Village of Kronenwetter
Outdoor Recreation Plan
2013-2018

North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission
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December 2012

Photo Credits: Village of Kronenwetter

This plan was prepared under the direction of the Village of Kronenwetter Community Development & Zoning Department by the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission.

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This Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) 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..."

Chapter 1
INTRODUCTION

A. PURPOSE
The primary purpose of this outdoor recreation plan is to provide continued direction toward meeting the current and future recreation needs of the Village of Kronenwetter.

Adoption of this plan by the Village of Kronenwetter Board and subsequent acceptance by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) will continue the Village’s eligibility for Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund Program (LWCF), and State Knowles–Nelson Stewardship Program funds under: Aids for the Acquisition and Development of Local Parks (ADLP), Urban Green Space Program (UGS), and Urban Rivers Grant Program (URGP).

Non-profit conservation organizations (NCOs) are eligible to participate in the Knowles–Nelson Stewardship Program under the Urban Green Space and Aids for the Acquisition and Development of Local Parks programs. NCOs may adopt or carry out recommendations from a comprehensive outdoor recreation plan of the local unit of government in which the NCO project is located or use their land management plans that are required for participation in the stewardship programs.

This plan is organized by:
1. Reviewing other plans and laws that affect outdoor recreation (Chapter 1);
2. Describing the Village demographics (Chapter 2);
3. Inventorying what park facilities exist within the Village (Chapter 3);
4. Asking the public about their needs for outdoor recreation (Chapters 4 & 5); &
5. Recommendations are made to satisfy identified needs (Chapter 6).

B. PROVISIONS FOR PLAN UPDATES
Plan amendments are common and should be considered part of the planning process. They frequently represent good implementation or plan usage and should be acceptable for consideration by local decision makers. Amendments must follow the same process as the original plan and generally prolong the effectiveness of the plan.
C. REFERENCE PLANS & LAWS
Each plan and law listed below affects outdoor recreation in the Village of Kronenwetter:

Complete Streets Law
Wisconsin’s Pedestrian and Bicycle Accommodations law addressing Complete Streets was codified in 2009. It was incorporated as State statute §84.01(35) and later into administrative rule as Transportation 75.

Complete Streets are roadways designed and operated to enable safe, convenient, and comfortable access and travel for all users. Pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and public transport users of all ages and abilities are able to safely and comfortably move along and across a complete street.

All roads receiving state or federal funding through the Wisconsin Department of Transportation must also accommodate bicycles and pedestrians per this law. Local governments may pass their own Complete Streets ordinances to cover their own road networks. Specific guidelines related to traffic counts, and if the road is urban or rural, are used in these ordinances to determine whether a sidewalk, path, or lane is needed to accommodate bicycles and pedestrians.

State Trails Network Plan
This 2001 document clarifies the 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. One Segment affects the Village of Kronenwetter.

Segment 18 – Tomahawk to Wisconsin Dells
A power line corridor along County Trunk Highway X from Wausau to Stevens Point should be considered a component of the statewide "backbone" trail system. This potential trail not only connects the communities of Wausau and Stevens Point, but also could link with the Green Circle State Trail and several other proposed trail corridors.

Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) 2005-2010
Completed in August 2006, and reauthorized to remain in effect through 2016, 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.
Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) 2011-2016

Every five years, the Wisconsin DNR publishes a SCORP as required by the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965. At its core, this SCORP is used to help allocate federal funds equitably among local communities, but the document also transcends many levels of outdoor recreation discussion and policy. At the national level, this SCORP recognizes the America’s Great Outdoors (AGO) initiative, which is based on the idea that the protection of the country’s natural heritage is a non-partisan objective shared by all Americans. The AGO encourages state and local communities to develop local conservation and recreation initiatives.

This document shows a clear vision of how preserving and improving recreation opportunities in Wisconsin fits within a broader national initiative of conservation and recreation.

A summary of this SCORP is in Attachment H.


The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources created this state wildlife action plan in 2005. State wildlife action plans outline the steps that are needed to conserve wildlife and habitat before they become more rare and more costly to protect. Taken as a whole, they present a national action agenda for preventing wildlife from becoming endangered.

Kronenwetter and all of Marathon County are within the DNR’s Forest Transition ecological landscape part of Wisconsin (shown on the map in Attachment F).

The Wisconsin River in Kronenwetter is listed as having “Upper Midwest” significance as shown on the map in Attachment F. Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) have been found in this stretch of the Wisconsin River. The river itself along with the shoreline habitat are important to retain and restore for the Species of Greatest Conservation Need to thrive.

High Priority SGCN and natural communities; Priority Conservation Actions; and Conservation Opportunity Areas that are significant to the DNR's Forest Transition ecological landscape are listed in Attachment F.

North Central Wisconsin Regional Bicycle Facilities Network Plan, 2004

North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission created this document to guide the development of an interconnected bikeway system for the North Central Wisconsin Region at the county level. Potential trails are identified and an improvement description was created for each county that trails exist in to facilitate implementation.

The system in Marathon County was based on the 1996 County bike route plan, bike route maps for Wausau & Rib Mountain, and bicycle accommodations planned for the USH 51/STH 29 reconstruction. Highway X south of Pine Rd and Maple Ridge Rd east of I-39 in Kronenwetter are listed as existing on-road bike routes.
**Wausau MPO Bicycle And Pedestrian Plan, 2009**

The Wausau Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) prepared this 20-year Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan and Implementation Guide in 2008. The plan developed strategies for improving bicycle and pedestrian transportation throughout the Wausau area. Potential trails and routes are identified and an improvement schedule was created for each project in 5-year time frames.

