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# Langlade County Outdoor Recreation Plan

**2007-2011**

Effective January 1, 2007 to December 31, 2011

Also covering the municipalities and towns within Langlade County



**Prepared by: North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission**

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## **ABSTRACT**

**TITLE:** LANGLADE COUNTY OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN  
2007-2011 Effective January 1, 2007 to December 31, 2011

**SUBJECT:** This report assesses the existing recreation system in Langlade County, identifies recreation needs based upon public input and recreation standards, sets forth goals and objectives to be used as guidelines in formulating recreation plans, and establishes recommendations for improving the recreation system over the next five years.

Submission of this report to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources establishes eligibility for the County and local units of government for a variety of Federal and State Aids.

Non-profit groups, foundations, and the general public may also use this document to coordinate their own private efforts for developing outdoor recreation facilities.

**DATE:** January 2007

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**DISCLAIMER:** This plan was prepared by the staff of the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission under agreement with the above contact.

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- A. Outdoor Recreation Surveys
- B. NCWRPC Generated SCORP 2005 – 2010 Summary
- C. Facility Development Standards
- D. State and Federal Programs

# INTRODUCTION

## PURPOSE

The primary purpose of this recreation plan is to provide continued direction toward meeting the current and future recreation needs of the county. This is accomplished through an inventory and analysis of outdoor recreational facilities, and the establishment of recommendations to meet identified needs.

Adoption of this plan by the Langlade County Board and subsequent acceptance by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WisDNR), will continue eligibility of the county and its local units of government for Land and Water Conservation Fund (LAWCON), and Stewardship Funds. Adoption by all municipalities is not necessary if they wish to cooperate with Langlade County to use this plan for grant applications. Local government grant applications have a better chance of approval if Langlade County applies on their behalf.

Non-profit groups, foundations, and the general public may also use this document to coordinate their own private efforts for developing outdoor recreation facilities.

## STATUTORY BASE

This Outdoor Recreation Plan was prepared pursuant to Wisconsin Statute §23.30 Outdoor Recreation Program. This section serves to “promote, encourage, coordinate, and implement a comprehensive long-range plan to acquire, maintain, and develop for public use, those areas of the state best adapted to the development of a comprehensive system of state and local outdoor recreation facilities and services...”

## PLAN COMPONENTS

This plan addresses the outdoor recreation needs for the entire county, and each local government within Langlade County.

Background information on Langlade County was compiled to develop an understanding of the environmental and social characteristics of the county and their meaning for outdoor recreation. An inventory of existing recreational facilities exists in Chapter 3 of this plan.

The existing recreation system was analyzed to determine current and potential future deficiencies through the year 2011. A combination of public survey compilation, standards analysis, and the Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) were utilized to define recreational and open space needs. Goals and objectives were created to guide the direction of recreational planning efforts within Langlade County.

The recommendations are general strategies and five-year action programs for recreation facility development. A series of possible tools to aid implementation of these recommendations are set

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forth in Chapter 8. This plan concludes with a note on updating to insure that it remains relevant to the needs of the county over the entire five-year span.

## PAST PLANS

This plan was written to continue the parks and recreation program established in the Langlade County Outdoor Recreation Plans since 1979.

### ***Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) 2005-2010***

Completed in August 2006, this plan attempts to classify, measure, and ultimately provide for the preferences and needs of a statewide recreating public. Many factors, from changing demographic and land use trends, to recreational supply, and conflict with other recreation uses, affect the quality, supply, and demand for outdoor recreation.

This plan is summarized in Attachment B, and is what the State will use to determine where to approve grants.

### ***North Central Wisconsin Regional Bicycle Facilities Network Plan***

This 2004 document is intended to guide the development of an interconnected bikeway system for the North Central Wisconsin Region. Potential trails are identified and an improvement description was created for each county that trails existed to facilitate how the plan can become reality in a cost efficient manner.

Langlade County trails within this regional plan come from the 1999 Citizen Bike Route Initiative Plan. That plan established a network of on-road bike routes and asks WisDOT to improve STH 64 to accommodate bicycles between Antigo and Merrill. These trails are shown on Map 1.

### ***State Trails Network Plan***

This 2001 document clarifies a Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) role and strategy in the provision of all types of trails. The plan identifies a series of potential trail corridors that would link existing trails, public lands, natural features, and communities. This statewide network of interconnected trails would be owned and maintained by municipalities, private entities, and partnerships of the two. Preserving transportation corridors, such as old rail lines, is specifically discussed as a very important strategy in the creation of recreational and alternative transportation corridors. These trails are shown on Map 1

#### Segment 19—Langlade County to Michigan

This abandoned rail corridor links the State of Michigan with the Mountain Bay Trail near Eland in Marathon County. It passes through a few state wildlife areas and some county forests. This corridor also links to the proposed Three Lakes to Rhinelander and Crandon to Tomahawk abandoned rail corridors, the Washburn to Rhinelander corridor at Monico and the Antigo to White Lake proposed corridor. The segment includes a loop to the Crandon to White Lake proposed corridor. The grade runs through portions of Langlade County Forest, the lake area around Kempster in Langlade County and the popular tourist areas of Three Lakes and Eagle River in Vilas County.

Segment 56—Argonne to Shawano (Wolf River State Trail)

This is an active rail corridor with abandonment expected in fall of 2000 on the segment from Crandon to White Lake. Argonne is on the Dresser to Michigan corridor in the north, and Shawano links to the Mountain Bay Trail in the south of the corridor. The Crandon to Tomahawk corridor and the White Lake to Antigo corridor link to the Langlade County to Michigan corridor to form a loop. An old abandoned corridor east of White Lake in the future could link this corridor to the Nicolet State Trail or connect it to road routes. In Langlade County this segment follows the Wolf River for about seven miles and continues south through the Northwest portion of the Menominee Indian Reservation, terminating at Shawano and its connection to the Mountain Bay Trail.

Segment 70—Antigo to White Lake

This abandoned rail grade links these two communities via off-road connector. At Antigo it connects to Segment 19 corridor and at White Lake it connects to Segment 56. The corridor runs through the Antigo flats to the Wolf River at White Lake.

***Langlade County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan***

This 2006-2021 document contains the Langlade County Forest Access Plan. Maps were created from the data in this plan.

***Wisconsin Land Legacy Report 2006-2056***

This report is a comprehensive inventory of the special places that will be critical to meet future conservation and outdoor recreation needs for the next fifty years. Some of the questions asked to guide creation of this report were: Which lands and waters remain unprotected that will be critical for conserving our plants and animals and their habitats? What gaps exist now (and will likely emerge in the future) in providing abundant and satisfying outdoor recreation? How can we most effectively build upon the state's existing investment in protected lands to fill conservation and recreation gaps? What special places will our children and grandchildren wish we had protected? The study focused on identifying what of our state or regionally significant green infrastructure remains to be protected.

The Land Legacy report recommends protection of these lands by using federal, state, and local funding opportunities; along with possibly creating new kinds of incentives for landowners, working to draft comprehensive plans, or offering different types of technical assistance.

Prioritization of Land Legacy Areas is described in SCORP Chapter 3 located in Attachment B.

Each Langlade County Legacy Area is summarized below with 5 stars representing the highest level for that category:

**CN** Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest

Size	Large
Protection Initiated	Substantial
Protection Remaining	Limited
Conservation Significance	☆☆☆☆☆
Recreation Potential	☆☆☆☆☆

**PR** Prairie River

Size	Medium
Protection Initiated	Moderate
Protection Remaining	Substantial
Conservation Significance	☆☆☆
Recreation Potential	☆☆☆

**EC** East and West Branches of the Eau Claire River

Size	Medium
Protection Initiated	Moderate
Protection Remaining	Moderate
Conservation Significance	☆☆
Recreation Potential	☆☆☆

**RD** Red River

Size	Small
Protection Initiated	Limited
Protection Remaining	Substantial
Conservation Significance	☆☆☆
Recreation Potential	☆☆☆

**LA** Langlade Moraine

Size	Medium
Protection Initiated	Moderate
Protection Remaining	Substantial
Conservation Significance	☆☆
Recreation Potential	☆☆☆

**UP** Upper Wolf River

Size	Large
Protection Initiated	Substantial
Protection Remaining	Moderate
Conservation Significance	☆☆☆☆☆
Recreation Potential	☆☆☆☆☆

Insert Map 1 – Potential trails and Legacy Areas

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# DESCRIPTION OF LANGLADE COUNTY

## PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

### Introduction

This section describes the physical features that make up Langlade County. This information is essential in determining the potential as well as the limitations of an area for recreation development. Recreation planners use this kind of data to determine which resources to develop and which resources to protect or preserve.

### Geography and Land Use

Langlade County in northeastern Wisconsin has a total of 567,621 acres; of which 55.6% is forested, 20.7% is used for agriculture, 1.6% is water, 19.2% is wetlands, 1.5% for open space, 1.0% is for transportation (which includes airports and roads), 0.2% for residential, and 0.2% is for commercial and industrial uses. The City of Antigo, the county seat, is in the southern part of the County. It is 180 miles north of Milwaukee; 80 miles northwest of Green Bay; 90 miles north of the Fox River Valley; and 35 miles northeast of Wausau. Major metropolitan areas outside of Wisconsin with transportation linkages to Antigo are: Chicago, 270 miles south; Minneapolis-St. Paul, 210 miles west; and Duluth, 235 miles northwest of Antigo. In addition to the City of Antigo, Langlade County contains the Village of White Lake, and 17 towns. See Map 2.

