



Oneida County Outdoor Recreation Plan

Projects also listed for some local governments within Oneida County.

2019-2023

Effective January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2023



Primarily Responsible for
Oneida County Forestry, Land,
and Recreation Department
Managed Facilities.



Prepared by: North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

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This plan was prepared under the direction of the Oneida County Forestry, Land, and Recreation Department by the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission.

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ABSTRACT

TITLE: ONEIDA COUNTY OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN
2019-2023 Effective January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2023

SUBJECT: This report assesses the existing recreation system in Oneida 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: December 2018

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- A. Outdoor Recreation Online Survey Results
- B. Park Design and Location Criteria
- C. State and Federal Outdoor Recreation Funding Programs
- D. Facility Development Standards

Chapter 1

INTRODUCTION



1.1 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 Oneida 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.

Local government grant applications have a better chance of approval if they have an outdoor recreation plan. Individual towns may adopt this plan by resolution to make it their own. The DNR reserves the right to suggest that a community create their own outdoor recreation plan separate from this county outdoor recreation plan.

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

1.2 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...”

1.3 PLAN COMPONENTS

This plan addresses outdoor recreation needs that are satisfied by the Oneida County Forestry, Land, and Recreation Department (FLRD) maintained facilities. Other public facilities are also listed to provide a more complete view of all public facilities available in Oneida County.

Background information on Oneida 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 Chapters 3 and 4 of this plan.

The existing recreation system was analyzed to determine current and potential future deficiencies through the year 2023. A combination of public comments, FLRD analysis, standards analysis, and the Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) were used to define recreational and open space needs.

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 forth in Chapter 9 – Provisions For Updating. The 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.

1.4 REFERENCE PLANS

Oneida County first began recreation planning in 1976 when "An Outdoor Recreation Plan for Oneida County and the City of Rhinelander" was prepared by the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission. This plan was updated in 1981 by "An Outdoor Recreation Plan for Oneida County and the Town of Minocqua and the Town of Three Lakes," which was prepared by Planning Consultant, Craig Johhanesen. Since then, the Towns of Cassian, Hazelhurst, Lake Tomahawk, Minocqua, Monico, Newbold, Nokomis, Sugar Camp, Three Lakes, and Woodruff have all developed their own Town Recreation Plans as well. This plan has been written to follow the previous Oneida County Outdoor Recreation Plan covering the period 2009-2013. In addition, the findings of the 2005-2010 and 2011-2016 Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans (SCORP) are utilized in the development of this county plan.

Oneida County Countywide Biking & Walking Routes & Trails Plan

In 2002 (updated in 2010), Oneida County Biking and Walking Trails Council developed this bike route plan with assistance from NCWRPC. This plan established a number of scenic, on-road bike routes throughout the County.

Proposed trails and on-road routes from this plan are shown on Map 2.

Oneida County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan

The mission of the County Forest is to manage, conserve and protect the natural resources within the county forest on a sustainable basis for present and future

generations. The Plan contains information about forest resource planning, outdoor recreation planning, silvicultural practices, aesthetic management zones, trails and access control, biological communities, and wildlife species that exist within the county forest.

This 2006–2021 document was used to inventory existing recreation facilities shown on Map 3.

Oneida County Land and Water Resource Management Plan 2012-2018

The Oneida County Land Conservation Committee developed this plan in 2011. The plan provides an inventory of the County’s natural resources and a series of goals and objectives intended to improve and protect these resources in the future.

Specific actions the Forestry Department may take are listed below. If Forestry was the lead agency, then the action is bolded below:

Goal 1: Slow the spread of invasive species.

Obj. B, Action 1: Distribute educational materials about non-native terrestrial invasive species to the public.

Obj. B, Action 5: Encourage use of BMPs for preventing the spread of invasive species by outdoor recreation.

Goal 7: Improve forest silviculture for multiple uses.

Obj. C, Action 1: Assist clubs by providing educational materials for users.

North Central Wisconsin Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan 2018

The purpose of this 2018 plan is to “recommend policies, programs, and facilities to improve the safety, viability, convenience, and attractiveness of bicycling and walking for transportation.” This plan also serves to bridge the gap between local community planning and State plans, as well as fill in gaps where improvements for bicycling and/or walking end in local community plans, to create a regional network of safe walking and bicycling.

Goals of the Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan:

- Mobility – The Trail System must enhance bicyclists’ ability to get around the Region including access to key destinations such as schools, parks, retail areas, and other public facilities.
- Functionality – New off-road routes, improved existing street routes, signage and marking, and route promotion must be combined to function as a system that is easy and desirable to use.
- Safety – Every bicyclist and pedestrian in the North Central Region deserves a system that is safe for travel.
- Connectivity – The Trail System must provide a seamless transportation system on multiple levels including; internally to all areas of a community; externally to outlying neighbors around the Region; and becoming a part of the bigger picture of a statewide trails network.

Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) 2011-2016

NOTE: This plan is being updated in 2016-2018.

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.

2018:

Much of the information presented in the Plan is still relevant, but some parts are out of date such as the America's Great Outdoors (AGO) Initiative, which no longer has federal support.

Development of the 2017-2022 SCORP is underway, and there is a strong emphasis in this SCORP to gather detailed information about Wisconsin residents' participation in 65 specific outdoor recreation activities. Data gathering has included an extensive mail survey and user interviews at state properties focused on understanding activities pursued, features and attributes that lead people to visit the properties, visitors' satisfaction and travel-related spending. The State has also initiated a sub-project of the SCORP, the Recreation Opportunities Analysis (ROA), to assess existing outdoor recreation opportunities, needs and priorities throughout the State. The goal of the project is to develop regional assessments that can directly inform the DNR's property master planning process in each of eight regions across the State. These assessments will be created from feedback at public input meetings held in each region. The DNR's goal is to complete the ROA for each of the eight regions by the summer of 2018. The resulting data will then be used to complete the SCORP by the end of 2018.

State Trails Network Plan

This 2001 document (revised in 2003) 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. These trails are shown on Map 2.

Segment 15—Ashland to Rhinelander

This potential trail would connect Ashland with Woodruff, Minocqua, Rhinelander, and finally to Crandon. From Woodruff/Minocqua, an old abandoned rail corridor near the route of State Highway 47 may possibly provide the opportunity to connect the City of Rhinelander. If the rail corridor is not intact, it may be feasible to use roadways and existing trails, since the northern half of the route is through

the Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest. **NCWRPC Note:** *The former rail bed still exists from Rhinelander to Monico, but the right-of-way is owned by multiple private owners who also own the adjacent land. The Monico to Crandon segment is not abandoned rail, but is an existing snowmobile trail within the USH 8 right-of-way on level land – great potential for a four season multi-use trail.*

Segment 19—Langlade Co 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 in Oneida County. **NCWRPC Note:** *The Three Eagle Trail (bicycling & walking) uses Segment 19 from Three Lakes, north 3 miles toward Eagle River.*

Segment 68—Rhinelander to Three Lakes

This abandoned rail corridor would link these two communities by an off-road connection. At Rhinelander, links to the Washburn to Fond du Lac corridor, and at Three Lakes links to the Langlade County to Michigan corridor are possible. Significant bike trail interest has occurred in Oneida County. Strong support can be expected for this connector trail. **NCWRPC Note:** *Cannot find the rail corridor that supposedly makes up this segment.*

Segment 69—Tomahawk to Crandon

This abandoned corridor would link these two communities by an off-road connector. This corridor intersects the Langlade County to Michigan corridor at Pelican Lake and links the Argonne to Shawano corridor in the east with the Tomahawk to Wausau corridor in the west. **NCWRPC Note:** *Cannot find the rail corridor that supposedly makes up this segment.*

2004 Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan

The Chequamegon and Nicolet National Forests were combined into one forest in 1998. This 2004 document revised inconsistent policies between the two forests and provides direction for resource management over the next 10 to 15 years. Even though there is not National forest (the Forest) within Oneida County, any recreation policy change in the Forest will affect Oneida County because of its close proximity.

In 2004, the Forest revised its forest management plan. The revised plan contains a consistent ATV policy for both sides of the Forest

- No off-road or off trail use allowed (implemented on June 14, 2004).
- New trail construction allowed for up to 100 miles of trail on the Chequamegon side, and up to 85 total miles on the Nicolet side.
- All roads and trails closed to ATV use unless posted open with signs.
- All trails and Forest Service roads will be closed to ATV's every year from March 15 through April 30. Township designated roads are still open.
- No Intensive Use ("play areas") allowed on the Forest (Open 26 play area closed on June 14, 2004).
- Emergency closures can be issued locally where resources are being damaged or abused, or there are safety concerns.

Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Road Riding Areas

- Anvil Lake Recreation Area

Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Trail Riding Areas

Great Divide District

- Dead Horse Run Trail

Medford - Park Falls District

- Flambeau Motorized Trail
- Perkinstown Motorized Trail

Washburn Ranger District

- Wanoka Lake Campground
- Washburn ATV Trail

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 craft comprehensive plans, or offering different types of technical assistance.

Each Oneida 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	☆☆☆☆☆

MF Monico Forest

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

NA Northern Highland – American
Legion State Forest

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

SO Somo River

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

SQ Squirrel and Tomahawk Rivers

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

TM Thunder Marsh

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

UW Upper Wisconsin River

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

UP Upper Wolf River

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

WF Willow Flowage

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

Chapter 2

DESCRIPTION OF ONEIDA COUNTY



2.1 PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

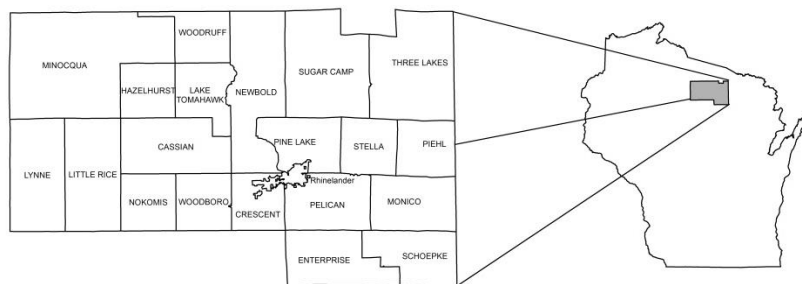
Introduction

This section describes the physical features that make up Oneida County. Recreation planners use this kind of data to determine which resources to develop and which resources to protect or preserve.

Geography

Oneida County is located in the north central part of the state and is well known for its physical and natural qualities. This area was once part of a vast forest region covering much of the Great Lakes area. Today, Oneida County serves as a popular vacation area and community center of the north. The physical resources are a key factor in the economic structure of the area evidenced by the number of paper and wood industry factories in the County. The County is easily accessible by both highway and airport. Oneida County is adjacent to Forest, Langlade, Lincoln, Price, and Vilas Counties, and is comprised of twenty towns and one city (Figure 1).

Figure 1 **Location**



Topography

The surface features of Oneida County have resulted from the various stages of glaciation during the last ice age. Oneida County's landscape is primarily gently rolling, heavily wooded countryside dotted with many small block lakes. The entire county lies within what geologists call the "Northern Highlands" physiographic region of Wisconsin. The topography is rather uniform in elevation ranging between 1,460 feet above sea level in the southeastern part of the county to 1,735 feet above sea level in the northwestern part of the county. The drainage pattern in the county is irregular and characterized by a number of lakes, bogs, and marshes.

Surface Water

Oneida County has a total surface area of approximately 790,963 acres, however, 71,283 acres (9.01%) is comprised of surface water. The majority of this area is comprised of 426 named lakes and 701 unnamed lakes totaling 66,545 acres and 2,056 acres respectively. The largest natural lake is Lake Tomahawk at 3,627 acres and the largest artificial water body is the Willow Reservoir at 5,135 acres. The deepest lake is Clear Lake, which measures approximately 100 feet at its deepest point. The County contains 830 miles of streams, of which about 192 miles are classified as trout streams. The Three Lakes area holds the world's largest chain of freshwater lakes. While most of the County drains into the Wisconsin River, a small area in the southeast drains into the Wolf River. Oneida County's extensive water resource provides a great deal of recreational opportunities such as boating, sailing, skiing, fishing, swimming, canoeing, and ice fishing as well as great aesthetic value. From the tranquil lakes of the northern part of the county to the wild untouched area of the Willow Flowage, Oneida County has a wide variety of options for water recreation. This extensive water resource provides a great deal of recreational opportunity like boating, sailing, skiing, fishing, swimming, canoeing and ice fishing.

Groundwater

Even though, the quality of water varies somewhat by aquifer, the groundwater is generally considered to be of good quality in Oneida County. Groundwater in the sand and gravel aquifer is higher in iron and more easily polluted than groundwater in the bedrock aquifer. Water hardness varies from mostly soft to moderately hard in both the sand and gravel and bedrock aquifers.

Soils

The soils of Oneida County are primarily comprised of eroded glacial deposits. Considerable variation occurs in soil types over short distances partly due to the variety of materials carried by the ice. Soil properties are important considerations when planning and developing recreation facilities. To help evaluate soils, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) publishes a Soil Survey Report. The most recent soil survey for Oneida County was completed and issued in February 1993. Soil surveys contain an abundance of information on appropriate site planning in respect to soil suitability and developmental properties by soil type.

Climate

Oneida County's climate type is in the continental classification. The summers have warm but not excessively hot days and cool nights. Winters are long, cold, and snowy. Mean annual precipitation is almost 30.66 inches. Snow cover on the ground and ice cover on the lakes lasts from December to April. The growing season generally spans late May to early September, for an average frost-free growing season of 124 days. Prevailing winds come out of the northwest from late fall through spring, and from the southwest during the remainder of the year. Winter in Oneida County is very conducive to snowmobiling and skiing due to its long duration and frequent occurrences of fresh snow. Summer provides a comfortable environment for camping, fishing, and other activities.

2.2 SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS

Introduction

This section describes the social and economic factors that shape Oneida 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.

Population

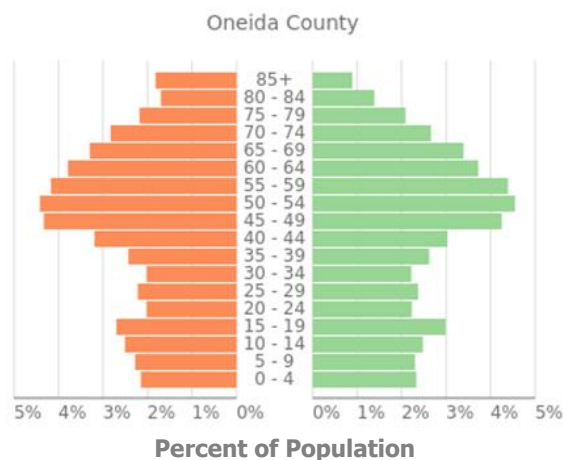
The population is projected to increase between 2015 and 2030, resulting in a total population incline, see Table 1. As of 2015 Oneida County's population estimate is 36,232, which was conducted by the Wisconsin Department of Administration – the same agency that created the 2013 population projections.

Figure 2 illustrates the county's 2010 population by age and gender. Oneida County's largest population cohorts, for both males and females, are the 45-49, 50-54, and 55-59 year olds. Median age in the County increased from 48.0 years old in 2010 to 50.3 years old in 2015. The population is almost equally balanced male and female until about 80 years and older when females outnumber males, as is expected due to females' naturally longer life expectancy.