See “Bike & Pedestrian Implementation Table” in Attachment G. Kronenwetter routes are shown on Map 1.

**Marathon County Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, 2007-2012**

Marathon County has recognized the importance of providing quality recreational opportunities to its residents by developing and updating a Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP). The Marathon County Parks Department prepared this 5-year plan. The Kronenwetter area is well served by county parks that exist within a 30-minute driving distance, and by local park acreage.

A need exists throughout the county for more non-motorized trails, and for additional fishing access to the water.

**Marathon County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan, 2006-2020**

The Wausau and Marathon County Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department completed the updating of its 15 Year County Forest Land Use Plan in early 2006. This plan will guide the management of the 28,623 acres of Marathon County Forests from 2006-2020. Aesthetic management zones and future forest blocking are shown in this plan.

**Village of Kronenwetter Comprehensive Plan, 2010-2030**

The Village of Kronenwetter hired Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc. to assist with creating this plan. This comprehensive plan will guide zoning and land division decisions in the Village. Several survey questions relate to outdoor recreation, and those results are incorporated into the public participation in Chapter 4.
**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 in Wisconsin for the next fifty years. 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 craft comprehensive plans, or offering different types of technical assistance.

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

**MW  Middle Wisconsin River**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Large</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Protection Initiated</td>
<td>Limited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protection Remaining</td>
<td>Substantial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation Significance</td>
<td>★★★</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation Potential</td>
<td>★★★★★</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As the Wisconsin River meanders across this ecological landscape, it flows through a number of communities, including Merrill, Wausau, Kronenwetter, and Mosinee. Surrounding land use is a mix of agricultural and forested land. Numerous hydroelectric facilities are found throughout this reach of the river. The middle portion of the Wisconsin River is an important biological and recreation corridor linking northern and southern Wisconsin.

Due to the proximity of several large population centers, this portion of the river receives substantial public use with recreational boating, fishing, and waterfowl hunting being particularly popular activities. Large numbers of anglers take advantage of the river’s robust warmwater fishery, which includes muskies in the upper stretches, and walleye, smallmouth bass, and several other species elsewhere. The black redhorse is found below the dam in Wausau, the only place in the state that it is known to occur.

Upland forests in the area typically contain a mix of oaks, aspen, and conifers, while the floodplain forests dominated by silver maple, green ash, and hackberry. In concert with associated marshes, these forests provide important habitat for a variety of resident and migratory wildlife. In addition to its aesthetic value, maintaining natural shoreline along the river is important for maintaining and improving water quality. A protected corridor could possibly allow for the establishment of a network of recreation trails.
Insert MAP 1A – Recreation Facilities in Kronenwetter
Insert MAP 1B – Recreation Facilities in Kronenwetter (INSET Map)
Chapter 2
BACKGROUND OF KRONENWETTER

A. INTRODUCTION
Potential opportunities and limitations start with understanding an area. This section provides a basic feel for what the Village of Kronenwetter looks like physically, demographically, and economically. With the vast undeveloped land base in Kronenwetter, this data is used to determine which resources to develop and which resources to protect or conserve.

Kronenwetter was a town where neighboring municipalities were annexing land until incorporation occurred in 2003. The Village of Kronenwetter has a 2010 Census population of 7,210 people and is part of the Wausau urbanized area in Marathon County. Generally in the Village there has been a large demand for residential lots, and to a smaller extent demand for commercial lots. An industrial park was developed in 2004, with many necessary utilities, next to the interstate to accommodate the increasing demand for building factories and warehouses.

The natural features (e.g. wetlands, forest, wildlife, and steep slopes) are described and mapped in Chapter 6 of the Kronenwetter Comprehensive Plan of 2010 (not part of this plan). Waters are not impaired by pollution, nor are waters listed as Areas of Special Natural Resource Interest (two creeks are listed, but the aquatic species of concern occurs farther south in those streams out of Kronenwetter per Emma Pelton of DNR in Madison on March 2, 2012). Waters in Kronenwetter are not designated by DNR as outstanding resource waters or exceptional resource waters. The water resources, park locations, and road layout exist on Map 1.

B. LAND USE
The Village is located on 52.3 square miles of land along the eastern shore of the Wisconsin River. Flat, wooded topography, scattered agricultural and undeveloped land, a high water table, and sandy soils exist throughout the Village. The high water table affects the depth that basements can be excavated, which can be seen in the “Kronenwetter Ranch” style house. A half flight of stairs is built to access the raised main level of the house, and a half flight of stairs also leads to the basement that is partially raised out of the ground. Wetlands exist throughout the Village connected to waterways. Sand point wells are used locally to water lawns.

County forest acreage covers about 4,300 of the 8,373 wooded acres in the eastern part of the Village. The industrial park, other industrial lands, and commercial lands comprise of about 790 acres. Residential land covers almost 2,500 acres. Agricultural, undeveloped, and agricultural forest comprise of the largest land use with about 10,600 acres.