### Climate

Langlade County has a continental climate characterized by cold, snowy winters, warm summer days and cool summer nights. Precipitation is well suited to outdoor activities with an annual snow fall range from 20 to 90+ inches and an annual mean of 51.9 inches during the past 40 years. June is generally the wettest month and the last part of August the driest. Precipitation averages 30.6 inches annually. The sun shines 65 percent of the time possible in summer, and 45 percent in winter. The prevailing wind is from the southwest. Average wind speed is highest in spring at 12 miles per hour.

### Topography

The topography of Langlade County is of glacial origin, and is characterized mostly by moraines and outwash plains and partly by drumlins, eskers, kames, lake plains, bogs. The moraines include the older drift area in the southwestern part of the county. The outwash plains include the Antigo Flats, which are located in the south-central part of Langlade County. Elevations in Langlade County range from 1,070 feet above sea level where the Wolf River leaves the County, to about 1,900 feet above sea level in the Town of Langlade. Slopes are shown on Map 1.

The eastern part of the county is within the drainage basin of the Wolf River, and the western part is within the Wisconsin River drainage basin. In Langlade County, the Wolf River starts at Lower Post Lake, flows generally south and east, and leaves the county just south of Markton. The Wolf River drops about 440 feet in the county, but mainly it drops between the communities of Lily and Markton.

Insert Map 2 – General Location

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## Surface Water

The numerous lakes and streams in Langlade County provide outstanding recreation opportunities. The Wolf River, which flows through the eastern part of the county, is one of the most valuable rivers in the state. The source of the Wolf River is Pine Lake in Hiles, Wisconsin. The river travels the full length of the County and is the largest body of water with 984 acres. The river offers outstanding trout fishing, scenic value, canoeing, kayaking, rafting, and wildlife habitat. The gradient is very steep for a Midwestern river. It drops 420 feet in 50 miles from the Upper Post Lake Dam to the Menominee Indian Reservation. There are 17 named rapids on the Wolf River as it winds through Langlade County.

In addition to the Wolf River, Langlade County has 225 streams, with a total length of 513 miles and a total surface area of about 1,800 acres. There are 387 miles regarded as prime trout fishing streams. The Wolf and Eau Claire River are two highly regarded Class 1 trout fishing resources.

Lakes cover 8,864 surface acres and 381 miles of shoreline. Natural lakes number 843, with 418 of these having public access. Most of the lakes are spring lakes or seepage lakes. White Lake is the largest spring lake, while Upper Post Lake, an impoundment and a drainage lake, is the largest lake in the County. The deepest lake is Jack Lake, which is 85 feet deep.

The quality of water is generally good. A number of lakes are in natural unspoiled settings. Eutrophication is a major pollution problem. During the summer, shallow water areas contain algae and weeds. The water is predominantly very soft in the seepage, drained, and drainage lakes, but the water is hard in many of the spring lakes and streams.

## Groundwater

The groundwater in Langlade County meets municipal, industrial, rural, and irrigation needs. The largest consumer is Antigo. The source of this water is local precipitation. The groundwater generally moves southward. On the Antigo Flats the groundwater depth averages 25 feet deep and is deeper in the eastern part of the flats.

The quality of the ground water is generally very good. Many soils however have very porous layers that are poor filters for domestic waste and agricultural chemicals. The impact of development and agriculture may cause deterioration of the ground water. Generally, the content of dissolved solids in the ground water is relatively low in the western half of Langlade County and relatively high in the eastern half. The higher content in the eastern part probably results from a higher content of limestone in the glacial deposits.

## Soils

Many of the soils formed entirely or partly in glacial outwash. Several soil series are common in Langlade County and each soil textural class is described after the soil series is named as follows. Antigo, Langlade, Minocqua, Oesterle, and Scott Lake soils formed in areas where sand and gravel outwash is mantled with silty and loamy deposits. Pence soils formed on eskers and kames and in other areas where sand and gravel outwash is mantled with loamy or sandy deposits. Au Gres, Crosswell, and Vilas soils formed in areas where most of the outwash is sandy.

Soil properties are important considerations when planning and developing recreation facilities. To help evaluate soils, the U.S. Soil Conservation Service published the Langlade County Soil Survey in 1986. Updated soil suitability tables for outdoor recreation and other uses are available on the Internet.

Soil surveys contain an abundance of information on appropriate site planning in respect to soil suitability and developmental properties by soil type. The soil types identified are to be evaluated for a wide range of recreational uses including the following:

- wetland refuges for waterfowl
- wildlife management
- open space or nature study areas
- parks
- athletic fields
- designated farmland preservation areas
- ski areas
- golf courses
- campsites, hiking trails, and picnic areas
- woodlands
- hunting preserves
- manmade ponds

## SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS

### **Introduction**

This section describes the social and economic factors that shape Langlade County. This type of information can give a general feeling of how trends in recreational needs might be changing, because the residents are changing. Developing an understanding of these characteristics and their changes will help direct future planning efforts in the appropriate directions.

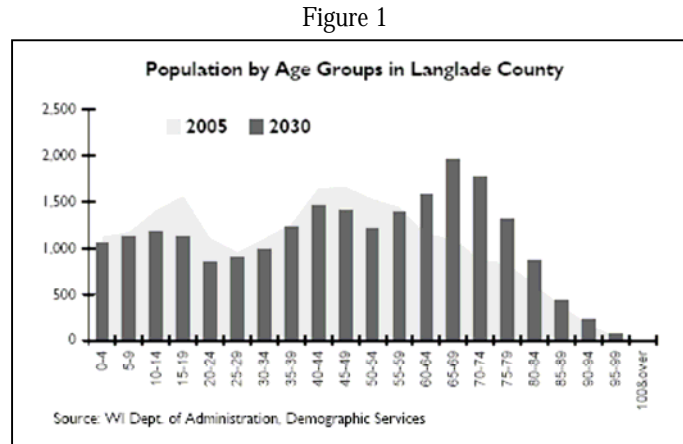
Overall recreation demand within Wisconsin is described under SCORP in Attachment B. Matching social characteristics from this section with different recreation demands as shown in SCORP Chapter 2, will start to reinforce what recreational facilities to provide.

### **Population**

Current population, seasonal population estimates, population projections, and public participation results are all important criteria to use when considering the supply of recreational facilities. This section lists and describes the current, seasonal, and projected population levels for county and neighborhood park facility demands. Both permanent and seasonal residents must be counted when considering outdoor recreation facilities. Seasonal residents pay the same amount of property taxes as residents, but the only services they pay for and do not use are the school districts.

The relationship between population demographics, and supply & demand of recreational facilities is only a bare minimum guide for developing outdoor recreational facilities in Langlade County. Understanding how each park is used, and if specific activities are in demand are better factors to use when determining future recreational facility needs. Combining population demographics from this chapter with public participation feedback (results are shown in the Outdoor Recreation Needs Assessment chapter) will provide an understanding of outdoor recreational facility needs.

Figure 1 contrasts the age demographics of 2005 (the lighter area) with the age demographics projected for 2030 (the darker bars). Every age group under 55 years old is projected to be smaller in 2030 than in 2005.



The age groups with members 55 or more years old will grow from 6,617 people (31% of total population) to 9,614 people (43% of total population). The overall population will grow less than 5 percent while the 55-and-over population grows over 45 percent. In the year 2005, Langlade County will have 83 residents aged 25 to 29 for every 100 residents aged 60 to 64; by 2030 that number will fall to 57. In 2005, projections suggest that 4,149 county residents will be aged 5 to 19. By 2030, this number will fall by 17 percent to 3,432. These trends impact the recreation trends in the county, because an older population generally enjoys quieter, lower impact activities such as viewing birds, driving for pleasure, and ice fishing.

**Table 1** **Permanent and Seasonal Population by Langlade County Municipality**

Community	1990 Seasonal + Permanent = Total Pop.	2000 Seasonal + Permanent = Total Pop.	# and % Change
Langlade County	6,615 + 19,505 = 26,120	5,222 + 20,740 = 25,962	-157 / -0.60%
Antigo, City	43 + 8,276 = 8,319	46 + 8,560 = 8,606	287 / 3.45%
White Lake, Village	83 + 304 = 387	73 + 329 = 402	14 / 3.69%
Ackley, Town	39 + 550 = 589	40 + 510 = 550	-38 / -6.51%
Ainsworth, Town	704 + 474 = 1,178	612 + 571 = 1,183	4 / 0.35%
Antigo, Town	14 + 1,406 = 1,420	14 + 1,487 = 1,501	81 / 5.69%
Elcho, Town	1,874 + 1,075 = 2,949	1,524 + 1,317 = 2,841	-107 / -3.64%
Evergreen, Town	170 + 483 = 653	75 + 468 = 543	-110 / -16.82%
Langlade, Town	311 + 415 = 726	327 + 472 = 799	73 / 10.03%
Neva, Town	115 + 910 = 1,025	33 + 994 = 1,027	2 / 0.20%
Norwood, Town	104 + 842 = 946	86 + 918 = 1,004	58 / 6.15%
Parrish, Town	112 + 81 = 193	132 + 108 = 240	47 / 24.29%
Peck, Town	80 + 402 = 482	57 + 354 = 411	-71 / -14.75%
Polar, Town	85 + 900 = 985	53 + 995 = 1,048	64 / 6.48%
Price, Town	45 + 248 = 293	11 + 243 = 254	-40 / -13.50%
Rolling, Town	36 + 1,316 = 1,352	17 + 1,452 = 1,469	117 / 8.63%
Summit, Town	149 + 190 = 339	179 + 168 = 347	8 / 2.36%
Upham, Town	1,238 + 626 = 1,864	652 + 689 = 1,341	-523 / -28.04%
Vilas, Town	117 + 257 = 374	152 + 249 = 401	26 / 7.05%
Wolf River	975 + 750 = 1,725	825 + 856 = 1,681	-44 / -2.58%

Source: U.S. Census & NCWRPC

Table 1 shows historical permanent and estimated seasonal populations for Langlade County municipalities. Seasonal populations were calculated from U.S. Census data. The number of seasonal housing units was multiplied by the average household size of the permanently occupied housing units in that municipality.