Table 1 Oneida County Population Projections				
Year	2015	2020	2025	2030
Population	35,825	37,265	38,905	39,905

Source: WI DOA, 2013

Figure 2 2010 Population Pyramid



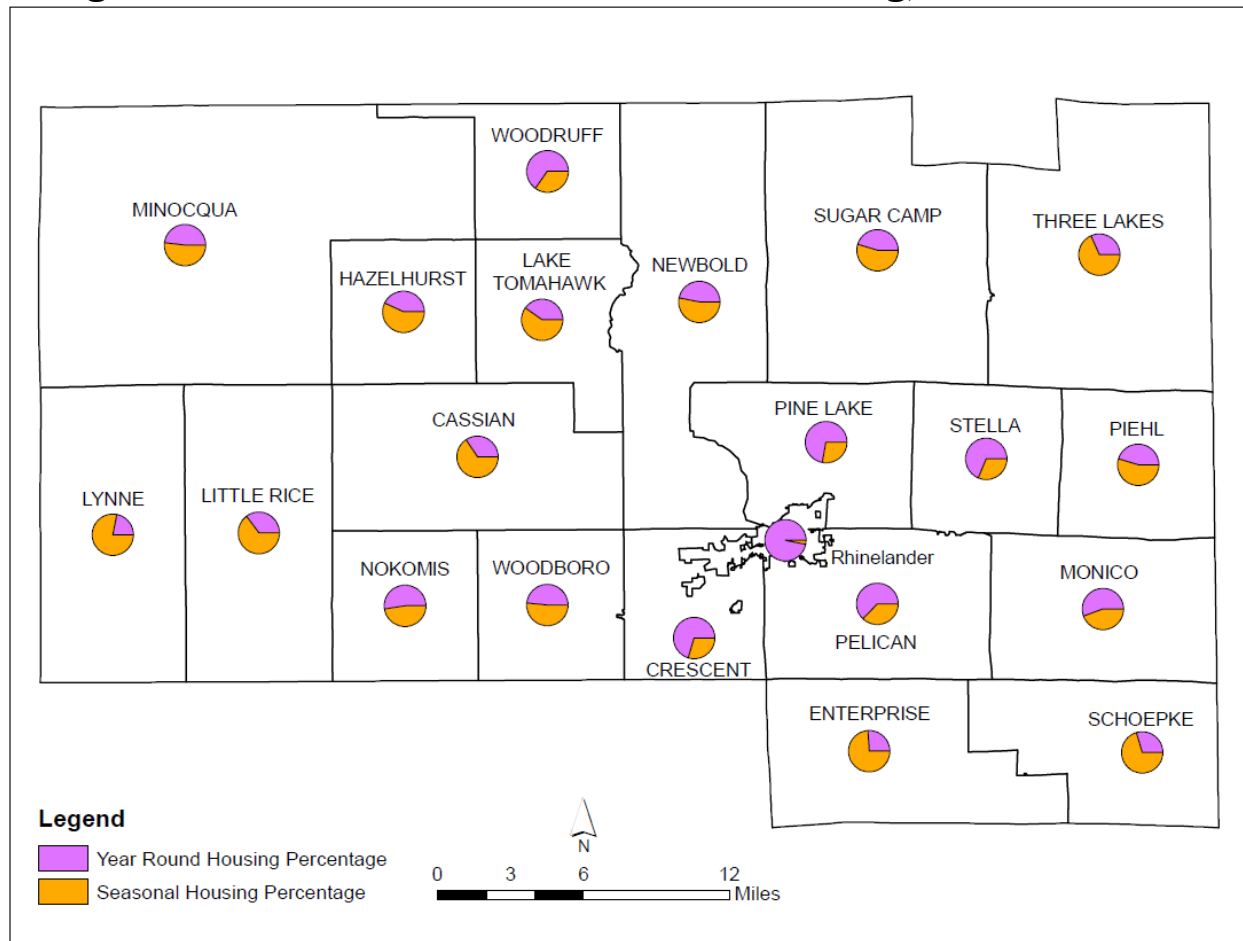
Data Source: 2010 US Census
Image Source: Applied Population Lab

Housing

Homes that are used on a seasonal basis are a significant part of the housing stock in the county (45%) much more than the level for the State (7.1%), as of the 2016 American Community Survey. Only in four towns (Crescent, Pelican, Pine Lake, and Stella), three of which are adjacent to Rhinelander, are seasonal dwellings about a third or less of the housing stock. In six towns (Cassian, Enterprise, Little Rice, Lynne, Schoepke, and Three Lake) seasonal dwellings are at least 60% of all housing units, and in five (Crescent 29.6%, Pelican 37.2%, Pine Lake 28%, Stella 31.4%, and Woodruff 34.8%) of the remaining towns are they less than forty percent of the total.

The trend over the last 20 years has been for seasonal home owners to retire in Oneida County, thus becoming permanent residents in their former “cottages.” New permanent and seasonal homes are being built too. Both of these trends are projected to continue.

Figure 2 Permanent and Seasonal Housing, 2016



Source: U.S. Census, 2016 ACS

Demographic Trends

Table 2 shows a comparison within Oneida County of demographic indicators from the 2010 Census and the Census' 2016 American Community Survey 5-year estimates. The total population increased by 210 persons. The percentage of persons under 5 and under 18 have both declined, but the percentage of persons over 65 years has increased and the median age has increased as well.

Racial diversity within the County has increased slightly, with the percentage of White, Non-Hispanic persons decreasing from 97.9% to 97.4%, and the percentages of persons identifying as Black, Asian, or Hispanic all increasing, with American Indian decreasing slightly.

Table 2: Oneida County's Quick Demographics

	2010	2016
Population	35,998	35,601
Persons under 5 years	4.7%	4.5%
Persons under 18 years	18.4%	17.2%
Persons 65 years and over	21.7%	25.1%
Female persons	50.0%	50.0%
White persons (not Hispanic)	96.6%	96.2%
Black persons	0.4%	0.5%
American Indian persons	0.9%	1.2%
Asian persons	0.5%	0.6%
Hispanic or Latino persons	1.1%	1.5%
High school graduates or higher*	91.9%	92.0%
Bachelor's degree or higher*	22.4%	26.2%
Housing units	30,125	30,666
Average household size	2.21	2.34
Median household income	\$45,857	\$49,715

Source: U.S. Census, 2010, & QuickFacts2016

*percentage of persons age 25 and over

Educational attainment has increased in the County since 2010. The percentage of persons with a high school degree or higher increased from 91.9% to 92.0%, and those with a Bachelor's degree or higher increased from 22.4% to 26.2%. These trends are increasing, however The State has rates of 91.4% for high school or higher and 28.4% for a Bachelor's degree or higher.

The Office of Economic Advisors (OEA) within the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development creates countywide workforce profiles that include some demographic data. The 2017 profile provided the following population perspective:

Oneida County gained 210 residents from April 2010 to January 2016, increasing at a rate of 0.6%, which is slower than the statewide growth rate of

1.5%. This ranks Oneida as the 39th fastest growing county in Wisconsin. Rhinelander, the Oneida County seat, remained the most populous municipality and declined by 1.7% over this 6-year period. The Town of Nokomis experienced the fastest growth rate (5.0%) and gained 68 new people over the 6-year period.

Oneida County's population growth was due to the 2.9% net migration, which overtook the natural increase (births over deaths) which was -2.3%. Low natural growth typically indicates an older population. The high migration rate is an indication that Oneida County continues to be an attractive destination for retiring individuals.

Employment

Overall, the labor force has decreased from 2010 to 2016 by 8.0%; see **Table 3**. The labor force is defined as the number of persons, 16 years old and over who are either employed or looking for work. People over 16 years old who are students, homemakers, retired, institutionalized, or unable/unwilling to seek employment are not considered part of the labor force. The unemployment rate in Oneida County decreased slightly from 5.5% in 2010 to 5.1% in 2016. Even though the employment rate has gone down, there are fewer employed individuals in 2016 vs. 2010.

Table 3 Oneida County Civilian Labor Force		
	2010	2016
Labor Force	18,897	17,381
Employed	17,798	16,503
Unemployed	5.5%	5.1%
Participation Rate	61.9%	57.4%

Source: U.S. Census

Table 4 shows trends in the industry sector composition of Oneida County from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program. While labor market information examines the employment status of Oneida County residents, this information is based on establishments located within Oneida County.

Table 4 Oneida County Employment by Industry, 2016		
	Average Employment	1-yr Change
Natural Resources	194	-14
Construction	789	31
Manufacturing	1,532	5
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	4,465	31
Information	266	-3
Financial Activities	544	0
Professional & Business Services	1,135	-104
Education & Health	3,861	-63
Leisure & Hospitality	2,226	16
Other Services	562	-10
Public Administration	1,016	116

These three industries have the largest share of jobs in Oneida County:

- Trade, Transportation, Utilities - Education & Health - Leisure & Hospitality
Together, these industry sectors accounted for 63.6% of jobs in Oneida County in 2016.

Source: WI DWD, QCEW, June 2016

Outdoor Recreation and the Oneida County Economy

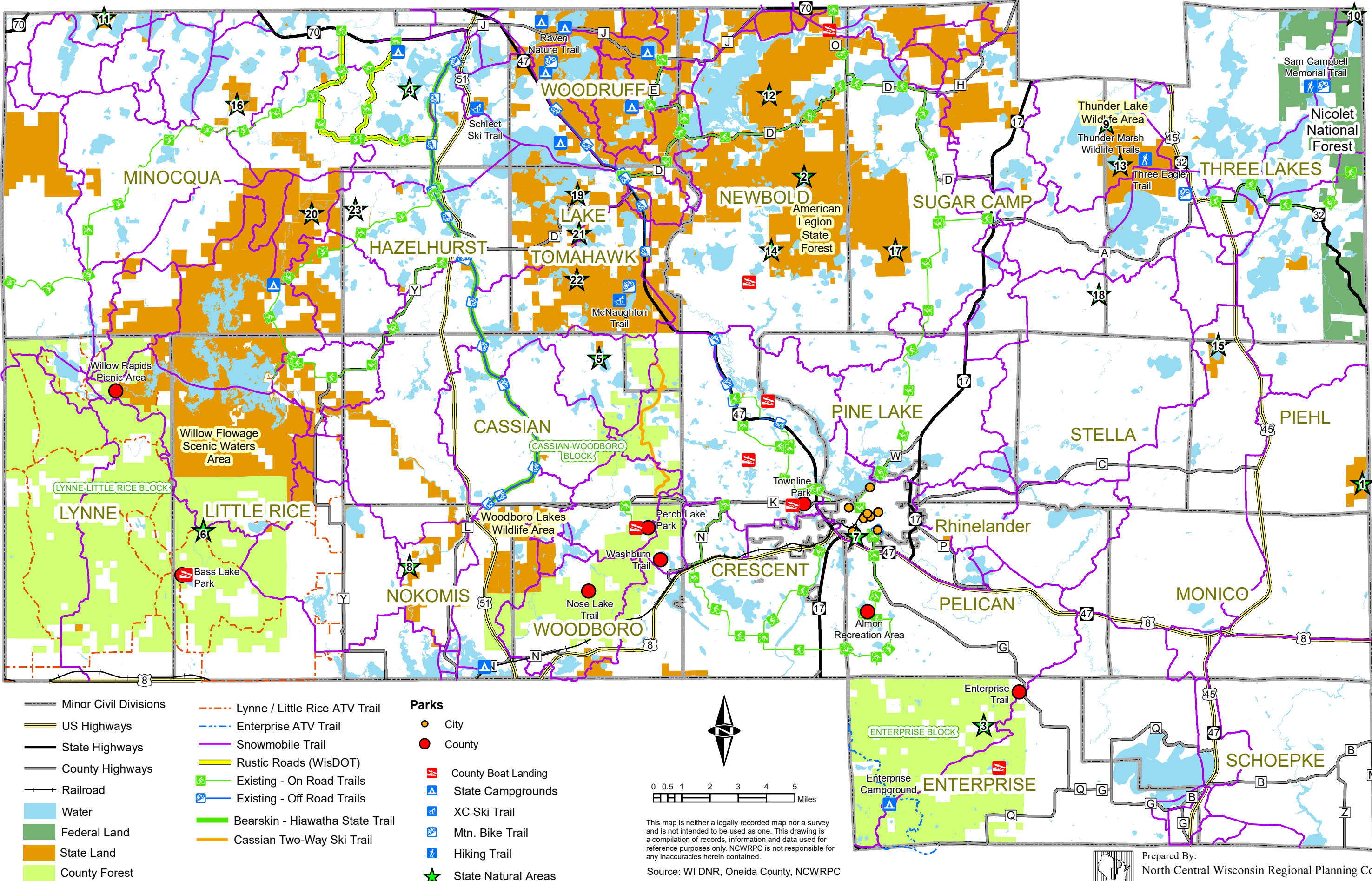
Analysis by Myles Alexander, Oneida County UW Extension

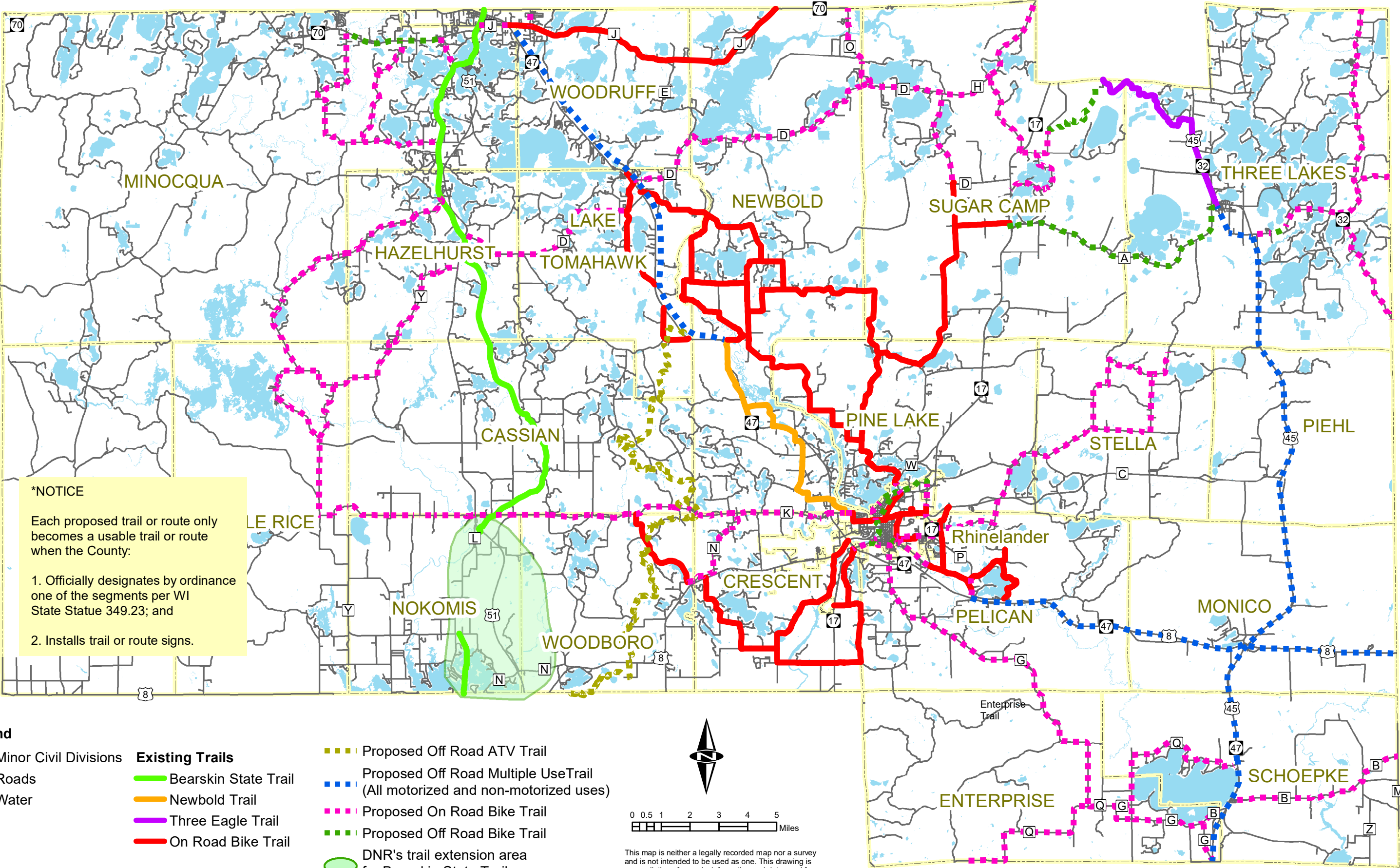
Outdoor recreation is critical to the health of the Oneida County economy.

Tourism: In 2017, visitors to Oneida County spent \$229,848,781 according to the Wisconsin Department of Tourism. They spent it at restaurants, hotels, retail establishments, and other local businesses that provided 2,208 jobs and over \$52 million in wage income. Visitors are drawn to the lakes and woods in all seasons for the full range of outdoor recreational activities. Data from 2017 visitor surveys suggests tourists are also interested in the growing number and variety of good restaurants. The Northwoods draws visitors to Oneida County. Businesses then provide the changing mix of goods and services visitors expect. Tourist spending in Oneida County grew over 3.6% from 2016 to 2017.

Seasonal and Retirement Home Ownership: As mentioned earlier the 2014 American Community Survey determined 42.7% of homes in Oneida County are utilized on a seasonal basis. Cottage renovation and expansion, and new construction adds to the number of year-round homes. A 2016 analysis of property values in Oneida County show waterfront properties are 76% of total assessed residential value. The popularity of second and retirement homes in Oneida County is largely due to the appeal of the outdoor environment. Seasonal residents and retirees appreciate the variety of outdoor activities available at their doorstep.