C. DEMOGRAPHICS
In 5 years, Kronenwetter has grown faster than Weston, and with almost the same number of houses too. Rothschild’s population basically held steady, while Mosinee’s population declined by almost 5 percent. Table 1 displays total population for the Villages of Kronenwetter, Weston, Rothschild, and the City of Mosinee.
Table 1: Area Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Village of Kronenwetter</td>
<td>6,162</td>
<td>7,210</td>
<td>1,048</td>
<td>17.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Village of Weston</td>
<td>13,350</td>
<td>14,868</td>
<td>1,518</td>
<td>11.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Village of Rothschild</td>
<td>5,201</td>
<td>5,269</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Mosinee</td>
<td>4,186</td>
<td>3,988</td>
<td>-198</td>
<td>-4.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: WI DOA, 2010 U.S. Census, & NCWRPC

In 2000, Kronenwetter’s Census population was 5,369. By 2010, the Census reported that Kronenwetter’s population increased by 34.3% to 7,210 residents. The Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA) has not released their projections that use the 2010 Census, so NCWRPC created 5-year projections that increase the Village’s population 17.15% (half of the 34.3% growth between the last decennial Census periods) every 5 years, as shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Kronenwetter Population Projections

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Census</th>
<th>Projections</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>5,369</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>7,210</td>
<td>8,447</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>9,895</td>
<td>11,592</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>13,580</td>
<td>15,909</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2025</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2030</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2035</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Census, & NCWRPC

The Village of Kronenwetter’s population shows a relatively young age profile, as would be indicated by a predominance of young families. Figure 1 is Kronenwetter’s population pyramid that was created with 2010 U.S. Census data. Seventy-eight percent of households in Kronenwetter are families, of which 36.3 percent have children under 18 years old. There is something of a “brain drain” in that the 15 to 34 age cohorts total 24.6 percent of the population, while the 35 to 54 cohorts total 31.5 percent. This is likely a function of residents moving out of the village for an education and returning later in life to raise a family in Kronenwetter.

Figure 1 2010 Age Cohorts for Village of Kronenwetter

Source: 2010 U.S. Census SF1
Demographic Trends
Table 3 shows a comparison between the last two U.S. Census counts for Kronenwetter. Families with young children under 5 years old continue to become residents in Kronenwetter. Latino and Hmong populations have increased in the Village, and so has the number of residents completing high school and with bachelor’s degrees. Median household income rose 27.8% over the last decade, which kept up with inflation, and the percentage of people below the poverty level increased 0.5%.

The Office of Economic Advisors (OEA) within the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development creates countywide workforce profiles that include some demographic data. In 2009, OEA provided the following population perspective:

Population changes are made up of two components; natural and migration. Natural change computes births minus deaths, and migration looks at how many people moved into and out of an area. Marathon [County] has a balanced mix of both. Marathon [County’s] natural growth was 3.8 percent, 0.3 percentage points higher than the state but 0.9 percentage points lower than the nation. Net migration, at 3.7 percent, was higher for the county than either the state or nation. Natural increases accounted for 4,730 new residents while migration added 4,626, a difference of about 100. The combination of natural and migration increases gives a nice mix of older and younger residents.

**Table 3: Kronenwetter’s Quick Demographics**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2000 Census</th>
<th>2010 Census</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>5,369</td>
<td>7,210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persons under 5 years</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persons under 18 years</td>
<td>28.4%</td>
<td>26.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persons 65 years and over</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
<td>10.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female persons</td>
<td>48.9%</td>
<td>49.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White persons (not Hispanic)</td>
<td>97.9%</td>
<td>93.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black persons</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian persons</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino persons</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school graduates or higher</td>
<td>89.9%</td>
<td>95.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor’s degree or higher</td>
<td>21.5%</td>
<td>30.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing units</td>
<td>1,953</td>
<td>2,810</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persons Per Household [ACS]</td>
<td>2.79</td>
<td>2.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median household income [ACS]</td>
<td>$55,718 $71,203</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persons below poverty level</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: U.S. Census, 2000, 2010, & American Community Survey (ACS) 2006-2010*
D. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The following strengths and weaknesses relate to attracting and retaining business and industry to Kronenwetter from their 2009 Comprehensive Plan. Numbers inside “[brackets]” were updated by NCWRPC from the 2010 Census.

Strengths

- Environmental Quality (peace and quiet, rural environment, natural resources).
- Education and Training – Kronenwetter residents have very high [95.1%] high-school graduation rates and good access to secondary education and training facilities in the Wausau area.
- Low wage scale, low land costs, and lower business and property taxes.
- Good transportation facilities and options – access to a rail line, commercial airport adjacent to southern border, located on I-39/USH 51, and near STH 29.
- Workforce Age – Kronenwetter has a median age [37.3 in 2010] that is lower than Marathon County’s [39.4 in 2010].
- Four tax-increment districts that are well-located in growth areas.

Weaknesses

- Lack of financial resources for development assistance.
- Workforce Age – An increasing age will lead to individuals dropping out of the workforce into retirement. Entry-level workers may become difficult to find for employers.
Chapter 3
EXISTING RECREATION FACILITIES

A. PARKS and CONSERVANCY CLASSIFICATIONS
The following descriptions of each park type are from SCORP 2005-2010. 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:** Centrally located spaces of 5 to 25 acres that serve as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood are good neighborhood parks. Active and passive recreational activities in this park classification 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 that 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.

**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.
B. PARK FACILITIES IN KRONENWETTER

The Village of Kronenwetter park system consists of approximately 43 total acres within the village. This acreage does not include any trails. All parks listed below are owned and maintained by the Village of Kronenwetter. All outdoor recreation is shown on MAP 2.