Between 1990 and 2000 Table 1 shows that the City of Antigo gained almost 300 residents. Even though the Town of Upham gained 63 permanent residents, it lost the seasonal housing that may have been home to 586 people. The loss of seasonal housing in the Towns of Elcho, Evergreen, and Upham make up the total population change of at least 100 people in these communities. Generally, the trend from 1990 to 2000 is that seasonal residents are becoming permanent residents.

**Table 2** **Population Projections  
by Langlade County Municipality**

Community	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	# and % Change
Langlade County	21,165	21,616	21,986	22,244	22,277	1,112 / 5%
Antigo, City	8,578	8,615	8,618	8,580	8,460	-118 / -1%
White Lake, Village	352	375	397	416	430	78 / 22%
Ackley, Town	492	474	456	435	411	-81 / -16%
Ainsworth, Town	593	616	636	653	663	70 / 12%
Antigo, Town	1,495	1,504	1,508	1,505	1,488	-7 / 0%
Elcho, Town	1,398	1,479	1,555	1,622	1,670	272 / 19%
Evergreen, Town	462	456	450	441	428	-34 / -7%
Langlade, Town	491	511	528	543	552	61 / 12%
Neva, Town	1,017	1,041	1,061	1,076	1,080	63 / 6%
Norwood, Town	959	1,000	1,038	1,070	1,090	131 / 14%
Parrish, Town	120	132	143	153	162	42 / 35%
Peck, Town	347	340	332	323	311	-36 / -10
Polar, Town	1,026	1,059	1,087	1,110	1,121	95 / 9%
Price, Town	246	248	250	251	249	3 / 1%
Rolling, Town	1,528	1,606	1,677	1,738	1,781	253 / 17%
Summit, Town	162	156	149	142	134	-28 / -17%
Upham, Town	718	747	773	795	809	91 / 13%
Vilas, Town	248	247	245	242	236	-12 / -5%
Wolf River	933	1,010	1,083	1,149	1,202	269 / 29%

Source: Wisconsin Department of Administration, 2003

Table 2 shows population projections for Langlade County municipalities. The City of Antigo is projected to lose about 100 people from its population, and the Town of Norwood, directly south of the city, is projected to gain over 250 people. Also notice that the Towns of Ackley and Antigo are both projected to lose population. This shows that the City is projected to grow to the south. See Map 2 for municipality locations.

# EXISTING RECREATION FACILITIES

## INTRODUCTION

This section is an inventory of the existing outdoor recreational facilities in Langlade County, which will focus primarily upon public facilities. Some private facilities will be listed for reference purposes. The private sector provides many recreational opportunities but this plan's purpose is to identify public facility improvements that may qualify for state and federal money.

Existing recreation facilities are grouped under the following headings: County Forest; Town of Peck Forests; Points Of Interest; Forested Lands – Not State, Federal, or County Owned; School District Facilities; Parks and Conservancy Areas with itemized lists of County, and local government facilities; and Private Outdoor Recreation Facilities.

## COUNTY FOREST

The Langlade County Forestry and Recreation Department manages 127,137 acres of county forest. This land is managed for multiple uses, and is independently certified as sustainably managed and harvested. Some of the county forest is closed to motorized vehicles. Examples of permitted recreational activities are hunting, fishing, hiking, snowmobiling, camping, bough cutting (permit required), firewood collection (permit required), and wildlife observation. Refer to Maps 3 and 6 for Langlade County Forest Land. An itemized list of county facilities exists in Tables 3 and 4.

## TOWN OF PECK FORESTS

The Town of Peck owns 2,333 acres of land for the Peck Town Forest, and 80 acres for Peck School's Forest.

## POINTS OF INTEREST

Langlade County contains both historic and contemporary points of interest of cultural, aesthetic, recreational, and scientific importance. A number of private sites may be open to the public, while others in private ownership are closed.

### A) Historical Marker

A state historical marker titled: **Langlade County Forest-Wisconsin's First County Forest** is located in Veterans Memorial County Park.

A state historical marker titled: **De Langlade** is located at the junctions of STH 55 and 64.

A state historical marker titled: **Old Military Road** is located 3.5 mi north of Lily at Wolf River on STH 55.

A state historical marker titled: **Antigo Silt Loam, State Soil of Wisconsin** is located on STH 52 near the junction with STH 64.

B) Geologic Sites

Langlade County's topography is described in Chapter 2 – Description of Langlade County. Several land features are named below:

**Ninemile Hill**, Town of Wolf River (T32N R14E), privately owned.

C) Named Springs

Langlade County's hydrology is described in Chapter 2 – Description of Langlade County. Several springs are named below:

**Payne Spring**, Town of Parrish, county forest land.

**Bellis Spring**, Town of Elcho, privately owned.

**Flood Spring**, Town of Elcho, privately owned.

**Rasmussen Spring**, Town of Upham, privately owned.

**Blue Springs**, Town of Upham, privately owned.

**Woodchuck Springs**, Town of Elcho, county forest land.

**Steven Springs**, Town of Ainsworth, county forest land.

**Augustyn Springs**, Town of Ainsworth, privately owned.

**Lily Springs**, Town of Langlade, privately owned.

**O'Brien Springs**, Town of Wolf River, privately owned.

**McCaslin Springs**, Town of Wolf River, national forest.

**Roix Springs**, Town of Wolf River, privately owned.

**Galyan Springs**, Town of Evergreen, privately owned.

**Stillhouse Springs**, Town of Evergreen, privately owned.

The Town of Evergreen has many un-named springs that are privately owned.

## PUBLIC ACCESS POINTS TO WATER BODIES

Public Access sites on Langlade County's lakes and streams have been extensively inventoried and catalogued by the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission in the *Langlade County Public Access Study 2006*. This public access study is undergoing final reviews, and will soon be available from the Langlade County Forestry Department. Various public entities in Langlade County own and maintain 90 access points in all – 18 developed, 65 undeveloped, and 7 parks with possible beaches. Public access to waterbodies will be ensured when development occurs by state statute and county zoning ordinances. See the Implementation Strategies chapter under Public Access to Waterways, Park Dedication, and Use of Easements for more details.

## SCHOOL DISTRICT FACILITIES

Three school districts provide additional local recreation opportunities in Langlade County. School yards often have playgrounds with play equipment, ball diamonds, and basketball hoops. These school yards are neighborhood parks that range in size from 1 to 15 acres. All school district facilities are listed along with other outdoor facilities in the tables starting on page 19.

The Unified School District of Antigo has 9 such facilities, Elcho contains 1 site, and White Lake maintains 1 site. Each school district has school forests. These forests are open to the public for a variety of recreational and educational uses.

The Unified School District of Antigo owns and maintains several school forests that are listed below. Contact the Unified School District of Antigo for rules of use on school forest lands.

- Pleasant View School Forest, 20 acres;
- River Grove School Forest, 25 acres;
- Crestwood School Forest, 38 acres;
- Forestview School Forest, 38 acres;
- Liberty Bell Forty, 40 acres;
- Deerbrook School Forest, 80 acres;
- Noboken School Forest, 168 acres;

The Elcho School District owns and maintains two school forests listed below. Contact the Elcho School District for rules of use on school forest lands.

- Elcho School Forest, 31 acres;
- Summit Lake School Forest, 78 acres;

School Park Forest is a 6 acre forest owned and maintained by the White Lake School District. Contact them for rules of use on school forest lands.

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## PARKS and CONSERVANCY AREAS

A summary of all the local and county parks, school grounds, state parks, and conservation areas with the amenities at each are located in the following tables and maps. The following brief descriptions of each park type are from SCORP 2005-2010. Elementary school playgrounds may be categorized as mini parks if only a playground exists. High schools grounds that contain several types of recreation fields would be listed under community parks. School forests are listed as community parks. **Linear Parks** are trails that may have various lengths.

**Mini Parks** – Generally less than 5 acres, these parks are special areas that serve a concentrated or limited population or specific group such as tots or senior citizens. One prominent feature or recreation facility like a playground may be present as the purpose of this park. The service area for this park generally is a ½ mile radius, and a population of 2,000-3,000 people.

**Neighborhood Parks** – An area of 5 to 25 acres that serves as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood. Active and passive recreational activities in this park include field, court, and ball games; skating; crafts; and picnicking. Facilities may also include a playground, wading pool, ball field, multi-activity field, ball diamond, tennis courts, skatepark, and shelter. Trees, open fields, and undeveloped natural areas are also desirable components of neighborhood parks. The service area for this park generally is a 1 mile radius, and a population of 2,000-5,000 people.

**Community Parks** – Usually more than 25 acres in size, these parks serve entire communities, and are located adjacent to a collector street to provide community-wide vehicular access. The purposes of this park are to meet the recreational needs of several neighborhoods, as well as to preserve unique landscapes and open spaces. These parks allow for group activities not feasible at the neighborhood level. All of the facilities of a neighborhood park may exist, along with nature trails and scenic areas.

**Special Use Areas** – These areas are for single purpose recreational activities, and often are designed as revenue generating enterprises such as for baseball, golf, nature centers, arboreta, formal gardens, gun ranges, festivals, ski areas, or areas that preserve and maintain cultural or archeological sites.

**County Parks** – County parks consist of 100 acres or more that are specifically set aside for active and passive recreation uses to accommodate large gatherings, special events, and individual users. These parks have scenic natural features that preserve the character of the region and provide a wide variety of compatible outdoor recreation activities; and may also provide areas for camping, historic preservation, protection of natural areas, and special use areas.