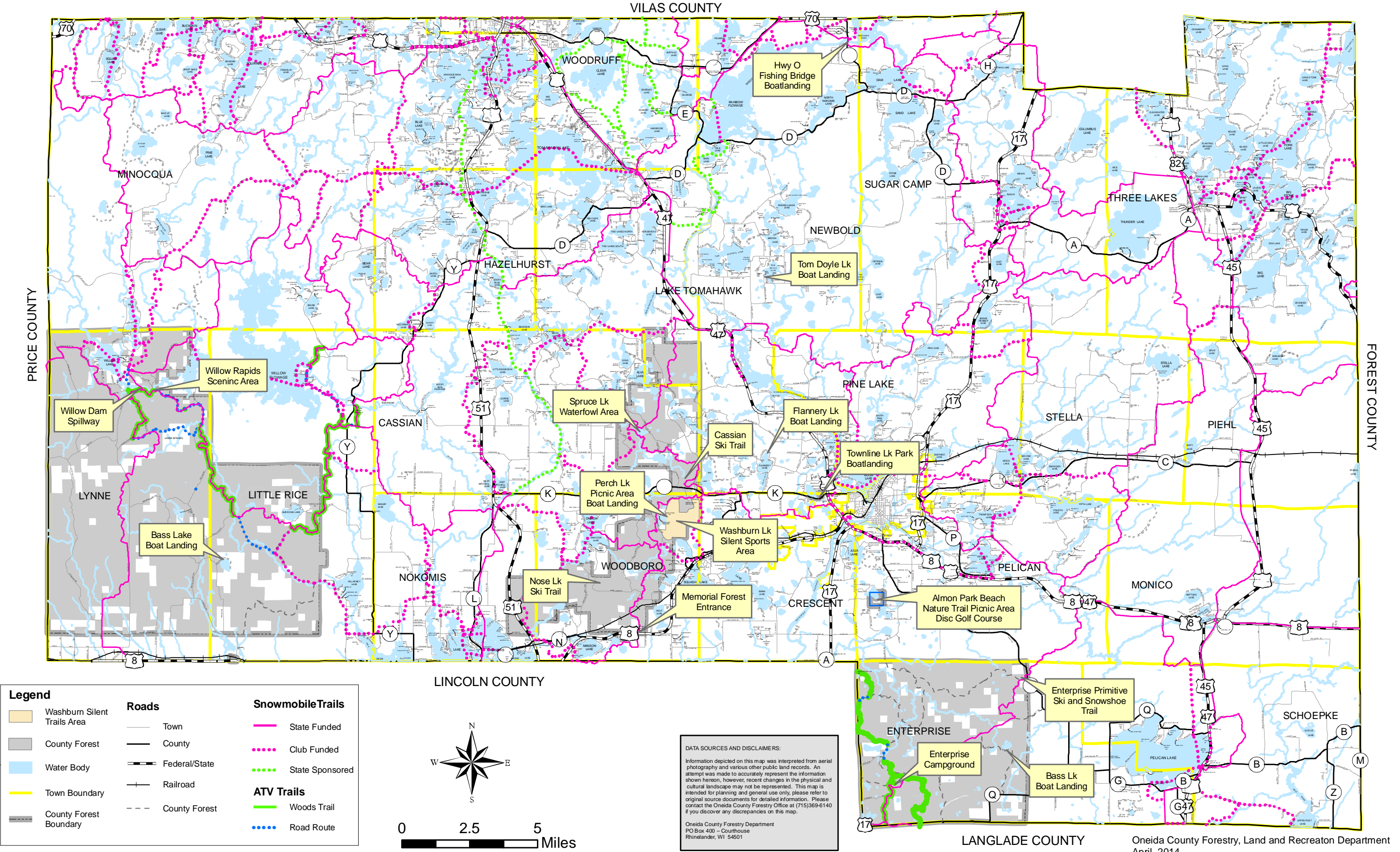
Tourism and second home ownership are critical to the Oneida County economy. Both depend on the quality and availability of outdoor recreational activities.





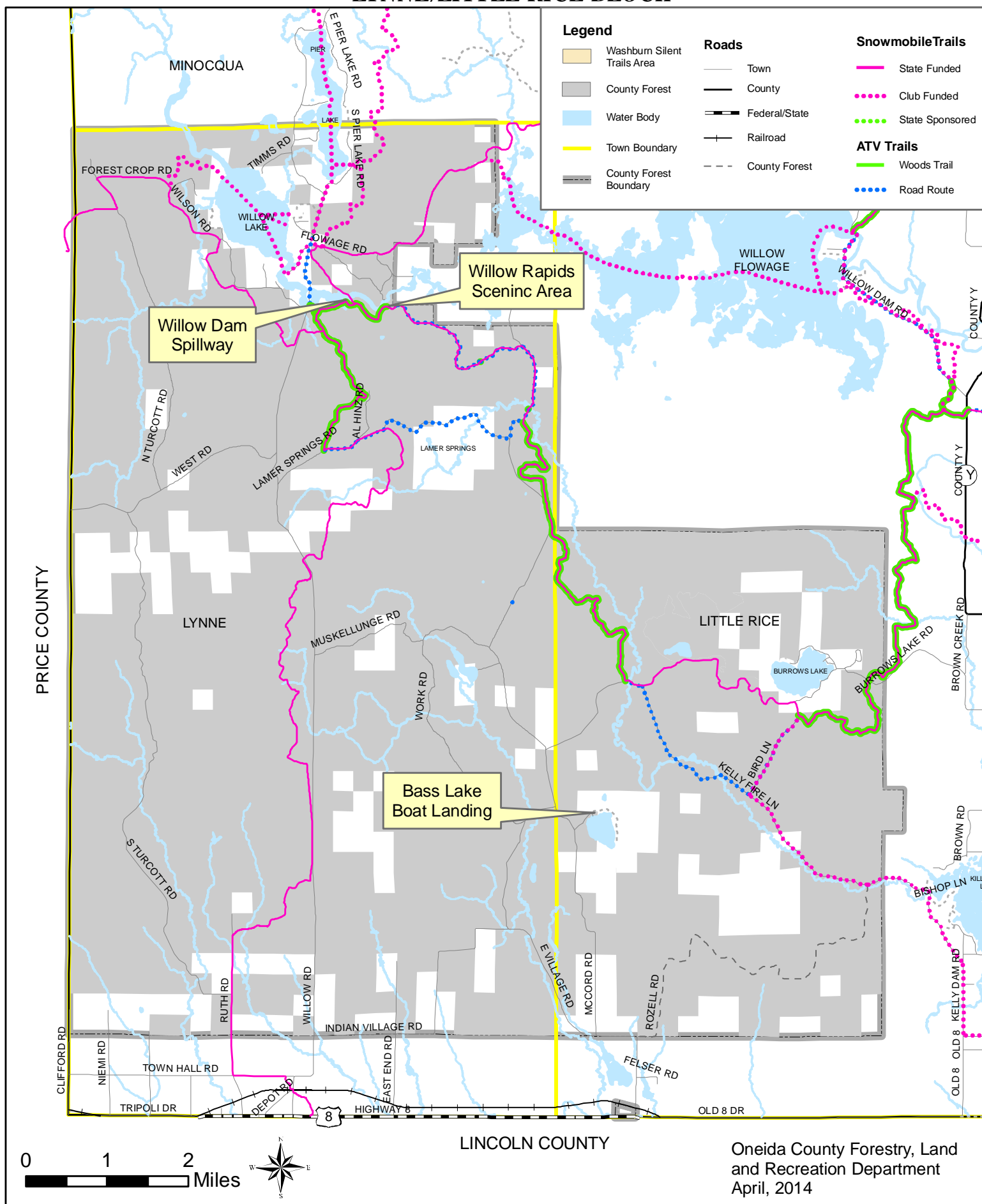
RECREATIONAL FACILITIES ADMINISTERED BY THE
ONEIDA COUNTY FORESTRY DEPARTMENT

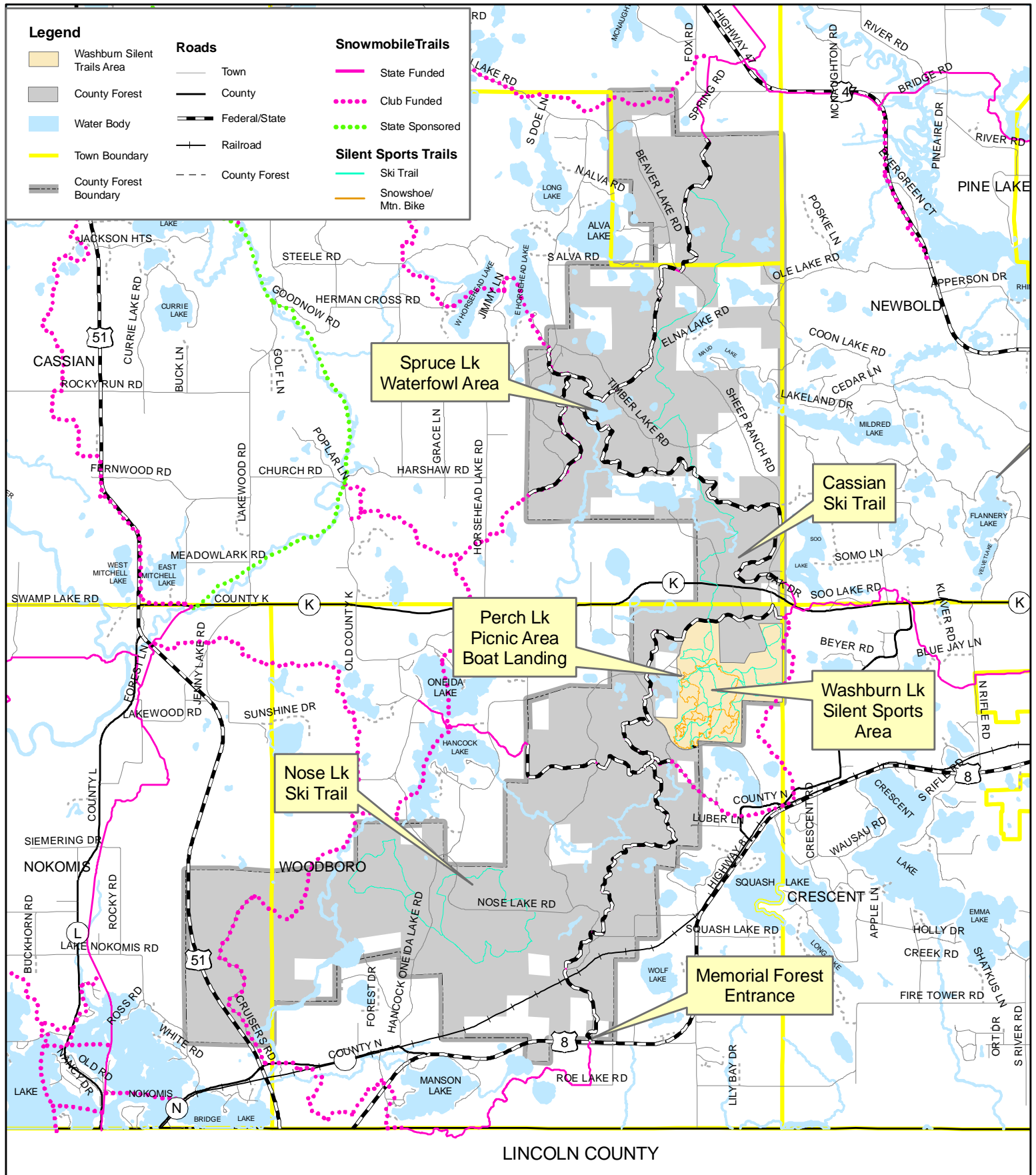
MAP 3



**RECREATIONAL FACILITIES ADMINISTERED BY THE
ONEIDA COUNTY FORESTRY DEPARTMENT
LYNNE/LITTLE RICE BLOCK**

Map 4

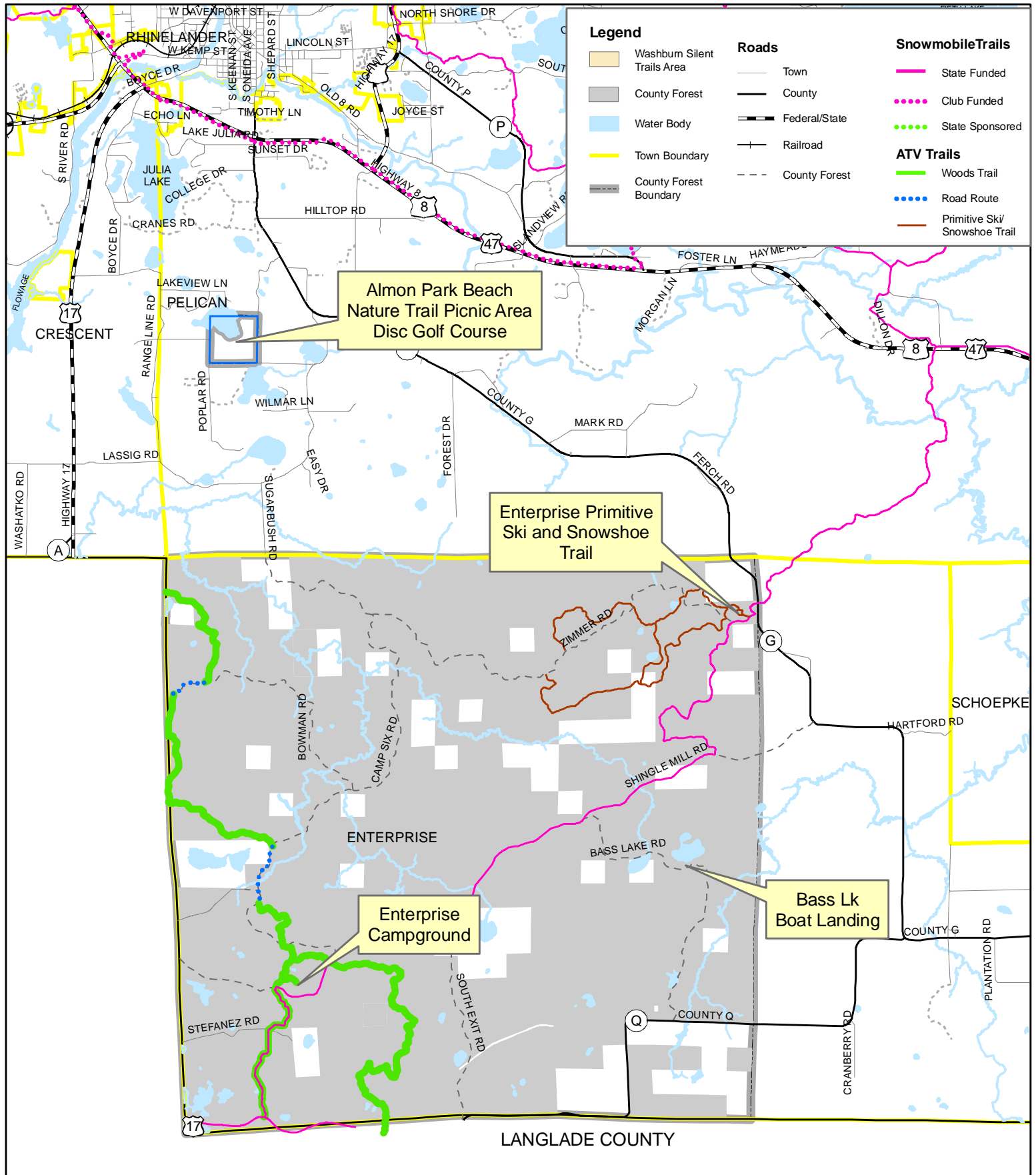




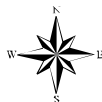
Oneida County Forestry, Land
and Recreation Department
April, 2014

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES ADMINISTERED BY THE ONEIDA COUNTY FORESTRY DEPARTMENT ENTERPRISE BLOCK

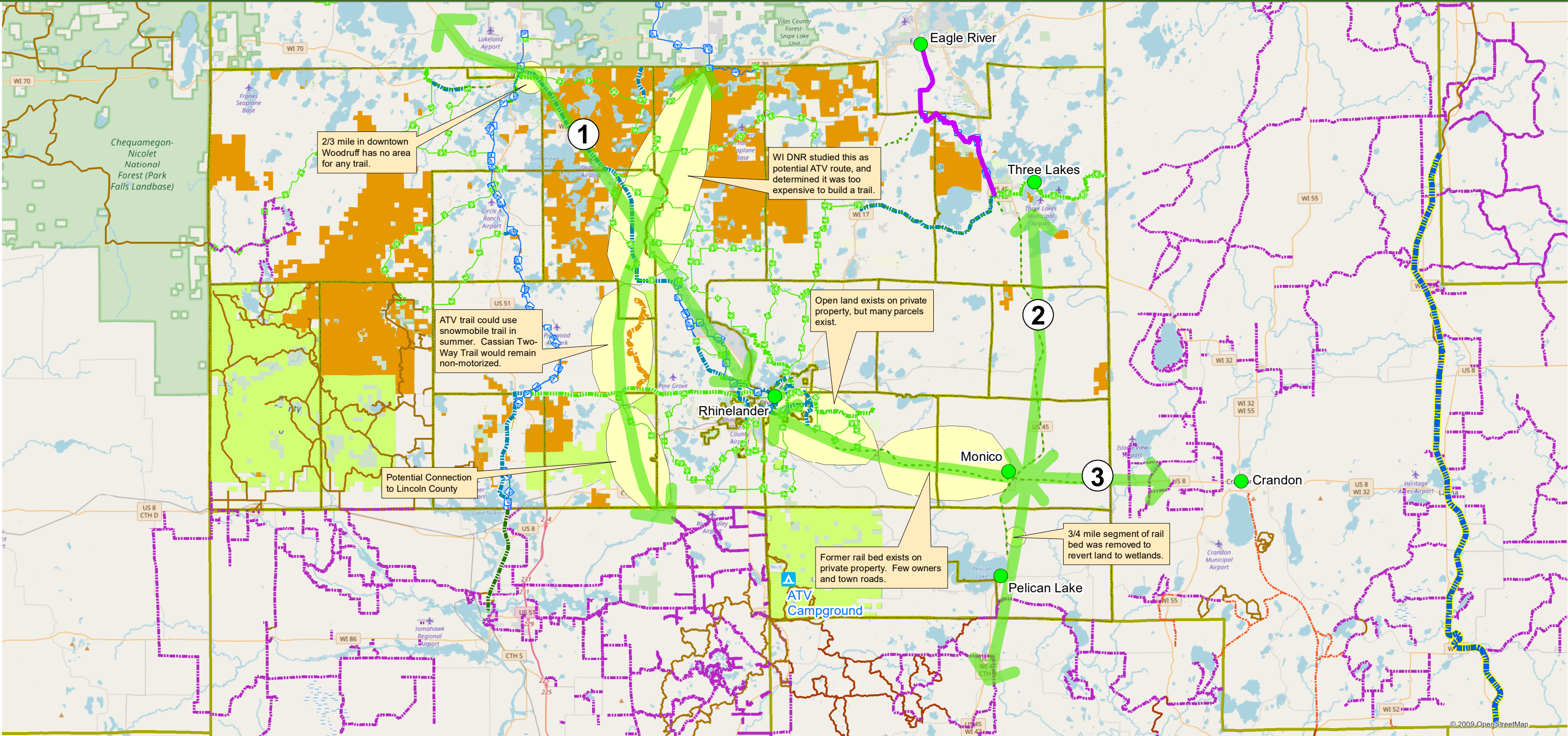
Map 6



0 1 2 Miles



Oneida County Forestry, Land and Recreation Department
April, 2014



ATV

- ATV Road Routes
- ATV Trails
- Proposed Routes

Bike

- Existing - On Road
- Proposed - On Road
- Existing - Off Road
- Proposed - Off Road