Linear Parks

Snowmobile Trails – Marathon County has 780 miles of snowmobile trails that are maintained by multiple snowmobile clubs. These trails pass through Kronenwetter on non-permanent easements.

Bike Trails: Various roads and off-road paths make up this bike trail system in Kronenwetter. Each trail and potential trail are shown on Map 1. Attachment H has a list showing when and how each potential trail could be completed.

Mini Parks

See "mini park" definition on page 11.

Norm Plaza Memorial Park: This 3.6 acre park is located at 1077 Russell Street on the west side of the Village. There is a soccer field, a basketball court, a grill, picnic tables, playground equipment and a shelter.

Sunset Park: This 3.2 acre park is located at 2390 Terrebonne Drive, has a ball diamond with dugouts, basketball court, sand volleyball court, and tennis courts, a grill and picnic area, a shelter with indoor restrooms, and a playground.

Seville Park: This 4.2 acre park is located at 2200 Glendalen Road. There is a playground area, portable restroom, sand volleyball court, and picnic tables available at this facility.

Gooding Park: This 5.6 acre park is located at 2200 Old Highway 51. There is a grill, picnic tables, portable restrooms, and a shelter.

Neighborhood Parks

See "neighborhood park" definition on page 11.

Friendship Park: This 6.4 acre park is located at 2350 Sunny Meadow Drive. There are basketball and tennis courts, a play field, volleyball court, dog park, indoor restrooms, a shelter, and a playground at this facility.
Community Parks
See "community park" definition on page 11.

Municipal Center Park: This 10 acre park is located at 1582 Kronenwetter Drive adjacent to the Municipal Center. This facility has three ball diamonds, picnic tables, playground equipment, and a shelter.

Recreational and Soccer Fields: Ten acres of recreational and soccer fields exist at 2355 Tower Road. There are three soccer fields and a playground at this facility.

County Forest
Two Marathon County owned and operated forestry units are also located in Kronenwetter.

Kronenwetter Forestry Unit, located at 4420 East State Highway 153, has 5,000 acres with hiking and equestrian trails, as well as snowmobile trails in winter. The terrain fluctuates between fairly flat in the southern area, to gently rolling in the north. The forest has a nice mixture of oak, hardwoods, aspen and some pine plantations. Wildlife abounds with deer, bear, grouse, woodcock, beaver and a host of songbirds. This unit abuts the Leather Camp forest unit on the southern end.

Leather Camp Forestry Unit, located at 4445 East State Highway 153, is 5,000 acres of land that is designated as a Ruffed Grouse Management Area. There are hiking and biking trails, and equestrian trails in this area. This unit is attached to the Kronenwetter Forest Unit on the north end.

Special Use Areas
See "special use area" definition on page 11. Both of these public facilities are near Kronenwetter.

Rothschild–Schofield Aquatic Center: This outdoor pool facility (1104 Park Street in Rothschild) is a joint effort of the Village of Rothschild and City of Schofield which features:
- Recreational swimming
- 225-foot water slide
- Youth slide with water spray
- Log walk
- Lap lanes
- Children sand play area
- Sand volleyball
- Bath House with coin operated lockers
- Fountains at the zero depth pool entry
- Concession area
- Shade umbrellas & lounge area

Weston Aquatic Center: (5815 Alta Verde in Weston) The Weston Aquatic Center has a capacity of 867 people, and features the following:
- Recreational swimming
- Walk-in shallow area
- Extreme body slide
- Lap lanes
- Water rides
- Sand play area
- Sunbathing area
- Bath House with coin operated lockers
- Shade umbrellas & lounge area
- Concession area
Chapter 4
OUTDOOR RECREATION NEEDS ASSESSMENT

A. INTRODUCTION
Recreational needs within the village were identified by collecting public input, reviewing past plans, and creating a park Level Of Service assessment.

B. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Informal Public Input
In the regular course of business, Kronenwetter's staff, and Properties & Infrastructure Committee (PIC) members have received public input about the parks. That input and their professional experience will also shape what changes are implemented.

Survey Results

Comprehensive Plan Survey Results (2009)
A community survey was conducted as part of the Comprehensive Planning efforts in 2009. Surveys were mailed to all households in Kronenwetter using the newsletter mailing address list. A total of 1,114 responses were received from 3,175 surveys distributed; a 35% response rate.

When asked why they chose to live in Kronenwetter, the answer receiving the most responses was the rural atmosphere (19 percent), followed by the cost of the housing unit (15 percent), being close to work (14 percent), and being close to family (11 percent).

Respondents were asked to identify what types of recreational facilities are needed in the Village:
- Nearly 70 percent indicated that non-motorized multi-use paths are “urgently or somewhat needed.”
- About 48 percent of responses indicated that picnic areas/pavilions are “somewhat or urgently needed.”
- Several items received over 50 percent of responses as “not needed,” including:
  1. Motorized multi-use paths,
  2. Swimming facility, and
  3. Indoor recreation center.
- Athletic fields and small neighborhood parks both received over 40 percent “not needed” responses.

Many commented that facilities are not needed due to a concern for tax impacts. Improvements that can be done with minimal impact to taxes would be the most supported. NCWRPC says that some options to do this include grant funds, volunteer organizations, partnering with other jurisdictions, and using various land use tools (e.g.: subdivision ordinance, zoning ordinance, and official map).
Outdoor Recreation Survey Results (2012)
NCWRPC created a survey that residents were encouraged to complete via a notice in their property tax bill. Fifty-two surveys were completed. This was not a scientific sample of the population because surveys were available for anyone to print from online, but each survey's handwriting was unique. Figure 2 shows the geographic distribution of where completed surveys came from.

