Community Survey, SWOT Analysis, Focus Groups, and Interviews. Summaries can be found below with more complete information in the Appendix of this document.

### ***Public Meetings and Presentation of the Plan***

As part of the master plan process solicitation from the general community, stakeholders and Park Board as well as the departmental staff, and others, was conducted.

- A SWOT Analysis was conducted during a Park Board and Staff Retreat. This provided an evaluation of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of the Administration, the Operations & Management, Park Staff and of each park of the Park Department.
- A community survey was prepared for online participation via Survey Monkey and was available from July 13, 2018 until August 31, 2018. The survey was advertised on social media as well as the local newspaper and radio announcements, and was also available in paper form at the park office and at the Elkhart County Fair. A total of 1,016 responses were collected during that time (.499% of current population).
- A Series of Public Focus Groups were conducted on July 31, 2018 at Cobus Creek County Park, Bonneyville Mill County Park on September 18, 2018, and at Ox Bow County Park on September 24, 2018 where copies of the survey were distributed and a series of questions were asked. All meetings were held at 6 p.m. and special interest groups as well as the general public were invited.
- A collaborative meeting was also held to bring all park departments of Elkhart County together to discuss the idea of meeting on a regular basis. This initial joint meeting was hosted at the Elkhart Environmental Center on October 18, 2018 at 9 a.m. In attendance were directors, assistant directors, and interim staff from the Elkhart County Parks, Goshen City Parks and Recreation, Elkhart City Parks and Recreation, Middlebury Parks, Nappanee Parks, Town of Bristol and Elkhart Environmental Center. Some of the agency staff members already connect through other group meetings including GREEN (Group of Regional Environmental Educators Network), PAC (Pumpkinvine Advisory Committee), and ECWA (Elkhart County Waterways Alliance). The benefits of meeting several times per year were discussed as a way to network and share collaborative training and projects.
- The planning process progress, as well as the findings and recommendations throughout the process, was reported to the public at Park Board meetings. On April 8, 2019 at 5:30pm the public was invited to the Park Board meeting for final review of the Master Plan.

The following pages document the discussions regarding issues raised, the Community Survey responses, and summarize the findings gathered during the public participation.

## ***Park Board and Staff Retreat and SWOT Analysis***

During the Park Board and Staff Retreat at the Elkhart County Historical Museum (February 4, 2018 at 4:30 pm) a SWOT session was conducted. The findings and resulting discussion provided the framework and focus for the processing of the Master Plan. The following is a summary of the SWOT session.

### Administration SWOT Analysis

Helpful to Achieving the Objective – Internal Origin "STRENGTH"	Harmful to Achieving the Objective – Internal Origin "WEAKNESS"
Relationships Ability to compromise Visionary Building political influence Good regional connections Confidence in employees Open to listening to staff ideas High quality Variety of education/background by design Board experience Newer to position Knowledge	Feeling that nothing is outside of vision Lack of direction Lack of guidance Current political influence Lack of knowledge on Board functions Clarity of budgets Transparency Lack of listening to staff Newer to position
Helpful to Achieving the Objective – External Origin "OPPORTUNITY"	Harmful to Achieving the Objective – External Origin "THREAT"
Partnerships Openness to expansion Touting accomplishments (Boot Lake, other acquisitions) Clear Plan and Goals Training on Board functions	Partnerships Board demands Headhunting / more opportunities Politics

\* indicates duplicate responses



## Operations & Maintenance SWOT Analysis

<p>Helpful to Achieving the Objective – Internal Origin <b>"STRENGTH"</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Diverse equipment</li> <li>Staff attitude</li> <li>Quality work - parks look good</li> <li>Good communication between staff</li> <li>Teamwork</li> <li>Fresh ideas from new staff</li> <li>Enthusiasm</li> <li>Training within the department</li> <li>Maintenance Schedule on equipment</li> <li>YouTube (experienced staff)</li> <li>Stationed at one Park you know the park intimately</li> </ul>	<p>Harmful to Achieving the Objective – Internal Origin <b>"WEAKNESS"</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cost of outdated maintenance on equipment</li> <li>Can't fill positions</li> <li>Not enough equipment to go around</li> <li>Inexperienced staff</li> <li>Time management w/hauling equipment</li> <li>Replacement of equipment on schedule</li> <li>Standardize building materials / inventory</li> </ul>
<p>Helpful to Achieving the Objective – External Origin <b>"OPPORTUNITY"</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Countywide co-op for supplies/equipment purchases</li> <li>Explore rotation of equipment - leasing</li> <li>Natural mowing</li> <li>Exploratory trips to other Park Departments</li> <li>Dedicated work-day to rotate @ different Parks for large projects</li> <li>Get rid of "prison" look</li> </ul>	<p>Harmful to Achieving the Objective – External Origin <b>"THREAT"</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High salary / low economy</li> <li>Funding</li> <li>Many open jobs in county</li> </ul>

\* indicates duplicate responses

## Park Staff SWOT Analysis

Helpful to Achieving the Objective – Internal Origin "STRENGTH"	Harmful to Achieving the Objective – Internal Origin "WEAKNESS"
<p>Well maintained properties/facilities*</p> <p>Programs reasonably priced</p> <p>Variety of resources - natural and man-made (Mill, Museum, Gardens, etc.)*</p> <p>(Public) elected support</p> <p>Uniqueness of properties</p> <p>Staff &amp; Administration are opportunistic and resourceful*</p> <p>Accommodating to public</p> <p>Commitment to public with programs/services*</p> <p>Awesome Staff - flexible &amp; motivated*</p> <p>Diverse opportunities for park visitors</p> <p>Water resources in every park</p> <p>Wild spaces</p> <p>Diversity of passive recreation passes</p> <p>Government funding</p> <p>Seen as a county-wide authority in parks and culture</p> <p>Good working relationship with County Council/Commissioners</p> <p>Staff has broad/specialized training</p> <p>State Park feel</p> <p>Clean Parks</p> <p>Able to do a lot with a little*</p> <p>Great learning environment for kids</p> <p>Relationship with local schools</p> <p>Interpretive programming</p>	<p>Lack of scheduled equipment maintenance</p> <p>Behind in technology</p> <p>Short-staffed* (leads to burn-out)</p> <p>Aging infrastructure &amp; equipment***</p> <p>Green space acquisition</p> <p>Winter provides no rental opportunities with facilities that are too small/inadequate*</p> <p>Lack of Rangers</p> <p>Reactive instead of proactive</p> <p>Lack of Fundraising/Donations</p> <p>Lack of Marketing strategy</p> <p>Competition has better/more equipment</p> <p>Invasive species</p> <p>Limited organized sports</p> <p>Identity/Brand of Department</p> <p>Limited budget</p> <p>Warehouse situation &amp; standardization of infrastructure to save money when purchasing</p> <p>Lack of reaching out on a Regional level</p> <p>Limited facilities</p> <p>Mission Statement needs updated</p>
Helpful to Achieving the Objective – External Origin "OPPORTUNITY"	Harmful to Achieving the Objective – External Origin "THREAT"
<p>Vibrant Communities trend*</p> <p>Reciprocal programming opportunities</p> <p>Dave Faust – Liaison to County Commissioners</p> <p>Strong economy makes Capital Campaign easy</p> <p>Partner with large businesses</p> <p>Elkhart Community Foundation</p> <p>Continuing Education</p> <p>Package marketing with others</p> <p>Environmental advocacy</p> <p>Lots of property for different uses</p> <p>Health improvement to citizens</p> <p>Discovery Center</p> <p>Programs w / schools*</p> <p>Land Acquisition</p> <p>Generate Revenue</p> <p>Social Media</p> <p>Community support of trails</p> <p>Local schools hosting recreation events</p> <p>Growing interest in wildlife</p>	<p>Township redistricting could mean park consolidation</p> <p>Lack of Brand recognition</p> <p>Good local economy makes hiring hard</p> <p>Economy/Lack of funding</p> <p>Invasive species/land management</p> <p>Lack of Plan</p> <p>Outside tourism ("Pure Michigan")</p> <p>Politics</p> <p>Development of land for business and homes</p> <p>Dependency of technology by youth</p> <p>Financial support by government &amp; public*</p> <p>Opposition to improvements in parks</p> <p>Higher prices</p> <p>Staff safety with reduced staff and park needs</p>

\* indicates duplicate responses

## Bonneyville & Museum SWOT Analysis

Helpful to Achieving the Objective – Internal Origin "STRENGTH"	Harmful to Achieving the Objective – Internal Origin "WEAKNESS"
<p>Unique Knowledgeable staff Historical programming Youth &amp; Senior outreach Modern restroom facilities Staff living on site Store/merchandise availability Trout season</p> <p>Partnerships Unique Knowledgeable staff Historical programming Volunteer base Senior outreach Local support Exhibit exchanges Research library Quilt Garden</p>	<p>Volunteer base at Mill/Store Closures/hours School funding Lack of playground Additional modern restroom Interaction/hands-on displays Canoe launch</p> <p>Limited rentals Air conditioning / furnace upgrade Closures / hours School funding Interaction / hands-on displays</p>
Helpful to Achieving the Objective – External Origin "OPPORTUNITY"	Harmful to Achieving the Objective – External Origin "THREAT"
<p>School programming Trails Water Mountain bike trail School Rentals Farmhouse Dahlia garden Heritage Trail Water Trail (Koorsen - BMP) Mural</p> <p>Grants Rental facility</p>	<p>Infrastructure Vandalism</p> <p>Partnerships</p>

\* indicates duplicate responses

Bonneyville

Museum

## OxBow Park SWOT Analysis

<p>Helpful to Achieving the Objective – Internal Origin <b>"STRENGTH"</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Central location in County</li> <li>Has high capacity/facilities for events, private parties, etc.</li> <li>Good recreation facilities</li> <li>One of most diverse group of users</li> <li>Variety of habitat</li> <li>Generates revenue (Gatehouse &amp; Shelters)</li> <li>Most used park- also on weekdays</li> <li>No identity issues with the public</li> <li>Refuge for urban wildlife</li> <li>Connection to Maple Heart bike path</li> <li>Variety of playgrounds/play spaces</li> <li>Warming house, sledding hill, xc ski trail</li> <li>Tower</li> <li>Canoe/boat launch</li> <li>Hispanic community users</li> <li>Customer service</li> </ul>	<p>Harmful to Achieving the Objective – Internal Origin <b>"WEAKNESS"</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Busy</li> <li>Noisy trains</li> <li>Few opportunities to expand on OxBow side of river</li> <li>Lack of rangers/safety</li> <li>Misuse and abuse of park land</li> <li>No indoor facility</li> <li>Perception by public that it is a "Hispanic Park"</li> <li>Aging playground equipment</li> </ul>
<p>Helpful to Achieving the Objective – External Origin <b>"OPPORTUNITY"</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular, committed visitors (future donors, Friends, etc.)</li> <li>Promote/encourage healthy activities</li> <li>Interpret history (County Home, OxBow Lake)</li> <li>Space for Interpretive / Admin. Facility</li> <li>Right next to OxBow Elementary School</li> <li>Space to hold large events</li> <li>Spanish programming / signage / publications</li> <li>Raise entry fees - increase revenue</li> <li>Large entrance sign - digital to provide advertisements</li> </ul>	<p>Harmful to Achieving the Objective – External Origin <b>"THREAT"</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overuse because of large number of visitors</li> <li>Inability to expand/grow</li> <li>Funding</li> <li>Invasive taking over w/no plan for future</li> <li>Rely on one park to bring in the revenue (too many eggs in one basket)</li> </ul>

\* indicates duplicate responses

## River Preserve & DeFries Gardens SWOT Analysis

Helpful to Achieving the Objective – Internal Origin "STRENGTH"	Harmful to Achieving the Objective – Internal Origin "WEAKNESS"
<p>Largest park (both)  Calendar Garden at DeFries  Programming - 5M (both)  DeFries Endowment  Staff (both)  Ease of maintenance - Natural (River Preserve)</p> <p>Variety of programs on low budget  Quality programs  School field trips  Currents  Willingness to partner  Five Medals - strengths for marketing and programming</p>	<p>Location - Far out (both)  Uncertainty of house (DeFries)  Parking (both)  Trail layout - linear (River Preserve)</p> <p>Registration process  Facilities for programming  Lack of understanding of demographics  No marketing plan  Lack of Mission/Vision in programming  Lack of educator input</p>
Helpful to Achieving the Objective – External Origin "OPPORTUNITY"	Harmful to Achieving the Objective – External Origin "THREAT"
<p>Nice facility at DeFries - could be rented  Marriage of natural &amp; built environment (both)  Rich history of area (both)  Natural resources partnerships (River Preserve)</p> <p>Ability to generate revenue  Ability to better reach all ages  New website  Centralized Interpretive facility  Technology  Reaching neighboring counties  Collaborative / cross-agency planning  Volunteers  State standards changes for graduates  Outside / local experts or speakers</p>	<p>Safety of county roads (River Preserve)  Invasive species (River Preserve)  Mother Nature (River Preserve)  Nature of water (River Preserve)  Farm run-off</p> <p>Staff capacity to meet demand  School funding  Technology  Direct programmatic competitors (ex: museum)  Need to innovate programs  Aging equipment &amp; facilities  ADA accessibility</p>

\* indicates duplicate responses  
Programs / Services



## Pumpkinvine and 6-Span SWOT Analysis

<p>Helpful to Achieving the Objective – Internal Origin</p> <p><b>"STRENGTH"</b></p> <p>Scenic Safe place Running, Walking, Birding Pumpkinvine Friends group 6-Span close to utilities/services Pumpkinvine heavily used by public Well maintained Good facilities</p>	<p>Harmful to Achieving the Objective – Internal Origin</p> <p><b>"WEAKNESS"</b></p> <p>Constant maintenance Parking availability Not prioritized - both Funding for maintenance High litter areas - both Underutilized by Department</p>
<p>Helpful to Achieving the Objective – External Origin</p> <p><b>"OPPORTUNITY"</b></p> <p>Equipment sharing with other groups Goshen, Middlebury, Shipshewana partnerships Campground along trail - Pumpkinvine Partner with outside bike/water recreation company (both) Water access - canoe/boat launch - 6 Span Connected to other trails - Pumpkinvine More rides - Pumpkinvine Program possibilities Enclosed facility at 6-Span Storage facility - both Dedicated equipment - Pumpkinvine Chance for expansion - both</p>	<p>Harmful to Achieving the Objective – External Origin</p> <p><b>"THREAT"</b></p> <p>Lack of Maintenance Plan / Schedule Funding Erosion - Pumpkinvine Washouts - Pumpkinvine Nature hunting trails - Pumpkinvine</p>

\* indicates duplicate responses

## Boot Lake & Cobus Creek SWOT Analysis

<p>Helpful to Achieving the Objective – Internal Origin <b>"STRENGTH"</b></p> <p>Natural beauty Trout at Cobus Shelter at Cobus Sensory Garden Biodiversity Proximity of Parks to population centers Unique hydrology Remoteness of Parks - opportunity to escape Water at both Site of Boot Lake Protecting large chunk of fragile land at Boot Lake</p>	<p>Harmful to Achieving the Objective – Internal Origin <b>"WEAKNESS"</b></p> <p>Awareness of Boot Lake Staffing at Boot Lake (understaffed) Handicap accessibility at Boot Lake Invasive Plants Lack of staff presence Lack of infrastructure maintenance at Boot Lake Parking limitations at Boot Lake Shelter at Boot Lake No restrooms at Boot Lake</p>
<p>Helpful to Achieving the Objective – External Origin <b>"OPPORTUNITY"</b></p> <p>Blank slate at Boot Lake Tell the story of Boot Lake Neighborhood ownership of Boot Lake Increase programming at Boot Lake  Provide infrastructure at Boot Lake  Recruit Volunteers / Neighborhood Watch at Boot Lake Grants</p>	<p>Harmful to Achieving the Objective – External Origin <b>"THREAT"</b></p> <p>Unsavory customers Vandalism Reputation of Boot Lake Water quality at Cobus Possibility of water treatment development upstream of Cobus</p>

\* indicates duplicate responses

## Wolf Lake & Leiber Nature Preserve SWOT Analysis

<p>Helpful to Achieving the Objective – Internal Origin <b>"STRENGTH"</b></p> <p>All natural Endangered species Lake Trail Birding Dog walking</p>	<p>Harmful to Achieving the Objective – Internal Origin <b>"WEAKNESS"</b></p> <p>Wolf Lake not accessible - Public not aware Leiber not our property - public not aware Wolf Lake is dangerous - no parking, fall through ice Wolf Lake is small - limited access to lake</p>
<p>Helpful to Achieving the Objective – External Origin <b>"OPPORTUNITY"</b></p> <p>Good fishing DNR partnership State for access to Wolf Lake off SR 15 County highway to partner w/parking lot</p>	<p>Harmful to Achieving the Objective – External Origin <b>"THREAT"</b></p> <p>Neighbor support lacking - no development Unclear MOU with DNR Liability issues with DNR</p>

\* indicates duplicate responses

## Community Survey Summary

During July & August 2018 a community survey was prepared for online participation. The survey was advertised on social media and the County /Park websites, as well as newspaper and radio announcements. The survey was also distributed, in printed format, at the Elkhart County 4-H Fair during the week of July 20-28, 2018 with 146 completed copies turned in. A combined total of 1,016 survey responses were collected (.499% of current population).



**Most Visited Parks** – Question #1 was regarding which park or facility of Elkhart County Parks they have visited in the past 12 months. The majority stated Ox-Bow County Park (70.65%) with Bonneyville Mill County Park coming in second (60.58%). Pumpkinvine Nature Trail was the 3<sup>rd</sup> most chosen (48.62%).

**Usership of Parks** – Question #2 asked how often the Elkhart County parks or trails were visited. The majority (40.83%) stated they visit monthly. Those that rarely visit a park: 29.14%, and those that visit weekly: 24.28%.

**Benefit of Parks** – Question #3 was regarding the benefits of Elkhart County parks. “Connecting family with outdoors” was chosen by 62.34%. Next was the

“Preservation of open space/natural areas” (59.37%) followed by “Improves health and wellness” (57.48%), “Enhances quality of life” (56.99%, and “Multi-use trail system” (49.55%).

**Maintenance and Improvements** – Question # 4 asked respondents the importance of maintaining and improving parks, trails, cultural resources, historic preservation and recreational facilities and services compared to other priorities for Elkhart County residents. 74.41% responded “Very Important”, 22.13% said it’s “Important”, and 3.16% stated “Somewhat important”.

**Future Discovery Center** – Question #5 asked about support of building a discovery center that would educate the community about its local and natural history in combination with administrative offices in a park environment. This was overwhelmingly supported with 87.96% “Yes” and 12.04% “No”.

**Image of the Parks** – Question #6 asked what prevents users from using the facilities and/or programs offered by Elkhart County Parks. The results show a strong response to being too busy (47.83%), not knowing what programs are offered (32.72%) and not knowing the facilities existed (23.19%), followed by facilities need updated (15.34%).

**Outdoor Activities** – Question #7 asked respondents to write in which outdoor recreational activities the respondent’s household presently participates. The top three (3) answers were hiking, biking, and picnicking.

**Five-Year Priorities (Improvements)** – Question #8 asked the community what Improvements to the parks the Parks Department should focus on within the next five years. The top response was to “Improve restroom facilities (43.40%)”, followed by “Assist in connectivity of multi-use trail system (40.21%)” and “Acquire land for new parks/open space/natural areas (35.67%)”.

**Improvements** – Question #9 asked respondents to write-in suggestions for improving Elkhart County Park that was not included in Q8. The consensus was the need for more, and to connect existing, trails as well as adding/maintaining amenities, such as restrooms and benches along the trails. Other suggestions include adding splashpads, disc golf, equestrian trails, kayak/canoe rental, and accessible play equipment at the parks.

**Five-Year Priorities (Services)** – Question #10 asked the community what Services the Parks Department should focus on implementing or expanding within the next five years. The highest priority (43%) was “Adventure programming (i.e., kayaking, climbing) followed by “Fitness/wellness programs” (42%), and “Leisure/recreation activities (i.e., hayrides / kayaking / disc golf) (35.6%)”.

**Services** – Question #11 asked respondents to write-in suggestions for improving Elkhart County Parks Services. The most frequent response was to add equestrian trails followed by add music events/concerts, and increase use of the river with canoe/kayak trips and boat launch.

**Financial Support** – Responders were asked in Question #12 how much they would be willing to pay for improvements of the Elkhart County Parks. 26.5% were willing to pay \$50 or more per year, 21% were willing to pay \$10-\$19 per year, and 20% were willing to pay \$20-\$29 per year.

**Generation of Revenues** – Question #13 asked how Elkhart County parks can generate additional revenue for the parks system. The top response was “Donations and Grants”, followed by “Increase share of current tax-appropriated budget” and “Develop higher revenue producing activities/facilities.

**Communications of Parks and Programs** – Question #14 regarded marketing the Park Programs and Facilities and how respondents learn about the Park facilities and programs. The three top responses were 1) Facebook, 2) Friends/Word of mouth, and 3) the Park website.

**Age of the Responder** – (Question #15) The bulk of the representation responding to this survey (79%) was from those between 30 -69 years of age.

**Gender** – Question #16 revealed that sixty-five percent of those that completed the survey were female, compared to thirty-five percent male.

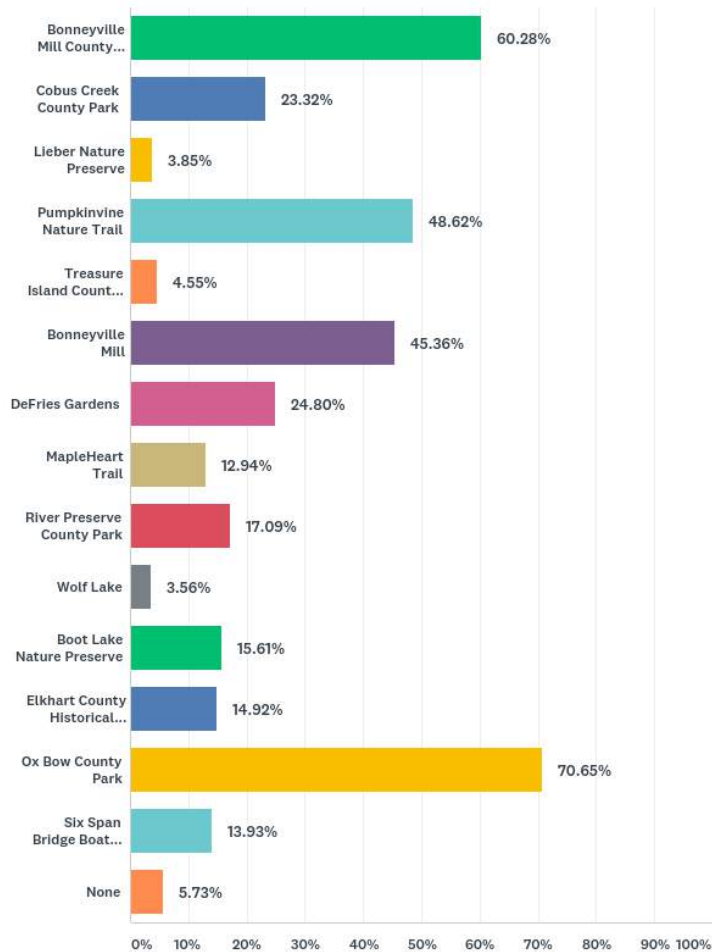
**Place of Residence** – The survey asked responders, in Question #17, to provide the zip code of their residence. The zip codes that received the most responses are 46526 (179), 46514 (173), 46528 (138) and 46516 (125).

**Minors in Household** – Question #18 asked how many members of the respondent’s household are under 18. The largest response was “0” (49%), followed by “2” (20%) and “1” (15%).

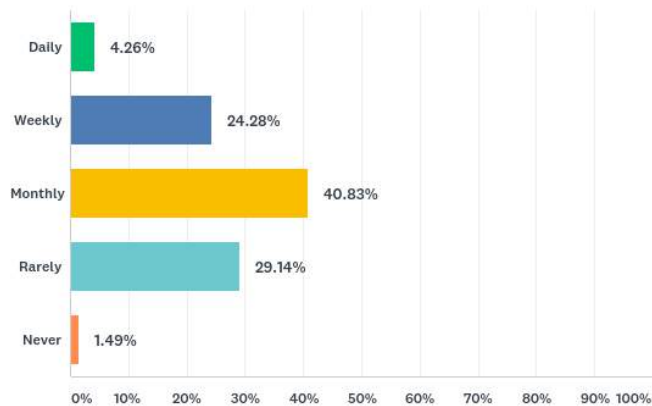
**Other Suggestions** – Question #19 asked respondents if they had any other suggestions for improving the Elkhart County Parks. The majority had no suggestions. The most popular answers were to add horse trails, keep up the good work, remove gate fees, and improve advertising / marketing of events.

Responses to the Survey are below. Comments, suggestions and other remarks given are provided in the Appendix of this document.

Q1 Which of the following parks or facilities have you visited in the past 12 months? (check all that apply)

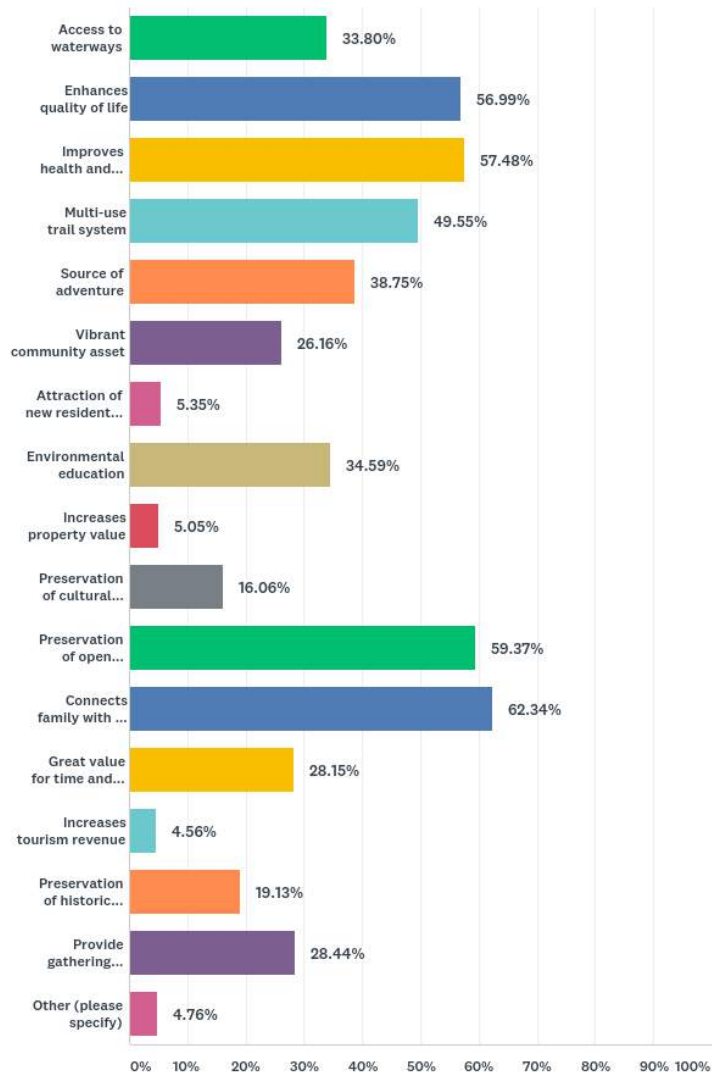


Q2 How often do you visit an Elkhart County Parks facility or trail listed above?

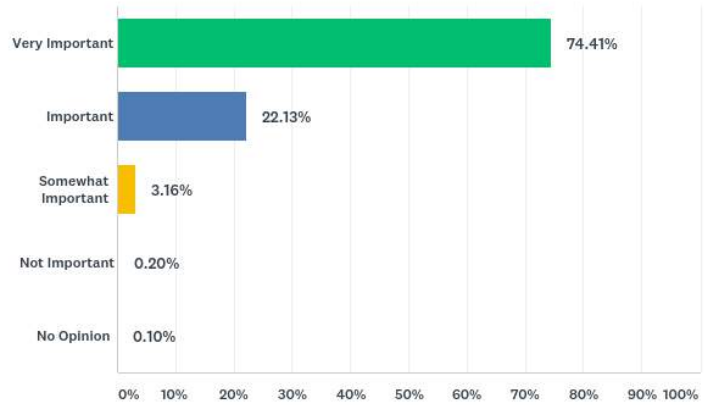




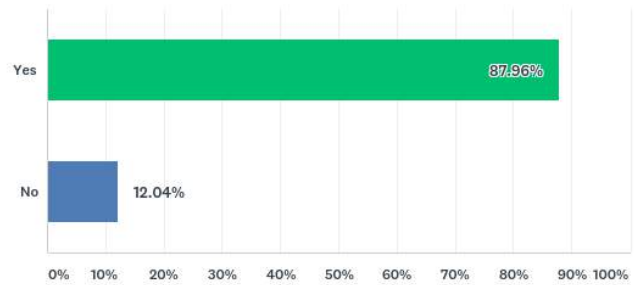
Q3 What are the top five benefits the Elkhart County Parks provides your community?  
(choose 5)



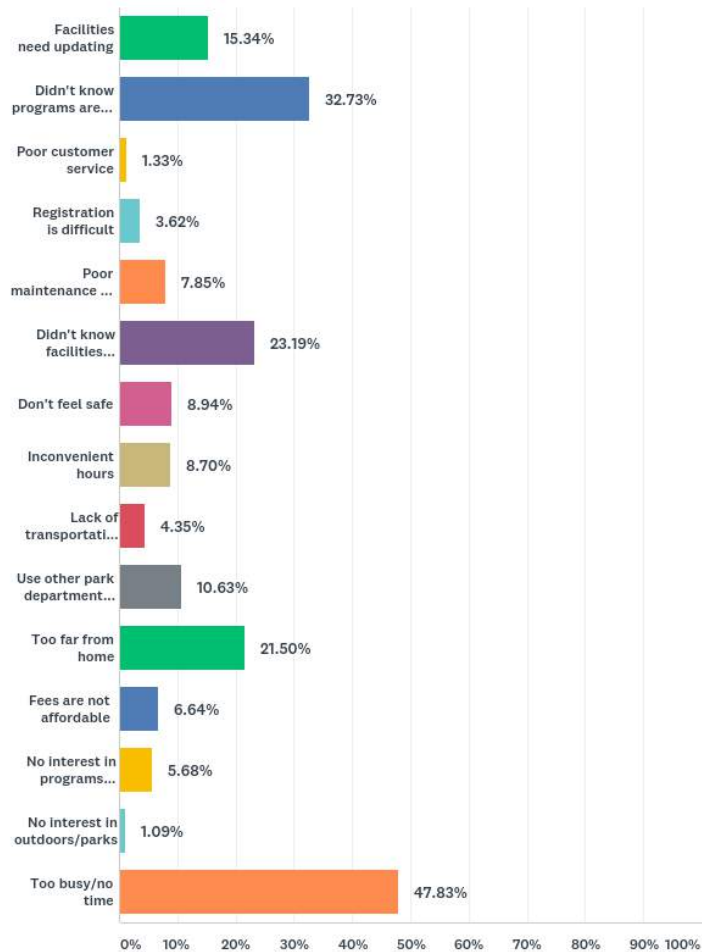
Q4 Compared to other priorities for Elkhart County residents, how important do you think it is to maintain and improve parks, trails, cultural resources, historic preservation, and recreational facilities and services?



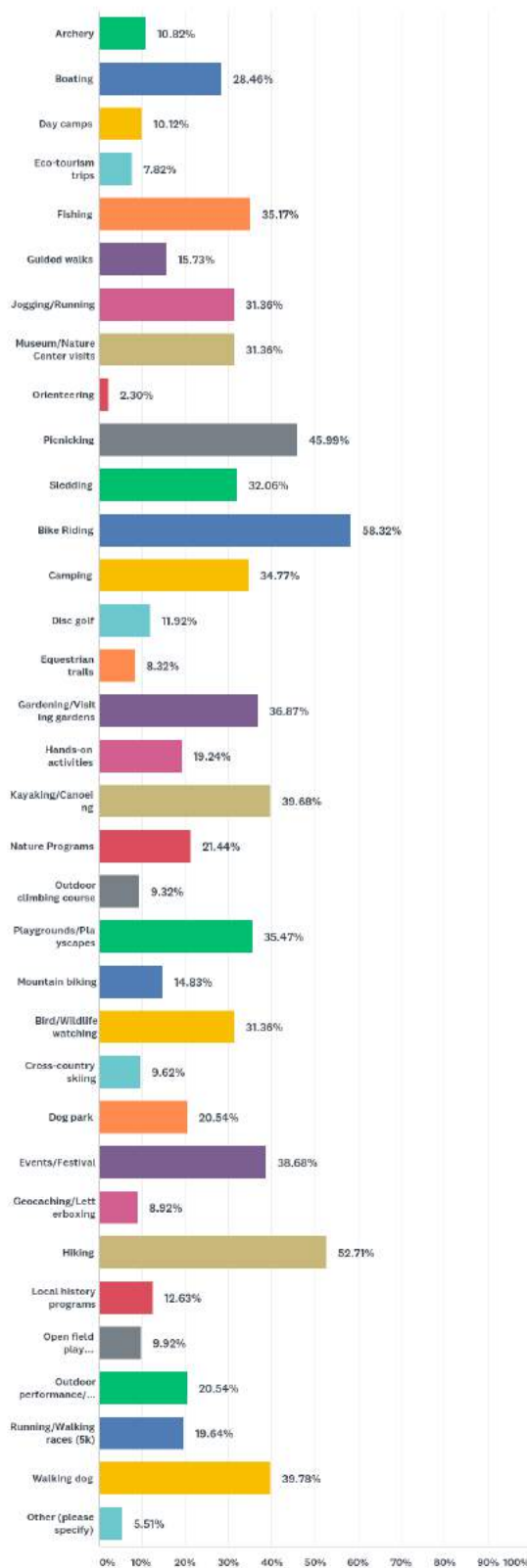
Q5 Would you support the Elkhart County Parks building a discovery center that would educate the community about its local and natural history in combination with administrative offices in a park environment?



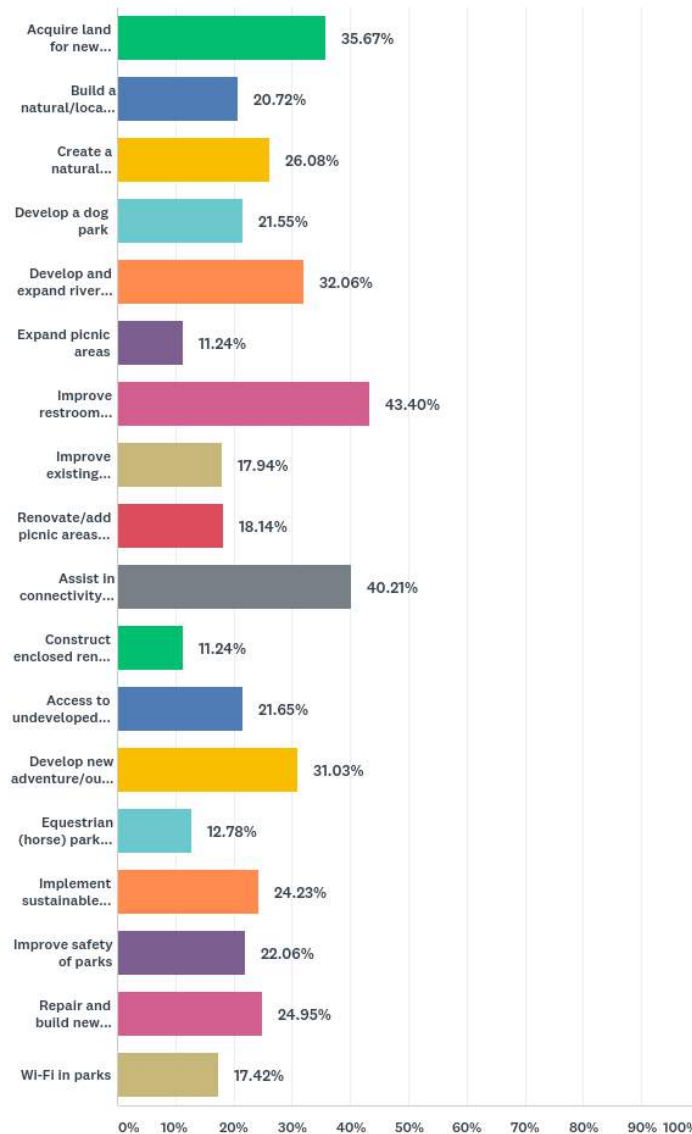
Q6 Check the reasons that prevent your household members from using an Elkhart County Park. (check all that apply)



Q7 Which of these outdoor recreational activities does your household presently participate in? (check all that apply)



Q8 What would be the greatest IMPROVEMENTS to the Elkhart County Parks in the next 5 years? (choose 5)



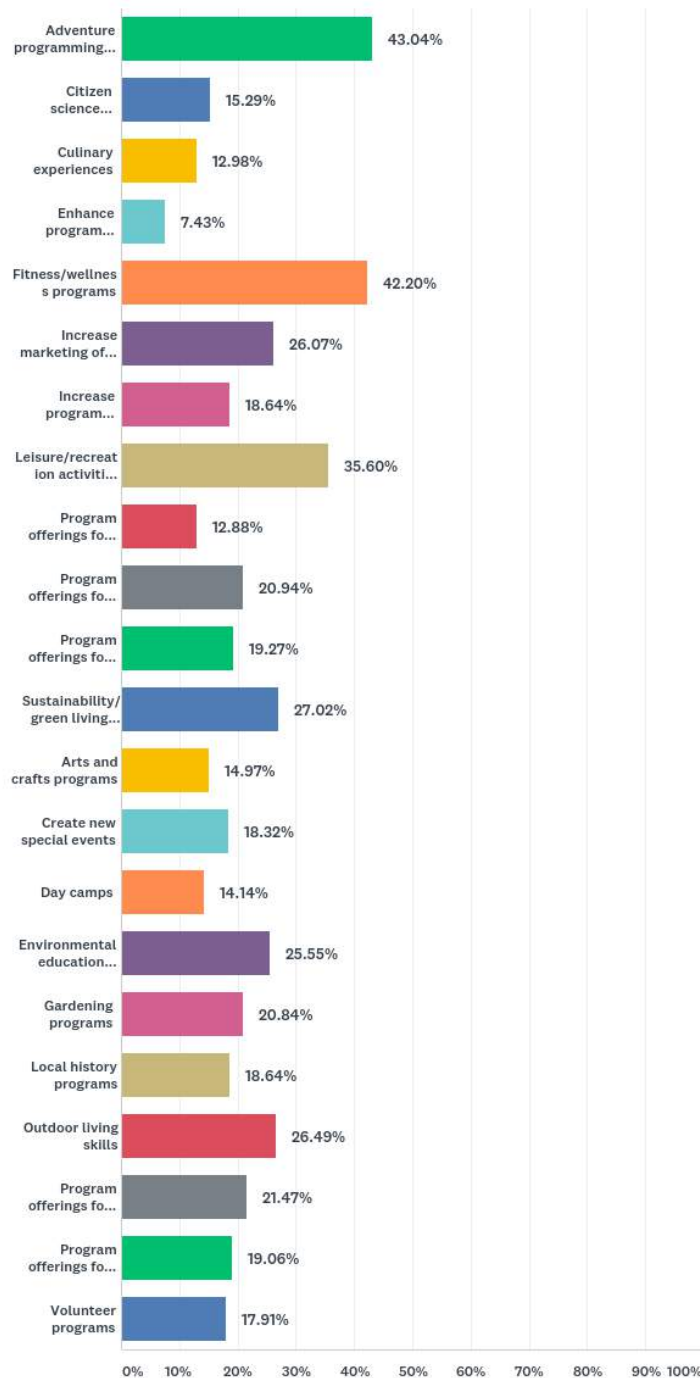
Q9 Is there an improvement you would like to see added within the next 5 years that is not on this list?

Answered: 456 Skipped: 560

*(See Appendix for comments, suggestions and remarks given for this question.)*



Q10 What should be the top five SERVICES the Elkhart County Parks should focus on implementing or expanding within the next 5 years (choose 5)

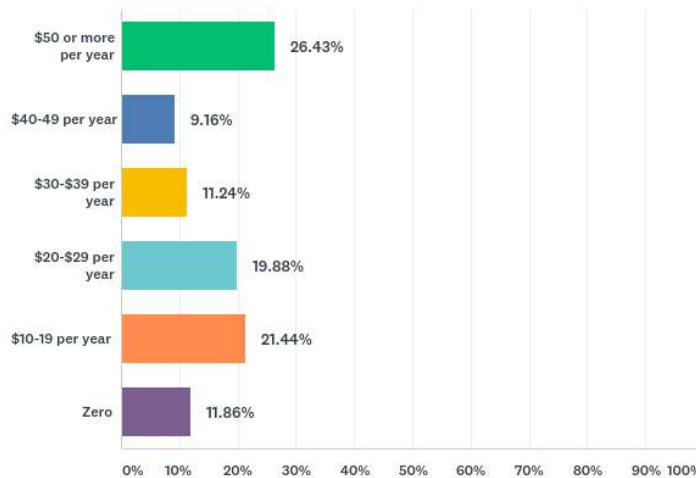


**Q11 Is there a service you would like to see implemented in the next 5 years at an Elkhart County Park that is not on this list?**

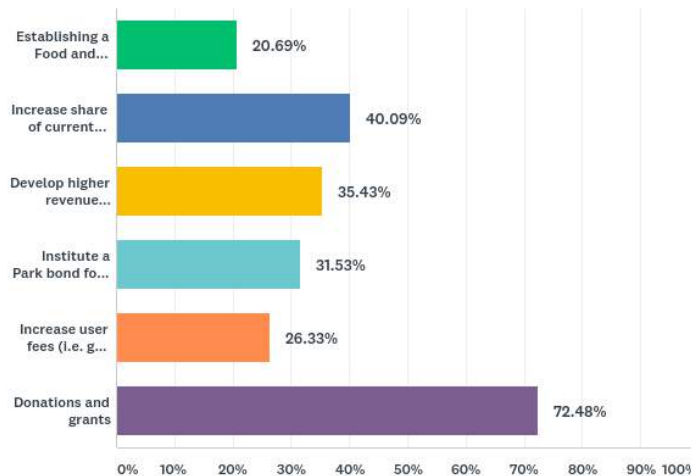
Answered: 328 Skipped: 688

*(See Appendix for comments, suggestions and remarks given for this question.)*

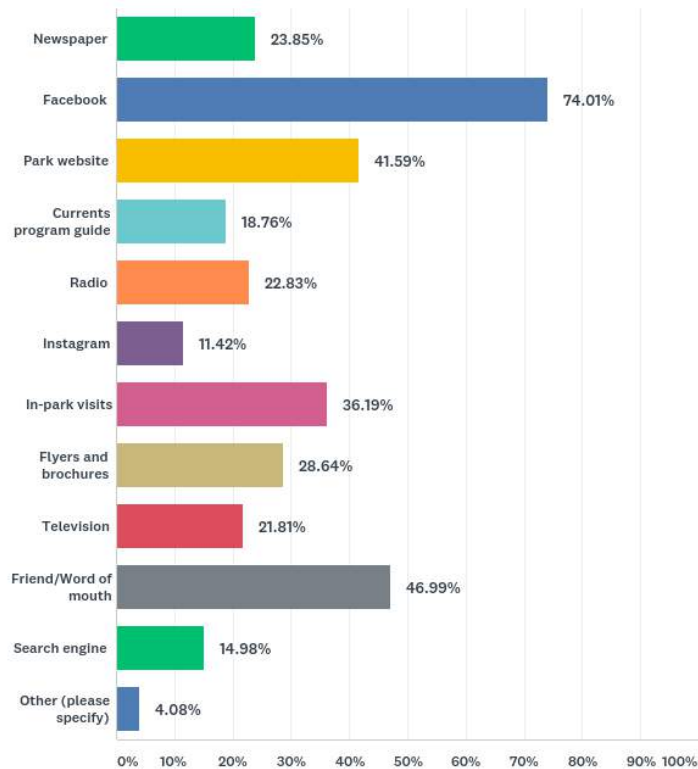
**Q12 Costs for maintaining existing parks and adding new facilities may require increased financial support. What is the additional annual amount your household would be willing to pay to improve the Elkhart County Parks?**



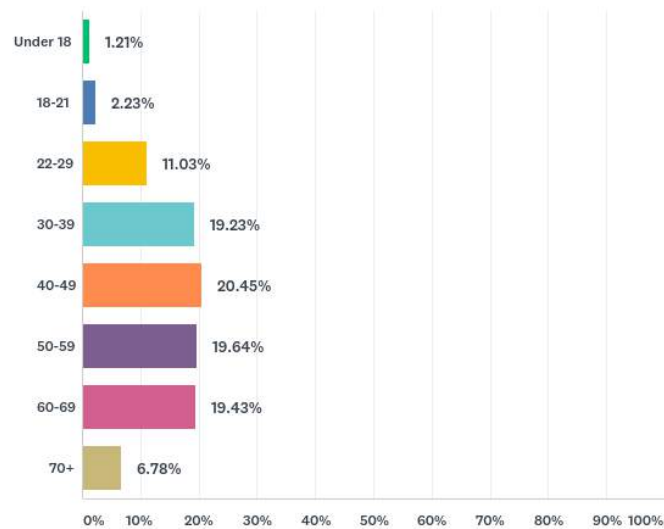
**Q13 To keep up with growing public demands, I would agree to increase support to the Elkhart County Parks through (check all that apply):**



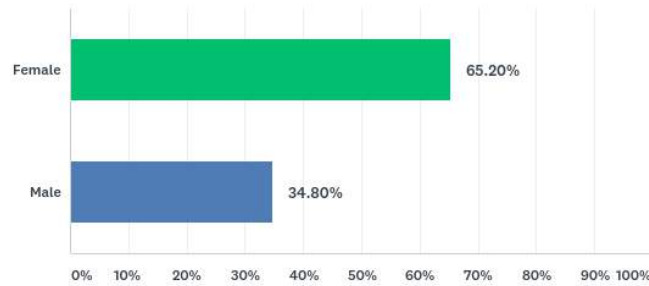
Q14 How are you most likely to learn about the Elkhart County Parks facilities and programs?  
(check all that apply)



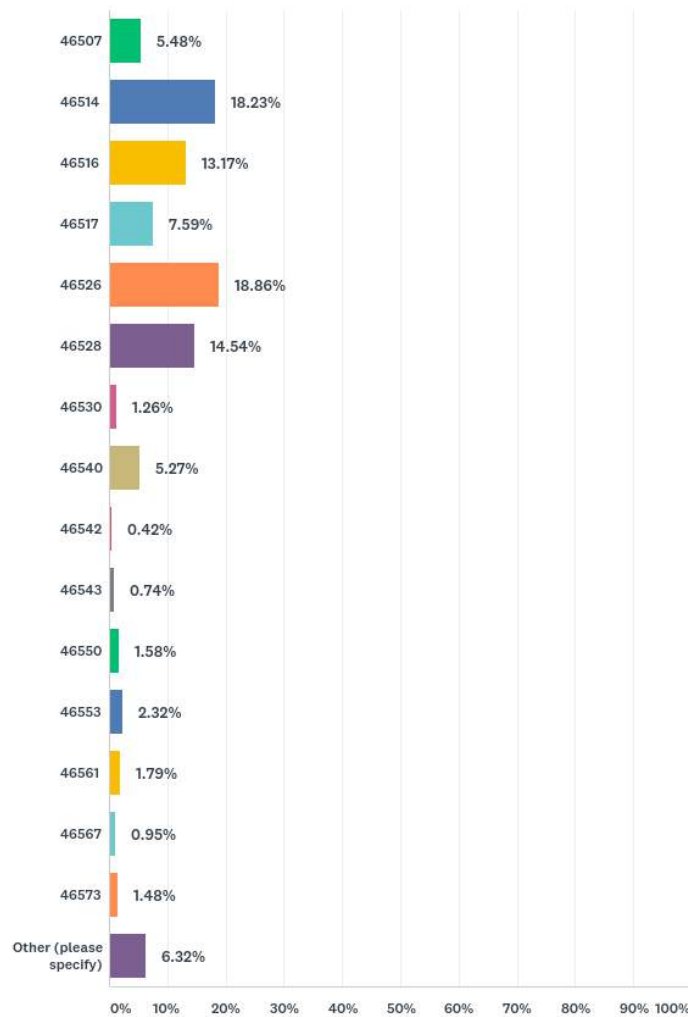
Q15 What is your age:



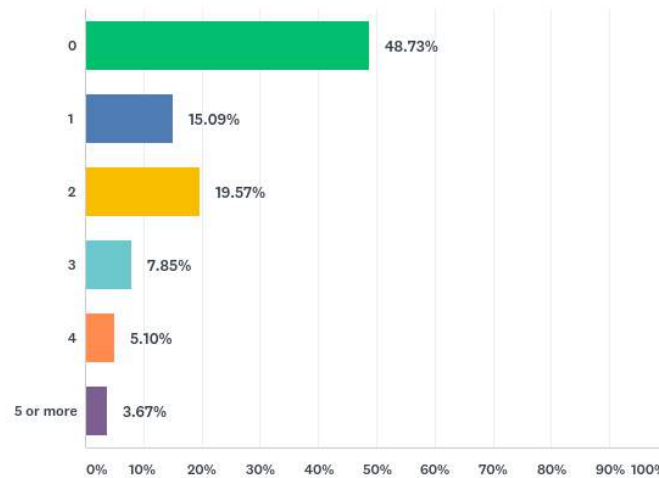
### Q16 What is your gender?



