

Village of Bourbonnais Park Assessment



Introduction:

In 2020, a decision was made that a new initiative in the Village of Bourbonnais would be to improve the parks. The mission is to set short- and long-term facility recommendations and plan to update the park system in this community. The following document was created to encourage the future development process of a master plan for the Village of Bourbonnais parks. It presents information about national and state trends, outdoor participation patterns, a progress report on the Village of Bourbonnais Parks and an assessment of the conditions of the parks. The compilation of data intends to encourage discussion about creating a new master plan for parks.

No community can establish itself as a desirable location for businesses and residents to relocate without building and maintaining a robust, active system of parks for public use and enjoyment. It is vital for Bourbonnais to have well-developed parks that offer facilities which would be beneficial for residents and respond to their needs.

According to National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), three vitally important aspects of Parks and

Recreation that benefit communities include:

- Economic Value
- Health and Environmental
- Social Importance

Village of Bourbonnais 2030 Comprehensive Plan regarding Parks

Village of Bourbonnais Comprehensive Plan stated the following regarding the existing parks in the Village:

“Parks and open spaces in the community include active and passive recreational areas, natural areas, and the Riverfront trail system, and are owned and operated by different public entities, such as the Village of Bourbonnais and the Bourbonnais Township Park District, as well as private operators.”

“In 2009, there were approximately 18 publicly owned parks in the Village, totaling about 56 acres. With the addition of the approximately 50-acre Diamond Point playing fields (recently annexed by the Village and purchased by the Bourbonnais Township Park District), there are now over 100 acres of publicly owned parks in the community. Including both public and privately owned parks and open spaces (the latter of which include open spaces owned by residential subdivision homeowners’ associations,

among other private owners), there are over 230 acres, or four percent, of land area devoted to parks and open spaces in Bourbonnais as of 2011. The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) recommend approximately 10 acres of community park land per 1,000 residents. According to this standard, the Village has less publicly accessible park land than is recommended for a community of its size (18,631 residents in 2010).”

Challenges & Opportunities

Challenges

- Lack little to no previous park planning
- Inaccessible parks
- No programming
- Budgeting constraints
- Aging equipment
- No Regional Park
- Parks lack amenities

Opportunities

- Facilitates neighborhood revitalization
- Connectivity to regional trails
- Funding
- Parks strategically located in neighborhoods
- Closest community to the Kankakee River State Park
- Quality parks attract residents and visitors
- Create social gathering interaction

Need for Park Plan

A parks and open-space plan outline a systematic approach to providing parks and recreation services to a community. Parks and open space resources within a community include environmental, recreational, scenic, cultural, historic, and urban design elements.

Open space within parks need to be included in planning to provide a multitude of public functions. These functions can include:

- Protection of natural resources
- Creation of places for recreation
- Support for economic development opportunities including neighborhood stabilization
- Development of neighborhood gathering places
- Promotion of public health benefits
- Creation of civic and cultural infrastructure
- Shaping patters of development through open spaces.

The above referenced functions should be the basis for the Village’s park planning.

Goals and Objectives

Typical expressions of parks and open space goals and objections consider the following:

- Quality: Targeting a total percentage of the village's acreage to be set aside for parks and protecting a total percentage of the land in any new development as open space.
- Proximity: Locating parks within a certain area for every resident or provide facilities within a specific driving time.
- Accessibility: assuring that parks are located to be physically accessible by foot, bicycle, or public transportation and visually accessible for the greater public.
- Distribution: arranging park locations to ensure balanced service across geographic areas.
- Equality: Providing facilities and programs evenly across socioeconomic populations.
- Environmental protection: Assuring the protection of specific natural resources.
- Balance: offering a mix of places and activities throughout the system.
- Shaping: Identifying ways that the open space will promote or contain growth.
- Sustainability: determining physical and financial methods to support the park and open space system.
- Connections: Identifying places and ways to link parkland and associated resources.

Parks are a Key Economic Benefit for Bourbonnais

Parks provide a great benefit to citizens, both those who live nearby and tourists. In addition to their many environmental benefits, including preserving plant and animal habitat, decreasing air pollution, and water filtration, parks create an economic benefit for both governments and individuals. Creating well planned parks and preserving sufficient land for them can generate financial returns that are often many times greater than the money initially invested into the project, even when maintenance costs are factored in.

Homebuyers prefer homes close to parks, open space, and greenery. Proximity to parks increases property value, thereby increasing property tax revenue. Research has shown that a 5% increase in property values for houses within 500 feet of a park is a conservative estimate of the change in property value due to proximity to a park. Companies often choose to locate in communities that offer amenities such as parks as a means of attracting and retaining top-level workers.

Financing for Parks

Parks can provide a restive and reflective place for people to get away from the hustle and bustle – serving, in words often credited to Frederick Law Olmstead, as “the lungs of the city.” Parks can also provide a place for active recreation, allowing village residence the chance to place basketball or softball or tennis in neighborhoods. Young parents rely on parks to give their tots a safe place to play.

All these benefits have made public parks a critical – and permanent – part of the urban system of governance for many decades. Traditionally parks have been provided to the public for free— though recreation programs have often charged a nominal fee – on the theory that in crowded cities parks enhance the quality of life, improve public health and even improve public safety by providing places and activities for at-risk youth who otherwise might be engaged in criminal activity.

In recent years, however, parks and recreation facilities have faced a funding crisis. With the financial resources available to local governments in decline, there has been significant competition among different public services for tax funds. Parks and recreation programs have often lost this competition, especially to police and public works services, meaning parks have far less tax support than they used to. This funding crisis has led to a widespread debate about the future role of city and county parks and recreation programs.

The Village of Bourbonnais recently obtained a bond for various improvement projects throughout the community. The Village has allocated \$750,000 of the \$3.1 million dollar bond to be utilized for improvement of parks.

Possible solutions

Free vs Free: The most obvious solution to the parks funding crisis is for parks departments to charge fees to their residents for access to certain parks. Indeed, many departments are being pushed in this direction by a variety of factors, including the loss of general fund revenues and the creation of “cost recovery goals” for government agencies.

The idea of charging residents for some programs and services has a great deal of merit. Obviously, it can raise much-needed revenue for operations and maintenance. If programs are provided for free, it is easy to fall into the trap of simply providing the same products and services, without change, year after year even as constituencies and their preferences change.

- *Partnerships with Other Government Agencies and Nonprofits:* Many participants highlighted the opportunities that exist through partnering with other government agencies that have similar missions and nonprofit organizations that often have overlapping missions. Parks departments manage large amounts of land – often the biggest chunks of open space available in an intensely urban setting. By pursuing conservation goals as well as recreation goals – for example, using “low impact development” techniques that deal with stormwater runoff in a green way – parks departments can tap into new sources of capital and maintenance funds.
 1. Bourbonnais Township Park District
 2. Illinois Department of Natural Resources
 3. Kankakee County
- *Focusing on new construction v. maintenance:* In a time of limited resources, many parks departments must choose between construction of new facilities and ongoing

maintenance of old facilities. In the current fiscal situation, it is probably advisable to focus on a “fix it first” policy – making sure that existing facilities are in good repair. However, “fix it first” does have the potential to lock in existing inequities – if, for example, affluent neighborhoods have more existing facilities than poor neighborhoods. It can be difficult to focus on correcting these inequities in a time of limited fiscal resources

- *Use of volunteers:* As financial resources have become more constrained, parks and recreation departments – like many other government agencies – have increased the use of volunteers to complete tasks formerly done by employees. Most often these are low-level tasks, often routine maintenance in neighborhood parks and locations of importance to the volunteers. Although volunteers can serve as an enormous source of manpower, paid staff must train, deploy, and manage volunteers to be effective.

Study Creation Process:

Starting in March of 2020, Village of Bourbonnais Staff inventoried and evaluated twenty-one parks in the Village. The following information was acquired about each park:

- Amenities available (equipment, etc.)
- Number of picnic tables
- Number of benches
- Number of trash receptacles
- Year acquired
- Age of Equipment
- Park Classification
- Size (sq. ft. or acreage)
- Location
- Brief description of existing conditions

Based on goals and objections, the park planning process should be guided by three social factors:

- The need to accommodate different cultures
- The need to include citizen opinion in the process
- The identification of the wellness movement

The following parks were not included in the assessment and recommendation because they are being redeveloped with the Campus Plan

- Children’s Safety Center
- Goselin Park
- Event and Skate Park

Staff used their knowledge of the following to create this report:

- Assessing the existing conditions of parks and open space
- Planning future use for parks including creation of cost estimates for proposed amenities

- Organizing data and designs to provide parks and open space that meet safety, accessibility, environmental, sustainable, use-balance and quality recreation for the community.
- Certified training for park staff is recommended. Obtaining the Certified Parks and Recreation Professional or Certified Playground Safety Inspector, for examples.

In September of 2020, 300 people participated in a 10-question on-line survey to provide feedback about the existing village parks. This process is designed to ensure that the planning team gathers the input necessary to develop a plan that is technically sound, rooted in the needs of the community and implementable. The questionnaire is a key tool for broadening participation and validating the input.

This baseline data provides the necessary information to make critical recommendations for each park within the system. This exercise also enables the Village to review each park's value within the total system. A summary and information from the on-line survey is provided in later pages in this report.

Land Use for Parks and Recreation:

The Village of Bourbonnais is composed of over 6,000 acres of land. Its size gives the Village an ability to provide extensive park land and recreational activities. Currently Bourbonnais has 18 parks. The area of parks and open space located inside the Village limits is 68.3 acres, or approximately 1% of the Village's total land use.

Residents of the village are lacking 17 acres of recommended park land. This calculation is based on the 2019 National Recreation and Park Association (NPRA) Agency Performance Review, "the typical park and recreation agency offers one park for every 2,181 residents served, with 10 acres of park land per 1,000 residents. Based on the 2010 Census estimates, the population and the number of parks Bourbonnais has, the Village offers two parks for every 2,181 residents served. As for 10.1 acres of park land per 1,000, the Village should offer 85.4 acres of park land while Bourbonnais total land for park and recreation use is 68.3 acres.

New park standards call for a "system approach" to parks and recreation facilities planning. The new guidelines state that every community has its own defining characteristics and a one size fits all approach is not appropriate. The communities must be evaluated individually and the decision about quantity and range of parks and recreation activities must be made accordingly.

Park Classification

Park classification system is a way of creating order to and providing a common language for the parks and open-space system. Park types are often arranged by service area, size, population served and typical facilities. Park classification may also address functions, such as serving recreation, social gathering, and green infrastructure functions.

Using the NRPA standards, each park is classified based on set criteria.

Mini-Parks: Mini-park is the smallest park classification and is used to address limited or isolate recreational needs. Criteria include:

- ✓ Concentrated or limited populations
- ✓ Isolated development areas
- ✓ Unique recreational opportunities
- ✓ Between 2500 sq. ft. and one acre in size

Parks falling within the classification include:

- Bon Aire Park
- Gettysburg Park
- Granger Park
- Jordan Park
- Northfield Park
- Northwest Park
- Stonewall Park

Neighborhood Parks: Neighborhood parks remain the basic unit of the park system and serve as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood. They should be developed for both active and passive recreation activities geared specifically for those living within the service area. Accommodating a wide variety of age and user groups, including children, adults, the elderly, and special populations, is important. Creating a sense of place by bringing together the unique character of the site with that of the neighborhood is vital to successful design. Criteria include:

- ✓ 5 acres is generally accepted as the minimum size necessary to provide space for a menu of recreation activities. 7 to 10 acres is considered optimal.
- ✓ centrally located within its service area, which encompasses a 1/4 to 1/2-mile distance uninterrupted by non-residential roads and other physical barriers.
- ✓ The site should be accessible to its service area by way of interconnecting trails, sidewalks, or low-volume residential streets.
- ✓ Ease of access and walking distance are critical factors in locating a neighborhood park.

Parks falling within the classification include:

- Cavalier de LaSalle Park
- Keno Park
- Latham Park
- Marcotte Park
- Meadows Park
- Patriot Park
- Slater Park
- Sun Ridge Park
- Thirteen Acre Park
- Meadowbrook Park
- Ed Hayes Park
- Meadows Park

Community Parks: Community parks are larger in size and serve a broader purpose than neighborhood parks. Their focus is on meeting the recreation needs of several neighborhoods or large sections of the community, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces. They

allow for group activities and offer other recreational opportunities not feasible -nor perhaps desirable-at the neighborhood level. As with neighborhood parks, they should be developed for both active and passive recreation activities. Criteria include:

- ✓ A community park should serve two or more neighborhoods.
- ✓ Quality of the natural resource base should play a significant role in site selection.
- ✓ The site should be serviced by arterial and collector streets and be easily accessible from throughout its service area by way of interconnecting trails.
- ✓ Between 20 and 50 acres

Parks falling within the classification include:

- Children’s Safety Center, Event and Skate Park, Goselin Park combined
- Riverfront Park

It is worth noting that not every Bourbonnais park meets one classification exactly; some have multiple classifications. The parks are classified based on the closest classification standard and impact that they have on the community.

In contrast to mini-parks, neighborhood parks offer more variety in recreational activities. When new residential neighborhoods are created, the Village Staff and the Planning Commission reviews each proposal to determine if the neighborhood needs a park. If they do not deem it necessary, the applicant is granted to pay fees-in-lieu instead.

Essential Nature of Parks and Recreation:

Parks are complex elements of a village. They can have different uses, may be specialized in their function, or provide visual appeal for residents. However, they define the shape and feel of a village and its neighborhoods. They also function as a conscious tool for revitalization.

Outdoor Recreation Trends and Demands:

For future development of parks, it is essential to consider both national and state outdoor recreation trends to understand emerging preferences. Studying the national and state trends will provide a better understanding of what communities expect when it comes to parks and recreation, and possible future trends. Most importantly, gaining information on general recreational interests will help better serve current residents and attract new residents.

National Trends:

In 2015 NRPA researched how demographic and social changes affected American’s view of local public parks. The researchers surveyed 1,144 randomly selected U.S. adults and found that Americans are as enthusiastic in their support for public parks as they were 25 years ago. This

attitude is shared by the public across almost every demographic group through the United States. In more details, the study showed that:

- Most Americans live within walking distance of a park and a major factor for why Americans go to their local park on a regular basis is proximity
- Two-thirds surveyed identified that within walking distance of their home is a park, playground or some other type of open space. It is worth noting that the survey did not specify “walking distance,” but allowed respondents to decide what is considered as a “walking distance”
- 7 in 10 Americans go to their local park
- 26% of respondents use public parks frequently for personal use, 44% occasionally, and 30% not at all. 76% surveyed indicated that household members use local parks either frequently or occasionally. 83% said that they get personal benefits from public parks
- 97% park users and 80% of non-users identify that the community benefits from public parks

From the responses listed in the open-ended question asking what specific benefits respondents gain from their local parks or recreation programs, both 1992 and 2015 studies found that Americans visit parks for:

- Personal benefits such as exercise, health, relaxation, entertainment, enjoying being outdoors
- Environmental benefits: nature, aesthetics, fresh air, open space, wildlife
- Social benefits: sense of community, spending time with family, a safe place to take children, a place to socialize
- Economic benefits: effect on property values, increasing business activity in community
- Facility and activity-oriented benefits: area for playing, recreation, sports, and an area to take pets

The most frequently mentioned benefits in the surveys conducted in 1992 and 2015 were physical activity and health. Thus, the results of both studies show that Americans perceive parks and recreation as an essential part of healthy living.

In addition, considering environmental changes, economic sustainability, and increased sedentary lifestyle that causes health problems and obesity, NRPA identifies priorities for local parks:

- Conservation
- Health and Wellness
- Social Equity

The study shows that Americans also support these two pillars:

- 86% favor conserving the natural environment, 80% protecting open space, 84% support parks offering facilities and services to improve physical health, and 80% recreation facilities and services to reduce stress and improve mental health.
- 88% support equal access to quality programs and facilities by all members of the community and 77% addressing the needs of individuals with disabilities.

According to the Park Pulse Survey conducted by NRPA in 2019, 55% of Americans visit local parks or picnic areas to experience health benefits of nature, and 56% visit lakes, riverfront, or beach for the same purpose. The top three recreational activities are picnicking with family and friends (58%), going to the pool (48%), and walking or hiking along a local trail (45%).

10-Min Walk Assessment (1/2-mile walk):

Recent movement to improve access to parks and green space while transforming communities is setting a goal of providing a safe, easy access to a quality park within a 10-minute walk of home. Research reveals how crucial open spaces are for maintaining physical and mental health, and how much of a role they'll play as the country navigates a recovery.

The goal is to create a world that everyone in the US have safe, convenient access to a park within a 10-min walk of their home.

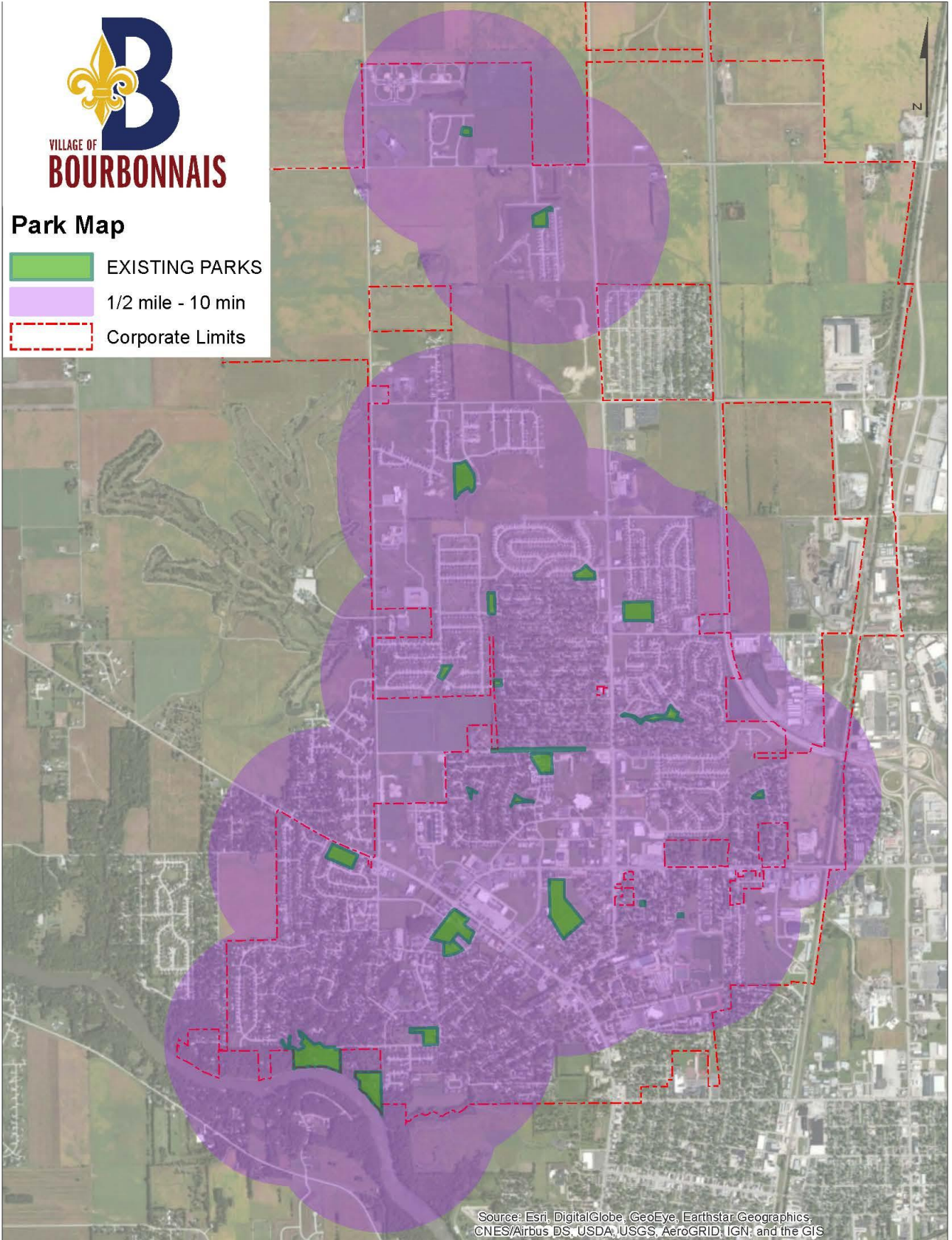
The following map contains the locate of all the existing parks in the Village of Bourbonnais. The purple circle areas indicate the 10-minute walk (half-mile) distance from each park. The map shows that most of the village is within the 10-min walk distance from a village park.

The southern corner of the village does not have access to a park that is within the village, but it is within the 10 min walk distance to Perry Farm.



Park Map

-  EXISTING PARKS
-  1/2 mile - 10 min
-  Corporate Limits



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS

Responsibility and Budget for Parks:

Parks are maintained by the Village’s public Works Department. No programming to the residents is provided in any of our parks.

The Budget for the Village of Bourbonnais Parks include the following items:

- Summer Worker’s Salaries
- General Grounds Expenses and maintenance
- Telecommunication (Camera Internet service)
- Park Electricity
- Rental Charges (porta-potty)
- Fertilizer
- Mulch
- Weed Killer
- Misc. Supplies
- Parking lot and Park Equipment Repairs

Village’s Budget for Parks:

2021: \$82,307	2018: \$77,566
2020: \$132,449	2017: \$72,763
2019: \$96,336	

Village’s Capital Budget for Parks:

In fiscal years of 2020 and 2019 there was not any Capital investment in the village’s parks. In 2018, the village spent \$11,406 for the installation of the six-foot fence adjacent to the Event and Skate Park. The 2021 Capital Budget includes an investment of \$500,000 in improvements in the parks.

Compared to other local government functions, some local officials perceive parks and recreation as not as important as many other services typically provided by local governments (e.g., public safety, infrastructure, transportation). This manifest itself through fluctuating funding for park and recreation services. During times of economic surplus, park and recreation agencies benefit from large percentage gains in their budgets. However, during times of economic shortfall, officials are likely to cut funding for parks and recreation more severely than any other widely offered local government service. This finding suggests that local government officials view parks and recreation as more of a luxury rather than as an essential service that deserves consistent and expanded funding.

*2020 Park
Conditions
Assessment
and
Inventory*

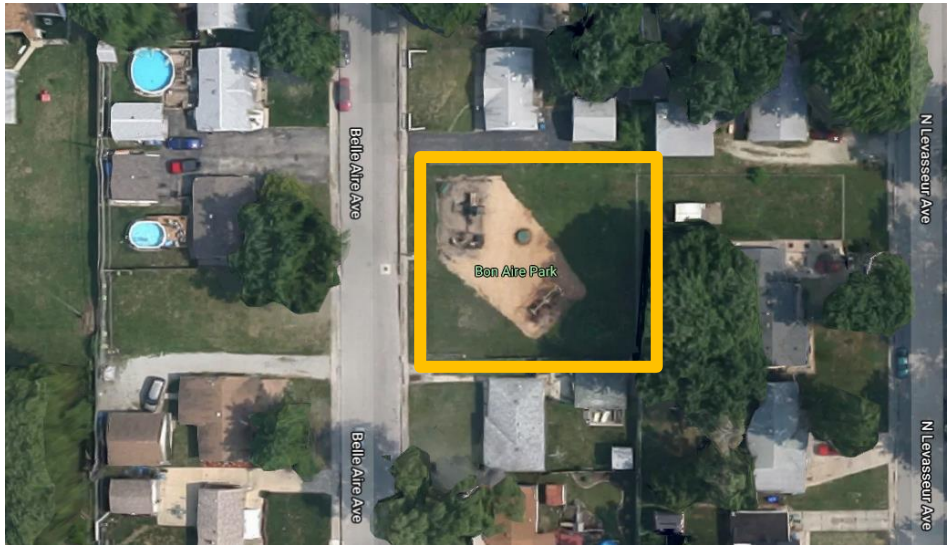
In 2020, an existing conditions assessment and inventory was conducted on each Village of Bourbonnais park to begin the process for a new master plan for the parks.