Use these results to verify that the Comprehensive Plan Survey results in 2009 are still important, because this survey was not designed to be statistically significant. This survey was created to ask residents to document what was important to them in 2011 for the next 5 years. The survey use is in Attachment C for reference.

- Separated bike paths/sidewalks/wide shoulders on roads: 73% (same as 2009 survey)
- Ice Rink: 14%
- Don’t Spend Money: 12%
- River Access: 10%
- Lighting: 8%
- Vandalism: 6%
- Rec. League Coordinator: 2%
- More Parks or amenities in parks: 20% (similar to 2009 survey)
- Access to ATV trails: 6%
- Public hunting access: 4%
- Access to snowmobile trails: 2%
- Outdoor Pool: 2%
- Building for indoor parties: 2%
- Farmers Market: 2%

The most important issue is having bike & pedestrian paths throughout the Village (73%). Creating multi-use paths, sidewalks, and paved shoulders are three types of facilities that would provide pedestrian and bicycle access throughout the Village. Ice rinks were desired specifically at Friendship Park, Norm Plaza Memorial Park, Gooding Park, and behind the Municipal Center. River access is desired by 10% of respondents, and a financial matching opportunity was presented by a resident too. More parks or specific amenities within existing parks were desired by 20% of respondents. Some comments showed a desire for more parks, and others suggested amenities like creating a dog park (one exists in Friendship Park), installing horseshoe pits, more trees and flowers for beautification, and continue maintaining what already exists.
Open House Results
A poster of Kronenwetter outdoor recreation was created by NCWRPC for display at the Village’s fall 2011 gathering that was open to the public. Seven surveys and a letter were collected at that event, and those surveys were included with the above results.

C. 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 nationwide is no longer recognized as universal for a park. A standard land measure is still used to determine how much land is needed for a specific use like a baseball diamond. Facility standards are used for this purpose. The number of baseball diamonds and other facilities are not the same among similar sized communities nationally; therefore a Level of Service needs to be created locally.

Besides creating a Level of Service for each park classification, other measures such as geographic distribution and universal accessibility, are also used to determine the adequacy of a community’s parks.

Universal accessibility is making facilities (e.g.: tables, drinking fountains, and restrooms) accessible to people with limited mobility. Americans with Disabilities (ADA) standards are followed when purchasing or modifying facilities for universal accessibility. Each park description starting on page 12 lists specific park facilities. If changes to park facilities are necessary to make them ADA compliant, then they will be listed as recommended improvements in Chapter 6 under "Capital Improvements."

1. Level of Service

A Level Of Service (LOS) approach is used to identify if enough park land exists for a community’s needs. This revised approach is defined by the community’s needs rather than an arbitrary acreage-per-1000-people standard. The LOS is generated locally for each park classification (i.e. mini, neighborhood, or community). Public input is collected, and the needs for a particular park, or whole park classification, are determined. If the public is content with the existing parks within a park classification, then the LOS is applied to the whole population. If the public determines that individual parks need more facilities in them, then a particular park needing additional land may become reclassified into the next larger classification. When the community grows in population the LOS is used to calculate how many additional parks are needed.

Park Acreage
The size of a park is determined by two 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 buffers between uses.

2. Park facilities. What activities are allowed or will be allowed? How much land is needed for each use? This is determined by applying the park Level of Service (LOS) to lands where the village is growing. If a community is not growing in population,
then the LOS does not change, but different uses may become desired over time, so facilities will need replacement.

Park acreage in TABLE 4 shows how Kronenwetter’s park system compares with state standards for the size of each park as grouped by classification. The average park sizes for Kronenwetter fall just short of the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) recommendations for each classification. Two of five neighborhood parks in Kronenwetter fall within the guidelines. Kronenwetter’s two community parks are both 10 acres in size. There is room near both community parks to expand if those locations are preferred.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>SCORP Recommendation</th>
<th>Kronenwetter average park size</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mini</td>
<td>0.5 – 5* acres</td>
<td>3.7 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhood</td>
<td>5 – 25 acres</td>
<td>6 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community</td>
<td>25+ acres</td>
<td>10 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Use</td>
<td>Various based upon facility</td>
<td>None in Kronenwetter</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: WDNR, & NCWRPC

*SCORP states that a mini park is 0.5-1.5 acres, but a gap from 1.5-5 acres exists, so that gap was added to the mini park size.

Parks are listed by classification starting on page 12 of this plan. Undeveloped land and schools were not included in creating a Level Of Service. Only one school exists, and another park is closer to cover the residents. The Village of Kronenwetter’s 2000 Census population was 5,369, and increased to 7,210 in 2010. This is the formula used in TABLE 5 to create the acres per 1,000 people, which is the Level of Service:

\[
\text{LOS by classification} = \frac{\text{Park acres per classification}}{(\text{Village Population} \div 1,000 \text{ population served})}
\]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Park Classification</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Acrs per 1,000 people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mini</td>
<td>16.6</td>
<td>3.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhood</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>3.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Use</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>36.6</td>
<td><strong>6.82</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: NCWRPC
Kronenwetter had a 6.82 village-wide Level Of Service (LOS) in 2000, which declined to 5.96 by 2010. Friendship Park was added between 2000 and 2010. The LOS in TABLE 5 declined because Friendship Park's new acreage was not enough to offset the additional population growth. **NCWRPC Note:** This lower LOS in 2010 may show a need to review if enough park acreage is being set aside when new subdivisions are created.