- Possible off-road ATV & Bike Trail Corridors
- Nicolet State Trail (Motorized & Non-Motorized)
- Three Eagle Trail (Non-Motorized)
- Hiawatha State Trail (Non-Motorized)
- Cassian Two Way (Non-Motorized)

1 Entact Public Trail Bed. Potential Multi-Use ATV & Bike Trail

- Oneida County
- WI DNR

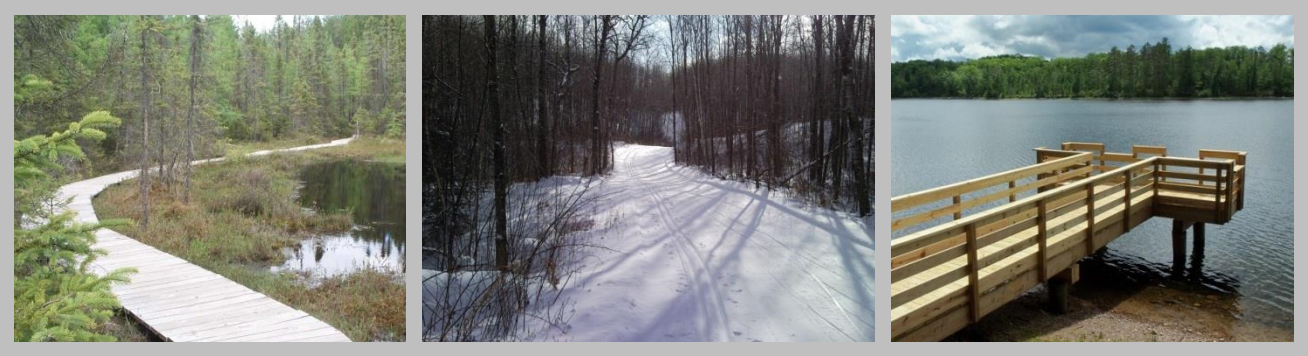
This map is neither a legally recorded map nor a survey and is not intended to be used as one. This drawing is a compilation of records, information and data used for reference purposes only. NCWRPC is not responsible for any inaccuracies herein contained.

Source: WI DNR, Oneida County, NCWRPC
Date Printed: 12/5/2018

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Chapter 3

EXISTING COUNTY FACILITIES



3.1 INTRODUCTION

This section is an inventory of the existing public outdoor recreational facilities that are managed by the Oneida County Forestry, Land, and Recreation Department. Facilities are listed by type and also what exists in each county forest block.

3.2 COUNTY FOREST

The Oneida County Forestry, Land, and Recreation Department manages 82,399 acres of county forest. The County Forest is organized into three forest blocks: Lynne-Little Rice; Cassian-Woodboro; and Enterprise (see **Map 1**). 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, biking, cross country skiing, snowmobiling, camping, ATVing (on designated trails), wildlife observation, bough cutting (permit required), and firewood collection (permit required). Refer to Maps 3, 4, 5, & 6 for Oneida County Forest land. The County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan (2006-2020) explains the policy of public use for recreational purposes within the County Forest.

Outdoor recreation facilities located on Oneida County Forest Land are maintained by the county forestry department, and are shown on Maps 3, 4, 5, and 6.

Cross country ski trails, snowshoe trails, hiking/hunter walking trails, mountain bike trails, general motorized trails, snowmobile trails, and ATV trails all exist within the county forest. Each of these trail types are described below:

Silent Sport Trails

Silent sport outdoor recreational trail facilities in the county forest include: **cross-country ski trails, snowshoe trails, hiking/hunter walking trails, fat tire bike trails, and mountain bike trails**. Each of these trail types are described below:

Cross Country Ski Trails

The Oneida County Forestry, Land, and Recreation Department (FLRD) maintains approximately 35.5 miles of cross-country ski trails distributed in four areas of the county forest, shown on Maps 1, 5 and 6.

The Cassian Two-Way Ski Trail – This fifteen-mile (roundtrip) trail originates on County Highway K in the Cassian-Woodboro County Forest Block. There is a shelter and toilet buildings at the halfway point of the trail. This trail is groomed for classic tracked skiing only.

The Washburn Non-Motorized Trail – This trail is nine miles long, with access points located at Perch Lake Park and on Washburn Lake Road. The trail is located within the Cassian-Woodboro County Forest. The trail is groomed for both classic tracked skiing and ski skating. Trail amenities, which are located at the Perch Lake Park trailhead, include a warming shelter and toilet building. The north end of the Washburn trail connects to the Cassian Two-Way Ski Trail at the Jct. of County Hwy K and Goodyear Lake Road in the Town of Cassian.

The Nose Lake Ski Trail – This eight-mile trail has a trailhead located on Hancock Oneida Lake Road in the Cassian-Woodboro County Forest. This trail is groomed for classic tracked skiing only. Dogs are permitted on this ski trail.

The Enterprise Primitive Trail – This eight mile trail is accessed via a trailhead located at the intersection of County Highway G and Zimmer Road in the Enterprise Block of the Oneida County Forest. This trail is not groomed so as to provide a winter trail opportunity for traditional cross-country skiing, snow-shoeing, and fat tire biking. Dogs are permitted on this ski trail.

Snowshoe Trails

The Oneida County Forestry, Land, and Recreation Department maintains approximately 16.5 miles of snowshoe trail distributed in three areas of the county forest, shown on Map 1.

The Washburn Non-Motorized Trail – The Washburn snowshoe trail totals approximately 6 miles in length. The snowshoe trail was designed with multiple loops that can be accessed at either the Perch Lake Park, or the Washburn Lake Road trailheads.

The Almon Park Snowshoe Trail – This snowshoe trail is located within Almon Park in the Town of Pelican. The trail totals 2.5-miles in length and is divided into two separate loops with a spur trail connecting the loops and parking area.

The Enterprise Primitive Trail - This 8-mile trail is accessed via a trailhead located at the intersection of County Highway G and Zimmer Road in the Enterprise County Forest Block. Dogs are permitted on this trail.

Hiking/Hunter Walking Trails

The Forestry Land and Recreation Department maintains approximately 40 miles of hiking/hunter walking trails for recreational purposes. These trails are located

throughout the county forest. These trails are typically established on old logging roads that have been seeded with clover and are maintained to serve as wildlife travel paths and as walking trails for hunters and hikers.

Mountain Bike Trails

Approximately 9 miles of double track mountain bike trails, and about 8 miles of single-track bike trails are located in the Washburn Non-Motorized Trail system of the Cassian-Woodboro County Forest Block. These trails are maintained by the Rhinelander Area Silent Trails Association (RASTA), and administered by the FLRD.

General Purpose Motorized Trails

There are approximately 214-miles of unsigned (non-marked) woodland trails located on Oneida County Forest Land that are open to all motorized vehicles year-round. During the winter months (generally December 15th – March 15th), the Oneida County Forestry, Land, and Recreation Department opens all gated trails on County Forest land (with the exception of those trails maintained for skiing and snowmobiling) to motorized vehicle use. This opens up an additional 63-miles of woodland trail for winter motorized use.

Snowmobile Trails

Oneida County has approximately 760-miles of established public snowmobile trails: 451-miles are **state-funded** (of which 404-miles are county sponsored and 47-miles are state sponsored) and 309-miles are **club-funded**, non-sponsored snowmobile trails. Map 3 shows the location of the state-funded and club-funded trails, but there are also numerous road routes available for snowmobiling throughout the County. The state-funded trails sponsored by Oneida County FLRD are maintained by the Oneida County Snowmobile Council. The Council is comprised of ten snowmobile clubs that meet monthly during the snowmobile season to provide continuous input to FLRD about the future direction of the County's snowmobile program.

ATV TRAILS (Segments are not mapped individually. Trails are on Maps 3, 4, and 6.)

Oneida County sponsors 40-miles of state-funded All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) trails. The state funded ATV trails in Oneida County are divided into two segments:

- **Segment 1** is located in southwestern Oneida County and consists of 21 miles of off-road trail. These trails are open for public ATV use from May 22nd to December 2nd. These trails are located on County, State, and Private Industrial Forest lands.
- **Segment 2** is located in south central Oneida County and consists of 19 miles of off-road trails that connect to approximately 75 miles of additional ATV trails located in Lincoln and Langlade Counties to the south and west. These trails are open for public ATV use from May 22nd to December 2nd. All trail miles within this segment are located on Oneida County Forest Land.

In addition to the above described ATV trails, there are approximately 214-miles of unsigned (non-marked) woodland trails located on Oneida County Forest Land that are open to all motorized vehicles year-round. During the winter months (generally December 15th – March 15th), the Oneida County Forestry, Land, and Recreation Department opens all gated trails on County Forest land (with the exception of those

trails maintained for skiing and snowmobiling) to motorized vehicle use. This opens up an additional 63-miles of woodland trail for winter ATV use.

3.3 OTHER COUNTY MANAGED FACILITIES

Spruce Lake Waterfowl Management Area – This area utilizes a dike and water control structure to allow the water level to be manipulated. By raising and lowering the water level, the Forestry Department is able to manage aquatic vegetation for waterfowl to use as food and cover.

Willow Lake Dam/Spillway Area – A dam/spillway regulates water levels on Willow Lake. This area has a recreational trail crossing, and provides beneficial fish and wildlife habitat.

Highway O Fishing Bridge – Originally, the Highway O Fishing Bridge was a county highway bridge used to cross the Wisconsin River. In the early 1980's the County Highway Department abandoned the bridge and transferred its ownership to the Oneida County Forestry, Land, and Recreation Department for use as a recreational bridge. In 2007 the FLRD replaced the old deteriorating bridge with a new steel clear span structure. The new clear span bridge is primarily used as a pedestrian fishing bridge.

3.4 COUNTY PARKS

County Parks are maintained by the Oneida County Forestry, Land, and Recreation Department (FLRD). Maps 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6 show the locations of these parks and recreation areas:

Almon Recreation Area – This is the largest of the County's parks at 160 acres in size, and is located on the shores of Buck Lake. The park is comprised of two parts: the park area, and the nature trails area. Facilities include a swimming beach, an 18-hole disc golf course, two toilet buildings, changing rooms, nature trails, three picnic shelters, picnic tables, cooking grills, paved parking, and an open area for field games.

Perch Lake Park – Approximately five acres of developed area on Perch Lake make up this park that is surrounded by the county forest. Amenities found at Perch Lake Park include: a large heated shelter building with electricity, picnic tables, cooking grills, toilet building, and a handicapped accessible fishing pier with asphalt access trail. The most popular feature of Perch Lake Park is that it serves as the main trailhead to the Washburn Non-Motorized Trail System (described in the **Silent Sports Trails** segment of this chapter).

Townline Park – This park is approximately 21 acres. Facilities include a boat landing and parking lot. Townline Park is essentially undeveloped green space set aside for the public to observe and enjoy nature.

Willow Rapids Picnic Area – Improvements include a small gravel parking area located near the scenic Willow Rapids along the Willow River.

Enterprise Forest Campground – The Enterprise Forest Campground is located on a 35-acre parcel of County Forest Land approximately 7 miles south of Rhineland. The campground offers 11 gravel based campsites, toilet buildings, potable water, onsite firewood, and is located immediately adjacent to the Enterprise ATV Trail. Campsites are reserved through an onsite self- registration system at a cost of \$10.00 per day, no pre-registration or reservations. All campsites are large enough to accommodate pull behind campers and traditional tents alike. The campground is accessible by both car and ATV.

3.5 COUNTY MAINTAINED PUBLIC ACCESS POINTS

The Oneida County Forestry, Land, and Recreation Department currently maintains eight public accesses (access points to water bodies):

1. Bass Lake, Town of Enterprise
2. Bass Lake, Town of Little Rice
3. Flannery Lake, Town of Newbold
4. Perch Lake, Town of Woodboro
5. Tom Doyle Lake, Town of Newbold
6. Townline Lake, Town of Newbold
7. Wisconsin River, Town of Newbold, County Highway O
8. Wisconsin River, Town of Pine Lake, Journey's End Road

Chapter 4

OUTDOOR RECREATION NEEDS ASSESSMENT

4.1 INTRODUCTION

Recreational needs within the county were identified primarily by:

1.) gathering public input, and 2.) through FLRD staff assessment.

4.2 PUBLIC COMMENT

Informal Public Input

Oneida County Forestry, Land, and Recreation Department staff receive public input from users about its parks and forest resources. Valuable input for this report came from these interactions.

Online Survey (April 2018)

See **Attachment A** for additional survey results.

For the full survey results (113 pages) go online here: <http://www.ncwrpc.org/oneida/orp/>

In the spring of 2018 NCWRPC mailed survey notices to each town, and either emailed or mailed survey notices to a whole list of outdoor recreation groups provided by the Oneida County Forestry, Land, and Recreation Department (FLRD). The survey was also available via a link on the Oneida County FLRD's website and on NCWRPC's website.

We received 676 responses to the Survey. This survey was sent out for customer feedback and is not statistically significant. Listening to the public's thoughts gives valuable perspectives for use in developing this outdoor recreation plan. Respondents were allowed to skip questions, so several questions had smaller response groups.

About 77% of respondents answered the question about living in Oneida County or having a summer home in the County – with most of them (76.9%) “living” in the County; and 79 people marked what zip code they live at. Most municipalities were represented, with the towns of Minocqua, Three Lakes, and Lake Tomahawk all having at least 10% of respondents. See Q36 results for other municipal percentages.

Through an IP address analysis of who took the survey it appears that 53 IP addresses are at least duplicated, which could mean that a husband and wife both took the survey. One IP address repeated 5 times, and another 3 IP addresses repeated 3 times. So it appears that nobody “stuffed the ballot box.”

A majority of the respondents were male (68% male, 31% female). Respondents came from all age groups, with a strong showing of at least 20% in the 45 to 54 age group, the 55 to 64 age group, and the More than 64 age group.

Key Findings of the ORP Survey:

- The most frequent outdoor recreational activities respondents participated in:
 1. Boating 75% of responses
 2. Walking/hiking 67% of responses
 3. Fishing 63% of responses
 4. ATV / UTV / OHM Riding 60% of responses
 5. Snowmobiling 59% of responses

- What potential outdoor recreational opportunities should be developed in Oneida County?
 1. ATV/UTV trails/routes 321 responses
 2. Mtn. Bike/Bike trails/routes 137 responses
 3. Hiking/walking area/trails 50 responses
 4. Snowmobile trails/routes 45 responses

 5. Cross country skiing 28 responses
 6. Campgrounds 23 responses
 7. Winter fat bike 18 responses
 8. Snowshoe trails 18 responses
 9. Boat access/launches 17 responses
 10. Fishing 17 responses
 11. More public hunting land 17 responses
 12. Dog friendly places 13 responses
 13. Canoe/kayak 11 responses
 14. Remote camping 9 responses
 15. Shooting range 9 responses
 16. More festivals 8 responses
 17. Swimming beaches 7 responses
 18. Bird watching 7 responses
 19. Develop Heal Creek property 7 responses

See **Attachment A** for additional survey results.

For the full survey results (113 pages) go online here: <http://www.ncwrpc.org/oneida/orp/>

4.3 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?

Chapter 5

ONEIDA COUNTY FACILITY GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

These goals and objectives are meant to guide the Oneida County Forestry, Land, and Recreation Department (FLRD) as they work towards providing a recreation system to meet the needs of Oneida County's residents and visitors to the area.

Specific capital improvement plan tables created to satisfy these goals and objectives exist in Chapter 6—Recommendations.

Goal 1 – Protect, restore, and enhance Oneida County's natural resources for outdoor recreation.

Objectives

1. Follow Best Management Practices for erosion control while developing trails and recreation facilities.
2. Improve and protect access to water resources through improved boat/kayak launch sites.
3. Cooperate with the County Land and Water Conservation Department to control aquatic and terrestrial invasive species.

Goal 2 – Support development and connection of trails.