The following information was acquired about each park:

- Amenities available (equipment, etc.)
- Number of picnic tables
- Number of benches
- Number of trash receptacles
- Year acquired
- Age of Equipment
- Park Classification
- Size (sq. ft. or acreage)
- Location
- Brief description of existing conditions

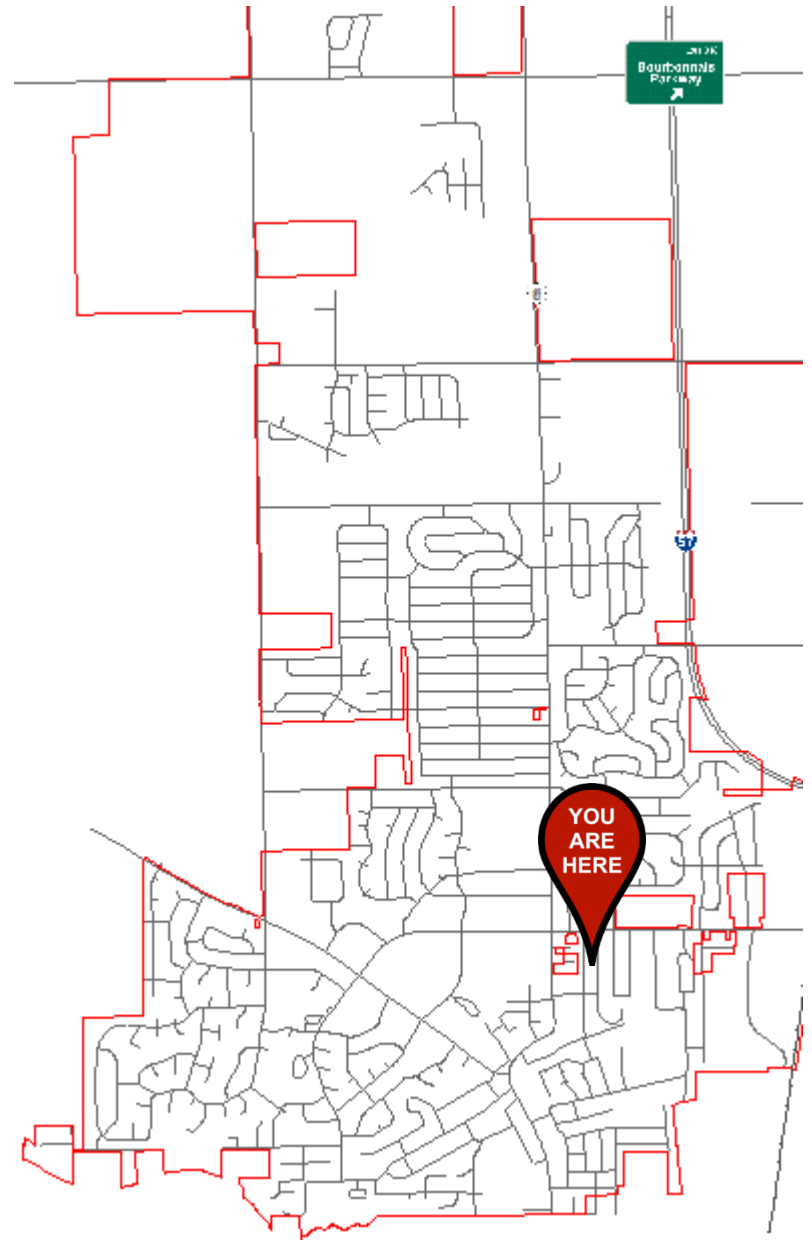
The following pages provide the existing conditions analysis of the parks in the Village of Bourbonnais.

Bon Aire Park



Bon Aire Park is located 350 feet north of the intersection of Beaudoin Ave. and Belle Aire Avenue on the East side of the road. Bon Aire Park serves Bon Aire Subdivision and Armour Subdivision.

Bon Aire Park is a mini park due to its limited population served, and less than an acre in size.



Bon Aire Park		Quantity
Baseball Fields		
Basketball Court		
Benches	✓	1
Bike Trails		
Covered Picnic Table Area		
Fishing		
Frisbee Golf		
Grill		
Pavilion		
Picnic Tables		
Playground	✓	1
Restroom		
Seasonal Skating		
Soccer Fields		
Tennis Courts		
Trash Can	✓	1
Walking Trails		

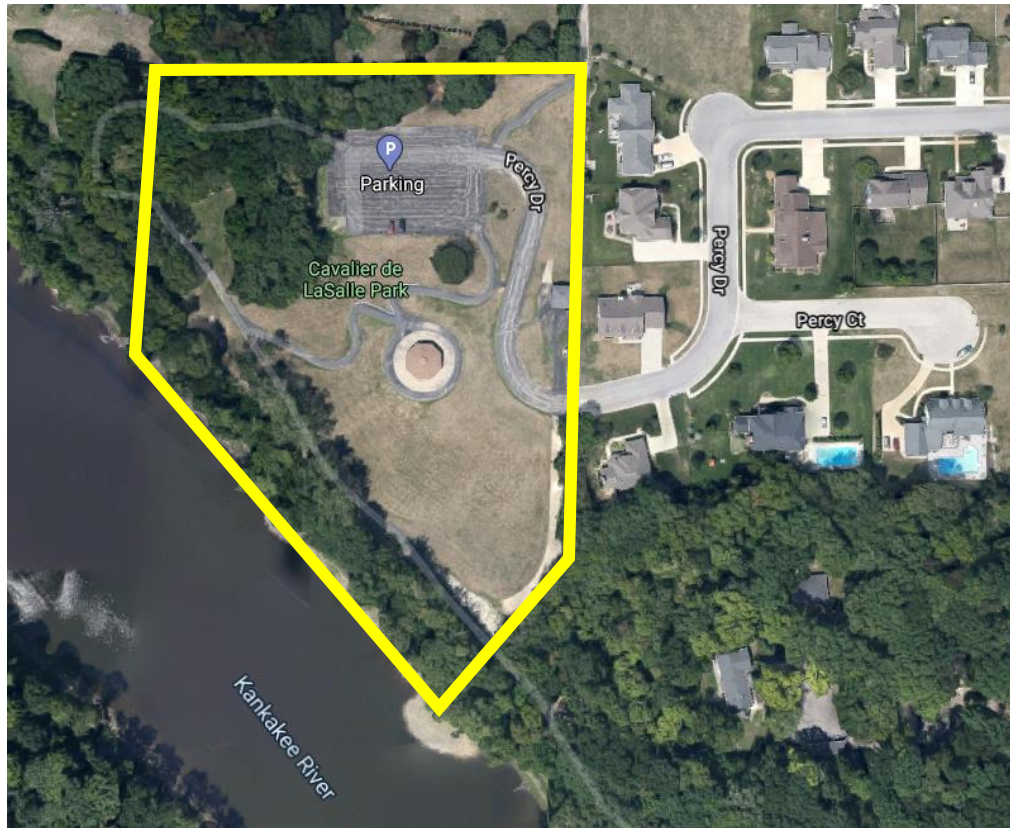
Year Acquired	1978
Age of Equipment	1994
Classification	Mini Park
Size	10,185 sq. ft.
Location	270 Belle Aire Ave.



The condition assessment results:

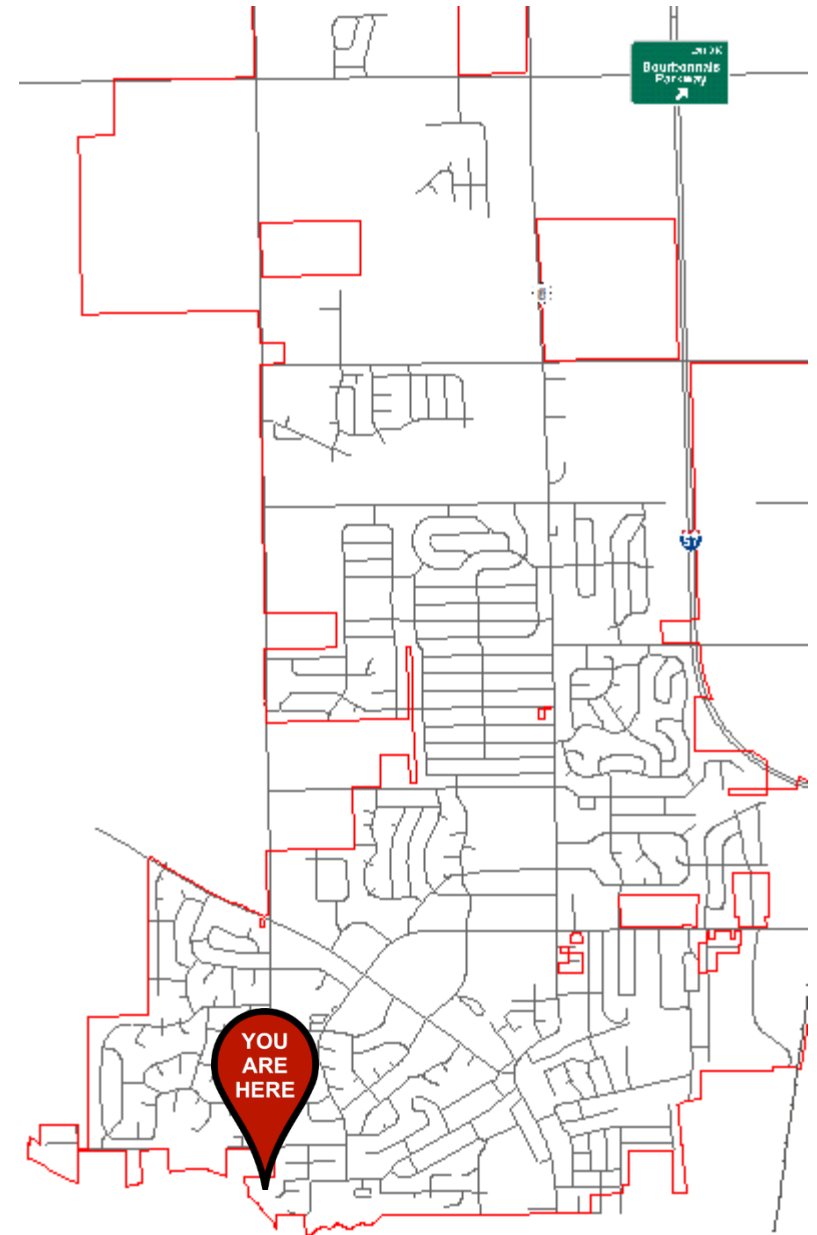
- There is a park sign with hours and not allowing alcohol
- Park equipment has been repainted due to age of the equipment
- Graffiti was present, at the time of the inspection
- There is no shade in this park
- Mulch under swings was needed, at the time of the inspection
- No lighting exists in the park area
- 100% of the park is visible from Belle Aire Avenue

Cavalier de LaSalle Park



Cavalier De LaSalle Park is located at the west end Percy Drive in Bristol Woods Subdivision. Cavalier De LaSalle Park serves Bristol Woods, Briarcliff, Oak Run and Dairy Queen/River Street Subdivisions.

Cavalier De LaSalle park is neighborhood Park. The park is more than 5 acres in size. The site should be accessible to its service area by way of interconnecting trails, sidewalks, or low-volume residential streets.





Cavalier de LaSalle Park		Quantity
Baseball Fields		
Basketball Court		
Benches		
Bike Trails	✓	
Covered Picnic Table Area	✓	
Fishing	✓	
Frisbee Golf		
Grill		
Pavilion	✓	1
Picnic Tables		
Playground		
Restroom		
Seasonal Skating		
Soccer Fields		
Tennis Courts		
Trash Can	✓	4
Walking Trails	✓	

Year Acquired	1996
Age of Equipment	None
Classification	Neighborhood Park
Size	7.61 acres
Location	1000 Percy Dr.

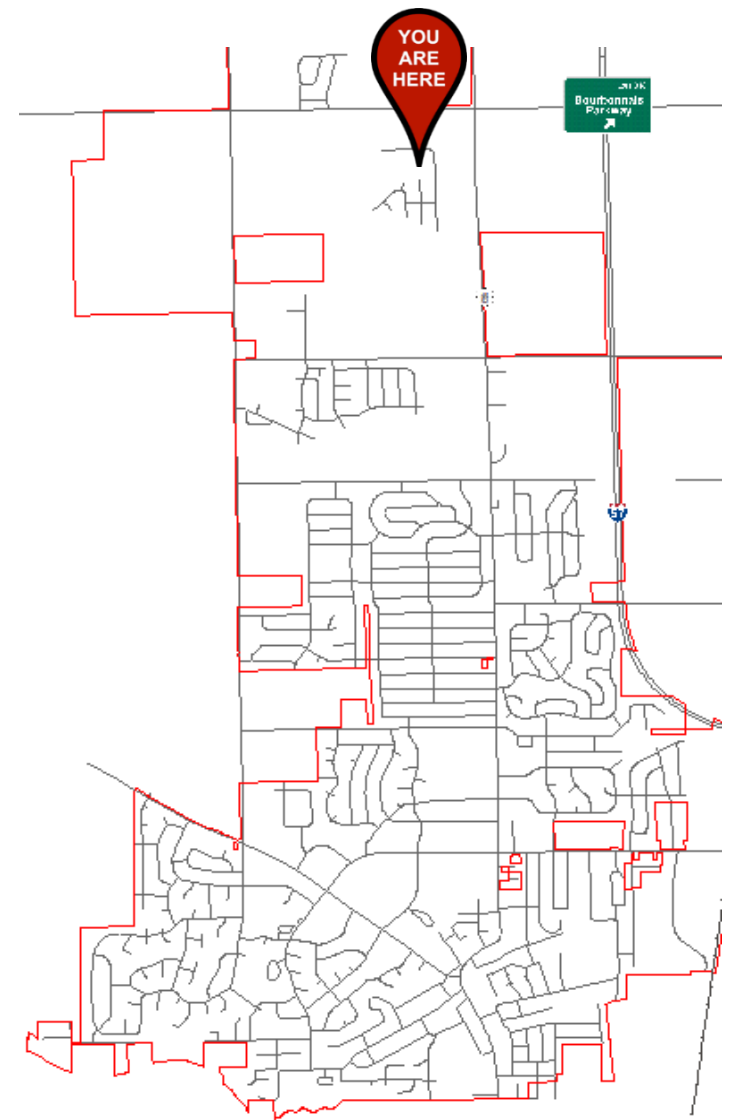
The condition assessment results:

- There is a park sign with hours and not allowing alcohol
- No sign regarding 'how to rent the pavilion'
- Bathroom locked
- No picnic tables
- New led lighting installed
- Park has access to Kankakee River not being utilized.
- Parking lot needs striping and ADA compliant parking stalls

Cobblestone Park

The condition assessment results:

- This will be a new park in the Village
- Land has been graded and is ready for new equipment.
- Park needs a name

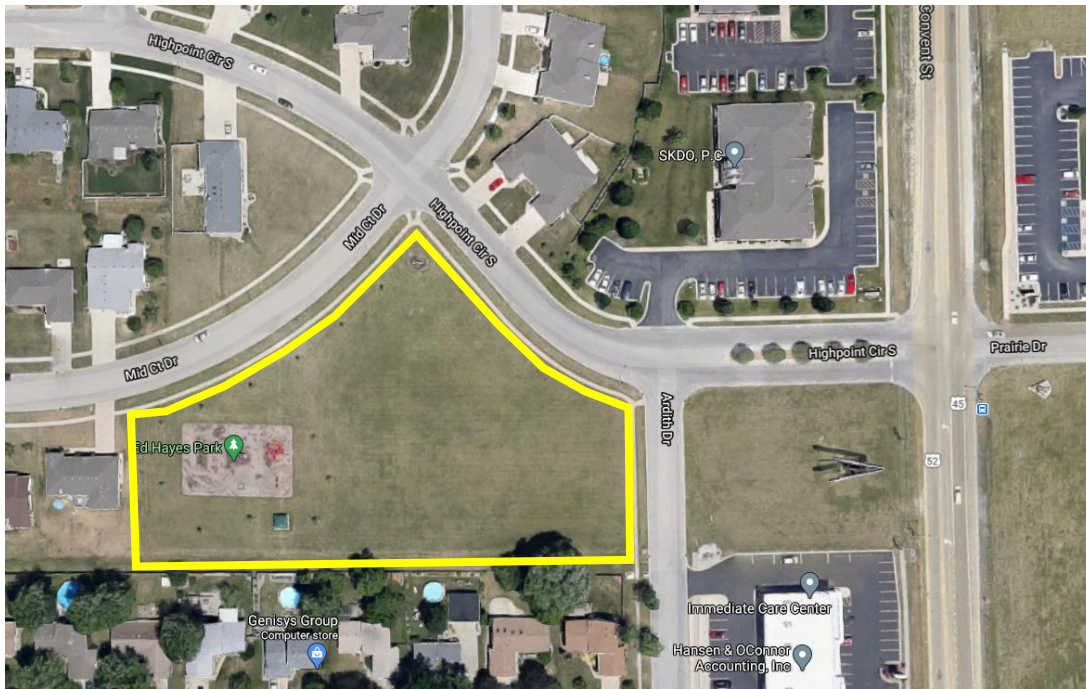


Cobblestone Park is located on the south side Hearthsides Drive east of Stonebridge Boulevard. Cobblestone Park serves Cobblestone Subdivision

Cobblestone Park is 2.5 acres in size. Cobblestone Park will be a neighborhood park accommodating a wide range of ages and user groups. The park will be centrally located in the subdivision.

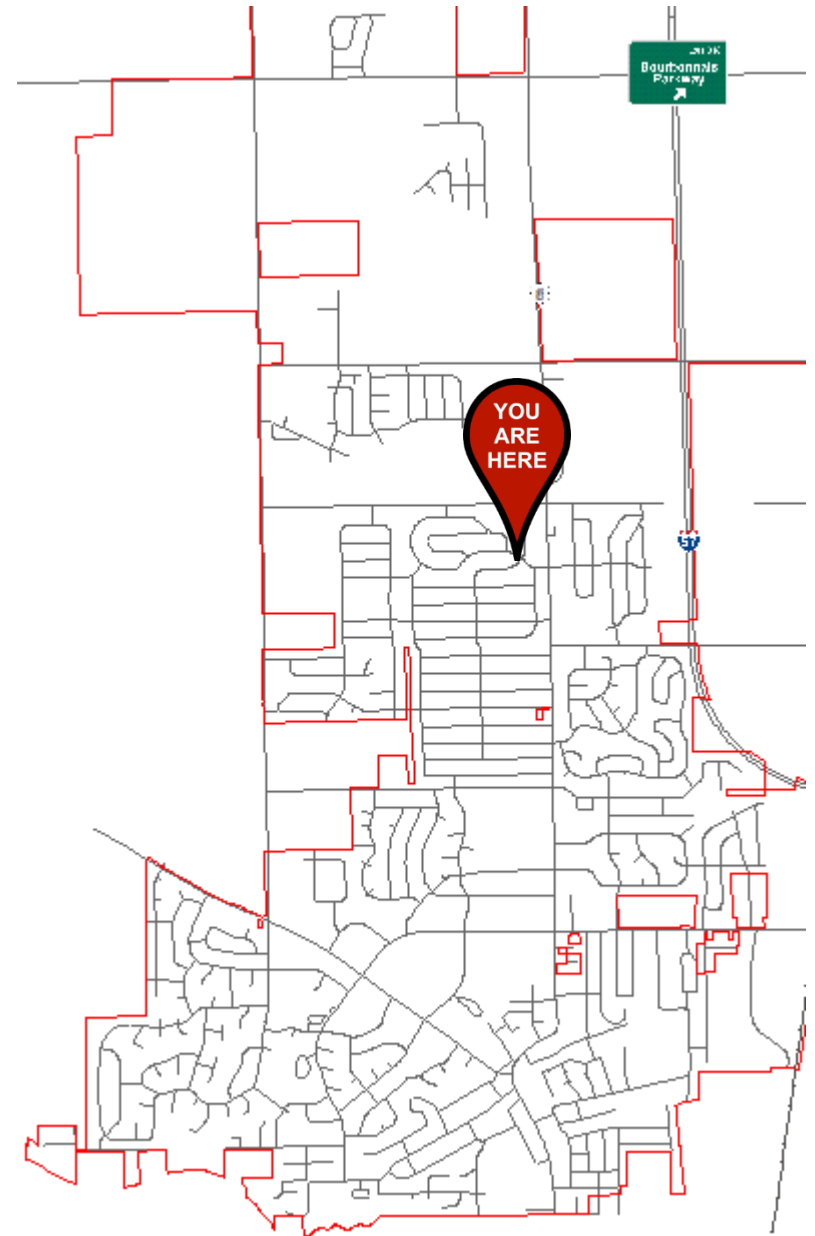
The Village has owned the land since 2017.

Ed Hayes Park



Ed Hayes Park is located 265 feet west of US Route 45/52 along Highpoint Circle South. Ed Hayes Park serves Highpoint Subdivision, Belle Aire and Prairie Harbor Subdivision.

Ed Hayes Park is a neighborhood park. The park serves as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood. The park accommodating a wide variety of age and user groups, including children, adults, and the elderly. The park is centrally located within its service area; it is easy to access and its walking distance to housing is a critical factor in locating a neighborhood park.



Ed Hayes Park		Quantity
Baseball Fields		
Basketball Court		
Benches	✓	1
Bike Trails		
Covered Picnic Table Area	✓	1
Fishing		
Frisbee Golf		
Grill		
Pavilion		
Picnic Tables		
Playground	✓	1
Restroom		
Seasonal Skating		
Soccer Fields		
Tennis Courts		
Trash Can	✓	1
Walking Trails		

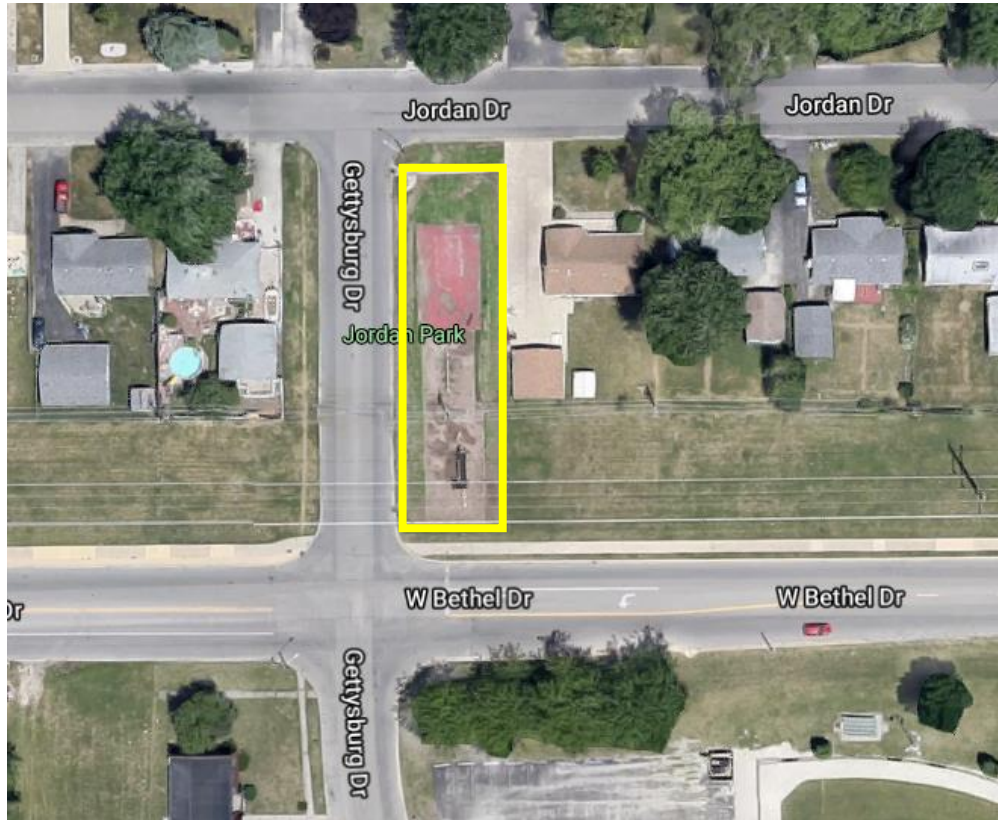
Year Acquired	
Age of Equipment	2002
Classification	Neighborhood Park
Size	2.31 acres
Location	142 Highpoint Cir. S.