The LOS calculated in TABLE 5 is only adequate if public comment proves that more park land is not needed. Public comment may state that different uses are desired, but that may not affect LOS if the land area for those new uses replaces the old uses, or if unused land within existing parks is used. Chapter 6 will show what projects are planned to improve the parks.

See Chapter 5’s goals and objectives to determine how the Level Of Service will be used.

### 2. Park Service Areas

Parks must be close to where residents live for people to consider a park useful. Map 2 illustrates how well the Village of Kronenwetter’s parks serve the various areas of the village. The State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) provides the following guidelines for park placement:

- **Mini park service area:** ½-mile radius, or a population of 2,000-3,000;
- **Neighborhood park service area:** 1 mile radius, or a population of 2,000-5,000;
- **Community park service area:** 2-5 mile radius, in a village or outside of village limits (shown with a neighborhood service area on MAP 2, but they also serve the whole community);
- **Special Use park service area** is a whole community, and is determined by the type of recreation program, special event, or general activities desired at the park (not on Map 2, because none exist in the community).
- **School parks** are not classified in this plan, because Evergreen Elementary is next to I-39, and another community park covers the residents.

Map 2 shows the service areas for all neighborhood and community parks. All community classified parks are also neighborhood parks. Map 2 shows a 1-mile radius service area for each neighborhood or community park. Special use parks, community parks, and conservancies serve all of Kronenwetter; therefore no specific service areas are shown for these parks on Map 2.

Park design criteria are described in Attachment A. Each park classification contains the following:

- Definition,
- Size Objectives;
- Service Area Objectives;
- Location Objectives;
- Space, Design, and Service Areas;
- Orientation; and
- Function.
Insert Map 2 – Park Service Areas
Chapter 5
OUTDOOR RECREATION GOALS & OBJECTIVES

The following goals and objectives will guide Village officials and staff as they work towards providing a recreation system to meet the needs of Village residents and visitors to the area over the next 5 years.

**Goal 1 – Maintain the existing quality level of services as the community grows.**
Objectives:
1. Continue utilizing and exploring additional opportunities to work with other public and private entities for services.
2. Continue to add parks to serve new residential developments.
3. Revise subdivision ordinance to provide a larger amount of dedicated parkland per allowed residential development.
4. Evaluate the use of cluster development (conservation subdivisions) to limit consumption of natural or working lands.

**Goal 2 – Provide facilities for bicycle and pedestrian use.**
Objectives:
1. Revise non-motorized pedestrian policy and incorporate it into the subdivision ordinance.
2. Consider options to tie non-motorized transportation routes to neighboring communities.

**Goal 3 – Improve water access throughout the Village.**
Objectives:
1. Develop canoe and boat access points to the Wisconsin River.
2. Create parks or natural areas next to creeks as development occurs nearby.

**Goal 4 – When considering expanding, upgrading, or constructing new facilities, the Village will consider the impact the project will have on the local tax base.**
Results from the resident survey performed for the 2009 Comprehensive Plan (see page 14) show that improvements that can be done with minimal impact to taxes would be the most supported. Some of the options to do this include grant funds, volunteer organizational involvement, partnering with other jurisdictions, and using various land use tools (e.g.: subdivision ordinance, zoning ordinance, and official map).

**Goal 5 – Gradually Bring Parks Into ADA Compliance.**
All new facilities already must be ADA compliant (Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 [ADA]), but existing facilities have had a long grace period to come into compliance.
Objective:
During the individual park reviews with surrounding residents of that park, examine how to make short term and permanent fixes to make each park accessible to all residents.

**Goal 6 – Promote outdoor recreational opportunities available in the county forests and neighboring jurisdictions to Village residents.**
Objectives:
1. Seek to increase awareness among Village residents about the county forest areas by promoting the activities offered, such as hunting, hiking, and horse trails.
2. Support the development of additional facilities in and around the county forest areas.
3. Promote volunteer opportunities for local residents to join Wausau area outdoor recreation groups possibly through newsletter and digital notices.
Chapter 6
RECOMMENDATIONS & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Recommendations and Capital Improvements are strategies for satisfying issues identified. 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.

A. RECOMMENDATIONS
There are a variety of strategies available for implementing this plan. Residents commented in their Comprehensive Plan surveys that they were not in favor of additional recreational facilities that added to their community's tax burden. By using the following recommendations, Kronenwetter can still improve and preserve outdoor recreation for current residents and future generations.

Bicycle & Pedestrian Trails
Nearly 70% of 2009 Comprehensive Plan survey respondents and 62% of 2012 outdoor recreation survey respondents indicated that non-motorized multi-use paths are needed. Sidewalks, off-street paths, and wider paved shoulders were all suggested on the 2012 survey as ways to satisfy this need. Also noted on the 2012 survey was a need for better connectivity throughout the Village and to connect with bike paths in Mosinee, Rothschild, and Weston.

1. Continuing to implement the Wausau MPO's Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan is a good start. The plan developed strategies for improving bicycle and pedestrian transportation throughout the Wausau area. Potential trails and routes are identified and an improvement schedule was created for each project in 5-year time frames (Attachment G). Use the Bike and Pedestrian Implementation Table in Attachment G to annually budget for suggested trail improvements. **Use Map 1B to guide future facility installations.**

2. Create a bicycle and pedestrian facility plan to determine what type of facilities should be expected on different types of roads (e.g. bike path on arterial roads).