### Q17 In what ZIP code is your home located?



Q18 How many members of your household are under 18?



Q19 What other suggestions do you have for improving the Elkhart County Parks?

Answered: 361 Skipped: 655

*(See Appendix for comments, suggestions and remarks given for this question.)*

Q20 If you would you like to receive additional information about the Elkhart County Parks programs and events please leave your name and email address below.

Answered: 293 Skipped: 723

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Name:	98.63%	289
Email address:	96.25%	282

*(See Appendix for comments, suggestions and remarks given for this question.)*



## ***Focus Groups***

Focus groups were organized to respond to specific questions about how the department currently operates and about how the focus group participants think it should operate in the future. Focus groups were used because they provide an easily accessible and flexible way to gather information from a variety of stakeholders who have a vested interest in some aspect of the department's services

Focus group sessions were held at three separate county parks with members of the Elkhart County community. The purpose was to share perceived strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and vision for the community, to discuss challenges and action priorities, and how the Parks and Recreation Department could reach their goals and vision for the community. These meetings were advertised on social media and on the Park Department website.

In addition to the general public, user groups from the following were directly invited/attended:

- Indiana Master Naturalist
- Elkhart County Convention & Visitors Bureau
- South Bend – Elkhart Audubon Society
- The equestrian community
- Friends of the Pumkinvine
- Northern Indiana Mountain Bike Association
- Vibrant Communities Committee Members
- Non-profit leaders

(Sign-in sheets for each session are provided in the Appendix of this document.)

The focus group sessions took place at:

- Cobus Creek County Park on July 31, 2018 at 6:00 pm (24 participants)
- Bonneyville Mill County Park on September 18, 2018 at 6:00 pm (9 participants)
- Ox Bow County Park on September 24, 2018 at 6:00 pm (15 participants)

The following are the discussion summaries of each group session:

Elkhart County Parks Five-Year Master Plan Update  
Focus Group • Cobus Creek County Park • July 31, 2018

What is the best thing about Elkhart County Parks?	
Clean and nice	Beaver
Reasonable price - most with no cost	Access for canoeing opportunities
Nature trails spread throughout	Didn't realize how many parks
Nature programs	Opportunity for teachers to engage kids
Rehab program	Pavilion rentals
Maple syrup	Variety
Bird walks	Quality
What is the biggest weakness or limitation of Elkhart County Parks?	
Horseback riding facilities (e.g., Potato Creek)	5k run/walk
Funding for Programs/Services @ Boot Lake	Lack of volunteer program
Connecting land/trails	Trail grooming for skiers
Programming for your adults (e.g., Yoga in Park)	"Natural" material seating
Medical help access	Every 1/4 mile markers
Is there an area within the county that needs to be served by the County Parks?	
Elliott (10 acres)	Indiana Ave./16
Wakarusa (SW corner of county)	Near Americana Park
Nappanee	Treasure Island
What new facilities or improvements should be considered in the next five years?	
Horse Trails / Facilities	Important that development is not intrusive
Bike Trail	Extend bike/walking trail west to St. Joe County
Boot Lake	
What new programs or services should be considered in the next five years?	
More festivals (e.g., Gathering at Five Medals)	Family oriented
Market to teachers	Bring generations together
Convert landfills to parks	Nature walks/talks
Partner with local organizations to reduce staff time on program creation - bring in a guest teacher	Programs for young adults (e.g., canoe/kayak, mountain bike, scavenger hunts, dancing (salsa/swing), disc golf)
Improve marketing of programs	
If a bag of money was to fall on Elkhart County and could only be used by the County Parks where should it be spent?	
Horse trails	Community Gardens
Regular school programs (K-6)	More Staff (pre-recession level)
Bus trips for inner-city kids during summer	Kids/Seniors
Collaborations (Elkhart Education Fdtn., Food Council, etc.	Learn marketing/management from corporations - largest & most successful
Nature / Interpretive Center - perhaps at American Countryside Farmer's Market	Visitor Center w/exhibits

Elkhart County Parks Five-Year Master Plan Update  
Focus Group • Bonneyville Mill Park • September 18, 2018

What is the best thing about Elkhart County Parks?

Free	Publications
Diversity of amenities	
Young children remember	
Linkage with city parks (cooperation)	
Ability to get out into nature	
Trails	
Inspire activity/movement	
Programs for kids	

What is the biggest weakness or limitation of Elkhart County Parks?

Better trail maintenance - Bonneyville underwater since February, Ox Bow bridge out, Boot Lake Nature Preserve	No local stats of who is using parks to know how/where to target dollars and collaborate with partners
Vandalism - graffiti signs knocked down	Lack of money
Historical Museum - No A/C, boilers are old, need new roof	
Awareness of population not being served	
Bike trails to connect parks	
Facilities for groups of varying size	

Is there an area within the county that needs to be served by the County Parks?

Another park near Elkhart population centers  
Waterways - connect Middlebury to Corson Park  
Bike Trail to originate in Elkhart - RR north of city

What new facilities or improvements should be considered in the next five years?

Complete Six-Span Bridge boat launch - rowing teams, host regatta - get people on the river	Boot Lake - restrooms, parking for larger groups, boardwalk
Bike loops not safe	Restrooms, water fountains along trails
Sidewalks - broken glass	
Designated bike paths needed	

What new programs or services should be considered in the next five years?

Canoe/kayak rental - concessionaire	Blueways
Endowment Fund	Osprey towers
Programs full?	Trail between Elkhart, Bristol, Middlebury
Astronomy programs	Mid-sized facility for 100 - 200 people
Invasive species control - controlled burn	Staff for maintenance / vandalism
County Museum	Facility on river to bring back Regatta, people & money

Bike trails between parks - connectivity,  
signage, wayfinding  
LOIT Police Officer  
Stronger Partnerships

Horse & carriage rides - ride in Amish carriage  
at a park  
Bird walk program - continued support  
Volunteer program

What are the benefits of Parks / Why do Elkhart Parks Matter?	
Identity	Puts life in perspective
Something new	You realize life is bigger than what you do or stuff you accumulate
Get back to nature	Parks are the best spiritual & mental therapists
It's quiet, you feel good, you're at peace, it gives you a sense of calm	You get outside of yourself and you see your place - birds migrate, water flows...it doesn't stop

## Elkhart County Parks Five-Year Master Plan Update Focus Group • Ox Bow Park • September 24, 2018

### What is the best thing about Elkhart County Parks?

Walking trails @ Ox Bow Park, Bonneyville Mill Park, and Pumpkinvine Trail	One-room schoolhouse
Accessibility - parks are abundant and easy access for handicapped	Certifications
Educational programs	Partnerships with schools – cross-country
Riverwatch	Mountain bike trails & diversity
Beauty of the parks	Event spaces

### What is the biggest weakness or limitation of Elkhart County Parks?

County Historical Museum handicap access	Parks open early
Bonneyville trails need better markings	Volunteer opportunities - need more outreach
Garden at Cobus Creek needs plants labeled	Schedule fills up quickly
Restrictions on tree climbing	<i>The Current</i> comes out late
Park staff could be more patient - probably stressed - better customer service	Fairfield and all schools could/should get more information - some schools have outdoor space
Greater level of diversity in students	Events block certain parts of the park

### Is there an area within the county that needs to be served by the County Parks?

Outreach to larger socio-economic group

### What new facilities or improvements should be considered in the next five years?

More natural play spaces - nature's play - everywhere	Boot Lake could be better
More educational & wayfinding signage	Safety is an issue
Pumpkinvine - parking, restrooms, covered shelter, more trail heads	Bike path connecting Pumpkinvine to Bonneyville
Middlebury trailhead could be bigger	Larger Event Center - for 50-75

### What new programs or services should be considered in the next five years?

Recreation and educational events - meteor show	Hiking Club should continue - and add different groups
Different activities and outreach with the schools - year long project; STEM projects - outdoor lab	Environmental group - represented by someone from parks
Sustainability - green efforts, i.e., honey bees	Program registration - payment ahead of time
Adult field trips	Promote company picnics



If a bag of money was to fall on Elkhart County and could only be used by the County Parks where should it be spent?

Lookout / Observation Tower - grass meadow by corral	County historical & nature preserve in central location
Connect more parks with bike paths	Pathway from trolley stops
More indoor facilities for rent - 150	Bus Elkhart students to parks
Nature Center observation window	All parks to have paved paths for handicapped
Get electricity to the Chapel	Connect Elkhart to Mishawaka
Connections with Syracuse, Middlebury & Topeka	

What are the benefits of Parks / Why do Elkhart Parks Matter?

Reduce stress	Opportunities to learn and serve
Greenspace is important	Preservation of the eco-system
Access to nature	Fun places to be
Unplugging is important for kids	Make the county more attractive
Make connections with people	Mental health



# Joint Meeting with the Park Agencies of Elkhart County

10-Oct-18 – 9:00am to 10:30am – Elkhart Environmental Center – 1717 E. Lusher Ave., Elkhart, IN

## Participating Park Agencies:

- Elkhart County Parks
- Elkhart City Parks
- Goshen Parks
- Middlebury Parks
- Nappanee Parks

## Facilitators:

- Chuck Lehman, Lehman & Lehman, Inc.
- Mike Reese and Steve Ruby, The Troyer Group

NAME	REPRESENTING	EMAIL
Andrew Edlund	Middlebury Parks	<a href="mailto:Andrew.edlund@gmail.com">Andrew.edlund@gmail.com</a>
Mike Reese	Troyer Group	<a href="mailto:mwr@troyergroup.com">mwr@troyergroup.com</a>
Jamison Czarnecki	Elkhart Environmental Center	<a href="mailto:Jamison.czarnecki@coei.org">Jamison.czarnecki@coei.org</a>
Chris Davis	Nappanee Parks	<a href="mailto:cdavis@nappanee.org">cdavis@nappanee.org</a>
Tiffany Salyer	Nappanee Parks	<a href="mailto:tsalyer@nappanee.org">tsalyer@nappanee.org</a>
Steve Ruby	Troyer Group	<a href="mailto:SDR@troyergroup.com">SDR@troyergroup.com</a>
Tanya Heyde	City of Goshen	<a href="mailto:tanyaheyde@goshencity.com">tanyaheyde@goshencity.com</a>
Wendy Terrazos	City of Elkhart	<a href="mailto:wendy.terrazas@coei.org">wendy.terrazas@coei.org</a>
Monica Newton	City of Elkhart	<a href="mailto:monica.newton@coei.org">monica.newton@coei.org</a>
Kelby Rose	Elkhart County Parks	<a href="mailto:krose@elkhartcounty.com">krose@elkhartcounty.com</a>
Bernard J. Cunningham IV	Elkhart County Parks	<a href="mailto:bcunningham@elkhartcounty.com">bcunningham@elkhartcounty.com</a>
Ronda DeCaire	Elkhart County Parks	<a href="mailto:rdecaire@elkhartcounty.com">rdecaire@elkhartcounty.com</a>
Tom Enright	Middlebury Parks	<a href="mailto:park@middleburyin.com">park@middleburyin.com</a>
Chuck Lehman	Lehman & Lehman, Inc.	<a href="mailto:chuck@landlehman.com">chuck@landlehman.com</a>

A meeting was called to start the dialog with the Park agencies within Elkhart County. Many of these agencies are in, or will soon begin, the process of updating their Five Year Master Plans. The Facilitators wanted to have this meeting to share insights, goals, plans, schedules, etc. among the park agencies to further the opportunities of collaboration, support and synergy.

The following are the notes taken during this meeting with the Discussion Category highlighted in grey.

## INTRODUCTIONS – Share what are the best assets of your agency and Share your biggest needs and vision

### Elkhart County

- Boot Lake – transformation
- Corson Park – 82 acres
- Pumpkinvine assist
- Funds & equipment
- Historical Museum
- Bonneyville Mill

- Behind in the 5-Year MPU maintenance update strategies
- Environmental Center – Asset
- More on southside connection trail system
- Better inclusion in city planning efforts

### Goshen

- Trails system – 30 miles
- Mill Race Canal
- 500 acre Park
- Fidler Pond Park
- Meeting demographic needs
- Funding a challenge

### Elkhart City

- Aquatic Facilities – updates needed
- Budgets & equipment update needs
- (maintenance is not under Parks)
- Staff assets
- Nibco – Great Asset!

### **Nappanee**

- 260 acres
- MPU – will allow priorities
- Municipal golf course
- Turf field w/ Boys & Girls Club & School
- Wetlands maintenance
- Own maintenance on equipment

- Small staff a challenge
- Develop Master Plan that is useable

### **Middlebury**

- Old Mill Walk project – connection with Pumpkinvine Trail
- Needs – not enough staff or equipment

## **SHARE STATUS OF PARK MASTER PLAN UPDATES**

- Elkhart County – Public input has been gathered, plans are to submit “draft” in January 2019 with the final in April 2019
- Elkhart City – Will be submitting MPU in January 2020, current project is out for RFPs
- Goshen – First public meeting, Community Survey out
- Nappanee – Stakeholder meeting in summer, survey done, in schools now, pop-up booth @Apple Festival, concept plans, master plans

## **GENERAL DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **Form an Alliance of Park Agencies in Elkhart County**

- Chuck shared a model in Hamilton County where all of the Park Agencies within the County have formed an alliance to work together in areas of programming, scheduling, promoting, etc.
- Refer to HAMPa ([www.HAMPa.org](http://www.HAMPa.org))
- Steve shared that a key to a successful alliance is to have a champion. Someone that will see that regular meetings are set and attended.
- Could something like this be formed in Elkhart County?

### **Vibrant Communities Interest and Involvement**

- Question: How can the Vibrant Communities movement become a “coattail” for Park Agencies in Elkhart County?
- Current Work: enFocus – “Place Map” – assets map has been completed for Elkhart County
- Community Calendar / Schedule – What could be the role of Convention Visitors Bureau?
- Need to designate a Champion on behalf of the Park Agencies
- Opportunity: Have the Park Agencies serve as a Guest Speaker – Vibrant Communities event in 30 days
- Opportunity: “Big Little Grants” program was shared – Ronda is part of the committee - \$1,000 grants
- Opportunity: “EnviroFest” Elkhart – Region’s largest environmental gathering (2<sup>nd</sup> Friday in July)
  - Staffing needs and collaborating opportunities
- Opportunity: “Bike to Work Day” South Bend model
  - Elkhart had 150 participants last year
- Opportunity: “10 Minute Walks to Parks” initiative
- Opportunity: “Urban Adventure” South Bend model
- Opportunity: “Ride & Seek” – Nappanee Parks

### **MACOG – Branding & Marketing Study of Trailways is currently underway**

- How to capture this movement as a County?
- This Study is in early stages of planning

## CLOSING / NEXT STEPS

Those present felt good and sees value this initial meeting together. It was felt that there should be a follow up meeting to discuss further the potential or organizing a county-wide park agency alliance. *It was suggested that we come back together after the first of the year (say second week in January, 2019).* The facilitators will note this and send out a reminder before year-end.

In the mean time we would like to encourage you to think and discuss among your colleagues how such an Alliance would look like...

### Communication and Infrastructure

- Needs to be ramped up
- Email listing to be shared
- Establish Regular meeting times
- Development of a “white paper” of the economic values of parks that can be shared within the community

### Collaborating Opportunities

- Corporate Sponsorships
- Economic Development Companies
- Volunteer Groups
- Partnerships

### Assignments

- Topics of discussion
- How often to meet
- Value of meetings
- Volunteers
- Economics story
- Follow up Surveys to public on events attended.

## Needs Analysis

This analysis results from each method of public input, the input from the park board and park staff, and community leaders. This input was tallied and prioritized based on financial planning goals, the community survey, and other constraints resulting in the Elkhart County Parks & Recreation Action Plan 2019-2023.

Note that some these needs might not be obtainable within the next five years. Those that are not will form a discussion agenda for the next 5-year master plan update. These needs have been categorized into five (5) areas, as note below:

### CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

- Renovate existing facilities for Universal Design (ADA) compliance
- Trails and connectivity to Parks and county resources
- Improve/Renovate restrooms
- Consider/Study Interpretive Center to house many County Park resources
- Improve/Renovate/Upgrade current facilities
- Consider areas and acreage for equestrian usage in the county

### ADMINISTRATIVE ASPECTS

- Consideration for acquiring land for park/open space in strategic areas of the county
- Develop a Par & Recreation Marketing Plan
- Expand Park Department's presence on social media
- Develop a Master Site Plan for each of the Park facilities
- Update MOUs and strengthen relationship with partners & stakeholders

### PROGRAMS & SERVICES

- Expand the relationships with other park agencies within the County, school corporations, etc. in shared marketing, facilities, programs and resources

### EQUIPMENT AND MAINTENANCE

- Define equipment upgrade schedule
- Continue repairs of existing facilities while developing new facilities
- Maintain practices of cleanliness, safety and aesthetics in the parks

### CREATIVE & ENGAGEMENT

- Continue the collaborative relationship in existing and new community partners
- Development of an "Elkhart County" smart phone app
- Continue and expand the vision of Elkhart County's "Vibrant Communities"





## Section E: Plan of Action

Department Goals and Strategies.....	Page E – 3
Plan of Action.....	Page E – 4
Proposed Action Plan.....	Page E – 5
Action Year Budget Summary .....	Page E – 15
Funding Resources.....	Page E – 17



# **Elkhart County Parks & Recreation Action Plan 2019-2023**

## **Department Goals and Strategies**

### **1. Improve the quality of life for citizens by protecting natural resources, preserving history, educating citizens, and promoting health and wellness.**

- Promote and improve trails and waterways
- Develop and expand park system and amenities
- Continue to expand community partnerships with stakeholders, organizations, volunteers and business community
- Be a key participant in Vibrant Communities and strengthening the quality of life

### **2. Improve delivery and transparency of Elkhart County Parks mission to staff and community**

- Review and update mission and values
- Involve staff and public input
- Develop a marketing plan
- Create a culture of improved customer service
- Enhance website, social media, and print materials
- Update interpretive, directional and informational signage
- Update all park ordinances and policies and make available to public

### **3. Improve and update facilities and equipment**

- Establish equipment and facility replacement plans
- Update playgrounds, restrooms, and shelters to enhance visitor experience
- Protect natural resources through land acquisition and invasive species removal
- Incorporate ADA transition plan in all park improvements
- Create safer parks and destinations

### **4. Create parks that are destinations**

- Build a multi-functional and modern interpretive facility
- Diversify and increase participation in public programs, events, activities, and facilities
- Increase field trip and bus tour capacity
- Maintain and build park facilities that contribute to the economy of Elkhart County
- Provide opportunities for diversity, equity and inclusion of all citizens
- Promote the unique facilities of the Elkhart County Parks to the citizens and visitors of Elkhart County

### **5. Diversify funding of the Elkhart County Parks**

- Apply for Land and Water Conservation Funds
- Increase opportunities for donations
- Awareness of endowment needs
- Increase revenue generation
- Explore diverse grant opportunities
- Engage our non-profit partners
- Work with commissioners and council to identify capital needs

## Plan of Action

The following pages form the recommended 5-year Action Plan for Elkhart County Park & Recreation.

This matrix of actions should be used as a guide and reviewed quarterly. This will allow for adjustments to keep the plan “fresh”.

The Action Matrix is organized with the stated Actions, related Park Site(s)/Facility, Estimated Costs (if applicable), Funding Source(s), the Action Priority, and suggested Year of Implementation.

In addition, the Action Plan is organized into four (4) Categories:

- Capital Improvement Actions
- Administrative Actions
- Programs & Services Actions
- Equipment & Maintenance Actions
- Creative and Engagement Actions

For implementation of Actions over the next 5 years only the “A” Priorities are considered. The “B” and “C” Priorities are noted as potential elements to consider past the next 5 years or, if circumstances permit, to be reassigned to an “A” Priority.

There are several Actions that may be implemented, or assisted by others in collaboration with the Park Department, i.e., County Planning Department, non-profit Friends group, etc.



# Elkhart County Parks & Recreation Action Plan 2019-2023

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	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	Five - Year Plan				
	Park Component / Plan of Action	Park Site(s)	Division or Site	Total Costs (2019 – 2023)	Funding Source	Priority	Notes / Comments	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT ACTIONS (repairs, new development, land acquisition, etc.)												
1	Accessible paved path designed for each park	All		TBD	NRC	C						
2	Acquire land adjacent to exsiting parks as opportunities arise	All		TBD	NRC, GD	A			\$ 175,000			
3	As facilities are updated, include recommendations of ADA transition plan	All		included in project amounts	NRC,GD	A		√	√	√	√	√
4	Update security systems	All		\$ 30,000	NRC	A		\$ 30,000				
5	Develop a plan for a dog park within park system	Any		\$ 10,000	GD, GR	B						
6	Develop group camping site within department (i.e. scouts)	Any		TBD	NRC, GD	B						
7	Design and replace lookout tower	Bonneyville	Lookout		GD	B						
8	Develop site plan for Kum Mol Rie area	Bonneyville	Kum Mol Rie	\$ 5,000	NRO	A				\$ 5,000		
9	Dredge head and tail race of canal	Bonneyville	Mill	TBD	NRC, GD	A				unkown		
10	Install ADA latrine	Bonneyville	Kum Mol Rie	\$ 40,000	NRC	A						\$ 40,000
11	Install modern ADA restroom	Bonneyville	Kum Mol Rie		NRC	B						
12	Mill foundation repair	Bonneyville	Mill	\$ 10,000	NRC, GD	A				\$ 10,000		
13	New restroom Briar Patch Shelter	Bonneyville	Briar Patch	\$ 40,000	NRC, GD	A						\$ 40,000
14	New sign on State Road 120 to increase marketing of Mill	Bonneyville	Mill	\$ 5,000	NRO	A		\$ 5,000				
15	Paint One Room Schoolhouse exterior	Bonneyville	ORS	\$ 9,000	NRC	A		\$ 9,000				
16	Paint residential house	Bonneyville	Homestead	\$ 5,000	NRC	A			\$ 5,000			
17	Pave main parking lot	Bonneyville	Mill/Feedlot	\$ 10,000	NRC, TA				\$ 10,000			
18	Playground/playscape near Briar Patch	Bonneyville	Briar Patch	\$ 75,000	NRC, GD	A						\$ 75,000
19	Re-route trail from Mill to Kum Mol Rie, install trail markers	Bonneyville	Kum Mol Rie	\$ 2,000	NRC,GD	A		\$ 2,000				
20	Relocate and restore historic interurban ticket station	Bonneyville	ORS		GD,NRC	C						
21	Repair bathroom of residential house	Bonneyville	Homestead	\$ 10,000	NRC	A			\$ 10,000			
22	Replace Kum Mol Rie Shelter	Bonneyville	Kum Mol Rie	\$ 90,000	NRC, GD	B						
23	Replace/Upgrade Briar Patch Shelter including electric	Bonneyville	Briar Patch	\$ 90,000	NRC	A						\$ 90,000
24	Review and evaluate stone dam, trail & head races, and mill pond	Bonneyville	Mill	TBD	NRC, GD	B				unknown		
25	Site Plan/Engineering design of the South Farm site	Bonneyville	Briar Patch/ Meadow/ Lookout	\$ 15,000	NRO, TA	A				\$ 15,000		
26	Complete 1/2 mile ADA Trail	Boot Lake Nature Preserve		\$ 5,000	GD	A		\$ 5,000				
27	Complete information kiosks	Boot Lake Nature Preserve		\$ 1,000	GD	A		\$ 1,000				



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	Park Component / Plan of Action	Park Site(s)	Division or Site	Total Costs (2019 – 2023)	Funding Source	Priority	Notes / Comments	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
28	Complete Site Plan for Boot Lake Nature Preserve; including parking, overflow parking, restroom and shelters	Boot Lake Nature Preserve		\$ 6,000	NRO	A		\$ 6,000				
29	Create entryway/ new gate to Boot Lake	Boot Lake Nature Preserve		\$ 15,000	NRC, GD	A		\$ 15,000				
30	Design and build parking lot; including overflow parking for large programs and events	Boot Lake Nature Preserve		\$ 120,000	NRC,GD	A					\$ 120,000	
31	Design and build Romtec style restrooms	Boot Lake Nature Preserve		\$ 52,000	NRC, GD	A		\$ 52,000				
32	Survey propoerty boundaries	Boot Lake Nature Preserve		\$ 12,000	NRC, GD	A		\$ 12,000				
33	Transform small pavillion into education kiosk including interpretive signage and program seating	Boot Lake Nature Preserve		\$ 12,000	NRC, GD	A				\$ 12,000		
34	Boardwalk and fence replacements	Cobus Creek		\$ 5,000	NRC	A				\$ 5,000		
35	Develop connection between Cobus Creek County Park and Cleveland Township Library	Cobus Creek		TBD	GD,TIF	B						
36	Expand parking at Cobus	Cobus Creek		TBD	NRC, GD,TIF	B						
37	Install Labryinth Garden	Cobus Creek		\$ 8,000	NRC, GD	A			\$ 8,000			
38	Install new pedestrian bridge with weight limit for equipment	Cobus Creek		\$ 12,000	NRC	A						\$ 12,000
39	Playground updates	Cobus Creek		\$ 5,000	NRC, GD	A			\$ 5,000			
40	Re-level sidewalk	Cobus Creek		\$ 2,500	NRC	A			\$ 2,500			
41	Explore feasibility of automated entry gates at Boot Lake and Cobus Creek	Cobus Creek/ Boot Lake		TBD	NRC,GD	B						√
42	Parking lot and trail development	Corson Riverwoods		\$ 250,000	LWCF, GD, NRC	A				\$ 250,000		
43	Sign for "Future Corson Riverwods County Park"	Corson Riverwoods		\$ 5,000	NRC, GD	A		\$ 5,000				
44	Site plan for Corson Riverwoods County Parks	Corson Riverwoods		\$ 6,000	NRO	A		\$ 6,000				
45	Goshen Dam toe drain repair	Goshen Dam	Goshen Dam	\$ 60,000	NRC	A		\$ 60,000				
46	Black Maple Trail Head development- kiosks,trails,picnic sites,etc	Ox Bow Park	Black Maple	\$ 15,000	NRC	A		\$ 15,000				
47	Build an interpretive facility to include museum, naturalist, and administration	Ox Bow Park	County Home Property	\$ 15,000,000	GD, LWCF, NRC,TA	A						\$ 15,000,000
48	Construct vehicle and foot traffic bridge over concrete ford to prevent vehicles from driving through stream	Ox Bow Park	Spillway	\$ 500,000	LARE,SW	A				\$ 500,000		
49	Design and construct indoor rental pavilion (Capacity 75-150) with modern restrooms with ADA facilities	Ox Bow Park	Chapel Area	\$ 200,000	NRC, GD	C						

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	Park Component / Plan of Action	Park Site(s)	Division or Site	Total Costs (2019 – 2023)	Funding Source	Priority	Notes / Comments	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
50	Design and install ADA parking pads in Chapel Parking Lot	Ox Bow Park	Chapel Parking Lot	\$ 6,000	NRC	A				\$ 6,000		
51	Gatehouse redesign for park access/accessibility	Ox Bow Park	Gatehouse	TBD	NRC, GD	B						
52	Install accessible parking at Farmstead shelter	Ox Bow Park	Farmstead	\$ 4,000	NRC	A			\$ 4,000			
53	Install ADA modern restroom near lower field	Ox Bow Park	Fisherman's	\$ 35,000	NRC,SW	A			\$ 35,000			
54	Install ADA restroom near Fisherman's Shelter	Ox Bow Park	Fisherman's	\$ 75,000	NRC,GR	A						
55	Install ADA restroom near northern shelters	Ox Bow Park	Black Maple/ Coffee Tree		NRC,GD,SW	B						
56	Install air conditioning at Ox Bow Haus Shelter	Ox Bow Park	Ox Bow Haus	\$ 3,800	NRO	A		\$ 3,800				
57	Install concrete curb and sidewalks	Ox Bow Park	Coffee Tree, Black Maple, Fishermans, Stable	\$ 80,000	NRC	C						
58	Install electronic message board sign at park entrance	Ox Bow Park	Gatehouse	\$ 40,000	NRC, NRO, TA,GD	B						
59	Install water bottle filling station	Ox Bow Park	TBD	\$ 9,000	NRO	A					\$ 9,000	
60	Pave upper field parking lot	Ox Bow Park	Upper Field	\$ 25,000	NRC	C				\$ 25,000		
61	Remove and replace chapel for ADA accessibility. Market Chapel and facility above for outdoor weddings and other gatherings.	Ox Bow Park	Chapel	\$ 30,000	NRC	B						
62	Repair and replace aging playground equipment and playground surface	Ox Bow Park	Cottonwood, Upper Field, Fishermans	\$ 250,000	NRC, GD	A			\$ 100,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 100,000	
63	Replace roof on all shelters, update firepits, and concrete slabs	Ox Bow Park	All shelters	\$ 150,000	NRC	A			\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	
64	Study feasibility, hire design firm, and begin fundraising for new interpretive facility	Ox Bow Park	County Home Property	\$ 80,000	GD, NRC,TA	A	\$40,000.00	\$ 40,000				
65	Update boardwalks	Ox Bow Park	Throughout park	\$ 5,000	NRC, NRO, GD	A			\$ 5,000			
66	Assist Friends of the Pumpkvine with donor display along trail	Pumpkinvine		\$ 5,000	GD	A		\$ 5,000				
67	Comple Pumpkinvine GAP Phase I	Pumpkinvine		\$ 900,000	NRC, GD							
68	Complete Pumpkvine GAP Phase II	Pumpkinvine		\$ 600,000	GD/TIF	A				\$ 600,000		
69	Design and install a retention basin or raise trail near 7.5 mile marker to prevent seasonal flooding of trail.	Pumpkinvine		\$ 50,000	GD	A					\$ 50,000	
70	Develop jointly with Town of Middlebury a water fountain/filling station for Pumpkinvine	Pumpkinvine		\$ 9,000	GD	A		Almost complete				
71	Develop trailhead with parking and kiosk at CR 35	Pumpkinvine		\$ 4,000	GD	A						\$ 4,000
72	Building renovation plan for DeFries homestead	River Preserve	DeFries Garden	\$ 15,000	DE	A			\$ 15,000			
73	Construct Benton Spillway Canal bridge behind picnic area	River Preserve	Benton Spillway	\$ 20,000	NRC	C						

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	Park Component / Plan of Action	Park Site(s)	Division or Site	Total Costs (2019 – 2023)	Funding Source	Priority	Notes / Comments	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
74	Construct new maintenance facility with public restrooms	River Preserve	Benton or other feasible area	\$ 100,000	NRC	B						
75	Construct new restrooms	River Preserve	DeFries Garden	\$ 50,000	NRC, DE	B						
76	Construct trail bridge from Baintertown Park over canal to Baintertown wetlands site	River Preserve	Baintertown	\$ 25,000	NRC	C						
77	Contract a trail between Baintertown canal and abandoned railroad	River Preserve	Baintertown Canal	\$ 25,000	NRO,GD	C						
78	Create an accessible picnic pad	River Preserve	DeFries Garden	\$ 10,000	NRC, DE	B						
79	Develop a small natural playscape adjacent to parking lot at Benton Dam	River Preserve	Benton Dam	\$ 15,000	NRC, GD	B						
80	Develop an accessible trail between Benton Landing and Benton Dam	River Preserve	Benton	TBD	NRO	C						
81	Develop board walk and overlook at Benton Dam wetland area	River Preserve	Benton Dam	\$ 5,000	NRC	C						
82	Electric system renovated at site	River Preserve	DeFries Garden	\$ 4,000	NRO	A		\$ 4,000				
83	Improve/expand parking	River Preserve	DeFries Garden	\$ 40,000	NRC, DE	B						
84	Install automatic gate at entry drive	River Preserve	DeFries Garden	\$ 10,000	NRC	C						
85	Install new well near potting shed garage	River Preserve	DeFries Garden	\$ 6,000	DE	A			\$ 6,000			
86	Rebuild or rejuvenate Benton Hydro levee (north and south sides)	River Preserve	Benton Hydro	TBD	NRC	A				√	√	
87	Renovate and expand parking at DeFries Gardens; particularly on 1 acre addition	River Preserve	DeFries Garden	\$ 20,000	DE	A					\$ 20,000	
88	Restore exterior of Baintertown Power Plant building and add interpretive signage to outside	River Preserve	Baintertown	TBD	NRC	A						
89	Seal exterior bricks at DeFries House	River Preserve	DeFries	\$ 15,000	GD, DE	A		\$ 15,000				
90	Construction of ADA trail	Six-Span Bridge		\$ 50,000	TIF	A			\$ 50,000			
91	Construction of pavilion	Six-Span Bridge		\$ 125,000	TIF	A			\$ 125,000			
92	Expansion of Parking Lot	Six-Span Bridge		\$ 175,000	TIF	A			\$ 175,000			
93	Provide / Improve water access including ADA canoe/kayak launch	Six-Span Bridge		\$ 30,000	TIF	A		\$ 30,000				
94	Remodel of pole barn for program/rental space	Six-Span Bridge		\$ 100,000	TIF	A			\$ 100,000			
95	Removal of house at Six Span expansion site	Six-Span Bridge		in-house	TIF	A						
96	Acquire land in southwest Elkhart County for future County Park to ensure all of Elkhart County is served.	Southwest of Elkhart County		TBD	GD,GR	C						
97	Continue to partner with other County entities and non-profits to support multi-use trail connections including 40-mile loop, and connections from St. Joe County, Wakarusa, Nappanee	Trails		TBD	GD/TIF	B						
98	Ensure connection of major parks by multi-use trail systems that are implemented	Trails		TBD	GD/TIF	B						

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	Park Component / Plan of Action	Park Site(s)	Division or Site	Total Costs (2019 – 2023)	Funding Source	Priority	Notes / Comments	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
99	Construct a small shelter and latrine	Wolf Lake		\$ 120,000	NRC, TA, GD, LWCF	C						
100	Develop access lane and parking area at Wolf Lake	Wolf Lake		\$ 75,000	NRC, TA, GD, LWCF	A						\$ 75,000
101	Develop accessible trail to lake including boardwalk/pier	Wolf Lake		\$ 125,000	NRC, TA, GD, LWCF	B						
102	Entrance sign and kiosk at Wolf Lake	Wolf Lake		\$ 10,000	NRC, TA, GD, LWCF	A						\$ 10,000
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT TOTALS: \$ 20,268,300								\$ 320,800	\$ 880,500	\$ 1,528,000	\$ 349,000	\$ 15,346,000
ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS – POLICY / PROCEDURE ACTIONS (maintenance, land donations policy, etc.)												
1	Begin feasibility study/site plan for new interpretive facility as a result of costly renovations needed at existing Elkhart County Historical Museum with HVAC, electrical, environmental and humidity controls.	Admin		\$ 15,000	NRO, GD	A		\$ 15,000				
2	Complete MOU with Pumpkvine Advisory Committee Members	Admin	Pumpkinvine	TBD	NRO, TA	B						
3	Create a trail terrain rating system for all park trails	Admin	All	\$ 1,500	NRO/TA	B						
4	Customer Service training for all staff	Admin		\$ 1,000	NRO	A			\$ 1,000			
5	Define MOU with IDNR in care of Lieber Nature Preserve and other natural areas in Elkhart County	Admin	Lieber	TBD		A		√	√			
6	Design employee/department manual	Admin		time and printing	NRO,TA	A		√				
7	Develop an equipment replacement plan	Admin		TBD	NRO/TA	A		√				
8	Develop and implement uniform standards	Admin	Staff	TBD		A		√				
9	Develop department-wide key performance indicators	Admin	Staff	TBD		A		√	√			
10	Develop department-wide marketing strategy and marketing plan	Admin	Staff	TBD		A		√	√			
11	Develop job description for future Park Ranger position.	Admin		TBD	TA	B						
12	Evaluate technology needs for the department including cell phone stipends, mobile technology, computer resources for staff	Admin		TBD	NRO, TA	A		√	√			
13	Evaluate user/entrance fees and gates at areas such as Cobus, Boot Lake, Bonneyville, DeFries, Museum, Six Span	Admin		TBD	NRO, TA	B						

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	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	Five - Year Plan				
	Park Component / Plan of Action	Park Site(s)	Division or Site	Total Costs (2019 – 2023)	Funding Source	Priority	Notes / Comments	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
14	Increase accessibility and support for professional development	Admin	Staff	\$ 3,000	NRO/TA	A			\$ 3,000			
15	Promotion and packaging of venues for rentals such as company picnics and weddings	Admin		TBD		B						
16	Renew lease of County Home property from commissioners	Admin	Ox Bow	TBD	NRO, TA	A		√				
17	Review each park policy and make recommendations to the Park Board for updates	Admin		TBD	NRO, TA	A		√				
18	Review mission statement and strengthen with vision and values statement	Admin	Staff	TBD		A		√				
19	Review of park ordinance and make any necessary updates	Admin		TBD	NRO, TA	B						
20	Review park open hours and recommendations of park staffing/expected procedures	Admin		TBD		B						
21	Update Six Span Boat Launch MOU with expansion of site	Admin	Six Span	TBD	NRO, TA	A		√				
22	Assess safety of parks and develop plan for future	All	Staff	TBD	NRO	A			√			
23	Develop "Green" Inventory and Policy for Department	All	Staff	TBD	NRO, TA	A			√			
24	Develop land management plans for each park	All	Staff	TBD	NRO, TA	C						
25	Develop sign/kiosk inventory	All	Staff	TBD	NRO, TA	B						
26	Park rules signs (including bilingual language) in all shelters	All	Staff	\$ 2,000	NRO, TA	A			\$ 2,000			
ADMINISTRATIVE – POLICY / PROCEDURE TOTALS: \$ 22,500								\$ 15,000	\$ 6,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
PROGRAMS / SERVICES ACTIONS												
1	Create interpretive plan/operating procedures	Administrative		TBD		A		√	√			
2	Develop barn into a mill interpretive station to improve visitor experience and knowledge	Bonneyville	Mill	\$ 30,000	NRC, NRO, GD	B						
3	Exterior and interior interpretive signage of history of schoolhouse	Bonneyville	ORS	\$ 3,000	NRO, GD	A			\$ 3,000			
4	Information kiosk in Bonneyville Mill Parking lot	Bonneyville	Pear Orchard		NRO	B						
5	Improve Mill interpretation experience through signage, brochures	Bonneyville	Mill	\$ 7,000	NRO	A			\$ 7,000			
6	Develop and market One-Room School program to a wider audience	Field Trips	One Room School	\$ 1,000	NRO	A			\$ 1,000			
7	Expand communication and marketing of environmental/historical education program offerings to public, private, and parochial schools as well as homeschools	Field Trips		\$ 2,000	NRO, TA	A		\$ 2,000				



# Elkhart County Parks & Recreation Action Plan 2019-2023

"A" – Primary in next 5 years  
Priority Criteria: "B" – Secondary in next 5 years (5 to 10 years)  
"C" – Unlikely in next 5 years (10 to 20 years)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	Five - Year Plan				
	Park Component / Plan of Action	Park Site(s)	Division or Site	Total Costs (2019 – 2023)	Funding Source	Priority	Notes / Comments	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
8	Implement teacher survey to identify quality of programs and needs being met through environmental education and historical interpretation	Field Trips	All	TBD		A			√	√		
9	Update curriculum plans for school-based education programs; including aligning with Indiana State Standards	Field Trips	All	TBD		A			√	√		
10	Achieve annual growth in mill and museum attendance	Interpretation	Mill and ECHM	TBD	NRO	A			√	√		
11	Achieve annual growth in program reach	Interpretation	All	TBD		A			√	√		
12	Achieve annual growth in program revenue	Interpretation	All	TBD		A			√	√		
13	Complete first floor museum exhibit redesign	Interpretation	Elkhart County Historical Museum	\$ 10,000	NRC,GD	A		\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000			
14	Conduct statistically valid park visitor studies and counts	Interpretation		\$ 5,000	NRO	A			\$ 5,000			
15	Develop formal internship/work-study program	Interpretation		TBD		B						
16	Develop interpretive plan for the Mill Valley	Interpretation	Mill	TBD	NRO, GD	A			√			
17	Development of interpretive water trails throughout park system and Elkhart County	Interpretation		\$ 2,000	NRO,GD	A					\$ 2,000	
18	Evaluate staff-led field trip safety and liability standards	Interpretation	All	TBD		A			√			
19	Gather community input via survey and focus groups on the development of new programs and interpretive services	Interpretation	All	\$ 1,000	NRO	A		\$ 500	\$ 500			
20	Identify and address gaps in interpretive programming	Interpretation	All	TBD		A			√			
21	Improve and increase educational and wayfinding signage	Interpretation	All	\$ 7,000	NRO	B						
22	Increase accessibility of Bonneyville Mill flour products in the community	Interpretation	Mill	TBD		A			√			
23	Launch updated school program offerings	Interpretation	All	TBD		A			√			
24	Organize and write the history of each park	Interpretation		TBD		B						
25	Plant identification labels in Sensory Garden at Cobus Creek	Interpretation	Cobus Creek	\$ 250	NRO	A		\$ 250				
26	Update interpretive kiosks after Gap projects are complete	Interpretation	Pumpkinvine	\$ 6,000	GD, NRC	A						\$ 6,000
27	Create opportunities for diverse activities and outreach partnerships with schools; such as year long projects, STEM, connecting to outdoor labs	Partnerships		TBD		B						
28	Create guidelines and policy for independent instructors offering programs at park facilities	Programs	All	TBD		A			√			

# Elkhart County Parks & Recreation Action Plan 2019-2023

"A" – Primary in next 5 years  
Priority Criteria: "B" – Secondary in next 5 years (5 to 10 years)  
"C" – Unlikely in next 5 years (10 to 20 years)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	Five - Year Plan				
	Park Component / Plan of Action	Park Site(s)	Division or Site	Total Costs (2019 – 2023)	Funding Source	Priority	Notes / Comments	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
29	Diversify audiences reached through age-specific programs (ex. Senior Strolls, toddler nature playtimes, etc.)	Programs	All	TBD		A			√			
30	Identify grant opportunities and sponsorships to support new and existing programs	Programs	All	TBD	GD	A			√			
31	Increase efforts in sustainability education; adult field trips	Programs		\$ 500	NRO	A		\$ 500				
32	Plan new events and public programs to offer diversity each year to general public	Programs	All	\$ 3,000	NRO	A		\$ 500	\$ 1,000	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500
33	Study ways to increase outreach to larger socio-economic group; ex: pop-up nature center in inner city	Programs		TBD	NRO	A						
34	Interpretive and historical signs at Baintertown	River Preserve	Baintertown	\$ 2,000	NRO,TA	C						\$ 2,000
35	Organize volunteer opportunities/marketing/outreach/data collection	Volunteers		TBD		A						
PROGRAMS / SERVICES TOTALS:				\$ 79,750				\$ 8,750	\$ 22,500	\$ 500	\$ 2,500	\$ 8,500
EQUIPMENT AND MAINTENANCE ACTIONS												
1	Complete energy audits for each park	All		TBD		B						
2	Develop "adopt-a-trail" program	All		TBD		B						
3	Develop accessible picnic sites throughout parks	All	varies	TBD	NRO	A		√	√	√	√	√
4	Develop shelter replacement schedule	All		TBD		A		√	√			
5	Install recycling bins at all parks.	All		\$ 1,000	NRO	A		\$ 1,000				
6	Purchase a Bobcat T870 for park and trail maintenance	All		\$ 75,000	NRO/TA	A				\$ 75,000		
7	Purchase a dump truck with chipper box for park and forestry maintenance	All		\$ 70,000	NRO/TA	A					\$ 70,000	
8	Replace aging wood chipper for park and trail maintenance	All		\$ 10,000	NRO/TA	A				\$ 10,000		
9	Installation of solar lighting in parking area for safety measures	Bonneyville	One Room School	\$ 2,000	NRO	A			\$ 2,000			
10	Level grinding platform with new timbers to support weight of grind stones	Bonneyville	Mill	\$ 6,000	NRC	A		\$ 6,000				
11	Remove tube bridge due to erosion issues and seasonal flooding	Bonneyville		\$ 5,000	NRC	B						
12	Repair and restoration of historic Perkins windmill	Bonneyville	Mill	\$ 8,000	NRC	A		\$ 8,000				
13	Replacement of aging cedar shake roof on Bonneyville Mill	Bonneyville	Mill	\$ 60,000	NRC	A		\$ 60,000				