The condition assessment results:

- No rules are posted at this park
- There is no lighting in the park area
- Large open area but not defined for any specific sport area
- Plants near the park sign are dying
- Climbing wall is faded
- Sandbox is dirt
- Garbage can is leaning

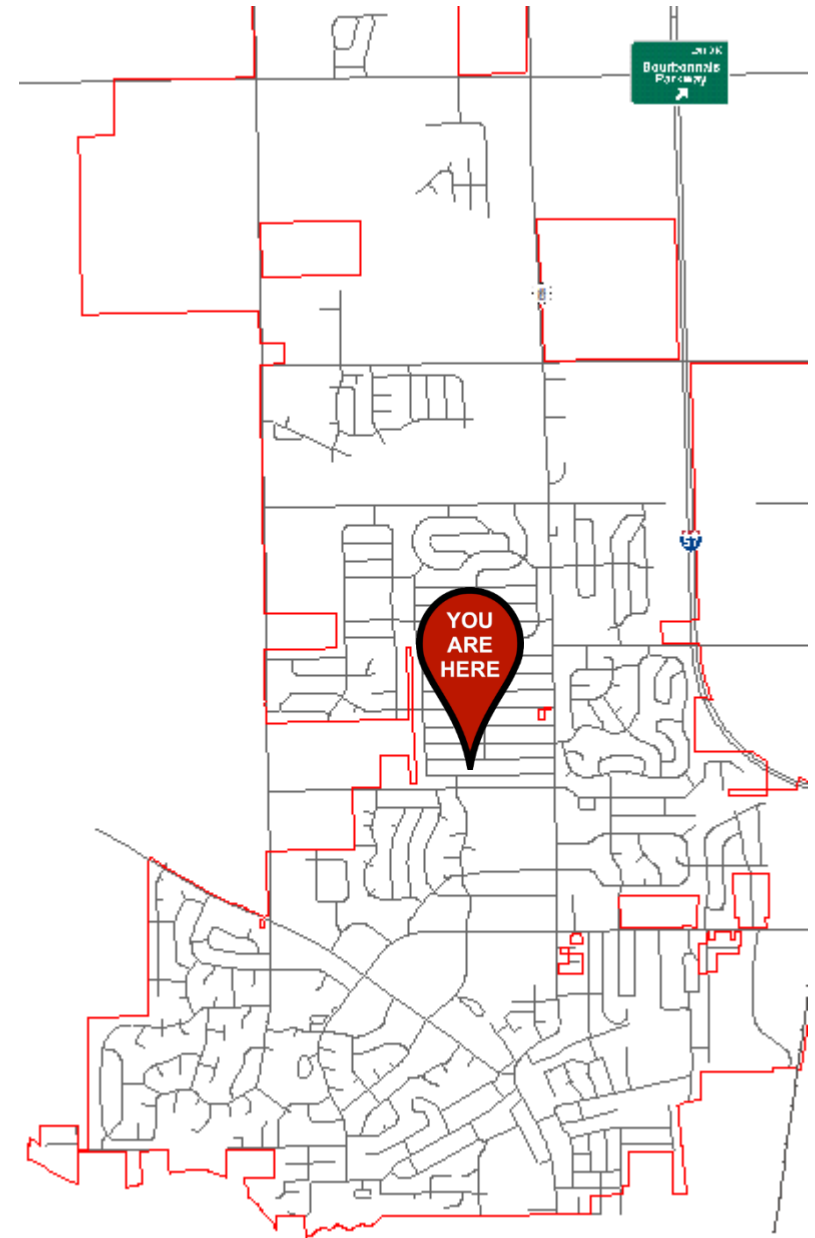


Jordan Park



Jordan Park is located at southeast corner of Jordan Dr. and Gettysburg Dr. Jordan Park serves Belle Aire, Heritage Point and Gettysburg.

Jordan Park is a mini park due to its limited population served, and less than an acre in size.



Jordan Park		Quantity
Baseball Fields		
Basketball Court		
Benches	✓	1
Bike Trails		
Covered Picnic Table Area		
Fishing		
Frisbee Golf		
Grill		
Pavilion		
Picnic Tables		
Playground	✓	1
Restroom		
Seasonal Skating		
Soccer Fields		
Tennis Courts		
Trash Can	✓	1
Walking Trails		

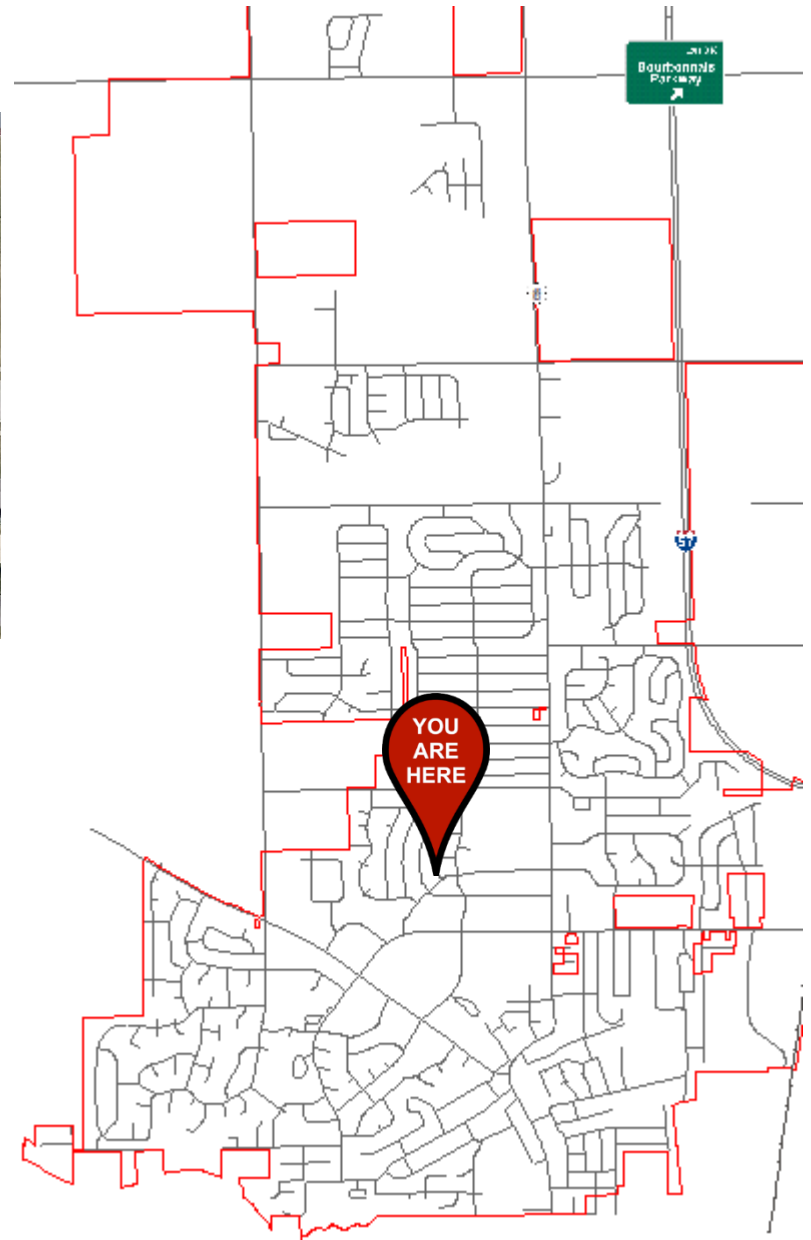
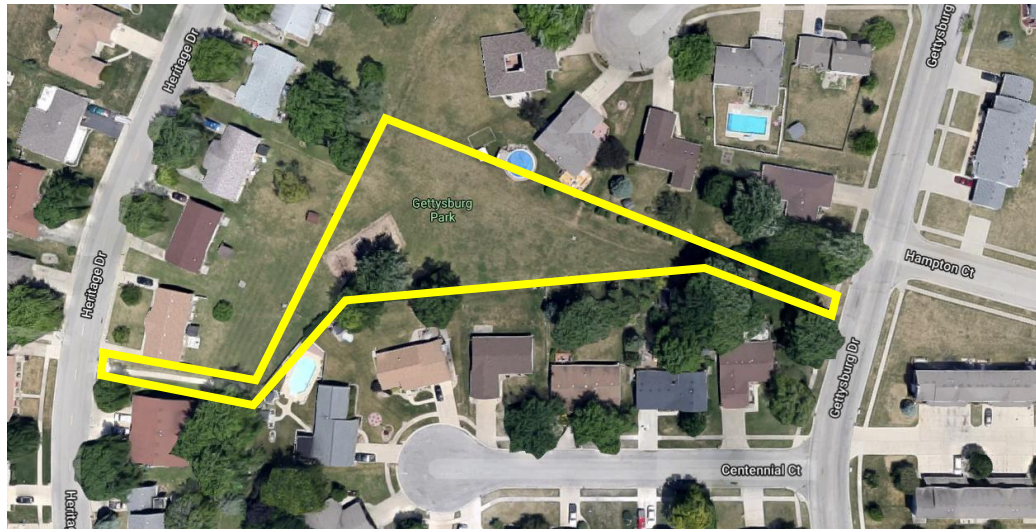
Year Acquired	
Age of Equipment	1994
Classification	Mini Park
Size	6,390 sq.ft.
Location	59 Jordan Dr.



The condition assessment results:

- There is a park sign with hours and not allowing alcohol
- No picnic tables
- Mulch under swings was needed, at the time of the inspection
- No lighting exists in the park area
- Old basketball court is in severe disrepair.

Gettysburg Park





Gettysburg Park		Quantity
Baseball Fields		
Basketball Court		
Benches		
Bike Trails		
Covered Picnic Table Area		
Fishing		
Frisbee Golf		
Grill		
Pavilion		
Picnic Tables	✓	1
Playground	✓	1
Restroom		
Seasonal Skating		
Soccer Fields		
Tennis Courts		
Trash Can	✓	1
Walking Trails		

The condition assessment results:

- There is a park sign with hours and not allowing alcohol
- Park is not visible from the street
- Park is hard to find
- No lighting
- No parking available
- No boarder around mulch
- No swing mats
- No bench

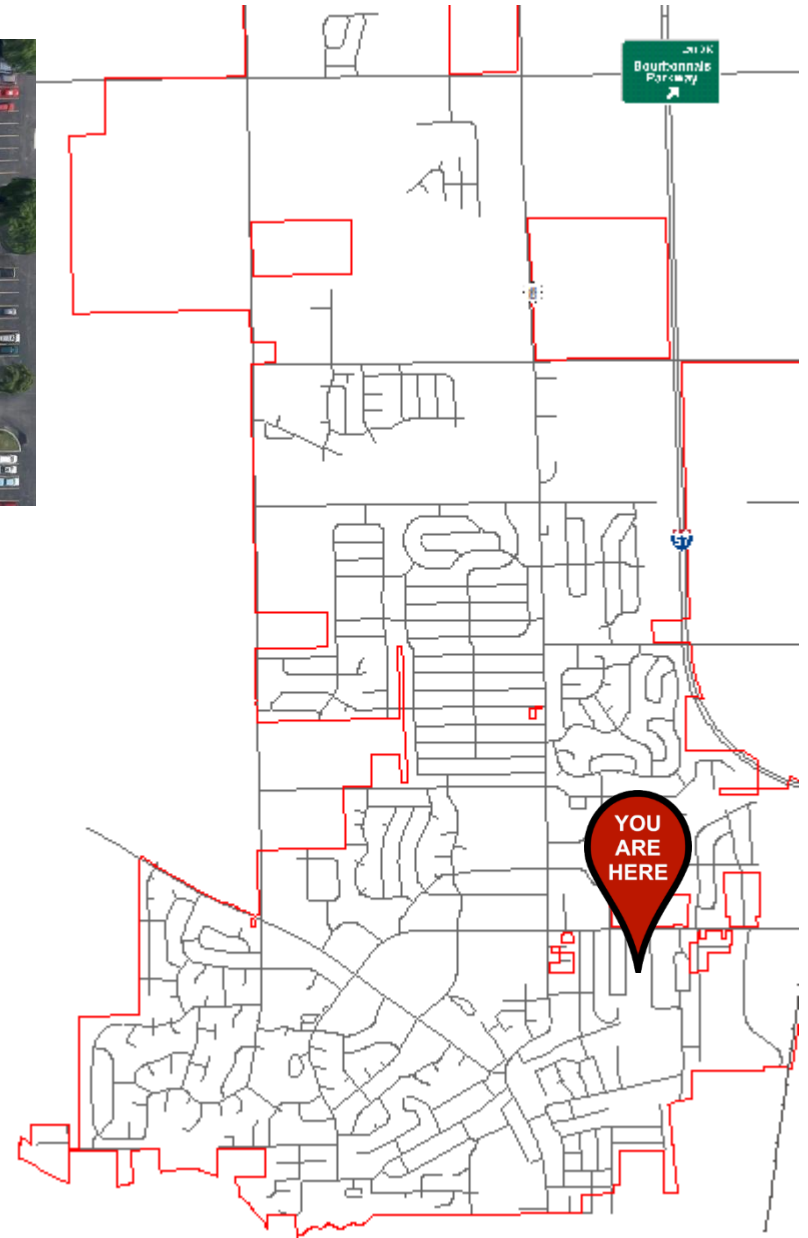
Year Acquired	
Age of Equipment	1994
Classification	Mini Park
Size	35,521 sq. ft.
Location	777 Gettysburg Dr.

Granger Park



Granger Park is located 920 feet south of the intersection of Armour Road along Belmont Ave. The park is located on the east side of Belmont Avenue. Granger Park serves Armour Subdivision and Stadium Area.

Granger Park is a mini park due to its limited population served, Isolated service areas and less than an acre in size.



Granger Park		Quantity
Baseball Fields	✓	1
Basketball Court		
Benches		
Bike Trails		
Covered Picnic Table Area		
Fishing		
Frisbee Golf		
Grill		
Pavilion		
Picnic Tables	✓	1
Playground	✓	1
Restroom		
Seasonal Skating		
Soccer Fields		
Tennis Courts		
Trash Can	✓	1
Walking Trails		

Year Acquired	2003
Age of Equipment	No date
Classification	Mini Park
Size	14,720 sq. ft.
Location	214 Belmont Ave.



The condition assessment results:

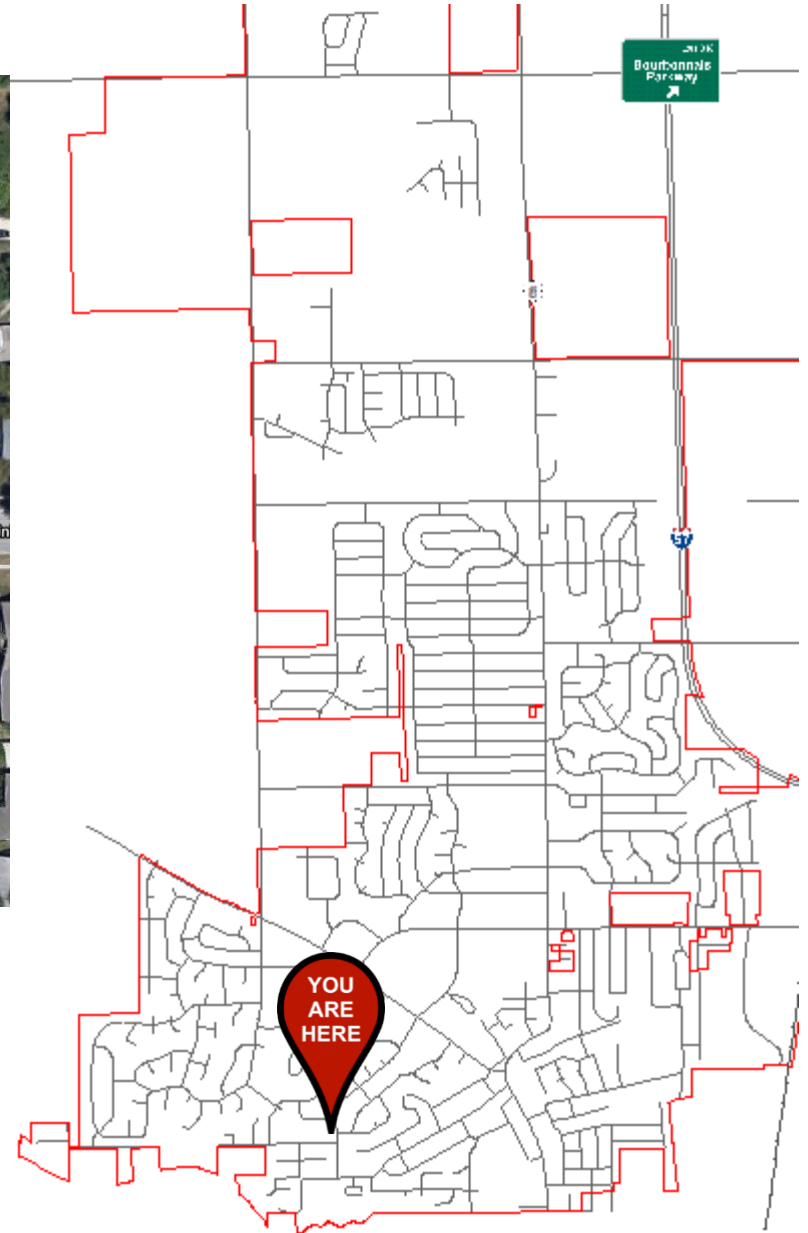
- There is a park sign with hours and not allowing alcohol
- Equipment has been repainted
- No bench
- Tree prides some shade
- Baseball backstop needs to be removed or replaced
- Open space available for other play

Keno Park



Keno Park is located at northwest corner of Canterbury Ln and William Latham Dr. Keno Park serves Bristol Woods, Oak Run Estates and Dairy Queen/River Street Subdivisions.

Keno Park is a neighborhood park. Keno Park is centrally located. Keno is recognized as signature park in the Village. The park is easily accessible by walking from surrounding homes.



Keno Park		Quantity
Baseball Fields	✓	1
Basketball Court	✓	2
Benches	✓	2
Bike Trails		
Covered Picnic Table Area		
Fishing		
Frisbee Golf		
Grill		
Pavilion		
Picnic Tables	✓	3
Playground	✓	2
Restroom		
Seasonal Skating		
Soccer Fields		
Tennis Courts	✓	2
Trash Can	✓	2
Walking Trails		

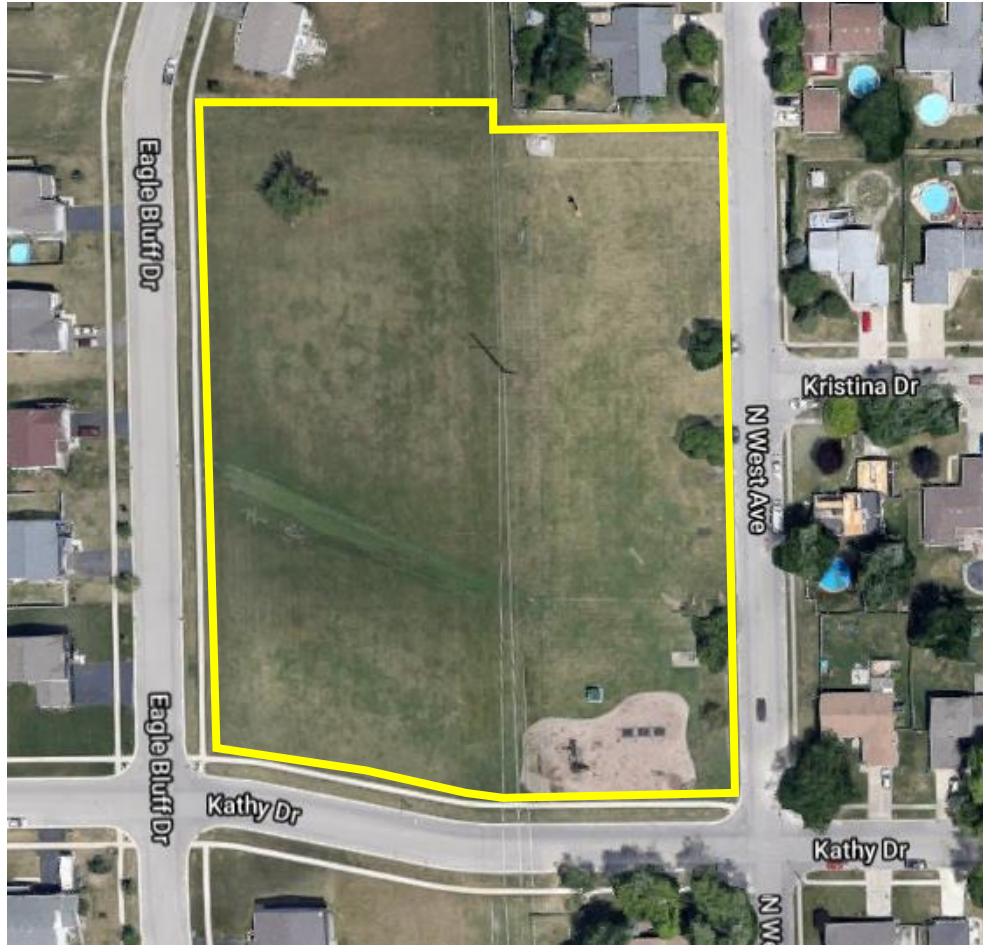
Year Acquired	before 1977
Age of Equipment	1992 & 1994
Classification	Neighborhood Park
Size	4.16 acres
Location	121 Latham Dr.



The condition assessment results:

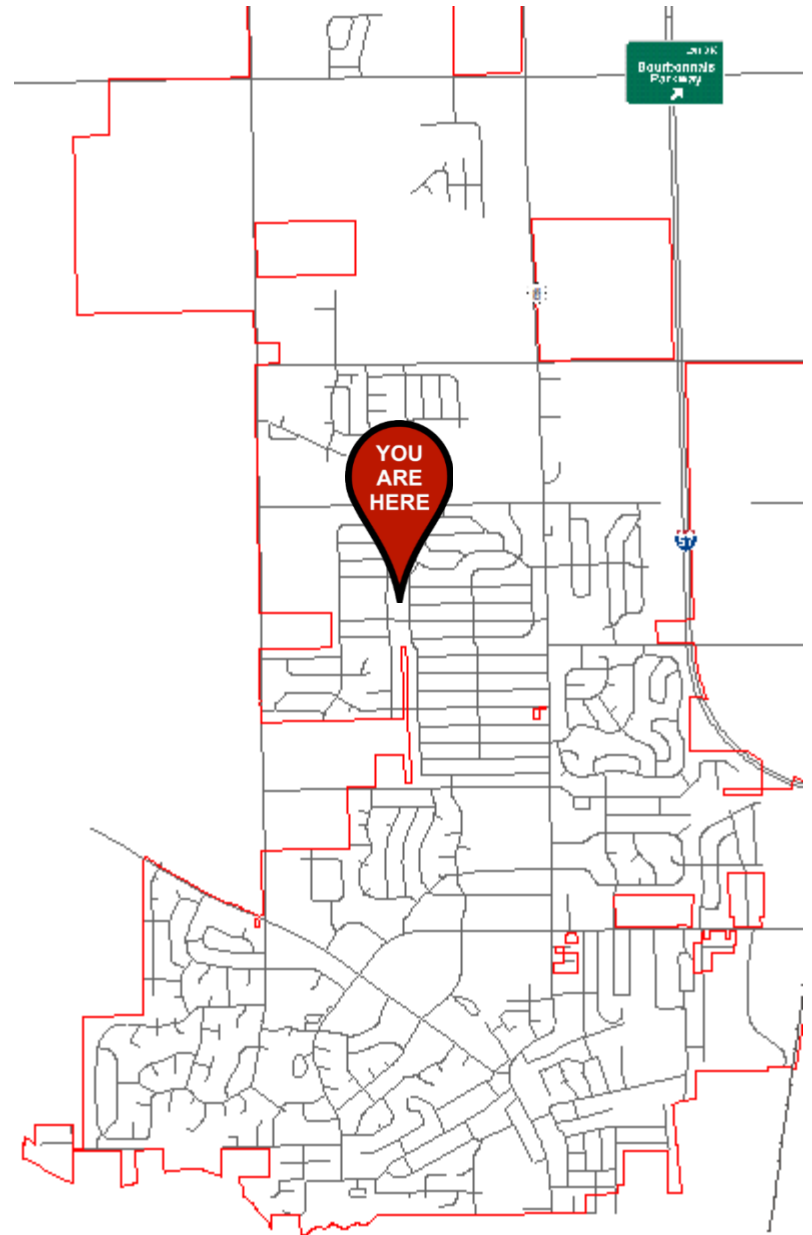
- There is a park sign with hours and not allowing alcohol
- Equipment has been repainted
- Drainage issue needs to be resolved in baseball playground area
- Open space available for other play
- Needs rules for tennis courts, basketball, and baseball fields.
- Sign regarding what KENO stands for would be a great addition to this park.
- Memorial in Park for Joe Klonowski
- Park equipment is shaded by trees.
- Excessive dog waste
- No sidewalk on Canterbury Lane

Latham Park



Latham Park is located at the northwest corner of N. West Ave. and Kathy Dr. Latham Park serves Belle Aire Subdivision and Eagle Creek Estates Subdivisions. Park can be access from Eagle Bluff Dr, Kathy Dr. and N. West Ave.

Latham Park is a neighborhood park. Latham Park is centrally located between three subdivisions. The park is easily accessible by walking from surrounding homes.



Latham Park		Quantity
Baseball Fields	✓	1
Basketball Court		
Benches	✓	1
Bike Trails		
Covered Picnic Table Area	✓	1
Fishing		
Frisbee Golf		
Grill		
Pavilion		
Picnic Tables		
Playground	✓	2
Restroom		
Seasonal Skating		
Soccer Fields		
Tennis Courts		
Trash Can	✓	1
Walking Trails		

Year Acquired	1983
Age of Equipment	1995
Classification	Neighborhood Park
Size	3.94 acres
Location	1500 North West Ave.