**State Parks** – State parks are similar to county parks, with two differences: they consist of several hundred acres and preserve natural areas of statewide importance.

**Conservancy Areas** – Conservancy areas are managed for the flora & fauna resources that exist at a site. Activities like hiking, wildlife watching, hunting, and fishing may be allowed on these lands that may have labels like state natural areas, forests, or wildlife refuges. Each conservancy area has specific rules of use for public enjoyment.

Insert Map 3 – Outdoor Recreation

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Insert Map 4 – City of Antigo Outdoor Recreation

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Insert Map 5 – Village of White Lake Outdoor Recreation

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Table 4

Langlade County

FACILITIES AT SITE	FACILITIES AT SITE																										
	ACRES OR LENGTH	HANDICAP ACCESS	RESTROOM	ARBORETUM	ATV TRAILS	BASKETBALL COURT	BIKING TRAILS (miles)	BOAT/CANOE ACCESS	CAMPING SITES (#)	FISHING AREA	GRILLS (#)	HIKING TRAILS (miles)	HORSE TRAILS (miles)	HORSE SHOE AREA	HUNTING AREA	ICE RINK	PARKING AREA	PICNIC TABLES	PLAY EQUIPMENT	SLED DOG TRAILS (miles)	SHELTERS	SWIMMING BEACH	SNOWMOBILE TRAILS	TRACK	X COUNTRY TRAILS (miles)	SOFTBALL FIELD	
- CONSERVENCY AREAS																											
- Flora Spring Pond Natural Area	40																										
- Minito Lake Natural Area	24																										
- Bear Caves Natural Area	50																										
- Bogus Swamp Natural Area	870																										
- Lawrence Lake Natural Area	326																										
- Oxbow Rapids Natural Area	40																										
- County Forest	126,000		X																								
- Peters Marsh Wildlife Area	1,681																										
- Ackley Wildlife Area	1,758																										
- LINEAR PARK																											
- Wolf River Corridor	23 MI																										
- Gartzke Ski Trails			X																								
- Gated Hunter Walking Trails																											
- Ice Age National Scenic Trail	55.4 MI																										
- Jack Lake Trail			X																								
- Moccasin Lake Road Ski Trail																											
- Parrish Highlands ATV Trails	53 MI																										
- Augustyn Springs ATV Trails	21.2 MI																										
- Game Lake Nature Trails	1.1 MI																										
- Evergreen Horse Riding Trail			X																								
- Snowmobile Trails	530 MI																										
- COUNTY PARK																											
- Camp Susan 4-H Camp	240		X	X																							
- Langlade County Fairgrounds			X	X																							
- Moose Lake Park	2		X	X																							
- Post Lake Dam	2		X	X																							
- Summit Lake Park	5		X	X																							
- Veterans Memorial Park	45		X	X	X																						

ATV's are not allowed on snowmobile trails until 10 days after the trails have opened, and when the temperature is less than 28° F.

Spring, Summer, Fall ATV trails are closed from Dec. 1 to May 1.

COMPILED BY: Langlade County Forestry and Recreation Department and North Central WI Regional Planning Commission





































Table 23

TOWN OF WOLF RIVER

	JURISTICION				FACILITIES AT SITE																														
	FEDERAL	STATE	COUNTY	SCHOOL DISTRICT	OTHER/PRIVATE	HANDICAP ACCESS	RESTROOM	ATV TRAILS	BANDSHELL	BASKETBALL COURT	BIKING	BOAT/CANOE ACCESS	CAMPING SITES	FISHING AREA	FOOTBALL FIELD	HIKING TRAILS	HORSE TRAILS	HORSE SHOE AREA	HUNTING AREA	ICE RINK	PICNIC AREA	PLAY EQUIPMENT	SNOWMOBILE TRAILS	SOFTBALL FIELD	SWIMMING BEACH	SWIMMING POOL	TENNIS COURT	TRACK	WADING POOL	X COUNTRY TRAILS					
<b>- SPECIAL USE/OPEN SPACE</b>																																			
- Glade Lake	X										X																								
- Langlade Fish Hatchery		X																																	
- Rose Lake	X																																		
- Sawyer Lake																																			
- Ada Lake Campground	X																																		
<b>- CONSERVANCY LANDS</b>																																			
- Evergreen River Fishery Area	X																																		
<b>- LINEAR PARK</b>																																			
- Silver Birch Trail	X																																		
- Nicolet Forest Trail	X																																		
- Snowmobile Trail																																			
<b>- SPECIAL FEATURES</b>																																			
- De Langlade Historical Marker		X																																	
<b>- CONSERVANCY LANDS</b>																																			
- Bear Caves																																			
- Jones Spring Area	X																																		
- Upper Wolf River Fishery Area		X																																	
- Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest	X																																		

ATV's are not allowed on snowmobile trails until 10 days after the trails have opened, and when the temperature is less than 28° F.

Spring, Summer, Fall ATV trails are closed from Dec. 1 to May 1.

COMPILED BY: Langlade County Forestry and Recreation Department and North Central WI Regional Planning Commission

## FORESTED LANDS – NOT STATE or COUNTY OWNED

Forested lands that may be open to the public but are not part of the county forest are privately held lands by individuals and corporations that are enrolled in either the Forest Crop Law or the Managed Forest Law. Currently, lands up for renewal or new lands can only be enrolled in Managed Forest Law, because enrollment into the Forest Crop Law is no longer allowed.

Under the Forest Crop Law (FCL) 10,890 acres are open to the public to hunt and fish in 2006. There are 57,579 acres enrolled in the Managed Forest Law (MFL) program that are open to the public for hunting, fishing, cross-country skiing, sightseeing, and hiking (make sure the land is enrolled as open), and 46,213 acres that are closed to public access. All MFL program participants can restrict access without penalty to the landowner to areas that are within 300 feet of any building or harvesting operation. Snowmobiles, ATVs, bicycles, and other motorized and non-motorized vehicles are prohibited on enrolled lands that are open to the public.

Contact the WDNR to find what land is available to the public for the recreational purposes of hunting, fishing, hiking, skiing, and sightseeing.

## ICE AGE NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

The Ice Age National Scenic Trail was authorized as a National Scenic Trail by Congress in 1980 and as a State Scenic Trail in 1987. The route generally follows the nationally significant glacial features of Wisconsin and is intended to provide opportunities for low impact, non-motorized recreational use. The trail has existed in Langlade County since 1975 with more than 50 miles already on the ground between the Lincoln County line north of Highway 17 to the community of Polar. Much of this existing trail passes through the Langlade County Forest. A planning process is currently underway to determine a route for the trail southwest of Polar and to provide a connection to the trail in Marathon County.

## PRIVATE OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITIES

### Private Campgrounds

There are 13 private campgrounds totaling over 500 campsites in Langlade County. All of these campgrounds are available for a fee to the public.

### Private Golf Courses

There is 1 private 18-hole golf course and 2 private 9-hole golf courses that are open to the public for greens fees. Two driving ranges also exist.

# OUTDOOR RECREATION NEEDS ASSESSMENT

## INTRODUCTION

Recreational needs within the county were identified by collecting public input, creating a county facility assessment, and reviewing past plans – including the Wisconsin SCORP 2005-2010.

## RECOMMENDATIONS AND PROJECTS COMPLETED FROM 2002-2006

### Langlade County

- Camp Susan – Expansion of facility (additional shelter space, areas for program activities). New ADA dorm built. Road to camp was improved and maintained.
- Kettlebowl Ski Area – ADA accessible restrooms. New ski chalet built. Shelter for tow operators built and purchased upgraded grooming equipment. Installed electricity at ski area.
- Langlade County Bow and Gun Range – Property for new access road purchased. Restroom facilities installed.
- Moccasin Lake Road Ski Trail – ADA accessible restrooms. Trails signed for horseback riding.
- Moose Lake County Park – Parking area defined and surface improved to alleviate problems. Boat landing parking lot and boat landing blacktopped. Boat landing ramp redone.
- Post Lake Dam – Engineering study completed. Retaining wall replaced. Park road and parking area paved. ADA accessible restrooms. ADA accessible fishing pier. Picnic tables added.
- Summit Lake Park – ADA accessible restrooms. Handicapped accessible pathway installed. Constructed a shelter.
- Turtle High Banks – Barriers to ATVs were maintained at all access points to sensitive river bank area.
- Veteran’s Memorial Park – Campground expanded to the south with additional campsites, roads, flush toilets, and showers. Additional playground equipment installed. Continued improvements to campsites.
- Jack Lake Recreation Trail – Improved signage along several trails.
- Augustyn Springs and Parrish Hills ATV Trails – Continued upgrading ATV trails.
- Evergreen Trails – Improved parking, added shelter and a well.
- Arboretum – Upgraded and maintained. Information signs were designed for plant identification.
- Otter Lake Wayside – A service pier was installed at the boat landing. The cement boat landing planks were reset.
- Rails to Trails Project – Langlade County working to develop abandoned railroad corridors into recreation trails.

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City of Antigo

- 2002 – Restrooms on the West side of City Park - \$43,600.
- 2003 – Playground equipment at Mendlik Park - \$4,200.
- 2003 – Developed Skateboard Park - \$36,673.
- 2004 – Constructed dugouts at Saratoga Park - \$14,450.
- 2005 – Playground equipment at N. Clermont Park - \$14,450.
- 2005 – Created basketball courts at N. Clermont Park - \$7,225.
- 2005 – Constructed outdoor summer/winter skate rink – donations.
- 2005 – Developed a radio control vehicle race track at Saratoga Park – donations.
- 2006 – Replaced soccer goals - \$500.
- 2006 – Purchased 10 picnic tables - \$1,100.
- 2006 – Upgraded RV Park - \$3,500.
- 2006 – Purchased playground equipment for Lake Park - \$4,850.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

**Informal Public Input**

In the regular course of business, Langlade County Forestry, Land, and Parks Department staff have received public input about its parks, and forests.