3. Incorporate the yet to be created Bicycle and Pedestrian Facility Plan into the subdivision code.

Wisconsin River Public Access
Create a public access point to the Wisconsin River, between the Rothschild Dam and the Mosinee Dam, on the east side of the river. Cooperate with DNR and neighboring jurisdictions to find the best site and site design.

Consistent Park Signs
The park identification signage is inconsistent from park to park, and several signs are ready for replacement. Some parks do not have signs either (e.g. Recreation & Soccer Fields Park, and Norm Plaza Memorial Park). As signage is replaced or upgraded in the Village parks or along its trails, it should be designed to create a constant image for the parks in Kronenwetter.
Trail Wayfinding Signs
Review how the bike routes are signed throughout the Village. Bike route signs should always be accompanied with supplemental plaques that indicate the route’s end point and/or the route’s name. Showing mileage to a particular destination is also recommended (Figure 2).

The Marathon County Health Department received funding from the County’s Hand Print Grants to add branded bicycle route signs within the Wausau area. Signing trails in Kronenwetter by cooperating with the Health Department will save money and build upon their success.

Consider the following criteria before signing a bike route:
- The route provides through and direct travel from one destination to another;
- The route connects discontinuous segments of shared use paths, bike lanes, and or bike routes;
- An effort has been made, if necessary, to adjust traffic control devices to give greater priority to bicyclists on the route, as opposed to other parallel streets.

Parkland Dedication via Subdivision Ordinance
Kronenwetter had a 6.82 village-wide Level Of Service (LOS) in 2000, which declined to 5.96 by 2010. Friendship Park was added between 2000 and 2010. The LOS in Table 5 declined because Friendship Park’s new acreage was not enough to offset the additional population growth.

This lower LOS in 2010 may show a need to review if enough park acreage is being set aside when new subdivisions are created. The alternative would be that land is already deeded for future park use but it has not been developed into a park yet.

NCWRPC recommends reviewing the Kronenwetter Subdivision Ordinance to determine if enough land is requested of developers to maintain either the 2000 Level Of Service or the 2010 Level Of Service as shown in Table 5.

Scenic Bicycle Pathways
Many people commented on the 2012 survey that they wanted aesthetic bike paths to travel on through trees. Allowing conservation subdivisions (see description in Chapter 7) to exist within the Village is one land use tool that would provide the open space necessary to construct scenic multi-use paths on at no cost to the Village. Requiring path construction along with the customary road construction as part of the subdivision approval will also provide the paths at no cost to the Village.
In existing developments a way to produce aesthetic bike paths may be to construct a serpentine asphalt path in public right-of-ways (e.g. roads, utility corridors, and public or institutional property).

**Naturally Improving Subdivision Aesthetics**

Many comments on the 2012 survey wanted aesthetic bike paths to run through subdivisions, and others wanted to ride on paths through trees. The DNR has a bulk tree seedling program that the Village could coordinate. Homeowners would place their orders and the Village would coordinate a main pick up location. Every year more trees will be planted, and 15 years from now, significant reforestation of subdivisions could occur, which would make walking and bicycling through subdivisions more scenic. Here is the DNR’s tree planting program: [http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/TrecPlanting/order.html](http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/TrecPlanting/order.html)

Another way to improve subdivision aesthetics is to plan future subdivisions that provide a rural aesthetic. Goals on pages 130-131 of the Kronenwetter Comprehensive Plan (not part of this plan) show that residents want to maintain rural views that would result from creating conservation subdivisions *(see description in Chapter 7)*.

Collectively, the *Kronenwetter Subdivision Ordinance* should be reviewed to possibly:

1. Determine the amount of land dedicated for parks;
2. Allow conservation subdivisions; and
3. Incorporate non-motorized pedestrian facility development

**Bicycle Parking**

Installing bike racks in each park would provide secure parking for residents and visitors. A set of bicycle parking recommendations from the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP) is included in Attachment E. The amount of space needed for a bike rack, and how to determine good bike rack designs are included in those guidelines.

**Inventory Park Facilities With Neighbors**

Over the course of this five year plan, meet with the neighbors around each park. Discuss what park features people like, and how to change specific facilities or park layouts that are no longer needed in that park.

During the individual park reviews examine how to make short term and permanent fixes to make each park ADA accessible for all residents.

**Change Park Name**

Add a formal name to the park currently known as: “Soccer and Recreational Field Park.”
Bike & Pedestrian Accommodations at "○" Intersections (See Map 1B)

1. At Wianecki Rd and Grant Rd, replace the “Bike Route” sign arrow to reflect the correct direction of the route.

2. At CTH XX and Trailwood Ln, make sure the bike lane on CTH XX merges seamlessly with the grade separated bike path on CTH XX west of Trailwood Ln.

3. At CTH XX and Terrebonne Dr, add a sidewalk on the east side of the intersection, and coordinate to create a sidewalk connection along the north side to the gas station.

B. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS 2013-2018
Capital improvements to parks are the addition of labor and materials that improve the overall value and usefulness of that park. Capital improvements are designed and funded individually through segregated municipal funds and grants. Routine maintenance is considered the normal cycle of repair and upkeep for existing facilities and is traditionally funded through the Park and Recreation Department's operations budget. For example, upgrading an outdoor restroom facility for universal access would qualify as a capital improvement, while repainting an outdoor restroom is considered routine maintenance.