The condition assessment results:

- There is a park sign with hours and not allowing alcohol
- Excessive dog waste
- No sidewalk on West Avenue
- Park needs shade
- Tornado siren located in this park
- Boarder needs to be installed on the Kathy Drive side
- Baseball backstop in good condition
- Equipment is aging
- Standing water in spring and heavy rain

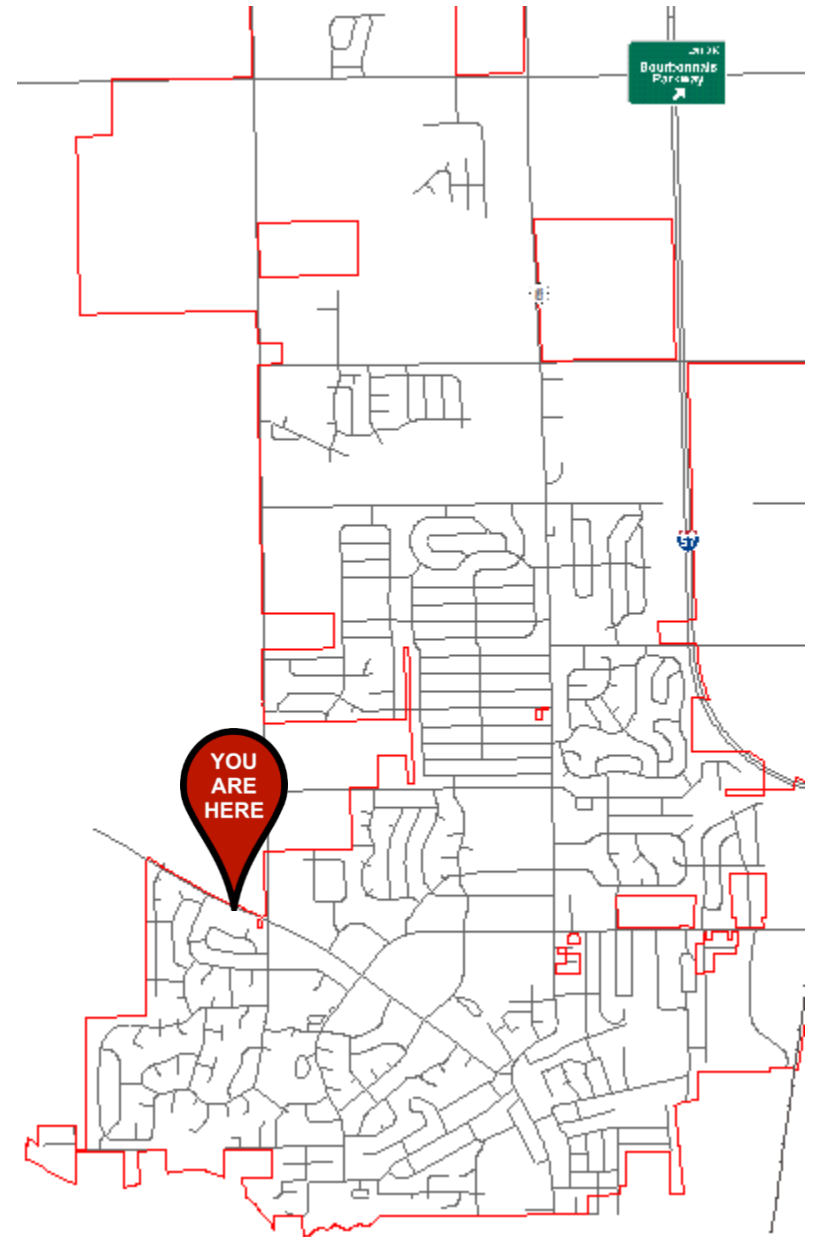


Marcotte Park



Marcotte Park is located at the western entryway in the Village along IL Route 102. Marcotte Park serves Plum Creek Subdivision and Tower Ridge Subdivisions.

Marcotte Park is a signature park for the Village. Marcotte Park is a neighborhood park. The park is a gateway attraction when entering the community. This park sets the character for the community. The amenities within Marcotte parks should define the charm and feel of the remaining parks in Bourbonnais.



Marcotte Park



The condition assessment results:

- There are no rules in the park
- No sign regarding 'how to rent the pavilion'
- Fence along residential homes needs repair
- Water fountain has been removed
- Park has landscape area
- Park has an outdoor grill
- Planters around pavilion need planning
- Pavilion has electricity
- Baseball backstop in good condition
- Baseball infield needs maintenance
- Memorial Bench
- Playground play areas have been separated by age groups and a swing set

Marcotte Park		Quantity
Baseball Fields	✓	1
Basketball Court		
Benches	✓	4
Bike Trails		
Covered Picnic Table Area	✓	
Fishing	✓	
Frisbee Golf		
Grill	✓	1
Pavilion	✓	1
Picnic Tables	✓	
Playground	✓	2
Restroom		
Seasonal Skating		
Soccer Fields		
Tennis Courts		
Trash Can	✓	1
Walking Trails		

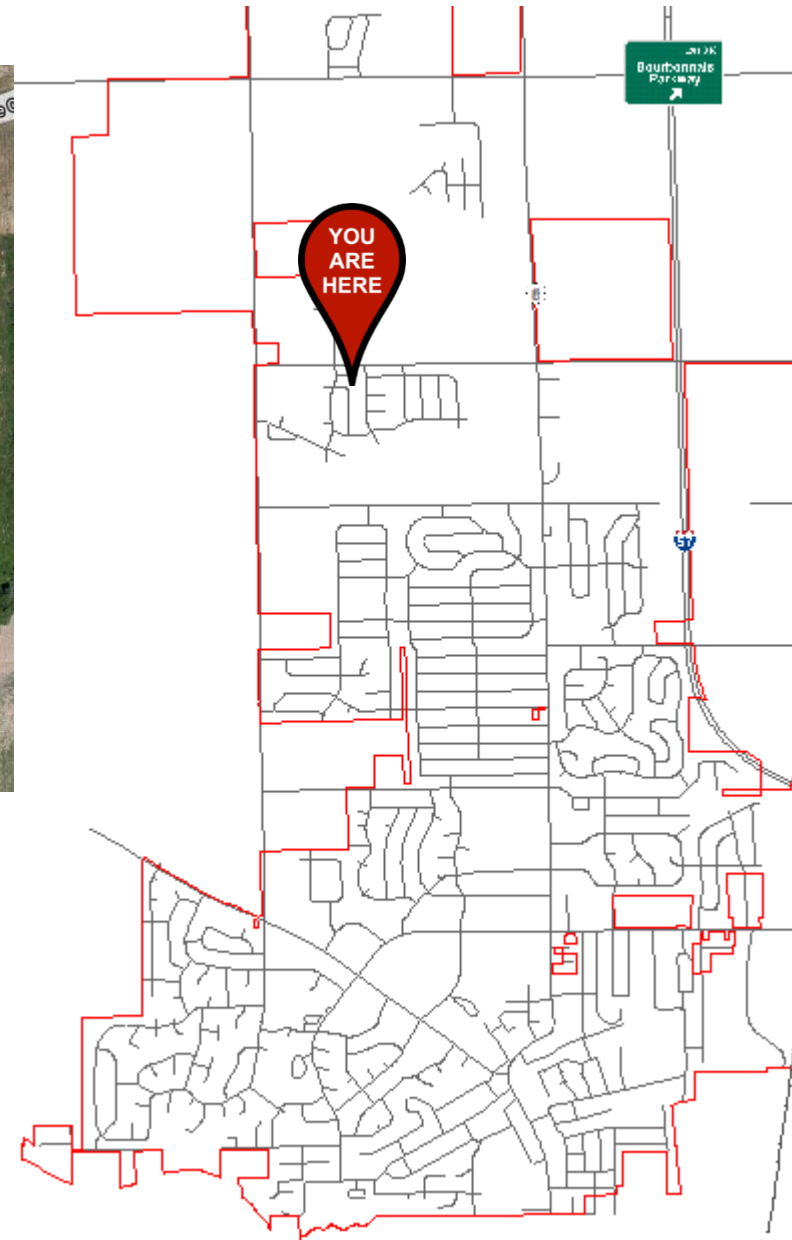
Year Acquired	1988
Age of Equipment	1989 & 1990
Classification	Neighborhood Park
Size	6.05 acres
Location	1140 W. Route 102

Meadowbrook Park



Meadowbrook Park is located at the southwest corner of Prairie Chase Dr. and Stone Cutter Dr. Meadowbrook Park serves Prairie Chase and Meadowbrook Subdivision.

Meadowbrook Park is a neighborhood park. The park contains both active and passive recreation. Meadowbrook Park has a menu of unique recreational activities because of the presence of a pond for public use. The park is larger than 5 acres in size and it is within walking distance of residential housing.



Meadowbrook Park		Quantity
Baseball Fields		
Basketball Court		
Benches	✓	1
Bike Trails		
Covered Picnic Table Area	✓	1
Fishing	✓	
Frisbee Golf		
Grill		
Pavilion		
Picnic Tables		
Playground	✓	1
Restroom		
Seasonal Skating		
Soccer Fields		
Tennis Courts		
Trash Can	✓	1
Walking Trails		



The condition assessment results:

- There is a park sign with hours and not allowing alcohol
- Fishing pond is good condition and well maintained
- Newest park in the Village. Equipment is in good condition.

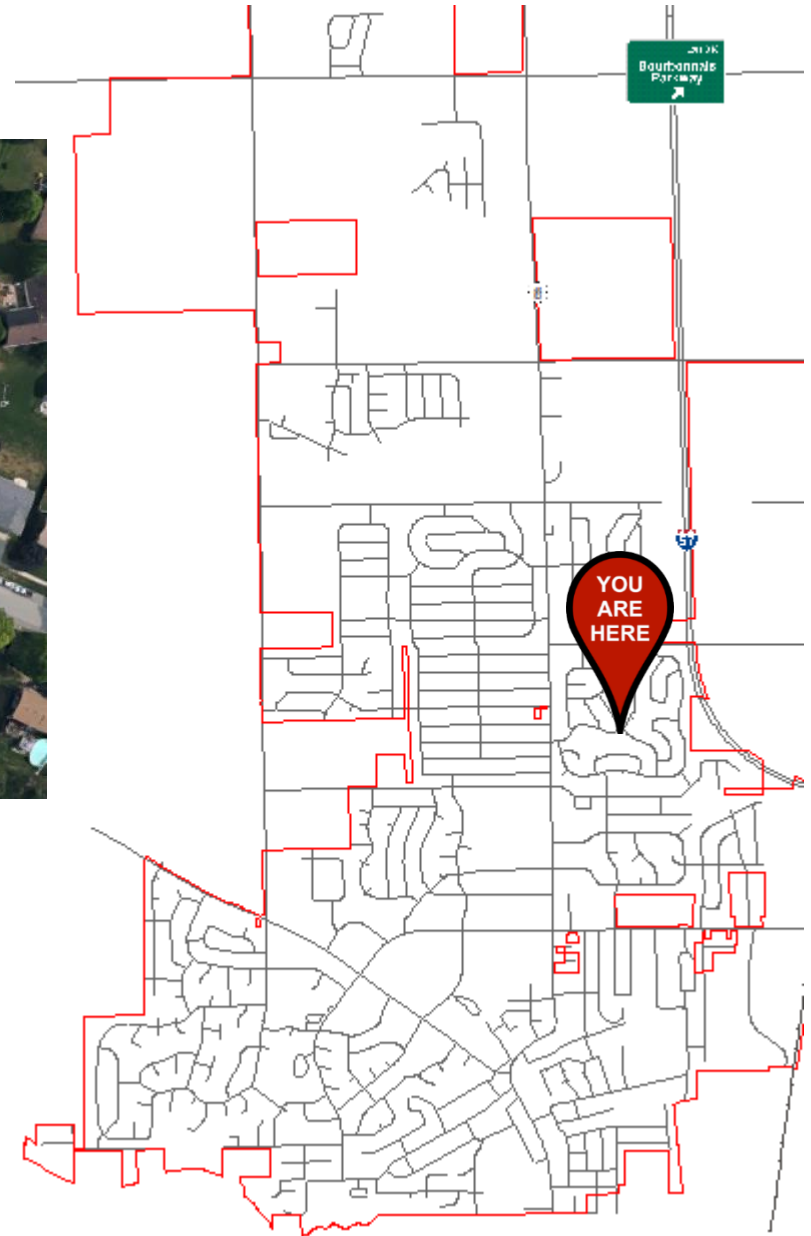
Year Acquired	2007
Age of Equipment	2009
Classification	Neighborhood Park
Size	7.76 acres
Location	644 Stone Cutter Dr.

Meadows Park



Meadows Park is located at the corner of Yale Ave. and Meadows Rd N. Meadows Park serves Village Meadows and Greenbriar Subdivisions. The park is irregular in shape and most of the activity areas are isolated.

Meadows Park is a neighborhood park due to its size. The park is centrally located within its service area.



Meadows Park		Quantity
Baseball Fields	✓	1
Basketball Court		
Benches	✓	1
Bike Trails		
Covered Picnic Table Area	✓	1
Fishing	✓	
Frisbee Golf		
Grill		
Pavilion		
Picnic Tables	✓	2
Playground	✓	2
Restroom		
Seasonal Skating		
Soccer Fields		
Tennis Courts	✓	1
Trash Can	✓	1
Walking Trails		

Year Acquired	??
Age of Equipment	1995
Classification	Neighborhood Park
Size	3.05 acres
Location	1097 Yale Ave.



The condition assessment results:

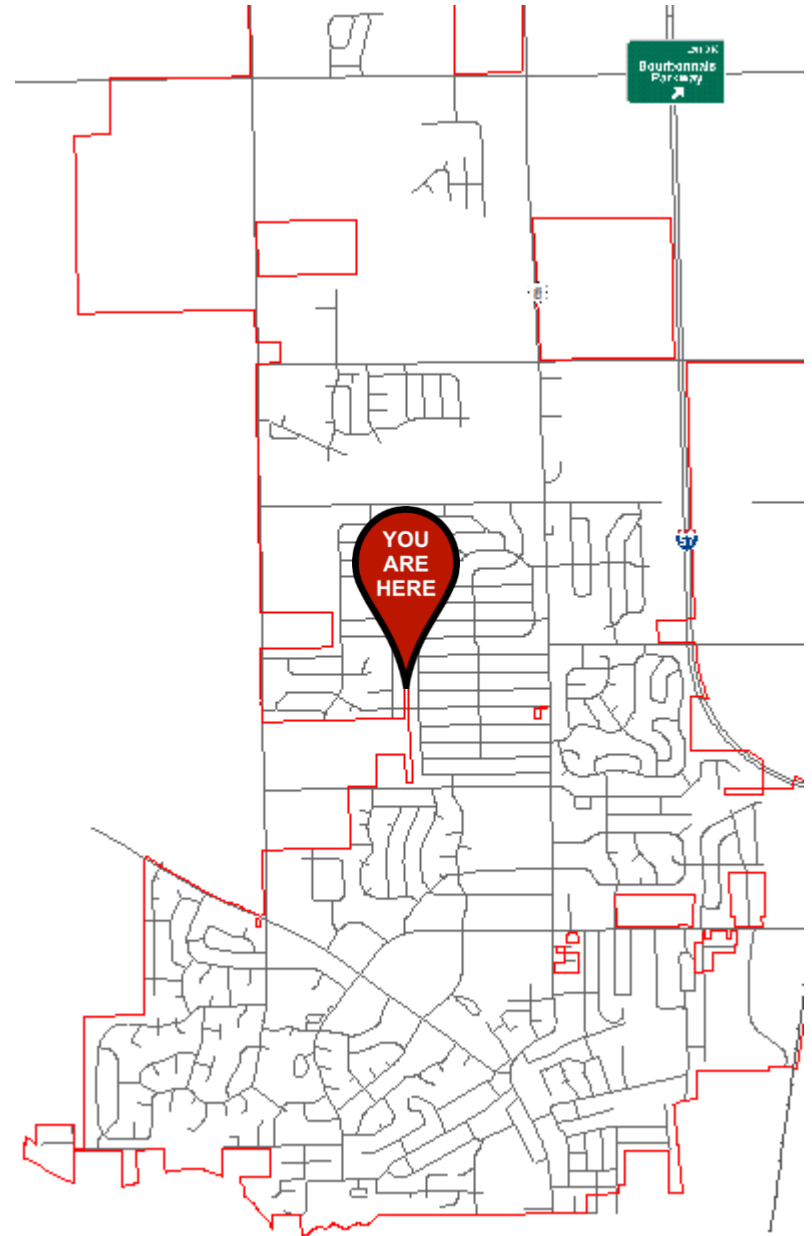
- There is no park sign
- Park appears to be a private park for the apartment buildings that are adjacent.
- Many of the amenities in the park have limited public access
- Park does not have shade
- Slide is broken
- Park has one light

North West Park



North West Park is located at the northwest corner of N. West Ave. and Bonds Drive. North West Park serves Belle Aire and Virginia Grove Subdivisions.

The park is classified as a mini park and frequently used. The site should be accessible to its service area by way of the future interconnecting trails, plus sidewalks, or low-volume residential streets.



North West Park		Quantity
Baseball Fields		
Basketball Court		
Benches		
Bike Trails		
Covered Picnic Table Area	✓	1
Fishing		
Frisbee Golf		
Grill		
Pavilion		
Picnic Tables	✓	1
Playground	✓	1
Restroom		
Seasonal Skating		
Soccer Fields		
Tennis Courts		
Trash Can	✓	1
Walking Trails		

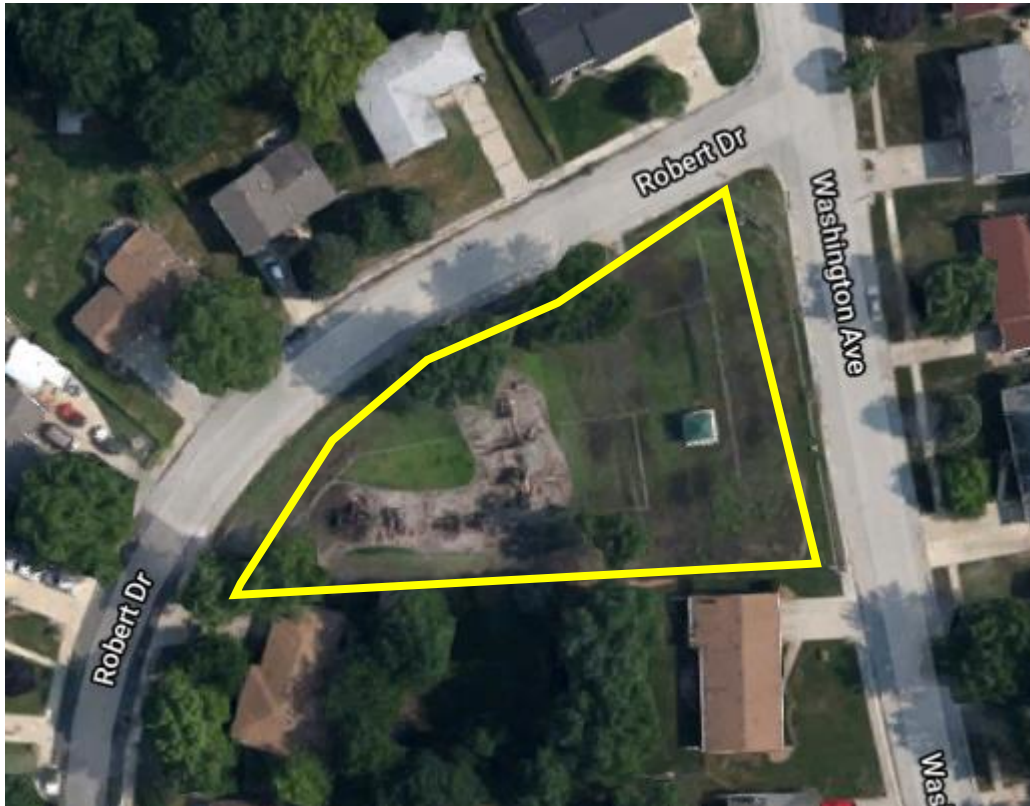
Year Acquired	1970
Age of Equipment	??
Classification	Mini Park
Size	22,394 sq. ft.
Location	34 North West Ave.



The condition assessment results:

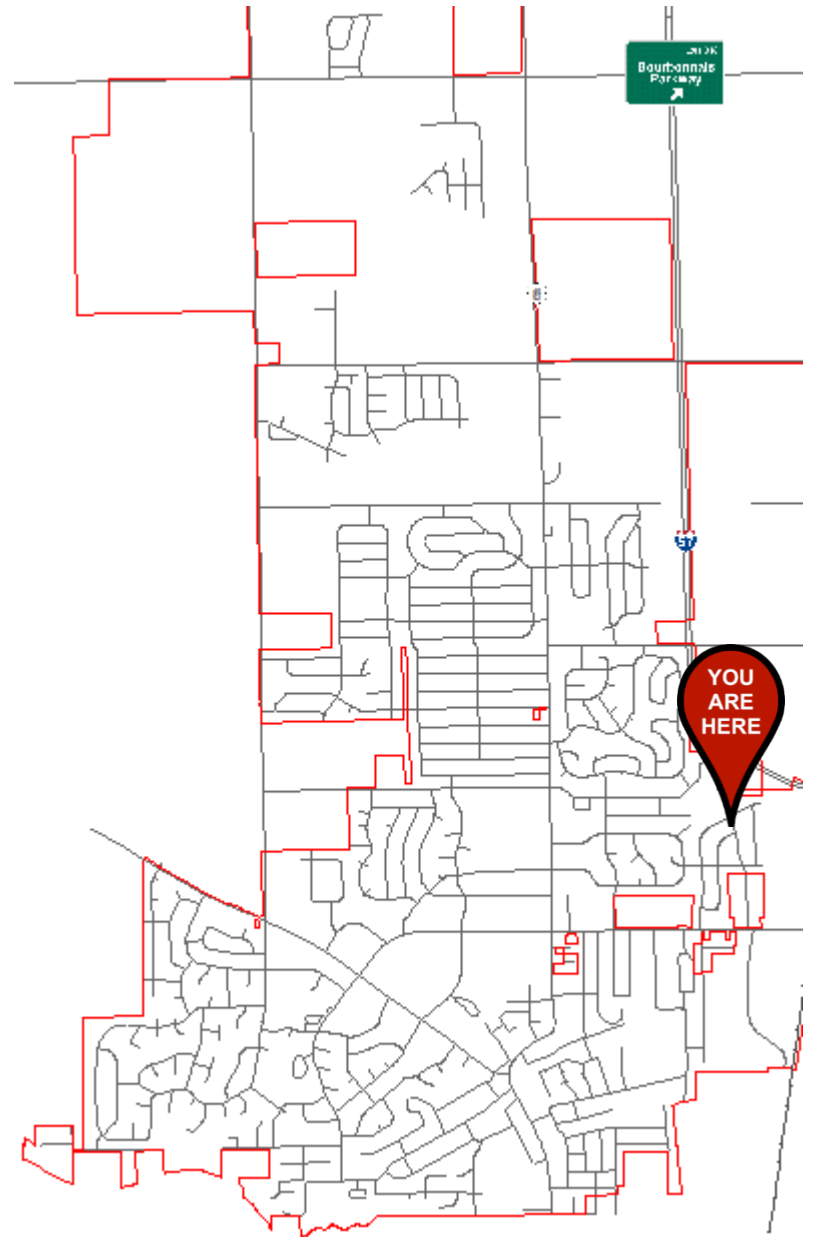
- There is a park sign with hours and not allowing alcohol
- Equipment has no date of construction
- Covered picnic table present
- Park is shaded by trees.
- Park has one light

Northfield Park



Northfield Park is located at southwest corner of Washington Ave. and Robert Dr. North West Park serves Northfield, Didiers and Brookwood Subdivisions.

Northfield park is a mini-park and less than an acre in size. Northfield park services a concentrated and limited population.