**Summary of User Group Survey Responses**

Surveys were received from Moccasin Ski Trail Horse Unit, Elcho Cross County Ski Club Inc., and Antigo Bike & Ski Club. Survey responses are grouped under the headings below. All respondents did not choose 3 issues.

Top Outdoor Recreation Issues facing Langlade County

Funding, maintaining, and publicizing trails	X
Silent sport facilities	X
Conflict resolution among groups	XX
Year-round use of county lands	XX
Improve X-C and dog sled trails	X
Balancing motorized and non-motorized needs	X
Protection of natural lands of special merit.	X

How To Satisfy Langlade County Outdoor Recreational Issues

Funding and staffing is key. Adequate finds from grants or public-private partnerships are necessary to maintain and promote existing facilities.

Volunteers are great, and need guidance from forestry department for planning and facility improvement.

Law enforcement is needed. All the rules in the world are useless without enforcement.

Advertise available trails.

Support local ATV clubs that help monitor trails.

Maintain strict adherence to policies that keep lands and water resources in the county accessible to the public.

Continue setting aside lands specifically for motorized and non-motorized users.

Protect lands and water resources of special merit.

What Existing Outdoor Recreation Facilities in Langlade Need Improvement?

Park or Forest Improvements

Veterans Memorial Park: Additional hiking and biking trails for campers, and possible live entertainment and weekend festivals.

All Parks: Better promotion! Very nice facilities exist, but few people know about them.

Jack Lake: Support expansion of ski and snowshoe trail.

Moccasin Ski Trail: Improve trail, remove rock, and expansion for equestrian use during times not used for skiing.

Trail Improvements

Jack Lake ski trail: Improve parking lot and add restrooms. Longer loops needed for ambitious and advanced skiers.

Moccasin Lake ski trail: Improvements already underway. Possible ideas are an expanded horse camping area, well, and pavilion.

Moccasin Trail west of Elcho – water well for horses needed, improve camping area.

White Lake to Lily railroad grade needs to be surfaced and developed for bikers in warm weather, and motorized users in winter.

Kettlebowl area needs an upgrade to X-C ski trail. Currently just a large oval with limited maintenance.

Ice Age Trail still has one major gap in the area of Knights Templar. A renewed effort has to be made to close that gap.

Public Access Improvements to Water Bodies

Many accesses are poorly signed and maintained (Bass Lake as one example).

Improve public access on county property on the north side of Sawyer Lake.

Planning For The Future

Langlade County with so much public land can never have too many outdoor facilities, and officials should be open to club and group ideas. Care must be taken to have funding to maintain facilities.

As appropriate lands become available abutting the Gartzke Flowage Rec. area, the county should make every effort to acquire them to preserve rustic character of flowage.

Access to the south side of Gartzke with large motorized equipment is by agreement of private landowner – a permanent easement would be helpful.

Additional Comments.

Overall, work with all clubs to develop long range plan to meet all needs.  
PROMOTION, PROMOTION, PROMOTION!

Langlade County is a diamond in the rough. The forestry staff is professional and concerned, but must receive adequate support to enable them to continue working with clubs that want to make this the best in the state. A good thing about being a diamond in the rough is you have not been cut badly. Potential to be great exists.

In the case of Gartzke Flowage, Moccasin, and Kettle Bowl, private clubs handle much of the maintenance. Could the county establish a fund to help clubs with large equipment purchases?

Langlade County has some outstanding X-C ski trails, and they need to be better advertised. Gartzke Flowage is one of the most beautiful X-C ski trails in Wisconsin.

Langlade County has done exceptional job in recent years of developing resources for motorized and non-motorized recreational uses (the rejuvenation of the Jack Lake X-C ski area now provides premier skiing is an example). The County now has a chance to turn the White Lake to Lily railroad grade into a warm weather bike touring trail and add another dimension to Langlade County recreation. The variety of trails in Langlade County is amazing: snowshoe, ATV, snowmobile, dog sled, horse, Ice Age Trail hiking, nature, and mountain biking. Langlade County deserves great credit for this: "Langlade County the County of Trails."

**Summary of City Council and Town Board Survey Responses**

Surveys were received from the City of Antigo, and the Towns of Ainsworth, Antigo, Evergreen, Rolling, and Summit. Survey responses are grouped under the headings below. All respondents did not choose 3 issues.

Top Outdoor Recreation Issues facing Langlade County

Each "X" represents 1 community agreeing that it is an issue.

Snowmobile Trails	XXXXX
ATV Trails	XXXXX
Policing Trails	X
Bicycle Trails	XX
Walking Trails	X
Ice Age Trail	X
Kettlebowl Ski Hill Improvements	X
More Campground/RV facilities needed	X

How To Satisfy Langlade County Outdoor Recreational Issues

Have better relationships between ATV and snowmobile clubs, and talking to local officials about patrolling the trails.

Getting funding for the Ski Hill.

Expanding ATV trails and access. Also maintain and patrol. Also expand bicycle and snowmobile trails. Patrol snowmobile trails.

Hopefully there would be some state or federal grant money plus some tax dollars.

Langlade County has snowmobile trails through Summit on County forest land.

Take advantage of state and federal grants available.

What Existing Outdoor Recreation Facilities in Langlade Need Improvement?

Campgrounds need upgrading and expansion to accommodate more people.

Develop additional nature trails for biking/hiking/walking.

Additional recreational activities are needed to bring more tourists to this area.

Kettlebowl Ski Hill could use more funding for improvements and enlarge it to accommodate more skiers.

Expand number of campsites at Jack Lake.

Improve many of the boat landings on lakes.

Each community described what outdoor recreational issues face their community, and how they plan to satisfy those issues.

City of Antigo

Top 3 Outdoor Recreation Issues:

- 1. Biking/Walking trails need to be developed.
- 2. Langlade Road Park (old municipal pool area) needs to be developed.
- 3. Ball diamonds need to be upgraded.

How to satisfy local issues:

- 1. Hired a consultant to design trails at Kretz Wildlife Forest.
- 2. Hired consultant to create alternative uses for the old municipal pool area. Suggested uses include a spray garden, beach area, volleyball courts, & camping area.
- 3. Investigate possible use of alternative soil (diamond filings) to absorb water faster.

Town of Ainsworth

Top 3 Outdoor Recreation Issues:

- 1. Improvements to boat landing on county lake for better access.
- 2. Improvements on recreational trails (ATV and snowmobile).

How to satisfy local issues:

Get funding to enlarge parking and boat launch. Also fund recreational trails.

Town of Antigo

Top 3 Outdoor Recreation Issues:

- 1. ATV trails and access.
- 2. Bicycle trails.
- 3. Snowmobile trails.

How to satisfy local issues:

Expand, maintain, and patrol.

Towns of Evergreen, Rolling, and Summit

None listed.

**Additional Written Comments**

Two people wrote comments regarding this outdoor recreation plan.

Dave Peterson wrote statements dated 7 Dec 2006 that are paraphrased below:

- 1. Develop both on & off road bicycle trails/routes. Include bike lanes with DOT highway construction projects.
- 2. Continue expanding cross country ski trails at Kettle Bowl.
- 3. Consider developing a terrain park at Kettle Bowl for snow boarding.
- 4. Develop a water trail system on the lakes and rivers.
- 5. Set up dates for the Forestry Committee to review the final draft of the 2007-2011 plan, to review progress.

- 6. Establish a user advisory committee from each recreational user group to give reports to the Forestry Committee.
- 7. Revisit the user fee concept. Review what other counties have done.
- 8. Establish a working relationship between the Forestry Department, the City of Antigo, Community Development, and the Chamber of Commerce to coordinate recreational efforts.

Thomas L. Gilbert, Superintendent at the National Park Service Madison, WI office wrote statements dated December 28, 2006 that are paraphrased below:

- 1. Please add a statement describing the Ice Age National Scenic Trail (NST). We included a suggested statement.
- 2. Bicycling is not allowed on the Ice Age NST, and hunting may be allowed depending on who owns the land.
- 3. The Ice Age NST is a national and state authorized trail along with the County.
- 4. Change Lincoln to Langlade county on pages 42 and 50.
- 5. In Attachment D, add the National Park Service Challenge Cost Share Program.

**Public Meeting Input**

One public meeting was held. Local newspapers advertised the public meeting. Outdoor recreation groups were mailed surveys that advertised this public meeting, and most of the comments were from outdoor recreation group members. Area residents were able to view a draft of the proposed plan at the Antigo, Elcho, Elton, and White Lake libraries; the Forestry and Recreation Department office; and on the Internet.

Comments from public meeting held between 6:00-7:30 p.m. on December 7, 2006:

Additional ATV trails are needed in the County. Need to identify potential ATV trails. The City of Antigo would like access to ATV trails directly from Antigo especially hotels and motels. A question was raised if the railroad right-of-ways were still in existence or if they had been reverted back to homeowners along the corridor. It was believed that the right-of-ways had been sold to homeowners and that there was no way to reverse that decision at this time. ATV trails will need to go over private property through easements. It is very unlikely that Langlade County would purchase property under their current austerity budget.

Mike Winski stated that planning is needed so that opportunities for recreation are not lost. Need to look 10-15 years into the future.

Bicycling (off-road and road) has been pushed heavily statewide. The DOT has funds available to develop bike trails but no funds to maintain the trails once they are developed. Other counties need to be looked at to see how they are maintaining their trails with lesser resources.

The current county board is very receptive to tourism.