Objectives

1. Encourage cooperation between municipalities to provide recreational facilities as a way of avoiding unnecessary duplication of facilities.
2. Support ATV/UTV trail development countywide.
3. Support snowmobile trail development countywide.
4. Support approval of the Oneida County Countywide Biking & Walking Routes & Trails Plan.
5. Support local government or local group development of trails for hiking, biking, walking, birding, ATV/UTVing, and snowmobiling.

Goal 3 – Gradually Bring Parks Into ADA Compliance.

Objective: Incorporate ADA accessibility into all capital improvements as appropriate. Existing facilities will become accessible as routine maintenance occurs where new fixtures are replaced.

Chapter 6

RECOMMENDATIONS & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

6.1 INTRODUCTION

The following recommendations are aimed at satisfying needs identified to build Oneida County's status as a prime recreation and natural resource area and to provide recreation facilities for all Oneida County residents and the surrounding tourism region.

The recommendations are based on the goals and objectives (Chapter 6), past plans (Chapter 1), and the public comment (Chapter 4).

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.

6.2 GENERAL COUNTY RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations for county-wide outdoor recreation projects were created based upon: the Goals & Objectives in Chapter 5; and public comments received through the online survey and documented in Chapter 4.

Possible Recreation Coordinator Position in Department

Oneida County Forestry, Land, and Recreation Department (FLRD) staff is currently doing a good job by most user group accounts. The trend in Oneida County for wanting more recreational opportunities has been building for many years. Other counties with similarly heavy recreational demand have created a recreation coordinator within the forestry department.

Recommendation: Consult other counties with extensive county forests and a recreation coordinator to help determine if such a position would benefit Oneida County.

Boat landing/access point improvements

Question 17 on the April 2018 ORP survey asked respondents what improvements were needed at boat landings or access points. There were 159 people that commented mainly with specific improvement ideas.

Recommendations:

1. Inventory existing conditions at each boat launch, and create a multi-year schedule for specific upgrades.
2. Consider installing ADA portable toilets at highly used boat launches.
3. Once inventory is complete, then consider which boat launches to add fee and/or information stations at.

Enhanced Customer Feedback

Oneida County Forestry, Land, and Recreation Department (FLRD) staff is available daily to answer questions from the public. If people are generally satisfied with a facility, then they typically do not seek out an email or phone number to make a comment. Only if a facility is seriously broken would someone actively seek a way to comment to FLRD staff.

Recommendation: After each reservation and program registration, FLRD staff could mail a survey to each participant to gauge how a specific facility is satisfying their needs.

Additional Trails

The Oneida County Forest has a variety of un-marked roads that are available to all people powered and motorized uses.

Recommendation:

1. Review a GIS coverage of all un-marked county forest roads that are open to all uses;
2. Consider mapping routes that would be useful to various uses; and
3. Work with user groups to install route signs.

Multi-Use Trails

Develop trails and routes throughout Oneida County per **Map 2** (Multiple Use Trail & Route Plan).

Trail Maintenance

Continue to work with volunteer groups to maintain trails. The Oneida County Forestry Department has an active working relationship with clubs and organizations to maintain the respective silent sport trails and motorized sport trails throughout the Oneida County Forest.

This recommendation is to continue those relationships.

Motorized Sports Trails (ATV/UTV or Snowmobile)

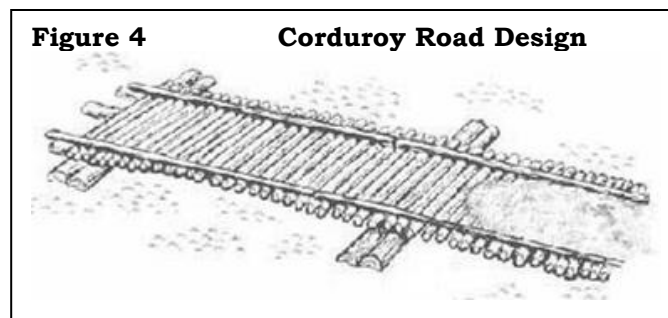
Question 25 on the April 2018 ORP survey asked respondents what improvements to motorized sports trails (ATV/UTV) were needed. There were 139 people that commented with specific ATV/UTV improvement ideas, and another 23 comments about improving snowmobiling.

The Oneida County Forest has a variety of un-marked roads. Some roads are available to all people powered and motorized uses. There may be opportunities to also create new roads that would connect existing spur roads. Since there are so many wetlands throughout the county, road development becomes more expensive due to establishing a good road base. Developing corduroy roads may be a solution for creating ATV/UTV trails over wet soils. A corduroy road or log road is a type of

road made by placing logs perpendicular to the direction of the road over a low or swampy area (**see Figure 4**). Gravel could be added to make the surface smoother.

Recommendation:

1. Review Q25 summary in Attachment A for specific snowmobile trail improvement suggestions.
2. As trail networks continue to be developed, trail development groups should come together to coordinate on mutually agreeable shared use plans at trail intersection and overlap sections (aka "pinch points").
3. Review a GIS coverage of all un-marked county forest roads that are open to all uses; consider mapping routes that would be useful to various uses; and work with trail development groups (motorized and silent sport) to install route signs.



Winter Silent Sport Trails

Question 21 on the April 2018 ORP survey asked respondents what improvements were needed at winter silent sport trails. There were 39 people that commented with specific improvement ideas.

Recommendation:

1. Maintain forest canopy near trails through selective cutting vs clear cutting.
2. Increase trail fees.
3. Increase winter maintenance of trails.

How to pay for it?

Snowmobile Trail Aids are paid through snowmobile registration, trail passes, and from gas to fill their tanks. Skiers also pay for gas to travel to trails. Snowmobilers create clubs to staff grooming equipment and pay for grooming equipment.

Maybe a recommendation for non-motorized groups is to:

- 3a. *Organize into friends groups to purchase grooming equipment and volunteer to maintain trails.*
- 3b. *Have these friends groups advocate for creation of a state excise tax on equipment purchases, similar to the Pittman-Robertson 11% excise tax on hunting equipment. (Bicycle registration has not worked in most states that tried it, so an excise tax is another option.) This would then create a similar funding mechanism that exists for snowmobile trail maintenance.*

Summer Silent Sport Trails

Question 29 on the April 2018 ORP survey asked respondents what improvements were needed at winter silent sport trails. There were 47 people that commented with specific improvement ideas.

Recommendation:

1. Develop easier mountain bike trails, or bypasses around highly technical sections of existing trails.
2. Cooperate with volunteer groups that agree to mow trails in summer (possibly a mix of volunteers and county support).

Rustic Camping

Camping is allowed in the County forest during the deer rifle hunting season. Campers must pre-register with the Department's office in the Oneida County Courthouse. Several comments on the 2018 online survey asked to establish rustic camping within the County.

Recommendation: Consider allowing rustic camping in the County forest year-round with pre-registration.

Be A Tourist in your own County

Many comments on the 2018 online survey asked for a variety of facilities that already exist in great supply within the County. Private vendors and non-profit clubs provide a wealth of outdoor recreation. Only if people seek out these resources through tourism websites will they find out what is already available in their back yard.

Recommendation #1: Visitors bureaus could consider a campaign for local residents to explore their own county.

Recommendation #2: FLRD could consider having a link to local visitors bureau websites on their own website under: "Parks and Recreation."

Hunting & Trapping

The Forestry Land and Recreation Department maintains approximately 40 miles of hiking/hunter walking trails for recreational purposes. These trails are located throughout the county forest. These trails are typically established on old logging roads that have been seeded with clover and are maintained to serve as wildlife travel paths and as walking trails for hunters and hikers.

This recommendation is to continue to manage the county forest for hunting and trapping opportunities, and to add summer maintenance of these trails so they can be used for summer hiking.

6.3 COUNTY FACILITY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS 2019–2023

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. Routine maintenance is considered the normal cycle of repair and upkeep for existing facilities. Routine maintenance does not increase the value or usefulness of the park, and is traditionally funded through the Oneida County Forestry, Land, and 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 restroom would be considered routine maintenance.

New Development – Gillette & Wickham Lakes (a.k.a. Twin Lakes Recreation Area Section 19, T35N-R9E).

1. Purchase land surrounding these two lakes;
2. Then invite the Town of Enterprise to participate in a planning process for developing recreational infrastructure on this land. The following bullet points are a preliminary list of possible capital improvements on the property:
 - Develop a public access road and parking area.
 - Develop a boat launch.
 - Install 2 ADA accessible fishing piers.
 - Develop a walking trail around the lakes.

Washburn Lake Silent Sports Area

- Develop 3 primitive/rustic campsites

Almond Park

- Re-build the existing swimming beach block retaining wall that was damaged from high water levels and freeze thaw cycles.
- Reconstruct nature trails to raise it above flood stage, and possibly widen trail for better ADA access and to accommodate bicycling in addition to walking.
- Install well for drinking water.

Perch Lake Park

- Maintain winter trails in the summer for mountain bikes (possibly a mix of volunteers and county support).
- Expand trail system (possibly a mix of volunteers and county support).

Chapter 7

LOCAL GOVERNMENT MANAGED OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITIES

7.1 INTRODUCTION

This section is an inventory of the existing public outdoor recreation facilities that are managed by federal, state, town, or city governments. Towns have also provided lists of what they wish to improve in the next five years.

The following inventory was added to provide a comprehensive view of publicly managed outdoor recreation facilities within Oneida County.

7.2 LINEAR FACILITIES

Chequamegon–Nicolet National Forest (Forest) ATV Policy

In 2004, the Forest revised its forest management plan. The revised plan contains a consistent ATV policy for both sides of the Forest:

- No off-road or off trail use allowed (implemented on June 14, 2004).
- New trail construction allowed for up to 100 miles of trail on the Chequamegon side, and up to 85 total miles on the Nicolet side. The Nicolet side covers Oneida County.
- All roads and trails closed to ATV use unless posted open with signs.
- All trails and Forest Service roads will be closed to ATV's every year from March 15 through April 30. Township designated roads are still open.
- No Intensive Use ("play areas") allowed on the Forest.
- Emergency closures can be issued locally where resources are being damaged or abused, or there are safety concerns.

All Forest Service roads that are open to ATV use are posted with signs. Also, maps containing information on areas open to ATV use can be obtained at Ranger District Offices.

Chequamegon – Nicolet National Forest (Non-motorized)

In addition to designated trails, all logging roads and undesignated/unmarked trails within the Nicolet National Forest are open to non-motorized public use unless otherwise posted.

Biking and Hiking Trails

Oneida County Countywide Biking and Walking Routes and Trails plan was last updated in 2010 with assistance from NCWRPC. This plan refers to potential routes for bike and pedestrian traffic using existing and proposed paths and trails. Existing and potential trails are shown on Map 2.

Rustic Roads

Rustic Roads 58 and 59 are a combination of Mercer Lake Road, Sutton Road, and Blue Lake Road near the intersection of STH 70 and USH 51, and are shown on Map 3. Rustic Roads are designated by the WisDOT Rustic Roads program. Additional Rustic Roads may be designated if they meet the criteria available online at:

<http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/travel/scenic/rusticroads.htm>

Water Trails

A water trail is a network of access points, resting places, and attractions for users of water craft on lakes and rivers. There are many streams and rivers providing canoeists 830 miles of routes in Oneida County.

All navigable water is available to canoe on according to the Public Trust Doctrine (Art. 1, §1, WI Constitution). Wisconsin law recognizes that owners of lands bordering lakes and rivers—riparian owners—hold rights in the water next to their property. These riparian rights include the use of the shoreline, reasonable use of the water, and a right to access the water. Members of the public may only use any exposed shore area of a stream without the permission of the riparian landowner if it is necessary to exit the body of water to bypass an obstruction. In addition, a member of the public may not enter the exposed shore area except from the water, from a point of public access on the stream, or with the permission of the riparian landowner. Obstructions could consist of trees or rocks, shallow water for boaters or deep water for wading trout anglers. The bypass can involve areas up to the ordinary high water mark and should be by the shortest possible route. Under this law, using the exposed shoreline for purposes such as picnicking and sunbathing is not allowed (Ch. 30.134, WI Stats.).

7.3 HISTORICAL MARKERS

A state historical marker titled: **Nicolet National Forest** is located off State Hwy 32, east of Three Lakes.

A state historical marker titled: **First Rural Zoning Ordinance** is located on the Oneida County Courthouse grounds, Rhinelander.

A state historical marker titled: **The Hodag** is located in Hodag Park, Rhinelander.

7.4 SCHOOL DISTRICT FACILITIES

Six school districts provide additional local recreation opportunities in Oneida County. School yards often have playgrounds with play equipment, ball diamonds, and basketball hoops. These neighborhood parks range in size from 1 to 15 acres. A few districts also have school forests that are open to the public for a variety of recreational and educational uses.

School Forests are listed for each district:

Minocqua, Hazelhurst, Lake Tomahawk (MHLT) School District

- MHLT School Forest, 40 acres, Sec. 34 T38N R6E; and

School District of Elcho

1. Elcho School Forest, 80 acres, E1/2 SW, sec. 30 T35N R10E
2. Elcho School Forest, 160 acres, NE1/4, sec. 29 T35N R11E

School District of Tomahawk

1. Tomahawk School Forest, 40 acres, SWSE, sec. 11, T35NR6E
2. Tomahawk School Forest, 40 acres, NWNE, sec. 27, T35NR6E

School District of Rhinelander

The School District of Rhinelander School Forest is the largest in Wisconsin, consisting of nine parcels ranging in size from 39 to 360 acres. The District has been managing these properties for over 70 years, with the help of a State Forester, Wildlife Biologist, and many other experts. School forest properties are utilized in many different ways. There are over 30 miles of trails for hiking, biking, snowshoeing, snowmobiling, and skiing, in the school forest for the whole community to enjoy. Hunting, fishing and geocaching are other activities that also take place on the district forest properties.

1. North Rifle Road S.F., 39 acres, ~NENW, sec. 4 T36NR8E
2. Flag Lake S.F., 53 acres, sec. 4 & 5 T36NR8E
3. Bullhead Lake S.F. 79 acres, S1/2SW, Sec. 3 T36NR9E
4. Cedric A. Vig Outdoor Classroom (CAVOC) 160-acres, NE1/4, sec 10, T36N R10E
CAVOC consists of Rominsky Lodge and classroom, outdoor pavilion, camp fire ring, silent sports area, primitive bog lake, high and low ropes challenge course, 5 miles of trails, paved handicapped accessible trails, hiking, biking, snowshoeing and groomed cross country ski tails, reserve and managed forest areas, lake vista, self guided nature trail, bog walk, osprey nesting platform, research projects, orienteering course, and many other education opportunities.
5. Flannery Lake S.F. 80 acres, N1/2SW, sec. 34, T37N R8E
6. Cross Country East S.F. 120 acres, sec.1, T37N R9E
7. Cross Country West S.F., 158 acres, sec 2 & 11, T37N R9E
8. Crystal Lake Road S.F., 160 acres, SW1/4, sec. 7 T37N R9E
9. Bear Trail Road S.F., 360 acres, sec 5, 7, 8, T37N R9E

Three Lakes School District

- Three Lakes School Forest, 34 acres, Sec. 32 T38N R11E;
- Gagen-Piehl School Forest, 40 acres, Sec. 29 T37N R11E; and
- Sugar Camp School Forest, 40 acres, Sec. 34 T38N R9E.

Woodruff School District

- Arbor Vitae-Woodruff School Forest, 22 acres, Sec. 20 T39N R7E.

7.5 CITY and TOWN FACILITIES

CITY OF RHINELANDER

The City of Rhinelander has their own outdoor recreation plan. City facilities are listed here for reference:

Hodag Park – The 25.2-acre park is located on Boom Lake, north of downtown. Facilities include the John T. Stafford Babe Ruth Field; Huber Little League Field; Mel Mode Little League Field; 3 picnic shelters with tables and grills; rest benches; an ADA accessible path; playground equipment; ADA accessible restrooms; ADA accessible fishing pier with path; boat landing with three launch piers; water ski show area with storage and concession building, 5 sets of bleachers, and ski jump; tennis court; two sand volleyball courts; and a swimming beach with pier, and ADA accessible changing and restroom building.

West Side Park – This 5.9-acre park is located on the northwest side of the Wisconsin River. Facilities include a ball field with four sets of bleachers, dugouts, and storage room; playground equipment; ADA accessible restroom; picnic tables and grills; and a BMX track with fencing and lighting (former ball field).

Sarocka Field – This 3-acre ball field is located on N Eastern Ave. Facilities include a sledding hill, tennis court, softball diamond, playground equipment, and picnic tables.

Pioneer Park Historical Complex – This 12.4-acre park is located along a former rail line several blocks south of the County Courthouse. Facilities include a logging museum w/ gift shop; historic train depot; one room school house museum; CCC museum; Duke's Outboard Motor Museum; tennis courts; the Virgil Hoffhein Softball Field that includes bleachers, dugouts, concession stand, scorekeepers stand, and scoreboard; restroom/ice skating warming room; three picnic shelters; picnic area with tables and grills; playground equipment; a second restroom (ADA accessible); benches; and a hockey rink.

Shepard Park – This 8.4-acre park is located on Boyce Dr (STH 17), and provides open space under a canopy of trees.