Northfield Park		Quantity
Baseball Fields		
Basketball Court		
Benches		
Bike Trails		
Covered Picnic Table Area	✓	1
Fishing		
Frisbee Golf		
Grill		
Pavilion		
Picnic Tables	✓	1
Playground	✓	1
Restroom		
Seasonal Skating		
Soccer Fields		
Tennis Courts		
Trash Can	✓	1
Walking Trails		

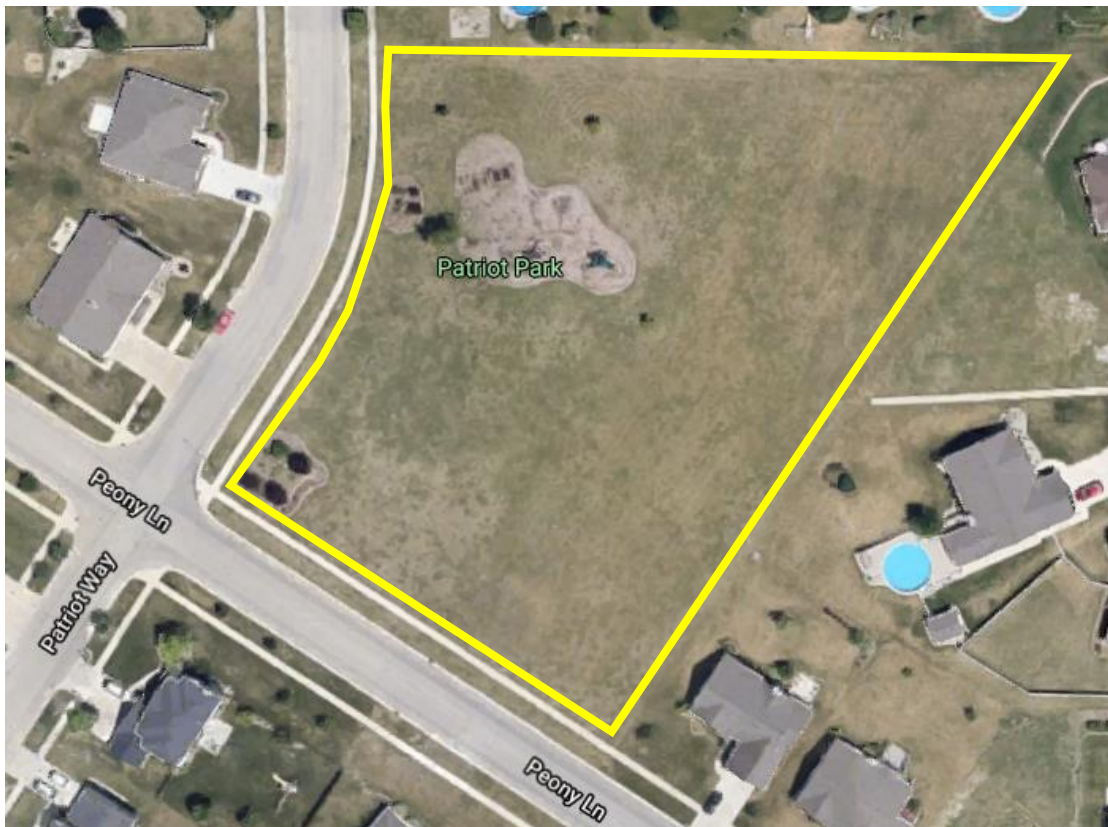
Year Acquired	1973
Age of Equipment	1999 & 2006
Classification	Mini Park
Size	26,382 sq.ft.
Location	850 Robert Dr.



The condition assessment results:

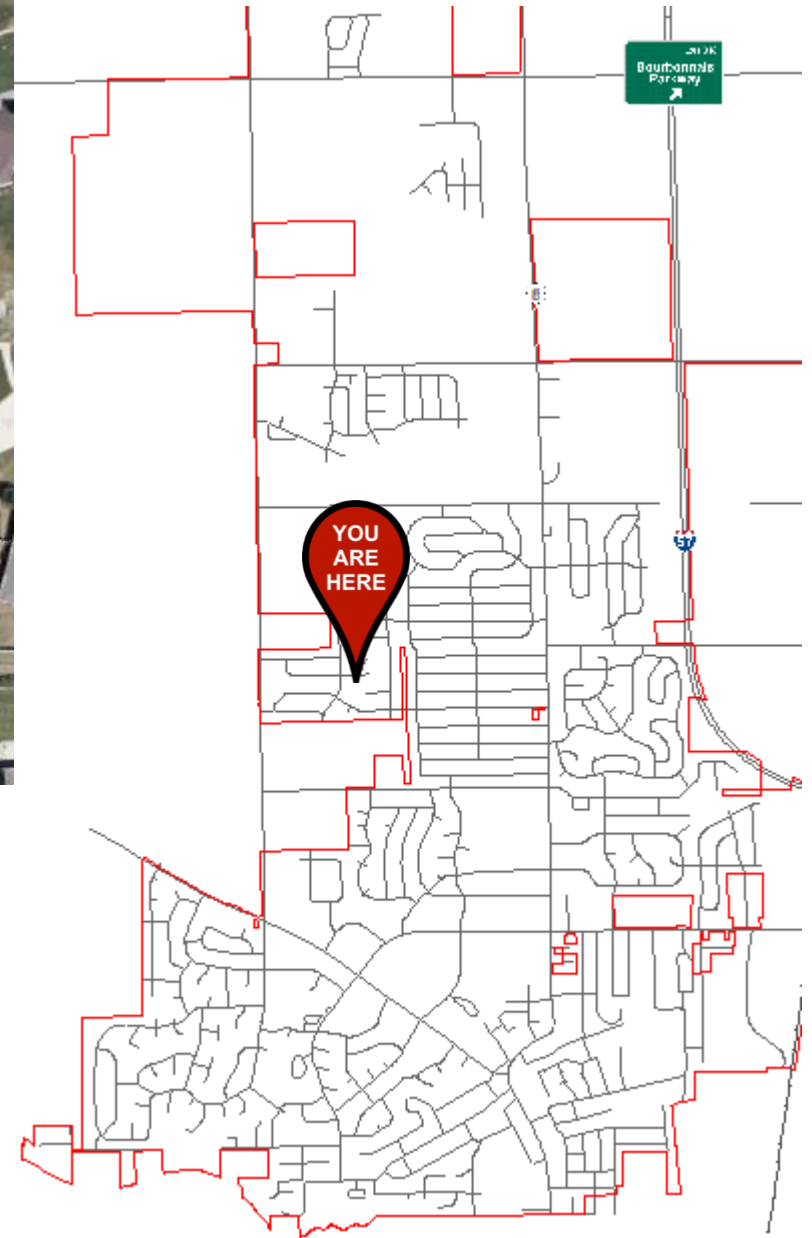
- There is a park sign with hours and not allowing alcohol
- Equipment had graffiti the day of the inspection
- Covered picnic table present
- Park is shaded by trees.
- There are two trash cans. Neither can is located near the park equipment
- This is a nice mini park for this area
- Four-foot fence surrounds the entire park

Patriot Park



Patriot Park is located at the northeast corner of Patriot Way and Peony Ln. Patriot Park serves Virginia Grove, Eagle Creek, and eagle Creek Estates Subdivisions.

Patriot Park is a neighborhood park. The park is centrally located within its service area. The site should be accessible to its service area by way of sidewalks and along low-volume residential streets.



Patriot Park		Quantity
Baseball Fields		
Basketball Court		
Benches	✓	1
Bike Trails		
Covered Picnic Table Area		
Fishing		
Frisbee Golf		
Grill		
Pavilion		
Picnic Tables		
Playground	✓	1
Restroom		
Seasonal Skating		
Soccer Fields		
Tennis Courts		
Trash Can	✓	1
Walking Trails		

Year Acquired	2001
Age of Equipment	2006
Classification	Neighborhood Park
Size	2.32 acres
Location	1250 Patriot Way



The condition assessment results:

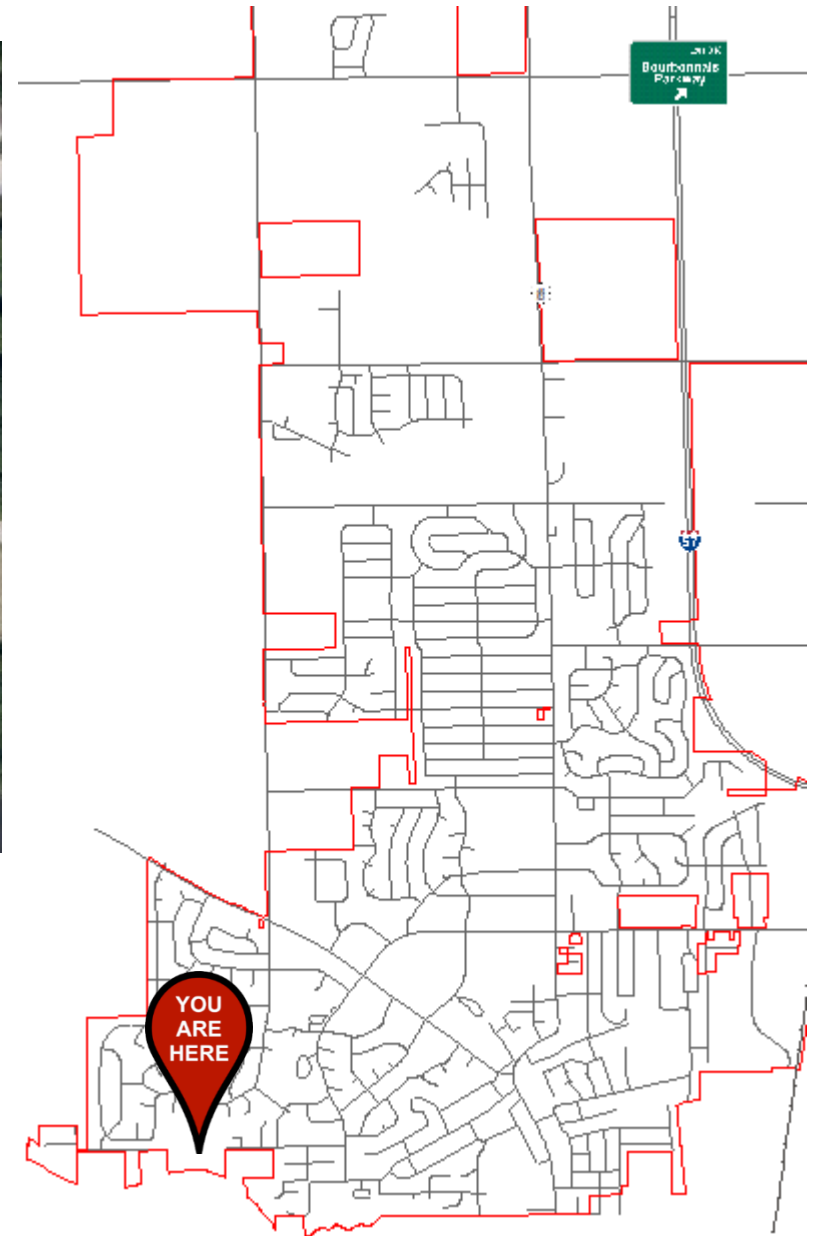
- There is a park sign with hours and not allowing alcohol
- There is landscaping at the corner which does not exist in very many of the Village parks
- There is a large open area that can be used for park activities
- The park equipment is in good condition
- Park contains a handicap swing

Riverfront Park



Riverfront Park at the end of Canterbury Ln. Riverfront Park serves Bristol Woods, Briarcliff, Oak Run and Dairy Queen/River Street Subdivisions.

Riverfront Park is premier park in the Village. The park is an attraction for regional users. Riverfront park is the only community park in the village. The park is located along the Kankakee River. Riverfront Park is more than 10 acres in size. Riverfront Park meets the recreation needs of several neighborhoods or large sections of the community, as well as preserves unique landscapes and open spaces for visitors. The park contains active and passive recreation activities



Riverfront Park		Quantity
Baseball Fields		
Basketball Court		
Benches	✓	6
Bike Trails	✓	
Covered Picnic Table Area		
Exercise Equipment	✓	6
Fishing	✓	
Frisbee Golf	✓	9
Grill	✓	
Pavilion	✓	
Picnic Tables	✓	4
Playground		
Restroom	✓	1
Seasonal Skating		
Soccer Fields		
Tennis Courts		
Trash Can	✓	4
Walking Trails	✓	

Year Acquired	1995
Age of Equipment	No equipment
Classification	Community Park
Size	10.71 acres
Location	1201 Canterbury LN.



Riverfront Park

The condition assessment results:

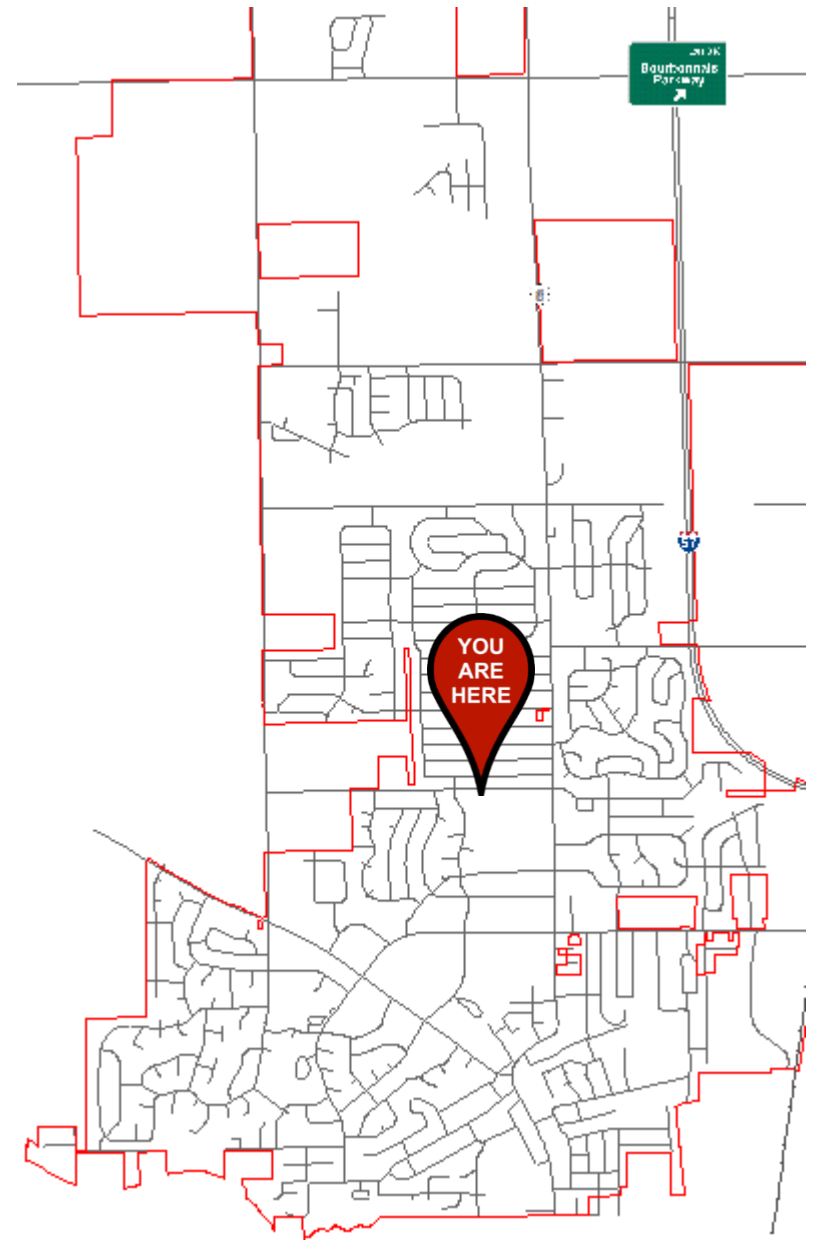
- There is a park sign
- No rules exist
- Safety rules and risks should be added rock area, fitness equipment and access to the River
- Historic pavilion exists on property
- Pavilion rental information should be on the property.
- Exercise equipment at the park
- History opportunity about the history of the land should be utilized
- Park has river access
- Picnic area exists but there are no tables
- Port-a-potty is on site

Slater Park



Slater Park is located at the southeast corner of Gettysburg Dr. and W. Bethel Dr. Slater Park serves Belle Aire, Heritage Point and Gettysburg.

During the summer, Slater field is most visited park by people outside of our community because of the use by the Bradley-Bourbonnais Little League. Slater Field is almost 4 acres in size. Slater Field accommodating a wide variety of age and user groups, including children, adults, the elderly, and special populations. The park serves as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood, community and visitors.



Slater Park		Quantity
Baseball Fields	✓	3
Basketball Court		
Benches	✓	1
Bike Trails		
Covered Picnic Table Area		
Fishing		
Frisbee Golf		
Grill		
Pavilion		
Picnic Tables	✓	
Playground	✓	2
Restroom		
Seasonal Skating		
Soccer Fields		
Tennis Courts		
Trash Can	✓	1
Walking Trails		

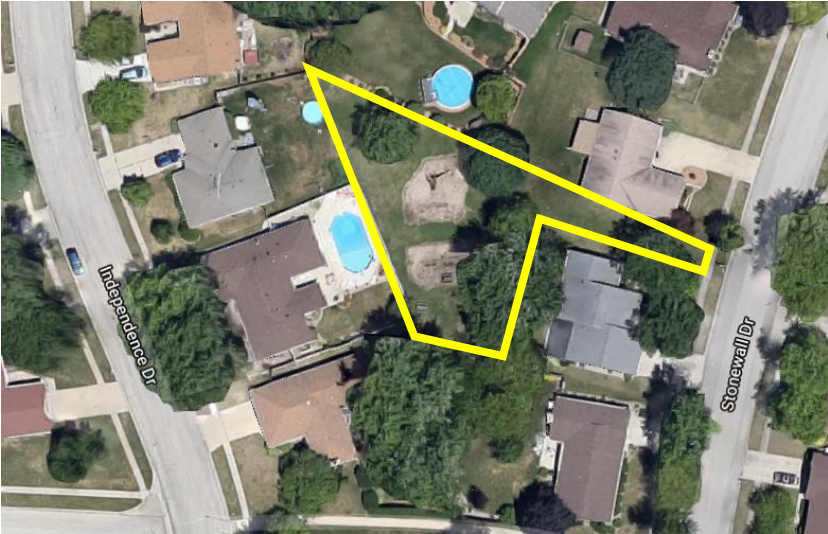
Year Acquired	1993
Age of Equipment	1996
Classification	Neighborhood Park
Size	3.88 acres
Location	894 Gettysburg Dr.



The condition assessment results:

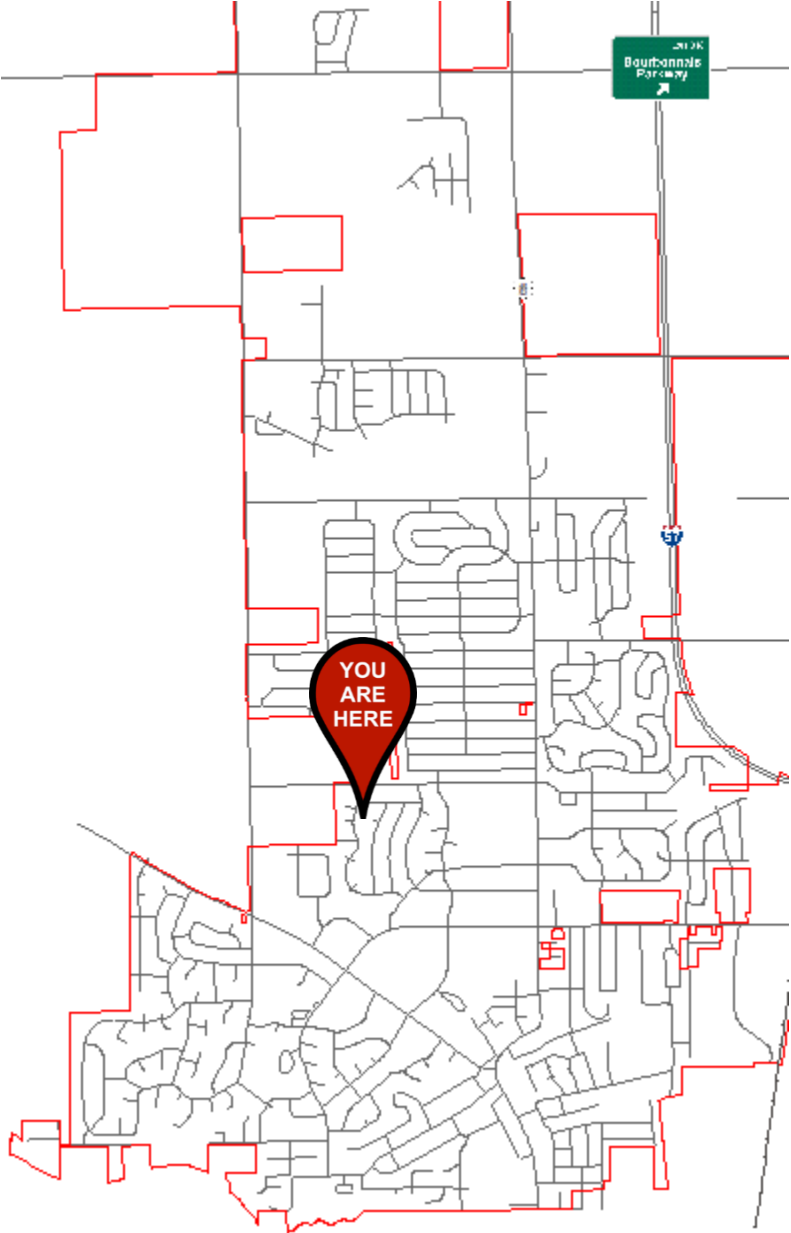
- There is a park sign with hours and not allowing alcohol
- There are no picnic tables in the park area
- There is no shade in the park
- Metro Bus Stop near park
- Park has fence along roadway

Stonewall Park



Stonewall Park is located 620 feet south of the intersection of Concord PL. and Stonewall Dr. the park is located on the west side of the street. The park is not visible from the street. There is public access to Stonewall Park along Independence Dr. too. Stonewall Park serves Heritage Point Subdivision.

Stonewall Park in a mini park. The park is less than an acre in size. The park is isolated and limits the population that it serves.



Stonewall Park		Quantity
Baseball Fields		
Basketball Court		
Benches		
Bike Trails		
Covered Picnic Table Area		
Fishing		
Frisbee Golf		
Grill		
Pavilion		
Picnic Tables		
Playground	✓	1
Restroom		
Seasonal Skating		
Soccer Fields		
Tennis Courts		
Trash Can	✓	1
Walking Trails		



Year Acquired	1973
Age of Equipment	1992
Classification	Mini Park
Size	13,333 sq. ft.
Location	815 Stonewall Dr.

The condition assessment results:

- There is a park sign with hours and not allowing alcohol
- This park is not adjacent to any roadways and is located behind houses
- No parking available
- The park has poor lighting
- Fence needs to be replaced
- The park is small and under utilized
- No bench
- No picnic tables
- No garbage can
- There is only one tree. The park has no shade

Stone Mill Farms Park



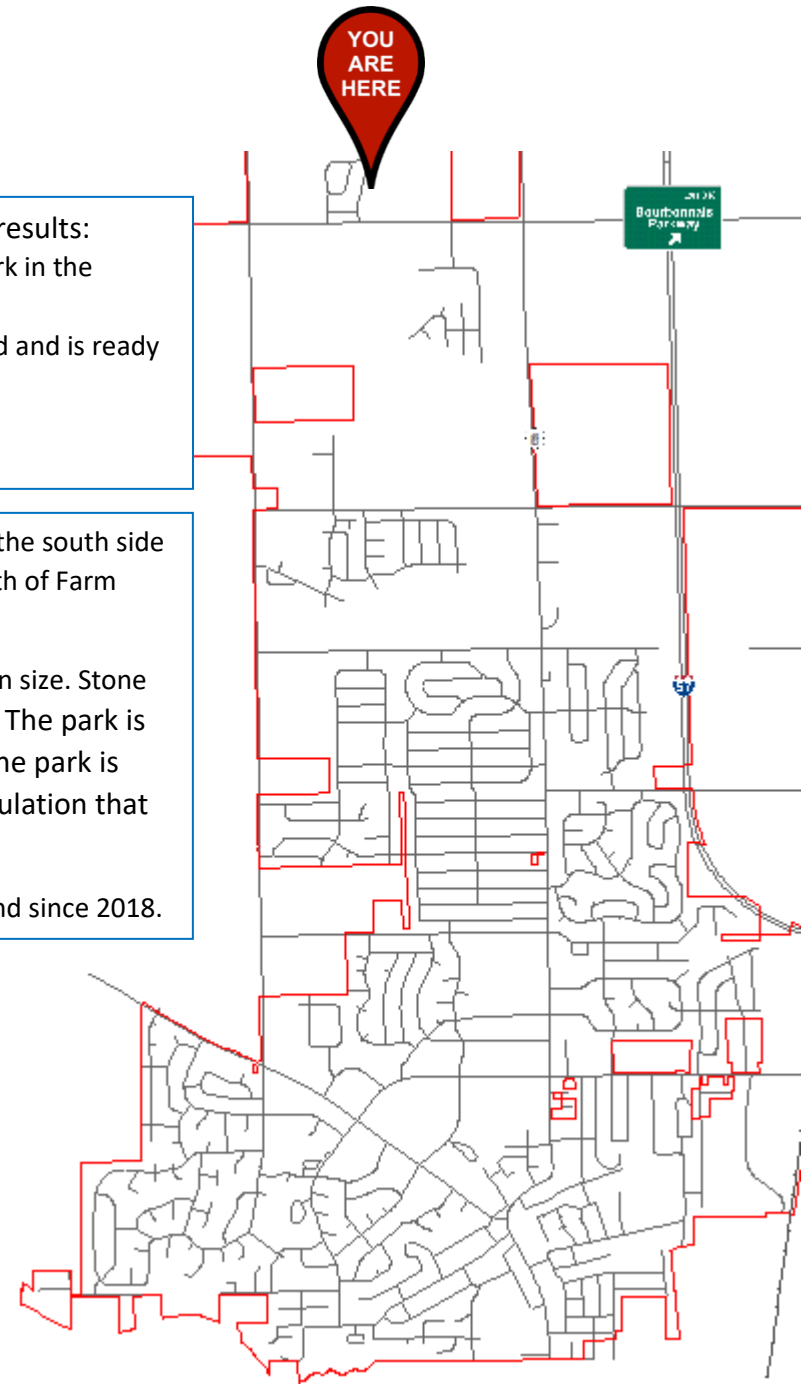
The condition assessment results:

- This will be a new park in the Village
- Land has been graded and is ready for new equipment.
- Park needs a name

Stone Mill Park is located on the south side Park View Drive 517 feet north of Farm View Ave.