# Elkhart County Parks & Recreation Action Plan 2019-2023

"A" – Primary in next 5 years  
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"C" – Unlikely in next 5 years (10 to 20 years)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	Five - Year Plan				
	Park Component / Plan of Action	Park Site(s)	Division or Site	Total Costs (2019 – 2023)	Funding Source	Priority	Notes / Comments	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
14	Replacement of outdated electrical system in Bonneyville Mill	Bonneyville	Mill	\$ 10,000	NRC	B				\$ 10,000		
15	Trail repairs and connections at Bonneyville Mill; particularly in floodplain	Bonneyville		TBD	NRC	A			√	√		
16	Replacement of fuel containment areas and add shelters above gas pumps	Bonneyville, Ox Bow		\$ 10,000	SW	A			\$ 10,000			
17	Install irrigation system in sensory garden	Cobus Creek		\$ 7,000	NRC	A			\$ 7,000			
18	Pond dredging at Cobus; removal of reed canary grass in wetlands	Cobus Creek		TBD	NRC	C						
19	Evaluate and stabalize condition of building to ensure value of property is kept up for future use if new interpretive center is constructed	Elkhart County Historical Museum		TBD	NRC	A		√	√			
20	Renovation of restrooms at Museum in partnership with Bristol Alumni Association	Elkhart County Historical Museum		\$ 15,000	NRC, GD	A		\$ 15,000				
21	Review stage condition	Elkhart County Historical Museum		TBD	GD	B						
22	Update meeting room and kitchen facilities	Elkhart County Historical Museum		\$ 5,000	GD	B						
23	Goshen Dam inspections every two years	Goshen Dam		\$ 5,000	NRC	A		\$ 5,000		\$ 5,000		\$ 5,000
24	Stabilize and restore erosion near toe drain	Goshen Dam		\$ 3,000	NRC	A			\$ 3,000			
25	Installation of solar lighting in parking area	Museum	behind museum	\$ 2,000	NRO	A		\$ 2,000				
26	Purchase a Toro 4000 Wide Area Mower to increase efficiency of mowing and replace aging equipment	Ox Bow Park		\$ 40,000	NRO/TA	A					\$ 40,000	
27	Purchase Pro-gator 2030A Utility Vehicle to replace aging equipment for park, trail, and facility maintenance	Ox Bow Park		\$ 25,000	NRO/TA	A				\$ 25,000		
28	Reconstruct firepit options at shelters	Ox Bow Park	Black Maple/ Coffee Tree/ Honey Locust/ Stable	\$ 8,000	NRC,TA	A			\$ 8,000			
29	Road improvement; grade and roll road	Ox Bow Park	Coffee Tree to Stable	\$ 20,000	NRC	A				\$ 20,000		
30	Repair trail damage between CR 127 and 126, and CR 31 and 33	Pumpkinvine		\$ 10,000	NRC, GD	A				\$ 10,000		
31	Construct a Baintertown Hydro step bridge	River Preserve	Baintertown	\$ 500		A				\$ 500		
32	Construct a well pipe from river to Baintertown pond and wetland	River Preserve	Baintertown	TBD	NRC	C						
33	Rebuid Keene Bridge	River Preserve	Benton	\$ 10,000		A					\$ 10,000	

Elkhart County Parks & Recreation Action Plan 2019-2023

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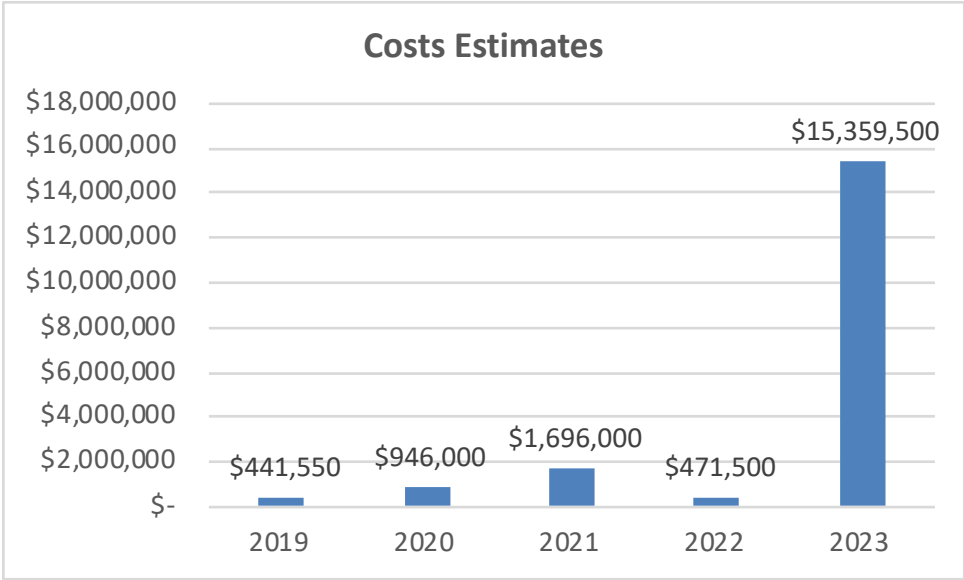
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	Five - Year Plan				
	Park Component / Plan of Action	Park Site(s)	Division or Site	Total Costs (2019 – 2023)	Funding Source	Priority	Notes / Comments	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
34	Repair Baintertown spillway and needle gate bridges	River Preserve	Baintertown	TBD	NRC	B						
35	Widen and repair the bridge at Benton Dam needle gates	River Preserve	Benton Dam	\$ 7,000	NRC	A			\$ 7,000			
36	Accessible picnic area at Treasures Island	Treasure Island Park		\$ 1,000	NRC, TIF	B						
37	Construct a landing for water traffic to park	Treasure Island Park		\$ 4,000	NRC, TIF	B						
38	Erosion control at Treasure Island park	Treasure Island Park		\$ 12,000	NRC, TIF	A				\$ 12,000		
39	Install signage kiosk	Treasure Island Park		\$ 3,000	NRC, TIF	B						
40	Parking area improvements	Treasure Island Park		\$ 15,000	NRC, TIF	B						
EQUIPMENT AND MAINTENANCE TOTALS : \$ 449,500								\$ 97,000	\$ 37,000	\$ 167,500	\$ 120,000	\$ 5,000
CREATIVE AND ENGAGEMENT ACTIONS												
1	Develop partnerships with local artisans and businesses to promote Bonneyville Mill flour products	Bonneyville Mill		TBD		A						
2	Complete redesign and launch of new museum website to compliment new Elkhart County Park website	Elkhart County Historical Museum		funded in 2018	NRO	A						
3	Bring all park departments in Elkhart County together on an bi-annual basis for staff networking, and/or trainings			TBD		A		√		√		√
4	Continue to be a part of the Vibrant Communities Initiative and foster the vision of parks enhancing the quality of life for all Elkhart citizens.			TBD		A		√		√		√
5	Engage local hospitals and medical professionals to promote parks as a partner in healthy lifestyles.			TBD		A		√		√		√
6	Feasiblity study of future equine park; including coordination of volunteers to fundraise for such a large endeavor and/or developing with other possible partners such as Faigrounds or Loveway			\$20,000.00	GD	B						

Elkhart County Parks & Recreation Action Plan 2019-2023

Priority Criteria: "A" – Primary in next 5 years  
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	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	Five - Year Plan				
	Park Component / Plan of Action	Park Site(s)	Division or Site	Total Costs (2019 – 2023)	Funding Source	Priority	Notes / Comments	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
7	Partner with other County entities and municipalities to create a county-wide multi-use trail system; including completion of 40-mile loop and connections to adjoining communities and counties			TBD	GD, TIF, HIF,MAP-21,RTP	A		√		√		√
8	Promote recreational use of waterways in Elkhart County as part of the new Elkhart County Waterways Alliance; including development of interpretive canoe trail routes			\$2,000.00	GD	A		√		√		√
CREATIVE AND ENGAGEMENT TOTALS: \$ 22,000								\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TOTALS (Including All Priorities): \$ 20,842,050					TOTALS “A” Priorities: \$ 441,550 \$ 946,000 \$ 1,696,000 \$ 471,500 \$15,359,500							

Action Year Budget Summary





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## **Funding Resources**

Many are the demands on local government to fund the variety of programs provided to the public sector. Following, is a brief description of the principal resources available to the Park and Recreation Board for implementing programs for recreational purposes.

### **NRC — Non-Reverting Capital Funds**

Non-Reverting Capital Fund Accounts are created for the purpose of acquiring land or making specific capital improvements. All proceeds from gate entry fees at Ox Bow County Park are deposited into this capital fund.

### **NRO — Non-Reverting Operations**

Non-Reverting Operating funds are created for park purposes from which expenditures may be made by appropriation by the Parks and Recreation Board. All receipts from program participation, event admissions, concessions, rentals, sales of merchandise and food, user fees from disc golf and archery operations and revenue generated by park operations throughout the park system and rental fees from enclosed facilities are deposited into the non-reverting operating fund.

### **TA — Park General Budget**

Each year a significant portion of the tax appropriated Park General Fund is devoted to personnel expenses. These expenses include base salaries, overtime pay, longevity pay based on number of years employed, medical and life insurance benefit coverage, and PERF (Public Employee Retirement Fund) contributions. . In addition to personnel expenses, this fund is also used to cover maintenance costs associated with park upkeep, departmental office operating expenses, and costs associated with promoting and running the recreation program and special events.

### **COIT — County Option Income Taxes**

Adopted by county councils, city councils and towns, this income tax raises funds for new spending for all local units except schools.

### **CEDIT — County Economic Development Income Taxes**

Revenue raised by CEDIT must be used for economic development projects or public capital projects.

### **CCF — Cumulative Capital Fund**

The Park and Recreation Law 36-10-3-20 allows money to be placed in a fund for the purposes of acquiring land or making specific capital improvements. The Park and Recreation Department can also make requests to the County Council for funds from the general count CCD Fund for specific projects.

### **GD — Gifts and Donations**

Donations of money, land, and time are important resources to the Park Department. Many recreation activities and special events would not occur if such donations were not received from individuals, service clubs, and businesses. Also, land donations to the park system have been received since early in the history of the Park Department and, where advantageous, these land donations should be encouraged and received by the Park Board.

### **GOB — General Obligation Bonds**

General obligation bonds, which are retired by tax money, provide a funding source for

implementation of large scale projects or improvements. The Park Board can not exceed a set percentage (2%) of the assessed valuation of the taxing district. Public hearings must be held and approval is required by the City Council.

#### **RIF — Recreation Impact Fees**

A Recreational Impact Fee Ordinance allows for the new housing developments to assist in the funding of facilities (based on identified recreational standards) to serve that particular population growth. This funding source is not to be used for current facility deficiencies.

#### **HIF — Highway Impact Fees**

Similar to the Recreation Impact Fee funding source, the City's Highway Impact Fees can be used for trail development within road right-of-ways.

#### **LWCF — Land and Water Conservation Funds**

Administered by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Outdoor Recreation, these funds are used most predominantly for park development of outdoor recreation facilities. These grant funds can be utilized to finance up to 50% of the cost of eligible projects and are awarded annually. To qualify for LWCF funds, a city/town must have a park and recreation board established in accordance with state statutes and have an approved Park and Recreation Master Plan.

#### **MAP-21 — Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century**

Funding surface transportation programs at over \$105 billion for fiscal years 2013 and 2014, MPA-21 is the first long-term highway authorization enacted since 2005. Under MAP-21, the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) will receive about \$780 million for projects such as bike/pedestrian facilities; safe routes for non-drivers; conversion of abandoned railroad corridors for trails; community improvement; and environmental mitigation activities, as well as others.

#### **HCT – President Benjamin Harrison Conservation Trust**

President Benjamin Harrison Conservation Trust was created to fund the purchase of natural areas for public use. Funded by the sale of environmental license plates and donations, the money is used for land acquisition. A Project Committee reviews the proposed projects submitted to the Conservation Trust Committee, which in turn recommends approval by the Governor. The Trust Committee members are appointed by the governor and legislative leaders. A portion of the Conservation Trust funds is available to the Division of Outdoor Recreation for the purchase of land that meets established criteria. Projects could include greenways and land for trails.

#### **RTP —Recreational Trails Program**

The Recreational Trails Program (RTP) is an assistance program of the Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). Federal transportation funds benefit recreation by making funds available to the States to develop and maintain recreational trails and trail-related facilities for both non-motorized and motorized recreational trail uses. The RTP funds come from the Federal Highway Trust Fund, and represent a portion of the motor fuel excise tax collected from non-highway recreational fuel use: fuel used for off-highway recreation by snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, off-highway motorcycles, and off-highway light trucks.

#### **HPF — Historic Preservation Fund Program**

Each year, the U.S. Congress appropriates approximately funds to the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) The HPF provides matching grants to encourage private and non-federal investment in historic preservation efforts nationwide, and assists State, local governments, and Indian tribes with expanding and accelerating their historic preservation activities nationwide. HPF grants serve as a catalyst and "seed money" for preserving and protecting our nation's irreplaceable heritage for this and future generations.

#### **LARE — Lake and River Enhancement**

The goal of the Division of Fish and Wildlife's Lake and River Enhancement Section is to protect and enhance aquatic habitat for fish and wildlife, to insure the continued viability of Indiana's publicly accessible lakes and streams for multiple uses, including recreational opportunities. This is accomplished through measures that reduce non-point sediment and nutrient pollution of surface waters to a level that meets or surpasses state water quality standards. To accomplish this goal, the LARE Program provides technical and financial assistance for qualifying projects.

#### **UFC — Urban Forest Conservation Grants**

The Urban Forest Conservation (UFC) Grants are intended to help communities develop long term programs to manage their urban forests. Grantees may conduct any project that helps to improve and protect trees and other associated natural resources in urban areas. Community projects that target program development, planning and education are emphasized. Projects funded in the past include activities such as conducting tree inventories, developing tree maintenance and planting plans, writing tree ordinances, conducting programs to train municipal employees and the public, purchase or development of publications, books and videos, hiring consultants or city foresters, etc. Certified Tree Cities may spend up to 20% of the grant funds on demonstration tree planting projects. Local municipalities, not-for-profit organizations and state agencies are eligible to apply for \$2,000 to \$20,000.

#### **OG — Other Grants**

Other grant sources, besides the traditional recreation related ones sponsored by the state and federal government, exist for park improvement projects. Also, there are urban forestry grants available and grants from the Indiana Arts Commission that can be related to park and recreation projects. Private companies are also often sponsors of foundations and grant programs that may be related to an aspect of park and recreation such as tree planting, aid to persons with disabilities, or programs for disadvantaged youth. Companies also sometimes sponsor volunteer programs to the community with their employee or executive resources. In addition, Elkhart County Parks has opportunities to apply for a grant with the Community Foundation of Elkhart County.

### **Funding Sources**

- A. Indiana Department of Transportation
- B. Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Outdoor Recreation
- C. Indiana Committee for the Humanities
- D. Indiana Arts Commission
- E. Indiana Department of Aging and Community Services
- F. Indiana Federal Property Program
- G. Indiana Department of Commerce
- H. Indiana State Board of Health

- I. U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration
- J. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- K. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- L. U.S. Armed Services
- M. U.S. Department of Education
- N. President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports
- O. Green Thumb, Inc.
- P. The Nature Conservancy
- Q. Acres, Inc.
- R. The Trust for Public Land
- S. National Association for the Exchange of Industrial Resources
- T. Fish America Foundation
- U. Capital Fund Drive Campaign
- V. Memorial Giving
- W. Deferred Giving
- X. Public-Private Partnerships
- Y. Private Philanthropy
- Z. Park Foundations and "Friends" Groups

The aforementioned funding sources are not intended as an exhaustive list of available sources. In carrying out its responsibilities, the Park and Recreation Board will continue to research various federal grant-in-aid programs and private sector resources that could be utilized in the development of park and recreation projects.



## **Section F: Resolutions and Approvals**

Board Resolution Adopting Master Plan .....	Page F – 3
Section 504 Assurance of Compliance.....	Page F – 5
IDNR Approval Letter .....	Page F – 7





## Resolution Adopting the Elkhart County Parks Master Plan Update 2019-2023

**WHEREAS**, the Elkhart County Park and Recreation Board is aware of the parks and recreational needs of the residents of the County of Elkhart;

**WHEREAS**, the Elkhart County Park and Recreation Board is desirous of providing aesthetic and functional parks and recreational facilities and programs to the residents of Elkhart County and to meet their needs, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Elkhart County Park and Recreation Board realizes the importance of sound planning in order to meet the needs of its citizenry, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Elkhart County Park and Recreation Board is continually aware of the value and importance of leisure opportunities and recreational programs and facilities to the future of the Elkhart County Parks and Recreation Department, its programs and services, and to the residents of Elkhart County;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Elkhart County Park and Recreation Board, by unanimous declaration, does adopt the *Elkhart County Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2019-2023*, dated April 2019, as its official plan for the growth and development of parks and recreation opportunities in Elkhart County, Indiana, over the next five years. The Elkhart County Park and Recreation Board is committed to an annual review and update of the goals and objectives of this Master Plan.

Passed and signed the eighth day of April, Two Thousand Nineteen (2019)

### Elkhart County Park and Recreation Board:

---

William Wilson, *President*

---

Karin Frey, *Member*

---

Larry Andrews, *Vice President*

---

Klaus Mueller, *Member*

---

John Hardy, *Secretary*

---

Jeff Burbrinck, *Member*

---

Karen Mackowiak, *Member*

---

*Attested:*

---

Ronda DeCaire, *Director*

**ASSURANCE OF ACCESSIBILITY COMPLIANCE WITH:  
ARCHITECTURAL BARRIERS ACT of 1968 (As Amended);  
SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973 (As  
Amended);  
AND TITLE II OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT  
OF 1990 (As Amended)**

The Elkhart County Parks Board (Applicant) has read the guidelines for compliance with the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 (As Amended); Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (As Amended); and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (As Amended) and will comply with the applicable requirements of these Acts.

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_  
APPLICANT PRESIDENT

William Wilson  
(President's printed name)

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

John Hardy  
(Secretary's printed name)

DATE \_\_\_\_\_



**Insert IDNR Approval Letter**







## Appendix

Reference Sources Used in this Study

Appendix Items



## Reference Sources Used in this Study

- Economic Development Corp. of Elkhart County
- Greater Elkhart Chamber
- Soil Survey of Elkhart County Indiana
- Decision InSite/Mission InSite
- Elkhart County Parks “Currents”, March -June 2017
- Elkhart County Park & Recreation Master Plan Update 2013-2017
- [www.amishcountry.org](http://www.amishcountry.org)
- [www.stats.indiand.edu](http://www.stats.indiand.edu)
- [www.elkhartcountyparks.org](http://www.elkhartcountyparks.org)

## Appendix Items

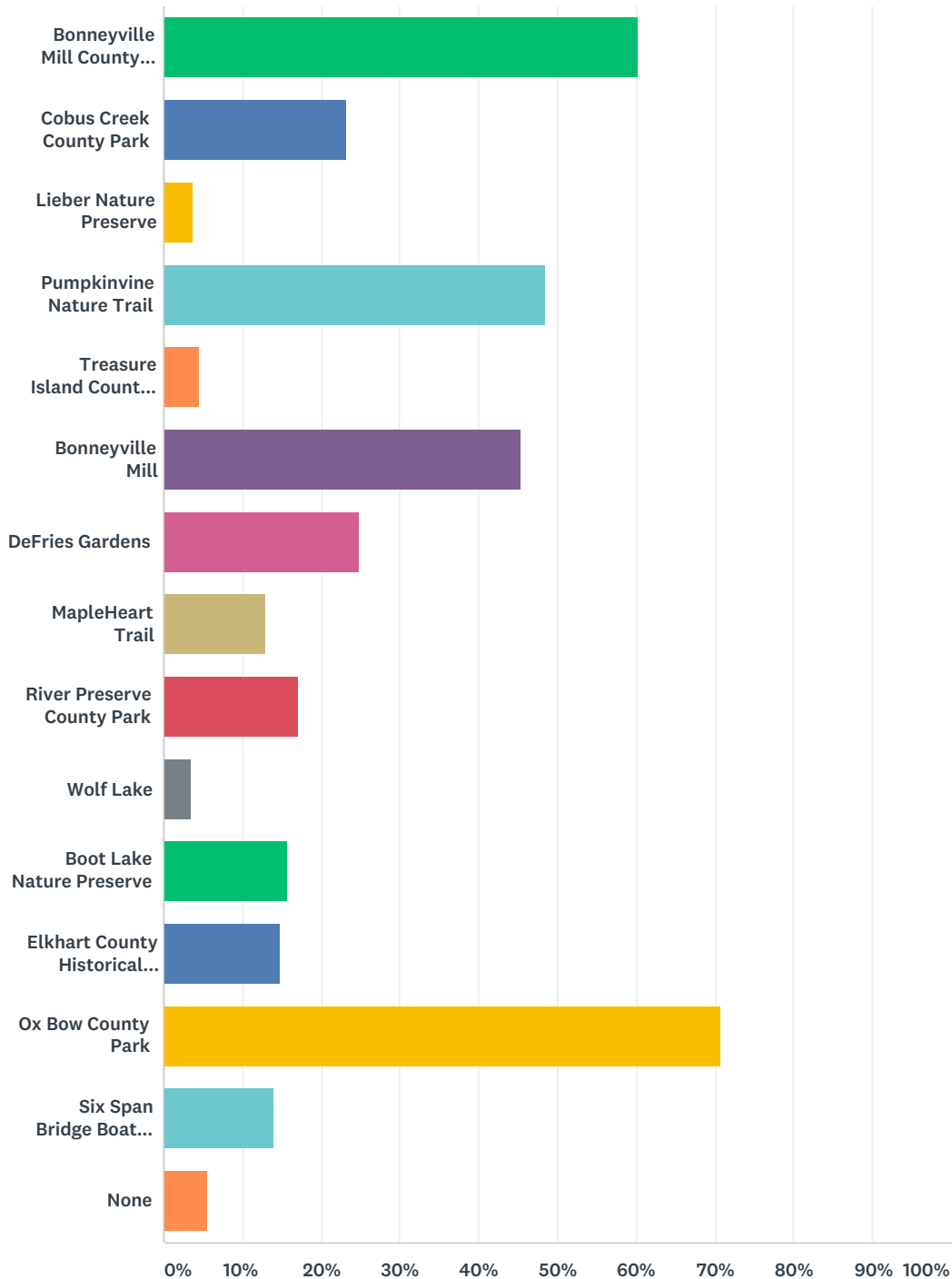
- Elkhart County Parks Community Survey Results
- Elkhart County Parks “Currents” sample
- Elkhart County Parks ADA Transition Plan
- Focus Groups “Sign-In” sheets





## Q1 Which of the following parks or facilities have you visited in the past 12 months? (check all that apply)

Answered: 1,012 Skipped: 4



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Bonneyville Mill County Park	60.28%	610
Cobus Creek County Park	23.32%	236

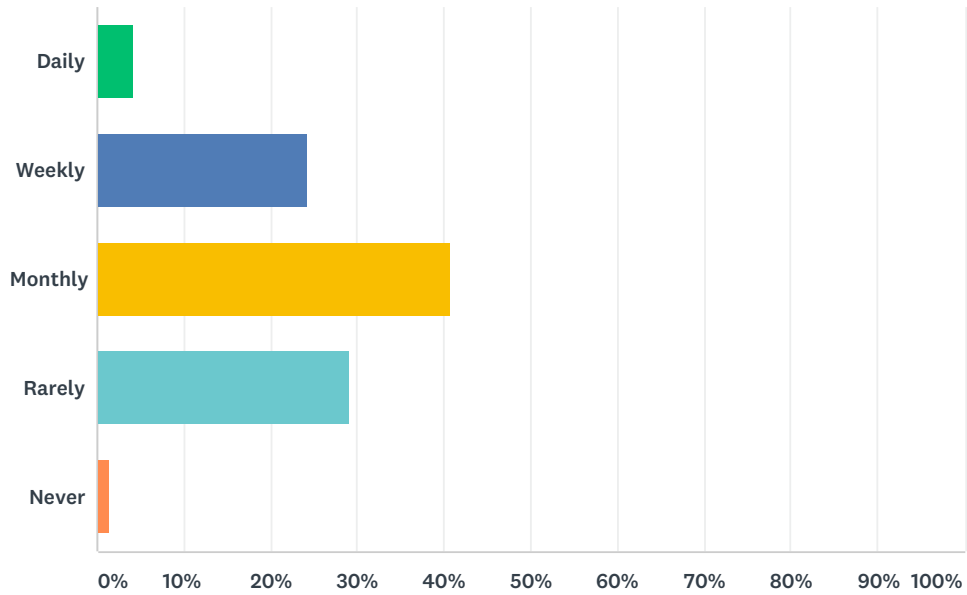
## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

Lieber Nature Preserve	3.85%	39
Pumpkinvine Nature Trail	48.62%	492
Treasure Island County Park	4.55%	46
Bonneyville Mill	45.36%	459
DeFries Gardens	24.80%	251
MapleHeart Trail	12.94%	131
River Preserve County Park	17.09%	173
Wolf Lake	3.56%	36
Boot Lake Nature Preserve	15.61%	158
Elkhart County Historical Museum	14.92%	151
Ox Bow County Park	70.65%	715
Six Span Bridge Boat Launch	13.93%	141
None	5.73%	58
Total Respondents: 1,012		



## Q2 How often do you visit an Elkhart County Parks facility or trail listed above?

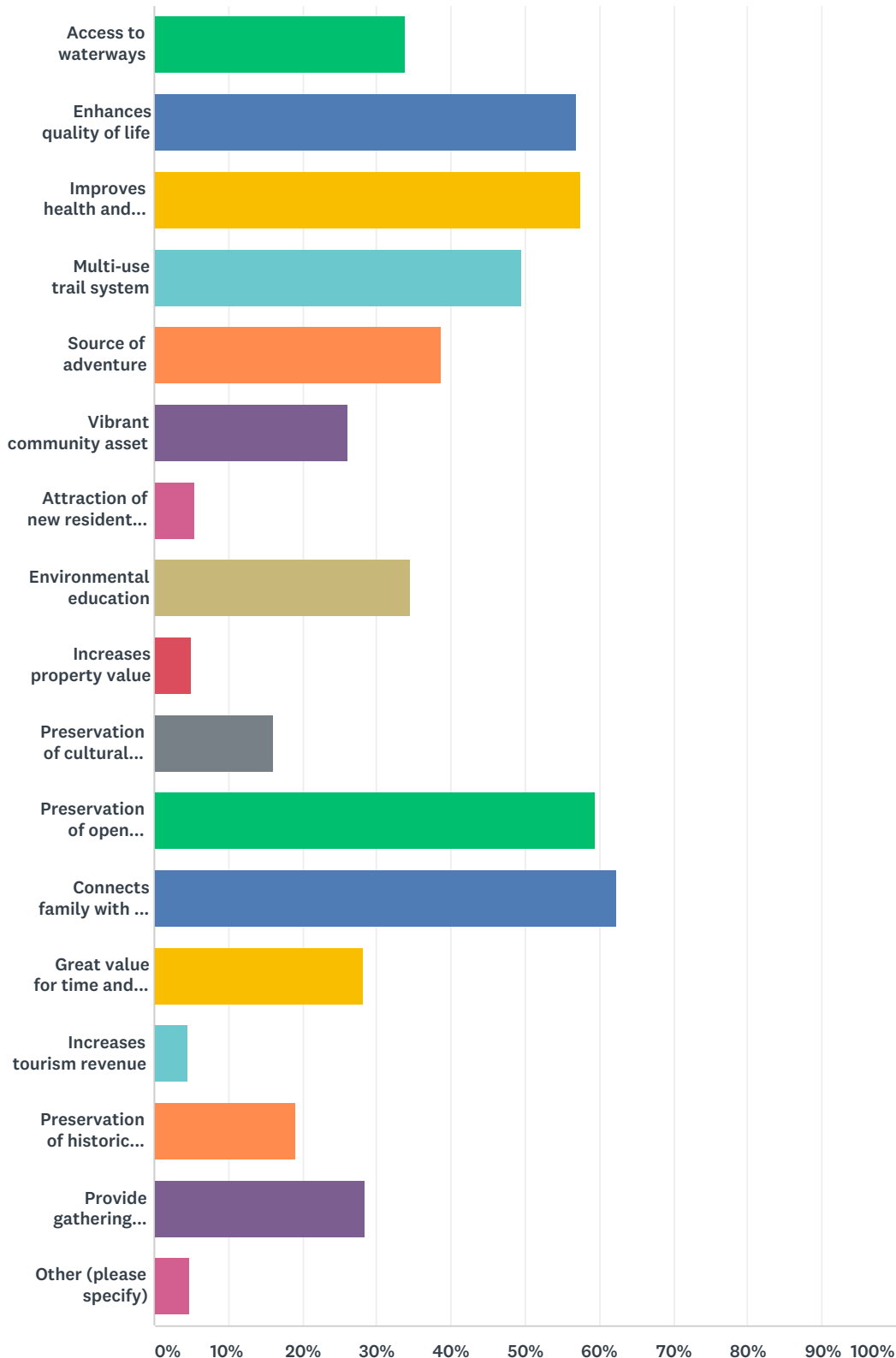
Answered: 1,009 Skipped: 7



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Daily	4.26%	43
Weekly	24.28%	245
Monthly	40.83%	412
Rarely	29.14%	294
Never	1.49%	15
TOTAL		1,009

### Q3 What are the top five benefits the Elkhart County Parks provides your community? (choose 5)

Answered: 1,009 Skipped: 7



# Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Access to waterways	33.80%	341
Enhances quality of life	56.99%	575
Improves health and wellness	57.48%	580
Multi-use trail system	49.55%	500
Source of adventure	38.75%	391
Vibrant community asset	26.16%	264
Attraction of new residents & businesses	5.35%	54
Environmental education	34.59%	349
Increases property value	5.05%	51
Preservation of cultural history	16.06%	162
Preservation of open space/natural areas	59.37%	599
Connects family with the outdoors	62.34%	629
Great value for time and money	28.15%	284
Increases tourism revenue	4.56%	46
Preservation of historic sites	19.13%	193
Provide gathering spaces	28.44%	287
Other (please specify)	4.76%	48
Total Respondents: 1,009		

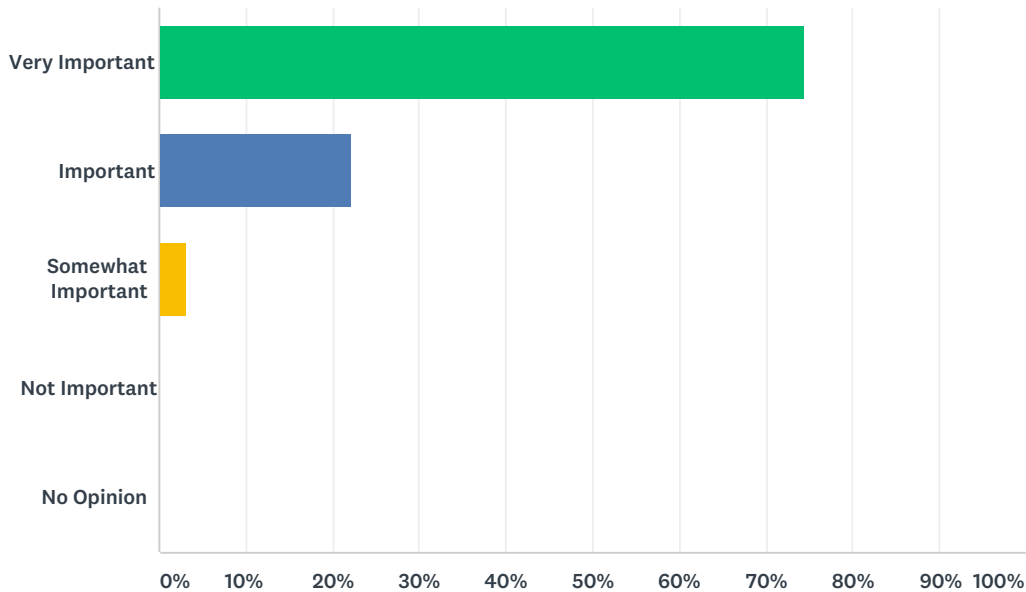
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Fishing	8/15/2018 1:06 AM
2	Please provide bike trails from cedar creek and the summit to northridge high school	8/14/2018 10:49 PM
3	Disc golf	8/14/2018 3:48 PM
4	Wetlands	8/14/2018 9:15 AM
5	Disc Golf	8/12/2018 3:41 PM
6	Love geocaching and many of the parks and trails now have allowed geocaching to bring in cachers from all others states and countries. Great way to get the family moving	8/12/2018 12:43 PM
7	Weddings	8/10/2018 12:39 PM
8	Fresh air; peace and quiet mostly; meet like minded people	8/9/2018 8:40 PM
9	Disc Golf	8/9/2018 6:41 PM
10	A place to walk my dog	8/9/2018 5:09 PM
11	Cross Country	8/9/2018 4:46 PM
12	Mountain biking	8/8/2018 11:32 PM
13	Bicycle trails	8/8/2018 9:03 PM
14	Nice places to take my dog.	8/8/2018 4:21 PM
15	I'm	8/7/2018 2:00 PM
16	Meeting people	8/7/2018 10:03 AM

## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

17	Beautiful trails to walk my dogs	8/7/2018 7:37 AM
18	Would like to have equine friendly areas. This is a large Ag and equine area and we pay alot of tax dollars into this community and should have use of the county parks too.	8/7/2018 12:00 AM
19	Inspiration for the arts	8/6/2018 7:42 PM
20	I frequent the disc golf course and the Summer Ultimate Frisbee at Ox Bow.	8/6/2018 1:10 PM
21	Hunting & fishing	8/6/2018 10:22 AM
22	I just love the peace and quiet of nature you can find while walking through the woods!!!! As often as possible I go early in the morning to watch the sunrise and see the wildlife in the park before they all find a place to bed down for the day.	8/5/2018 8:24 AM
23	Pokemon	8/2/2018 10:01 AM
24	observe wildlife	8/1/2018 8:19 AM
25	splash pad	8/1/2018 7:44 AM
26	Learning Opportunity and Respect for Nature	7/31/2018 7:59 AM
27	Horse back ride	7/29/2018 11:04 PM
28	Horse trails	7/29/2018 5:40 PM
29	Enhances quality of life for our family dog	7/29/2018 12:11 PM
30	Cross country meets	7/28/2018 1:52 PM
31	Preserves ecosystems for wildlife.	7/28/2018 12:10 PM
32	Tree planted in memory of family	7/27/2018 7:54 PM
33	Tree planted in memory of family	7/27/2018 7:54 PM
34	All the above! I can't just choose five!	7/26/2018 10:29 PM
35	Mountain Bike Trails	7/25/2018 5:41 PM
36	Horseback riding	7/25/2018 10:13 AM
37	Preservation of biodiversity	7/24/2018 9:06 PM
38	Historical research	7/24/2018 5:04 PM
39	Historical context to better understand our community in the present and future	7/22/2018 3:48 PM
40	Genealogical and Historical research	7/21/2018 2:27 PM
41	Place to walk dog	7/21/2018 10:18 AM
42	all of the above	7/20/2018 7:57 AM
43	Disc Golf	7/20/2018 5:21 AM
44	History Museum we volunteer weekly	7/19/2018 8:16 PM
45	Mountain biking	7/19/2018 8:03 PM
46	Difficult to pick only 5.	7/19/2018 5:29 PM
47	All of the above. I love the Elkhart county parks	7/19/2018 12:30 PM
48	Rarely go to parks	7/18/2018 8:59 PM

## Q4 Compared to other priorities for Elkhart County residents, how important do you think it is to maintain and improve parks, trails, cultural resources, historic preservation, and recreational facilities and services?

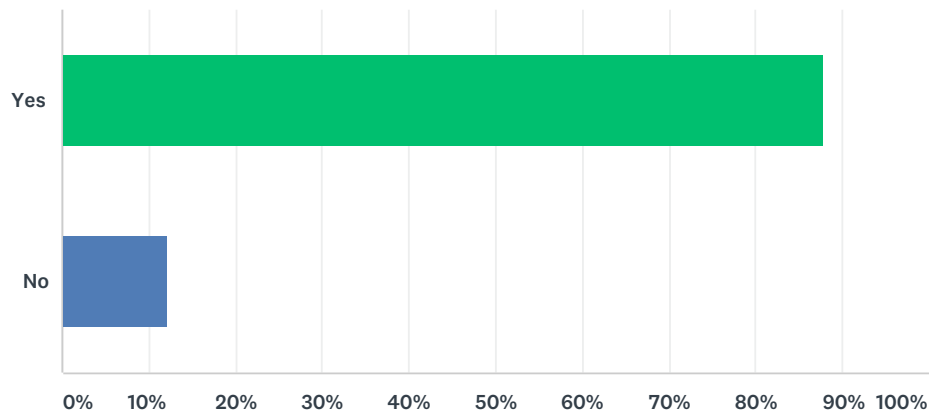
Answered: 1,012 Skipped: 4



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very Important	74.41%	753
Important	22.13%	224
Somewhat Important	3.16%	32
Not Important	0.20%	2
No Opinion	0.10%	1
TOTAL		1,012

## Q5 Would you support the Elkhart County Parks building a discovery center that would educate the community about its local and natural history in combination with administrative offices in a park environment?

Answered: 980 Skipped: 36



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	87.96%	862
No	12.04%	118
TOTAL		980

#	IF NO, WHY?	DATE
1	Because Im tired of the county and the mayors blowing tax money on stupid stuff when they should put more of it into helping the homeless and the poor.	8/21/2018 1:43 PM
2	-	8/19/2018 2:58 PM
3	I would rather see you use the money to hire employees to take care of what is already in place, ie, make sure the bike path is clear, so many times I have almosted wrecked my bike because of the rocks, grass, trash on the bike path, and there is no security patrol at Ox Bow Park anymore, if someone does something wrong there is no one to help take care of this.... I used to feel safe walking/running alone, not so much anymore. There used to be friendly faces at the gate at Ox Bow Park, I can't say this anymore, there used to be a feeling of coming home because of the regulars that were there to greet you, but now they could care less if you come to the park:{(	8/16/2018 8:45 AM
4	Would people attend it probably not	8/14/2018 11:51 PM
5	Not likely to visit	8/14/2018 6:55 PM
6	There already a multitude of places already that people can learn about local history as well as the environment. I believe money would be better spent maintaining the trails, ensuring access to nature for everyone.	8/14/2018 6:19 PM
7	The parks are for the outdoors, not for more buildings.	8/14/2018 5:03 PM
8	Seems counterintuitive to put up another building. Just put up more fun fact signs like those in our parks now. Cost effective and delivers the same information	8/14/2018 4:17 PM
9	Not interested	8/14/2018 3:34 PM
10	Waste of money	8/14/2018 2:26 PM
11	Personally I would rather walk through trails and have scenic highlights and resting stops. A facility doesn't connect one with nature.	8/14/2018 9:04 AM



## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

12	I think it is a good idea but would prefer the money go to adding more trails connecting neighborhoods with towns so people can ride bikes vs driving cars. For example trails connecting the summit and cedar creek with downtown or high school so kids can safely ride bikes to school	8/14/2018 8:58 AM
13	Seems like there wouldn't be a lot of traffic after a short period of time to keep the money rolling in	8/13/2018 8:32 PM
14	Waste	8/12/2018 4:41 PM
15	We have Rieth Interpretive, our public schools should help educate, and I would be in favor of summer day camps for kids in our parks. So I don't feel need to build or hire additional personnel	8/12/2018 11:32 AM
16	It would take away from the natural view of the parks.	8/12/2018 11:20 AM
17	Maintain what's there...close the gap on the pumpkin vine...maybe add more restroom facilities along the pumpkin vine trail.	8/12/2018 10:47 AM
18	A waste of money...	8/12/2018 8:24 AM
19	Is it possible to share with other facilities? Join forces with the Enviro Core or similar facility.	8/12/2018 12:21 AM
20	I don't think that is the best way to educate local and natural history.	8/11/2018 8:07 PM
21	Not sure who would use this? Maybe schools for a field trip as how would you get people to come for repeat visits?	8/11/2018 6:44 PM
22	But I hope the office space is minimal and funding supports opportunities for residents rather than padding administration.	8/11/2018 3:13 PM
23	Takes up space on the land	8/10/2018 12:39 PM
24	Fix the trails. Invest money in what exists now!	8/10/2018 11:01 AM
25	Not if it meant additional taxes. Perhaps there is a building already in existence that could be re-purposed for a discovery center. While a center would be wonderful, an upgrade of facilities at Ox-Bow Park could better serve the community.	8/10/2018 8:46 AM
26	This would take away from the natural settings that I enjoy at the parks I visit.	8/10/2018 8:41 AM
27	No unsure button. Need to know costs vs. benefits.	8/9/2018 11:16 PM
28	I'm blind and have nothing to give	8/9/2018 9:59 PM
29	Thats what the histoy museum is for	8/9/2018 9:25 PM
30	Not sure. I could support it if it was funded in way that seemed responsible and adequate.	8/9/2018 8:16 PM
31	Tax dollars can be better used else where	8/9/2018 8:11 PM
32	Not right at this time.....too many other projects needing community funds.	8/9/2018 8:00 PM
33	not much for kids in the discovery centers I've seen. and all are closed on the days we visit.	8/9/2018 7:35 PM
34	Budgets are tight thanks to the unfortunate state tax caps. I wonder if money is better spent on upkeep staffing etc. if other funding could be found it might be a good idea.	8/9/2018 7:11 PM
35	Cost, just got new offices.	8/9/2018 6:54 PM
36	Not an interest of mine. Sounds expensive.	8/9/2018 6:04 PM
37	Depends on how administer are put in position. Will they be held accountable to the public. How will desicion be made	8/9/2018 5:40 PM
38	The discovery center would be great. But having an office building would I think defeat going to the park to get away from that.	8/9/2018 5:09 PM
39	How would it be different from the historical museum or a place like Rieth Center that is run by Goshen.	8/9/2018 5:05 PM
40	I'd rather see the money used to further develop bike lanes, multi use trails, etc.	8/9/2018 8:20 AM
41	I think the money could be better used towards maintaining current assets.	8/8/2018 9:41 PM
42	I don't live in Elkhart County, though I love the parks, especially Oxbow and Bonnyville Mill.	8/8/2018 8:12 PM
43	I'd support if it were on Baugo Creek. Particularly if you put a park close to Jimtown High School by the bridge in C.R. 3 just south of C.R. 22. Great spot!	8/8/2018 7:18 AM

## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

44	Unless it is built on the eastern side of Elkhart County...like Bonneyville...majority of trail riders come from Shipshewana...walked the trail daily for two years...it would be a boon only on the eastern side of the county	8/8/2018 3:49 AM
45	Don't need more buildings.	8/7/2018 9:12 PM
46	Depends on the cost; could we use building / space without raising tax funds? I think you would have support if you wanted to fundraise for an accessory like this. I know I'd be glad to help! ??	8/7/2018 5:01 PM
47	Cost	8/7/2018 4:47 PM
48	Not a priority right now	8/7/2018 2:00 PM
49	We waste too much money.	8/7/2018 10:15 AM
50	Unsure if this is a valuable use of resources but would consider if more information is provided.	8/7/2018 9:41 AM
51	maybe	8/7/2018 9:24 AM
52	If we can use some tax dollars for equine accessible areas in these parks too.	8/7/2018 12:00 AM
53	I don't know...what sort of discovery center? Would it be overpriced, superficial, sensory overload nonsense as too many facilities of this sort are?	8/6/2018 9:10 PM
54	Similar things seem to be offered in the area.	8/6/2018 8:47 PM
55	Great for local schools	8/6/2018 7:59 PM
56	I'd need to know a lot more detail about how accesible the center would be and what types of programs would be offered before I would support the idea	8/6/2018 3:19 PM
57	I'm not sure...I would want to know more...ex...where would this building be, how large, As silly as it may sound, the "look" of the building, would not want something all modern looking but something that blends in to nature... But overall I would most likely support it, although my funds are limited...	8/5/2018 8:24 AM
58	Let's take care of what we have already started - or what needs to be completed. Finish the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail. Work on Quaker Trace... we have data that says the Pumpkinvine is used a lot - not only by local residents, but it brings in people from all over Indiana.	8/4/2018 6:13 PM
59	There are discovery centers at Bonneyville Mill and the County Historic Museum, among other County Park places. Putting money into the Quaker Trace Trail is a safety and family leisure/health and well-being issue, and a better place to put county parks money right now.	8/4/2018 1:09 PM
60	We have one at the Reith center in Goshen.	8/4/2018 9:26 AM
61	No tax increase	8/3/2018 10:08 AM
62	Not sure I have an interest	8/3/2018 8:29 AM
63	Not in your county	8/2/2018 10:23 PM
64	I feel a building is pointless when nature is outside.	8/1/2018 3:17 PM
65	Because they don't offer trails for horses.	8/1/2018 8:45 AM
66	Indifferent	8/1/2018 8:19 AM
67	We already have schools and the county has offices. Don't waste tax dollars. Use the money for park and museum maintenance.	8/1/2018 6:39 AM
68	I love this idea, BUT, I believe that preserving more land should take precedent. I love Cobus park, but it is entirely too small. 84 acres is lovely, but many of us were heart-broken when the original land deal fell through. A giant opportunity was missed. First buy the car, then hang the fuzzy dice. ;-)	8/1/2018 1:06 AM
69	Keep it natural	7/31/2018 8:49 PM
70	I don't think people would visit	7/31/2018 4:23 PM
71	Comes across as a playground for the administrative staff. Even if that is not reality.	7/30/2018 8:20 PM
72	What is the cost? Support can mean many things.	7/30/2018 8:20 AM
73	Not if it means higher taxes	7/29/2018 4:39 PM
74	Absolutely!!!	7/28/2018 11:26 AM

## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

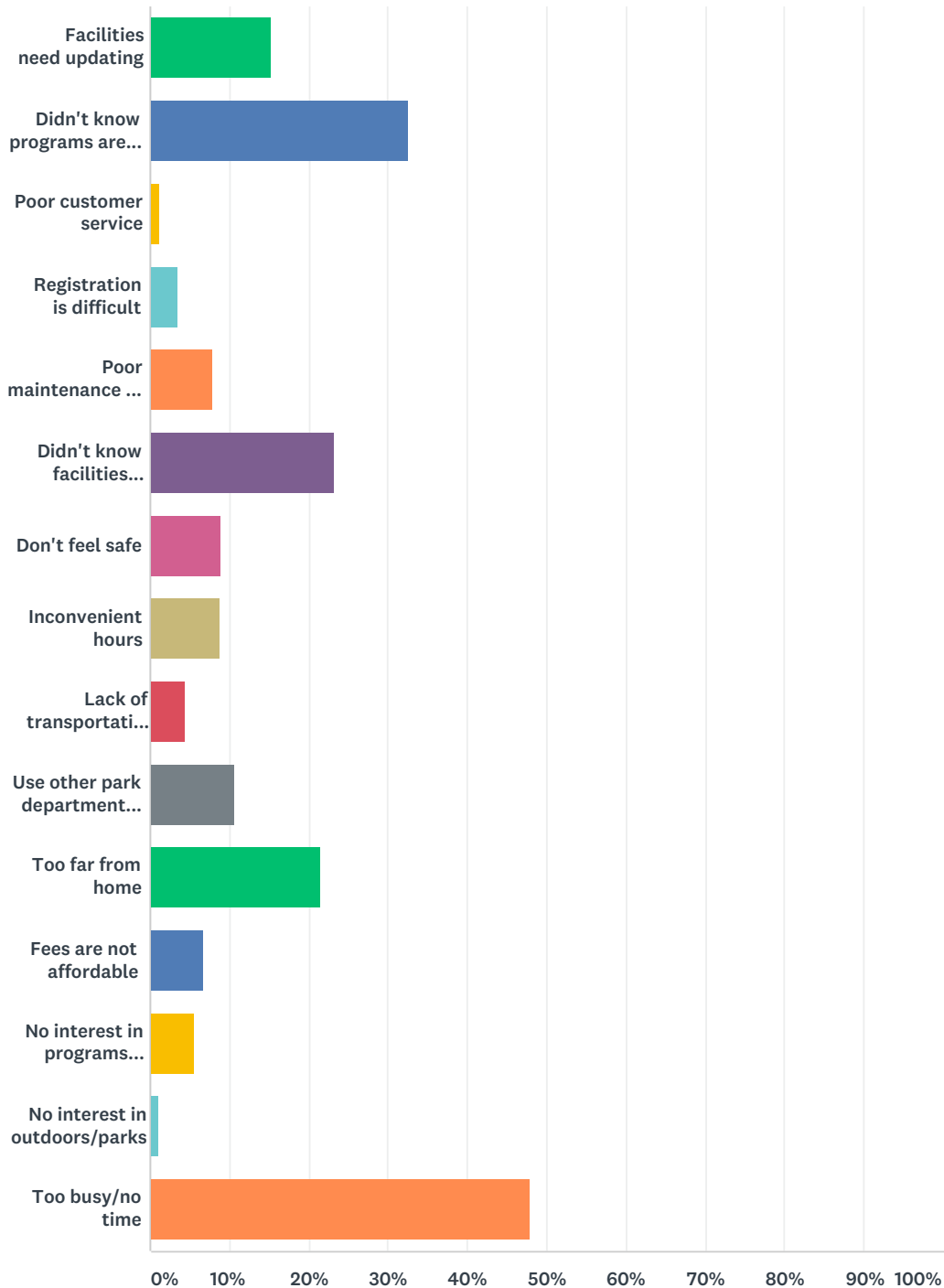
75	Would be helpful to know more about what a 'discovery center' would be like...	7/27/2018 10:28 PM
76	Not needed	7/27/2018 9:54 AM
77	I support people getting off their butts and and going to the parks we have and educate us about the local and natural history, discover and explore at each local community WITH THE HANDS ON APROACH!!	7/26/2018 10:29 PM
78	I wish there were a "neutral" choice. It's not that I wouldn't support it but if it's something we had to pay for we may not use it too much.	7/26/2018 8:11 PM
79	Seems like we learn more online now than in a building	7/26/2018 7:23 PM
80	I love and use the existing parks...I think there are enough resources already.	7/26/2018 3:01 PM
81	Goshen has the historical society downtown. Elkhart County has the museum/educational center already	7/26/2018 11:13 AM
82	There is not enough money to maintain current facilities.	7/26/2018 8:33 AM
83	Parks are for enjoying the outdoors. Not a static display that is visited once.	7/26/2018 7:34 AM
84	Only if it was completely paid for before building started.	7/25/2018 8:28 PM
85	Because there's plenty of Discovery to be done inside the park. No need to spend money on more buildings	7/25/2018 7:04 PM
86	Not really necessary unless you are going to rent canoes or such. You already have a tourism bureau.	7/25/2018 5:18 PM
87	Too expensive	7/25/2018 2:06 PM
88	Just don't build it on the open fields at Ox Bow.	7/25/2018 10:12 AM
89	A qualified "yes". Only if existing facilities prove to be inadequate for community needs. Or if existing facilities can be adapted or improved rather than a large capital expenditure undertaken.	7/25/2018 8:18 AM
90	Why a building? Put the info and money into the parks themselves.	7/24/2018 10:28 PM
91	If money is still available to maintain parks.	7/24/2018 9:35 PM
92	We don't need it.	7/24/2018 5:17 PM
93	Not necessary. There are other venues available	7/24/2018 5:04 PM
94	multi use is good...current admin not conducive for public interaction	7/24/2018 11:53 AM
95	Build it in Bristol as we already house a great museum and could work this into our community as well.	7/23/2018 5:13 PM
96	I'm trying to be honest, but I'm not seeing the need for local historical information beyond the museum. I don't feel the need for another community center building and the cost of its upkeep when the parks are having trouble keeping up with existing park locations.	7/23/2018 3:06 PM
97	it REALLY depends on the quality of the center. Kids need a more exciting experience than dressing up and looking in a mirror, or looking in a microscope, READING and playing a guessing game. Displays need to be different and intriguing. ALSO need to be kept in working order. So many I've been to - the displays are broken.	7/23/2018 10:19 AM
98	Unsure value. Prefer expanding the trail system infrastructure. Connect more trails to more destinations. Discovery centers try to be a destination instead of improving access to other destinations.	7/22/2018 7:59 PM
99	You do not need an administrative office or a "discovery center" in the park...I as a taxpayer do not want to pay more taxes so you can have a nice office. The parks need to be cleaned up to cleaned up.	7/22/2018 5:53 PM
100	The county needs an interpretive center about its history and natural landscape. A sense of place for our community. It should also be a facility that provides a safe space for difficult conversations about the region and how to move forward.	7/22/2018 3:48 PM
101	I'm not for or against, just don't have enough knowledge on the subject.	7/22/2018 5:18 AM
102	Cost of construction, staffing and maintenance to taxpayer.	7/21/2018 8:52 AM
103	Use the money to improve the parks	7/20/2018 8:41 PM

## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

104	I would prefer that the county pave the Quaker Trace Trail on CR 8	7/20/2018 7:13 PM
105	not that i would not support but the decision would depend on the details.	7/20/2018 2:51 PM
106	We need fewer buildings and more open/natural spaces better dispersed geographically and better connected via trails... For education, go to existing spaces and dread people in.	7/20/2018 1:01 PM
107	internet information is easily available with building ,maintaining, and staffing a center	7/20/2018 12:27 PM
108	Not sure. Would a tax increase be required?	7/20/2018 11:37 AM
109	Not sure many people would visit.	7/20/2018 9:31 AM
110	I don't feel this type of space would be used by the community. Too many of these types of "centers" in the area. Not enough interest for children.	7/20/2018 8:31 AM
111	It is more of a maybe than a no. I do not think that the Parks department should be developing buildings. I would support the renovation or reclamation of an existing structure to that purpose or even the purchase of a new adjacent property for renovation to serve that purpose but AI would not support the destruction of green space to serve that purpose.	7/20/2018 8:20 AM
112	I would rather have monies put to developing more bike/hiking/walking trails. more activities at the parks themselves	7/20/2018 8:16 AM
113	Would like to have more information before deciding	7/20/2018 7:45 AM
114	As long as it doesn't duplicate the work of the Elkhart Environmental Center or the museum in Bristol.	7/19/2018 9:22 PM
115	I thought that was the point of the building next to shanklin park? Boot lake has a pier in terrible condition and limited parking. The money would be better spent improving some of the parks that need some updates/regular maintenance! When these parks no longer have these problems, then would be the time to focus on things like that. Quality over quantity!	7/19/2018 5:55 PM
116	It is just a place and landmarks could be used to get the information across. It would also depend on cost to taxpayers and actual value.	7/18/2018 10:19 PM
117	My property taxes are too high already	7/18/2018 9:27 PM
118	No, unless it would be a free service to bring families and children to the discovery centre. It wouldn't be something I'd pay to do.	7/18/2018 8:59 PM
119	Just a question, isn't Woodlawn Nature Center doing some of that type of education now ?	7/18/2018 8:48 PM
120	Wish we could answer "not sure". I thought that the historical museum in Goshen did that. Also the classes that are offered also teach a lot of that. Building another building does not seem to be as needed as other improvements.	7/18/2018 8:43 PM

## Q6 Check the reasons that prevent your household members from using an Elkhart County Park. (check all that apply)

Answered: 828 Skipped: 188



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Facilities need updating	15.34%	127
Didn't know programs are offered	32.73%	271

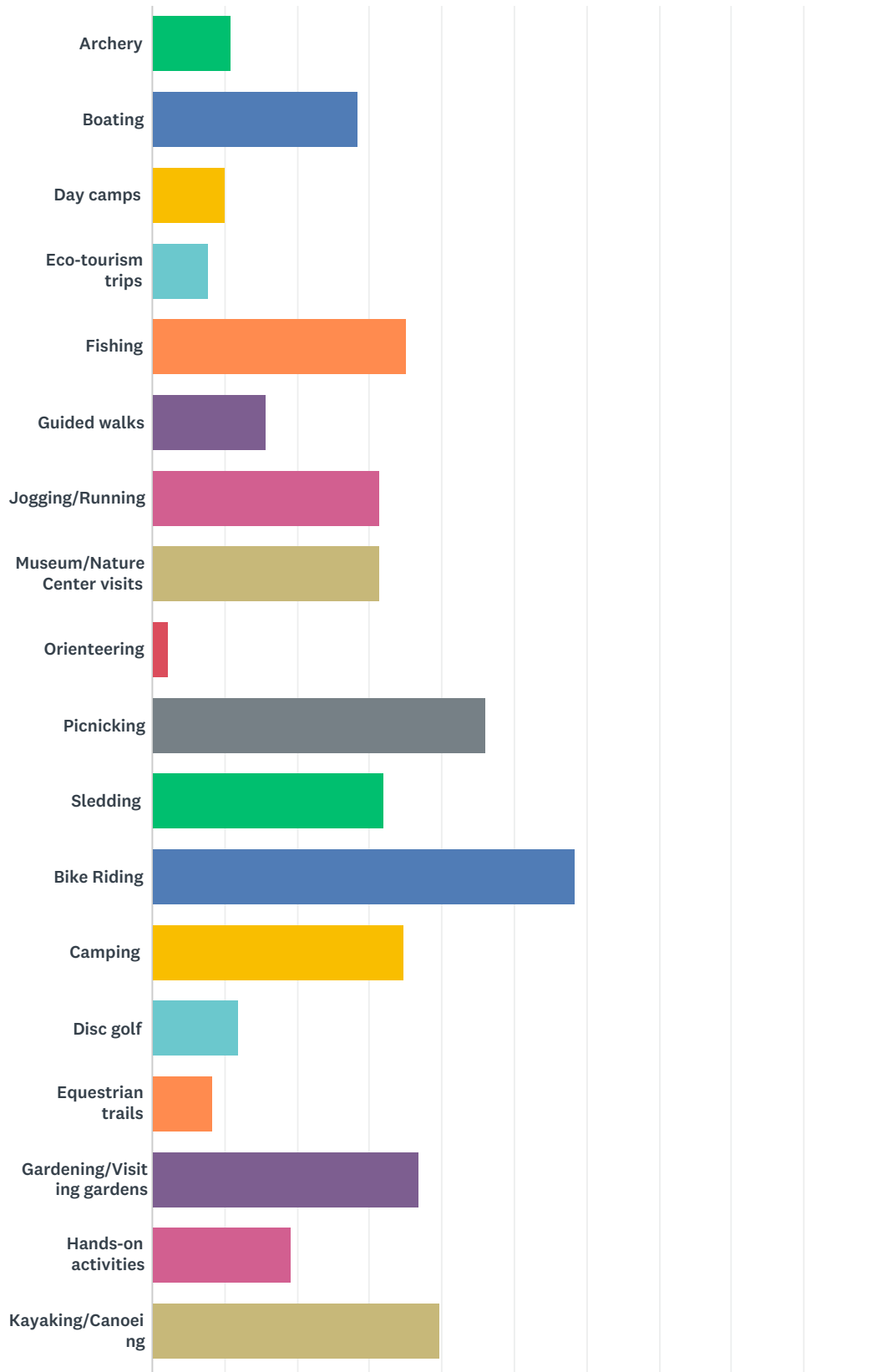
## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

Poor customer service	1.33%	11
Registration is difficult	3.62%	30
Poor maintenance of facilities	7.85%	65
Didn't know facilities exist	23.19%	192
Don't feel safe	8.94%	74
Inconvenient hours	8.70%	72
Lack of transportation/resources	4.35%	36
Use other park department facilities	10.63%	88
Too far from home	21.50%	178
Fees are not affordable	6.64%	55
No interest in programs offered	5.68%	47
No interest in outdoors/parks	1.09%	9
Too busy/no time	47.83%	396
Total Respondents: 828		

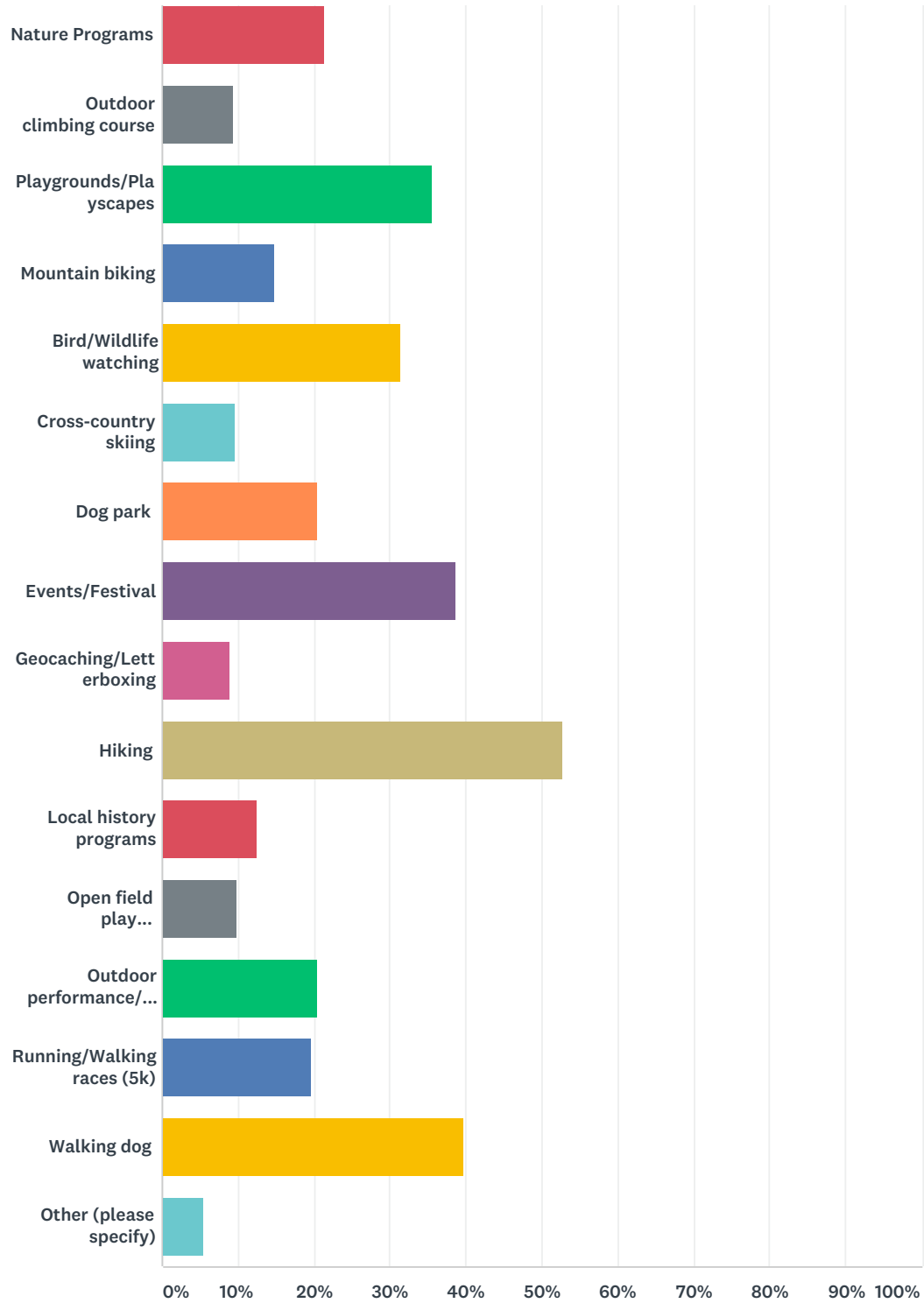


## Q7 Which of these outdoor recreational activities does your household presently participate in? (check all that apply)

Answered: 998 Skipped: 18



## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Archery	10.82%	108
Boating	28.46%	284
Day camps	10.12%	101
Eco-tourism trips	7.82%	78
Fishing	35.17%	351

# Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

Guided walks	15.73%	157
Jogging/Running	31.36%	313
Museum/Nature Center visits	31.36%	313
Orienteering	2.30%	23
Picnicking	45.99%	459
Sledding	32.06%	320
Bike Riding	58.32%	582
Camping	34.77%	347
Disc golf	11.92%	119
Equestrian trails	8.32%	83
Gardening/Visiting gardens	36.87%	368
Hands-on activities	19.24%	192
Kayaking/Canoeing	39.68%	396
Nature Programs	21.44%	214
Outdoor climbing course	9.32%	93
Playgrounds/Playscapes	35.47%	354
Mountain biking	14.83%	148
Bird/Wildlife watching	31.36%	313
Cross-country skiing	9.62%	96
Dog park	20.54%	205
Events/Festival	38.68%	386
Geocaching/Letterboxing	8.92%	89
Hiking	52.71%	526
Local history programs	12.63%	126
Open field play (Frisbee/Soccer)	9.92%	99
Outdoor performance/Art venues	20.54%	205
Running/Walking races (5k)	19.64%	196
Walking dog	39.78%	397
Other (please specify)	5.51%	55

Total Respondents: 998

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Ethos Class	8/14/2018 9:32 AM
2	Photography	8/13/2018 12:57 PM
3	Walking	8/12/2018 7:38 PM
4	Softball	8/12/2018 4:45 PM

## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

5	Where is there an outdoor climbing course? We'd be very interested in that! Where is it???	8/12/2018 10:47 AM
6	Outdoor painting at the parks.	8/11/2018 11:24 PM
7	I didn't know these existed	8/11/2018 11:06 AM
8	We celebrate Christmas in July with family in the park	8/11/2018 11:04 AM
9	I make bird and duck houses for the parks but haven't been able to visit the parks lately due to caring for a family member.	8/10/2018 8:50 PM
10	We were demonstrators for the 5 Medals Historic Event until politics spoiled it. The new coordinators did not listen to the re-enactors who knew what was needed for this event. We no longer attend.	8/10/2018 6:44 AM
11	Ultimate Frisbee leagues	8/9/2018 7:11 PM
12	Biking the Pumpkinvine, Mapleheart and soon, the Quaker Trace.	8/9/2018 10:09 AM
13	Winter snow biking, fat bikes	8/8/2018 11:32 PM
14	Playground	8/8/2018 1:09 PM
15	walking for health improvement	8/8/2018 11:09 AM
16	Concerts and festivals before and after the fair times.	8/8/2018 7:18 AM
17	Painting plain air	8/6/2018 7:42 PM
18	Flying foam gliders!	8/6/2018 2:36 PM
19	Walking	8/6/2018 2:17 PM
20	skywatching	8/6/2018 10:56 AM
21	Walking	8/3/2018 8:29 AM
22	Pokemon	8/2/2018 10:01 AM
23	W	8/1/2018 9:20 PM
24	Normal walking/strolling	8/1/2018 10:37 AM
25	Walking	8/1/2018 8:39 AM
26	splash pad	8/1/2018 7:44 AM
27	Antique tractor shows. County fair.	8/1/2018 6:39 AM
28	Enjoying God, enjoying peace and quiet.	8/1/2018 1:06 AM
29	Halloween Festivities	7/31/2018 7:59 AM
30	Cross country Skiing, walking	7/30/2018 10:24 PM
31	dog sledding, dryland mushing.	7/30/2018 10:51 AM
32	Photography	7/27/2018 10:28 PM
33	Is there an emailed list of events?	7/27/2018 5:12 PM
34	Need walking track like Walker Park.	7/27/2018 2:26 PM
35	N/a	7/27/2018 11:22 AM
36	Poo sticks, pressing flowers, laying in the grass reading, bug an animal exploring, river watching, duck feeding, kite flying, wading, minnow catching, at tables we gather for cards, board games, birthdays, weddings, and meetings.	7/26/2018 10:29 PM
37	We would absolutely use an outdoor climbing course if one were available in our park system.	7/26/2018 7:55 AM
38	Programs at Bonneyville on many topics - maple syrup, stars, wild edibles, cross country skiing	7/25/2018 8:28 PM
39	Horse back riding!	7/25/2018 7:26 PM
40	Need those posts with dog pick up bags for the people who walk dogs to clean up!! Signage also	7/24/2018 9:35 PM
41	Looking for wildlife	7/24/2018 9:06 PM

## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

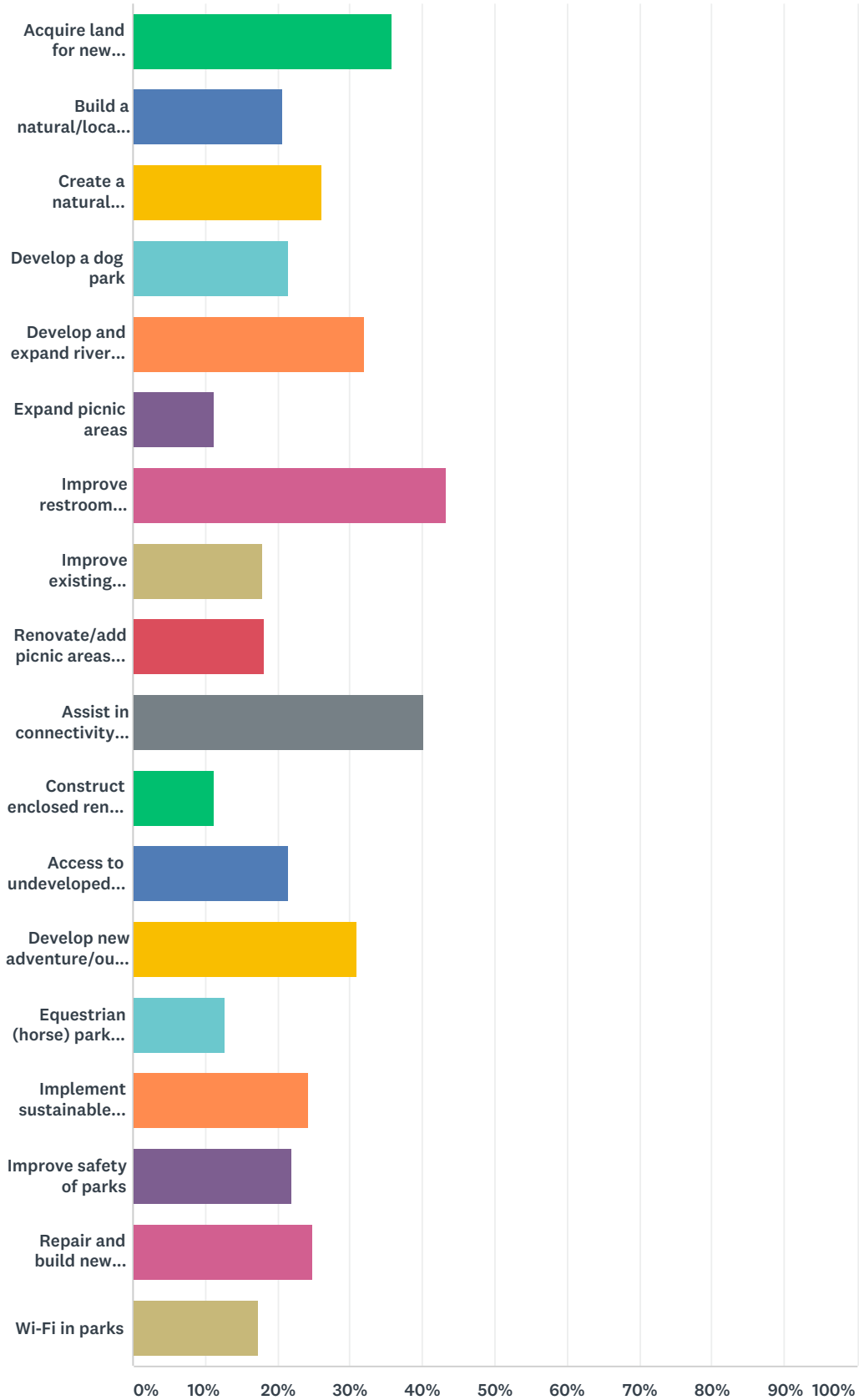
42	Cub Scout Day Camp	7/23/2018 3:06 PM
43	Painting and sketching	7/23/2018 9:39 AM
44	Biking on trails.	7/22/2018 3:48 PM
45	I mainly go there to walk	7/22/2018 5:18 AM
46	Did you mean "bike" riding? It says "bide" riding.	7/21/2018 12:16 AM
47	Walking	7/20/2018 10:41 AM
48	My friends, family and I are heaving into the Pumpkinvine and MapleHeart trails and I use them to commute to and from work in the summer from Elkhart to Goshen	7/20/2018 9:53 AM
49	We also enjoy zip lines and snow shoes	7/20/2018 8:20 AM
50	XC Skiing	7/20/2018 8:02 AM
51	walking the paved roads for exercise (p.s. Bike Riding is misspelled)	7/20/2018 7:57 AM
52	walking	7/19/2018 8:16 PM
53	We need swimming areas	7/19/2018 6:31 PM
54	Personal photography	7/18/2018 8:48 PM
55	Anything outdoor, playing on playground equipment, exploring parks, crafting with nature, learning about bugs and and animals....	7/18/2018 8:43 PM

**Q8 What would be the greatest IMPROVEMENTS to the Elkhart County Parks in the next 5 years? (choose 5)**

Answered: 970   Skipped: 46



# Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Acquire land for new parks/open spaces/natural areas	35.67%	346

## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

Build a natural/local history interpretive center	20.72%	201
Create a natural playscape	26.08%	253
Develop a dog park	21.55%	209
Develop and expand river and waterway access sites	32.06%	311
Expand picnic areas	11.24%	109
Improve restroom facilities	43.40%	421
Improve existing shelters	17.94%	174
Renovate/add picnic areas & shelters	18.14%	176
Assist in connectivity of multi-use trail system	40.21%	390
Construct enclosed rental hall facilities	11.24%	109
Access to undeveloped park properties (i.e. Wolf Lake)	21.65%	210
Develop new adventure/outdoor recreation venues	31.03%	301
Equestrian (horse) park and trails	12.78%	124
Implement sustainable design and green practices	24.23%	235
Improve safety of parks	22.06%	214
Repair and build new playgrounds	24.95%	242
Wi-Fi in parks	17.42%	169
Total Respondents: 970		

## Q9 Is there an improvement you would like to see added within the next 5 years that is not on this list?

Answered: 456 Skipped: 560

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Not sure	8/20/2018 12:44 PM
2	Improve/maintain the house at Defries Gardens. It is getting worse and worse and won't fix itself.	8/20/2018 7:40 AM
3	Trails in the north half of Bonneyville are not maintained at all. 6 inches of mud for large distances, a bridge that is out, trails not mowed, etc.	8/19/2018 2:58 PM
4	Open at 15 minutes before sunrise every day so that every morning bird watching is possible	8/18/2018 7:34 AM
5	NA	8/16/2018 11:41 AM
6	Make Bonneville an enclosed park like oxbow.	8/16/2018 9:44 AM
7	Canoe/kayak/raft rentals at the parks.	8/16/2018 8:45 AM
8	more trash bins on the vine	8/15/2018 7:18 AM
9	Designated primitive (no RVs) camping area in Ox Bow park	8/15/2018 6:11 AM
10	It is on the list, but SAFETY SAFETY SAFTEY. I'm not allowed to go to an Elkhart county park by myself even though I'm over 18.	8/15/2018 1:06 AM
11	More teenager friendly places to keep them out of trouble	8/14/2018 11:10 PM
12	Connection of bike path from cedar creek and the summit to notthridge highscool and Middlebury	8/14/2018 10:49 PM
13	No	8/14/2018 9:24 PM
14	No	8/14/2018 9:06 PM
15	More paved trails	8/14/2018 6:55 PM
16	Put the parks directly in the nature and cut down less trees. Add and update playgrounds for kids. Have adult interactive areas/ adult playgrounds	8/14/2018 6:39 PM
17	No	8/14/2018 6:15 PM
18	More child friendly parks!	8/14/2018 5:03 PM
19	I believe more is less. You keep adding to parks yo make better, but by the time yourdone the people who like the parks more natural get pushed out	8/14/2018 4:17 PM
20	Community gardens within parks	8/14/2018 4:13 PM
21	No	8/14/2018 4:02 PM
22	No	8/14/2018 3:48 PM
23	Connect pumpkin vine	8/14/2018 3:34 PM
24	Clearing of water obstruction in Elkhart river to allow kayaks/ boats to pass to	8/14/2018 2:26 PM
25	Maybe a seasonal zip line for oxbow?	8/14/2018 11:01 AM
26	I would love a public hiking/camping area. A place forbackapacking & hiking. Something affordable in a quiet area.	8/14/2018 9:39 AM
27	Adding some more shade	8/14/2018 9:30 AM
28	no	8/14/2018 9:15 AM
29	None	8/14/2018 9:06 AM
30	Reopen Elliot Park	8/14/2018 9:04 AM

## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

31	Giving people in rural areas places to safely ride bikes such as bike lanes on sides of rural roads (and running/walking)	8/14/2018 8:58 AM
32	No	8/13/2018 9:33 PM
33	No	8/13/2018 8:39 PM
34	No	8/13/2018 8:32 PM
35	A splash pad for children at oxbow park	8/13/2018 7:39 PM
36	More info on what's available	8/13/2018 3:40 PM
37	Expand bike trails	8/13/2018 3:10 PM
38	No	8/13/2018 1:58 PM
39	free entry to oxbow	8/13/2018 12:22 PM
40	More affordable garden (flower) parks	8/13/2018 11:25 AM
41	KEEP THE RIVER CLEARED, for safety reasons.... it cannot be that difficult to have park personnel take a kayak down the river once a week, to clear fallen trees from the river.. primarily, from the Goshen Dam, to Ox Bow... that covers 3 parks.. and, promote the "undiscovered" pleasure of quiet kayaking, right here in the middle of Goshen!	8/13/2018 10:26 AM
42	Improved disc golf / expansion	8/13/2018 8:56 AM
43	More handicap-accessible playgrounds.	8/13/2018 12:32 AM
44	Nope	8/12/2018 11:11 PM
45	Disc golf	8/12/2018 8:37 PM
46	Just lower season pass prices, if you look your average season pass holder probably have a state season pass; maybe give a package deal???	8/12/2018 8:27 PM
47	No	8/12/2018 7:38 PM
48	Arboretum with hands on activity	8/12/2018 7:01 PM
49	Pool or big splash pad	8/12/2018 4:41 PM
50	A better nature center than Woodlawn. It is awful. Dusty, decrepit animal mounts. Everything seems old and dirty. Not conducive to getting kids excited about the outdoors	8/12/2018 2:14 PM
51	No	8/12/2018 1:05 PM
52	No	8/12/2018 11:49 AM
53	Not that I can think of at this time.	8/12/2018 11:20 AM
54	Add restroom facilities along pumpkinvine nature trail.	8/12/2018 10:47 AM
55	Finish connecting bike trails	8/12/2018 10:05 AM
56	Don't change Senior citizens and Disabled Veterans	8/12/2018 8:24 AM
57	Hunting!	8/12/2018 2:57 AM
58	More fly fishing guidance on the Little Elkhart River.	8/11/2018 11:24 PM
59	More security. People trash the parks.	8/11/2018 10:19 PM
60	Pave the Pumpkinvine trail between SR4/Lincoln Ave and Co. Rd. 28	8/11/2018 9:11 PM
61	No	8/11/2018 8:51 PM
62	Paved pathways are fantastic for families with kids pushing a stroller. Bonneyville could use a playground for kids. Great park for walking but not much for little kids to do	8/11/2018 6:44 PM
63	Remove invasive plants	8/11/2018 5:06 PM
64	No	8/11/2018 4:39 PM
65	Adapted recreation opportunities for people with disabilities	8/11/2018 3:13 PM
66	Removate existing trails and maintain those that are not currently useable	8/11/2018 3:07 PM

## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

67	Camping	8/11/2018 11:06 AM
68	No	8/11/2018 11:04 AM
69	No	8/11/2018 11:03 AM
70	Make the Oxbow Park park past transferable between cars in the same family. For example the family gives a list of cars in their immediate family	8/10/2018 10:40 PM
71	More fishing areas	8/10/2018 9:02 PM
72	More opportunities for the public to make objects that can be used in the parks such as bird houses, bat houses, etc. Also...when we were in Port Angeles, WA., one of their city parks had "Art in the Park" where local artists made artwork and "hid" it in the park for kids and adults to find. There was a huge variety of artsy pieces and a lot of imagination.	8/10/2018 8:50 PM
73	Longer hours	8/10/2018 8:37 PM
74	Additional Walking/Biking Trails	8/10/2018 7:58 PM
75	..	8/10/2018 6:11 PM
76	Create a botanic garden with hands on sensory garden	8/10/2018 4:11 PM
77	improve signage to Cobus Creek park	8/10/2018 3:06 PM
78	No	8/10/2018 11:59 AM
79	More bike ways	8/10/2018 11:47 AM
80	Clean the trails of weeds and branches. Fix the uneven parts of trails trees have ruined	8/10/2018 11:01 AM
81	restore sod toilet to BootLake	8/10/2018 10:57 AM
82	no	8/10/2018 10:51 AM
83	Put in more swings. Porch type	8/10/2018 9:14 AM
84	No	8/10/2018 8:12 AM
85	no	8/10/2018 7:25 AM
86	All natural playground	8/10/2018 5:46 AM
87	None	8/10/2018 4:20 AM
88	Making sure there is kayak & canoeing facilities	8/10/2018 3:52 AM
89	No	8/9/2018 11:16 PM
90	More development of mountain bike trails and races.	8/9/2018 10:42 PM
91	Better awareness/advertising for local parks	8/9/2018 10:05 PM
92	Renovate & reopen Elliott Park area	8/9/2018 10:03 PM
93	Awsome public pools	8/9/2018 9:59 PM
94	Clear debris from current fishing areas. All add more fish.	8/9/2018 9:56 PM
95	No	8/9/2018 9:25 PM
96	No geese poop	8/9/2018 9:15 PM
97	No	8/9/2018 8:40 PM
98	Special needs play equipment. We go to ox bow weekly. My 3 year old has CP. Soon he will no longer have anything to play on. le swing.	8/9/2018 8:28 PM
99	NA	8/9/2018 8:27 PM
100	More multi use trails inter connecting the city to the country	8/9/2018 8:24 PM
101	Zip line	8/9/2018 8:22 PM
102	Can't think of one	8/9/2018 8:16 PM
103	Not really	8/9/2018 8:12 PM

## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

104	.	8/9/2018 8:11 PM
105	Safer road crossings between the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail	8/9/2018 8:04 PM
106	Just creating horse trails, maybe with camping	8/9/2018 8:00 PM
107	Make sure all large trees and tree limbs are healthy in Shanklin Park playground	8/9/2018 8:00 PM
108	Basketball courts, pickel ball courts, sand volleyball courts, More disc golf courses	8/9/2018 7:43 PM
109	no	8/9/2018 7:35 PM
110	More playgrounds	8/9/2018 7:08 PM
111	More community events	8/9/2018 6:58 PM
112	No	8/9/2018 6:56 PM
113	Maps of parks showing picnic areas, facilities, Miles on trails, etc.	8/9/2018 6:43 PM
114	Another Disc Golf course!	8/9/2018 6:41 PM
115	Fix boardwalks/staircases at oxbow. Put mulch on trails	8/9/2018 6:24 PM
116	No	8/9/2018 6:08 PM
117	Clean up the vines that cover much of cobus Creek.	8/9/2018 6:04 PM
118	Take ovr Elliot Park from City of Elkhart since they have neglected/closed it.	8/9/2018 6:03 PM
119	please dont add wifi!	8/9/2018 5:33 PM
120	Cobus creek- needs a place/s along a/the trail for dog do. And a couple drums along the way to throw it in.	8/9/2018 5:09 PM
121	No	8/9/2018 5:05 PM
122	More cross country ski options. Oxbow's course is fantastic	8/9/2018 5:01 PM
123	No	8/9/2018 4:48 PM
124	No	8/9/2018 4:41 PM
125	No	8/9/2018 4:40 PM
126	NO	8/9/2018 4:30 PM
127	No sewage in river walk	8/9/2018 1:59 PM
128	Development of further cross country ski trails	8/9/2018 1:42 PM
129	Paved trails for handicaped accessible enjoyment of park natural areas.	8/9/2018 1:29 PM
130	Safety is my biggest concern.	8/9/2018 12:49 PM
131	No	8/9/2018 12:42 PM
132	No	8/9/2018 12:08 PM
133	More community events held at parks	8/9/2018 11:41 AM
134	.	8/9/2018 11:28 AM
135	No	8/9/2018 11:14 AM
136	Would like to learn more about efforts to build micro parks	8/9/2018 10:15 AM
137	Quaker Trace	8/9/2018 10:09 AM
138	Playgrounds and fitness center stops	8/9/2018 9:53 AM
139	no	8/9/2018 9:25 AM
140	No	8/9/2018 8:09 AM
141	Complete the pumpkinvine nature trail so it is one long trail.	8/9/2018 12:40 AM
142	Winter fat bike trail grooming	8/8/2018 11:32 PM
143	Extend bike trails farther north (dedicated bike paths. No cars allowed)	8/8/2018 10:59 PM



## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

144	More social media presence giving out info on programs	8/8/2018 10:45 PM
145	drinking water on multiuse trails.	8/8/2018 9:41 PM
146	Add mileage to mountainbike trails	8/8/2018 9:03 PM
147	Continue adding multiuse paths	8/8/2018 8:48 PM
148	Open up wolf lake to the public.	8/8/2018 8:44 PM
149	The trails at Bonneville weren't maintained well and were overgrown so I gave up trying to hike. This was about a month ago. Very disappointing. So I'd say keeping your existing parks in better shape would be an improvement.	8/8/2018 8:42 PM
150	More opportunities for geocaching.	8/8/2018 8:12 PM
151	More park employee presence and fitness trail. Like Ligonier has or had. It's been awhile since I was there.	8/8/2018 7:31 PM
152	Water Features - Splash Pads	8/8/2018 4:36 PM
153	I'm up for anything that will improve our quality of life and put Goshen "on the map" even more!	8/8/2018 4:21 PM
154	Restroom maintenance	8/8/2018 3:06 PM
155	Public Pool	8/8/2018 2:27 PM
156	More running/hiking paths	8/8/2018 2:13 PM
157	Outdoor fitness inclusive playground more shelters	8/8/2018 1:09 PM
158	Have family pass for all parks/no need for 2 stickers for mom/dad's cars Example	8/8/2018 12:38 PM
159	Camping sites	8/8/2018 11:41 AM
160	Marketing of available facilities, hours, maps and include dog walking.	8/8/2018 11:29 AM
161	Drinking water access on pumpkinvine	8/8/2018 11:24 AM
162	loved the how to make maple syrup seminar more like that	8/8/2018 11:09 AM
163	More geocaching permits	8/8/2018 10:21 AM
164	Provide additional camping opportunities within the country	8/8/2018 10:14 AM
165	No	8/8/2018 10:02 AM
166	Wolf Lake off street parking!	8/8/2018 9:06 AM
167	Allow for more geocaching	8/8/2018 9:04 AM
168	Getting news out about programs and having programs open up to more kids	8/8/2018 8:21 AM
169	Consider a GeoTour using all the parks, see geocaching.com and check out other areas of US that have established GeoTours for information.	8/8/2018 8:19 AM
170	More places to rent cross country skiing	8/8/2018 8:10 AM
171	Restrooms	8/8/2018 7:41 AM
172	Baugo Creek site by Jimtown High School on C.R. 3 south of C.R. 22	8/8/2018 7:18 AM
173	No not really	8/8/2018 6:16 AM
174	No	8/8/2018 5:16 AM
175	No	8/8/2018 5:14 AM
176	protect our water	8/8/2018 4:57 AM
177	Parking and restrooms MUST be near a playground in order for it to be usable for families	8/8/2018 4:10 AM
178	Developing survival techniques and plant identification for food and medicine	8/8/2018 3:59 AM
179	No	8/8/2018 3:59 AM
180	A greater advocacy for respect for senior walkers from high speed bikers on The Pumpkin Vine Trail	8/8/2018 3:49 AM

## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

181	Championship disc golf course at Bonneyville	8/8/2018 3:35 AM
182	No	8/8/2018 2:48 AM
183	Improve park security for later hours. Some close to the city attracts rif-raf	8/8/2018 1:48 AM
184	No	8/8/2018 12:14 AM
185	Kayaking and Tubing rental at Riverwalk	8/7/2018 11:48 PM
186	More trails to run on.	8/7/2018 11:12 PM
187	Keep improving greenways/connectivity	8/7/2018 5:33 PM
188	Consider adding a recreational sports club for both men and women of all ages (this could apply to sports such as softball, basketball, martial arts, volleyball)	8/7/2018 5:01 PM
189	More swimming access/activities	8/7/2018 5:00 PM
190	Outdoor climbing gym would be great!!	8/7/2018 4:58 PM
191	Disc golf, dedicated mountain bike trail, archery 3D trail(like pine knob in lagrange co.)	8/7/2018 3:33 PM
192	N.a.	8/7/2018 2:14 PM
193	No	8/7/2018 2:00 PM
194	Fix existing board walks and stairs at ox bow and develop boot lake.	8/7/2018 11:29 AM
195	More water programs	8/7/2018 10:01 AM
196	More parks or growth within the parks and more trails	8/7/2018 9:56 AM
197	Complete Quaker Trace Trail	8/7/2018 8:59 AM
198	Rentals of kayaks	8/7/2018 8:58 AM
199	Not off the top of my head	8/7/2018 8:25 AM
200	Repair trails (including more that lead out of park)	8/7/2018 8:19 AM
201	Campground at Ox Bow	8/7/2018 8:12 AM
202	Later park hours for the summer and winter months. Some of our parks would offer excellent star gazing and guided night tours would be great for cross country skiing and winter night hikes.	8/7/2018 7:49 AM
203	Dog park with water and agility course	8/7/2018 1:02 AM
204	Equine trail areas and wifi	8/7/2018 12:00 AM
205	Just keep it as wild as possible.	8/6/2018 9:10 PM
206	Please reopen Elliott Park on CR 16 (Indiana Ave)	8/6/2018 8:50 PM
207	Disc golf course updated	8/6/2018 8:47 PM
208	No	8/6/2018 8:07 PM
209	Bring back free day at ox bow	8/6/2018 7:59 PM
210	Arts in the parks programming, bushcrafting, primitive skills classes	8/6/2018 7:42 PM
211	More mountain bike and trail running paths	8/6/2018 5:19 PM
212	No	8/6/2018 3:40 PM
213	Mountain biking at Ox-Bow Park and a high ropes/challenge course like GO Ape in Indy. More nature events for teens/concerts in the park/geo caching events. Off computers and into nature	8/6/2018 3:30 PM
214	I'd love to see opportunities to camp and more kayakers in the water! The waterways are very underused	8/6/2018 3:19 PM
215	No	8/6/2018 3:18 PM
216	No	8/6/2018 2:47 PM
217	No	8/6/2018 2:41 PM

## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

218	Add design and cultural elements relevant to the young and growing Latinx communities of Elkhart Co.	8/6/2018 2:36 PM
219	Easier access to Island Park - rides over	8/6/2018 2:28 PM
220	Brush control of the disc golf course and adding courses.	8/6/2018 1:10 PM
221	Outdoor concert venue	8/6/2018 7:40 AM
222	Quaker Trace Trail	8/5/2018 8:19 AM
223	Complete the Quaker Trace Trail	8/5/2018 12:00 AM
224	Connecting Quaker Trace with Pumpkinvine.	8/4/2018 10:25 PM
225	Keep expanding bike trails and interconnect them	8/4/2018 8:08 PM
226	Quaker Trace Trail Connected	8/4/2018 7:42 PM
227	How about just take care of what we already have. It seems that the Park Dept is stretched awfully thin.	8/4/2018 6:13 PM
228	Connect Quaker Trace Trail from Elkhart to BristolWe we're very sorry to see that get side lined. So many use the short expansion on CR 8. Keep it going, please!!	8/4/2018 1:09 PM
229	More advertisement of programs	8/4/2018 12:58 PM
230	Camping. Friends and relatives have no affordable place to camp, especially during fair time.	8/4/2018 9:26 AM
231	No	8/3/2018 3:11 PM
232	Added security at cobus creek park due to unsupervised children from trailer park	8/3/2018 1:56 PM
233	Fish cleaning station	8/3/2018 12:37 PM
234	Provide info about the location of parks	8/3/2018 10:00 AM
235	Parking	8/3/2018 8:38 AM
236	Bike paths tying into rural subdivisions	8/3/2018 8:18 AM
237	No	8/3/2018 6:40 AM
238	No	8/2/2018 6:24 PM
239	More historic homes promoted and history of the county	8/2/2018 3:52 PM
240	Add an Inn for overnight stays	8/2/2018 3:16 PM
241	Later summer hours	8/2/2018 10:12 AM
242	More disc golf	8/2/2018 9:55 AM
243	Another disc golf course	8/2/2018 9:51 AM
244	Park(s) closer to southern part of county near Wakarusa	8/2/2018 9:26 AM
245	zipline	8/2/2018 8:17 AM
246	Equestrian trails	8/1/2018 8:49 PM
247	Have more trails!	8/1/2018 8:07 PM
248	The communication of events through Facebook has been very helpful. I have used the parks more this year than ever. Keep this going.	8/1/2018 7:19 PM
249	The communication of events through Facebook has been very helpful. I have used the parks more this year than ever. Keep this going.	8/1/2018 7:19 PM
250	no	8/1/2018 3:51 PM
251	Camping in Ox Bow Park	8/1/2018 3:30 PM
252	no	8/1/2018 12:59 PM
253	No	8/1/2018 12:40 PM
254	No	8/1/2018 10:37 AM

## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

255	I would like to see more places to ride horses closer to home. If i want to ride i have to go atleast and hour drive away	8/1/2018 10:35 AM
256	no	8/1/2018 9:15 AM
257	Advertise programs	8/1/2018 9:04 AM
258	Would love a splash pad at ox bow!	8/1/2018 8:56 AM
259	Horse trails sooner than 5 years	8/1/2018 8:45 AM
260	Develop Boot Lake to full potential	8/1/2018 8:23 AM
261	Boot Lake interpreter	8/1/2018 8:19 AM
262	splash pad new play grounds updated play grounds	8/1/2018 7:44 AM
263	Splash pad at cobus Creek county Park	8/1/2018 7:04 AM
264	Restrooms instead of porta pottys	8/1/2018 6:59 AM
265	Video monitoring to improve safety and reduce crime. Online access to museum inventory. Expanded museum hours, nights weekends.	8/1/2018 6:39 AM
266	Better access to parking lots/possible improvements of parking lots.	8/1/2018 1:06 AM
267	Equestrian	7/31/2018 10:47 PM
268	Better maintenance (sweeping) of multiuse paths	7/31/2018 10:36 PM
269	Better/more trails designed for running/exercise	7/31/2018 10:29 PM
270	Place to camp in Elkhart County Park System	7/31/2018 10:28 PM
271	No	7/31/2018 2:09 PM
272	Love our parks, keep them healthy with native plants..thanks!	7/31/2018 10:29 AM
273	Register online - Apple Pay	7/31/2018 7:59 AM
274	No	7/30/2018 10:24 PM
275	Better interpretive/wayfinding signage. Right now, trails are difficult to determine recreational use on (groomed vs hiking in winter, quiet wildlife observation vs. popular trails for kids or do-walkers).	7/30/2018 9:44 PM
276	No.	7/30/2018 8:20 PM
277	no	7/30/2018 8:14 AM
278	As an equestrian, there are very few public parks that allow horses on trails. Simply giving horses access to trails would be a great improvement.	7/30/2018 6:28 AM
279	No	7/30/2018 4:04 AM
280	No	7/29/2018 11:12 PM
281	Horse trails	7/29/2018 5:40 PM
282	More paved parking outside ox now entrance so You don't have to park in the mud in the mornings before it opens	7/29/2018 4:39 PM
283	no	7/29/2018 12:41 PM
284	Outdoor workout area, zip line area	7/29/2018 12:11 PM
285	Pool	7/29/2018 9:12 AM
286	no	7/29/2018 9:00 AM
287	More bathrooms along the pumpkin vine trail	7/29/2018 8:22 AM
288	can't think of any at the moment	7/28/2018 3:10 PM
289	no	7/28/2018 12:25 PM
290	Have Goshen designated as a Bird City.	7/28/2018 12:10 PM
291	No	7/28/2018 11:56 AM

## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

292	Ohio and Illinois do not charge, and we would like to see the county support the parks enough that people could enjoy nature and open spaces for free, as it should be!	7/28/2018 10:48 AM
293	More trails	7/28/2018 12:33 AM
294	way to encourage trash pick up by visitors	7/27/2018 10:28 PM
295	no	7/27/2018 8:18 PM
296	We love walking trails! We would love to be able to camp at the parks...maybe through an acquired permit?	7/27/2018 5:12 PM
297	Continue the renovation of Boot Lake.	7/27/2018 4:18 PM
298	Safe walking track	7/27/2018 2:26 PM
299	New water parks	7/27/2018 11:22 AM
300	I would limkemm	7/27/2018 10:06 AM
301	No	7/27/2018 9:28 AM
302	Have live music, festivals and reenactment events	7/27/2018 8:46 AM
303	Free camping nights for families with children.	7/26/2018 10:54 PM
304	MORE Awareness of parks and what each has to offer.	7/26/2018 10:29 PM
305	Cross country ski rental	7/26/2018 9:45 PM
306	More fishing lakes/stock the current lakes	7/26/2018 8:11 PM
307	Create new walking trails and better maintain the trails	7/26/2018 7:23 PM
308	None come to mind	7/26/2018 6:25 PM
309	No	7/26/2018 4:54 PM
310	Oxbow Park is needing maintenance/improvements to it's facilities. The park does not feel safe in this state of disrepair.	7/26/2018 3:46 PM
311	N/a	7/26/2018 3:19 PM
312	Season passes at a reasonable cost.	7/26/2018 3:08 PM
313	Swimming options; paddleboard rental options	7/26/2018 3:01 PM
314	Fix the stolen disc golf baskets at oxbow	7/26/2018 2:32 PM
315	Rental availability for kayak/canoes, archery, birding materials(binoculars and guide)	7/26/2018 2:22 PM
316	Clean up and maintain the parks we currently have	7/26/2018 1:14 PM
317	Overnight backpacking	7/26/2018 10:31 AM
318	No	7/26/2018 10:28 AM
319	No	7/26/2018 10:03 AM
320	no	7/26/2018 8:41 AM
321	Seal the surface and cut roots buckling the Pumpkinvine	7/26/2018 8:33 AM
322	We would love to use kayak rentals, and learn how to cook good food from the vegetables we grow in our gardens. The latter might be accomplished through kids' workshops, online articles/recipes, or adult evening classes in the summertime. Ideally, it would be kid-focused, as they are more interested in eating what they have helped grow and cook.	7/26/2018 7:55 AM
323	No	7/26/2018 5:48 AM
324	O	7/26/2018 5:43 AM
325	Extended walking trails through Scenic areas	7/26/2018 2:40 AM
326	Have a park ranger at all parks during open hours. I occasionally feel unsafe at Cobus without one there. I've encountered a creeper or two who walks over from Cobus Green.	7/25/2018 11:57 PM
327	Repair and maintenance of existing buildings,equipment, gardens	7/25/2018 11:05 PM

## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

328	n/a	7/25/2018 11:00 PM
329	No	7/25/2018 9:01 PM
330	cross country trail signage at Bonneyville with distances marked	7/25/2018 8:28 PM
331	We love to ride our horses sometimes a quick ride would be nice without having to haul the horse's an hour on half or even 2 hours would be absolutely amazing thanx for the opportunity to vote we appreciate ot	7/25/2018 7:26 PM
332	More staffing	7/25/2018 7:04 PM
333	No	7/25/2018 6:25 PM
334	No	7/25/2018 6:22 PM
335	Add more mountain bikes trails	7/25/2018 5:41 PM
336	No	7/25/2018 5:30 PM
337	More playgrounds built with special needs children in mind	7/25/2018 5:06 PM
338	NO	7/25/2018 3:45 PM
339	no	7/25/2018 2:17 PM
340	No	7/25/2018 11:34 AM
341	No	7/25/2018 11:29 AM
342	Equestrian, equestrian, equestrian!	7/25/2018 11:19 AM
343	no	7/25/2018 10:14 AM
344	No	7/25/2018 10:13 AM
345	more programming and making community more aware of the programs	7/25/2018 10:03 AM
346	Remove negative element at Boot Lake. (Gay hook up)	7/25/2018 8:18 AM
347	no	7/25/2018 8:06 AM
348	no	7/25/2018 6:19 AM
349	keep up the great job	7/25/2018 3:14 AM
350	Horse rentals	7/25/2018 1:51 AM
351	No	7/24/2018 11:50 PM
352	I would love to see a bike trail in Bristol.	7/24/2018 10:18 PM
353	N/a	7/24/2018 10:12 PM
354	Playground/park for kids	7/24/2018 9:52 PM
355	A new or better maintained mountain bike trail in the Goshen area. (Such as the trails just south of the Reith Interpretive Center.)	7/24/2018 9:51 PM
356	No	7/24/2018 9:35 PM
357	No	7/24/2018 9:35 PM
358	Better water trail connectivity and maintenance	7/24/2018 9:06 PM
359	Edible landscaping	7/24/2018 8:11 PM
360	No	7/24/2018 7:29 PM
361	No	7/24/2018 5:37 PM
362	No	7/24/2018 5:32 PM
363	Bonneyville needs a walkway on it's most Northern loop near the creek. It's routinely flooded, but could be alleviated if some effort and some wood were invested.	7/24/2018 5:17 PM
364	No	7/24/2018 5:04 PM
365	BETTER HANDICAP ACCESSIBILITY	7/24/2018 3:50 PM



## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

366	Wolf Lake is totally underutilized and not accesible	7/24/2018 11:53 AM
367	Improve and expand bike paths!	7/23/2018 4:57 PM
368	no, but I originally selected 10 and had to prioritize my interest.	7/23/2018 3:06 PM
369	bike paths on the county roads/Wakarusa-Nappanee that are designated as the county bike trail.	7/23/2018 10:19 AM
370	Expand interconnecting trails	7/23/2018 8:55 AM
371	dredge Goshen Dam Pond for more recreational use	7/23/2018 8:01 AM
372	Not sure	7/22/2018 11:08 PM
373	No	7/22/2018 9:34 PM
374	Add new trail connectors; e.g. mapleheart to the elkhart river trail north of the environmental center. Better downtown elkhart access from mapleheart. A trail from elkhart to Mishawaka and south bend. Connect Chicago to Shipshewana via Elkhart county parks!!!	7/22/2018 7:59 PM
375	Would like to see Boot Lake improved and expanded. Love the park. My friends and I walked there before the county acquired it. The trails were terrible, but we were careful and still enjoyed our walks and the Sand Hill Cranes.	7/22/2018 7:34 PM
376	More trash recepticals in the park. Signs warning about littering. Signs telling the time the park closes. Safe accessible street crossing signs/lights for pedestrians. Clean walkways. Clean water fountains that work. Patrols for safety, no homeless/drug dealing in the parks, day or night. And a whole lot more.	7/22/2018 5:53 PM
377	na	7/22/2018 4:09 PM
378	New core galleries about local history.	7/22/2018 3:48 PM
379	No	7/22/2018 3:19 PM
380	Drinkable water in every park	7/22/2018 2:52 PM
381	oxbow canoe launch needs much improvement	7/22/2018 10:44 AM
382	No	7/22/2018 5:18 AM
383	No	7/21/2018 7:22 PM
384	No	7/21/2018 7:03 PM
385	Add another Disc Golf course	7/21/2018 6:27 PM
386	More walking trails	7/21/2018 3:55 PM
387	Water stops on pumpkinvine	7/21/2018 3:36 PM
388	Finish pumpkin vine trail from Middlebury to Goshen so no roads need to be used.	7/21/2018 3:00 PM
389	Would like outdoor fitness equipment	7/21/2018 1:20 PM
390	No	7/21/2018 1:10 PM
391	No	7/21/2018 11:16 AM
392	better trail signs and markers	7/21/2018 11:09 AM
393	Bike park for kids	7/21/2018 9:30 AM
394	NO	7/21/2018 7:58 AM
395	OxBow needs an overhaul, trails are overgrown & some are sketchy, water is stagnant... it's just not the clean, fun park it used to be.	7/21/2018 7:53 AM
396	Is hunting an option?	7/21/2018 12:16 AM
397	Cross country ski trail improvements	7/20/2018 8:41 PM
398	Quaker Trace Trail	7/20/2018 7:13 PM
399	can't think of any at this time.	7/20/2018 6:49 PM
400	No	7/20/2018 2:42 PM
401	Outdoor fitness	7/20/2018 2:32 PM

## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

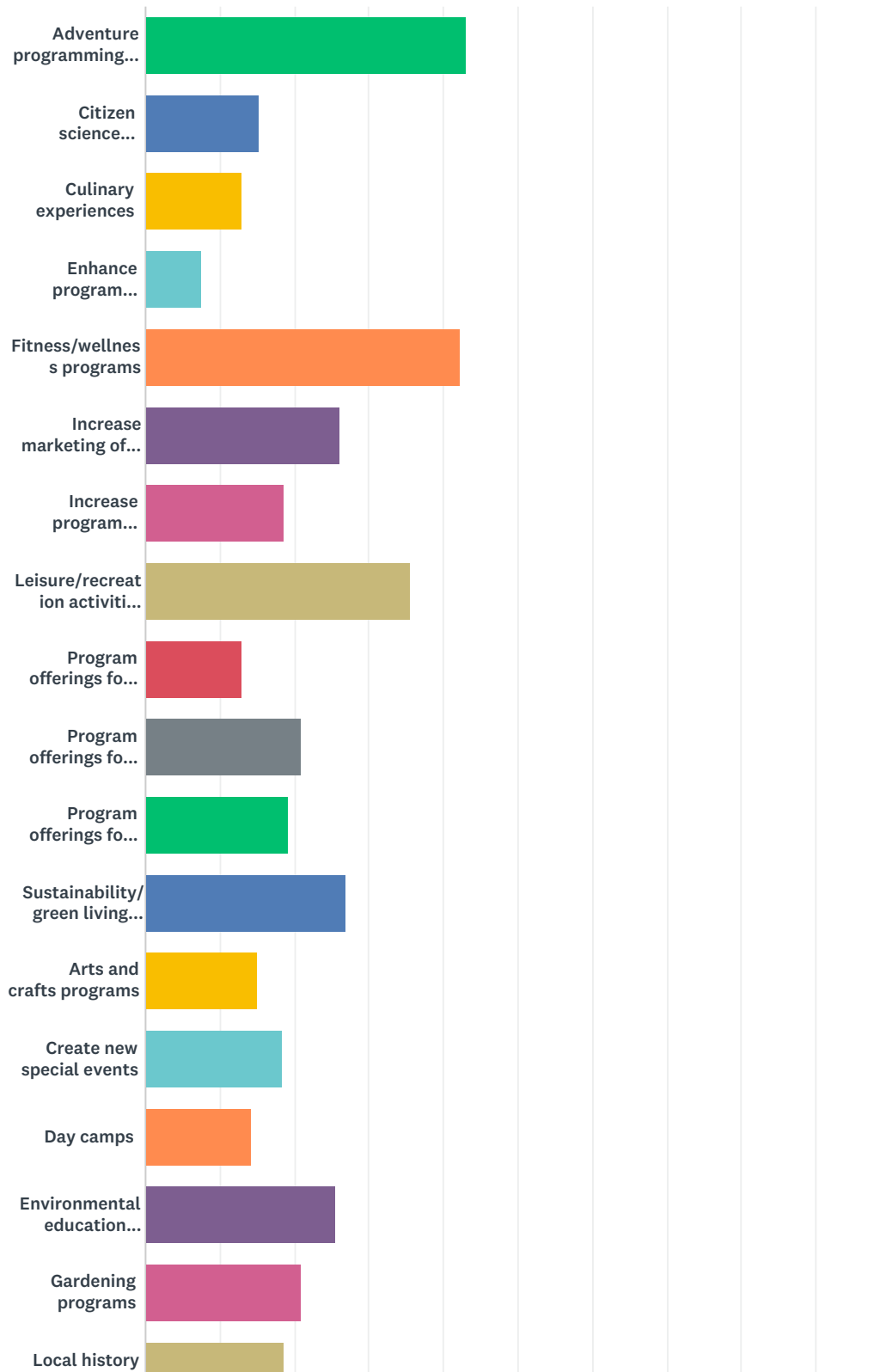
402	Water fountain on Pumpkinvine Trail near CR 33	7/20/2018 2:01 PM
403	Extend trail from Goshen to Baintertown/Benton spillway	7/20/2018 1:01 PM
404	Restrooms open in the off-season, more parking to access pumpkin vine trail sections, later park hours	7/20/2018 11:49 AM
405	Reduce fees and/or make free parking withing walking distance available for all parks. Children under 18 should be free and county employees should be free with ID.	7/20/2018 10:41 AM
406	no	7/20/2018 9:54 AM
407	More bike trails on the north side of Elkhart County	7/20/2018 9:53 AM
408	No	7/20/2018 9:47 AM
409	Food truck or concession stands	7/20/2018 9:36 AM
410	More park festivities such as food truck festivals. A butterfly house & botanical garden would be perfect in the Goshen area. Free fishing days without a license. Lighted pathways on trails with trail cams for safety.	7/20/2018 9:27 AM
411	No	7/20/2018 9:26 AM
412	NO	7/20/2018 9:25 AM
413	It would be really nice if a restaurant could open adjacent to OxBow with access for people to walk from the park. Would like parks to feel safer and be cleaner. Also walking paths along the roads in OxBow would be great.	7/20/2018 9:25 AM
414	Not that I can think of. I love Elkhart County Parks!	7/20/2018 8:56 AM
415	no fees to enter oxbow	7/20/2018 8:48 AM
416	no	7/20/2018 8:48 AM
417	No	7/20/2018 8:44 AM
418	no	7/20/2018 8:38 AM
419	excerise equipment	7/20/2018 8:31 AM
420	NO	7/20/2018 8:23 AM
421	I would like to see a christmas light display in the parks.	7/20/2018 8:07 AM
422	Park rangers and employees patrolling the grounds	7/20/2018 5:21 AM
423	More water access on Pumpkinvine and earlier hours at Bonneyville9:00 is so late..especially with summer heat)	7/20/2018 12:43 AM
424	No	7/19/2018 9:12 PM
425	More special exhibits of large scale	7/19/2018 8:30 PM
426	no	7/19/2018 8:16 PM
427	More mountain bike trails	7/19/2018 8:03 PM
428	County water park swimming area	7/19/2018 6:31 PM
429	We would really like to see equestrian trails available, even if they are a multi use shared trail path.	7/19/2018 6:03 PM
430	No	7/19/2018 6:03 PM
431	Boot lake nature preserve acquiring and implementing a new trail along the east side of the lake bordering the western border. Currently the trail is not very close to the water to see the view of the lake.	7/19/2018 5:55 PM
432	No, plenty of work listed.	7/19/2018 5:49 PM
433	No	7/19/2018 5:20 PM
434	Hire me	7/19/2018 4:59 PM
435	Bike paths	7/19/2018 4:51 PM

## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

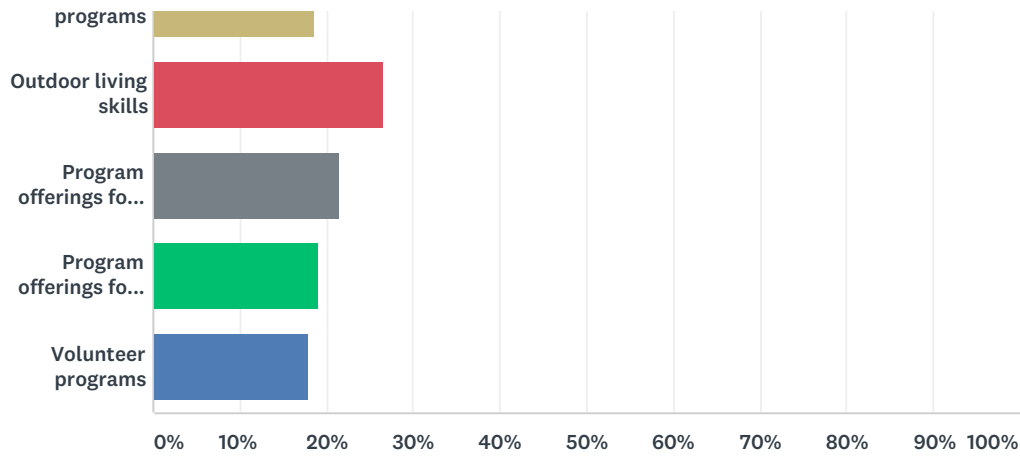
436	Would like to see investment in, and improvement of, the County Historical Museum	7/19/2018 4:41 PM
437	Connect Mishawaka's trail system to the Pumpkinvine trail	7/19/2018 4:23 PM
438	Improve/renovate historical museum and other facilities	7/19/2018 3:59 PM
439	Increased hours (especially in the summer)	7/19/2018 3:59 PM
440	No	7/19/2018 1:46 PM
441	I can't think of any right now	7/19/2018 12:30 PM
442	Accessible playground for kids in wheelchairs/other special needs	7/19/2018 9:45 AM
443	No	7/19/2018 6:57 AM
444	No	7/19/2018 6:46 AM
445	Fund a Sheriff's Deputy position to enforce ordinances and patrol the parks similarly to what Co Hwy and the Landfill are doing.	7/18/2018 10:19 PM
446	N-a	7/18/2018 9:47 PM
447	Flush restrooms	7/18/2018 9:27 PM
448	Better trail markings	7/18/2018 9:11 PM
449	Better safety inside parks, security detail to minimize trouble and keep families safe	7/18/2018 8:59 PM
450	No	7/18/2018 8:40 PM
451	No	7/18/2018 7:35 PM
452	Better walkways	7/18/2018 7:15 PM
453	We are from Kosciusko County. Our family loves Bonneyville Mill. The only thing is it is not clearly marked trails	7/18/2018 6:54 PM
454	No	7/18/2018 6:33 PM
455	Outdoor exercise equipment next to playground	7/18/2018 6:03 PM
456	Remove invasive species- reestablish natives, whether that is prairies, woods, waterways	7/18/2018 12:19 PM

## Q10 What should be the top five SERVICES the Elkhart County Parks should focus on implementing or expanding within the next 5 years (choose 5)

Answered: 955 Skipped: 61



## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Adventure programming (i.e. kayaking, climbing)	43.04%	411
Citizen science opportunities	15.29%	146
Culinary experiences	12.98%	124
Enhance program partnerships	7.43%	71
Fitness/wellness programs	42.20%	403
Increase marketing of programs and events	26.07%	249
Increase program resources for staff (i.e. nature center, supplies)	18.64%	178
Leisure/recreation activities (i.e. hayrides/kayaking/disc golf)	35.60%	340
Program offerings for children pre-K	12.88%	123
Program offerings for children grades K-5	20.94%	200
Program offerings for children grades 5-12	19.27%	184
Sustainability/green living programs	27.02%	258
Arts and crafts programs	14.97%	143
Create new special events	18.32%	175
Day camps	14.14%	135
Environmental education programs	25.55%	244
Gardening programs	20.84%	199
Local history programs	18.64%	178
Outdoor living skills	26.49%	253
Program offerings for adults	21.47%	205
Program offerings for seniors	19.06%	182
Volunteer programs	17.91%	171
Total Respondents: 955		

# Q11 Is there a service you would like to see implemented in the next 5 years at an Elkhart County Park that is not on this list?

Answered: 328 Skipped: 688

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	not sure	8/20/2018 12:44 PM
2	-	8/19/2018 2:58 PM
3	NA	8/16/2018 11:41 AM
4	Camping area	8/16/2018 9:44 AM
5	Once again...SAFETY.	8/15/2018 1:06 AM
6	Paddleboats or bumper boats for families	8/14/2018 11:10 PM
7	No	8/14/2018 9:24 PM
8	Hunting opportunities	8/14/2018 9:06 PM
9	More hands on services for all ages	8/14/2018 6:39 PM
10	No	8/14/2018 6:15 PM
11	No	8/14/2018 5:03 PM
12	Reroute the nature trail, so half the county doesnt feel like your stealing there land!	8/14/2018 4:17 PM
13	No	8/14/2018 4:02 PM
14	No	8/14/2018 3:48 PM
15	No	8/14/2018 2:26 PM
16	no	8/14/2018 9:15 AM
17	None	8/14/2018 9:06 AM
18	No	8/14/2018 9:04 AM
19	No	8/13/2018 9:33 PM
20	Senior activities	8/13/2018 8:39 PM
21	No	8/13/2018 8:32 PM
22	?	8/13/2018 3:40 PM
23	No	8/13/2018 3:10 PM
24	No	8/13/2018 1:58 PM
25	Downtown green spaces	8/13/2018 11:25 AM
26	Improved river conditions... remove any fallen trees, weekly.. from the Goshen Dam to Ox bow... 3 parks are on that route... promote Kayaking!	8/13/2018 10:26 AM
27	Boating of all kinds possible	8/13/2018 10:02 AM
28	Disc GolfNow events	8/13/2018 8:56 AM
29	No	8/12/2018 11:11 PM
30	Would love for the educational events to be way better promoted	8/12/2018 8:27 PM
31	No	8/12/2018 7:38 PM
32	Arboretum with daycamps activities and hands on learning	8/12/2018 7:01 PM
33	Drop off service for canoers and kayakers on the river	8/12/2018 2:14 PM

## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

34	No	8/12/2018 1:05 PM
35	No	8/12/2018 11:49 AM
36	No	8/12/2018 11:20 AM
37	Outdoor climbing course. Improve pumpkin vine nature trail and keep it clear in winter	8/12/2018 10:47 AM
38	Hunting	8/12/2018 2:57 AM
39	Looks great.	8/11/2018 11:24 PM
40	No	8/11/2018 10:19 PM
41	Geo catching	8/11/2018 8:51 PM
42	Rope course similar to edge park at rum village	8/11/2018 6:44 PM
43	More boat/canoe/kayak rentals	8/11/2018 5:09 PM
44	No	8/11/2018 4:39 PM
45	Programs for people with disabilities, peer to peer opportunities	8/11/2018 3:13 PM
46	No	8/11/2018 11:04 AM
47	No	8/11/2018 11:03 AM
48	No	8/10/2018 10:40 PM
49	Trash pickup on various local roads to advertise being more green and respecting our community. Advertise it and promote keeping our resources beautiful. We needn't look any further than County Road 45 outside Oxbow Park. Cleaned up one day. Cups and fast food bags thrown out the windows of motorists the next day.	8/10/2018 8:50 PM
50	Not that I can think of.	8/10/2018 7:58 PM
51	.	8/10/2018 6:11 PM
52	Create sensory and edible gardens	8/10/2018 4:11 PM
53	archery lessons for all ages	8/10/2018 3:06 PM
54	No	8/10/2018 11:59 AM
55	Half marathon/marathon event?	8/10/2018 11:02 AM
56	adventurous trips to nearby places	8/10/2018 10:57 AM
57	no	8/10/2018 10:51 AM
58	No	8/10/2018 8:12 AM
59	no	8/10/2018 7:25 AM
60	No	8/10/2018 5:46 AM
61	None	8/10/2018 4:20 AM
62	Living history events	8/9/2018 11:16 PM
63	Wilderness skills in local forests and waterways	8/9/2018 10:42 PM
64	Green bikes	8/9/2018 9:59 PM
65	No	8/9/2018 9:25 PM
66	No. Except the bathroom not in the back, like Mcnaughton, a dark corner, and filthy!	8/9/2018 9:15 PM
67	No	8/9/2018 8:40 PM
68	Special needs activities	8/9/2018 8:28 PM
69	no	8/9/2018 8:27 PM
70	no	8/9/2018 8:16 PM
71	No	8/9/2018 8:12 PM
72	.	8/9/2018 8:11 PM



# Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

73	Just horse trails with camping	8/9/2018 8:00 PM
74	Camping cabins	8/9/2018 7:43 PM
75	no	8/9/2018 7:35 PM
76	Programs after school	8/9/2018 7:08 PM
77	No	8/9/2018 6:58 PM
78	No	8/9/2018 6:56 PM
79	No	8/9/2018 6:08 PM
80	Specifically more Mt. Bike trails.	8/9/2018 6:04 PM
81	Tubing and cross country skiing	8/9/2018 5:36 PM
82	No	8/9/2018 5:05 PM
83	No	8/9/2018 4:48 PM
84	no	8/9/2018 4:46 PM
85	No	8/9/2018 4:40 PM
86	NO	8/9/2018 4:30 PM
87	American ninja warrior	8/9/2018 1:59 PM
88	No	8/9/2018 1:42 PM
89	Security	8/9/2018 12:49 PM
90	No	8/9/2018 12:42 PM
91	No	8/9/2018 12:08 PM
92	Unsure	8/9/2018 11:41 AM
93	.	8/9/2018 11:28 AM
94	No	8/9/2018 11:14 AM
95	no	8/9/2018 9:25 AM
96	No	8/9/2018 8:09 AM
97	Birding and/or guided educational nature walks	8/9/2018 12:40 AM
98	No	8/8/2018 10:45 PM
99	Add bike trails	8/8/2018 9:03 PM
100	Make a walking trail from the us 33 parking lot at benton through bainter town that would connect to the Goshen Milford trail.	8/8/2018 8:44 PM
101	Not that I can think of.	8/8/2018 8:42 PM
102	More opportunities for geocaching	8/8/2018 8:12 PM
103	Not that I can think of.	8/8/2018 7:31 PM
104	The list looks good.	8/8/2018 4:21 PM
105	No	8/8/2018 3:06 PM
106	Brush/ yard waste / grass drop-off recycling	8/8/2018 2:27 PM
107	Obstacle course for any age for fitness and fun	8/8/2018 1:09 PM
108	Campground	8/8/2018 11:41 AM
109	Green living classes	8/8/2018 11:24 AM
110	more for special kids with handicaps - ours cant always join in with typical kids	8/8/2018 11:09 AM
111	Na	8/8/2018 10:21 AM
112	No	8/8/2018 10:02 AM

## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

113	Connect trails to nappanee	8/8/2018 8:10 AM
114	Let people set up Geocaching events	8/8/2018 7:41 AM
115	Outdoor concert series and more programming.	8/8/2018 7:18 AM
116	A scavenger hunt for adults and kids	8/8/2018 6:16 AM
117	Horse trails	8/8/2018 5:16 AM
118	No	8/8/2018 5:14 AM
119	Gun education	8/8/2018 4:57 AM
120	Easy access to restrooms. We don't use the parks because of that situation	8/8/2018 4:10 AM
121	No	8/8/2018 3:59 AM
122	Programs and transportation for senior adults unable to visit on their own	8/8/2018 3:49 AM
123	No	8/8/2018 2:48 AM
124	No	8/8/2018 1:48 AM
125	Dog area with access to water	8/8/2018 12:14 AM
126	Backpacking classes.	8/7/2018 11:12 PM
127	No	8/7/2018 5:33 PM
128	Recreational Sports teams for all agez	8/7/2018 5:01 PM
129	No	8/7/2018 5:00 PM
130	Electrical and water hook ups for camping	8/7/2018 4:47 PM
131	N.a.	8/7/2018 2:14 PM
132	No	8/7/2018 2:00 PM
133	None	8/7/2018 11:29 AM
134	No	8/7/2018 8:25 AM
135	Please don't add wi-fi in any parks	8/7/2018 8:12 AM
136	No	8/7/2018 7:49 AM
137	Off leash dog park	8/7/2018 7:37 AM
138	More access for children and adults with disabilities	8/7/2018 1:02 AM
139	Equine camping areas with trails	8/7/2018 12:00 AM
140	Not that I can presently think of	8/6/2018 9:10 PM
141	Again, please reopen Elliott Park on CR 16 (Indiana Ave), clean it up, reopen disc golf snd tower, add security.	8/6/2018 8:50 PM
142	No	8/6/2018 8:07 PM
143	Anything for local school children	8/6/2018 7:59 PM
144	No	8/6/2018 7:42 PM
145	No	8/6/2018 3:40 PM
146	More organized activities for teens/challenge courses	8/6/2018 3:30 PM
147	I'd like to see a water safety program for boaters and kayakers	8/6/2018 3:19 PM
148	No	8/6/2018 3:18 PM
149	No	8/6/2018 2:47 PM
150	No	8/6/2018 2:41 PM
151	-	8/6/2018 2:36 PM
152	star watching observatory	8/6/2018 10:56 AM

## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

153	I do not partake in the programs. I generally just take advantage of the area itself...	8/5/2018 8:24 AM
154	Bike events highlighting trails.	8/5/2018 8:19 AM
155	Not really	8/4/2018 10:25 PM
156	NA	8/4/2018 7:42 PM
157	no	8/4/2018 6:13 PM
158	Safety...as in Quaker Trace Trail expansion	8/4/2018 1:09 PM
159	Na	8/4/2018 12:58 PM
160	No	8/3/2018 3:11 PM
161	Try to clear some of the small ponds for fish access	8/3/2018 10:02 AM
162	No	8/3/2018 6:40 AM
163	Sustainability	8/2/2018 6:24 PM
164	We live on a farm with woods and a creek. Have our own park.	8/2/2018 3:44 PM
165	tree/plant identification	8/2/2018 10:09 AM
166	Paddle boarding and yoga.	8/2/2018 9:55 AM
167	Paddle boarding	8/2/2018 9:51 AM
168	Equestrian trails	8/1/2018 8:49 PM
169	no	8/1/2018 3:51 PM
170	equine campsites and trails	8/1/2018 12:59 PM
171	No	8/1/2018 12:40 PM
172	Building up fly fishing interest	8/1/2018 10:37 AM
173	Horse back riding trails	8/1/2018 10:35 AM
174	no	8/1/2018 9:15 AM
175	A way to market and advertise programs without using internet or newspaper.	8/1/2018 9:04 AM
176	No	8/1/2018 8:56 AM
177	Equestrian trails	8/1/2018 8:45 AM
178	Equestrian trails	8/1/2018 8:39 AM
179	Horse trails, please.	8/1/2018 8:30 AM
180	Bird hikes, nature programs, Beaver program, Mill history	8/1/2018 8:23 AM
181	no	8/1/2018 7:44 AM
182	Equestrian Trails	8/1/2018 7:26 AM
183	No	8/1/2018 6:59 AM
184	Antique power and agriculture shows to display antique tractors, autos, and farm equipment at bonneyville.	8/1/2018 6:39 AM
185	Equestrian	7/31/2018 10:47 PM
186	Running groups	7/31/2018 10:29 PM
187	Camping	7/31/2018 10:28 PM
188	No	7/31/2018 2:09 PM
189	Online Registration - Apple Pay	7/31/2018 7:59 AM
190	No	7/30/2018 10:24 PM

## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

191	More educational/interpretive signage. Not necessarily connected to a key event or program, but just for the purpose of increasing awareness on the local diversity of our region (ex. Native plants, bird species, wild edibles, constellations, etc.). This could help the community connect with the unique assets of the county (and beyond) in a much more significant way.	7/30/2018 9:44 PM
192	No.	7/30/2018 8:20 PM
193	no	7/30/2018 8:14 AM
194	Horse riding trails	7/30/2018 6:28 AM
195	EQUESTRIAN TRAILS	7/30/2018 5:58 AM
196	No	7/30/2018 4:04 AM
197	No	7/29/2018 11:12 PM
198	Horse trails	7/29/2018 5:40 PM
199	More parking oxbow entrance	7/29/2018 4:39 PM
200	no	7/29/2018 12:41 PM
201	M	7/29/2018 9:12 AM
202	no	7/29/2018 9:00 AM
203	Bridle trails established.	7/29/2018 2:51 AM
204	no	7/28/2018 3:10 PM
205	Have couple medics when meets are held	7/28/2018 1:52 PM
206	no	7/28/2018 12:25 PM
207	No	7/28/2018 11:56 AM
208	Information on the history and the flora and fauna of each individual park location.	7/28/2018 10:48 AM
209	Equestrian trails	7/28/2018 12:33 AM
210	Add to trails and keep areas natural.	7/27/2018 8:18 PM
211	Some sort of limited (not crowded) camping areas	7/27/2018 5:12 PM
212	Water parks	7/27/2018 11:22 AM
213	I would like to see more parks allowing geocaching and approving the hides. Namely Ox bow	7/27/2018 10:06 AM
214	No	7/27/2018 9:28 AM
215	Senior wellness, trails without obstacles	7/27/2018 8:46 AM
216	Survival guide programs for families with children.	7/26/2018 10:54 PM
217	Editable plant, healing plants, how to pick,store and use!	7/26/2018 10:29 PM
218	Cross country ski rental	7/26/2018 9:45 PM
219	No	7/26/2018 8:11 PM
220	None come to mind	7/26/2018 6:25 PM
221	No	7/26/2018 4:54 PM
222	More disk golf options	7/26/2018 3:19 PM
223	?	7/26/2018 3:08 PM
224	Kayak, canoe and/or paddleboard rental	7/26/2018 3:01 PM
225	Basektball courts, improved soccer fields	7/26/2018 2:32 PM
226	rental services	7/26/2018 2:22 PM
227	No	7/26/2018 1:14 PM
228	No	7/26/2018 10:28 AM
229	No	7/26/2018 10:03 AM

## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

230	Team building experiences for small workgroups.	7/26/2018 10:03 AM
231	no	7/26/2018 8:41 AM
232	Making things and/or educating children on how to use what we find and/or grow in nature. That could include anything from cooking classes to making and using natural dyes, weaving baskets, etc.	7/26/2018 7:55 AM
233	Programs for children with disabilities	7/26/2018 6:25 AM
234	No	7/26/2018 5:48 AM
235	No	7/26/2018 5:43 AM
236	I would like to see a homeschool program implemented!	7/25/2018 11:57 PM
237	No	7/25/2018 11:05 PM
238	N/A	7/25/2018 11:00 PM
239	No	7/25/2018 9:01 PM
240	not that I can think of	7/25/2018 8:28 PM
241	No	7/25/2018 6:25 PM
242	No	7/25/2018 5:41 PM
243	No	7/25/2018 5:30 PM
244	A program that caters to children with special needs	7/25/2018 5:06 PM
245	No	7/25/2018 3:45 PM
246	no	7/25/2018 2:17 PM
247	No	7/25/2018 2:06 PM
248	No	7/25/2018 11:34 AM
249	No	7/25/2018 11:29 AM
250	Equestrian camp	7/25/2018 11:19 AM
251	no	7/25/2018 10:14 AM
252	No	7/25/2018 10:13 AM
253	no	7/25/2018 8:06 AM
254	We would use horse trails regularly	7/25/2018 7:50 AM
255	no	7/25/2018 6:19 AM
256	Horse rentals	7/25/2018 1:51 AM
257	No	7/24/2018 11:50 PM
258	N/a	7/24/2018 10:12 PM
259	No	7/24/2018 9:35 PM
260	Raises/increase in benefits for staff	7/24/2018 8:11 PM
261	No	7/24/2018 7:29 PM
262	No	7/24/2018 5:37 PM
263	No	7/24/2018 5:32 PM
264	More history of various areas & persons who lived in county	7/24/2018 5:04 PM
265	CONNECTED BIKE TRAILS	7/24/2018 3:50 PM
266	k-6 environmental ed, k-6 wellness, nutrition and exercise	7/24/2018 11:53 AM
267	Bike riding and safety instruction for kids learning to ride bikes.	7/23/2018 4:57 PM

## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

268	Collaboration should be HUGE for you...science classes with ETHOS, Life skills with BIKE ELKHART, Kids programs with Boys & Girls Clubs and area school systems, Art classes taught overlooking scenic points by Elkhart Art League or others, etc...be the spaces needed to make other organization's activities better.	7/23/2018 3:06 PM
269	local history programs	7/23/2018 8:55 AM
270	Kayaking/Boating/Canoeing trips from Bannertown to Goshen Dam	7/23/2018 8:01 AM
271	Not sure	7/22/2018 11:08 PM
272	No	7/22/2018 9:34 PM
273	Self contained camping. training around self contained backpacking or bike camping.	7/22/2018 7:59 PM
274	Community adopt a park project...?	7/22/2018 5:53 PM
275	No	7/21/2018 7:22 PM
276	No	7/21/2018 7:03 PM
277	I want to see us really preserve our parks and make them a county priority	7/21/2018 3:55 PM
278	A marathon running race not just a walk race for pumpkinvine.	7/21/2018 3:36 PM
279	No	7/21/2018 1:10 PM
280	No	7/21/2018 11:16 AM
281	No	7/21/2018 9:30 AM
282	NO	7/21/2018 7:58 AM
283	Photography class, unless already offered	7/21/2018 7:53 AM
284	Try to get the schools more involved in the parks through your nature and history programs.	7/21/2018 1:39 AM
285	No	7/21/2018 12:16 AM
286	Building for nature center, offices, auditorium	7/20/2018 7:02 PM
287	No	7/20/2018 2:42 PM
288	Summer lunches for kids	7/20/2018 2:32 PM
289	Bike ride tours around the county	7/20/2018 1:01 PM
290	No	7/20/2018 11:49 AM
291	no-covered	7/20/2018 9:54 AM
292	No	7/20/2018 9:47 AM
293	no	7/20/2018 9:36 AM
294	Botanical Garden & Butterfly House. Food truck festival, this is big in other areas but not around here. I think it would give others the opportunity to really check out the parks.	7/20/2018 9:27 AM
295	NO	7/20/2018 9:25 AM
296	No. I just want to emphasize that I would love a full-time summer camp for my kids in lieu of sending them to a daycare program.	7/20/2018 8:56 AM
297	no	7/20/2018 8:48 AM
298	no	7/20/2018 8:38 AM
299	no	7/20/2018 8:31 AM
300	A more immersive experiences: Example: A Hike with edible local plant hike with identification, collection, preparation, and consumption.	7/20/2018 8:20 AM
301	rowing	7/20/2018 8:16 AM
302	groomed xc ski trails	7/20/2018 8:02 AM
303	live music/concerts at the park i.e. mishawaka parks	7/20/2018 7:46 AM
304	Disc Golf Training	7/20/2018 5:21 AM

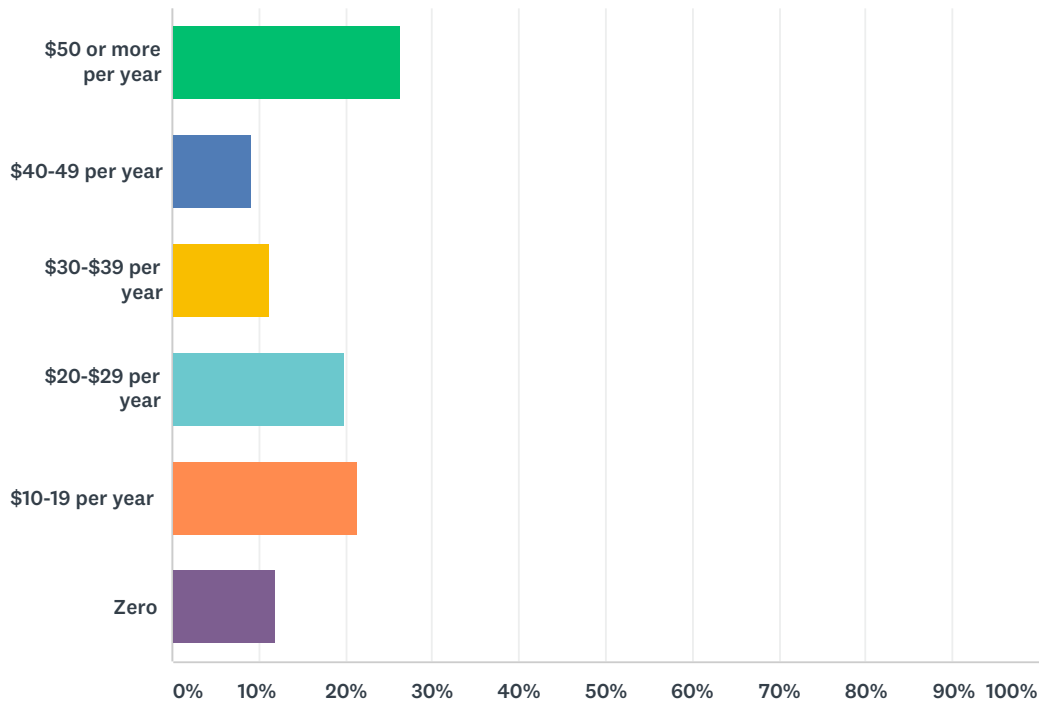
# Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

305	No	7/19/2018 9:12 PM
306	no	7/19/2018 8:16 PM
307	Mountain bike trails	7/19/2018 8:03 PM
308	A County Water Park and or swimming area	7/19/2018 6:31 PM
309	No	7/19/2018 6:03 PM
310	No	7/19/2018 6:03 PM
311	Boat launch near downtown to rent canoes/boats by the hour. St. Joe north of the dam is completely underutilized near downtown!	7/19/2018 5:55 PM
312	Nope, I'm good.	7/19/2018 5:49 PM
313	No	7/19/2018 5:20 PM
314	No	7/19/2018 4:51 PM
315	No.	7/19/2018 4:41 PM
316	L	7/19/2018 4:23 PM
317	No	7/19/2018 1:46 PM
318	I can't think of anything	7/19/2018 12:30 PM
319	No	7/19/2018 6:57 AM
320	No	7/19/2018 6:46 AM
321	N/A	7/18/2018 10:19 PM
322	Music events	7/18/2018 9:27 PM
323	Child/parent classes,learning hands on opportunities	7/18/2018 8:59 PM
324	No	7/18/2018 8:40 PM
325	No	7/18/2018 7:35 PM
326	No	7/18/2018 7:15 PM
327	No	7/18/2018 6:33 PM
328	No	7/18/2018 6:03 PM



**Q12 Costs for maintaining existing parks and adding new facilities may require increased financial support. What is the additional annual amount your household would be willing to pay to improve the Elkhart County Parks?**

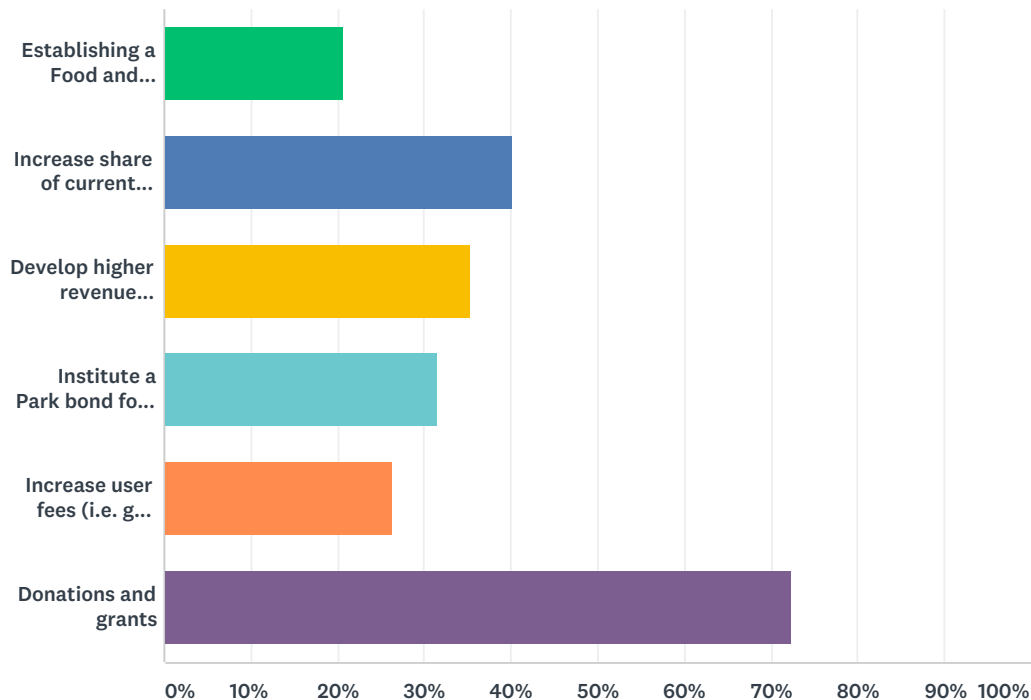
Answered: 961 Skipped: 55



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
\$50 or more per year	26.43%	254
\$40-49 per year	9.16%	88
\$30-\$39 per year	11.24%	108
\$20-\$29 per year	19.88%	191
\$10-19 per year	21.44%	206
Zero	11.86%	114
TOTAL		961

## Q13 To keep up with growing public demands, I would agree to increase support to the Elkhart County Parks through (check all that apply):

Answered: 923 Skipped: 93



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Establishing a Food and Beverage Tax	20.69%	191
Increase share of current tax-appropriated budget	40.09%	370
Develop higher revenue producing activities/facilities	35.43%	327
Institute a Park bond for capital projects	31.53%	291
Increase user fees (i.e. gate & shelter fees)	26.33%	243
Donations and grants	72.48%	669
Total Respondents: 923		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Hire a kid for 6 bucks to mow the trails.	8/19/2018 2:58 PM
2	fund raisers	8/15/2018 7:18 AM
3	Pay to hunt a specific season and date range	8/14/2018 9:06 PM
4	No increase	8/14/2018 2:26 PM
5	If you added horse trails ..you could require a bridle tag	8/14/2018 11:51 AM
6	Organize volunteers for clean up days - Elkhart Community Schools	8/13/2018 10:34 PM
7	enforce current park pass programs for photographers.	8/12/2018 7:44 PM
8	More affordable programs for kids to do. More people would join if they could afford it.	8/11/2018 10:19 PM

## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

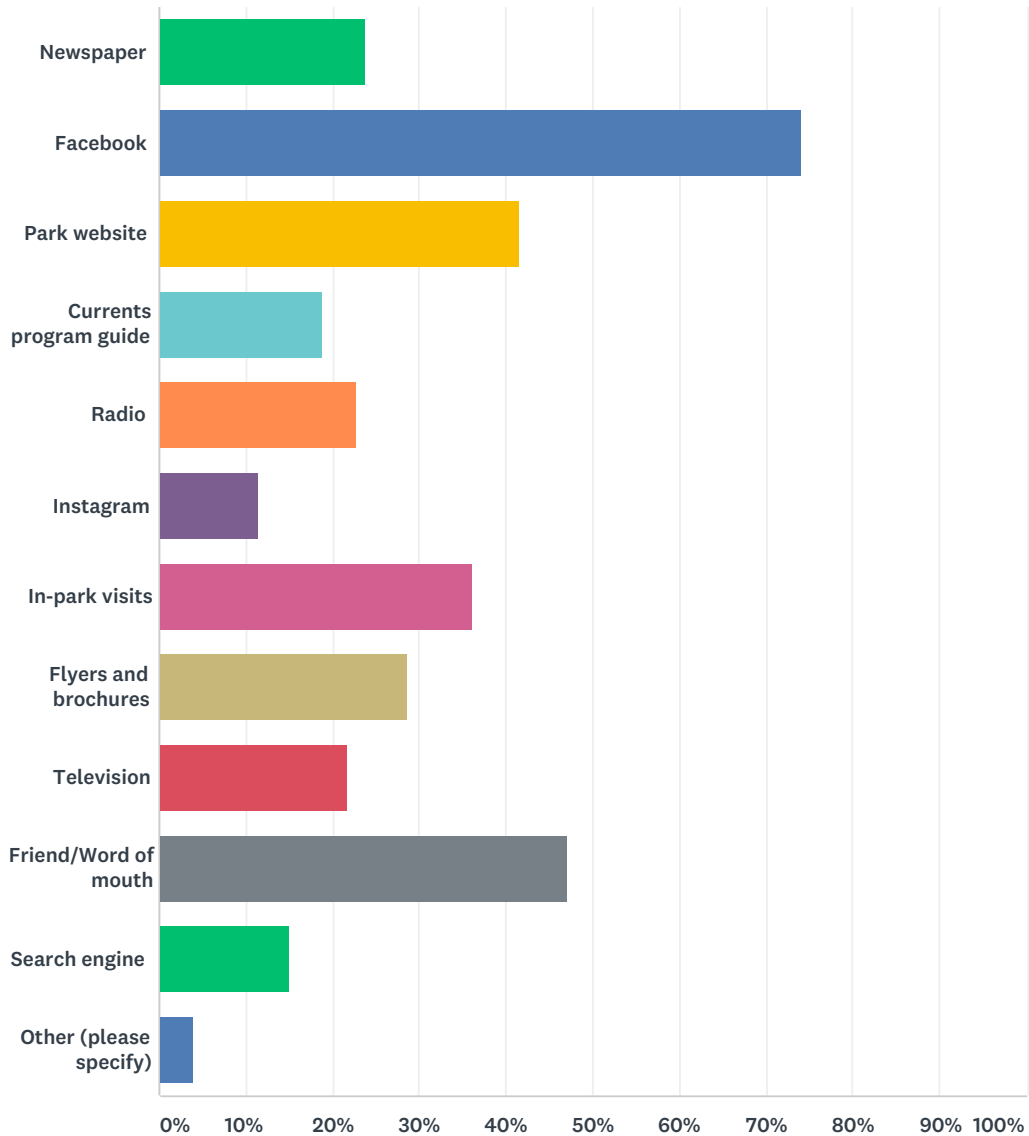
9	Budget the money you already have and if adding programs then look at Charge for the service that's being provided?	8/11/2018 6:44 PM
10	A small park use fee in vehicle registration.	8/10/2018 11:59 AM
11	Community Foundation grants	8/10/2018 11:27 AM
12	Bring events like rendezvous, celtic festivals and art shows to the larger parks.	8/10/2018 8:46 AM
13	live with in your means	8/9/2018 8:11 PM
14	Paying a fee for using horse trails	8/9/2018 8:00 PM
15	See previous answer. Vote to change tax laws so counties schools and libraries had better funding.	8/9/2018 7:11 PM
16	Oxbow was a good park. Now they employ too many people, draining funds to maintain oxbow (mulch on trails, upkeep	8/9/2018 6:24 PM
17	Throw a benefit or party in the park to generate revenue and give back to the community at the same time.	8/8/2018 10:45 PM
18	I don't live in Elkhart County, so I might be willing to pay a small gate fee.	8/8/2018 8:12 PM
19	Talk to local businesses for sponsorship	8/8/2018 3:59 AM
20	Consider hosting a fundraiser; it would take some planning and effort on behalf of your team, but could aide your projects and 5 year plan so that park-goers will not be penalized.	8/7/2018 5:01 PM
21	We don't need anymore taxes. Goshen schools have already put a strain on us in the next time taxes are due.	8/7/2018 10:15 AM
22	Offer equine camping and trails for a fee	8/7/2018 12:00 AM
23	Add special events with higher fees like festivals/concerts	8/6/2018 3:30 PM
24	Streamline government	8/6/2018 10:22 AM
25	Fee for trail use tags. A yearly tag for bikes and equines to use trails.	8/5/2018 7:40 AM
26	Fund raiser activity	8/4/2018 1:09 PM
27	Provide seasonal pass for a set dollar amount	8/4/2018 9:26 AM
28	fund raisers/public events	8/3/2018 10:06 AM
29	Events pulbic	8/3/2018 10:00 AM
30	charge more for large groups who reserve the whole park for the whole day	8/3/2018 8:29 AM
31	Not in county	8/2/2018 10:23 PM
32	Host events to raise money	8/2/2018 3:11 PM
33	Enforce fines for violations in parks. Sub-contract work to private companies. Increase volunteers. Hold fundraisers for specific needs. Create a park store and website to sell souvenirs, bait, food, snacks, supplies. Sell naming rights to buildings, benches, tables, events, etc. involve service clubs to help with improvements and maintenance projects	8/1/2018 6:39 AM
34	Volunteers	7/31/2018 10:47 PM
35	Increase annual pass fee	7/31/2018 4:23 PM
36	Corporate sponsorships of pavilions/shelters, access sites, special projects	7/31/2018 10:34 AM
37	I would like to have a dog park closer to where I live (near the hospital) and would be willing to pay a membership fee to join	7/30/2018 10:24 PM
38	Anything other than user fees at gates...low income families would not be able to access wide open natural spaces.	7/28/2018 3:10 PM
39	INCREASE VOLUNTEER AWARENESS AND ACCESS!! CREATE STUDIES AND GET GRANTS PUBLIC SPONSORSHIPS AN VOLUNTEERS. SENIOR CITIZENS TOO!	7/26/2018 10:29 PM
40	An annual parks pass might be the way to go. I would purchase one for our family if it were \$70 or less.	7/26/2018 7:55 AM

## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

41	Charge for day use horseback riding	7/25/2018 10:13 AM
42	Please please do not raise taxes. Concord taxes are killing us	7/24/2018 9:35 PM
43	Community Foundation of Elkhart County	7/23/2018 10:19 AM
44	Eliminate property tax cap. Raise taxes using whatever is available. Don't add user fees.	7/22/2018 7:59 PM
45	The parks make our community healthier & I want it to available to all economic levels	7/21/2018 3:55 PM
46	Have an annual fund raiser.	7/21/2018 1:39 AM
47	Dont increase gate fees or program fees	7/21/2018 1:33 AM
48	User fees should remain as low as possible to make use available to all	7/20/2018 11:49 AM
49	There are grants available and more could possibly be accessed with grant writing training for parks staff to reduce the cost to the public and encourage more to be active with the parks which could also generate more revenue but at the same time be more accessible to all.	7/20/2018 10:41 AM
50	I believe there is a great number of people who would do more organized runs (5K, 10k etc) and bike rides if offered	7/20/2018 9:53 AM
51	none	7/20/2018 8:31 AM
52	Nominal program fees \$1-2 per family	7/20/2018 7:45 AM
53	Fund raising events and concerts	7/20/2018 5:21 AM
54	I think implementing a yearly County park pass made available on your vehicle registration / or annual pass would be beneficial.	7/19/2018 6:03 PM
55	Festival/events charge small fee to cover expenses.	7/19/2018 5:55 PM
56	Yearly membership pass at reasonable cost instead of per visit	7/18/2018 8:59 PM
57	Charge out of county residents a higher gate fee and shelter fee. Like St. Joe. county does.	7/18/2018 8:48 PM
58	Not sure. Right now, we can not add to our finances, but not sure of ways to still enjoy the parks and improve them at the same time.	7/18/2018 8:43 PM

## Q14 How are you most likely to learn about the Elkhart County Parks facilities and programs? (check all that apply)

Answered: 981 Skipped: 35



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Newspaper	23.85%	234
Facebook	74.01%	726
Park website	41.59%	408
Currents program guide	18.76%	184
Radio	22.83%	224
Instagram	11.42%	112
In-park visits	36.19%	355

## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

Flyers and brochures	28.64%	281
Television	21.81%	214
Friend/Word of mouth	46.99%	461
Search engine	14.98%	147
Other (please specify)	4.08%	40
Total Respondents: 981		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Subscribe to email list	8/18/2018 7:34 AM
2	Greater Elkhart chamber of commerce	8/14/2018 9:06 AM
3	Emails to Indiana Master Naturalist	8/13/2018 8:39 PM
4	Needs more PR	8/12/2018 10:10 PM
5	My daughter has worked for the Parks Department at the ice rink and McNaughton spray park.	8/12/2018 1:05 PM
6	Currently I only know by in park visits or word of mouth. Would be nice to see more from Elkhart county parks on social media and in print like Middlebury magazine.	8/12/2018 10:47 AM
7	Twitter	8/11/2018 8:51 PM
8	local library	8/10/2018 10:25 PM
9	Sure can't learn anything from the Elkhart Truth.	8/10/2018 9:38 AM
10	Email. Develop email, facebook, instagram alerts for programs abd events	8/10/2018 8:25 AM
11	Friends of the Pumpkinvine	8/10/2018 8:12 AM
12	Email	8/9/2018 8:12 PM
13	Twitter	8/9/2018 5:36 PM
14	Enews, etruth.com	8/8/2018 9:03 PM
15	I just find things out for myself	8/8/2018 8:44 PM
16	Elkhart parks vintage base ball team news	8/8/2018 8:12 PM
17	Instagram	8/8/2018 11:24 AM
18	Master Naturalist emails	8/7/2018 9:46 AM
19	Spanish speaking radios	8/6/2018 2:36 PM
20	I get the quarterly (I believe) magazine(or whatever you want to call it) Current I believe it's called...	8/5/2018 8:24 AM
21	Email of info would be great	8/1/2018 11:50 AM
22	I don't but wish I could	8/1/2018 9:04 AM
23	The Farmer's Exchange	8/1/2018 8:19 AM
24	Signage at parks, museum	8/1/2018 6:39 AM
25	Emails from mailing list	7/31/2018 7:59 AM
26	i hate TV and Newspaper,a also not on facebook	7/29/2018 12:41 PM
27	email newsletter subscription	7/29/2018 9:00 AM
28	Goshen City emails.	7/28/2018 12:10 PM
29	Email and or text	7/27/2018 5:12 PM
30	Any printed materials at the library	7/26/2018 7:55 AM
31	park staff at one site recommending something at another site	7/25/2018 8:28 PM

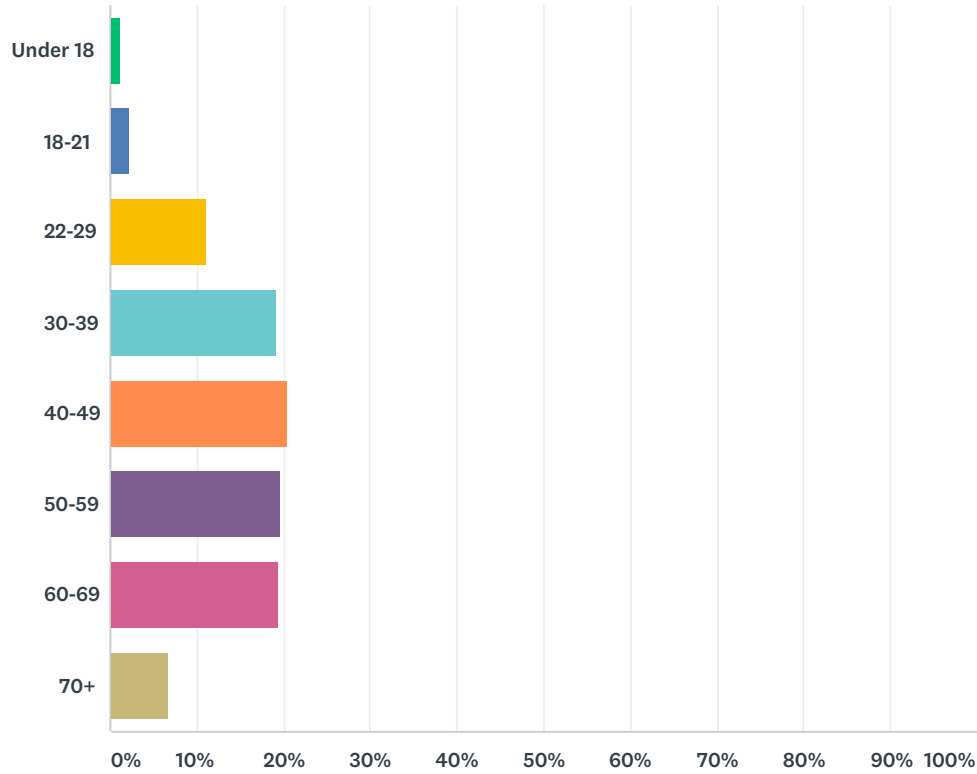
## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

32	Master Naturalists Program	7/24/2018 6:39 PM
33	billboards	7/23/2018 3:06 PM
34	Email	7/23/2018 10:19 AM
35	Good of Goshen team email blast. What's happening in Goshen weekly email. The county could benefit from using this same tool or replicating it.	7/22/2018 7:59 PM
36	Coffee news	7/21/2018 3:00 PM
37	Would love to see the Currents brochure delivered before the new programs in it begin.	7/21/2018 11:09 AM
38	Emailed newsletter	7/20/2018 1:01 PM
39	county wide email, I am a county employee	7/20/2018 8:31 AM
40	Email when signing up for annual membership	7/18/2018 6:03 PM



## Q15 What is your age:

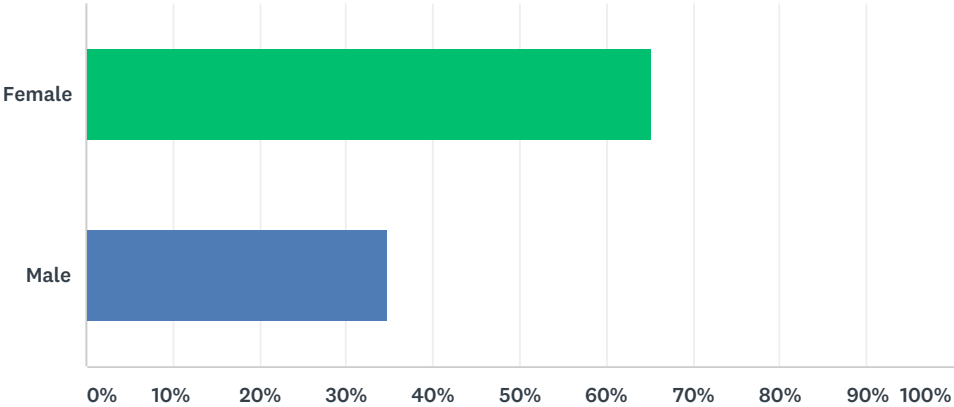
Answered: 988 Skipped: 28



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 18	1.21%	12
18-21	2.23%	22
22-29	11.03%	109
30-39	19.23%	190
40-49	20.45%	202
50-59	19.64%	194
60-69	19.43%	192
70+	6.78%	67
TOTAL		988

Q16 What is your gender?

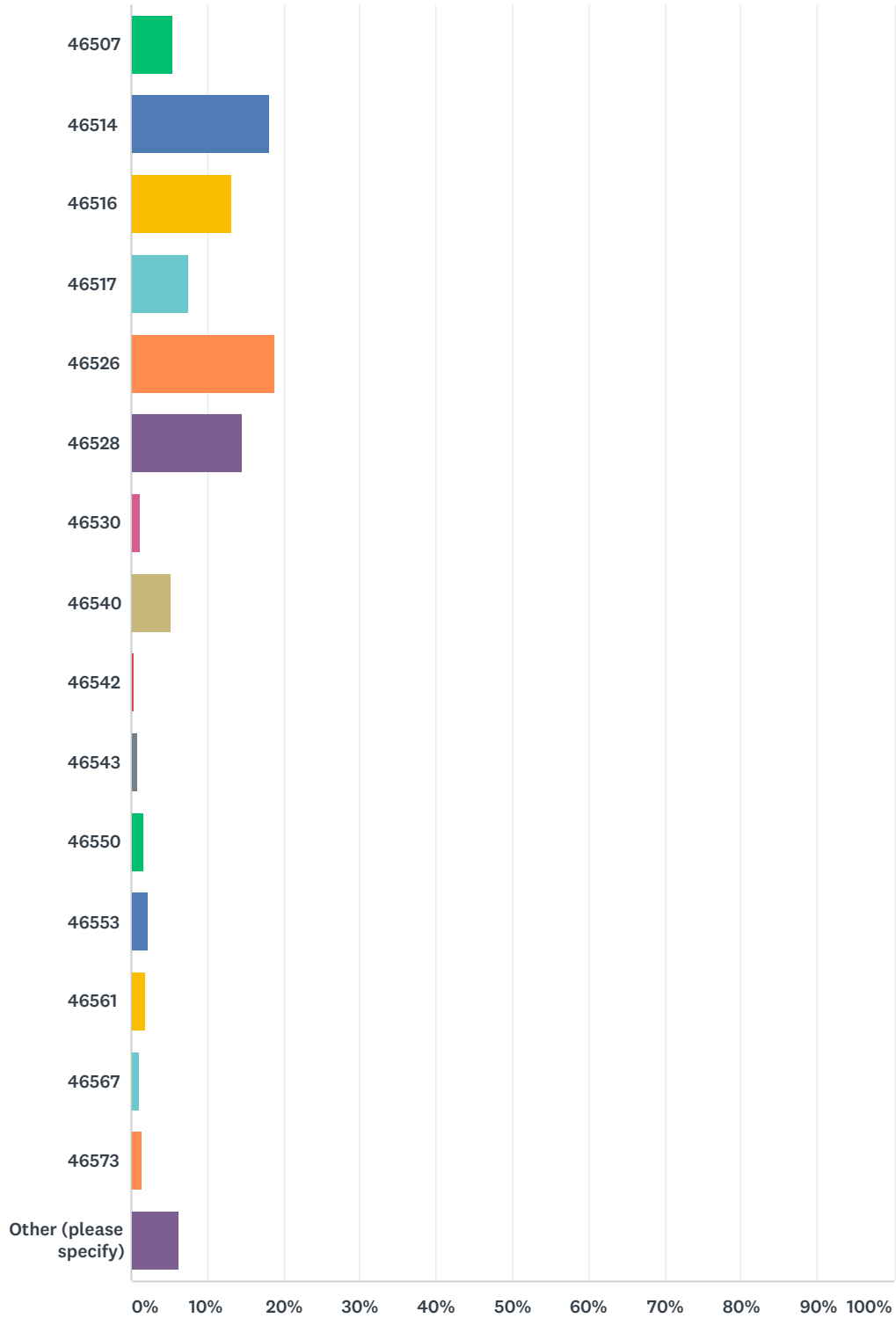
Answered: 980    Skipped: 36



ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES
Female		65.20% 639
Male		34.80% 341
TOTAL		980

## Q17 In what ZIP code is your home located?

Answered: 949 Skipped: 67



### ANSWER CHOICES

46507

### RESPONSES

5.48%

52

# Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

46514	18.23%	173
46516	13.17%	125
46517	7.59%	72
46526	18.86%	179
46528	14.54%	138
46530	1.26%	12
46540	5.27%	50
46542	0.42%	4
46543	0.74%	7
46550	1.58%	15
46553	2.32%	22
46561	1.79%	17
46567	0.95%	9
46573	1.48%	14
Other (please specify)	6.32%	60
TOTAL		949

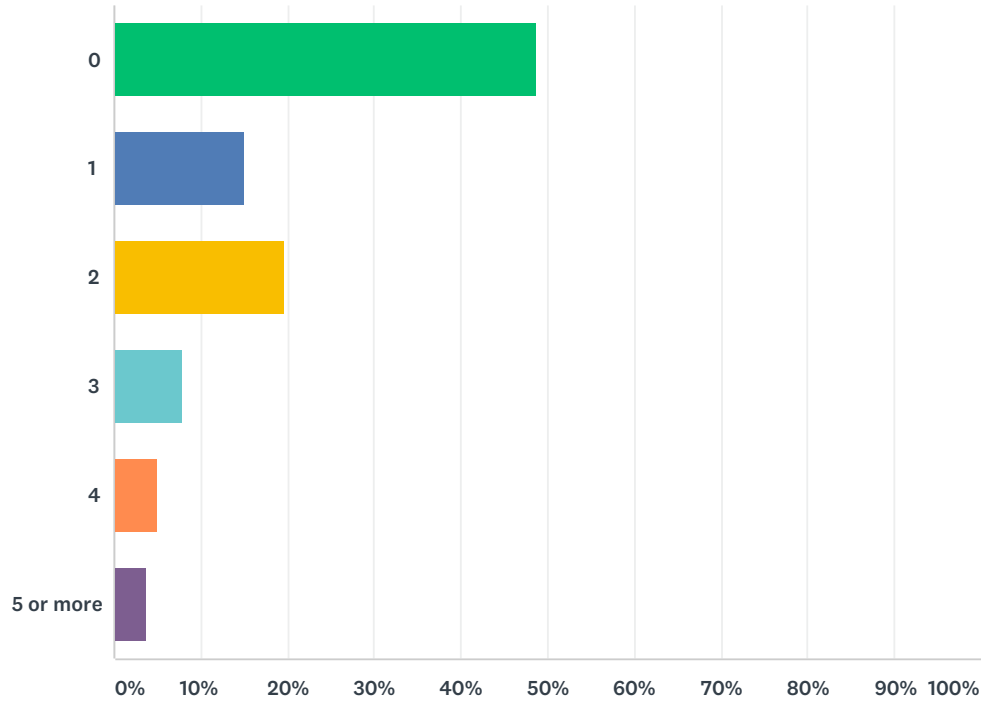
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	46347	8/20/2018 12:44 PM
2	46544	8/13/2018 3:10 PM
3	46767	8/12/2018 11:20 AM
4	46540	8/12/2018 2:57 AM
5	46565	8/11/2018 11:03 AM
6	49099 MI	8/10/2018 8:12 PM
7	43506	8/10/2018 6:44 AM
8	46383	8/9/2018 9:05 PM
9	46761	8/9/2018 6:41 PM
10	46635	8/9/2018 1:48 PM
11	46805	8/8/2018 8:12 PM
12	46808	8/7/2018 9:26 AM
13	46527	8/6/2018 2:24 PM
14	46552	8/6/2018 2:07 PM
15	46767	8/6/2018 10:26 AM
16	46504	8/6/2018 10:16 AM
17	46750	8/3/2018 8:44 AM
18	46750	8/3/2018 8:38 AM
19	46805	8/3/2018 8:22 AM
20	46637	8/2/2018 10:36 PM

# Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

21	46613	8/2/2018 10:23 PM
22	46614	8/2/2018 6:24 PM
23	46504	8/2/2018 3:38 PM
24	46504	8/2/2018 3:34 PM
25	46504	8/2/2018 3:24 PM
26	49130	8/2/2018 11:13 AM
27	46256	8/2/2018 10:05 AM
28	49095	8/2/2018 10:01 AM
29	46615	8/2/2018 9:45 AM
30	46544	8/2/2018 8:23 AM
31	46544	8/2/2018 8:20 AM
32	49099 - white Pigeon address but only 3 miles from Bristol	8/1/2018 7:19 PM
33	49099 - white Pigeon address but only 3 miles from Bristol	8/1/2018 7:19 PM
34	46536	8/1/2018 9:13 AM
35	49112	7/30/2018 4:04 AM
36	49112	7/29/2018 9:12 AM
37	01701	7/27/2018 7:54 PM
38	01701	7/27/2018 7:54 PM
39	33919	7/26/2018 5:17 PM
40	F46574	7/26/2018 1:38 PM
41	49091	7/26/2018 8:33 AM
42	46554	7/25/2018 9:47 PM
43	49031	7/25/2018 5:18 PM
44	46383	7/25/2018 2:17 PM
45	46069	7/25/2018 2:06 PM
46	46761	7/25/2018 10:14 AM
47	46619	7/25/2018 10:13 AM
48	46575	7/25/2018 10:03 AM
49	49242	7/23/2018 5:13 PM
50	49091	7/23/2018 12:02 PM
51	Out of region	7/22/2018 3:48 PM
52	46615	7/22/2018 1:53 PM
53	46628	7/21/2018 9:30 AM
54	46544	7/20/2018 9:54 AM
55	49031	7/20/2018 9:38 AM
56	46544	7/20/2018 9:31 AM
57	46637	7/20/2018 8:10 AM
58	46617	7/19/2018 8:03 PM
59	46545	7/19/2018 3:59 PM
60	46614	7/19/2018 3:52 PM

## Q18 How many members of your household are under 18?

Answered: 981 Skipped: 35



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
0	48.73%	478
1	15.09%	148
2	19.57%	192
3	7.85%	77
4	5.10%	50
5 or more	3.67%	36
TOTAL		981

## Q19 What other suggestions do you have for improving the Elkhart County Parks?

Answered: 361 Skipped: 655

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	not sure	8/20/2018 12:44 PM
2	Would love to see county wide bike system (bike lane) connecting all parks and trails	8/20/2018 11:37 AM
3	-	8/19/2018 2:58 PM
4	When I'm walking I find garbage, but no cans nearby to place it. More garbage cans in parks.	8/16/2018 11:41 AM
5	Keeping the park property as natural as possible and not so much as a city park area	8/16/2018 9:44 AM
6	First take care of what is in place before biting off more.	8/16/2018 8:45 AM
7	SAFETY	8/15/2018 1:06 AM
8	Wifi and hangouts for teens	8/14/2018 11:10 PM
9	More handicap accessible restrooms, perhaps at each shelter?	8/14/2018 9:43 PM
10	Weekly clean up	8/14/2018 9:24 PM
11	Fishing Access	8/14/2018 9:06 PM
12	More hands on activities for all ages and more walking trails. Interactive things for all ages.	8/14/2018 6:39 PM
13	Encourage trash removal on trail	8/14/2018 6:15 PM
14	Keep them clean!	8/14/2018 5:03 PM
15	Make them more natural like oxbow or bonneyville	8/14/2018 4:17 PM
16	More restrooms	8/14/2018 4:02 PM
17	Restrooms	8/14/2018 3:48 PM
18	Clear waterways	8/14/2018 2:26 PM
19	Misting centers for hot days ☺	8/14/2018 11:01 AM
20	More shade	8/14/2018 9:30 AM
21	none	8/14/2018 9:15 AM
22	None	8/14/2018 9:06 AM
23	Have more like baugo and cobus creek with the trails and water	8/14/2018 9:04 AM
24	Keep up the great work!	8/13/2018 9:33 PM
25	None	8/13/2018 8:39 PM
26	Better campgrounds with full service. I mean, we do make all the RV's in this area	8/13/2018 8:32 PM
27	More information	8/13/2018 3:40 PM
28	None	8/13/2018 3:10 PM
29	More programs	8/13/2018 1:58 PM
30	River safety, promotion of kayaking as a form of exercise and relaxation, in a undiscovered venue...	8/13/2018 10:26 AM
31	Safety is such a big concern for me. I sometimes don't feel safe in the parks, which may not be able to be helped, but maybe there are certain measures that could be taken to give visitors more peace of mind.	8/13/2018 12:32 AM
32	More Facebook feeds.	8/12/2018 10:10 PM



## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

33	None	8/12/2018 8:37 PM
34	Try having clean up party's with restaurants very local to said parks. If given the opportunity, I know how to set those things up.	8/12/2018 8:27 PM
35	Sweep the maplehart trail more often between CR.17 & Hively Avenue.	8/12/2018 7:38 PM
36	Plant more Milkweed for Monarchs	8/12/2018 7:01 PM
37	Strenous hiking program. Current one is a nice offering for beginners, but not very challenging for anyone else	8/12/2018 2:14 PM
38	Keep them affordable.	8/12/2018 11:49 AM
39	more kid friendly	8/12/2018 11:40 AM
40	Just better upkeep of trails.	8/12/2018 11:20 AM
41	Keep pumpkinvine nature trail clear in winter. Improve Bonneyville trails...especially where it flooded. Can't run to ebby pines from the mill anymore....have been able to all summer...too muddy.	8/12/2018 10:47 AM
42	Bow Hunting	8/12/2018 2:57 AM
43	Please continue to support mountain biking within the parks. Bonneyville Mill is fantastic.	8/11/2018 11:24 PM
44	More exciting things to do, more security so people don't trash the parks, more affordable for family's who want to join programs.	8/11/2018 10:19 PM
45	Allow geo catching	8/11/2018 8:51 PM
46	Add kid friendly items	8/11/2018 6:44 PM
47	N/a	8/11/2018 4:39 PM
48	Yearly resident pass that works at all parks? I haven't checked if you already do this or not.	8/11/2018 3:13 PM
49	None	8/11/2018 11:04 AM
50	None	8/11/2018 11:03 AM
51	None	8/10/2018 10:40 PM
52	Stock bass in lakes. Maybe have public buy a season pass for all parks in Elkhart county	8/10/2018 9:02 PM
53	None, you guys do a great job.	8/10/2018 8:50 PM
54	Have a free day each week to oxbow.	8/10/2018 8:37 PM
55	Feed stations for wildlife. Would like to see more deer and Turkey while visiting	8/10/2018 8:13 PM
56	None.	8/10/2018 7:58 PM
57	.	8/10/2018 6:11 PM
58	Create a botanic, edible, water and sensory garden and have music like Vibe Nation	8/10/2018 4:11 PM
59	more water fountains	8/10/2018 3:06 PM
60	No	8/10/2018 11:59 AM
61	We love the parks, we just dont know much about them besides OxBow (which we live within walking distance) and Bonneville.	8/10/2018 10:51 AM
62	Get the word out about what is offered.	8/10/2018 9:38 AM
63	Clear areas near waters to fish. Many ideal fishing spots are weed choked. Place swings near waterways also, porch type	8/10/2018 9:14 AM
64	Onsite ranger/staff visits to deter bad behaviour.	8/10/2018 8:46 AM
65	Don't overdo. Leave as natural as you possibly can.	8/10/2018 8:41 AM
66	None	8/10/2018 8:12 AM
67	no	8/10/2018 7:25 AM
68	None	8/10/2018 5:46 AM

## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

69	None	8/10/2018 4:20 AM
70	Just continue to make sure citizens needs are met at a quality level.	8/10/2018 3:52 AM
71	None	8/9/2018 11:16 PM
72	Engage the community with volunteer opportunities. Free county park access for a year for x amount of volunteer time.?	8/9/2018 10:42 PM
73	None	8/9/2018 9:25 PM
74	More programs in OxBow that attract adults	8/9/2018 8:40 PM
75	sweep up bird poop on sidewlks	8/9/2018 8:40 PM
76	na	8/9/2018 8:27 PM
77	More shelters, benches and additional activities.	8/9/2018 8:24 PM
78	Bathroom	8/9/2018 8:22 PM
79	none	8/9/2018 8:16 PM
80	None	8/9/2018 8:12 PM
81	.	8/9/2018 8:11 PM
82	Safer bike access to OxBow	8/9/2018 8:04 PM
83	Just creating horse riding trails.	8/9/2018 8:00 PM
84	Keep them clean and manicured.	8/9/2018 7:43 PM
85	none	8/9/2018 7:35 PM
86	Keep improving	8/9/2018 7:08 PM
87	None	8/9/2018 6:58 PM
88	None	8/9/2018 6:56 PM
89	There needs to free parking again at oxbow.	8/9/2018 6:24 PM
90	?	8/9/2018 6:08 PM
91	More Mt. Bike trails.	8/9/2018 6:04 PM
92	Outdoor conce venue & water feature	8/9/2018 5:36 PM
93	Great job	8/9/2018 5:09 PM
94	None	8/9/2018 4:48 PM
95	need a indoor place for weddings and receptions	8/9/2018 4:46 PM
96	No	8/9/2018 4:40 PM
97	None	8/9/2018 4:30 PM
98	Use events like color runs to bring in revenue	8/9/2018 1:59 PM
99	Keep doing a great job!	8/9/2018 1:42 PM
100	There is so much drug activity, and perafanalina in the parks. Cameras, park security patrols, and lighting might help.	8/9/2018 12:49 PM
101	None	8/9/2018 12:42 PM
102	None	8/9/2018 12:08 PM
103	Kayak rentals?	8/9/2018 11:41 AM
104	.	8/9/2018 11:28 AM
105	Micro parks in overlooked neighbor hoods in the county.	8/9/2018 10:15 AM
106	Quaker Trace	8/9/2018 10:09 AM
107	Inclusiveness	8/9/2018 9:53 AM

# Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

108	none	8/9/2018 9:25 AM
109	None	8/9/2018 8:09 AM
110	Keep up the great work!	8/9/2018 12:40 AM
111	Focus on what we have and make it more accessible and inviting.	8/8/2018 10:45 PM
112	Keep the trails clear... mapleheart trail gets covered with debris frequently.	8/8/2018 9:41 PM
113	More bike trails	8/8/2018 9:03 PM
114	Better restrooms	8/8/2018 8:48 PM
115	Your doing a good job with what you got.	8/8/2018 8:44 PM
116	See comment above about improving trail maintenance.	8/8/2018 8:42 PM
117	N/A	8/8/2018 7:31 PM
118	Partnership / Volunteer engagement and school visits outreach	8/8/2018 4:36 PM
119	more boat/fishing access	8/8/2018 4:33 PM
120	More Artsy, Hippie Fest sorts of activities. Beer tents are always a plus!	8/8/2018 4:21 PM
121	None	8/8/2018 3:06 PM
122	Provide access to Oxbow from either Oxbow school or River Manor subdivison via Spring Creek Trail	8/8/2018 2:27 PM
123	Improve Play area and put exercise equipment near playgrounds	8/8/2018 1:09 PM
124	None	8/8/2018 11:41 AM
125	Parks with more water access	8/8/2018 11:24 AM
126	more bathrooms that arent outhouses	8/8/2018 11:09 AM
127	Na	8/8/2018 10:21 AM
128	None	8/8/2018 10:02 AM
129	Allow more geocaching	8/8/2018 9:04 AM
130	More water sports	8/8/2018 8:10 AM
131	Just putting a facility or park on C.R. 3 just south of Jimtown High school.	8/8/2018 7:18 AM
132	To have more like splash pads or swimming area for kids and adults	8/8/2018 6:16 AM
133	Horse trails	8/8/2018 5:16 AM
134	None	8/8/2018 5:14 AM
135	It might sound crazy but having a visible playground near the entrance or adding a splash pad would be great. The parks are so big - I don't know where things are. Bathrooms and parking situations also need improvement. Take a look at mishawaka parks. There is a splash pad and great play structure in every neighborhood. Goshen parks are another great example. We drive all over for a great clean/safe playground that has clean restrooms nearby. Splash pad is a bonus but that is what my kids love now.	8/8/2018 4:10 AM
136	Have a stargazing area	8/8/2018 3:59 AM
137	Greater promotion of the value of walking benefits for health sake and of Bonneyville Park	8/8/2018 3:49 AM
138	None	8/8/2018 2:48 AM
139	Expand the rugged hiking trails? The "deep woods" back country feel	8/8/2018 1:48 AM
140	None	8/8/2018 12:14 AM
141	More trails.	8/7/2018 11:12 PM
142	Kid play area	8/7/2018 10:36 PM
143	Thank you for all you do to support our parks ??????	8/7/2018 5:01 PM
144	Zip line	8/7/2018 5:00 PM

## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

145	N.a.	8/7/2018 2:14 PM
146	None	8/7/2018 2:00 PM
147	Get more funding to keep existing facilities and areas nice.	8/7/2018 11:29 AM
148	Easier process and reduced fees for doing portrait photography in the parks. It's currently too expensive and the process is too cumbersome for the parks to be a realistic option for doing family portrait shoots.	8/7/2018 10:26 AM
149	Give Krista, Andy & Courtney raises! They are an awesome resource!	8/7/2018 9:46 AM
150	I think the marketing and promotion needs to really be improved. I often have no idea what's going on in the community and I think that is because popular communication avenues are not used. It seems as though there is a change in the process, but it has been very frustrating. We moved to Elkhart from Goshen where there are fantastic parks, events, activities for kids, etc. And they are easy to read/hear about. I've been disappointed in the offerings from Elkhart but appreciate this opportunity to let my voice be heard and hope for change.	8/7/2018 9:41 AM
151	try to reach hispanic community with bilingual programs.	8/7/2018 9:38 AM
152	Bikes for riding	8/7/2018 8:12 AM
153	None	8/7/2018 7:49 AM
154	None!	8/6/2018 10:31 PM
155	Limit playgrounds. Nature is its own playground. And please oh PLEASE no splash pads! Also, I selected "registration is difficult" only because the form wouldn't allow me to move on without selecting something. Registration is not difficult, however being able to register and pay online would make my life a bit simpler.	8/6/2018 9:10 PM
156	None	8/6/2018 8:07 PM
157	We love ox bow park. We support any improvements to this park	8/6/2018 7:59 PM
158	Open bonnyville mill during more hours	8/6/2018 6:45 PM
159	More teen activities PLEASE!! Open Ox-Bow earlier so trails can be used before work. 9am is too late. 7:00-7:30 would be great and more would use.	8/6/2018 3:30 PM
160	Get locals excited about the water we have available in the county	8/6/2018 3:19 PM
161	We love our parks and visit Oxbow and Cobus often. The trails are well maintained, parks are very clean. We'd love to see them utilized more!	8/6/2018 3:18 PM
162	None	8/6/2018 2:47 PM
163	N/A	8/6/2018 2:41 PM
164	Cultural and linguistic relevance is important if the parks want the participation and support of Latinx families.	8/6/2018 2:36 PM
165	Add Quaker Trace Trail to park system	8/5/2018 10:09 AM
166	Linked multi use trails for hikers, bikers and equestrians. Trails should be linked to parks, and towns within the county. If the trails are there people will use them.	8/5/2018 7:40 AM
167	Our parks are good. Would like to see a county parking in the Wakarusa, Nappanee area.	8/4/2018 10:25 PM
168	Use tax revenue. Low income families can't afford high entry fees.	8/4/2018 8:08 PM
169	Continue to establish/connect trail infrastructure	8/4/2018 7:42 PM
170	LOVE THE BIKE PATHS (Maple Heart, Pumpkinevine, Mill Race) and would love to see Quaker Trace Trail happen	8/4/2018 3:13 PM
171	Continued w/ the QTT to Bristol. Thank you.	8/4/2018 1:09 PM
172	Na	8/4/2018 12:58 PM
173	More handicap accessible, i.e. scooter friendly, paved or hardened surface.	8/4/2018 9:26 AM
174	Clean, modernized bathrooms	8/3/2018 3:11 PM
175	Ranger patrols or sheriff's officers to keep children in line	8/3/2018 1:56 PM

## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

176	with enhancing facilities incorporate sustainable practices such as green roofs or areas to compost.	8/3/2018 9:35 AM
177	A weekly/monthly schedule to show parks being used by groups. I often travel to Ox Bow to walk and find a large school or business group so I turn around and leave.	8/3/2018 8:29 AM
178	N/A	8/3/2018 6:40 AM
179	Keep up the good work	8/2/2018 6:24 PM
180	Add more walking trails solely for running/walking. Add dog park in open area with walking trails	8/2/2018 3:52 PM
181	Better advertising for events. We find out afterwards when news covers the event	8/2/2018 3:41 PM
182	Volunteer work	8/2/2018 3:11 PM
183	More places to trail ride horses	8/2/2018 11:13 AM
184	more advertising, school programs	8/2/2018 11:03 AM
185	Later closing hours across the board	8/2/2018 10:12 AM
186	access for equestrians on the Pumpkin Vine Trail as was the original plan	8/2/2018 10:09 AM
187	Cobus Creek is a beautiful place, I love it all. Not sure about others.	8/2/2018 8:48 AM
188	Put soccer goals/futsal goals under basketball hoops so you can either play soccer or basketball. Please!! We need to improve soccer.	8/2/2018 8:29 AM
189	Live music.	8/1/2018 3:30 PM
190	I enjoy basic - more nature, trails; less structures.	8/1/2018 3:17 PM
191	none	8/1/2018 12:59 PM
192	Create bigger better playscape at Cobus Creek, add splash pad	8/1/2018 12:40 PM
193	None	8/1/2018 10:37 AM
194	Volunteering for cleanup	8/1/2018 10:35 AM
195	Better, bigger playgrounds would attract more families! Most ox bow playgrounds could use renovations!	8/1/2018 8:56 AM
196	Just get us a place for horseback riding. There's a place for everyone else, except horses.	8/1/2018 8:45 AM
197	Make yearly pass able to be used for all vehicles owned by same person	8/1/2018 8:39 AM
198	We would love to see horse riding trails more local to us!	8/1/2018 8:05 AM
199	more splash pads walker park has a huge area for one and needs updated playgrounds	8/1/2018 7:44 AM
200	Make it more fun	8/1/2018 6:59 AM
201	Keep them accessible at low cost. Encourage pride of ownership of parks by county residents. Keep the parks safe, clean and free of crime.	8/1/2018 6:39 AM
202	More flexible gate hours. Some of the park gates are closed all winter, even though the weather may be 50 degrees and sunny. Also, my wife and I have a running joke, about the park gates being closed too early, even when there may be a full hour of sunlight left.	8/1/2018 1:06 AM
203	Equestrian	7/31/2018 10:47 PM
204	None	7/31/2018 10:29 PM
205	Look at Bixler Lake Campgrounds in a city park.	7/31/2018 10:28 PM
206	Create a citizen ranger program to regularly check on trail conditions	7/31/2018 4:23 PM
207	None	7/31/2018 2:09 PM
208	Nature center and office space, nature center and office space, nature center and office space	7/31/2018 10:34 AM
209	The trails need to be upkept better along with facilities. Would like to see new bathrooms and more paved or graded trails in shaded areas. Tree lined trails are the best.	7/31/2018 7:59 AM
210	Keep poison ivy away from trails and paths	7/30/2018 10:24 PM

## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

211	It seems like the parks staff are spread pretty thin - I would poverty to see a greater investment to supporting existing interpreters and workers at the parks. Increase part-timers pay, resources for teachers, etc. They are the presence of the parks dept. on a day-to-day basis. It seems like they're often stressed or overworked. They do an amazing job, and my family's had a great experience overall, but when the staff seem unsupported, it does make us wonder if some of our county dollars couldn't have gone into helping support those who are dedicated to the parks every day. Perhaps a fundraiser or dinner benefit of some kind could help boost the county park's budget? Why aren't there special events setup for fundraising?	7/30/2018 9:44 PM
212	Music. Add music - bands and musicians of all types will come and play - into weekend /evenings.	7/30/2018 8:20 PM
213	Equestrian trails	7/30/2018 5:58 AM
214	A program that allows citizens to adopt a park as THEIRS. like a "friends of Bonneyville" chapter or "Team Oxbow". Get ppl in competition to make their Park the best, and then have events to bring everyone together. Start a campaign of "what's YOUR home park?"	7/30/2018 4:04 AM
215	No	7/29/2018 11:12 PM
216	Equine trails	7/29/2018 11:04 PM
217	??	7/29/2018 5:40 PM
218	None	7/29/2018 4:39 PM
219	none, we love it already	7/29/2018 12:41 PM
220	Skilled staff	7/29/2018 12:11 PM
221	M	7/29/2018 9:12 AM
222	Sincerely would like to see Bridle trails added	7/29/2018 2:51 AM
223	Equestrian trails/ riding arena	7/28/2018 6:06 PM
224	horse trails	7/28/2018 4:07 PM
225	We've enjoyed all of our park outings. I'd suggest keeping very low to no entrance fees so that other low income families can enjoy the natural environment.	7/28/2018 3:10 PM
226	Need volunteers to have gift shop at Bonneyville Mill open when mill is open.	7/28/2018 12:25 PM
227	Nothing	7/28/2018 11:56 AM
228	Security	7/28/2018 12:33 AM
229	Thank you!	7/27/2018 10:28 PM
230	Good luck and God Bless!	7/27/2018 5:12 PM
231	Allow geocaching in all parks and approve the hides.	7/27/2018 10:06 AM
232	A living bison or elk exhibit	7/27/2018 9:28 AM
233	Senior lifetime passes like the National parks	7/27/2018 8:46 AM
234	Keep up the great work! These parks are my families escape from a harsh life. Nature keeps me a strong single mother. I love my planet!	7/26/2018 10:54 PM
235	Water faucets, kayak an boat rentals	7/26/2018 10:29 PM
236	We love the improvements that have already be been made at Boot Lake. Thank you! Please continue to run off the "riff raff" and make our park safer!	7/26/2018 8:11 PM
237	None come to mind	7/26/2018 6:25 PM
238	Maintain the facilities at OxBow (ie; boardwalks, restrooms). Several are in need of immediate repair.	7/26/2018 5:17 PM
239	None	7/26/2018 4:54 PM
240	Better advertising	7/26/2018 3:19 PM
241	Add a pool or swimming area	7/26/2018 3:08 PM
242	Allow visitors in parks after hours--it stays light past 9pm now, but Ox Bow closes at 9pm	7/26/2018 3:01 PM

## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

243	n/a	7/26/2018 2:32 PM
244	Clean them up and maintain the ones we have. Especially the City ones.	7/26/2018 1:14 PM
245	None	7/26/2018 10:28 AM
246	none	7/26/2018 8:41 AM
247	Any available drinking water and more trailhead parking on the Pumpkinvine	7/26/2018 8:33 AM
248	Reduce invasive vegetation, add toilet and maintains grassland at Lieber preserve,	7/26/2018 6:25 AM
249	None	7/26/2018 5:48 AM
250	N/A	7/26/2018 5:43 AM
251	Open up Elliot park again. It has great potential. Maybe charge a gate fee to keep out the unwanted problems that accrued there. Maybe sell a yearly park pass to all gated parks.	7/26/2018 2:40 AM
252	Keep growing!	7/25/2018 11:57 PM
253	None	7/25/2018 11:05 PM
254	N/A	7/25/2018 11:00 PM
255	natural areas management plans and invasive species removal	7/25/2018 9:47 PM
256	Showing kids they can make a difference and that they can contribute to the environment, community etc. give them a purpose to be at the parks	7/25/2018 8:28 PM
257	Nonw	7/25/2018 6:25 PM
258	Horseback riding trail would be wonderful	7/25/2018 6:22 PM
259	Open earlier in the spring and fall	7/25/2018 5:41 PM
260	None	7/25/2018 5:30 PM
261	None	7/25/2018 3:45 PM
262	none	7/25/2018 2:17 PM
263	None	7/25/2018 2:06 PM
264	None...except perhaps more partnerships with cities and state.	7/25/2018 11:34 AM
265	Safety in a few parks	7/25/2018 11:29 AM
266	Equestrian trails - implement a yearly or daily entrance fee to help upkeep and pay for nice trails.	7/25/2018 11:19 AM
267	Great Job! Keep up the good work	7/25/2018 10:14 AM
268	No	7/25/2018 10:13 AM
269	Horseback riding trails, a volleyball court,	7/25/2018 10:03 AM
270	none	7/25/2018 8:06 AM
271	The parks are really nice but we would love to be able to take our horses trail riding. Currently we use the parks to kayak and hike but we have to haul to potato creek or farther to trail ride	7/25/2018 7:50 AM
272	make as many horse trails as possible	7/25/2018 6:19 AM
273	None	7/25/2018 1:51 AM
274	ldk	7/24/2018 11:50 PM
275	Camping.	7/24/2018 10:28 PM
276	Do 5K races to raise money.	7/24/2018 10:18 PM
277	Would love horse trails!	7/24/2018 10:12 PM
278	Increase local history programming/preservation activities	7/24/2018 9:35 PM
279	Keep up the good work	7/24/2018 9:06 PM
280	None	7/24/2018 7:29 PM
281	None but would like to change some of my previous answers	7/24/2018 5:32 PM



## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

282	More events/festivals	7/24/2018 5:04 PM
283	BRING BACK THE FREE ENTRY PARKING LOT FOR OXBOW	7/24/2018 3:50 PM
284	make Wolf Lake accessible	7/24/2018 11:53 AM
285	I'd like to see development of the Quaker Trace bike trail.	7/23/2018 4:57 PM
286	For humanity's own long-term health, we need to preserve habitat for bees and bats. So when waving my 'magic wand,' every park would a bee colonies and bat houses to encourage and sustain both..	7/23/2018 3:06 PM
287	none	7/23/2018 8:55 AM
288	none	7/23/2018 8:01 AM
289	Improve and add on more real rest rooms	7/22/2018 11:08 PM
290	None	7/22/2018 9:34 PM
291	Fewer things better. We need you to continue being excellent at what you do. Expand land availability and connect them.	7/22/2018 7:59 PM
292	Just keep them clean and safe. I love our parks.	7/22/2018 7:34 PM
293	Love what the historical museum is doing with walking tours, pop-ups and volunteers	7/22/2018 5:53 PM
294	Keep up the great work!	7/22/2018 4:09 PM
295	They are already excellent.	7/22/2018 2:52 PM
296	Maintenance on structures in the park	7/22/2018 5:18 AM
297	n/a	7/21/2018 7:22 PM
298	Na	7/21/2018 7:03 PM
299	Make sure no needles are in bathrooms I heard that story on tv.	7/21/2018 3:36 PM
300	Mow less grass	7/21/2018 1:10 PM
301	Hire more great people to run more fantastic programs.	7/21/2018 11:16 AM
302	continue to add new programs for people that have been attending for more than 20 years	7/21/2018 11:09 AM
303	Better maintain trails at bonneville	7/21/2018 10:18 AM
304	None	7/21/2018 7:58 AM
305	Develop Wolf Lk, clean up the overgrowth & repair trails at OxBow, keep doing a good job.	7/21/2018 7:53 AM
306	None	7/21/2018 12:16 AM
307	Hire more help at the parks	7/20/2018 8:41 PM
308	Elkhart county parks are great resource thanks	7/20/2018 8:06 PM
309	Pave the Quaker Trace Trail on CR 8	7/20/2018 7:13 PM
310	purchase green space along Elkhart River to connect River Preserve Park to Goshen	7/20/2018 3:26 PM
311	more collaboration with other parks departments	7/20/2018 2:51 PM
312	Increase salaries and commit to funding positions currently paid for through grants to keep qualified and quality employees	7/20/2018 2:42 PM
313	Restrooms open 6:00am - 10:00pm	7/20/2018 2:01 PM
314	Commissioners need to allocate more to parks department budget to keep parks maintained and clean..quality of life issue that will attract more and higher paying businesses to our county	7/20/2018 1:01 PM
315	Reduced or no fees for public access, especially for minors under 18 and county employees.	7/20/2018 10:41 AM
316	n/a	7/20/2018 9:54 AM
317	Water fountains along the bike trails	7/20/2018 9:53 AM
318	none	7/20/2018 9:36 AM

## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

319	Scenery. Location. Lighted. Security. Invite the public to open houses including food trucks and music.	7/20/2018 9:27 AM
320	No	7/20/2018 9:26 AM
321	Live webcams that would spur interest about wild life in the parks.	7/20/2018 9:25 AM
322	Lower the entrance fees. That has stopped us everytime. We start to go into a park because we are in the area and forget there is an entrance fee.	7/20/2018 9:18 AM
323	DOG PARKS! :)	7/20/2018 9:11 AM
324	more trash cans & no gate fees to enter park	7/20/2018 8:48 AM
325	n/a	7/20/2018 8:48 AM
326	None	7/20/2018 8:44 AM
327	n/a	7/20/2018 8:38 AM
328	County recreational center in the Baugo area	7/20/2018 8:31 AM
329	More enclosed shelters with kitchen and or nicer pavillions similar to Cobus at Bonneyville	7/20/2018 8:28 AM
330	Opening times should be earlier for people who want to fish or run or simply enjoy the quiet of nature. Also I would support yearly pass like the state parks offer and perhaps those pass holders could have earlier access to parks as an incentive.	7/20/2018 8:20 AM
331	Movies in the park in the summer time or concerts	7/20/2018 8:07 AM
332	Have Disc Golf Tournaments	7/20/2018 5:21 AM
333	None	7/19/2018 9:12 PM
334	Better reservation registration system	7/19/2018 8:30 PM
335	none	7/19/2018 8:16 PM
336	More mountain bike trails	7/19/2018 8:03 PM
337	None that I can think of right now	7/19/2018 6:03 PM
338	None	7/19/2018 6:03 PM
339	Maintain what we currently have available. Push hard for events/concerts/festivals and charge small admissions for entry. Not more than a few dollars to help offset costs. Too high and people will lose interest.	7/19/2018 5:55 PM
340	This all sounds good.	7/19/2018 5:49 PM
341	Make conservation a top priority. There are almost no fish in cobus creek pond, I assume because of over-fishing by people, and this keeps other animals from moving in. A lot of wildlife is also wiped out by vehicles in the area. Turtles and beavers come to mind especially. A slower speed limit in the areas surrounding parks or a wildlife tunnel under the road would be welcome additions. Also, more signs about picking up dog poop, especially in the winter.	7/19/2018 5:20 PM
342	Hire me	7/19/2018 4:59 PM
343	I know hosting large events takes time and effort, but they really do bring in people.	7/19/2018 4:51 PM
344	Possibly hiring seasonal help for springtime and summertime parks maintenance.	7/19/2018 4:41 PM
345	Cleanliness and access of existing and future facilities. Provide assistance in development for a regional trail system that will be the envy of the state.	7/19/2018 4:23 PM
346	Keep up the good work!	7/19/2018 1:46 PM
347	Better advertising of events, for registration events please state spaces available, more events on the north side of Elkhart county	7/19/2018 12:30 PM
348	Keep up the great work!	7/19/2018 6:57 AM
349	None	7/19/2018 6:46 AM
350	Offer regular volunteer days for families to help with projects for park improvement.	7/18/2018 10:19 PM
351	More off the leash dog areas. Maybe better kids play grounds.	7/18/2018 10:00 PM

## Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

352	Please clean up the water ways for safe and enjoyable kayaking. Awesome opportunity here for water recession that isn't getting attention	7/18/2018 9:47 PM
353	Marketing.,advertising. Develop program for school age kids and membership opportunities thru the schools	7/18/2018 8:59 PM
354	Opening Treasure Island at 8 a.m.	7/18/2018 8:48 PM
355	None	7/18/2018 8:40 PM
356	Discovery center built on the former County Home site.	7/18/2018 8:28 PM
357	None	7/18/2018 7:35 PM
358	None	7/18/2018 7:15 PM
359	Park Rangers to patrol	7/18/2018 6:55 PM
360	None	7/18/2018 6:33 PM
361	Earlier opening hours	7/18/2018 12:19 PM

## Q20 If you would you like to receive additional information about the Elkhart County Parks programs and events please leave your name and email address below.

Answered: 293   Skipped: 723

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Name:	98.63% 289
Email address:	96.25% 282

#	NAME:	DATE
1	Lori Schumacher	8/20/2018 8:08 AM
2	Michelle Moore	8/16/2018 11:41 AM
3	Lisa McConnell	8/16/2018 8:45 AM
4	Lisa	8/14/2018 11:10 PM
5	Gail Crussemeyer	8/14/2018 9:43 PM
6	Ali	8/14/2018 6:15 PM
7	Brandi	8/14/2018 5:03 PM
8	Cheryl Koester	8/14/2018 2:41 PM
9	Kimberly Garner	8/14/2018 1:45 PM
10	Rodriguez	8/14/2018 11:01 AM
11	Kendyll Stutzman	8/14/2018 9:30 AM
12	Kathy Witkowski	8/14/2018 9:15 AM
13	No	8/14/2018 9:06 AM
14	Nicholas Kelley	8/14/2018 9:04 AM
15	Amee Click	8/14/2018 8:58 AM
16	Chris DuBois	8/13/2018 9:53 PM
17	Susan Rowe	8/13/2018 8:39 PM
18	Ryan	8/13/2018 8:32 PM
19	Jennifer Neer	8/13/2018 7:26 PM
20	Gary Dockery	8/13/2018 3:10 PM
21	Isabella Hartzler	8/13/2018 1:58 PM
22	Luann Stuck	8/13/2018 11:25 AM
23	Bart Fore	8/13/2018 10:17 AM
24	Bruce Mais	8/13/2018 7:46 AM
25	Emily	8/13/2018 12:32 AM
26	Ron Bell	8/12/2018 11:11 PM
27	Nallely P	8/12/2018 9:59 PM
28	Hannah	8/12/2018 9:46 PM
29	Andrea Opel	8/12/2018 9:46 PM

# Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

30	Jessie schibley	8/12/2018 8:37 PM
31	Brian Pickell	8/12/2018 8:27 PM
32	Joel Duthie	8/12/2018 5:20 PM
33	John Hooley	8/12/2018 11:49 AM
34	Pat Barnes	8/12/2018 11:20 AM
35	Brad Wear	8/12/2018 11:20 AM
36	Kathy Wilmot	8/12/2018 10:47 AM
37	Lori Eichstadt	8/12/2018 1:53 AM
38	Oliver Miller	8/11/2018 11:24 PM
39	Heather Alvarez	8/11/2018 10:19 PM
40	Emily Brumbaugh	8/11/2018 3:13 PM
41	Felicia	8/11/2018 11:06 AM
42	Jaimie Moran	8/11/2018 11:03 AM
43	Jen Martin	8/11/2018 7:19 AM
44	Riena Sommers	8/10/2018 10:49 PM
45	Cindy Miller	8/10/2018 9:04 PM
46	Ryan Williams	8/10/2018 9:02 PM
47	Lynn B Bradley	8/10/2018 8:50 PM
48	Karen Thompson	8/10/2018 8:38 PM
49	Kelly	8/10/2018 7:58 PM
50	Camilla	8/10/2018 6:11 PM
51	Jill Elowsky	8/10/2018 11:59 AM
52	Andrea Thompson	8/10/2018 11:02 AM
53	Deb Pepple	8/10/2018 10:48 AM
54	Kathy Case	8/10/2018 9:38 AM
55	Cindy Mosier	8/10/2018 9:00 AM
56	Susan Parkhurst	8/10/2018 8:46 AM
57	Deb Sailor	8/10/2018 8:41 AM
58	Kathy Freese	8/10/2018 8:25 AM
59	Sara	8/10/2018 5:46 AM
60	Jeff Dull	8/10/2018 4:20 AM
61	Ron Twedt	8/10/2018 3:52 AM
62	Jim Hary	8/9/2018 10:42 PM
63	Brenda Kauffman	8/9/2018 10:38 PM
64	Misty Troyer	8/9/2018 10:05 PM
65	April Dowd	8/9/2018 8:42 PM
66	Stephanie Sibal	8/9/2018 8:40 PM
67	Harry Dyck	8/9/2018 8:40 PM
68	Glenn Goodrich	8/9/2018 8:12 PM
69	Kenny jonrs	8/9/2018 7:43 PM
70	Shawn randall	8/9/2018 7:43 PM

# Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

71	Leti	8/9/2018 7:08 PM
72	Kim	8/9/2018 6:08 PM
73	Larry Stineman	8/9/2018 5:09 PM
74	Vicky Haberstich	8/9/2018 4:48 PM
75	Robert Glantz	8/9/2018 4:41 PM
76	Gary Yordy	8/9/2018 4:36 PM
77	Neil Holbrook	8/9/2018 1:42 PM
78	Britney	8/9/2018 12:08 PM
79	Seara louder	8/9/2018 11:41 AM
80	James W. Rasp	8/9/2018 10:09 AM
81	David Smith	8/9/2018 9:53 AM
82	Rem Yoder	8/9/2018 8:20 AM
83	Kim Heller	8/8/2018 11:27 PM
84	Danny	8/8/2018 9:58 PM
85	Aaron Sprunger	8/8/2018 9:41 PM
86	Jason Potsander	8/8/2018 9:03 PM
87	Matthew Rippey	8/8/2018 8:44 PM
88	Robert kramer	8/8/2018 8:17 PM
89	Mike	8/8/2018 8:12 PM
90	Dawn Rodman	8/8/2018 7:31 PM
91	Tiffany Ortega	8/8/2018 3:06 PM
92	Lori West	8/8/2018 11:29 AM
93	Lin Anglemeyer	8/8/2018 11:24 AM
94	Brenda S Yost	8/8/2018 11:09 AM
95	Na	8/8/2018 10:21 AM
96	Ray Deahl	8/8/2018 7:41 AM
97	Jim DuBois	8/8/2018 7:18 AM
98	Crystal bess	8/8/2018 6:16 AM
99	Daniel Davis	8/8/2018 5:16 AM
100	Crystal	8/8/2018 3:59 AM
101	Ruth Trinkley	8/8/2018 3:59 AM
102	Amanda	8/8/2018 2:48 AM
103	Jeff south	8/8/2018 1:48 AM
104	Carol Meyer	8/7/2018 11:51 PM
105	Karen Werbianskyj	8/7/2018 11:48 PM
106	Carolyn Logue	8/7/2018 11:29 PM
107	Jeff Lowe	8/7/2018 10:36 PM
108	Kevin Jane	8/7/2018 10:08 PM
109	Heather Johnson	8/7/2018 2:00 PM
110	Stefan	8/7/2018 9:56 AM
111	Janeen Bertsche Johnson	8/7/2018 9:46 AM

# Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

112	Jenny	8/7/2018 9:41 AM
113	__?_ Espino	8/7/2018 9:38 AM
114	Cris Funk	8/7/2018 7:49 AM
115	Melissa Kauffman	8/7/2018 12:00 AM
116	We already receive information regarding events, etc... Thank you!	8/6/2018 9:10 PM
117	KarenTroeger	8/6/2018 8:50 PM
118	Ernie Yoder	8/6/2018 8:07 PM
119	Carrie Beachey	8/6/2018 7:42 PM
120	Kelly Hartman	8/6/2018 6:55 PM
121	Ryann	8/6/2018 6:45 PM
122	Stephanie Tennant	8/6/2018 5:08 PM
123	Jill Vaughan	8/6/2018 3:30 PM
124	James miller	8/6/2018 3:19 PM
125	Jennifer Beer	8/6/2018 3:18 PM
126	José Chiquito	8/6/2018 2:36 PM
127	Terri Klein	8/6/2018 2:28 PM
128	Petrina Morton	8/6/2018 2:24 PM
129	Dallas Alter	8/6/2018 2:04 PM
130	Ethan Ridenour	8/6/2018 10:56 AM
131	Dave Taylor	8/6/2018 10:49 AM
132	Amy Tranter	8/6/2018 10:45 AM
133	Suzanne Teghtmeyer	8/6/2018 10:38 AM
134	Pamela George	8/6/2018 10:33 AM
135	Mindy Ritchie	8/6/2018 10:26 AM
136	Alex King	8/6/2018 10:22 AM
137	Michele Kauffman	8/6/2018 10:19 AM
138	Ben Martin	8/6/2018 10:16 AM
139	Sue Smith	8/5/2018 8:24 AM
140	Chuck Spencer	8/5/2018 12:00 AM
141	Nick Bouwman	8/4/2018 3:13 PM
142	Mary Rasp	8/4/2018 1:09 PM
143	Debbie Beres	8/4/2018 9:26 AM
144	Sarah Cross	8/3/2018 10:06 AM
145	Richard Garza	8/3/2018 10:02 AM
146	Vincent Cross	8/3/2018 10:00 AM
147	Rodd Lehman	8/3/2018 9:44 AM
148	Brenna Butler	8/3/2018 8:22 AM
149	molly lenaburg	8/2/2018 3:52 PM
150	Zachary Manship	8/2/2018 3:34 PM
151	Pat Watson	8/2/2018 3:16 PM
152	Alf Garcia	8/2/2018 11:16 AM



# Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

153	Andrew Ammons	8/2/2018 11:08 AM
154	Nikki Ramer	8/2/2018 9:42 AM
155	Caroline Bowers	8/2/2018 9:31 AM
156	Heather	8/2/2018 3:53 AM
157	Roxanne Welker	8/1/2018 7:19 PM
158	Roxanne Welker	8/1/2018 7:19 PM
159	Judy King	8/1/2018 3:51 PM
160	Teresa Simms	8/1/2018 3:43 PM
161	Jose Amezcuita	8/1/2018 3:26 PM
162	Teresa	8/1/2018 12:13 PM
163	Chris Fries	8/1/2018 11:50 AM
164	Tyler Bourdon	8/1/2018 10:37 AM
165	Sherry Anglemeyer	8/1/2018 10:35 AM
166	Katheryn Pletcher	8/1/2018 9:37 AM
167	Jennifer Nail	8/1/2018 9:18 AM
168	Kenneth Roemke	8/1/2018 9:08 AM
169	Diane Roemke	8/1/2018 9:04 AM
170	Theresa Long	8/1/2018 8:56 AM
171	Rebecca McKenna	8/1/2018 8:39 AM
172	Connie Kleiman	8/1/2018 8:33 AM
173	Kelly Hull	8/1/2018 8:23 AM
174	Marisa Hull	8/1/2018 8:19 AM
175	Benjamin Evans	8/1/2018 6:39 AM
176	Kathryn Krug	7/31/2018 10:47 PM
177	Dave Lade	7/31/2018 10:36 PM
178	Andy	7/31/2018 10:29 PM
179	Melissa Renner	7/31/2018 4:23 PM
180	Jon Kauffmann-Kennel	7/31/2018 10:34 AM
181	Shelley Gove	7/31/2018 10:29 AM
182	Krissie Littman	7/31/2018 7:59 AM
183	Melody	7/30/2018 9:44 PM
184	Shirley McComas	7/30/2018 8:12 PM
185	Linsey Vandrick	7/30/2018 3:17 PM
186	Sherrie Aman	7/30/2018 11:57 AM
187	Kara Wenger	7/30/2018 6:28 AM
188	Carrie Smith	7/30/2018 4:04 AM
189	No	7/29/2018 11:12 PM
190	Kim Little	7/29/2018 12:41 PM
191	Elizabeth Howard	7/29/2018 9:00 AM
192	Michelle White	7/29/2018 8:22 AM
193	Sherry Stabler	7/29/2018 2:51 AM

# Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

194	Heidi Gray	7/28/2018 12:25 PM
195	Betty	7/28/2018 11:26 AM
196	Margaret Kownover	7/28/2018 10:48 AM
197	Amy	7/28/2018 10:19 AM
198	Cynthia Shaffer	7/27/2018 7:24 PM
199	Bessann	7/27/2018 5:12 PM
200	Danny L Koester	7/27/2018 4:18 PM
201	Tracy	7/27/2018 10:06 AM
202	David Smith	7/27/2018 9:28 AM
203	Martha Shoff	7/27/2018 8:34 AM
204	Amber Jean Kasper	7/26/2018 10:54 PM
205	Marcy Eugenia Gardner	7/26/2018 10:29 PM
206	Sara Bowen	7/26/2018 9:45 PM
207	Jackie Benedict	7/26/2018 8:11 PM
208	Abby Wiles	7/26/2018 3:01 PM
209	Alex	7/26/2018 2:32 PM
210	Michelle Lyle	7/26/2018 1:38 PM
211	Tiffany Platz	7/26/2018 9:56 AM
212	Becka Jiménez	7/26/2018 8:20 AM
213	Kate Coates	7/26/2018 7:55 AM
214	John Landa	7/26/2018 7:34 AM
215	Trish	7/26/2018 2:40 AM
216	Chris Miller	7/26/2018 12:15 AM
217	Kristina Redman	7/25/2018 11:57 PM
218	No thanks	7/25/2018 11:05 PM
219	Matthew Manley	7/25/2018 9:44 PM
220	Chris	7/25/2018 8:28 PM
221	Christina Taylor	7/25/2018 7:37 PM
222	Katrina geigley	7/25/2018 6:29 PM
223	Brenda Tudor	7/25/2018 5:42 PM
224	Hannah	7/25/2018 5:06 PM
225	Gregory Imbur	7/25/2018 11:34 AM
226	Oscar cruz	7/25/2018 11:29 AM
227	Jenny	7/25/2018 10:03 AM
228	Jessica Brewer	7/25/2018 7:50 AM
229	Michelle	7/25/2018 7:28 AM
230	Nicole	7/25/2018 6:36 AM
231	Rebekah	7/25/2018 6:29 AM
232	Larry Stineman	7/25/2018 3:14 AM
233	Kristen Savage	7/25/2018 1:51 AM
234	Maria Schroeder	7/24/2018 10:12 PM

# Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

235	Nicole Craig	7/24/2018 8:11 PM
236	Charli	7/24/2018 5:32 PM
237	Justin Allen	7/23/2018 10:16 PM
238	Kevin Miller	7/23/2018 4:57 PM
239	ANTHONY J HUNT	7/23/2018 3:06 PM
240	Deb	7/23/2018 10:19 AM
241	Evan Bontrager	7/22/2018 7:59 PM
242	Carol Ouzounian	7/22/2018 5:53 PM
243	Annette Webb	7/22/2018 4:09 PM
244	Michael J. Case	7/21/2018 7:03 PM
245	Lee W Pfahler	7/21/2018 6:27 PM
246	SUZANNE GRAY	7/21/2018 4:54 PM
247	Tonya	7/21/2018 3:00 PM
248	Janice yoder	7/21/2018 3:00 PM
249	Pamela Wright	7/21/2018 1:20 PM
250	Becky Horst	7/21/2018 1:10 PM
251	Megan McClellan	7/21/2018 11:16 AM
252	Wendy Sapp	7/21/2018 11:09 AM
253	Bekah	7/21/2018 10:30 AM
254	Connie Kline	7/21/2018 7:58 AM
255	Jon Bowen	7/21/2018 12:16 AM
256	Matt Furfaro	7/20/2018 8:41 PM
257	Trevor Wendzonka	7/20/2018 2:42 PM
258	Vivian Schmucker	7/20/2018 2:01 PM
259	Jonathan	7/20/2018 1:01 PM
260	Jessica	7/20/2018 9:54 AM
261	Cassie Seminario	7/20/2018 9:53 AM
262	Desiree Mynhier	7/20/2018 9:27 AM
263	Mae	7/20/2018 9:26 AM
264	Stacy Henderson	7/20/2018 9:18 AM
265	Kristi Osterday	7/20/2018 8:56 AM
266	Brad Bishop	7/20/2018 8:44 AM
267	Julie Fore	7/20/2018 8:21 AM
268	Heather	7/20/2018 8:03 AM
269	Steven Good	7/20/2018 5:21 AM
270	Mary Metzger	7/20/2018 12:21 AM
271	Mary Hesser	7/19/2018 10:25 PM
272	Elma Chapman	7/19/2018 9:22 PM
273	Hannah	7/19/2018 6:03 PM
274	Shannon Oakes	7/19/2018 6:02 PM
275	Mark	7/19/2018 5:55 PM

# Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

276	Carole Mitchell	7/19/2018 4:59 PM
277	Amy Stine	7/19/2018 4:51 PM
278	Jeff Juillerat	7/19/2018 4:23 PM
279	Jeff Stutzman	7/19/2018 3:59 PM
280	Marilyn Myers	7/19/2018 3:30 PM
281	Rachel Russey	7/19/2018 12:30 PM
282	Brett Mitchell	7/19/2018 7:23 AM
283	N/A	7/19/2018 6:57 AM
284	Gabrielle Cunningham	7/18/2018 10:00 PM
285	Donna Yoder	7/18/2018 9:11 PM
286	Terry Wiley	7/18/2018 8:13 PM
287	Kathryn McCreary	7/18/2018 7:15 PM
288	Miranda	7/18/2018 6:55 PM
289	Ashley Mojica	7/18/2018 6:03 PM
#	EMAIL ADDRESS:	DATE
1	Innk33p3r@gmail.com	8/20/2018 8:08 AM
2	kykiddmlm@gmail.com	8/16/2018 11:41 AM
3	Grease49@gmail.com	8/16/2018 8:45 AM
4	Wlcountrichick1@yahoo.com	8/14/2018 11:10 PM
5	Crussemeyerg@hotmail.com	8/14/2018 9:43 PM
6	Aliwalters1189@gmail.com	8/14/2018 6:15 PM
7	Brandiboobearxo@gmail.com	8/14/2018 5:03 PM
8	cdkoester77@gmail.com	8/14/2018 2:41 PM
9	kimberlygarner@hotmail.com	8/14/2018 1:45 PM
10	Hrodriguez61@live.com	8/14/2018 11:01 AM
11	ConcordGirl43@yahoo.com	8/14/2018 9:15 AM
12	No	8/14/2018 9:06 AM
13	Kelley.z.nick@gmail.com	8/14/2018 9:04 AM
14	Click.ameeyoder@gmail.com	8/14/2018 8:58 AM
15	Christopherdubois@live.com	8/13/2018 9:53 PM
16	Rowejs@aol.com	8/13/2018 8:39 PM
17	rsmith@kyocera-senco.com	8/13/2018 8:32 PM
18	jneer1704@gmail.com	8/13/2018 7:26 PM
19	dockeryge@gmail.com	8/13/2018 3:10 PM
20	inoblehArtzler@yahoo.com	8/13/2018 1:58 PM
21	luwho55@comcast.net	8/13/2018 11:25 AM
22	BFore@gotoworkone.com	8/13/2018 10:17 AM
23	amaisingdesigns@aol.com	8/13/2018 7:46 AM
24	Emlew92@gmail.com	8/13/2018 12:32 AM
25	ronb35@gmail.com	8/12/2018 11:11 PM
26	Juledezmgamil.com	8/12/2018 9:59 PM

# Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

27	Shrekers9391@yahoo.com	8/12/2018 9:46 PM
28	andreaopel@gmail.com	8/12/2018 9:46 PM
29	Jschibley33@gmail.com	8/12/2018 8:37 PM
30	brianpickell95@gmail.com	8/12/2018 8:27 PM
31	Joel.Duthie@btlaw.com	8/12/2018 5:20 PM
32	john.hooley@comcast.net	8/12/2018 11:49 AM
33	pk_barnes@hotmail.com	8/12/2018 11:20 AM
34	Bradwear@gmail.com	8/12/2018 11:20 AM
35	kathywilmot11@gmail.com	8/12/2018 10:47 AM
36	leichstadt@gmail.com	8/12/2018 1:53 AM
37	olivertravismiller@gmail.com	8/11/2018 11:24 PM
38	heathera42111@gmail.com	8/11/2018 10:19 PM
39	Petchr16@gmail.com	8/11/2018 3:13 PM
40	F.hersh46526@gmail.com	8/11/2018 11:06 AM
41	xoxojaimiexoxo@gmail.com	8/11/2018 11:03 AM
42	irishjen6511@gmail.com	8/11/2018 7:19 AM
43	wrsommers@comcast.net	8/10/2018 10:49 PM
44	corpecl@aol.com	8/10/2018 9:04 PM
45	Ryan.williams77@me.com	8/10/2018 9:02 PM
46	LynnBB1@aol.com	8/10/2018 8:50 PM
47	Ksthompson53@gmail.com	8/10/2018 8:38 PM
48	chataine23@gmail.com	8/10/2018 7:58 PM
49	Camilladetwiler@gmail.com	8/10/2018 6:11 PM
50	Jillsky2503@gmail.com	8/10/2018 11:59 AM
51	allyn126@yahoo.com	8/10/2018 11:02 AM
52	djudson1953@aol.com	8/10/2018 10:48 AM
53	kathycase@maplenet.net	8/10/2018 9:38 AM
54	Cindy46507@comcast.net	8/10/2018 9:00 AM
55	sparkhurst@aol.com	8/10/2018 8:46 AM
56	dsail77@yahoo.com	8/10/2018 8:41 AM
57	khfreese@msn.com	8/10/2018 8:25 AM
58	Senisley@gmail.com	8/10/2018 5:46 AM
59	jdrkclm@aol.com	8/10/2018 4:20 AM
60	Polyman67@gmail.com	8/10/2018 3:52 AM
61	Jimbhary@gmail.com	8/9/2018 10:42 PM
62	bjoykauffman@gmail.com	8/9/2018 10:38 PM
63	mistydawn118@gmail.com	8/9/2018 10:05 PM
64	prdowd68@gmail.com	8/9/2018 8:42 PM
65	Soccermom1995@hotmail.com	8/9/2018 8:40 PM
66	budloisdych@gmail.com	8/9/2018 8:40 PM
67	gauleyllama@gmail.com	8/9/2018 8:12 PM

# Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

68	kjones20077@yahoo.com	8/9/2018 7:43 PM
69	Shawnrandall99@gmail.com	8/9/2018 7:43 PM
70	Letibarajas@me.com	8/9/2018 7:08 PM
71	Kimmyt68@yahoo.com	8/9/2018 6:08 PM
72	larstn58@yahoo.com	8/9/2018 5:09 PM
73	owlmoon1031@gmail.com	8/9/2018 4:48 PM
74	reglantz@frontier.com	8/9/2018 4:41 PM
75	gyordy@gmail.com	8/9/2018 4:36 PM
76	luneil80@gmail.com	8/9/2018 1:42 PM
77	bspowell574@gmail.com	8/9/2018 12:08 PM
78	searalouder@yahoo.com	8/9/2018 11:41 AM
79	Drs22062@gmail.com	8/9/2018 9:53 AM
80	remyoder@gmail.com	8/9/2018 8:20 AM
81	delilahgunn@gmail.com	8/8/2018 11:27 PM
82	adspru@gmail.com	8/8/2018 9:41 PM
83	jason.potsander@gmail.com	8/8/2018 9:03 PM
84	mattrippey308@gmail.com	8/8/2018 8:44 PM
85	robertvkramer@gmail.com	8/8/2018 8:17 PM
86	Bluelawmike@gmail.com	8/8/2018 8:12 PM
87	dawn.rodman@gmail.com	8/8/2018 7:31 PM
88	tiffanyortega20@yahoo.com	8/8/2018 3:06 PM
89	loriwest1958@att.net	8/8/2018 11:29 AM
90	langlemeyer@gmail.com	8/8/2018 11:24 AM
91	zdenek527@yahoo.com	8/8/2018 11:09 AM
92	N8fhx@mchsi.com	8/8/2018 7:41 AM
93	Jdubois@baugo.org	8/8/2018 7:18 AM
94	Babymonkey616@gmail.com	8/8/2018 6:16 AM
95	davisdanmsp@yahoo.com	8/8/2018 5:16 AM
96	wolfden4vr@aol.com	8/8/2018 3:59 AM
97	rtrinkley@yahoo.com	8/8/2018 3:59 AM
98	Milleramandaa73@gmail.com	8/8/2018 2:48 AM
99	Jsouth85@gmail.com	8/8/2018 1:48 AM
100	Healthybynature@msn.com	8/7/2018 11:51 PM
101	kwerbj@comcast.net	8/7/2018 11:48 PM
102	Whisperstohorses@gmail.com	8/7/2018 11:29 PM
103	lowejeffrey21@yahoo.com	8/7/2018 10:36 PM
104	k3jane@yahoo.com	8/7/2018 10:08 PM
105	hnjohnson1024@yahoo.com	8/7/2018 2:00 PM
106	mrbricks18@gmail.com	8/7/2018 9:56 AM
107	bljbhead@msn.com	8/7/2018 9:46 AM
108	jderanek612@gmail.com	8/7/2018 9:41 AM

# Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

109	smokefrog65@gmail.com	8/7/2018 9:38 AM
110	Crisfunk77@gmail.com	8/7/2018 7:49 AM
111	Kauffman_m@msn.com	8/7/2018 12:00 AM
112	karentroeger@yahoo.com	8/6/2018 8:50 PM
113	lake2river74@gmail.com	8/6/2018 8:07 PM
114	artbycarrijoy@gmail.com	8/6/2018 7:42 PM
115	Moonstar4183@msn.com	8/6/2018 6:55 PM
116	ryannmarie@gmail.com	8/6/2018 6:45 PM
117	Stevi_mav@yahoo.com	8/6/2018 5:08 PM
118	jc_vaughan@yahoo.com	8/6/2018 3:30 PM
119	Jm_goshen@yahoo.com	8/6/2018 3:19 PM
120	jbeercounseling@yahoo.com	8/6/2018 3:18 PM
121	jmchiquitog@gmail.com	8/6/2018 2:36 PM
122	Dallasterri06@gmail.com	8/6/2018 2:28 PM
123	P O Box 403 Goshen, IN 46527	8/6/2018 2:24 PM
124	ethanridenour@gmail.com	8/6/2018 10:56 AM
125	davidtaylor12@aol.com	8/6/2018 10:49 AM
126	elkshart@comcast.net	8/6/2018 10:45 AM
127	littleredsky@yahoo.com	8/6/2018 10:41 AM
128	smteghtmeyer@yahoo.com	8/6/2018 10:38 AM
129	god4me2bhis@gmail.com	8/6/2018 10:33 AM
130	ritchie_dm@hotmail.com	8/6/2018 10:26 AM
131	bmartin8250@gmail.com	8/6/2018 10:16 AM
132	smrs1@comcast.net	8/5/2018 8:24 AM
133	Chspen@comcast.net	8/5/2018 12:00 AM
134	Nick.hans.bouwman@gmail.com	8/4/2018 3:13 PM
135	Msrasp53@gmail.com	8/4/2018 1:09 PM
136	Rainy236@comcast.net	8/4/2018 9:26 AM
137	jwmsmv69@yahoo.com	8/3/2018 10:06 AM
138	none	8/3/2018 10:02 AM
139	crossvincent9@gmail.com	8/3/2018 10:00 AM
140	rdlehman1@yahoo.com	8/3/2018 9:44 AM
141	rochmyers86@hotmail.com	8/3/2018 8:29 AM
142	beeback22@gmail.com	8/3/2018 8:22 AM
143	mleaburg0830@gmail.com	8/2/2018 3:52 PM
144	shadow77794@aol.com	8/2/2018 3:34 PM
145	patwatson321@comcast.net	8/2/2018 3:16 PM
146	alfsonick@gmail.com	8/2/2018 11:16 AM
147	aammons@goshen.edu	8/2/2018 11:08 AM
148	nlramer350@gmail.com	8/2/2018 9:42 AM
149	carolinebowers68@yahoo.com	8/2/2018 9:31 AM



# Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

150	patdentpj@gmail.com	8/2/2018 8:48 AM
151	Hhamsher@gmail.com	8/2/2018 3:53 AM
152	Roxdwelk@gmail.com	8/1/2018 7:19 PM
153	Roxdwelk@gmail.com	8/1/2018 7:19 PM
154	luv4myboys2012@gmail.com	8/1/2018 3:51 PM
155	mariesims60@yahoo.com	8/1/2018 3:43 PM
156	gmez.jose.ja@gmail.com	8/1/2018 3:26 PM
157	teresawells776@gmail.com	8/1/2018 12:13 PM
158	StratPlayerCJF@comcast.net	8/1/2018 11:50 AM
159	tbourdon89@gmail.com	8/1/2018 10:37 AM
160	Sanglemyer15@gmail.com	8/1/2018 10:35 AM
161	katheryn9@gmail.com	8/1/2018 9:37 AM
162	jnail2578@gmail.com	8/1/2018 9:18 AM
163	droemke@gmail.com	8/1/2018 9:08 AM
164	droemke@gmail.com	8/1/2018 9:04 AM
165	xoxotheresalong@gmail.com	8/1/2018 8:56 AM
166	rebamckenna@gmail.com	8/1/2018 8:39 AM
167	kleiman.cs@gmail.com	8/1/2018 8:33 AM
168	khullpmax@bnin.net	8/1/2018 8:23 AM
169	marisahull@hotmail.com	8/1/2018 8:19 AM
170	bristolevans1@gmail.com	8/1/2018 6:39 AM
171	Kkrug@att.net	7/31/2018 10:47 PM
172	pastordavelade@gmail.com	7/31/2018 10:36 PM
173	destroyer143143@gmail.com	7/31/2018 10:29 PM
174	melissa.e.renner@gmail.com	7/31/2018 4:23 PM
175	jonkk1@gmail.com	7/31/2018 10:34 AM
176	sgove1976@gmail.com	7/31/2018 10:29 AM
177	KrissieWis@gmail.com	7/31/2018 7:59 AM
178	samuraicrabby@aol.com	7/30/2018 9:44 PM
179	Skmccomas@comcast.net	7/30/2018 8:12 PM
180	linseyvandrick@gmail.com	7/30/2018 3:17 PM
181	Sherriekay628@yahoo.com	7/30/2018 11:57 AM
182	liv4jesus8@gmail.com	7/30/2018 6:28 AM
183	Gesserit2@gmail.com	7/30/2018 4:04 AM
184	littlegshn@aol.com	7/29/2018 12:41 PM
185	dannyoshay12@yahoo.com	7/29/2018 9:00 AM
186	mlw01@aol.com	7/29/2018 8:22 AM
187	bluecanchaser@hotmail.com	7/29/2018 2:51 AM
188	heidigray@sbcglobal.net	7/28/2018 12:25 PM
189	Bettytroyer@comcast.net	7/28/2018 11:26 AM
190	mkownover@yahoo.com	7/28/2018 10:48 AM

# Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

191	butterfliesforChrist@yahoo.com	7/28/2018 10:19 AM
192	cynthiashaffer@comcast.net	7/27/2018 7:24 PM
193	timmerbess@gmail.com	7/27/2018 5:12 PM
194	dkoes21@gmail.com	7/27/2018 4:18 PM
195	Muffinbrat12@gmail.com	7/27/2018 10:06 AM
196	dsmit13@hotmail.com	7/27/2018 9:28 AM
197	martha@shoff.com	7/27/2018 8:34 AM
198	akasper5420@gmail.com	7/26/2018 10:54 PM
199	marcybrian1994@gmail.com	7/26/2018 10:29 PM
200	Sara.pillow@gmail.com	7/26/2018 9:45 PM
201	jackiebenedict@gmail.com	7/26/2018 8:11 PM
202	abbyewgoshen@gmail.com	7/26/2018 3:01 PM
203	Edmojo06@gmail.com	7/26/2018 2:32 PM
204	lyleqh@yahoo.com	7/26/2018 1:38 PM
205	Tiffany.platz@valpo.edu	7/26/2018 9:56 AM
206	crjimenez3@comcast.net	7/26/2018 8:20 AM
207	kate@ryancoates.com	7/26/2018 7:55 AM
208	johnlanda@yahoo.com	7/26/2018 7:34 AM
209	ctab43@aol.com	7/26/2018 2:40 AM
210	Pack770cubmaster@gmail.com	7/26/2018 12:15 AM
211	redman.kristina@gmail.com	7/25/2018 11:57 PM
212	memanley1992@gmail.com	7/25/2018 9:44 PM
213	epiphanymiller@gmail.com	7/25/2018 8:28 PM
214	Bobina4562@yahoo.com	7/25/2018 7:37 PM
215	Trinageig@gmail.com	7/25/2018 6:29 PM
216	btudor421@gmail.com	7/25/2018 5:42 PM
217	lbsimmons1966@gmail.com	7/25/2018 5:30 PM
218	Hleniski@gmail.com	7/25/2018 5:06 PM
219	gmartin64@gmail.com	7/25/2018 11:34 AM
220	Jcruz130@yahoo.com	7/25/2018 11:29 AM
221	Unclesamsgals@yahoo.com	7/25/2018 10:03 AM
222	Saddleclubmember@gmail.com	7/25/2018 7:50 AM
223	risser@gmail.com	7/25/2018 7:28 AM
224	ngoepfrich45@gmail.com	7/25/2018 6:36 AM
225	R.whirledge@gmail.com	7/25/2018 6:29 AM
226	larstn58@yahoo.com	7/25/2018 3:14 AM
227	savageriding@gmail.com	7/25/2018 1:51 AM
228	maschrod@gmail.com	7/24/2018 10:12 PM
229	Nicole.craig2@gmail.com	7/24/2018 8:11 PM
230	jeepgirl714@aol.com	7/24/2018 5:32 PM
231	jwarrena@gmail.com	7/23/2018 10:16 PM

# Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

232	64582 Ravine Rd. Goshen, IN 46526	7/23/2018 4:57 PM
233	huntaczksr@gmail.com	7/23/2018 3:06 PM
234	Deb.steve82@gmail.com	7/23/2018 10:19 AM
235	Evan@Bontrager.net	7/22/2018 7:59 PM
236	caroljenneto@gmail.com	7/22/2018 5:53 PM
237	netterwebb40@gmail.com	7/22/2018 4:09 PM
238	mjcase1963@gmail.com	7/21/2018 7:03 PM
239	lwpfahler@gmail.com	7/21/2018 6:27 PM
240	TYPING@EARTHLINK.NET	7/21/2018 4:54 PM
241	peace_love28@yahoo.com	7/21/2018 3:00 PM
242	jyoder401@comcast.net	7/21/2018 3:00 PM
243	pamsretailutilitypouch@gmail.com	7/21/2018 1:20 PM
244	horstkenbec@yahoo.com	7/21/2018 1:10 PM
245	Mcclellanniger@gmail.com	7/21/2018 11:16 AM
246	rwss@frontier.com	7/21/2018 11:09 AM
247	Bekah.schrag@gmail.com	7/21/2018 10:30 AM
248	princept@msn.com	7/21/2018 7:58 AM
249	bowenjo@hotmail.com	7/21/2018 12:16 AM
250	Mfurfaro@hotmail.com	7/20/2018 8:41 PM
251	Trevorw40@hotmail.com	7/20/2018 2:42 PM
252	vivschmucker@gmail.com	7/20/2018 2:01 PM
253	Jonathanas@Hotmail.com	7/20/2018 1:01 PM
254	jroush@elkhartcounty.com	7/20/2018 9:54 AM
255	cassieseminario@yahoo.com	7/20/2018 9:53 AM
256	ddgraber79@gmail.com	7/20/2018 9:27 AM
257	maehope11@gmail.com	7/20/2018 9:26 AM
258	stacyhenderson2015@yahoo.com	7/20/2018 9:18 AM
259	kristi.osterday@gmail.com	7/20/2018 8:56 AM
260	bbishop@elkhartcounty.com	7/20/2018 8:44 AM
261	jfore47@gmail.com	7/20/2018 8:21 AM
262	heather.oyer@gmail.com	7/20/2018 8:03 AM
263	stevenwgood64@gmail.com	7/20/2018 5:21 AM
264	mary.farlow@gmail.com	7/20/2018 12:21 AM
265	rgmdhesser@aol.com	7/19/2018 10:25 PM
266	Chapman_ej@yahoo.com	7/19/2018 9:22 PM
267	hlredemption@gmail.com	7/19/2018 6:03 PM
268	tsoakes@yahoo.com	7/19/2018 6:02 PM
269	Markdat81@gmail.com	7/19/2018 5:55 PM
270	bluebirdhill201@hotmail.com	7/19/2018 4:59 PM
271	Stine.amy@gmail.com	7/19/2018 4:51 PM
272	elwhals@comcast.net	7/19/2018 4:23 PM

# Elkhart County Parks Interest and Opinion Survey

273	Jeff.stutzman@gmail.com	7/19/2018 3:59 PM
274	Mrmsmyers@comcast.net	7/19/2018 3:30 PM
275	Akarags363@gmail.com	7/19/2018 12:30 PM
276	bmitch58@hotmail.com	7/19/2018 7:23 AM
277	Gabbycunn@gmail.com	7/18/2018 10:00 PM
278	wakyskippy@gmail.com	7/18/2018 9:11 PM
279	wileyterrydiane@yahoo.com	7/18/2018 8:13 PM
280	piratelady093077@gmail.com	7/18/2018 7:15 PM
281	Element2002@comcast.net	7/18/2018 6:55 PM
282	ashes_06@comcast.net	7/18/2018 6:03 PM

## Elkhart County Parks-Bonneyville Mill County Park - Lookout Shelter

UPDATED: February 2019

211 West Lincoln Avenue

Goshen, Indiana 46526

(574)535-6458

Location		Structural Inconsistencies		Recommended Corrections/Modifications to Provide Access	Technical Information			Finalized Actions		
Location	Photo	Identified Issue	ADAAG Specification		Priority Ranking and Justification	Improvement Cost	Funding Source	Finalized Correction	Anticipated Date of Completion	Date of Completion
1. Shelter		Shelter does not have an accessible path from parking lot. The route is turf.	4.3,4.4,4.5,4.7	ADAAG requires an accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12 or less. <b>Eventually rebuild this shelter in a more level area or create an accessible trail to the shelter. Note: area is low and water can be an issue at this location.</b>	<b>L:</b> Add accessible grill and picnic tables, extend shelter pad.	\$100,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
2 Parking		Parking lot has no designated hard surfaced space.	4.6	ADA standard requires hard surfaced striped and marked van accessible parking pads. <b>Build a designated hard surface van accessible space with signs and striping. The parking lot will require a drainage system in order to construct a parking pad and accessible route.</b>	<b>L:</b> Another alternative is to create an interior looped road in this portion of park with accessible parking and route to shelter.	\$25,000	Park General Fund			
3. Restroom/Latrine		Restroom is an accessible portable latrine at this location. Access route is lawn from a gravel parking lot. Fully accessible restrooms also located in Mill Valley.	4.1	ADA standard requires at least one restroom to be accessible. <b>Restroom is an ADA portable latrine at this location. An accessible route should be improved to this restroom. It is located near the gravel packed parking lot.</b>	<b>M:</b> Sign should be placed to explain fully accessible restrooms in Mill Valley.	\$2,000	Park General Fund			
4 Lookout Tower		The lookout tower at this location is not accessible and there is no accessible route.	n/a	Develop an interpretive sign to provide a similar experience that provides photographs of views from the top.	<b>M</b>	\$3,000	Park General Fund			