Pelican River Boat Landing – This 2.7-acre park is located on Boyce Dr (STH 17), in the former DNR ranger station. A boat launch is being developed in 2015.

Stevens Port Square – This 0.6-acre park is located on the southeast corner of Davenport St and Stevens St in downtown Rhinelander provides some benches in a landscaped area off the busy road.

Estabrook Green Space – This 0.3-acre park is located on the northwest corner of Rives St and Brown St in downtown Rhinelander provides some benches in a landscaped area off the busy road.

Band Shell – This 0.5-acre park is on the east bank of the Wisconsin River in downtown, just south of Davenport Street. A band shell exists along with a small lawn.

Rhinelanders Northwoods Golf Course and Cross-Country Ski Trail – This public golf course is owned by the City of Rhinelander and is located along USH 8 by the airport. Facilities include an 18-hole golf course, a clubhouse with restaurant, locker rooms, and pro shop; a tubing hill exists in winter; along with groomed cross-country ski trails.

Proposed Projects for 2019-2023

See the Rhinelander Outdoor Recreation Plan.

TOWN OF CASSIAN

Bearskin State Trail – This is an 18-mile former railroad bed covered in crushed granite for use by hikers, bikers, and snowmobilers. The DNR owns and maintains the trail.

Cassian Ski Trail – The 15-mile 2-way trail runs from Hwy K to north of Alva Lake. There are wildlife viewing areas off of both Swamp Lake Road and County Highway Y. Town owned and maintained.

Public Access:

The Town of Cassian owns and maintains boat accesses on East Horsehead Lake, West Horsehead Lake, and Little Bearskin Lake. County Forestry Department owned and maintained boat access exists on Timber Lake, Spruce Lake, and Goodyear Lake. The State of Wisconsin owns and maintains boat accesses to Long Lake and Big Bearskin Lake.

Other Facilities:

The Cassian-Woodboro School has a soccer field and baseball diamond, outdoor basketball court, and a playground area. The Sand Lake beach has changing rooms, restrooms, and a beach for swimming. Faith Lutheran Church has a playground that is available to residents after school hours.

Proposed Projects for 2019-2023: None.

TOWN OF CRESCENT

The Town maintains a boat access on the south shore of Squash Lake with a gravel parking area.

Proposed Projects for 2019-2023

None.

TOWN OF ENTERPRISE

Keeler Landing – The Town maintains this boat landing with outhouse.

The WDNR has a boat landing and pier.

Proposed Projects for 2019-2023

None.

TOWN OF HAZELHURST

Hazelhurst Town Park – Located on Yawkey Street next to the old Town Hall, this park offers a paved tennis court, a ball diamond, playground, restrooms, and picnic area.

Lake Katherine Beach Park – Located on Oneida Street, this park includes a playground, swimming area with on-duty lifeguard from Memorial Day to Labor Day, a public boat landing, picnic areas, and covered pavilion.

McCormick Lake Landing – The Town maintains this small boat landing. Lake residents primarily use this landing, and the launching pier and pit toilet are maintained by the lake association.

Bike Trails – The Bearskin State Trail, maintained by the DNR, runs north to south through the town. There are also two bike trails maintained by the DNR that connect to Highway 51: one on Oneida Street and the other along Lee Road.

Proposed Projects for 2019-2023

None.

TOWN OF LAKE TOMAHAWK

Rainbow Park – Facilities include picnic area, accessible restrooms, parking lot, storage shed, and a ball diamond with fencing, dugout and bleachers with lighting.

Snowshoe Park – Facilities include a large picnic shelter with concession and food area, restrooms, playground, basketball hoop; lighted ball diamond with fencing, bleachers, and announcer stand/scoring booth; ice-skating rink with storage shed and lighting system.

Lake Tomahawk Park – Facilities include a picnic area with 6 tables and 4 grills; paved parking; security lights; public restroom, sand volleyball court, and swimming beach with launching pier, map board, sign for launch fees, and collection box.

Bearfoot Park – Facilities include a pull-off graveled parking area from the highway, picnic tables and grills, a slide & swing set, American flag, and sculpture.

The town's outdoor recreational facilities are complemented by facilities in the Northern Highland – American Legion State Forest. DNR facilities within the town include campgrounds, groomed cross-country ski trails, a nature interpretive trail, and numerous boat landings. The Wisconsin Valley Improvement Company maintains boat landings and a river access at the nearby Rainbow Flowage.

Proposed Projects for 2019-2023

None.

TOWN OF LITTLE RICE

Willow Flowage Scenic Waters Area

(Described under “State Facilities.”)

Lynne-Little Rice County Forest Block

(Described under “County Facilities.”)

TOWN OF LYNNE

Town of Lynne Park – The Town maintains a park area adjacent to the Town Hall that includes a lighted basketball court, a ball diamond, and a picnic pavilion. Next to the park, a local sports club operates a trap shooting range and a local ATV trail.

The town also maintains a boat access on Pier Lake.

Proposed Projects for 2019-2023

None.

TOWN OF MINOCQUA

Minocqua Park Complex – This former “Circle M Corral” property of 27 acres, located at 10295 Highway 70 West, has the following facilities: 4 baseball fields with concession stand, two sand volleyball courts, football/soccer field, playground, covered pavilion with kitchen and ADA accessible restrooms, and multipurpose green space.

Minocqua Ball Park – This park is located on Highway 51 South. Facilities include baseball field, playground, sand volleyball court and rest rooms. The park also serves as the staging area for the Minocqua 4th of July Parade.

Bearskin Trailhead Park – This park is located behind the U.S. Post Office, is jointly Town and DNR property, and serves as the trailhead for the Bearskin State Trail. The property connects to a scenic trestle with overlooks of Lake Minocqua. The park also includes restrooms and picnic areas.

Aqua Bowl – This facility is located at 395 W Park Ave. This is the site of the longest-running water ski show in the nation and includes bleachers, rest rooms and concession.

Cedar Park – This half-acre wooded shoreline park is located east of the Minocqua Center on Lake Minocqua. This park has landscaping, a walkway down the slope to the lake, a picnic table, and pier for fishing and docking.

Dorwin Park – This ½ acre park is located in downtown at 503 Flambeau St. on the grounds of the Minocqua Museum. Facilities include a shelter, benches, planters, and walkways.

Fishing Pier – The Town of Minocqua maintains an extensive, lighted, handicapped accessible fishing pier, and non-accessible dock for 14 boats, adjacent to U.S. Highway 51 bridge on Lake Minocqua. This fishing pier and dock were formerly the Highway 51 bridge. The pier is well used by the public and has 11 asphalt public parking spots, hand railings with slots for wheelchair accessible fishing, over 5,400 square feet of deck on the pier and a section of decking that is wheelchair friendly.

Veterans Park – This ½ acre park located on 230 Front Street has year-round ADA accessible restrooms, benches, and a small pavilion area. A Memorial Day ceremony is held here annually.

Minocqua Winter Park – This 40 acre park is owned by the Town, and has access to over 6,500 acres of wilderness area. The park includes over 105 km of trails; 72 km of 12-foot to 30-foot wide trails groomed for skating and striding, 16 km of narrow trails groomed for striding only, 16 km of snowshoe trails, and a telemark hill. A variety of activities are available in the winter—cross country skiing, tubing, skijoring (skiing with dogs), snow shoeing, sleigh rides, and ice skating pond. The heated chalet has restrooms, concession, equipment rental and sales, and a waxing room. On-site parking exists, along with a storage shed for the tubing equipment, and a garage to

store grooming vehicles for snowmobiling and cross-country skiing.

Torpy Beach and Park – This 4 acre park, located in downtown at 705 Hwy 51, includes a beach, restrooms, pavilion, concession, picnic shelters, grills and tables, tennis courts, playground, sand volleyball court, parking area, stone paths, ice skating rink during the winter months and warming area.

Other Recreational Facilities:

- **Minocqua Gun Club** – This facility is located 1.5 miles south of the bridge on Hwy 51 on Gun Club Road. A clubhouse exists, along with four trap fields, a skeet range, sporting clays, a wobble trap, and double birds. Minocqua Gun Club is a not-for-profit, public shooting facility.
- **Lakeland Ice Arena** – The Lakeland Hawks Ice Arena is a non-profit skating facility that supports the development of skating among people of all ages and abilities. The Arena offers various programs for youth to adults including hockey leagues, open skating, figure skating, and learn to skate programs. A new outdoor ice rink has recently been added to the facility. Located at 7961 Old Highway 51.
- **Schlecht Lake Ski Trail** – This WDNR maintained 10km trail has 3 km lit for night skiing in winter, and is available for hiking in summer. This trail's natural grassy knolls wind around three lakes and through hardwood forests, making it a spectacular sight in the fall. Located on Leary Rd., just south of downtown Minocqua.

Public Access Points to Water Bodies:

There are several public accesses/landings maintained by the Town of Minocqua. Three accesses to Lake Minocqua are located on the "Island"; others include Bear Lake, Squirrel Lake, Swamsauger Lake, Squaw Lake, Buckskin Lake, Thoroughfare Channel, and many other undeveloped accesses.

Proposed Projects for 2019-2023

- Rehabilitate Public Fishing Pier.
- Adopt Master Plan elements for Torpy Park.
- Widen Old Highway 70 to include 4-foot bike lanes on each side
- Develop bicycle/pedestrian trail along Highway 70 from S Morgan Road to Minocqua Park Complex
- Coordinate with DNR and property owners to promote recreational use of the Tomahawk River (canoe/kayak routes)
- Streetscaping and beautification of the portion of W Milwaukee Street connecting main street to performing arts center

TOWN OF MONICO

All facilities in the Town of Monico are ADA accessible.

Lake Venus – This facility includes swim ropes and buoys, beach, picnic tables, grills, a unisex toilet, and benches.

Mars Lake Boat Landing – This facility includes a launch area and asphalt parking lot.

Town Hall Park – This park is next to the town hall. Park facilities include a basketball court and benches, surfaced play area, skatepark, and playground.

Public accesses exist on Neptune, Mars, Venus, and Tank Lakes. There is public access to Lake Venus for swimming, but no boat access.

Proposed Projects for 2019-2023

- Pavilion to be constructed.
- Add fishing pier.

TOWN OF NEWBOLD

Town Hall / Fire Department Park – located at 4608 Apperson Drive has a two-section picnic/cooking shelter, picnic tables, and playground with swings, slide, & climbing equipment.

Newbold Trail – An eight-mile hiking/bike trail that uses both on-road and off-road routes. Drinking water is available at the fire station.

Newbold Memorial Park – located at 6839 Black Lake Road, is a 2 acre park. Facilities include a canoe landing, fishing area, outhouse, and a picnic shelter.

Two Sisters Lake – Facilities include a boat landing, parking area, and 2 vault toilets on Young's Landing Road.

The Stone Lake area is managed by the DNR as a hunting trail system.

Newbold Outdoor Recreation Area – located at 6954 Ole Lake Road, is about a 34 acre recreation area. Facilities include a 18-hole disc golf course, a 1.4 mile hiking and snowshoe trail with a butterfly garden and wildlife viewing areas. A gravel parking area exists, along with 2 vault toilets (one of which is ADA accessible).

Proposed Projects for 2019-2023

- Add drinking water and electrical service at Newbold Outdoor Recreation Area.
- Install bike racks at town parks and facilities.
- Bike trail upgrades and expansion.
- Develop a pickleball court.

TOWN OF NOKOMIS

Town Hall Park – This 2-acre park is located next to the Nokomis Town Hall and is on the Bearskin State Trail. Facilities include a large meeting room within the town hall that can be rented along with ADA accessible restrooms, a variety of playground equipment, 2 picnic shelters with tables, and a large paved parking lot.

Nokomis Community Park – This 34-acre park is located at the intersection of County Highway L and Cougar Lane. The Nokomis Fire Department also exists on this parcel. Park facilities include a large picnic pavilion with potable water, a ¾-mile walking trail with benches, 18-hole disk golf course, 3 fenced ball fields with dugouts and bleachers, horseshoe pits, volleyball court, basketball court, and restrooms.

County L/Highway 51 Wayside Park – This 1.17-acre park is located on County Highway L just off of USH 51. Features include trout fishing access to Bearskin Creek, picnic tables, grills, and a small pavilion.

Mary's Park – This is a 21.85-acre dog park located at 2099 River Road. Park features include a ¾ mile crushed granite covered nature walking trail, a large fenced in dog exercise area, picnic pavilion with tables, potable water, and ADA restrooms.

Point Road West Boat Launch – This 20-foot wide graveled public launch provides access to Lake Nokomis.

Jenny Lake Boat Launch – This 66-foot wide graveled public launch has parking and provides access to Oscar Jenny Lake.

Rice Reservoir Public Landing and Picnic Area – This landing is located on County Highway N and is maintained by Wisconsin Valley Improvement Company (WVIC). Facilities include a paved boat landing with large concrete launch pad, picnic tables, and toilets.

Proposed Projects for 2019-2023

Community Park

- Improvements to the pavilion to make it usable during foul weather – possibly adding garage doors.
- Construction of a new ADA accessible restroom.

- Walking trail improvements
 - Relocating parts of the existing walking trail so that it becomes a completely off-road trail. Currently it passes through a parking lot and is part of a town road.
 - Relocate trail so that all the parks facilities are along the trail, thus providing ADA access to the pavilion and restrooms.
- Improve ball field.
- Landscaping improvements to ensure proper water drainage.
- Relocation of trees in the park and disk golf areas.

Mary's Park

- Improvements to the walking trail and parking lot, adding crushed granite base.
- Thinning of jack pine to allow hardwoods to continue growing, and replant hardwoods.

Town Hall Park

- Removal and replacement of worn-out playground equipment.
- Reconstruction of pavilion areas.

Potential New Projects:

- Development of a ATV/Snowmobile parking area next to DNR land along the Tomahawk River, located at the intersection of Peaceful Lane and Prairie Rapids Road. This would serve a safe area for users to access the trail systems.
- Develop a green area located in the cul-de-sac of Hazy Bay Road.
- Paving of both boat landings (Point Road West Boat Launch and Jenny Lake Boat Launch) with concrete launch pads.

The Town of Nokomis would like to see more interest/funding on behalf of the State/County of the Bearskin Trail, which would facilitate a complete safe connection through the Town.

TOWN OF PELICAN

The Town of Pelican has a swimming beach and picnic area by the Town Hall.

Proposed Projects for 2019-2023

None.

TOWN OF PIEHL

The town maintains two boat launches; one on Ginty Lake off of Ginty Lake Rd, and another launch on Margaret Lake off of Boat Landing Rd. Neither launch is rated as ADA accessible.

Proposed Projects for 2019-2023

The town of Piehl has no parks projects planned for the next 5 years.

TOWN OF PINE LAKE

The Town of Pine Lake has four boat launches: one on Moen Lake off of Lakeshore Dr., one on Boom Lake off of Moonlite Bay Rd., and two on the Wisconsin River via River Rd.

Town of Pine Lake Park – The Town maintains this park that is located on Trails End Road. This park features playground equipment, softball diamond with dugouts and fencing, sand volleyball court, small basketball surface and hoop, picnic tables, walking trails, restroom facility and parking.

Proposed Projects for 2019-2023

- Upgrade Moen Lake Landing;
- Upgrade and enhance Town of Pine Lake Park (see Pine Lake Town Park Concept Plan):
 - Install additional playground equipment
 - Restore softball infield and outfield
 - Create and surface 2nd parking area
 - Restore Sand Volleyball Court
 - Build walking trails throughout park
 - Build Shelter House for neighborhood and family gatherings
 - Enhance and/or build new bathroom facilities
 - Enhance lighting and signage

Contact the Town for a larger version of the Pine Lake Town Park Concept Plan map:



TOWN OF SCHOEPKE

Youth Ball Park – This park is located near the town hall and has a youth ball field.

Three boat launches are maintained by the Town on Pelican Lake.

Other Recreational Facilities:
Mecikalski Stovewood Museum

Demonstration Buffer Zone project located adjacent to town hall on Pelican Lake with small park area that has picnic tables and a Little Free Library.

Proposed Projects for 2019-2023

None.

TOWN OF STELLA

The Town of Stella currently has no land designated for public parks. All outdoor recreation needs are located at facilities existing within Oneida County.

TOWN OF SUGAR CAMP

Town of Sugar Camp/Lions Park – This 50-acre park is located at 4059 Camp Four Road. Facilities include three ball fields with lighting and bleachers on two fields; two soccer fields with fencing along west side; two basketball courts with lights and fencing; lighted tennis courts; concession stand/announcer booth; ADA accessible playground equipment; picnic shelter; pavilion with kitchen, bathroom facilities, concession stand, picnic area; horseshoe pits; two lighted volleyball courts; asphalt parking lot; restroom; drinking fountain; and 18-hole disc golf course with concrete pads.

Sugar Camp Lake Beaches – This 1.06-acre park is located off of Hwy 17. Facilities include a beach area, off-highway parking, a unisex bathroom and changing room, and park benches.

Boat landings are located on Chain, Indian, Lily Bass, Jennie Webber, and Sand Lakes.

Proposed Projects for 2019-2023

No plans at this time.

TOWN OF THREE LAKES

None of the various park facilities are ADA accessible.