Stone Mill Park is 0.83 acres in size. Stone Mill Park will be a mini park. The park is less than an acre in size. The park is isolated and limits the population that it serves.

The Village has owned the land since 2018.

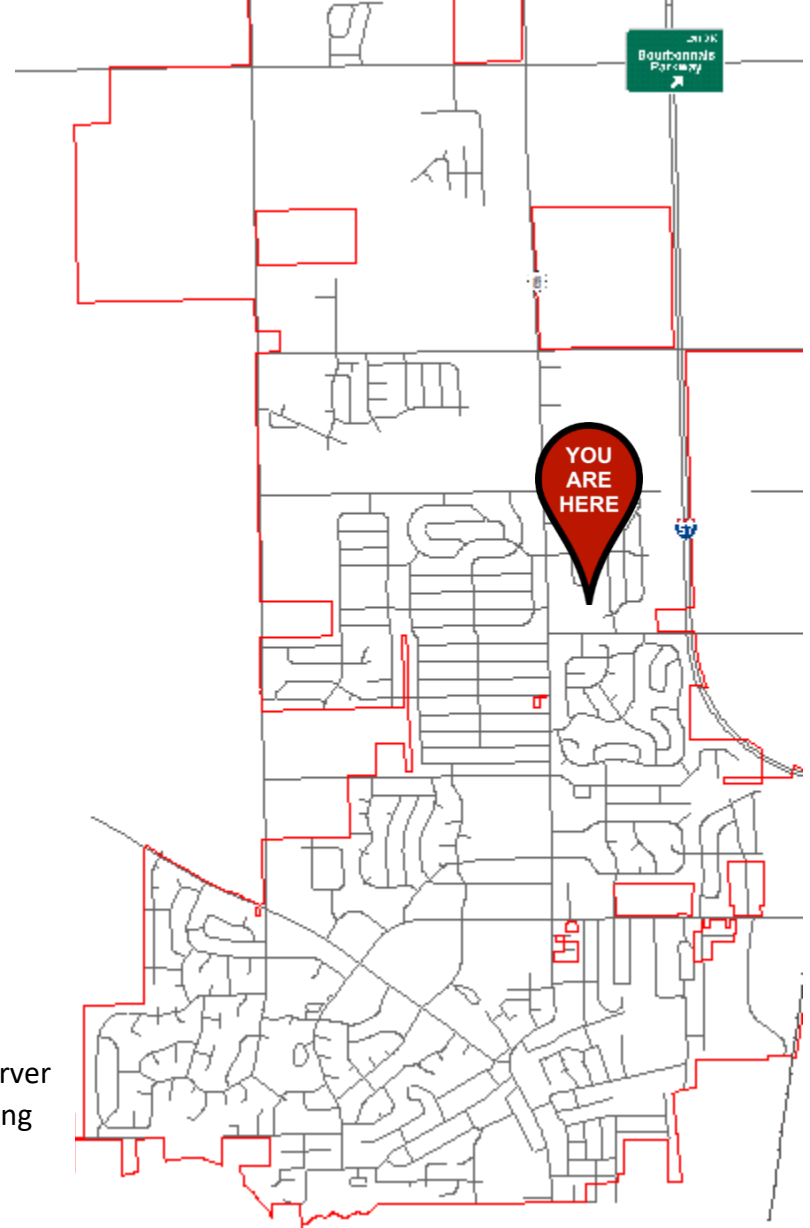


Sunridge Park



Sunridge Park is located 640 feet south of the intersection of Prairie Dr. and Carver Cir. The park is not visible from the street. The existing park sign is located along the roadway. The park is on the south side of Carver Cir. Sunridge Park is intended to serve Sunridge and Prairie Harbor Subdivision.

Sunridge Park is the third largest park in the village; however, has severe limited access for usage. The final plat and subdivision design plans indicated that the entire 6.05 acres is storm water detention. Sunridge park is a neighborhood park. The park is centrally located within its service area but difficult to access.



Sunridge Park		Quantity
Baseball Fields	✓	
Basketball Court		
Benches	✓	1
Bike Trails		
Covered Picnic Table Area	✓	1
Fishing		
Frisbee Golf		
Grill		
Pavilion		
Picnic Tables		
Playground	✓	1
Restroom		
Seasonal Skating		
Soccer Fields		
Tennis Courts		
Trash Can	✓	1
Walking Trails		

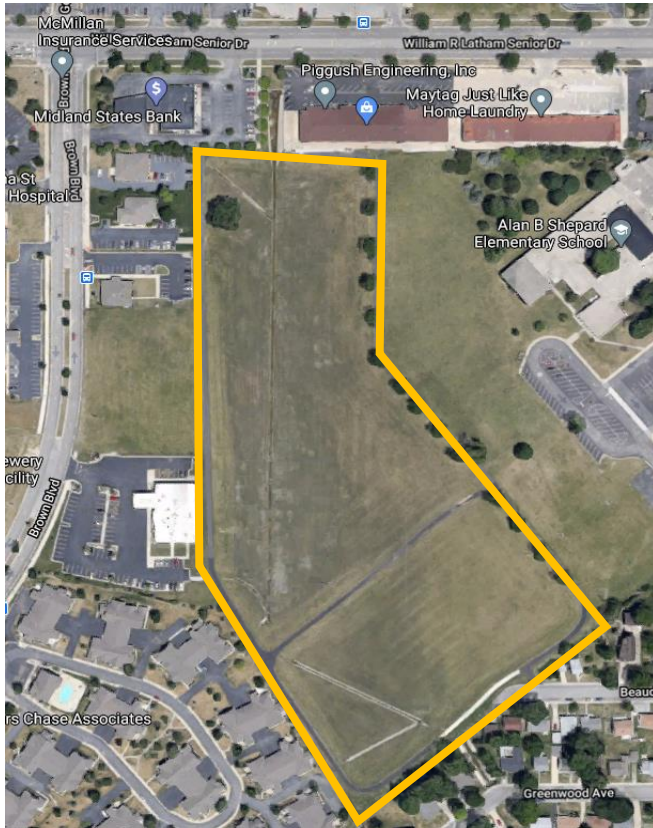


Year Acquired	1987
Age of Equipment	1996
Classification	Neighborhood Park
Size	6.05 acres
Location	1552 Carver Cir Dr.

The condition assessment results:

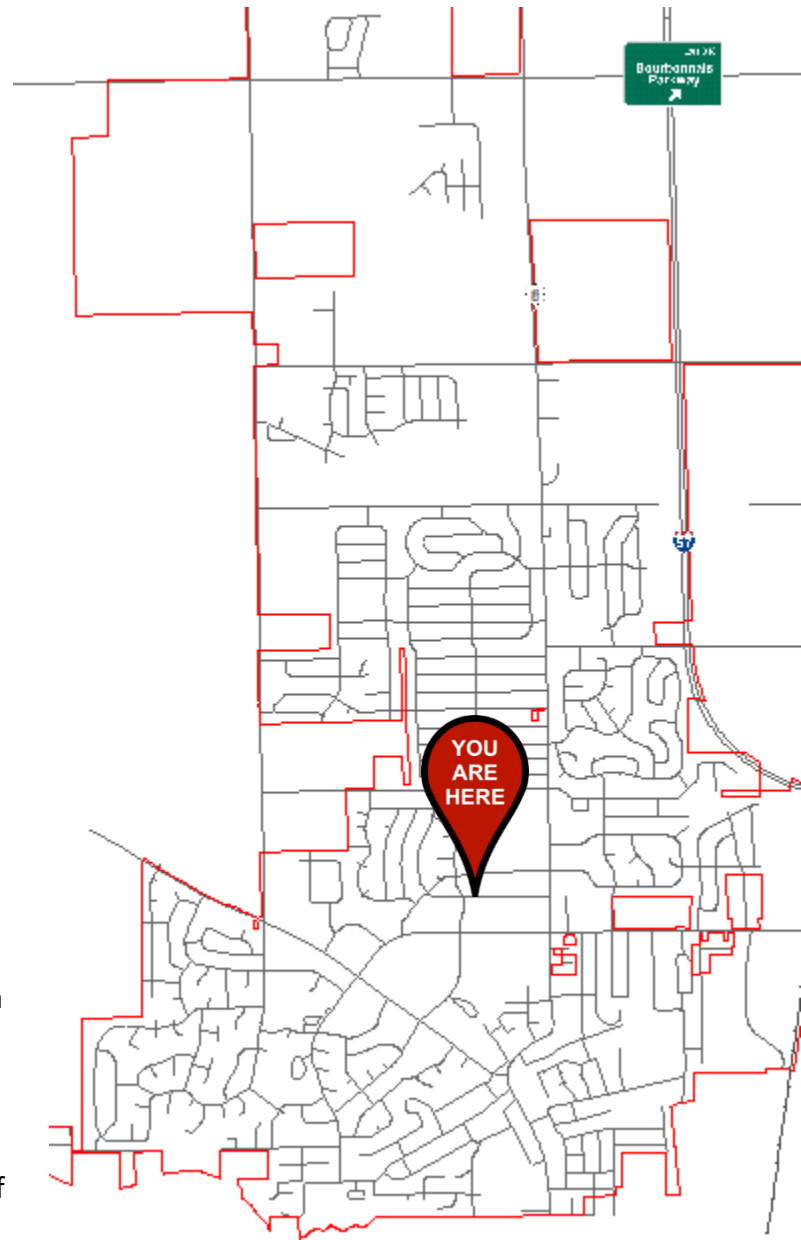
- There is a park sign with hours and not allowing alcohol
- The park is not adjacent to any roadways
- The park is behind residential house
- A Baseball backstop is in the park
- The Park has large open space available for other uses such as a dog park
- Park has no lighting
- Fencing along houses needs replacement
- New garbage can is needed

Thirteen Acre Park



The Thirteen Acre Park is located along Brown Boulevard south of William Latham Drive on the east side of the road behind the commercial development. The thirteen-acre park serves a dual as a regional detention facility and walking/bike path for residents.

The Thirteen Acre Park is a neighborhood park contains both active and passive recreation activities geared specifically for those living and working within the service area. The park is accessible by way of interconnecting trails, sidewalks, low-volume residential streets and collector streets.



Thirteen Acre Park		Quantity
Baseball Fields		
Basketball Court		
Benches		
Bike Trails	✓	
Covered Picnic Table Area		
Fishing		
Frisbee Golf		
Grill		
Pavilion		
Picnic Tables		
Playground		
Restroom		
Seasonal Skating		
Soccer Fields		
Tennis Courts		
Trash Can		
Walking Trails	✓	

Year Acquired	1983
Age of Equipment	No Equipment
Classification	Neighborhood Park
Size	13.1 acres
Location	418 Brown Blvd.



The condition assessment results:

- There is no park or location sign
- No parking is available immediately adjacent to the park
- Walking path exists around detention area. The path is under-utilized by adjacent businesses and schools. Residents of the high-density area use the park for recreation
- No garbage cans
- No Picnic tables
- Park has no lighting
- Open area could be used for movies or concerts

2020 Park Survey Results

Park Survey Summary

The Village allowed the community to be involved in the park assessment process by providing a survey for their input. This was accessible on social media and on the Village website during the fall of 2020. In total, 282 residents responded to this survey, allowing ways to incorporate their views into the final recommendation. The purpose of this survey is to determine what the community views as a priority to the current status of Village parks and their improvement recommendations. In the survey questions are asked to create statistics on park data to help:

- Plan and fund improvements to existing parks and maintenance.
- Develop new parks and services.
- Understand how often residents are attending the parks.
- Evaluate park access and usage.

The respondents largely lived and/or worked in Bourbonnais. Besides residing, work, or school many of those who participated also said they shop or visit Bourbonnais often. The demographic primarily reached with this survey were between the ages of 31-40. The survey asked how would you rate the importance of parks and recreation in the Village? This result was expected with 96% of the respondents stating that parks were very or extremely important. These results were also reflected in how frequently they visit Village parks; with 154 residents stating they visit weekly. The usage of the parks with this demographic varies:

- Enjoying the outdoors and nature.
- Taking their children or grandchildren to enjoy the playground.
- Walking or biking for exercise.
- Participating in family activities.

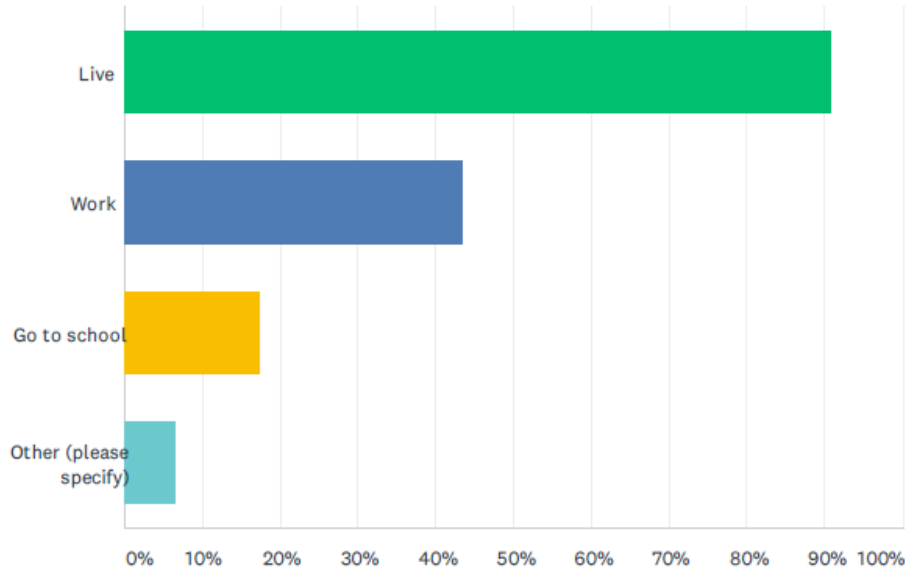
For those who were participating in the survey and do not currently use the parks, their reasoning was due to the playground areas needing upgrades such as Ed Hayes Park (referenced in the survey as Highpoint Park), no time, and lack of amenities in Marcotte Park. While the equipment is seen as needing upgrades, another result that was expected was the general upkeep and maintenance of existing parks is kept in good condition. Other respondents stated that the equipment is dated, and landscaping needs to be improved such as Keno Park. As previously stated, this demographic is between the ages of 31-40 and they expressed their five most important activities would be: walking for pleasure in Riverfront Park, utilizing the playground equipment, bicycling for pleasure, picnics in Cavalier de LaSalle Park, and taking their dogs on walks. Upgrading and maintaining existing parks is how the respondents felt the Village's park system can be improved. This also includes upgrades to playground areas and building a major new facility such as sports fields and community center. If funding were available, there were several items the respondents felt should take the highest priorities:

- Village-wide trail system.
- Community pool.
- Water playground.
- Playground area upgrades.

Based on the survey to utilize the community's input, a final recommendation is provided for the park assessment.

Q1 Do you live, work or go to school in Village of Bourbonnais? (Select all that apply.)

Answered: 282 Skipped: 0



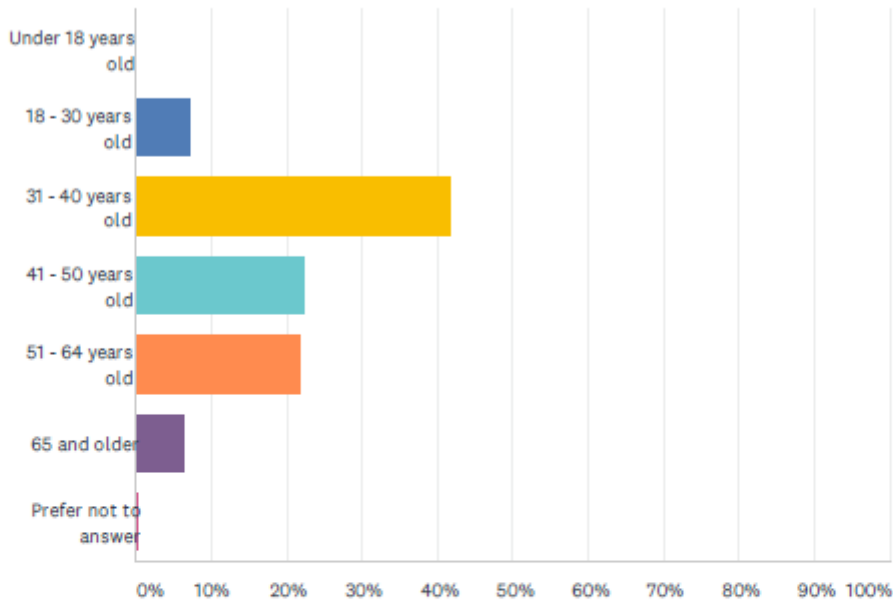
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Live	90.78% 256
Work	43.62% 123
Go to school	17.38% 49
Other (please specify)	6.38% 18
Total Respondents: 282	

Responses:

- Retired
- Always in Bourbonnais
- Living in Bradley, I frequent many businesses and we are looking at homes in Bourbonnais.
- Shop
- Live just across village limits.
- Lived there for 42 years and recently moved to Manteno
- Used to live in Bourbonnais now in Bradley
- Child attends BBCHS
- My Children do
- Live in K3, but kids go to bishop mac in Bourbonnais
- Kids go to school in Bourbonnais
- Parents live / visit often with kids
- We are retired and live in Bourbonnais township
- Live right next door to village
- Visit often
- Live in Bourbonnais township near fire station
- I live in Bourbonnais Township

Q2 What is your age?

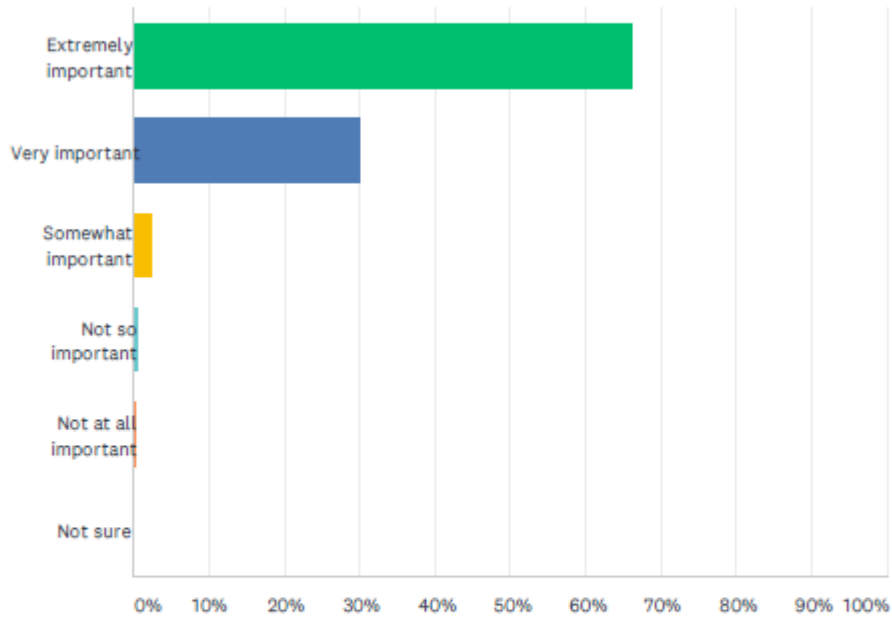
Answered: 282 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 18 years old	0.00%	0
18 - 30 years old	7.09%	20
31 - 40 years old	41.84%	118
41 - 50 years old	22.34%	63
51 - 64 years old	21.99%	62
65 and older	6.38%	18
Prefer not to answer	0.35%	1
Total Respondents: 282		

Q3 How would you rate the importance of parks and recreation in the village?

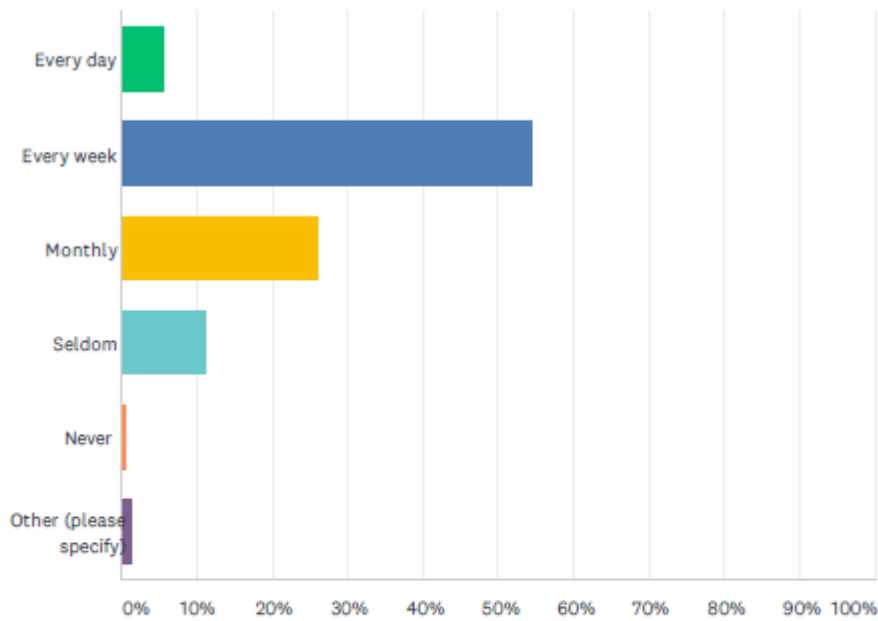
Answered: 282 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Extremely important	66.31%	187
Very important	30.14%	85
Somewhat important	2.48%	7
Not so important	0.71%	2
Not at all important	0.35%	1
Not sure	0.00%	0
Total Respondents: 282		

Q4 How frequently do you visit village parks?

Answered: 282 Skipped: 0



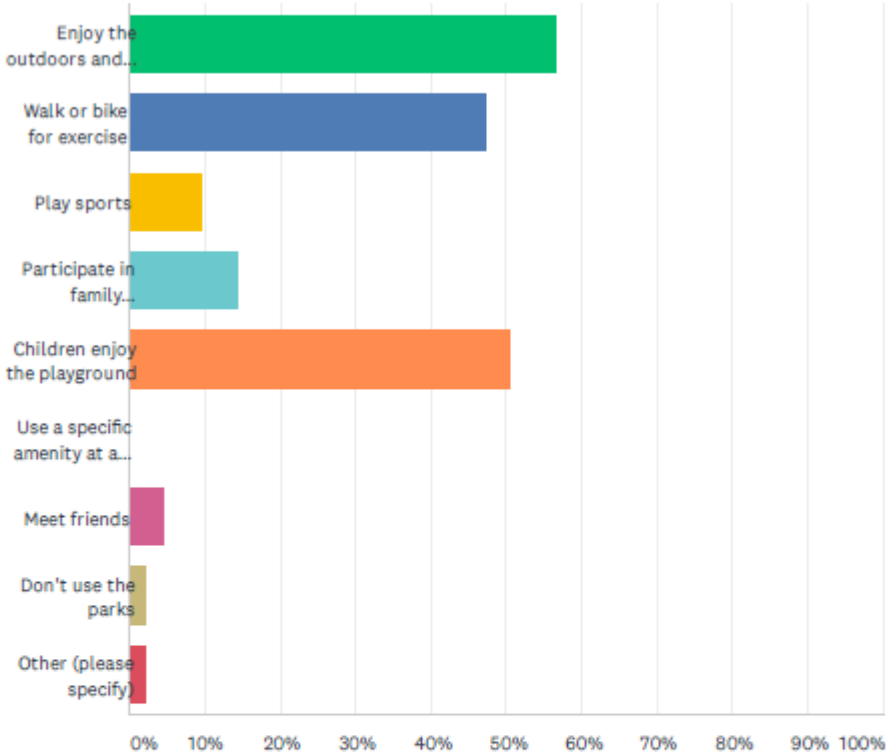
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Every day	5.67%	16
Every week	54.61%	154
Monthly	26.24%	74
Seldom	11.35%	32
Never	0.71%	2
Other (please specify)	1.42%	4
Total Respondents: 282		

Responses:

- Right now, not so much
- Often
- Frequently & when Grandchildren visit.
- 5 days a week

Q5 What are the primary reasons that you use parks in the village? (Please select your top two choices.)