Judy Peterson suggested the following for bike trails on the White Lake Wolf River Trail:

Phase 1 – Hwy. 64 to Lily

Phase 2 – Hwy. 64 to Langlade and the Wolf River Trail to White Lake

Phase 3 – Develop trails on Hwy. M – up Hwy. 55 to Hwy. 52 and back up to Lily and make some loops there

Phase 4 – Bike trails along Hwy. 64 using road easements to Elton, Polar and Antigo and go up to the Boulder Lake area

Need to have DOT work with County and when roads are redone to leave a 3’ apron for biking and hiking.

Need to increase low-cost family activities; such as, biking, hiking, and cross country skiing.

George Rock stated that he very much appreciated the hunter walking trails in Jack Lake and Peters Marsh areas. He appreciated the mowing and game openings that the County provides.

Jean Guse stated that a safe sledding area is needed for children. Sandy Falk stated that in the future the City of Antigo might be looking at the old dog pound for just such an area. For this coming winter, the City of Antigo is looking to put some small hills near First Avenue skate park for sledding.

Dave Peterson stated that the Kettlebowl ski hill would not be a compatible site for sledding or tubing with the downhill skiers. They are looking at adding a half pipe for snowboarders in the future. Another suggestion is a terrain park for snowboarders.

Joe Jopek stated that the Ice Age Trail has a national identity. The Ice Age Trail is one of 9 in the United States. The Ice Age Trail receives recognition at the local, State, and National level. The Ice Age Trail needs consideration for future maintenance. The completion of the Ice Age Trail along the terminal moraine in Langlade County has been in the planning stages since 1979 and deserves consideration.

Sandy Falk stated that the City of Antigo vision plan has a trail along the Springbrook corridor. The City of Antigo has a meeting with a consultant on December 18 to design a trail in the northern natural area that was donated from Kretz’s, but funding is needed.

Mike Winski stated that large groups of people from Madison, Illinois, etc., do come to Langlade County to cross country ski at Gartzke Flowage. Cross country skiers/snowshoe’ers are also consumptive users, but they are less visible. If you provide a good product, they will come. Need to make Langlade County a destination for cross country skiing. We should not cater to just one user groups, but offer something for everyone.

Steve Jackson stated that only 13% of the 128,000 acres of county forest are closed to motorized traffic.

The Antigo/Langlade Chamber of Commerce and the Community Development Committee is marking Langlade County as the “County of Trails”.

Dave Peterson stated that Kettlebowl also receives many skiers from outside Langlade County.

Tom Lazars stated that he has expanded the cross country ski trails at both Jack Lake and Kettlebowl. At Jack Lake, he has added 5 miles and 3 loops and has widened the trail. At Kettlebowl, two miles have been added on Plum Creek property. If this proves popular, there will be further expansion for 2007-08.

The following ideas were stated:

1. Need to have another public meeting when the outdoor recreation plan is complete.
2. Need to add baseball diamonds and areas to play volleyball
3. Need to complete network of cross country ski trails at Kettlebowl

Ron Nye said Langlade County should contact the WIAA regarding cross country ski competition in Langlade County once our trails have the necessary improvements.

The question of user fees was raised. Many county board members are against charging user fees even if the public has said they would be willing to pay them. There is also the question of enforcement. The forestry department does not have the manpower to be checking for user fee stickers. There is the question of forestry vs. recreation; how the foresters time needs to be spent – marking and supervision of timber sales or recreation and enforcement of a user fee system.

Handicap hunts for children was addressed. The DNR sponsors some. The City of Antigo is looking at the old Deleglise Street landfill at a site for handicap hunt sponsored by the Lions club.

Fred Heider stated the final draft of the outdoor recreation plan should be available by the end of January. This should be provided to user groups at that time.

The attendees were thanked for their participation and attendance in this process.

#### GENERAL COUNTY FACILITY ASSESSMENT

Staff from the Langlade County Forestry and Recreation Department projected what needs face Langlade County. Specific park and forest management unit assessments exist by the capital improvement tables that start on page 57.

- Continue to maintain newly upgraded parks, waysides, and campground.
- Future ATV trail development needs to promote trail and route connectivity to communities, other trail systems and facilities.
- Level of trail use in Jack Lake block should be monitored to help make future expansion or improvement projects more feasible and justifiable.
- Continue to encourage people to voluntarily donate to the various trail funds to ensure they remain open.
- Develop Wolf River State Trail for various recreational trail users.

## OTHER PLAN REFERENCES

NCWRPC staff created the SCORP 2005-2010 summary that exists in Attachment B.

Map 1 summarizes the location of DNR Land Legacy areas, potential DNR State Trails, and potential trails from the NCWRPC Regional Bike Plan that are all summarized in Chapter 1 – Introduction – of this Langlade County Outdoor Recreation Plan.

## NEEDS DRIVEN PARK PLANNING

Since the 1960's, an accepted practice has been to adopt a uniform national land standard, such as 10 acres per 1000 population, for park planning. A standard amount of land for parks and recreation cannot be universal for a park. A standard land measure is only useful for specific facilities like determining how much land is needed for a specific use like a baseball diamond. The number of baseball diamonds and other facilities are not the same among similar sized communities nationally.

The basis of this revised approach to park and recreation standards is to create a level of service as defined by the customers' needs rather than an arbitrary standard. The level of service is generated locally for each type of park, trail, or public access to a water body. Public input is collected in multiple ways and the needs for a particular park, trail, or public access to a water body are determined. When specific facilities are needed, then facility standards are used to design the facility and budget for the necessary land, materials, and labor to satisfy that need.

A needs driven and facilities based park planning approach presents the current demand for park and recreation opportunities. The size of a park site is determined by the number of facilities needed to satisfy the active recreation demand within the service area of each park, and the unprogrammed recreation land that buffers different uses within a park and which buffers the park from other non-park uses such as residential housing. Determining the space needs for unprogrammed land is subjective and objective based on first hand knowledge of the area and how community residents and tourists use the parks. Determining how much unprogrammed land to use for buffering parks is subjective based upon how aesthetically pleasing an area should be, and what the surrounding land uses are.

The size of a park is determined by three criteria:

1. Physical geography. Does the site have steep hills, woodlands, or wetlands? Such natural features are useful for exploration, conservation, aesthetic buffers, and unprogrammed lands.
2. Park facilities. What activities are allowed or will be allowed? How much land is needed for each use?
3. Unprogrammed buffers. How much land within the park is needed to separate different uses? How much land is needed for future expansion? Maybe a park will not expand within 2-years, but within 10-20 years expansion may be eminent. When the opportunity to buy land exists, then reaction must be swift to seize the opportunity. A park growth boundary should be created for this reason.

## GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The development of an efficient outdoor recreation plan depends upon establishing specific recreation and open-space goals and objectives from public participation. A goal is a general statement of a desirable end or ultimate purpose toward which planning efforts should be directed. Goals are broad and may apply over a long time frame. An objective is a specific short-range statement of a desired end. The completion of objectives shows progress toward goal achievement.

The goals and objectives are meant to guide county and local officials as they work towards providing a recreation system to meet the needs of Langlade County's residents and visitors to the area. These goals were designed to be consistent with the priorities as set forth in the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation plan (SCORP) in order to promote better cooperation between local, county, and state efforts.

### Goal 1

**Promote adequate recreational opportunities for all residents and visitors to Langlade County.**

#### Objectives

1. Provide recreation opportunities within reasonable distance to all areas of the county.
2. Provide a wide variety of year-round passive and active outdoor recreation facilities.
3. Provide outdoor recreation facilities that are accessible to persons of all ages and abilities with special consideration of the needs of the elderly, and persons with disabilities.

### Goal 2

**Promote the unique natural resource assets in Langlade County.**

#### Objectives

1. Provide adequate access to water resources.
2. Preserve the valuable and significant areas and their wildlife habitat.
3. Identify and preserve sites that have scientific, historic, or archeological significance.

### Goal 3

**Plan for creating outdoor recreation activities throughout Langlade County.**

#### Objectives

1. Observe and incorporate changing leisure activities into this plan.
2. Identify outdoor recreation needs and establish priorities for facility development.
3. Adopt Outdoor Recreation Plan to remain eligible for state and federal grants.

These goals and objectives generally address what direction Langlade County will take with outdoor recreation facilities over the next 5 years. Specific actions to satisfy these goals and objectives exist in the next chapter of this plan titled Planned Capital Improvements.

# RECOMMENDATIONS

## INTRODUCTION

The following recommendations are aimed at satisfying needs identified to build Langlade County's status as the "County of Trails," while also recognizing the great County Forest acreage to provide recreation facilities for all Langlade County residents and visitors.

The recommendations are based on the goals and objectives, and the public comment documented in Chapter 4 – Outdoor Recreation Needs Assessment. Although it is unlikely that all recommendations presented in this plan will be undertaken in the next five years, they should be recognized as causes for action if the opportunity or need arises.

## COUNTYWIDE RECOMMENDATIONS

### Public Access to Waterways

Promote additional improved public access to State and Federal lands.

Provide public access to waterways by upgrading and developing boat landings. Add service piers, parking, signage, restrooms, lighting, and aquatic invasive species removal signs and buckets where practical.

### Ice Age National Scenic Trail

Purchase land or easements to complete the Ice Age Trail in Langlade County. Upgrade existing segments of the Trail. See the County Forest Management Unit Recommendations and the capital improvement tables for further Ice Age National Scenic Trail improvement descriptions.

### Wolf River State Trail

Consider allowing compatible trail activities on the abandoned railroad corridor in the White Lake area known as the Wolf River State Trail (DNR Segment 56 shown on Map 1). See the capital improvement tables for further Wolf River State Trail improvement descriptions.