Don Burnside Recreational Park – This 40 acre park is located on County Highway A at 6931 Stanzil Street. Facilities include one baseball and two softball/little league diamonds with dugouts, bleachers and fencing, one diamond also includes lighting and an electric scoreboard; two T-ball backstops/fields; multipurpose field used for soccer; full-sized basketball court; heated indoor/outdoor pavilion with restrooms, picnic and folding tables; restroom & shelter building with drinking fountain, and concession/announcer stand located by the lighted ball diamond; five tennis courts with lighting; lighted basketball court; playground equipment; soccer goals; paved parking area; and snowmobile storage room/cook shack facility and announcer stand in the connected Snowmobile Park area.

Cy Williams Park – This 2 acre park is located at 7017 Park Street. Facilities include a playground, swimming beach and pier, restroom/changing room facility, picnic shelter with 10 picnic tables and electrical outlet, grill, benches, and paved parking.

Phyllis B. Felland Memorial Water Ski Park – Facilities include a log toilet facility/shelter with drinking water fountain, bleachers and announcer stand, storage building/concession stand with electric hookups, and a large pier.

Three Eagle Trail – The southern segment of the trail is 8.4 miles long, ten feet wide and surfaced with crushed limestone. The trail also includes two boardwalks and one bridge.

Proposed Projects for 2019-2023

Don Burnside Recreational Park

- Build new concession stand,
- Develop a shared tennis/pickle ball court,
- Upgrade the park's electrical service.

Develop a new dog park, potentially off of Epler Court.

TOWN OF WOODBORO

Hancock Lake boat landing and parking lot.

Manson Lake boat landing and parking lot.

Washburn Lake boat landing and parking lot.

Proposed Projects for 2019-2023

- Woodboro Lakes Wildlife Area – ATV trail;
- Oneida Lake – walk-in trail access;
- Manson Lake – boat launch; and
- Washburn Lake – boat launch.

TOWN OF WOODRUFF

Brandy Park – The Town of Woodruff and the Town of Arbor Vitae joined to establish the Brandy Park Commission to manage the development and maintenance of the co-owned Brandy Park. This park has the following facilities: two baseball fields with fencing and bleachers; soccer field with lighting; large shelter building with grills and picnic tables; two tennis courts; two sand volleyball courts; paved full basketball court with fencing; an extensive series of playground equipment including a well landscaped fenced-in area for younger children; swimming beach with pier and lifeguard stand; changing house & restroom facility; shoreline picnic area with tables, grills and rest benches; and paved walkway from shelter to beach parking area. Winter facilities include ice skating rink with a warming house and restrooms.

The Town's outdoor recreation facilities are augmented by facilities provided by the Northern Highland–American Legion State Forest, the local school system, numerous private resorts and attractions, and youth camps. The WDNR maintains public campground facilities at Lake Cunard, Carrol Lake, Clear Lake, Tomahawk Lake, and Buffalo Lake within the Town of Woodruff. The Raven Trail system and the Madeline Lake Trail system are groomed cross-country ski trails maintained by the WDNR. Boat landings provided by the WDNR exist on Minocqua, Tomahawk, Clear, Madeline, Carrol, Dorothy, Sweeney, Cunard, Hasbrook, Gilmore, and Buffalo lakes.

Proposed Projects for 2019-2023

None.

7.6 STATE FACILITIES

Each listing is located on Map 3.

State Wildlife Areas

State wildlife areas were acquired by the state to protect and manage important habitat for wildlife and to preserve unique wild land features for hikers, wildlife watchers, hunters, trappers, and all people interested in the out-of-doors. Wildlife areas have only minor facility development like a very small gravel parking lot.

The following wildlife areas are owned by the State of Wisconsin and managed by the Department of Natural Resources. There are no federal wildlife areas in Oneida County:

Thunder Lake Wildlife Area located 1 mile north of Three Lakes is a public hunting area that consists of 3,000 acres. The following recreational opportunities exist at Thunder Lake Wildlife Area: hunting (except the Waterfowl Closed Area around Rice Lake), trapping, hiking, snowmobiling trail, auto travel, berry picking, wildlife viewing, bird watching, and canoeing.

Woodboro Wildlife Area located about 10 miles west of Rhinelander is a public hunting area that consists of 3,000 acres. The following recreational opportunities exist at Woodboro Wildlife Area: hunting, trapping, hiking, snowmobiling trail, auto travel (high clearance and four-wheel drive vehicles—no ATVs), berry picking, wildlife viewing, bird watching, and canoeing.

State Natural Areas (SNA)

State natural areas were acquired to protect the state's natural diversity, provide sites for research and environmental education, and serve as benchmarks for assessing and guiding use of other lands in the state. Natural areas are defined as tracts of land or water, which have native biotic communities, unique natural features, or significant geological or archeological sites. These sites do not have much facility development, though there may be a designated trail on the site.

The restrictions and guidelines that follow are applicable to most SNAs. The complete guidelines for visiting SNAs is on the DNRs website.

- Most SNAs are open to the public year around unless otherwise noted in the SNA site descriptions or posted at the site. SNAs within State Parks are generally open between 6:00 A.M. and 11:00 P.M.
- Vehicles, including bicycles, ATVs, aircraft, and snowmobiles, are prohibited except on trails and roadways designated for their use. Access is only by foot, skis, snowshoes, and watercraft. Some trails are wheelchair accessible.
- Pets are allowed on most DNR-owned SNAs. Dogs must be kept on a leash no longer than 8', unless they are being used for hunting purposes in areas that are open to hunting during the established season. Pets are prohibited on sites owned by The Nature Conservancy and most other private conservation organizations. Horseback riding is not allowed.
- Fishing, trapping, and hunting are allowed on most DNR-owned properties in accordance with state regulations.
- *Additional guidelines on the DNR website.*

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) listed twenty-three SNAs within Oneida County. Each site has a DNR identification (**No.**), and is shown on Map 1 in the order found below (for example: #1 on Map 1 will represent Atkins Lake SNA).

1. **Atkins Lake & Hiles Swamp SNA (No. 238)** is 2,527 acres partially located in the Town of Piehl.
2. **Big Swamp SNA (No. 512)** is 2,914 acres located within the Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest in the Town of Sugar Camp.
3. **Enterprise Hemlocks SNA (No. 608)** is 601 acres located within the Town of Enterprise.
4. **Finnerud Pine Forest SNA (No. 31)** is an UW-Madison Arboretum holding of old growth red pine. Contact the Arboretum at 608-263-7344 for access permission.
5. **Germain Hemlocks SNA (No. 355)** is 88 acres located in the Town of Cassian.
6. **Gobler Lake SNA (No. 115)** is 1,085 acres located in the Town of Little Rice.
7. **Holmboe Conifer Forest SNA (No. 79)** is 33 acres located in the Town of Pelican.
8. **Lower Tomahawk River Pines SNA (No. 588)** is 242 acres located in the Town of Nokomis.
9. **One Stone Lake Hemlocks SNA (No. 629)** is 342 acres located near Columbus Lake in the Town of Sugar Camp.
10. **Pat Shay Lake SNA (No. 446)** is 736 acres partially located within the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest in the Town of Three Lakes.
11. **Patterson Hemlocks SNA (No. 216)** is 304 acres located in the Town of Minocqua.
12. **Rainbow Wetlands SNA (No. 513)** is 2,357 acres located within the Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest in the Town of Newbold.
13. **Rice Lake SNA (No. 40)** is 1,242 acres located in the Thunder Lake Wildlife Area.
14. **Shallow Lake SNA (No. 514)** is 103 acres located within the Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest in the Town of Newbold.
15. **Spur Lake SNA (No. 537)** is 426 acres located in the Town of Three Lakes.
16. **Squirrel River Pines SNA (No. 244)** is 1,363 acres located in the Town of Minocqua.
17. **Stone Lake Pines SNA (No. 185)** is 206 acres located within the Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest in the Town of Sugar Camp.
18. **Sugar Camp Hemlocks SNA (No. 594)** is 80 acres located near Thunder Lake in the Town of Sugar Camp.
19. **Tomahawk Lake Hemlocks SNA (No. 510)** is 244 acres located within the Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest in the Town of Lake Tomahawk.
20. **Tomahawk River Pines SNA (No. 239)** is 1,040 acres located in the Town of Minocqua.
21. **Two Lakes Pine-Oak Forest SNA (No. 511)** is 112 acres located within the Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest in the Town of Lake Tomahawk.
22. **Wind Pudding Lake SNA (No. 188)** is 340 acres located within the Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest in the Town of Lake Tomahawk.
23. **Upper Kaubashine Creek SNA (No. 650)** is 264 acres located within the Town of Hazelhurst.

State Forest

The ***Northern Highland-American Legion (NH-AL) State Forest*** occupies more than 225,000 acres in Vilas, Oneida and Iron counties. Outdoor recreational opportunities are diverse and abundant on the Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest.

Visitors are drawn to the forest's **water resources**. The forest is blessed with one of the highest concentrations of lakes in the world, making sport fishing a major recreational activity.

Camping is another popular activity on the NH-AL. The forest offers 18 family campgrounds, plus two outdoor group camping areas. Two handicap accessible sites (one at Crystal Lake Campground and one at Firefly) have electrical hook-ups, and four campgrounds in all offer special facilities for disabled campers. In addition, 131 canoe and remote-reservable campsites are scattered throughout the forest for people wanting more private and primitive camping conditions. Backpack camping is also allowed by permit and deer hunter camping is seasonally available.

The forest has many **day use areas and trails**, including eight developed picnic areas; five interpretive nature trails totaling nearly eight miles in length; and three designated hiking trails totaling 18.5 miles. Other designated trails include 32 miles of mountain bike trails, 70 miles of cross-country ski trails and about 400 miles of snowmobile trails.

Recreational opportunities may be found on the forest at-large, in addition to those available at developed facilities. There are abundant small- and big-game **hunting and trapping opportunities**.

Hundreds of miles of logging roads and non-designated trails are open to all types of non-motorized uses, like hiking, skiing, horseback riding and mountain biking. Some unimproved roads are open and accessible to licensed motor vehicles, as well.

Finally, the NH-AL provides "**wild land**" recreation for those seeking a pristine and quiet backcountry experience in areas with few support facilities, motorized vehicles, or signs of management activities.

Scenic Waters Area

The ***Willow Flowage Scenic Waters Area*** is described as "almost Canada," because this flowage in Oneida County has a wild flavor. The area has more than 17,000 acres, 73 miles of shoreline, 106 islands, and seven boat landings. Rustic campsites around the shoreline and on the islands offer scenery and solitude. There are abundant walleye and panfish; northern pike, muskellunge, and bass; hunting and hiking opportunities; deer, bear, ruffed grouse, ducks, loons, and wolves.

7.7 FEDERAL FACILITIES

About 17,280 acres of the **Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest (Forest)** are located in Oneida County. Many outdoor recreational opportunities are available on the Forest that mainly exists within Forest County and Vilas County. No developed Forest recreational areas exist within Oneida County.

Recreational opportunities found on the Forest at-large include small- and big-game **hunting and trapping opportunities**. Hundreds of miles of logging roads and non-designated trails are open to all types of non-motorized uses, like **hiking, skiing, horseback riding and mountain biking**. Some unimproved roads are open and accessible to licensed motor vehicles, as well. Finally, the Forest provides **wilderness** recreation for those seeking a pristine and quiet backcountry experience in areas with few support facilities, motorized vehicles, or signs of management activities.

Wilderness Areas are the federal version of the state natural areas program. No federal wilderness areas exist in Oneida County.

7.8 FORESTED LANDS – NOT STATE or COUNTY OWNED

The forested lands in Oneida County are comprised of county forest, state lands, and private lands held by individuals and corporations. Most corporate lands are enrolled in either the Forest Crop Law or the Managed Forest Law. Currently, lands can only be re-enrolled in Managed Forest Law.

Under the Forest Crop Law (FCL) 6,964 acres are open to the public to hunt and fish as of 2018. Of the 198,003 acres enrolled as of 2018 in the Managed Forest Law (MFL) program 140,802 acres are open to the public for hunting, fishing, cross-country skiing, sightseeing, and hiking, and the remaining acres 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.

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

Chapter 8

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

8.1 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, adopting techniques to carry out the general recommendations, and to move towards attainment of the goals and objectives set forth in Chapter 6.

8.2 IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

The following strategies are listed in alphabetical order.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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:

Community Services Specialist
Rhineland Service Center
107 Sutliff Ave
Rhineland, WI 54501

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

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.

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. Forest 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.

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. Recreation facilities like golf courses and swimming pools, for example, require large annual maintenance investments.

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.

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.

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.

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 Oneida County to find out about their development standards.

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.

Public Access via Subdivision Regulations (Platting Lands)

Lake and stream shore plats can provide public access to the adjacent water bodies. The Wisconsin Statutes 236.16(3) require that all subdivisions abutting a navigable lake or stream provide at least a sixty-foot-wide access to the low watermark from existing public roads at not more than one-half mile intervals (excluding shore areas where public parks or open-space streets are provided).

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.

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.

Chapter 9

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 improvements by the Oneida County Forestry, Land & Recreation Committee will keep this plan current. This review may also occur after a large turn over in elected officials after a local election.

Process:

1. Oneida County Forestry, Land, & Outdoor Recreation Committee reviews plan and takes a vote on what changes to make.
2. County Board adopts changes by resolution.
3. Those changes and a copy of the approval resolution are forwarded to the DNR's Community Financial Assistance staff in Rhineland. Submission of the changes and resolution automatically constitutes DNR grant eligibility for those changes.

Conducting a **full plan update every five years** is required by the DNR to maintain the county's eligibility for grant programs.

Submission of 1) the revised plan, and 2) the County Board resolution approving the plan, to the DNR is the final step to extending the ORP for another 5 years. DNR approval of the ORP will come if the correct process was followed.

ATTACHMENT A

Outdoor Recreation Online Survey Results

Compiled by: NCWRPC

2018 Oneida County Outdoor Recreation Plan (ORP)

Survey Results Summary

In the spring of 2018 NCWRPC mailed survey notices to each town, and either emailed or mailed survey notices to a whole list of outdoor recreation groups provided by the Oneida County Forestry, Land, and Recreation Department (FLRD). The survey was also available via a link on the Oneida County FLRD's website and on NCWRPC's website.

We received 676 responses to the Survey. This survey was sent out for customer feedback and is not statistically significant. Listening to the public's thoughts gives valuable perspectives for use in developing this outdoor recreation plan. Respondents were allowed to skip questions, so several questions had smaller response groups.

About 77% of respondents answered the question about living in Oneida County or having a summer home in the County – with most of them (76.9%) “living” in the County; and 79 people marked what zip code they live at. Most municipalities were represented, with the towns of Minocqua, Three Lakes, and Lake Tomahawk all having at least 10% of respondents. See Q36 results for other municipal percentages.

Through an IP address analysis of who took the survey it appears that 53 IP addresses are at least duplicated, which could mean that a husband and wife both took the survey. One IP address repeated 5 times, and another 3 IP addresses repeated 3 times. So it appears that nobody “stuffed the ballot box.”

A majority of the respondents were male (68% male, 31% female). Respondents came from all age groups, with a strong showing of at least 20% in the 45 to 54 age group, the 55 to 64 age group, and the More than 64 age group.

For the full survey results (113 pages) go online here:

<http://www.ncwrpc.org/oneida/orp/>

Key Findings of the ORP Survey:

- The most frequent outdoor recreational activities respondents participated in:
 1. Boating 75% of responses
 2. Walking/hiking 67% of responses
 3. Fishing 63% of responses
 4. ATV / UTV / OHM Riding 60% of responses
 5. Snowmobiling 59% of responses
- What potential outdoor recreational opportunities should be developed in Oneida County?
 1. ATV/UTV trails/routes 321 responses
 2. Mtn. Bike/Bike trails/routes 137 responses

3. Hiking/walking area/trails 50 responses
4. Snowmobile trails/routes 45 responses
5. Cross country skiing 28 responses
6. Campgrounds 23 responses
7. Winter fat bike 18 responses
8. Snowshoe trails 18 responses
9. Boat access/launches 17 responses
10. Fishing 17 responses
11. More public hunting land 17 responses
12. Dog friendly places 13 responses
13. Canoe/kayak 11 responses
14. Remote camping 9 responses
15. Shooting range 9 responses
16. More festivals 8 responses
17. Swimming beaches 7 responses
18. Bird watching 7 responses
19. Develop Heal Creek property 7 responses

Questions 3 through 14 are for specific county parks or campgrounds.

- Each Committee member received the full 113 page summary, which is also available here: <http://www.ncwrpc.org/oneida/orp/>

Q6 What improvements would you like in Almon County Park?

Answered: 45 people. (# of responses) Most common sentiments:

(6) Repair current trails from high water damage. Nature trails under water and no repairs.

(5) It's pretty good.

Bike related:

(3) Bike trails to connect to Rhinelander.

(2) Allow bikes on trails.

(1) Separate mountain bike and fat bike trails groomed in the winter.

(1) Potable drinking water needed – no place to get a drink if you are biking and stopping by the park or for any other activity.

(3) More nature trails; nature trails with descriptions.

(3) Upgrade the bathrooms. Better changing rooms – a hook would be nice.

(2) Update facilities.