Answered: 282 Skipped: 0



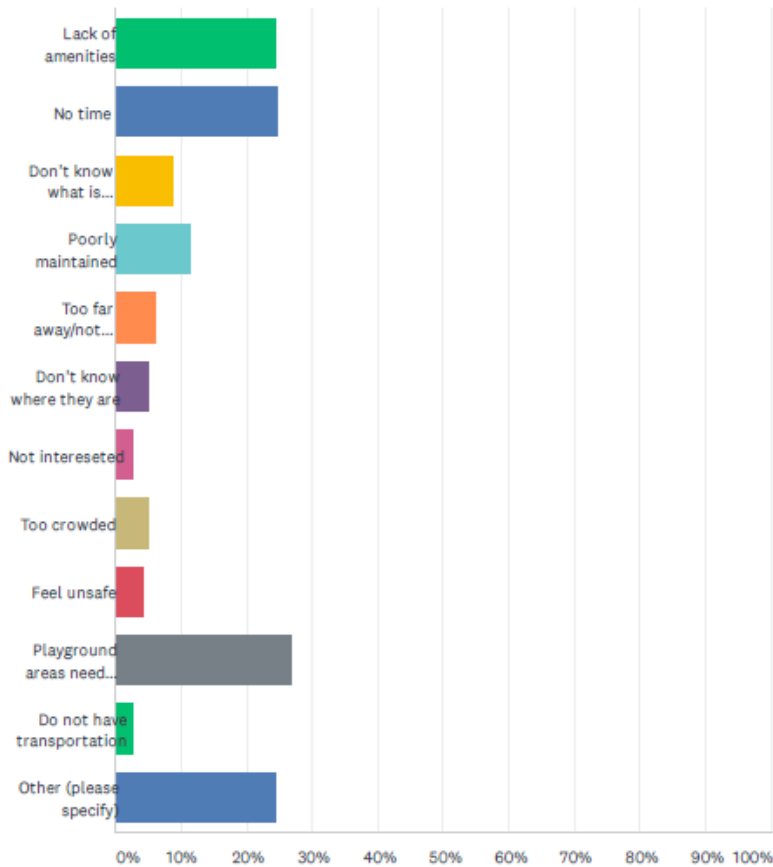
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Enjoy the outdoors and nature	56.74% 160
Walk or bike for exercise	47.52% 134
Play sports	9.57% 27
Participate in family activities	14.54% 41
Children enjoy the playground	50.35% 142
Use a specific amenity at a park	0.00% 0
Meet friends	4.61% 13
Don't use the parks	2.13% 6
Other (please specify)	2.13% 6
Total Respondents: 282	

Responses:

- Walk the dog
- grandchildren play
- Fish
- Grandchildren
- Live music concerts
- Enjoy lunches under shaded pavilions.

Q6 If you seldom use or do not use village parks, what are your reasons?
(Select all that apply.)

Answered: 217 Skipped: 65



Village of Bourbonnais Parks & Recreation Planning

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Lack of amenities	24.42% 53
No time	24.88% 54
Don't know what is available	8.76% 19
Poorly maintained	11.52% 25
Too far away/not conveniently located	5.99% 13
Don't know where they are	5.07% 11
Not intereseted	2.76% 6
Too crowded	5.07% 11
Feel unsafe	4.15% 9
Playground areas need upgrading	26.73% 58
Do not have transportation	2.76% 6
Other (please specify)	24.42% 53
Total Respondents: 217	

Q6 If you seldom use or do not use village parks, what are your reasons?

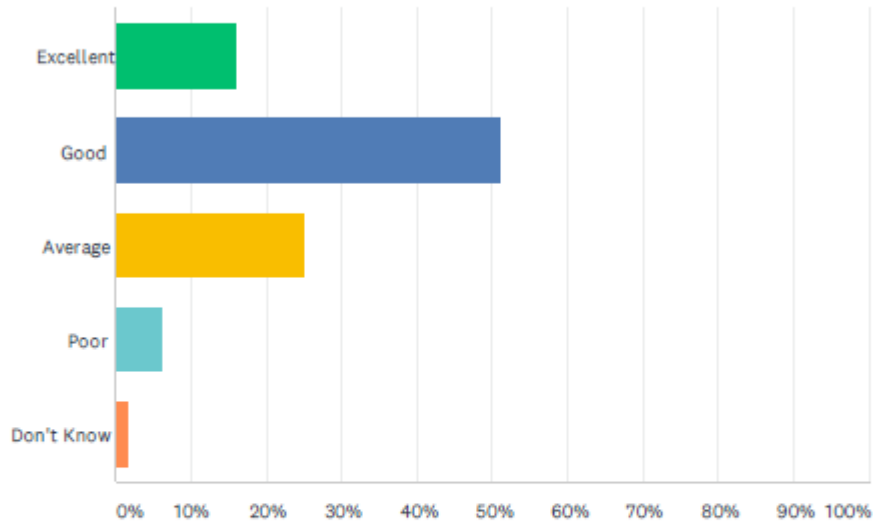
(cont.)

Responses:

- Weather
- Need a golf course! (Bon Vivant)
- Unleashed dogs are a problem
- Use them
- I do use them
- None
- I predominantly use Riverview Park for evening walks. If it were too crowded I wouldn't go. There are plenty of other places for playgrounds and other crowd draws. People that want a serene, peaceful atmosphere can find it at this park.
- I use the parks
- Because Perry Farm Park is right down the street. It's beautiful, well taken care of and has lots to offer.
- No young children any longer; work hours
- I do use the parks.
- We love the parks!
- Love anything with a paved trail
- We use the parks weekly
- Updated exercise equipment.
- We use them
- We use them
- No reasons not to
- I use Them often
- Not having a bathroom available.
- Health reasons
- Highpoint needs different equipment for children under 5
- Marcotte Park
- I use parks. This question should be skipped
- I bring the grandkids when I can. But we love the parks. Even just driving by them Makes me happy
- The Parks are well maintained. I have zero complaints
- I visit parks when the grand children are in town
- Marcotte Park is poorly taken care of and has never been upgraded.
- I use parks
- Use them daily
- I use parks so why would I choose any of the answers?
- No Pickleball courts
- Covid
- No Park in our neighborhood "Stone Mill"
- We do use the parks
- Keno Park ball field needs a lot of work
- More parks with tennis courts would be nice. Especially the park at West & Kathy
- I use Perry Farm the most
- Older kids, would use more bike paths
- Need I'd Pickleball courts

Q7 How would you rate the general upkeep and maintenance of existing parks in the village?

Answered: 282 Skipped: 0



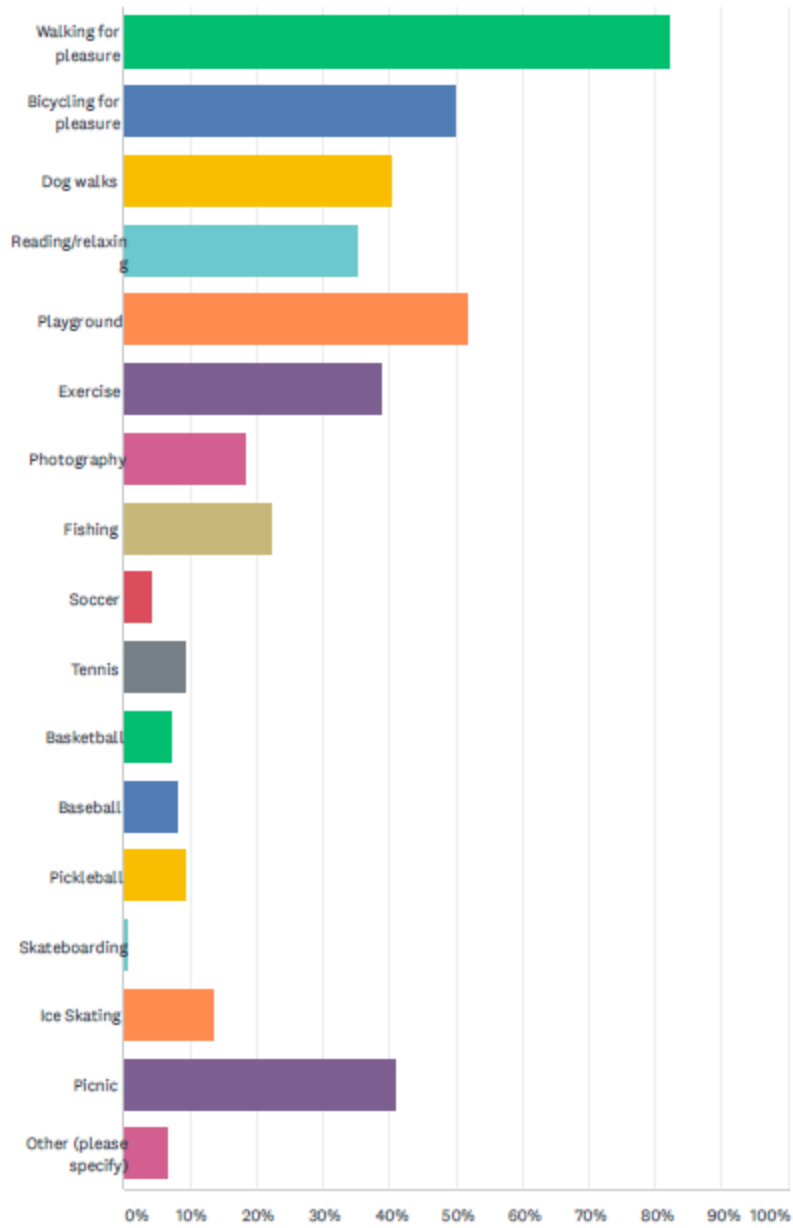
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Excellent	15.96%	45
Good	51.06%	144
Average	25.18%	71
Poor	6.03%	17
Don't Know	1.77%	5
Total Respondents: 282		

Responses:

- Playground equipment is very dated throughout the village. As is the fitness circuits at Riverfront Park
- The only thing that keeps me from saying excellent is the need for lighting in the shady half of Riverfront Park. Also, the waterways are sort of mucky and not inviting where they are dammed up. Need cleaning up a bit, maybe a few more plantings in that area.
- I live by Marcotte/102 and it always looks great
- Keno Park needs new mulch please. It's almost completely gone.
- I think village could do better. Park handicap swing in Highpoint is broken. Park by water tower has minimal playground equipment.
- Grounds are typically well kept; playground equipment needs updating
- They need new equipment, and new layouts.
- Not very inviting by their appearance and unkept
- Except Keno Park ball field
- Things like mowing and landscaping are great. Equipment maintenance is average.
- Please plant more trees and improve the landscape and park beauty.
- Playground equipment is falling apart and outdated. Park benches and picnic tables need replacing from wear and tear.

Q8 Select up to five activities you would like to do most.

Answered: 282 Skipped: 0



Q8 Select up to five activities you would like to do most (cont.)

Village of Bourbonnais Parks & Recreation Planning

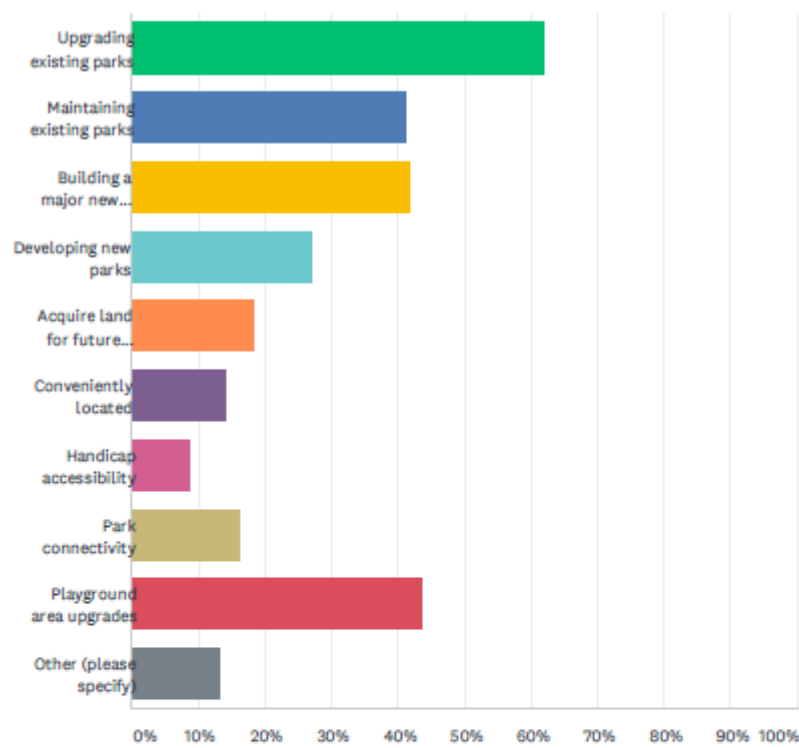
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Walking for pleasure	81.91%	231
Bicycling for pleasure	50.00%	141
Dog walks	40.07%	113
Reading/relaxing	35.11%	99
Playground	51.77%	146
Exercise	39.01%	110
Photography	18.44%	52
Fishing	22.34%	63
Soccer	4.26%	12
Tennis	9.22%	26
Basketball	7.09%	20
Baseball	8.16%	23
Pickleball	9.22%	26
Skateboarding	0.71%	2
Ice Skating	13.48%	38
Picnic	40.78%	115
Other (please specify)	6.74%	19
Total Respondents: 282		

Responses:

- Golf
- Disc golf
- Splash pad
- Frisbee
- I only care to walk.
- I'm not willing to have my taxes raised because you want to add a parks and Recreation department
- Disc golf
- Swimming
- Relaxation
- Ice hockey
- Volleyball
- Club Ice Hockey
- Softball
- Volleyball
- Frisbee golf
- Animals at Perry Farm
- Frisbee
- Swimming. Water park
- Running

Q9 How can the village's park system be improved? (Select all that apply.)

Answered: 282 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	PERCENTAGE	RESPONSES
Upgrading existing parks	62.06%	175
Maintaining existing parks	41.13%	116
Building a major new facility such as sports fields and community center	41.84%	118
Developing new parks	26.95%	76
Acquire land for future parks	18.44%	52
Conveniently located	14.18%	40
Handicap accessibility	8.51%	24
Park connectivity	16.31%	46
Playground area upgrades	43.62%	123
Other (please specify)	13.12%	37
Total Respondents: 282		

Q9 How can the village's park system be improved? (cont.)

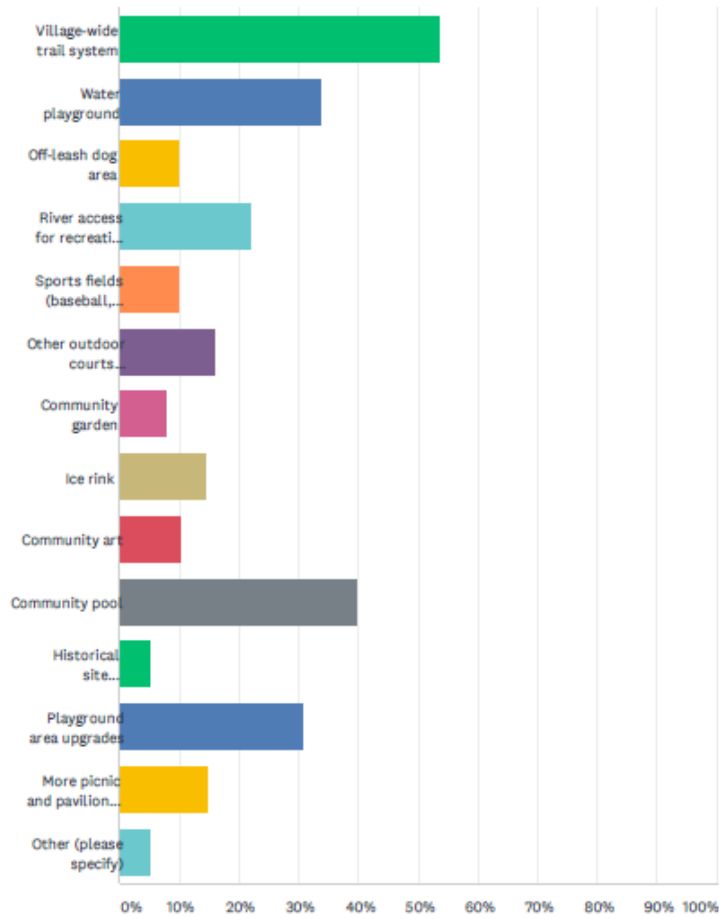
Responses:

- A full basketball court would be very nice for our kids that do not have a single place to play full court in town
- Quit expanding and spending money. Parks are a "want" not a "need".
- More activities.
- Riverview Park needs lights in the shady area. The sunny portion has street lights but the shaded half from the gazebo over needs lighting.
- open restrooms!
- The playground equipment is outdated and boring. I often drive my grandkids to Manteno to play at the parks
- I think there is demand for pickle ball courts.
- Sell the Baseball fields.
- Add/upgrade restroom facilities
- Community center but not more sports fields
- Add water area for pets on walking trails
- Splash pad connected to Perry Farm
- Get rid of half of them and make the others better
- Where are the public soccer fields? I have offered to develop, at my cost, and no one seems to be interested.
- Updated exercise equipment at riverfront park
- walking tracks, more activities/equipment geared towards middle aged kids
- Install water fountains especially at Perry Farm
- Build an ice rink
- Develop a dog park closer in town and have obstacles for them to do.
- Ice rink for competitive hockey
- We need an ice rink
- Create a space that the community can visit with friends and family with social activities
- Indoor community center for all season pickle ballcourts, senior interests.
- You can always upgrade playgrounds. But I think the number of parks is adequate
- More shaded seating and restrooms at playgrounds
- Sunridge park has no trees on West side to provide shade to the area. Hard to push stroller through the grassy access area.
- Idea of having a central area like Manteno's second street park is appealing.
- I feel like we need to take care of the parks we have. Marcotte, Keno along with building more. Our town is growing and we want it to grow in the right direction for our kids' futures. Marcotte wood is rotting, paint chipping, so old, bad words carved, just makes me sad. I grew up in these parks. They used to be beautiful.
- Implement a green plan to plant more trees and shrubs
- Adding pickle ball courts
- Pickleball courts
- Build a water park
- Add tennis courts
- Bike paths
- Significantly improve landscaping.

- Pickleball music venue
- Closer splashpad, public pool for my sons. One is autistic

Q10 If funding were available, which of the following facilities should have the highest priorities? (Select three choices.)

Answered: 282 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Village-wide trail system	53.55%	151
Water playground	33.69%	95
Off-leash dog area	9.93%	28
River access for recreation and boating	21.99%	62
Sports fields (baseball, softball, soccer)	9.93%	28
Other outdoor courts (basketball, volleyball, tennis, pickleball)	15.96%	45
Community garden	7.80%	22
Ice rink	14.54%	41
Community art	10.28%	29
Community pool	39.72%	112
Historical site (LeTourneau Home and Bourbonnais Grove 1837 Log Schoolhouse)	5.32%	15
Playground area upgrades	30.85%	87
More picnic and pavilion areas	14.89%	42
Other (please specify)	5.32%	15
Total Respondents: 282		

Q10 If funding were available, which of the following facilities should have the highest priorities? (cont.)

Responses:

- Golf
- The park was originally supposed to be a historical site, not Disneyland.
- Creating a new park for some of the above activities might be ok, but don't add them to existing parks. It ruins the atmosphere. Particularly Riverview Park. Leave as is. Absolutely NO playground equipment or boat access. The vibe is very peaceful there.
- As long as it's 100% funded WITHOUT raising taxes!
- The playground equipment is very outdated. I drive my grandkids to Manteno for fun parks
- I think there is quite a demand out there for pickle ball courts
- I would like to see improvements at Marcotte Park. The playground area should be updated and there is an abundance of space to make a walk/run trail around the park area, add basketball or tennis courts. We need this updated so we don't have to travel to Bradley (Lills Park)
- Restroom facilities
- Enough baseball and softball fields already.
- Something like downtown Frankfort or Manteno. A place to have a farmers' market or seasonal activities
- Indoor playground
- America Ninja Warrior Course Park
- Water park (with lazy river and pro slides)
- Mountain bike trail system-see Bentonville Arkansas/Kickapoo State Park
- An outdoor community recreational and lap swimming pool would be worth the tax increase

2020 Park Recommendations

The overall goal of parks in Bourbonnais is to create a high-quality open space system built upon the strengths and opportunities while addressing the system's challenges. Our objectives are to preserve natural resources, ensure the distribution of resources throughout unique neighborhoods, create a quality recreational setting, support economic development, and provide a first-class neighborhood gathering place.

As mentioned in the Introduction, this document serves as the prelude to the future development of a Village Master Park Plan. A master park plan will provide a comprehensive and deeper dive into the system. This document provides an interim action plan for each park for the next 3 to 5 years. The basis for this new effort centers upon:

- The historical lack of park planning in the Village.
- An acknowledgement of the importance of parks to a well-rounded community.
- Past budgetary challenges to support parks and the recent commitment by the Village Board to invest in park upgrades.
- The recent commitment to develop a major year-round activity and open space facility at the current Village campus.
- The understanding that a robust park system has multiple benefits including economic, health, environmental, and social.

As the parks were reviewed for this exercise, several common needs were identified in all parks. These needs include:

- Signs providing rules and contact information
- New signage for those outdated or in disrepair
- Improved and robust landscaping and strategic shade locations
- A focus on social gathering locations
- Dog waste stations
- Accessibility including ADA needs
- A stronger focus of ensuring parks are integrated in the neighborhood it serves

3 Year Plan & Park Priorities

The following pages briefly outline recommendations for each park within the Bourbonnais park system. In summary, the short-term recommendations/priorities are as follows.

Priorities

The update of parks will occur over several years. Below is the first three years of priorities that are being recommended:

Year One:

- Keno Park \$99,911
 - One new piece of playground equipment
 - Pour in place rubber surface
 - Bench around tree
 - Replace fencing on tennis court and adjacent to graveyard
 - Update baseball field and relocate
- Stone Mill Farms Park – **New Park** \$182,991
 - Playground equipment
 - Park Benches
 - Pet waste station
 - Pour-in-place play area
 - 20x20 shade shelter
 - Trees, landscaping a screening
 - Park Sign
 - Concrete sidewalk along right-of-way.
 - Asphalt walkway to play area.
- Northwest Park \$68,200
 - Replace rock with new orbit rocker
 - Pour in place rubber surface
 - New Sign
 - Concrete Edging
 - Pet Waste Station
- Cobblestone Park – **New Park** \$130,174
 - Playground equipment
 - Park Benches
 - Pet waste station
 - Pour-in-place play area
 - 20x20 shade shelter
 - Trees, landscaping a screening
 - Park Sign
 - Concrete sidewalk along r.o.w.
 - Asphalt walkway to play area.
- Thirteen Acre Park \$5,470
 - Distance markers
 - 2 Benches
 - Bike Rack
 - Garbage Can
- Marcotte Park \$2,500
 - Route 102 gateway corridor enhancement design
- Riverfront and Cavalier De La Salle Park
 - Kankakee River Edge Clean Up
- Granger Park –
 - Begin communications with ONU about partnering

Year Two:

- New signs in 10 parks \$20,000
- Latham Park \$90,705
 - Two additional backstops
 - 20x20 pavilion
 - Move existing backstop
 - Cinder walkway
- Bon Aire upgrades \$52,776
 - Shade
 - New equipment
 - Landscaping
 - Fencing
- Marcotte Park
 - New equipment \$216,700
- Riverfront Park \$58,650
 - New workout equipment
 - Frisbee golf upgrades with tee boxes, new signage, and rules
 - Apply for kayak launch and accessibility grant to Kankakee River
 - Landscaping and shade trees
- Keno Park \$23,480
 - Pavilion

Year Three:

- New signs completed in all parks \$20,000
 - Slater Field \$1,069,750
 - Astroturf two fields
 - New equipment
 - Splash pad
 - Bleacher shade
 - Cavalier De LaSalle Park
 - Jordan Park \$48,00
 - Ed Hayes Park
 - Solar lights
 - Northwest
 - Latham
 - Stone Mill Farms
 - Cobblestone
 - Riverfront
-

Three years of park planning will be a good goal and budgeable. To fully address the maintenance and capital backlog, as well as provide for future funding, we recommend following the action plan above. One of the needs of the community is parks to be constructed in Stone Mill Farms and Cobblestone Subdivision. During and after the construction of these parks; a focus needs to be given to the existing parks in Bourbonnais. The parks need to serve the public demands.