## Elkhart County ADA Transition Plan

Priority Rankings: L=Low, M=Medium, H=High

February 2019

1 of 1



## Elkhart County Parks-Bonneyville Mill County Park - Meadow Shelter

UPDATED: February 2019

211 West Lincoln Avenue

Goshen, Indiana 46526

(574)535-6458

Location		Structural Inconsistencies		Recommended Corrections/Modifications to Provide Access	Technical Information			Finalized Actions		
Location	Photo	Identified Issue	ADAAG Specification		Priority Ranking and Justification	Improvement Cost	Funding Source	Finalized Correction	Anticipated Date of Completion	Date of Completion
1. Shelter		Shelter is not accessible due to extreme slope to the shelter and latrine. The route is turf and may comply with NPS challenge level.	4.3,4.4,4.5,4.7	ADAAG requires an accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12 or less. <b>Eventually rebuild this shelter in a lower area, or create an interior road system to make accessible from opposite side.</b>	<b>L:</b> This shelter is outdated and would benefit from being rebuilt.	\$100,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
2 Parking		Parking lot has no designated hard surfaced space.	4.6	ADA standard requires hard surfaced striped and marked van accessible parking pads. <b>Build a designated hard surface van accessible space with signs and striping.</b>	<b>L:</b> Another alternative is to create an interior looped road in this portion of park with accessible parking and route to shelter.	\$25,000	Park General Fund			
3. Restroom/Latrine		Restrooms is not accessible.	4.1	ADA standard requires at least one restroom to be accessible. <b>Replace latrine with fully accessible Romtec style restroom. Create a fine aggregate rolled path to latrine.</b>	<b>M:</b> Sign should be placed to explain fully accessible restrooms in Mill Valley.	\$35,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			

## Elkhart County Parks-Bonneyville Mill County Park - Pear Orchard Picnic Area

UPDATED: February 2019

211 West Lincoln Avenue

Goshen, Indiana 46526

(574)535-6458

Location		Structural Inconsistencies		Recommended Corrections/Modifications to Provide Access	Technical Information			Finalized Actions		
Location	Photo	Identified Issue	ADAAG Specification		Priority Ranking and Justification	Improvement Cost	Funding Source	Finalized Correction	Anticipated Date of Completion	Date of Completion
1. Picnic Area		Accessible picnic tables, trash receptacles, and grills are available, surface is flat turf.	F245.2 .1/ F245.2 .2	ADA requirements include at least 20 % (with a minimum of two) accessible picnic tables . <b>In future create a concrete pad with a route that is accessible for accessible picnic tables.</b>	<b>L:</b>	\$6,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
2 Parking		Parking lot has five ADA designated hard surfaced spaces.	4.6	ADAAG requires accessible parking spaces to be located in each parking lot. Accessible parking spaces are required to have upright signage that includes the symbol of a accessibility and van accessible signage where required. <b>Site has five ADA concrete parking spaces, including one marked as van accessible.</b>	<b>M:</b> Lines need repainting.	\$500	Park General Fund			
3. Restrooms		Modern restrooms are accessible including route to restrooms.	4.1, 4.2, 4.13, 4.30,4.17, 4.19, 4.24	ADA requires include that when restrooms are open to the public, at least one restroom is fully accessible. <b>Men's and women's restrooms at this site are compliant.</b>	<b>L: no action needed</b>					
4. Latrine		There is a non-accessible latrine on the east end of this site. The route is a sloped turf.	4.1	Modern restrooms are nearby. This latrine could be removed in future as it is no longer needed.	<b>M.</b> Restroom no longer needed, could be removed	\$500	Non-reverting Capital Funds			
5. Drinking Fountain		Water fountain is compliant	4.15	ADAAG requires at least one fountain with clear floor space of at least 30x48 inches in front and a spout of no higher than 36 inches.	<b>L:</b> no action needed					

## Elkhart County ADA Transition Plan

February 2019

Priority Rankings: L=Low, M=Medium, H=High

1 of 1



Location		Structural Inconsistencies		Recommended Corrections/Modifications to Provide Access	Technical Information			Finalized Actions		
Location	Photo	Identified Issue	ADAAG Specification		Priority Ranking and Justification	Improvement Cost	Funding Source	Finalized Correction	Anticipated Date of Completion	Date of Completion
1. Shelter		Shelter has an accessible hard surfaced route. It has four accessible picnic tables, and a trash receptable. One grills is ADA but needs a concrete pads poured around it	4.3,4.4 ,4.5,4.7	ADAAG requires an accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12 or less to approach buildings. Concrete pad around ADA grill is needed. In addition, sidewalk needs concrete shaved/leveled in two places to avoid tripping hazard.	M: This is another shelter that needs to be replaced due to aging structure.	\$500-\$100.000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
2 Parking		Parking lot has two designated hard surfaced spaces.	4.6	ADAAG requires accessible parking spaces to be located in each parking lot. Accessible parking spaces are required to have upright signage that includes the symbol of accessibility and van accessible signage where required. One ADA sign with an arrow is shared at this site. Two ADA parking space signs are needed, included one for van accessibility.	H: Extended concrete pad or hard surface needed at this site.	\$1,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
3. Restroom/ Latrine		Restroom is not accessble. Route is concrete but too sloped, stool too narrow, stool too high, urinal too high, grab bar wrong size	4.1	ADA standard requires at least one restoom to be accessible. Replace latrine with a ADA Romtect style restroom with an accessible route.	H. This entire site needs to be updated.	\$35,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			

Location		Structural Inconsistencies		Recommended Corrections/Modifications to Provide Access	Technical Information			Finalized Actions		
Location	Photo	Identified Issue	ADAAG Specification		Priority Ranking and Justification	Improvement Cost	Funding Source	Finalized Correction	Anticipated Date of Completion	Date of Completion
1. Shelter		Shelter does not have an accessible hard surfaced route. It does have accessible grills, picnic tables, and trash receptables.	4.3,4.4,4.5,4.7	ADAAG requires an accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12 or less with a hard-packed surface. <b>Create a hard-packed surface to shelter.</b>	<b>L:</b> This is another shelter that will require a future update. It could be moved closer to the parking lot in a flatter area in the future.	\$5,000 to \$100,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
2. Parking		Parking lot has two designated slag surfaced ADA parking spaces. One has a van accessible sign.	4.6	ADA standard requires hard surfaced striped and marked van accessible parking pads. <b>There is no striping on the slagged surface.</b>	<b>H:</b> Add striping to slag surface or replace with concrete pad.	\$300 to \$6000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
3. Restroom/Latrine		Restroom is not accessible. There is no accessible route, stool too narrow, stool too high, urinal too high, grab bar wrong size	4.1	ADA standard requires at least one restroom to be accessible. <b>Replace latrine with a ADA Romtec style restroom with an accessible route.</b>	<b>M:</b> Sign should be placed to explain fully accessible restrooms in Mill Valley.	\$35,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			



Location		Structural Inconsistencies		Recommended Corrections/Modifications to Provide Access	Technical Information			Finalized Actions		
Location	Photo	Identified Issue	ADAAG Specification		Priority Ranking and Justification	Improvement Cost	Funding Source	Finalized Correction	Anticipated Date of Completion	Date of Completion
1. Shelter		Shelter has an accessible hard surfaced route. It has four accessible picnic tables, and a trash receptacle. One grill is ADA but needs a concrete pads poured around it.	4.3,4.4,4.5,4.7	ADAAG requires an accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12 or less to approach buildings. <b>Concrete pad around ADA grill is needed. In addition, sidewalk needs concrete shaved/leveled in two places to avoid tripping hazard.</b>	<b>M:</b> This is another shelter that needs to be replaced due to aging structure.	\$500-\$100,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
2 Parking		Parking lot has two designated hard surfaced spaces.	4.6	ADAAG requires accessible parking spaces to be located in each parking lot. Accessible parking spaces are required to have upright signage that includes the symbol of accessibility and van accessible signage where required. <b>One ADA sign with an arrow is shared at this site. Two ADA parking space signs are needed, included one for van accessibility.</b>	<b>H:</b> Extended concrete pad or hard surface needed at this site.	\$1,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
3. Restroom/Latrine		Restroom is not accessible. Route is concrete but too sloped, stool too narrow, stool too high, urinal too high, grab bar wrong size	4.1	ADA standard requires at least one restroom to be accessible. <b>Replace latrine with a ADA Romtect style restroom with an accessible route.</b>	<b>H.</b> This entire site needs to be updated.	\$35,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			



## Elkhart County Parks-Bonneyville Mill County Park - One Room Schoolhouse

UPDATED: February 2019

211 West Lincoln Avenue

Goshen, Indiana 46526

(574)535-6458

Location		Structural Inconsistencies		Recommended Corrections/Modifications to Provide Access	Technical Information			Finalized Actions		
Location	Photo	Identified Issue	ADAAG Specification		Priority Ranking and Justification	Improvement Cost	Funding Source	Finalized Correction	Anticipated Date of Completion	Date of Completion
1. Building		Lower level of the One Room has a hard surfaced ADA route to both the lower and upper levels.	4.3,4.4,4.5,4.7	ADAAG requires an accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12 or less. There are two separate entrances to the building, both are ADA with concrete path.	L: Building is accessible, no action needed.		Non-reverting Capital Fund			
2 Parking		Small parking lot has one concrete ADA van accessible parking space.	4.6	ADA standard requires hard surfaced striped and marked van accessible parking pads. Concrete pad needs striping.	H: This can easily be accomplished.	\$200	Park General Fund			
3. Restrooms		Restrooms are located in the lower level of the ORS and are wheelchair accessible.	4.1	ADAAG requires at least one restroom be accessible. Both the mens and women's restroom are accessible in the lower level of this facility.	L: No changes necessary					
5. Stairs		A set of stairs also connects the two levels.	4.9	ADAAG suggests stairs have non-slip surface and continuous rails on both sides with extensions. Both these items need to be updated on stairwell, although the upstairs is not available as rental space	M.	\$1,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
6. Kitchen		A small kitchen is available to renters	804	ADA standard requires u-shaped kitchens to have 60 inch clearance for wheel chair turnaround. 34 inch maximum work surfaces, oven controls on front, Fridge/freezer space should be 54 inches maximum and approachable parallel.	L. Kitchen is compliant. Stove could be replaced with one that has knobs on front.	\$600	Non-reverting Capital Fund			

## Elkhart County ADA Transition Plan

February 2019

Priority Rankings: L=Low, M=Medium, H=High

1 of 1

# Elkhart County Parks-Bonneyville Mill-Feedlot Shelter

UPDATED: February 2019

211 West Lincoln Avenue

Goshen, Indiana 46526

(574)535-6458

Location		Structural Inconsistencies		Recommended Corrections/Modifications to Provide Access	Technical Information			Finalized Actions		
Location	Photo	Identified Issue	ADAAG Specification		Priority Ranking and Justification	Improvement Cost	Funding Source	Finalized Correction	Anticipated Date of Completion	Date of Completion
1. Shelter		Shelter is accessible with hard surfaced route, and accessible grills, picnic tables, and trash receptables.	4.3,4.4,4.5,4.7	ADAAG requires an accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12 or less. <b>This shelter has a concrete surface with boardwalk bridge from parking lot to shelter. Rest stops should be placed along the way.</b>	<b>L:</b> Bench could be placed at the end of the bridge.	\$1,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
2 Parking		Parking lot has five designated hard surfaced space in Pear Orchard/Mill Valley.	4.6	ADA standard requires hard surfaced striped and marked van accessible parking pads. <b>Parking lot meets needs and has one van accessible site.</b>	<b>L:</b> No change needed.					
3. Restrooms		Nearby restrooms in Pear Orchard are fully accessible.	4.1	ADA standard requires at least one restroom to be accessible. <b>Men's and women's accessible restrooms are located at this location.</b>	<b>L:</b> No change needed.					



Location		Structural Inconsistencies		Recommended Corrections/Modifications to Provide Access	Technical Information			Finalized Actions		
Location	Photo	Identified Issue	ADAAG Specification		Priority Ranking and Justification	Improvement Cost	Funding Source	Finalized Correction	Anticipated Date of Completion	Date of Completion
1. Buiding		Building is an historic site. A first level ramp has been added to make first floor accessible.	4.3,4.4,4.5,4.7	ADA allows for limitation of visitor access to historic sites. <b>Visitors get to experience the first floor level which includes observation of staff grinding flour. Plans include video interactive portions viewable from an tablet to experience upper and lower levels of the historic gristmill.</b>	H: Create interpretive video of all levels of mill.	\$500	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
2 Parking		Parking lot has designated hard surfaced spaces.	4.6	ADAAG requires requires hard surfaced striped and marked van accessible parking pads. <b>Parking for the Mill is in the Pear Orchard Parking lot and meets this requirement.</b>	L: No change needed.					
3. Route		Route is from parking lot, over the river boardwalk, and hard surfaced along Feedlot Shelter.	4.3,4.4,4.5,4.7	ADAAG requires an accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12 or less. <b>Route is same as the one to Feedlot Shelter, but crosses road. Traffic calming measures should be put into place where pedestrians walk across county road to visit historic site.</b>	H. Work with highway dept. on traffic calming measures.					
5. Sales Counter		Sales counter is too high, but this is a registered historic site.	904.3.2	ADA requires sales counter to be height of 38" maximum. Present counter measures 40 inches. If area is ever remodeled it could be lowered in the future.	L: Counter is used for flour sales. Customers can be helped from outside the counter as well.					
6		Outdoor Bench		ADA does not require outdoor benches to conform to section 903. <b>This bench does have a wheelchair pad next to the bench.</b>	L: New amenity, no change needed.	\$1,200	Donation Fund			2017



## Elkhart County Parks-Ox Bow County Park-Modern Restrooms/Upper Field

UPDATED: February 2019

211 West Lincoln Avenue

Goshen, Indiana 46526

(574)535-6458

Location		Structural Inconsistencies		Recommended Corrections/Modifications to Provide Access	Technical Information			Finalized Actions		
Location	Photo	Identified Issue	ADAAG Specification		Priority Ranking and Justification	Improvement Cost	Funding Source	Finalized Correction	Anticipated Date of Completion	Date of Completion
1. Parking		This site has two accessible parking spaces.	4.6	ADAAG requires accessible parking spaces to be located in each parking lot. Accessible parking spaces are required to have upright signage that includes the symbol of a accessibility and van accessible signage where required. A van accessible sign and striping is in place.	L:		Non-reverting Capital Fund			
2. Restrooms		This area has accessible restrooms in the Concessions building.	4.1	ADA requirements include that when restrooms are open to the public, at least one restroom is fully accessible. <b>Both men's and women's restrooms at this site are compliant.</b>	L.					
3. Route		There is an accessible route.	4.3,4.4,4.5,4.7	ADAAG requires an accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12 or less. <b>An accessible concrete sidewalk links parking to restrooms and playground.</b>	L.					
4. Playground		The playground has some elements that are accessible as well as a woodchip surface.	1008	All playgrounds need to be evaluated by a professional playground company to create suggestions for compliancy.	M: Grants could be attained to accomplish this task.	\$50,000	Grants and donations			
5. Archery Range		Create an accessible route to archery range.	4.3,4.4,4.5,4.7	Establish a hard packed gravel trail on the north end of the athletic field to the archery range with a bench as a rest stop.	M: Grants could be attained to accomplish this task.	\$2,500	Grants and donations			

## Elkhart County ADA Transition Plan

Priority Rankings: L=Low, M=Medium, H=High

February 2019

1 of 1



Location		Structural Inconsistencies		Recommended Corrections/Modifications to Provide Access	Technical Information			Finalized Actions		
Location	Photo	Identified Issue	ADAAG Specification		Priority Ranking and Justification	Improvement Cost	Funding Source	Finalized Correction	Anticipated Date of Completion	Date of Completion
1. Route	1	This area is located in a very hilly sand area covering about 25 acres.		There are no actual ADA standards for Disc Golf Courses. <b>In the future we would propose several baskets be located in a more level area near Stable Shelter with accessible parking area.</b>	<b>M:</b> Adding 3 to 4 baskets with a hard surfaced path would be beneficial to families as well as people with disabilities	\$15,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			

Location		Structural Inconsistencies		Recommended Corrections/Modifications to Provide Access	Technical Information			Finalized Actions		
Location	Photo	Identified Issue	ADAAG Specification		Priority Ranking and Justification	Improvement Cost	Funding Source	Finalized Correction	Anticipated Date of Completion	Date of Completion
1. Building		This site is strictly used as staff office space. The general public is served mostly from their vehicles.	4.3,4.4,4.5,4.7	ADAAG requires an accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12 or less. <b>There is flat concrete access from parking lot to the building.</b>	<b>L:</b> No change necessary at this time.		Non-reverting Capital Fund			
2. Parking		The site is a hard surfaced parking lot, marked with two ADA sites.	4.6	ADAAG requires accessible parking spaces to be located in each parking lot. Accessible parking spaces are required to have upright signage that includes the symbol of a accessibility and van accessible signage where required. <b>One van accessible sign shared for both parking spaces.</b>	<b>M:</b> Update signage with two distinct signs for ADA parking. Repaint striping.	\$300	Non-reverting Capital Fund			



Location		Structural Inconsistencies		Recommended Corrections/Modifications to Provide Access	Technical Information			Finalized Actions		
Location	Photo	Identified Issue	ADAAG Specification		Priority Ranking and Justification	Improvement Cost	Funding Source	Finalized Correction	Anticipated Date of Completion	Date of Completion
1. Building		This site is strictly used as a storage facility and not used by the general public.		This building will be removed in the future.	L: Building is used on a limited basis by staff.		Non-reverting Capital Fund			

Location		Structural Inconsistencies		Recommended Corrections/Modifications to Provide Access	Technical Information			Finalized Actions		
Location	Photo	Identified Issue	ADAAG Specification		Priority Ranking and Justification	Improvement Cost	Funding Source	Finalized Correction	Anticipated Date of Completion	Date of Completion
1. Route		This site is accessed via a turf route.	4.3,4.4,4.5,4.7	ADA suggests an accessible route. <b>Construct a hard packed slag walk to campfire area.</b>	<b>L:</b> Create an ADA route to campfire pit.	\$3,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
2. Surface change around campfire		Add hard packed gravel space around campfire area.		<b>Create a hard surface slag around around the firepit for wheelchair accessibility.</b>	<b>L:</b> Note: Campfire pit is not for cooking.	\$200				

Location		Structural Inconsistencies		Recommended Corrections/Modifications to Provide Access	Technical Information			Finalized Actions		
Location	Photo	Identified Issue	ADAAG Specification		Priority Ranking and Justification	Improvement Cost	Funding Source	Finalized Correction	Anticipated Date of Completion	Date of Completion
1. Building		This site is strictly used as a maintenance facility. No general public use.		Site is not used by general public.	L:					



Location		Structural Inconsistencies		Recommended Corrections/Modifications to Provide Access	Technical Information			Finalized Actions		
Location	Photo	Identified Issue	ADAAG Specification		Priority Ranking and Justification	Improvement Cost	Funding Source	Finalized Correction	Anticipated Date of Completion	Date of Completion
1. Shelter		Shelter has an accessible route, ADA picnic tables, grills and trash cans.	4.3,4.4,4.5,4.7	ADAAG requires an accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12 or less. <b>This site has an accessible route from parking to the shelter and latrine.</b>	L:		Non-reverting Capital Fund			
2 Parking		Parking lot has designated hard surfaced space.	4.6	ADA standard requires hard surfaced striped and marked van accessible parking pads. <b>Site has concrete van accessible parking space.</b>	L:		Non-reverting Capital Fund			
3 Restroom/Latrine		Latrine is not fully accessible. Stalls too narrow, door closes too fast, urinal too high (26")	4.2.1	ADA standard requires at least one restroom to be accessible. <b>Restroom needs updated or replaced to be fully ADA.</b>	H: Place sign to fully accessible restrooms at Modern Restroom/Upper Field	\$30,000	Park General Fund			



Location		Structural Inconsistencies		Recommended Corrections/Modifications to Provide Access	Technical Information			Finalized Actions		
Location	Photo	Identified Issue	ADAAG Specification		Priority Ranking and Justification	Improvement Cost	Funding Source	Finalized Correction	Anticipated Date of Completion	Date of Completion
1. Shelter		Shelter is accessible with hard surfaced route, and accessible grills, picnic tables, and trash receptables.	4.3,4.4,4.5,4.7	ADAAG requires an accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12 or less. <b>Shelter is accessible with hard surfaced route to shelter and latrine.</b>	<b>L:</b> No upgrades needed.					
2 Parking		Small parking lot has one designated hard surfaced space.	4.6	ADAAG requires accessible parking spaces to be located in each parking lot. Accessible parking spaces are required to have upright signage that includes the symbol of a accessibility and van accessible signage where required. <b>Update signage and striping for van accessibility.</b>	<b>H:</b>	\$250	Park General Fund			
3. Restroom/Latrine		Restrooms needs updates to be ADA.	4.1	ADA standard requires at least one restroom to be accessible. <b>Replace latrine with a ADA Romtect style restroom with an accessible route.</b>	<b>M:</b> Signage placed to direct visitors to fully accessible modern restrooms at upper field.	\$35,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			

Location		Structural Inconsistencies		Recommended Corrections/Modifications to Provide Access	Technical Information			Finalized Actions		
Location	Photo	Identified Issue	ADAAG Specification		Priority Ranking and Justification	Improvement Cost	Funding Source	Finalized Correction	Anticipated Date of Completion	Date of Completion
1. Shelter		Shelter has accessible concrete route, pad, three picnic tables, trash barrels and grill.	4.3	ADAAG requires an accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12 or less to approach buildings. <b>There is an accessible path to shelter and latrine.</b>	L:					
2 Restroom/Latrine		Latrine is not ADA accessible. Door closes too fast, stalls too narrow, stools too low (15"), urinal too high (23.5")	4.1	ADA standard requires at least one restroom to be accessible. <b>Replace latrine with a ADA Romtec style restroom. Patrons are able to use fully ADA Modern restrooms at upper field.</b>	H: This latrine has been deteriorating. Plans are to remove and have visitors use nearby Modern restrooms or replace with a accessible Romtec unit.	\$35,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
3. Parking		Small parking lot has two designated hard surfaced space.	4.6	ADAAG requires accessible parking spaces to be located in each parking lot. Accessible parking spaces are required to have upright signage that includes the symbol of a accessibility and van accessible signage where required. <b>Update signage and striping for one of spaces for van accessibility.</b>	H: This goal should be easily attainable.	\$500	Non-reverting Operating Fund			



Location		Structural Inconsistencies		Recommended Corrections/Modifications to Provide Access	Technical Information			Finalized Actions		
Location	Photo	Identified Issue	ADAAG Specification		Priority Ranking and Justification	Improvement Cost	Funding Source	Finalized Correction	Anticipated Date of Completion	Date of Completion
1. Shelter		Shelter is accessible with hard surfaced route, and accessible grills, picnic tables, and trash receptables.	4.3,4.4,4.5,4.7	ADAAG requires an accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12 or less. <b>Shelter is accessible with hard surfaced route to shelter and latrine.</b>	<b>L:</b> No upgrades needed.					
2 Parking		Small parking lot has one designated hard surfaced space.	4.6	ADAAG requires accessible parking spaces to be located in each parking lot. Accessible parking spaces are required to have upright signage that includes the symbol of a accessibility and van accessible signage where required. <b>Update signage and striping for van accessibility.</b>	<b>H:</b>	\$250	Park General Fund			
3. Restroom/Latrine		Restrooms needs updates to be ADA.	4.1	ADA standard requires at least one restroom to be accessible. <b>Replace latrine with a ADA Romtect style restroom with an accessible route.</b>	<b>M:</b> Signage placed to direct visitors to fully accessible modern restrooms at upper field.	\$35,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			

## Elkhart County Parks-Ox Bow County Park-Fisherman's Camp Shelter

UPDATED: February 2019

211 West Lincoln Avenue

Goshen, Indiana 46526

(574)535-6458

Location		Structural Inconsistencies		Recommended Corrections/Modifications to Provide Access	Technical Information			Finalized Actions		
Location	Photo	Identified Issue	ADAAG Specification		Priority Ranking and Justification	Improvement Cost	Funding Source	Finalized Correction	Anticipated Date of Completion	Date of Completion
1. Shelter		Shelter is accessible with hard surfaced route, and accessible grill, three picnic tables, and trash receptables.	4.3	ADAAG requires an accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12 or less to approach buildings. <b>There is an accessible path to shelter.</b>	<b>L:</b> No change needed					
2 Parking		Lower parking lot has designated hard surfaced space.	4.6	ADAAG requires accessible parking spaces to be located in each parking lot. Accessible parking spaces are required to have upright signage that includes the symbol of a accessibility and van accessible signage where required. <b>Update signage and striping for one of spaces for van accessibility.</b>	<b>H:</b> This goal is achievable.	\$500	Park General Fund			
3. Restroom/Latrine		Restrooms are not accessible: no accessible route, space constraints, stool, grab bar, urinals do not meet ADA standards	4.1	ADA standard requires at least one restroom to be accessible. <b>We recommend a new latrine or modern restroom situated near the Fisherman's shelter to service this shelter/playground/lower field/tower area.</b>	<b>M:</b> Place signage for visitors so they know accessible restrooms are located at Modern Restrooms in Upper Field.	\$75,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
Playground		Playground surface and equipment are not fully accessible		Modernize equipment and surface to create a full or partially ADA playground.	<b>M:</b> Talk with a playground consultant to determine what presently meets needs and how to adapt	\$50,000	Grants and Donations			

## Elkhart County ADA Transition Plan

Priority Rankings: L=Low, M=Medium, H=High

February 2019

1 of 1



Location		Structural Inconsistencies		Recommended Corrections/Modifications to Provide Access	Technical Information			Finalized Actions		
Location	Photo	Identified Issue	ADAAG Specification		Priority Ranking and Justification	Improvement Cost	Funding Source	Finalized Correction	Anticipated Date of Completion	Date of Completion
1. Chapel Site		Site is not accessible and does not have an accessible route.	4.3	ADAAG requires an accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12 or less to approach buildings. The chapel site is located at the base of hill. Even with a ramp and handrail, this present location is unfeasible for accessibility. <b>Recommendation would be to move and/or build a new gazebo or chapel on flatter surface with an accessible route.</b>	<b>M:</b> This project may also qualify for grants and donations.	\$25,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
2 Parking		Parking has no accessible hard surface spaces.	4.6	ADAAG requires accessible parking spaces to be located in each parking lot. Accessible parking spaces are required to have upright signage that includes the symbol of a accessibility and van accessible signage where required. <b>When the chapel is relocated, this parking area will remain and requires a hard surfaced concrete pad with appropriate ADA van accessible spaces, signs and striping.</b>	<b>M:</b> This project may also qualify for grants and donations.	\$20,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			

Location		Structural Inconsistencies		Recommended Corrections/Modifications to Provide Access	Technical Information			Finalized Actions		
Location	Photo	Identified Issue	ADAAG Specification		Priority Ranking and Justification	Improvement Cost	Funding Source	Finalized Correction	Anticipated Date of Completion	Date of Completion
1. Shelter		Shelter is accessible with hard surfaced route, and accessible grill, three picnic tables, and trash receptables.	4.3	ADAAG requires an accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12 or less to approach buildings. <b>There is an accessible path to shelter and latrine.</b>	<b>L:</b> Move trash cans to concrete.					
2 Parking		Parking lot has one designated hard surfaced space.	4.6	ADAAG requires accessible parking spaces to be located in each parking lot. Accessible parking spaces are required to have upright signage that includes the symbol of a accessibility and van accessible signage where required. <b>Update signage and striping for one of spaces for van accessibility.</b>	<b>H:</b> Add signing and stripes.	\$500	Park General Fund			
3. Restroom/ Latrine		Latrine is not ADA accessible. Door closes too fast, stalls too narrow, stools too low, urinal too high.	4.1	ADA standard requires at least one restroom to be accessible. <b>Replace latrine with a ADA Romtec style restroom. Patrons are able to use Modern restrooms in this park.</b>	<b>L:</b> Post sign for visitors for fully ADA restrooms at Modern restrooms.	\$50,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
4 Playground		Playground consists of sand and play equipment.		Modernize equipment and surface to create a full or partially ADA playground.	<b>M:</b> Talk with a playground consultant to determine what presently meets needs and how to adapt	\$25,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			



Location		Structural Inconsistencies		Recommended Corrections/Modifications to Provide Access	Technical Information			Finalized Actions		
Location	Photo	Identified Issue	ADAAG Specification		Priority Ranking and Justification	Improvement Cost	Funding Source	Finalized Correction	Anticipated Date of Completion	Date of Completion
1. Building		Building is not fully accessible and steps divide the main floor. New pistons needed on doors.	4.3	Steps divide entire length of building, floor would need to be raised on the east end of building. ADAAG requires the doors be opened without too much force (5lbf maximum for interior doors). Change doors or pistons on doors.	L: Building would need major renovations with leveling of main floor to remove steps and new foyer.	\$75,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
Parking		Parking lot has two designated hard surfaced space.		ADAAG requires accessible parking spaces to be located in each parking lot. Accessible parking spaces are required to have upright signage that includes the symbol of a accessibility and van accessible signage where required. Add one "Van Accessible" sign.	H: This could be easily be accomplished.	\$100	Park General Fund			
4. Restrooms		Restrooms are not accessible. Accessible restrooms are located across the street in Modern restrooms building.	4.1	ADA standard requires at least one restroom to be accessible. This concrete building was built in the early 1970s. Restrooms are small, but could be remodeled for one fully accessible ADA uni-sex restroom.	L: Sign should be placed to identify accessible restrooms at Modern restrooms building.	\$30,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			

# Elkhart County Parks-Ox Bow County Park-Picnic Sites throughout Park

UPDATED: February 2019

211 West Lincoln Avenue  
Goshen, Indiana 46526  
(574)535-6458

Location		Structural Inconsistencies		Recommended Corrections/Modifications to Provide Access	Technical Information			Finalized Actions		
Location	Photo	Identified Issue	ADAAG Specification		Priority Ranking and Justification	Improvement Cost	Funding Source	Finalized Correction	Anticipated Date of Completion	Date of Completion
1. Picnic Sites		Primitive Picnic sites are on turf.		Create at least one fully accessible primitive picnic site within the park that has a concrete parking pad and accessible route.	L: All picnic shelters (with exception of Farmstead) are presently accessible as an alternative to primitive picnic sites	\$5,000				
2. Routes		Most primitive picnic sites do not have accessible paved routes to picnic sites	4.3	same as above	same as above	\$2,500				
3. Parking		Most picnic sites do not have ADA parking, unless near a shelter that has one	4.6	same as above	same as above	\$7,500				



Location		Structural Inconsistencies		Recommended Corrections/Modifications to Provide Access	Technical Information			Finalized Actions		
Location	Photo	Identified Issue	ADAAG Specification		Priority Ranking and Justification	Improvement Cost	Funding Source	Finalized Correction	Anticipated Date of Completion	Date of Completion
1. Shelter		Site has accessible grill, three picnic tables, and trash receptables.	4.3	ADAAG requires an accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12 or less to approach buildings. <b>There is an accessible path to shelter and latrine.</b>						
2 Parking		Parking lot has accessible parking on hard surface.		ADAAG requires accessible parking spaces to be located in each parking lot. Accessible parking spaces are required to have upright signage that includes the symbol of a accessibility and van accessible signage where required. <b>Update signage and striping for one of spaces for van accessibility.</b>	<b>H:</b> This goal should be easily attainable.	\$500	Park General Fund			
3. Restroom/Latrine		Restrooms is not fully accessible. Stalls are too small and urinal is too high.	4.1	ADA standard requires at least one restroom to be accessible. <b>Replace latrine with a ADA Romtec style restroom. Patrons are able to use Concessions/Modern restrooms in this park.</b>	<b>M:</b> Place signage directing visitors to Modern restrooms for accessibility.	\$50,000	Non-reverting capital			

Location		Structural Inconsistencies		Recommended Corrections/Modifications to Provide Access	Technical Information			Finalized Actions		
Location	Photo	Identified Issue	ADAAG Specification		Priority Ranking and Justification	Improvement Cost	Funding Source	Finalized Correction	Anticipated Date of Completion	Date of Completion
1. Tower		Tower has first level fully accessible including a bench.	4.3	ADAAG requires an accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12 or less. <b>Could add an interpretive panel on first level with photographs of views from the top level along with history.</b>	L: Add interpretive signage that includes photographs of views from top of tower	\$2,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
2 Parking		Nearby Chapel parking lot needs accessible parking spaces, present accessible route is from Fisherman's accessible lot.	4.6	ADAAG requires accessible parking spaces to be located in each parking lot. <b>Create a hard surfaced parking space (van accessible) with proper signing and striping.</b>	H: This parking lot needs hard surfaced accessible pads.	\$20,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
3. Route		There is an accessible paved trail to the tower's boardwalk from the Fisherman's accessible parking.	4.3	ADAAG requires an accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12 or less. <b>Add an additional route from Chapel parking lot to trail that leads to tower.</b>	H: Connect an additional route to Chapel parking lot and tower.	\$5,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			



Location		Structural Inconsistencies		Recommended Corrections/Modifications to Provide Access	Technical Information			Finalized Actions		
Location	Photo	Identified Issue	ADAAG Specification		Priority Ranking and Justification	Improvement Cost	Funding Source	Finalized Correction	Anticipated Date of Completion	Date of Completion
1. Parking		No accessible parking area with hard surface. Parking lot is gravel.	4.6	ADAAG requires accessible parking spaces to be located in each parking lot. Add a designated hard surfaced parking space with proper signage and striping.	L: Not a lot of park amenities at this location. Other sites would be a priority.	\$6,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
4. Picnic Area by dam		Picnic area is small concrete pad. Grill and picnic tables are not accessible.		Install a hard surface route such as packed crushed gravel. Purchase and accessible picnic table and grills. Concrete pad may need an extension.	L: This could be done in conjunction with accessible parking spaces.	\$5,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
4. Picnic area by road		Picnic area is turf. Grill and picnic tables are not accessible.	4.19.6	Create an ADA picnic pad with accessible features.	M:	\$4,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
5. Trail to dam		Path is solid packed dirt. Bench is located halfway along path.	4.19.6	Use packing graving to roll a crushed gravel trail. Add two more pull-offs with ADA benches.	M:	\$4,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			

Location		Structural Inconsistencies		Recommended Corrections/Modifications to Provide Access	Technical Information			Finalized Actions		
Location	Photo	Identified Issue	ADAAG Specification		Priority Ranking and Justification	Improvement Cost	Funding Source	Finalized Correction	Anticipated Date of Completion	Date of Completion
1. Parking		No accessible parking area with hard surface.	4.6	ADAAG requires accessible parking spaces to be located in each parking lot. Add a designated hard surfaced parking space with proper signage and striping.	L: There are not a lot of amenities in this area of park.	\$4,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
2. Trail to hydro		Trail is packed dirt.	4.19.6	Surface trail with crushed gravel.	L: There are not a lot of amenities in this area of park.	\$8,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
3. Picnic area		Picnic pad is 8 x 7.75 feet concrete. Picnic table is ADA, grillis not.		Add ADA grill and extend concrete pad.	L: There are not a lot of amenities in this area of park.	\$1,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			



Location		Structural Inconsistencies		Recommended Corrections/Modifications to Provide Access	Technical Information			Finalized Actions		
Location	Photo	Identified Issue	ADAAG Specification		Priority Ranking and Justification	Improvement Cost	Funding Source	Finalized Correction	Anticipated Date of Completion	Date of Completion
1. Shelter		No accessible route to shelter.	4.3	ADAAG requires an accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12 or less to approach buildings. There is no accessible path to shelter and latrine.	M: Install a crushed limestone path to shelter and latrine.	\$8,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
2. Parking		Parking lot has an accessible concrete pad.	4.6	ADAAG requires accessible parking spaces to be located in each parking lot. Accessible parking spaces are required to have upright signage that includes the symbol of a accessibility and van accessible signage where required. Add updated signage and striping for van accessibility.	M:	\$500	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
3. Restroom/Latrine		Restrooms is accessible, grab bar needs a different location.	4.1	ADA standard requires at least one restroom to be accessible. Evenutally replace latrine with a ADA Romtec style restroom.	M:	\$35,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
4. Picnic Area		Picnic area is not accessible. Route is turf. Picnic table pad is not large enough. Grill and picnic tables are not accessible.		Install a hard surface route and picnic pad such as packed crushed gravel. Purchase and accessible picnic table and grills.	L: Shelter would be first priority at this site.	\$5,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			

Location		Structural Inconsistencies		Recommended Corrections/Modifications to Provide Access	Technical Information			Finalized Actions		
Location	Photo	Identified Issue	ADAAG Specification		Priority Ranking and Justification	Improvement Cost	Funding Source	Finalized Correction	Anticipated Date of Completion	Date of Completion
1. Parking		No accessible parking area with hard surface	4.6	ADAAG requires accessible parking spaces to be located in each parking lot. <b>Add a designated hard surfaced parking space with proper signage and striping.</b>	<b>M:</b>	\$4,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
2. Trail to hydro		Existing levee trail to hydro is too steep from parking lot levee gate and has no accessible passageway. No rest areas.		<b>Traverse cut in levee to make trail level with roadway. Cut a 36" opening in the gate. Flatten top of levee to make trail accessible. Establish rest areas/benches.</b>	<b>L:</b>	\$3,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
3. Picnic area		Picnic site is not accessible.		Site needs accessible route to picnic area, hard surfaced pad and ADA grills	<b>L.</b>	\$1,500	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
4. Restroom		There is a non-ADA seasonal portable restroom at this site.		Concrete pad that portable restroom sits on needs to be enlarged to hold ADA portable restroom.	<b>M.</b> This could be done when a concrete parking pad is installed.	\$500	Non-reverting Capital Fund			



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Location	Photo	Identified Issue	ADAAG Specification		Priority Ranking and Justification	Improvement Cost	Funding Source	Finalized Correction	Anticipated Date of Completion	Date of Completion
1. Parking		Site has an accessible parking area with hard surface	4.6	ADAAG requires accessible parking spaces to be located in each parking lot. <b>Add updated ADA van accessible signage and striping.</b>	<b>M:</b> Signage, and striping.	\$600	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
Picnic Site		Route is turf, no hard surface pad, no accessible grill or trash receptacle. Has an accessible table.		ADAAG requires an accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12. <b>Create accessible route and install ADA amenities at picnic site.</b>	<b>M:</b>	\$2,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
Boat Launch		The Indiana Department of Natural Resources has a boat launch easement at this location.		ADAAG requires an accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12. <b>The IDNR has created an accessible route from parking lot to boat launch.</b>	<b>L:</b>		IDNR			

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Location	Photo	Identified Issue	ADAAG Specification		Priority Ranking and Justification	Improvement Cost	Funding Source	Finalized Correction	Anticipated Date of Completion	Date of Completion
1. Parking		Has an accessible parking area with hard surface	4.6	ADAAG requires accessible parking spaces to be located in each parking lot. Accessible parking spaces are required to have upright signage that includes the symbol of a accessibility and van accessible signage where required. <b>Update with proper van accessibility signage and striping.</b>	<b>M:</b>	\$600	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
2. Shelter		Accessible route to shelter is concrete.	4.3	ADAAG requires an accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12 or less to approach buildings. <b>There is an accessible path to shelter and latrine. There are two ADA picnic tables, no ADA grill.</b>	<b>M:</b> Add an ADA grill to shelter site.	\$800	Non-reverting Operating Fund			
3. Restrooms/Latrine		Latrine is not accessible	4.1	ADA standard requires at least one restroom to be accessible. Lower woman's stool, raise men's urinal. <b>Replace latrine with a ADA Romtec style restroom.</b>	<b>M:</b>	\$50,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			



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Location	Photo	Identified Issue	ADAAG Specification		Priority Ranking and Justification	Improvement Cost	Funding Source	Finalized Correction	Anticipated Date of Completion	Date of Completion
1. Parking		Parking lot is presently gravel with no hard surfaces or fully striped and signed van accessible spaces.	4.6	ADAAG requires accessible parking spaces to be located in each parking lot. Accessible parking spaces are required to have upright signage that includes the symbol of a accessibility and van accessible signage where required. <b>Add a designated hard surfaced parking space with proper signage and striping.</b>	<b>H:</b> Entire new/expanded parking lot is needed at this site.	5000 - \$100,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
2. Shelter		Accessible route is hard surface slag and pavillion includes concrete pad, accessible table.	4.3	ADAAG requires an accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12 or less to approach buildings. <b>There is an accessible slagged path to shelter.</b>						
3. Restrooms/Latrines		Presently no public restroom at this site.	4.1	This park is still under development and plans for an ADA Romtec style restroom will be added.	<b>H:</b> Grant and capital money are available to complete.	\$50,000	Grants/Donations			
4. Trail		Site has a .5 mile ADA slagged trail		This trail to prairie is presently being updated and new material placed.	<b>H:</b> Project is presently be completed.		Grants/Donations	<b>2019</b>		
5. Wetland Overlook		Wetland overlook is ADA accessible, but route to the pier is not fully accessbile due to natural terrain.		Route is hard surface soil, but does exceed 1:12 in some areas.	<b>L:</b> Terrain at a nature preserve is a challenge.		Grants/Donations			



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1. Parking		Accessible parking lot with hard surfaces and fully striped and signed van accessible spaces.	4.6	ADAAG requires accessible parking spaces to be located in each parking lot. Accessible parking spaces are required to have upright signage that includes the symbol of a accessibility and van accessible signage where required. <b>Update signage and striping for one of spaces for van accessibility.</b>	L: Park is newer and up-to-date					
Picnic Site		Accessible route is hard surface and include concrete pad, accessible table, grill, and trash receptacle.		ADAAG requires an accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12 or less to approach. <b>Site is up to date.</b>	L: Park is newer and up-to-date					
Restroom		Accessible concrete path route to restroom. Both men and women's restrooms are modern and fully accessible.	4.1	ADA standard requires at least one restroom to be accessible. <b>Bathroom is up to date.</b>	L: Park is newer and up-to-date					
Shelter		Accessible route is concrete. Shelter is fully accessible.	4.3	ADAAG requires an accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12 or less. <b>Shelter is up to date.</b>	L: Park is newer and up-to-date					
Sensory Garden		Accessible route is paved.		ADAAG requires an accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12 or less.	L: Park is newer and up-to-date					
Fishing entry access		Accessbile route is hard surfaced slag, dock is fully accessible for access to fly fishing in river.		ADAAG requires an accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12 or less.	L: Park is newer and up-to-date					



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1. Parking		Parking lot has a concrete ADA parking site.	4.6	ADAAG requires accessible parking spaces to be located in each parking lot. Accessible parking spaces are required to have upright signage that includes the symbol of a accessibility and van accessible signage where required. <b>Add updated van accessible signage and striping.</b>	<b>M:</b> Update signage and striping.	\$600	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
2. Picnic Site		Accessible route is turf, no hard surface pad, accessible table and trash receptacle.		ADAAG requires an accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12 or less. <b>Create a fully accessible picnic site.</b>	<b>M:</b>	\$1,000	Park General Fund			
3. Restroom		Accessible route is vintage brick, but has become uneven over time.	4.1	ADA standard requires at least one restroom to be accessible. <b>Unisex restroom is presently ADA accessible, but needs for new restrooms also exist. Route needs to be paved or re-bricked.</b>	<b>H:</b>	\$1,000 to \$75,000	Grants & Donations			
4. Calendar Garden		Accessible route around Calendar garden is brick.		ADAAG requires an accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12 or less. <b>Ramp into winter house needs completion.</b>	<b>M:</b>		Grants & Donations			
5. Homestead Gardens		Route is flat turf.		ADAAG requires an accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12 or less	<b>M:</b>	\$1,000	Grants & Donations			
6. Vegetable Garden		Route is flat turf.		ADAAG requires an accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12 or less. <b>Site plan includes a fully accessible path.</b>	<b>M:</b>	\$1,000	Grants & Donations			
7. DeFries Homestead		Building is presently not accessible by the public.		ADAAG requires an accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12 or less. <b>Building will need renovation including ADA ramp to first floor and fully accessible restroom.</b>	<b>M:</b> Long-term vision by donor was to open house for programs & rental to public	\$70,000 to \$200,000	Grants & Donations			



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1. Parking		Parking lot is paved. ADA parking spaces are fully striped and signed, and van accessible.	4.6	ADA standard requires hard surfaced striped and marked van accessible parking pads. <b>Parking pads are up to date at this facility.</b>	<b>L:</b> Keep striping paint up to date.	\$200	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
2. Entrance/Route		Accessible entrance is via the west side of the Museum. A concrete ramp is in place. Signage identifies the accessible entrance and the door is unlocked during open hours.		ADAAG requires and accessible approach of travel with a slope of 1:12 or less. <b>A ramp and railing exist of the west side of the building near ADA entrance. There is a door bell on exterior if assistance is needed, but one also needs to be placed on the interior for staff to be notified that chair lift needs to be used.</b>	<b>M:</b> Install interior door bell with sign for assistance.	\$200	Park General Fund			
3. Chair lift		The building was originally built in and is on the National Register of Historic Places. The site contains no elevator, but has a chair lift to take patrons to the lower, main, and upper levels.		See above.	<b>M:</b> See above.					
Restrooms		Both men and women's restrooms are ADA.	4.1	ADA standard requires at least one restroom be accessible. <b>Restrooms are in process of renovation. ADA will remain or be improved.</b>	<b>M:</b> Presently being updated.	\$8,000	Non-reverting Capital Fund, Grants and Donations			

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Exhibit Rooms		Lighting in some rooms is too dim, interpretive signage should be larger font in some exhibits.		Changes are being made as new exhibits are designed.	<b>M:</b> A positive addition to museum would be an assistive listening device to be used during programs and tours.	\$300	Park General Fund			
Water fountain		Drinking fountains are required to be accessible.	4.15	Spout height is no higher than 36 inches. No actions needed.	<b>L:</b> No action needed.					



Elkhart County Parks-Pumpkinvine Nature Trail- (section owned by Elkhart County Parks)

UPDATED: February 2019

211 West Lincoln Avenue  
Goshen, Indiana 46526  
(574)535-6458

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1. Parking		There are presently two parking lots located on CR 37 and CR 43. Each parking lot has one ADA van accessible hard surfaced space.	4.6	ADA standard requires hard surfaced striped and marked van accessible parking pad. <b>Add a designated hard surfaced parking space with proper signage and striping.</b>	<b>L:</b> Ensure that lots have fresh striping.	\$300	Non-reverting Capital Fund			
2. Trail		Trail is 10 foot wide hard surface trail. Benches are placed along the trail, as well as mile markers. Two benches have concrete wheelchair pads adjacent.		<b>Additional benches will be installed as donations come in.</b>	<b>L:</b>		Grants and Donations			
3. Restrooms		There are two ADA restrooms on the trail including a portable ADA latrine at CR 33 and an ADA restroom at CR 43	4.1	ADAAG requires at least one restroom to be accessible. <b>Additional restrooms may constructed in future by adjoining trail owner jurisdictions (Towns of Middlebury and Shipshewana).</b>	<b>L:</b>					