Gooding Park
- Develop into a Frisbee golf course
- Update entrance sign

Friendship Park
- Adding parking for the dog park
- Add another volleyball court

Municipal Center Park
- Pave parking lot
- Install bathrooms

Seville Park
- Update entrance sign
- Install pavilion
- Install bathrooms

Sunset Park
- Update entrance sign
- Improve volleyball court

Soccer & Recreational Fields
- Install park sign at main entrance
- Install pavilion
- Install bathrooms

Norm Plaza Memorial Park
- Install park sign at main entrance
- Pave driveway/parking lot
- Install bathrooms

River Oaks Water Access
- Established a non-motorized water access point to the Wisconsin River

Miller’s Bottom
- Work with the City of Mosinee to establish a developed boat launch.

General
- Add Village way finding signs for recreation facilities.
- Update bike route signage.
Chapter 7
IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

There are a variety of strategies available for implementing this plan. Residents commented in their Comprehensive Plan surveys that they were not in favor of additional recreational facilities that added to their community’s tax burden. By using some of the following strategies, Kronenwetter can still improve and preserve outdoor recreation sites for future generations. These strategies include using land use tools and government programs to realize attainment of this plan’s goals and objectives.

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. The Village of Kronenwetter administers the zoning within Kronenwetter.

Public Access to Waterways
Kronenwetter’s County Subdivision Ordinance and state regulations for subdivisions require dedication of public access when the land along waterways is platted.

LAKE AND STREAM SHORE PLATS [236.16(3) WISCONSIN STATUTES]
(a) All subdivisions abutting on a navigable lake or stream shall provide public access at least 60 feet wide providing access to the low watermark so that there will be public access, which is connected to existing public roads, at not more than one-half mile intervals as measured along the lake or stream shore except where greater intervals and wider access is agreed upon by the department of natural resources and the department, and excluding shore areas where public parks or open-space streets or roads on either side of a stream are provided.

NR 1.93 Access in platted subdivisions. Under s.236.16 (3), Wis. Stats., the DNR has authority to recommend wider access at less frequent intervals than are prescribed in the statutes. The DNR shall consider waiver of the 60–foot access requirement only where the DNR determines:
(1) It will be advantageous to public interests in navigable water;
(2) Adequate space for access users and adequate buffering for private property is assured by access wider than 60 feet where possible; and
(3) The access that would result provides an equal or greater opportunity for public access than would be provided by dedication at statutorily prescribed intervals and the 60–foot width.

Park Dedication
Subdivision regulations can be used to require residential land subdividers to dedicate a portion of subdivided land for permanent park and open space use. 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 some communities.

**Conservation Subdivisions**
Conservation subdivisions are characterized by common open space and clustered compact lots. A variety of housing types or the same type of housing may be allowed. The purpose of a conservation subdivision is to protect farmland or natural resource open spaces while allowing for the maximum number of residences under current community zoning and subdivision regulations. In some cases a greater density (density bonus) may be offered in the local ordinance to encourage this approach. Generally, this tool is used for parcels 40 acres and larger, or where the community maps natural resource corridors or natural features that they want to preserve. A conservation subdivision maintains the same level of overall density as a conventional subdivision, but individual lot sizes are smaller, and the community receives open space.

**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 village’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 village. The village then leases the land to a private party or organization with use restrictions placed on the land. Under this method, the village receives some monetary return on its investment and retains control over the use of the land.

**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
State and federal financial and technical aid programs are designed to assist communities with meeting recreational needs. A list of these programs exists in Attachment D.

The Stewardship Fund is a state provided comprehensive aid program for the promotion of resource conservation and outdoor recreation opportunities. It consists of several state and federal aid programs such as Local Park Aids and LAWCON, combined with new programs, such as the Urban Rivers Program. Attachment D gives an explanation of the Stewardship Program. For additional information go online to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

A requirement for application to the Stewardship Fund is for the local community to have a DNR approved comprehensive outdoor recreation plan. The Village of Kronenwetter Outdoor Recreation Plan is designed to meet that requirement. For additional information contact:

    Community Services Specialist  
    Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
    1300 West Clairemont Avenue  
    P.O. Box 4001  
    Eau Claire, WI 54702-4001

Besides state and federal aid programs, there are other sources of funding such as private foundations, trust funds, and civic and recreation organizations.

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.

Winter Activities
All communities should provide winter outdoor recreation facilities. Skating and sliding sports (sledging, 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, intensive use ATV areas, and ski resorts can be an important adjunct to public recreational facilities. Quality and availability for public use should be emphasized.

Municipal and 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 gardens 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.

Service Group Involvement
Involve organized service groups in park and recreation development, including development of competitive sports areas 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 volunteerism of this type should be encouraged. In addition, service groups could help to meet the need for neighborhood facilities by supplementing municipal financial resources by 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 trial 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.
ATTACHMENT A

Park Design and Location Criteria

From:
Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) 2005-2010
ATTACHMENT B

Facility Design Standards

From: National Recreation and Park Association
ATTACHMENT C

2012 Outdoor Recreation Survey
Federal & State Outdoor Recreation Funding Programs
Bicycle Parking Guidelines

From: Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP)

One page summary sheet created by City of Madison.
ATTACHMENT G

Bike and Pedestrian Implementation Table

From: Wausau MPO’s 2009 Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan
ATTACHMENT H

2011-2016 Wisconsin SCORP Summary