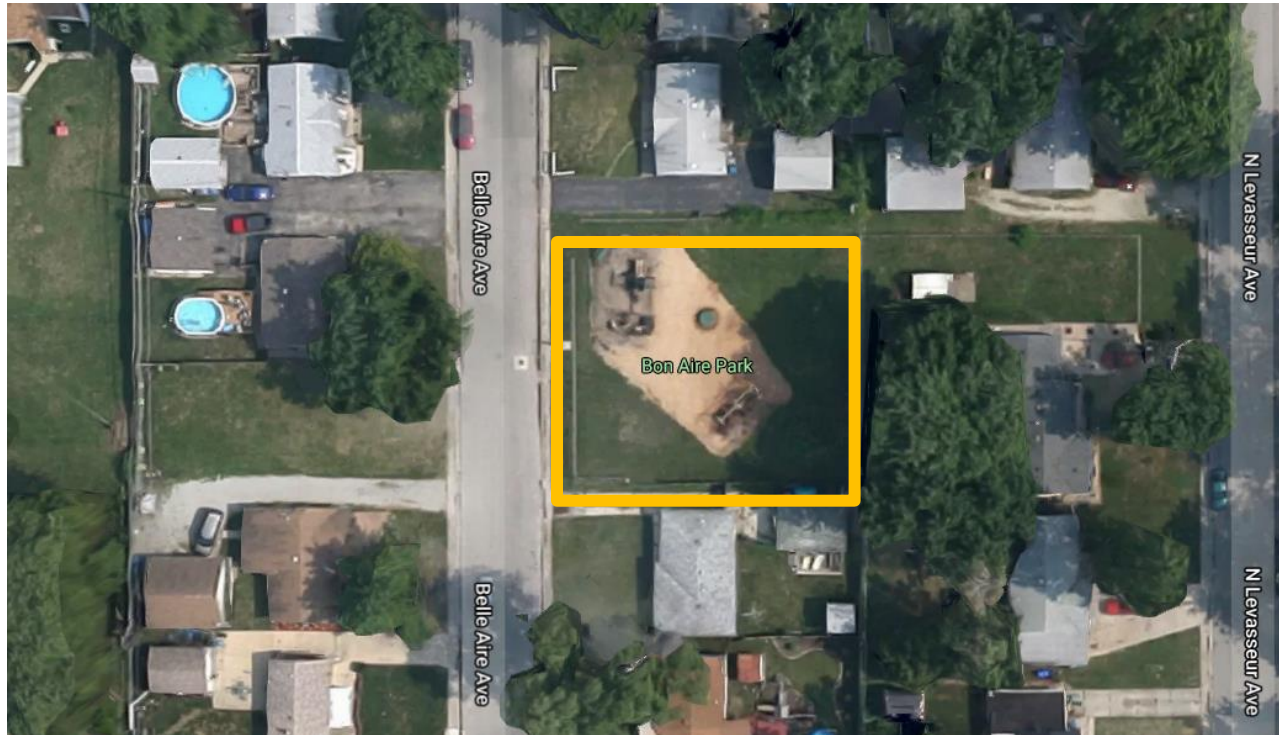
The planning should include scheduled maintenance. An internal staffing evaluation needs to appoint an individual as a park inspector to provide recommend maintenance work to ensure that parks remain up to date, safe, and in compliance with public facilities. The inspections will help provide long-range planning beyond this 2021 plan for Village parks.

In addition to address the mission of the existing parks, another critical component to ensure that the Village continues to meet the public demand is additional long-term planning to meet diverse changing and growing needs of the increasing population.

One component of future planning for the Village's park system is to ensure that the parks continue to meet the needs of the public they serve. An annual park system review of existing park facilities, the condition of those facilities, facility usage and long-term maintenance and capital renewal costs to determine where park efficiencies can be increased. Depending on land value estimates and changes in the real estate market, it may be more cost-efficient to improve and further develop existing parks in some areas rather than develop new parks.

In conclusion, the results, findings and recommendations presented by this report and the individual park amenity assessments for the individual parks provide source information to assist the Village with future planning and budgeting for the parks assessed.

Bon Aire Park



Monarch Waystation!



Plants in the Garden



Recommendations

Phase One

- Shade element
- New fencing
- New playground equipment
- Mulch
- Pet waste container
- Landscaping with low maintenance perennials
 - Butterfly garden recommended

Phase Two

- Lighting



Cavalier de LaSalle Park



Recommendations

Phase One

Kankakee River Edge Clean Up
Replace Roof on Bathroom

Phase Two

- Fishing piers
- Picnic area with shade and light
- Native walkway
- Landscaping
- Benches
- No swimming signs
- Strip parking lot
- Open and remodel bathroom
- Water bottle filling station
- Mounted picnic tables with removable brackets
- Light existing pavilion



Cobblestone Park



Recommendations

Phase One

- Playground equipment
- Park Benches
- Pet waste station
- Pour-in-place play area
- 20x20 shade shelter
- Trees, landscaping a screening
- Park Sign
- Concrete sidewalk along r.o.w.
- Asphalt walkway to play area.

Phase Two

- Asphalt walkway to play area around pond
- Kayak launch
- Pier(s) over water



Ed Hayes Park



Recommendations

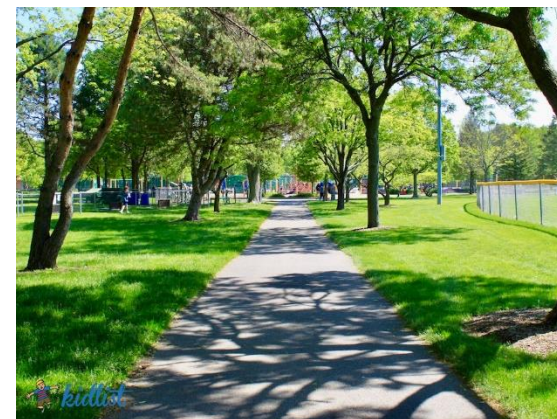
Phase One

- Multi-use court
 - Racket sports
 - Basketball
 - Rebounder
 - Lighting
 - Fence
- Parking Lot
- Bottle filling station
- Landscaping
- Walking path

Phase Two

- New equipment
- Lighting
- Pour in place rubber surface
- Park memorial

0



Jordan Park



Recommendations

- Renaming Park Opportunity
- Create a repurpose of this park such as a community garden
- Water spicket for garden watering
- Fake barn as the screening to the neighboring property
- Picket fence
- Will be adjacent to bike path
- Pursue a gardening club/committee

Benefits of Community Gardens

Community gardens can mitigate some of the problems that plague urban areas. They can be a beneficial addition to many communities by increasing the availability of nutritious foods, strengthening community ties, reducing environmental hazards, reducing food miles and creating a more sustainable system.

Community gardens can help reduce negative environmental impacts by promoting sustainable agriculture, reducing food transportation costs and reducing water runoff. Humans, plants and animals can all benefit from urban agriculture since it creates habitats and improves the ecology of the area.

Community gardens:

- Help improve air and soil quality
- Increase biodiversity of plants and animals
- Reduce “food miles” that are required to transport nutritious food
- Can replace impervious structures and improve water infiltration
- Can reduce neighborhood waste through composting
- Positively impact the urban micro-climate

Poor nutrition and obesity are both challenges to low-income neighborhoods. Low accessibility to nutritious foods can cause health problems to residents located in food deserts. The addition of gardens to these areas may improve nutrition and increase the consumption of fruits and vegetables.

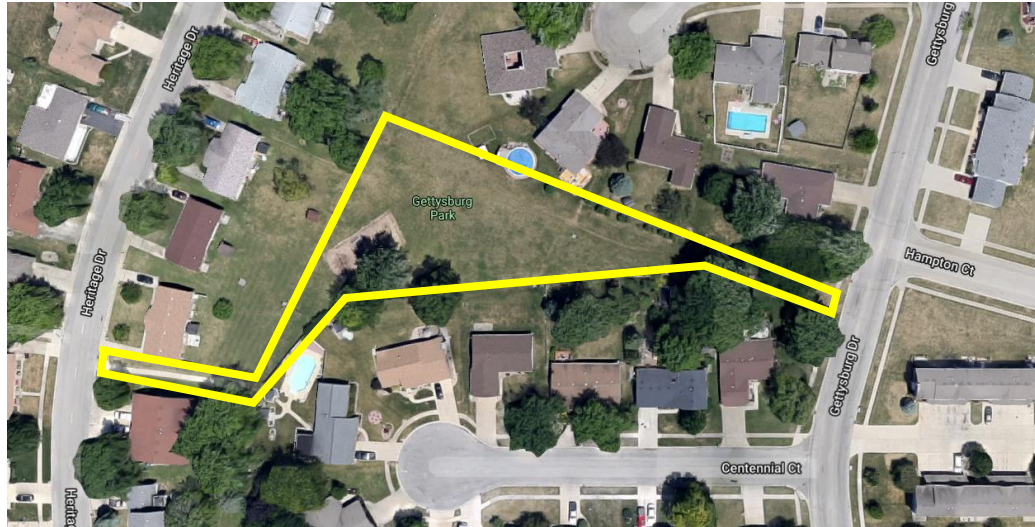
Community gardens:

- Increase access to fresh foods
- Improve food security
- Increase physical activity through garden maintenance activities
- Improve dietary habits through education
- Increase fruit and vegetable intake
- Reduce risk of obesity and obesity-related diseases
- Improve mental health and promote relaxation

Social ties are important to the wellbeing of people in a community since they can bring positive health effects and community involvement. Community gardens allow for the creation of social ties and build a greater feeling of community. These connections help reduce crime, empower residents and allow residents to feel safe in their neighborhoods.

- Gardens in urban areas are positively correlated with decreased crime rates [5]
- Vacant lands can lead to crime which can detrimentally impact the health of residents
- Residents in areas with high crime rates may experience cardiovascular disease and mental health disorders
- The consequences of vacant lands are decreased property values, drug use, and the illegal dumping of litter, tires and chemicals
- Gardens can improve economic opportunities by training volunteers and selling food at farmers’ markets
- Urban agriculture can teach residents useful skills in planning, food production and business
- Improving vacant lots increased property values

Gettysburg Park



Recommendations

Elimination of this park due to lack of access and use by the community.

If the Village does not want to eliminate the park; the park needs a revitalization. Revitalization could include:

- Purchase of neighboring property to open the land to the adjacent roadway to provide access.
- Add a walking path through the property to allow the property to be used as an alternate transportation option. Lighting, benches, bike rack and trash can should be added.
- Create a public space such as a pavilion or gathering place for the adjacent property owners to use for parties, dinner, or block parties.
- Urban garden. Add fruit trees and garden plots for the community to use. The presents of multi-family residents are in the area. These residents do not have backyards that create a food desert.

The revitalization of Gettysburg Park could spark a revitalization of the surrounding properties and increase property values.

Granger Park



Future Improvements

- Lighting
- Update baseball field
- Historical information about Mr. Granger or rename



Keno Park



Recommendations

Phase one

- One new piece of playground equipment
- Pour in place rubber surface
- Bench around tree
- Replace fencing on tennis court and adjacent to cemetery
- Update baseball field and relocate

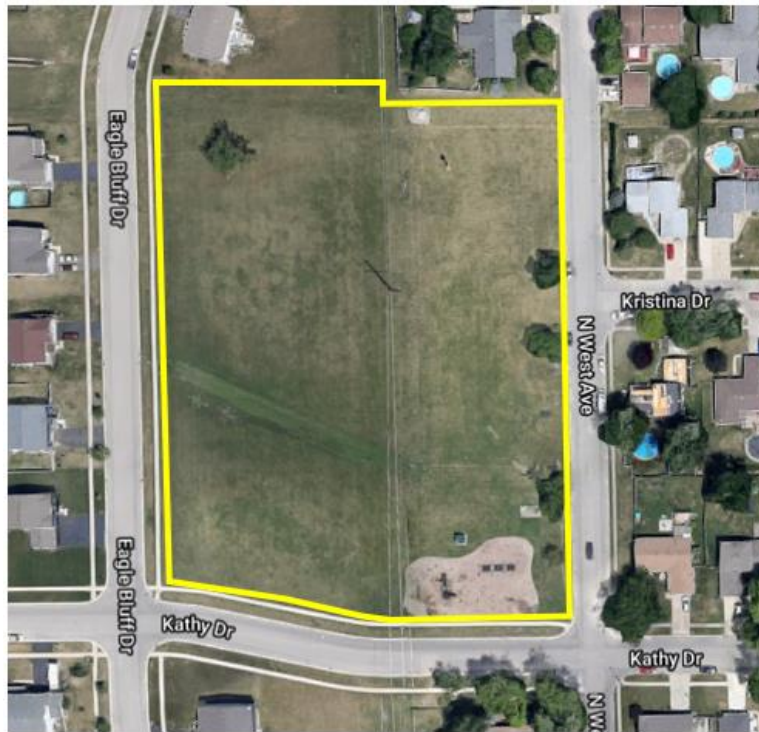
Future Improvements

- KENO Park = Kids Enjoying Nature Outside should be added in signage to the park
- Pavilion
- New equipment
- Landscaping
- New fence along William Latham Drive
- Basketball court pavement marking
- Resurface tennis court

Kids Enjoying Nature Outdoors



Latham Park



Prairie Garden



Recommendations

Phase One

- Relocate existing baseball backstop
- Two more baseball backstops
- Picnic pavilion
- Port-a-potty
- Bike rack
- Prairie grass as baseball field perimeter
- Walking Path - cinder

Phase Two

- New playground equipment
- Lighting
- Pour in place rubber surface
- Historical information about Mayor Robert Latham
- Water bottle filling station
- 2nd Picnic Shelter



Port a Potty screening



Marcotte Park



Recommendations

Phase One

- Route 102 gateway corridor enhancement design

Phase Two

- New playground equipment
- Lighting
- Pour in place rubber surface
- Port-a-potty screening
- Water bottle filling station
- Paint Gazebo
- Sidewalks to provide access to play areas

Phase Three

- Update baseball field
- New Fence around park
- Landscaping along the Route 102 roadway
- New Metal Roof on gazebo
- Historical information about Red Marcotte



Bradford Pear Tree



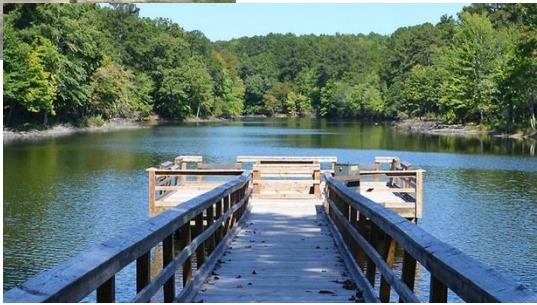
Port a Potty screening

Meadowbrook Park



Recommendations

- Fishing piers around pond
- Pier over the water
- Shade covered area for picnic tables
- Pond fountain. Light at night
- Kayak launch
- Meandering walkway around pond
- Shade trees and landscaping
- Pond edge plantings
- Benches around pond



Meadows Park



Recommendations

- New playground equipment by Meadows Road North/Yale Ave
- Lighting
- Pour in place rubber surface
- Remove old tennis court and playground equipment. Replace with planting trees
- Enhance baseball fields
- New signage to make it clearer that this is a Village Park and not a private
- New fencing

North West Park



Recommendations

Phase One

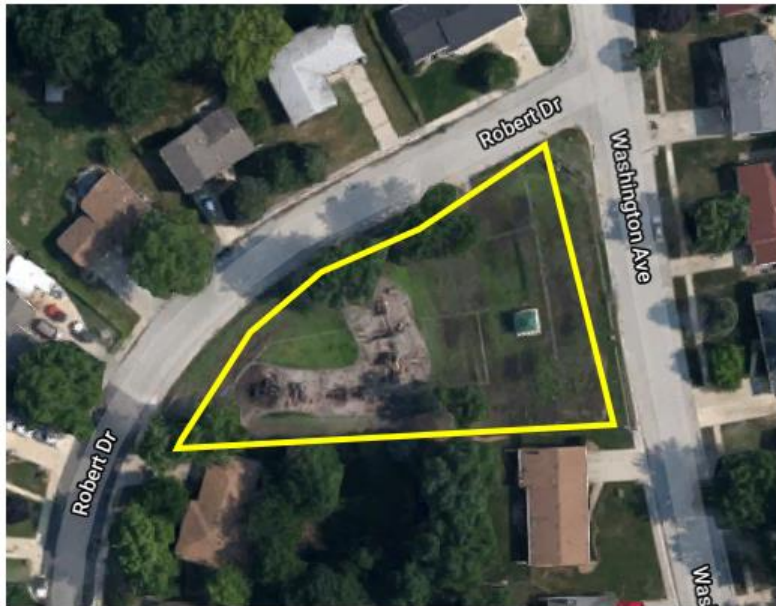
- Replace rock with new orbit rocker
- Pour in place rubber surface
- New Sign
- Concrete Edging
- Pet Waste Station

Phase Two

- Lighting
- New Playground Equipment rest of park
- Rename park
- Bike rack
- Resting spot along path. New Career Center Trail will be adjacent



Northfield Park



Recommendations

- Lighting
- New Playground Equipment
- Pour in place rubber surface
- Rename park
- Bike rack
- Remove fence

Patriot Park



Recommendations

- Lighting
- New Playground Equipment
- Path from Peony Ln. to the play areas
- Fitness Park
- Pour in place rubber surface
- Shade structure
- Bike rack
- Drought garden
 - Achillea - Yarrow
 - Lavender
 - Crape myrtle

Riverfront Park



Recommendations

Phase One

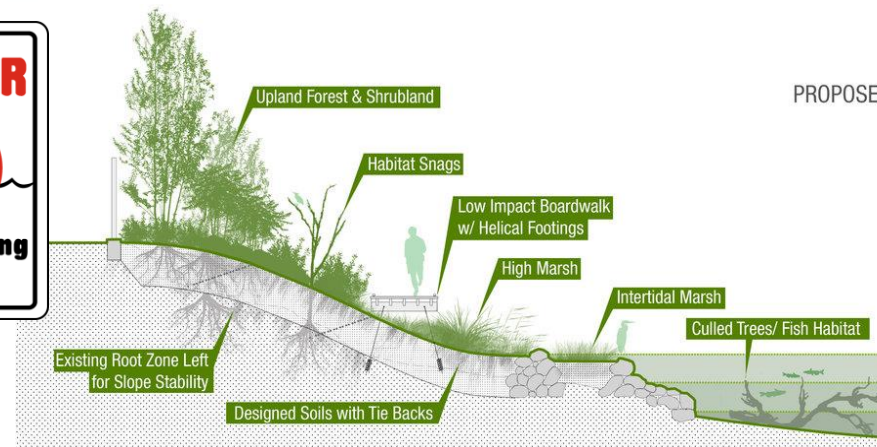
Kankakee River Edge Clean Up

Phase Two

- New Fitness Equipment clustered together
- New frisbee golf tee boxes
- Frisbee Golf rules and map
- No Swimming signs

Phase Three

- Update Shade structure
- Update and clean up shore for access and fishing
- Shade trees
- Picnic area
- Landscaping along Kankakee River



PROPOSED SECTION



Slater Park



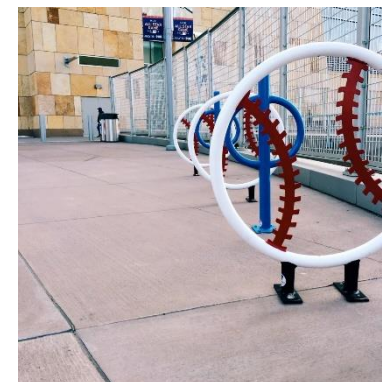
NEW PAINTED SIGN PANEL, FULL SHOP DRAWINGS TO BE SUBMITTED FOR REVIEW OF SIGNING AND ATTACHMENT



Recommendations

Phase One

- Astro turf infield of two baseball fields
- New Park Equipment
- Pour in Place play area
- Splashpad
- Bleacher shade
- Partnership with Little League to add amenities
- Lighting
- Bike rack



Stone Mill Farms Park

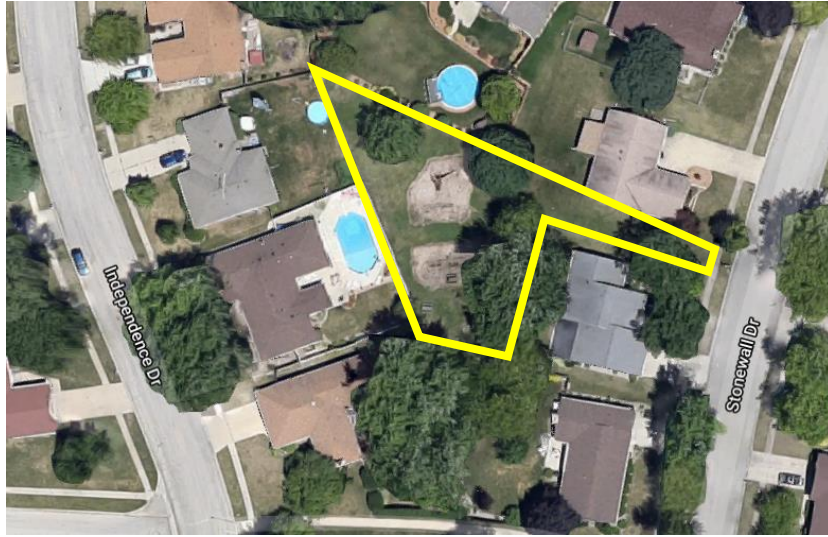


Recommendations

Phase One

- Playground equipment
- Park Benches
- Pet waste station
- Pour-in-place play area
- 20x20 shade shelter
- Trees, landscaping a screening
- Park Sign
- Concrete sidewalk along r.o.w.
- Asphalt walkway to play area.

Stonewall Park



Recommendations

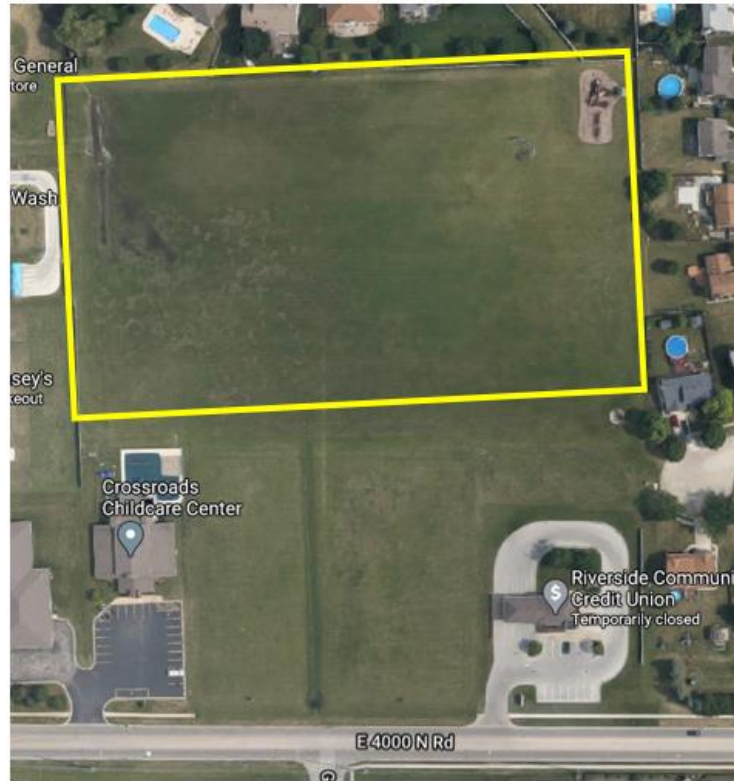
Elimination of this park due to lack of access and use by the community.

If the Village does not want to eliminate the park; the park needs a revitalization. Revitalization could include:

- Purchase of neighboring property to open the land to the adjacent roadway to provide access.
- Create a public space such as a pavilion or gathering place for the adjacent property owners to use for parties, dinner, or block parties.
- Urban garden. Add fruit trees and garden plots for the community to use.

The revitalization of Stonewall Park could spark a revitalization of the surrounding properties and increase property values.

Sunridge Park



Recommendations

- Lighting
- New Playground Equipment
- Pour in place rubber surface
- Shade structure
- Bike rack
- Fenced in Dog Park
- Parking lot to share with surrounding users



Thirteen Acre Park



Recommendations

Phase One

- Distance markers
- 2 Benches
- Bike Rack
- Garbage Can

Phase Two

- Lighting
- Enhanced detention basin
- Community swings
- Gathering areas
- Water bottle filling station



Appendix A

Village’s Chapter 30: Subdivision Ordinance – regarding open space dedication requirements.

Schedule of Fees per Unit for Park, Land Donation or Cash in Lieu of Land	
Donation standard:	Ten acres per 1,000 population
Market value per acre:	\$25,000.00
Equipment fee:	\$42.00 per population equivalent

Unit Types	Population Equivalent	Required Donation Per Unit in Acres	Cash in Lieu of Land per Unit	Donation of Cash for Equipment and Site	Total Payment per Unit
<i>Detached Single-Family</i>					
2 bedrooms or less	2.017	0.02017	\$504.00	\$85.00	\$589.00
3 bedrooms	2.899	0.02899	\$725.00	\$122.00	\$847.00
4 bedrooms or more	3.764	0.03764	\$941.00	\$158.00	\$1,099.00
<i>Attached Single-Family</i>					
2 bedrooms or less	1.99	0.0199	\$498.00	\$84.00	\$582.00
3 bedrooms	2.392	0.02392	\$598.00	\$100.00	\$698.00
4 bedrooms or more	3.145	0.03145	\$786.00	\$132.00	\$918.00
<i>Apartments/Condos</i>					
1 Bedroom or less	1.758	0.01758	\$440.00	\$74.00	\$514.00
2 bedrooms	1.914	0.01914	\$479.00	\$80.00	\$559.00
3 bedrooms or more	3.053	0.03053	\$763.00	\$128.00	\$891.00