### Cross-County Skiing (X-C ski)

Continue expansion of cross-country ski trails. Improve existing ski trails and related facilities at Gartzke Flowage, Moccasin Lake, Kettlebowl, and Jack Lake (i.e. restroom facilities). See the County Forest Management Unit Recommendations and the capital improvement tables for further X-C skiing improvement descriptions.

Jack Lake ski trail: Improved parking lot and restroom facilities. Create longer ski trail loops for more advanced skiers.

Moccasin Lake Ski trail: Expanded horse camping area, well, and pavilion.

Mountain Biking

Continue developing mountain bike trails on the county forest lands. See the County Forest Management Unit Recommendations and the capital improvement tables for further bicycling improvement descriptions.

Historic Facilities

Identify and preserve sites and buildings of historical value.

Accessible Facilities

Continue to eliminate barriers to persons with disabilities and the elderly within the recreation system. Changes need to be made within the system to accommodate persons in wheelchairs and persons with difficulty in walking. This should include:

- Curb cuts;
- Toilets with no steps and wider stall space;
- Ramps to picnic shelters, or ground level picnic shelters;
- Maintenance of trails for use by persons in wheelchairs or persons with walking difficulties, particularly those trails or paths located between parking areas, and picnic areas, and shelters; and paths between picnic areas and shelters, and restroom facilities.

ATV

Continue to upgrade ATV trails. See the County Forest Management Unit Recommendations and the capital improvement tables for further ATV improvement descriptions.

Snowmobile

Continue to provide the Langlade County Snowmobile Plan to those who are interested in finding out more about specific snowmobile trails and trail systems.

Recreation Fees

Langlade County Forestry Department to continue studying how to implement a recreation trail user fee.

County Forest Land Purchase

Purchase large blocks of forest land adjacent to waterbodies and steep slopes for recreation and forestry activities.

Insert Map 6 – Langlade County Forest Management Units

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## COUNTY FOREST MANAGEMENT UNIT RECOMMENDATIONS

### Elcho and Parrish Management Units

- Continue to improve and maintain Parrish Highlands ATV Trail.
- Continue to improve and maintain Moccasin Lake X-C Ski Trail and Horse Trail.
- Work with local Ice Age Trail Chapter to continue to maintain Ice Age Trail.
- Maintain Ice Trail.

### Ackley Management Unit

- Continue to work with Antigo DNR to maintain this area for wildlife and waterfowl production.
- Develop Mills Recreation Area for a hiking/biking trail.

### Lost Lake Management Unit

- Continue to develop ATV connector trail.
- Develop bird watching area in Spider Creek Flowage.

### Jack Lake/Stevens Spring Management Units

- Further develop and improve bike trail and hiking trail.
- Develop horseback trail in area of existing X-C ski trail.
- Further develop and maintain hunter walking trail.
- Monitor use of new primitive campground and possibly expand.
- Maintain Ice Age Trail.

### Augustyn Springs/Fisher Lake Management Units

- Work with local clubs to connect trail to businesses and other ATV trails.
- Develop walking trail around Lawrence Lake.
- Maintain Ice Age Trail.

### Kettlebowl

- Continue to expand x-c ski trail.
- Work with club to update equipment and ski hill
- Begin to develop a tubing hill.
- Maintain Ice Age Trail.

### Evergreen Management Unit

- Continue to develop and maintain horse and dog sled trail.
- Further develop primitive camping area for users of horse trail.
- Develop an ATV trail that will connect to Augustyn Springs Trail.

### Camp Susan Management Unit

- Improve and further develop hiking trail.

CITY OF ANTIGO RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Develop paved walking/biking trails along Spring Brook from 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue to 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue to include a Memorial Walkway at Lake Park. Currently an architectural designer has been hired to provide the city with a plan for this area. We hope to implement this design within the next five years.
2. Develop bike and ski paths at the former City landfill area. There is approximately 200 acres plus for us to utilize for this project.
3. Establish ATV trail program in conjunction with the former railroad right-of-way.
4. Develop educational forest at Northern Natural Area (Kretz Forest) to include trails, boardwalk and signage. This community forest consists of 110 acres.
5. Develop handicap accessible, paved walking/biking trails at old Deleglise Landfill site. This wildlife site may be used for handicap hunting in the future.
6. Renovate site where old municipal pool was located. Architectural consultants have been hired to come up with potential designs for this area. Possible projects could include a splash garden/outside swimming beach and other park amenities
7. Develop "Optimist Skate Park" to include restrooms/shelter and parking area. Storm sewer will be installed in this area in 2007.
8. Upgrade all six of the city ball diamond infields. These facilities serve all baseball and softball users in the area including high school, county leagues and community teams. The existing infields do not drain properly and are the cause of many game cancellations.
9. Construct press box/concession stand and add lights at Saratoga Park. Currently there is only one city field that has lights.
10. Develop a Town Square for outdoor concerts, community events, farmers market etc. There is land owned by the city adjacent to 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue that would be perfect for this project.
11. Repairs are needed for the bandstand located at City Park. Currently summer concerts are held here all summer long.
12. Expand and upgrade the city RV Park. Currently there are 12 paved sites with water, electricity and sewer hook-ups. As the demand arises, we will expand the park. There is land adjacent that can be developed. Also, new software must be purchased in order to take credit card reservations.
13. Construct a sled hill. There is a lack of winter outdoor recreation for the youth in the area. A sledding hill would be a welcome addition to the two outdoor skating rinks the city currently maintains. The city has entertained the idea of creating a sled hill on the northeast side of town, off of Byrne Street.
14. The city is working with Leathers & Assoc. to build a Community Built Playground to be located at Antigo Lake Park. This unique one-of-a-kind playground would be a destination for children from the surrounding area. This project would not only depend on grants but community support and donations.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS 2007 – 2011

Capital improvements to parks/facility are the addition of labor and materials that improve the overall value and usefulness of that park/facility. Capital improvements are designed and funded individually through segregated municipal funds. Routine maintenance is considered the normal cycle of repair and upkeep for existing facilities. Routine maintenance does not appreciable increase the value or usefulness of the park/facility, and is traditionally funded through the Recreation Department's operations budget. Non-routine maintenance of park facilities, however, is usually considered a capital improvement item. For example, upgrading an outdoor restroom facility for universal access would qualify as a capital improvement, while repainting an outdoor lavatory would be considered routine maintenance.

The capital improvement framework for each facility is a combination of several types of projects. These projects are ranked according to their importance and priority in the overall development of the facility. Capital improvements are ranked as follows:

1. Improvements to existing facilities:
  - a) To correct health and safety hazards
  - b) To update deficient facilities
  - c) To modernize adequate but outdated facilities
2. Installation of facilities as deemed necessary through citizen participation.
3. Development of new facilities as found necessary through comparison to park and recreation standards, and public comment.

The following Capital Improvement Plans are proposed for the Langlade County recreation system. The projects are listed in a priority and are subject to change. The Langlade County Forestry and Recreation Department created each capital improvement plan. All upgrades and new construction will take into consideration meeting ADA standards. As funds become available, the following projects will be completed.

Jack Lake area has been home to a county campground for over 40 years. Numerous upgrades and improvements have taken place over the years at the park. In addition, more recreational trails have been added as they are requested by the public.

<b>Table 24 Jack Lake Area – Veteran’s Memorial Park Five Year Capital Improvement Plan</b>	
Year of Plan	Estimated Cost
<i>2008</i>	
Pave old campground and access road to shower facility	\$26,000
Purchase additional playground equipment	\$20,000
Install handicap fishing pier at Pence Lake	\$5,000
Upgrade mountain bike trail	\$10,000
<b>Total Estimated Cost for Five – Year Plan</b>	<b>\$61,000</b>

The State of Wisconsin purchased the abandoned railroad corridor for this trail three years ago. This state trail is Segment 56 on Map 1. The County entered into an agreement with the State to develop a recreation trail as funding became available.

<b>Table 25</b>		<b>Wolf River State Trail</b>	
		<b>Five Year Capital Improvement Plan</b>	
Year of Plan		Estimated Cost	
<i>2007-2011</i>			
Annually apply for grants to rail and deck bridges and to resurface old grade		\$300,000	
<b>Total Estimated Cost for Five – Year Plan</b>		<b>\$300,000</b>	

The Bow and Gun Range has been in existence for over 30 years. Continual upgrades and improvements have made this range one that is used by hundreds of shooting enthusiasts every year.

<b>Table 26</b>		<b>Bow and Gun Range</b>	
		<b>Five Year Capital Improvement Plan</b>	
Year of Plan		Estimated Cost	
<i>2007</i>			
Reconstruct 100 yard rifle range		\$8,000	
<b>Total Estimated Cost for Five – Year Plan</b>		<b>\$8,000</b>	

There was a safety issue that developed when the Augustyn Springs Trail was connected to a local business. As a result, a grant was obtained to add a parapet separated recreational lane to the CTH A bridge rebuilding project to alleviate the safety concern.

<b>Table 27</b>		<b>Augustyn Springs ATV Trail</b>	
		<b>Five Year Capital Improvement Plan</b>	
Year of Plan		Estimated Cost	
<i>2008</i>			
Add parapet separated recreational lane to CTH A bridge project.		\$73,000	
<b>Total Estimated Cost for Five – Year Plan</b>		<b>\$73,000</b>	

The Mills family donated a parcel of land to the County. A hiking/biking trail will be constructed so the public can enjoy the property.

<b>Table 28</b>		<b>Mills Recreation Area (T31N R10E Sec. 15)</b>	
		<b>Five Year Capital Improvement Plan</b>	
Year of Plan		Estimated Cost	
<i>2007</i>			
Develop a hiking/biking trail		\$1,500	
<i>2008</i>			
Place various tree and plant identification signs along trail		\$500	
<b>Total Estimated Cost for Five – Year Plan</b>		<b>\$2,000</b>	

# IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

## INTRODUCTION

There are a number of different strategies available for the implementation of this plan. This includes securing funds to carry out the five year planning program and adopting techniques to carry out the general recommendations and to move towards attainment of the goals and objectives set forth in this plan.

## IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

### Shoreland Zoning

Wisconsin's Shoreland Management Program established statewide minimum standards for shoreland development. Counties are required to adopt and administer shoreland zoning ordinances that meet or exceed these minimum requirements. The statewide minimum standards for county shoreland zoning ordinances are found in Chapter NR 115, Wis. Admin. Code. Be sure to check with Langlade County to find out about their development standards.

### Public Access to Waterways

Langlade County Land Division Ordinance and §236.16(3) Wis. Stats. require dedication of public access in subdivisions along waterways unless there is a public access within ½ mile of the subdivision.

### Park Dedication

Subdivision regulations can be used by counties to require residential subdividers to dedicate a portion of subdivided land for permanent park and open space use in areas which are experiencing significant residential growth. Neighborhood parks may be acquired in this manner in newly developing residential areas. Local landowners should also be encouraged to dedicate land to their communities for recreational uses. Numerous small town memorial parks have been acquired through the generosity of local citizens. If citizens are made aware of community needs, this form of private action may continue to enrich the public resources of small communities. Langlade County will focus efforts to provide connectivity between developments/subdivisions and recreation areas through trail development. The County will support development of other recreation areas within developments/subdivisions where feasible.

### Use of Easements

Open space and public recreation use of private land may be acquired by easement. With an easement, certain rights are granted to the public for a specific period of time and the private owner is compensated for that public use. In purchasing an easement, the public body acquires a right either to use the land in a specific manner or to restrict the use to which an owner may put their land. For example, the rights to establish public hiking or fishing access to a waterway may be purchased through an easement.

Leases

Leases may be used as measures to use or protect land until more permanent measures may be found. By leasing parcels of land, the land remains on the county's and the community's tax rolls and can be renegotiated or non-renewed by the property owner if the monetary prospects for another use proves overpowering.

Another leasing method involves outright purchase of land by the county. The county then leases the land to a private party or organization with use restrictions placed on the land. Under this method, the county receives some monetary return on its investment and retains control over the use of the land.

Historic Sites

Historical sites can be rewarding additions to any community's recreation program. This is especially true in areas oriented to serving a significant tourist trade. Nearly all communities in North Central Wisconsin are in this category and they should all identify their historic sites. A study of potential areas is encouraged. Assistance and guidance for the study can be obtained from the Wisconsin Council for local History, an organization affiliated with the State Historical Society and the local County Historical Society.

Program Costs

A community should carefully watch operations and maintenance costs when setting up a parks program. A too ambitious acquisition and/or development program can easily lead to annual costs larger than the community can afford to meet. Recreation facilities like golf courses and swimming pools, for example, require large annual maintenance investments to continue.

Capital Improvements

Community officials should develop five year capital improvements programs for recreation that reflect implementation of proposals made in their plans and the priorities they place on them. To be functional, the program must be flexible and be subjected to annual review.

In developing a recreation program, care should be taken that the annual cost of maintenance does not exceed an amount the community can afford to pay. Too often, an ambitious program can lose community support as a result of prohibitive maintenance costs.

Monetary Aid Programs

Take advantage of state and federal financial and technical aid programs, which are designed, to assist communities in meeting recreational, needs, and maintain community eligibility for such programs.

The Stewardship Fund is a comprehensive aid program for the promotion of resource conservation and outdoor recreation opportunities. It consists of several older aid programs such as LAWCON and Local Park Aids, combined with new programs, such as the Urban Rivers Program. Appendix D gives an explanation of the Stewardship Fund. For additional information obtain the most

current booklet titled Open Project Selection Process from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Requirements for application to the Stewardship Fund include the requirement that the applicant submits an approved comprehensive recreation plan. This plan is designed to meet that requirement. For the remaining program requirements, or additional information contact:

Pat Zatopa, Community Services Specialist  
Rhineland Service Center  
107 Sutliff Ave  
Rhineland, WI 54501 (715) 365-8928

Besides state and federal aid programs, there are other sources of funding such as private foundations, trust funds, and civic and recreation organizations. For information on private foundations and trusts see Foundations in Wisconsin: A Directory, compiled by Susan A. Hopewood.

#### Future Planning

At a minimum, all communities should reassess their recreational needs near the end of the five year period covered by this plan. More frequent appraisal of needs may be called for under certain conditions such as extreme variations in funding capability, rapid population changes, actions of other units of government and private enterprise, and the recognition of new legislation, laws, and public programs.

#### Priorities

The need for community officials to establish priorities within their recreation program is emphasized by the scope of the previous recommendations. Although it is unlikely that all of these recommendations will be undertaken within the time period of this plan, there is an outstanding opportunity for inroads to be made. Recognition of increasing demands for recreation, space and facilities should prompt immediate action.

#### Lifetime Activities

Community and school officials responsible for recreation should place greater emphasis on land areas and facilities that can support "lifetime" recreational activities. Falling into this category are activities like golf, tennis, all target sports, horseshoes, cross country skiing, skating, running, volleyball, handball, badminton, back packing, and canoeing. Many schools have programs aimed at teaching recreational activities that people can participate in for a lifetime.

#### Snowmobile/ATV Routes

Designated specific streets or rights-of-way for snowmobile or ATV use. Since snowmobiles and ATVs can be considered a noise nuisance and a hazard for non-users, municipalities may wish to designate specific routes through the municipality for snowmobile/ATV use.

Winter Activities

All communities should provide winter outdoor recreation facilities. Skating and sliding sports (sledding, tobogganing, and skiing) can generally be provided without large investments. Skating, for example, can be as involved as providing rinks for ice hockey or as simple as flooding a small area of a school playground. Likewise, merely blocking off a lightly traveled street with a suitable slope can frequently provide a sliding area.

Specialized Facilities

Encourage development of specialized facilities by the private sector. Specialized facilities such as golf clubs and ski resorts can be an important adjunct to public recreational facilities. Quality and availability for public use should be emphasized.

Municipal & School District Cooperation

Promote cooperation between municipalities and school districts in meeting recreational needs. With good planning, cooperation may take the form of joint land acquisition and/or facilities development cost sharing. Increased municipal use of existing school facilities during non-school hours should also be encouraged.

Senior Citizen Involvement

Involve senior citizens in community park development and beautification and provide recreational facilities for their use. Although senior citizens often compose a significant proportion of the total community's population, they are often neglected in recreational planning. Benches placed near neighborhood parks and play areas and non-intensive sports facilities such as horseshoe pits located in community parks help to provide a place for the senior citizens. Small, passive use parks and garden located near nursing and retirement homes should also be encouraged. In addition, senior citizens can provide invaluable assistance in beautifying parks and open spaces and can thereby become more involved in community group life.

Youth Programs

Few recreational opportunities have been planned for the communities' high school age youth. School activities provide most recreational outlet during winter months, but in summer there is a distinct void. This plan recommends a study to determine what recreation activities would be best received by this age and what opportunity there is to provide for them at public parks.

Service Group Involvement

Involve organized service groups in needed park and recreation development, including development of competitive sports area and neighborhood parks. Traditionally, service groups and recreation organizations, such as Lions Club, V.F.W., softball leagues, and snowmobile clubs have played an active role in the development of such facilities. Continued activity of this type should be encouraged. In addition, service groups could help to meet the need for neighborhood facilities by supplementing municipal financial resources and providing organization and volunteer labor.

Community Beautification

All communities should recognize that community appearance is an important component of a recreation program. Maintained streets and sidewalks, attractive trees and shrubs, well cared for homes and commercial buildings, and neatly landscaped home lawns, public open space, and parks are principal contributors to community beautification. Such a program is most rewarding to persons engaged in passive recreation.

Adopt-A-Park Program

A program which encourages local groups to adopt-a-park or segment of trail or stream could be organized similar to the very successful *Adopt a Highway* program. The groups could volunteer their time to maintain and beautify the county's recreational system, allowing more county funds to provide major improvements.

## PROVISIONS FOR UPDATING

Essential characteristics of any planning process includes an inventory of what exists, determining what has occurred since the last plan was created, and what is desired locally for the future. Periodic updating of the plan is necessary for continued refinement and course correction to keep the plan current.

Some of the planning recommendations will not be accomplished within this five year plan period, and additional recommendations may be added as new recreational activities are requested or the status of existing facilities changes.

Annual review of the plan recommendations and capital improvement tables by the Langlade County Forestry and Recreation Committee will keep this plan current. This review may also occur after a large turn over in elected officials after a local election.

The review process includes surveying the local units of government, the school districts, and outdoor recreation groups about the following information:

1. What improvements are needed to existing facilities?
2. What new facilities are necessary to satisfy demand?
3. Which potential projects fulfill this demand?
4. Who is the project sponsor?

The Langlade County Forestry and Recreation Committee will review information collected from surveys, and evaluate the need for proposed projects based on standards and priorities as outlined in this plan.

Establishing a full plan update every five years will assure that the plan reflects changes in the recreational needs of the county, and will maintain the county's eligibility for grant programs.

DRAFT Jan 19, 2006

ATTACHMENT A  
OUTDOOR RECREATION SURVEYS

FIRST SURVEY – LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

SECOND SURVEY – OUTDOOR RECREATION GROUPS

THE TABULATED RESULTS FOR SURVEYS EXISTS IN:  
CHAPTER 4 – OUTDOOR RECREATION NEEDS ASSESSMENT



ATTACHMENT B

NCWRPC GENERATED SCORP 2005-2010 SUMMARY



ATTACHMENT C  
FACILITY DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS



ATTACHMENT D

STATE AND FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