(2) Allow dogs to go swimming.

(2) ATV and snowmobile facilities.

(2) Open fairways on disk golf course.

Q10 What improvements would you like in Perch Lake County Park?

Answered: 115 people. (# of responses) Most common sentiments:

(57) Never been there.

(20) Trail improvements. (4 of 20) Mow ski trail more frequently in summer.

- More entry level bicycle trails.

- Improved trail signs for not getting lost.

- The snowshoe trails should be [non-motorized] multi use trails.

- More trails for skiing and mountain bikes.

(9) I like it as is. Thanks for recent improvements.

(5) Larger parking lot.

(5) Better forest management. Have loggers do a nicer job when doing a cut so it doesn't look like a storm blew through. Ran into some confusion when logger's paint slashes were same color as red trail marks.

(4) ATV access.

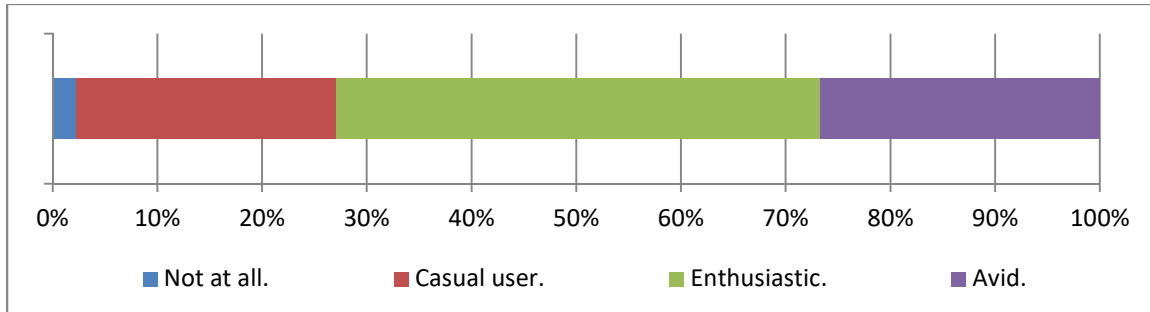
Q14 What improvements would you like in Enterprise Campground?

Answered: 9 people. (# of responses) Most common sentiments:

(9) Various responses.

Q15 What type of water enthusiast are you?

Answered: 540 people.



Not at all. (I'm not interested in water recreation at all, not even with friends.)

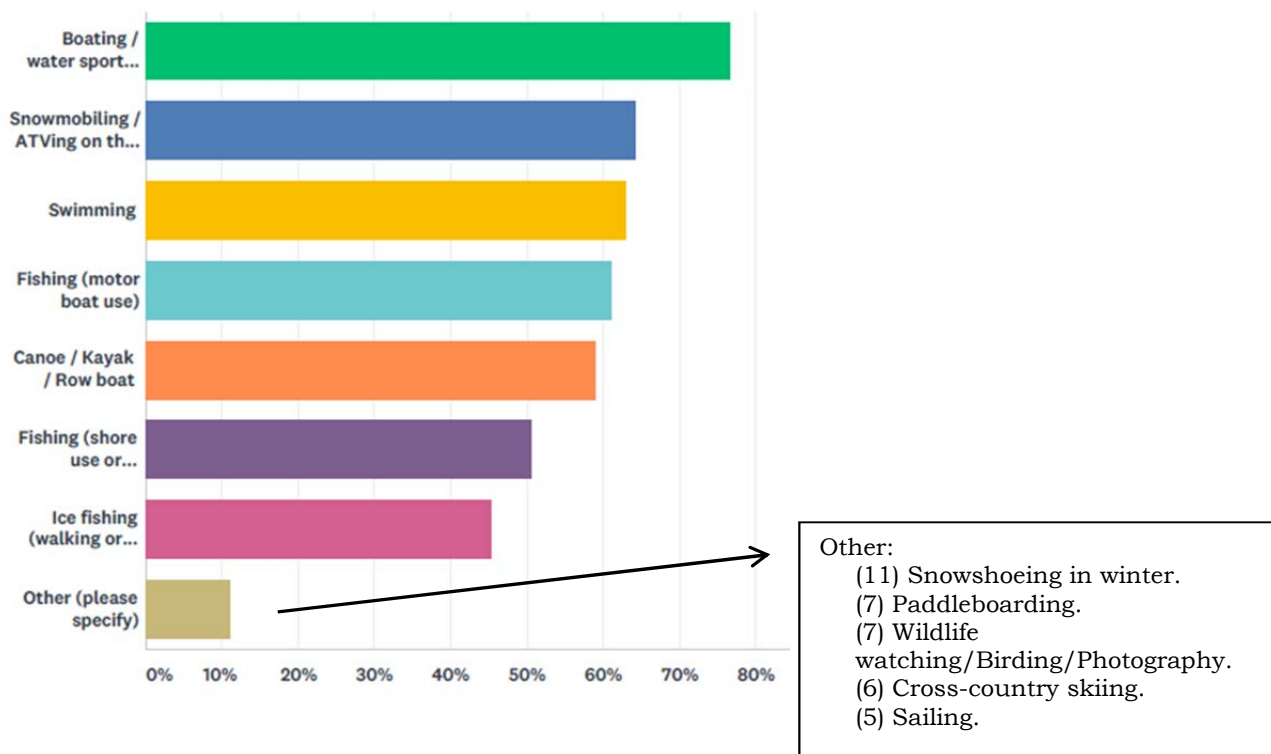
Casual user. (I like to use the water, but only do so occasionally.)

Enthusiastic. (I access or go on the water regularly in summer, and I might occasionally access the ice in winter.)

Avid. (I am always on the water or ice every chance I get.)

Q16 How do you use the water?

Answered: 525 people. (# of responses) Most common sentiments:



Q17 What boat landings/access points need improvement?

Answered: 159 people. (# of responses) Most common sentiments:

(25) None.

(5) More parking. Better trailer parking.

(4) Better ramps. Concrete landings.

(4) Toilets at boat landings would be a bonus.

(4) Kayak friendly landings. Some of the smaller lakes in the upper part of the county could use carry-in trails for canoes and kayaks.

(4) West Horsehead Lake – launch improvement, needs a turnaround spot so loaded trailers don't have to be backed in.

(3) East Horsehead Lake – dock improvement.

(3) Hancock Lake – pier & landing improvements.

(2) Manson Lake – landing is horrible; brush out areas to cast a line from shorelines on county land.

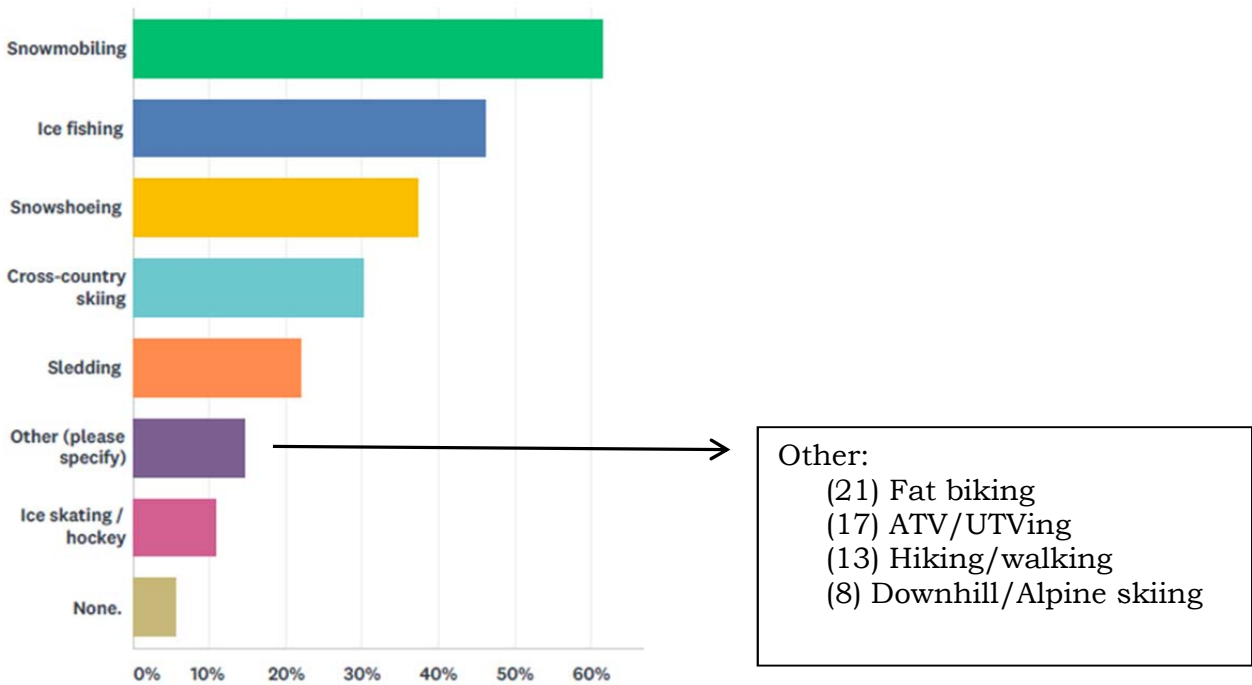
(2) Nokomis Lake – improve parking.

(1 each) Specific lakes listed:

- Medicine Lake – turnaround and better parking;
- Thunder Lake – pier is needed;
- Sevenmile Lake – toilet;
- Booth Lake – it is a muck bottom. Hard to land a boat;
- Gary Lake – access improvement;
- Flannery Lake – landing and sock are barely adequate;
- Crescent Lake – need more parking for vehicles/trailers;
- Pelican River – could use a few canoe landings;
- Moen Lake – launch improvements;
- many other specific comments...

Q18 What winter recreation activities do you participate in?

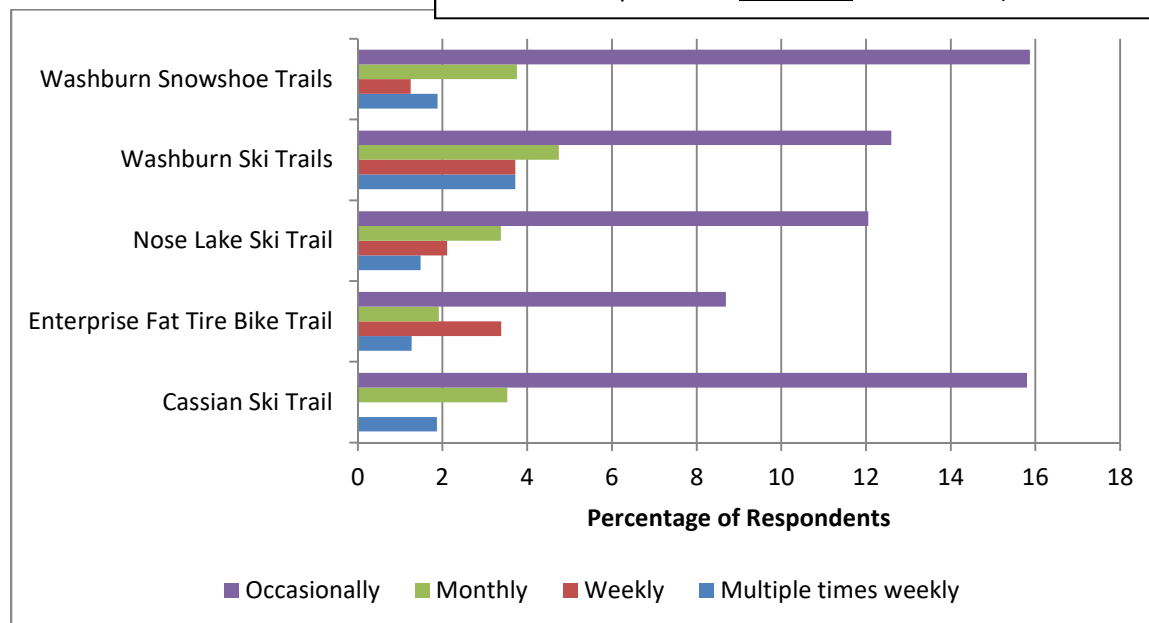
Answered: 536 people. (# of responses) Most common sentiments:



Q19 How often do you use the following Winter Silent Sport Trails?

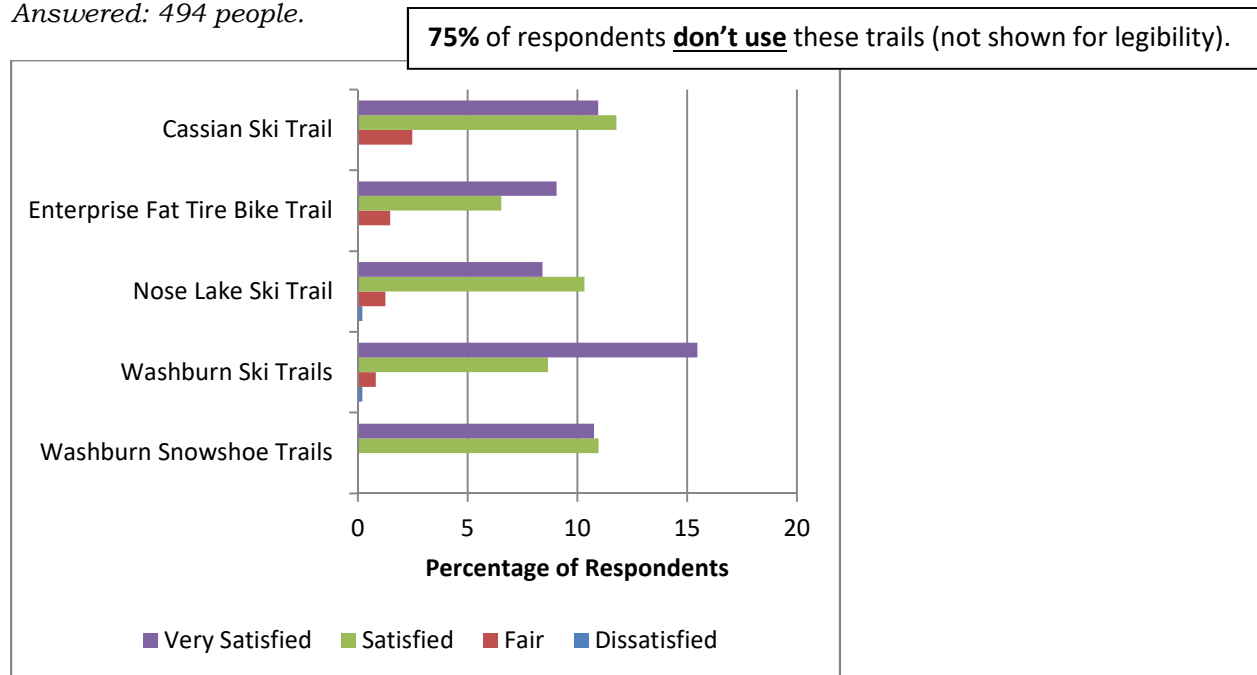
Answered: 494 people.

75-85% of respondents don't use these trails (not shown for legibility).



Q20 Rate your overall satisfaction with the Winter Silent Sport Trails:

Answered: 494 people.



Q21 What improvements to Winter Silent Sport Trails are needed?

Answered: 100 people. (# of responses) Most common sentiments:

(23) None.

(15) Open more fat tire bike trails that are groomed. Washburn trails could benefit from groomed fat bike trails.

(17) Very specific trail improvement suggestions:

- (6) Paragraphs worth of comments.
- The signage is baffling at Washburn – the other trails are great.
- Red Raven trail lost a portion of the trail running along Clear Lake – please bring it back.
- I'd like to see the Enterprise trail groomed for cross country skiing.
- Use the golf course out of Rhinelander for cross country skiing.
- The trails could be groomed more often. Nose trail wasn't groomed much late season.

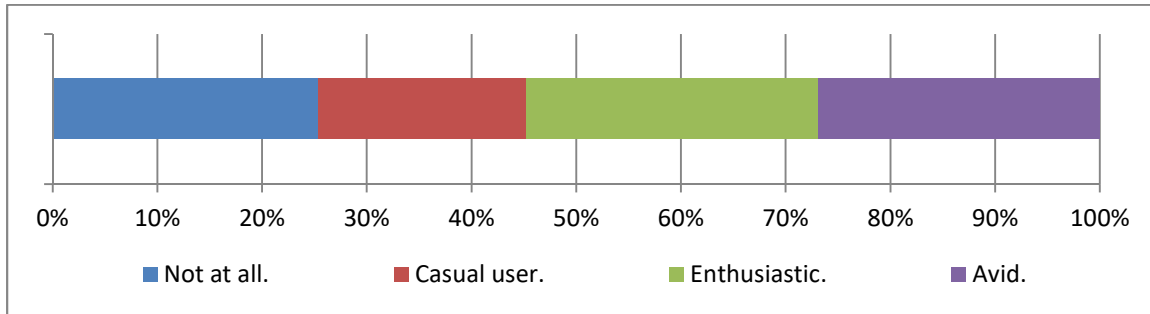
(8) Get rid of them.

(4) More dog friendly areas.

(3) Lighted ski trail.

Q22 What type of motorized vehicle (ATV/UTV/OHM) enthusiast are you?

Answered: 524 people.



Not at all. (I'm not interested in motorized recreation at all, not even with friends.)

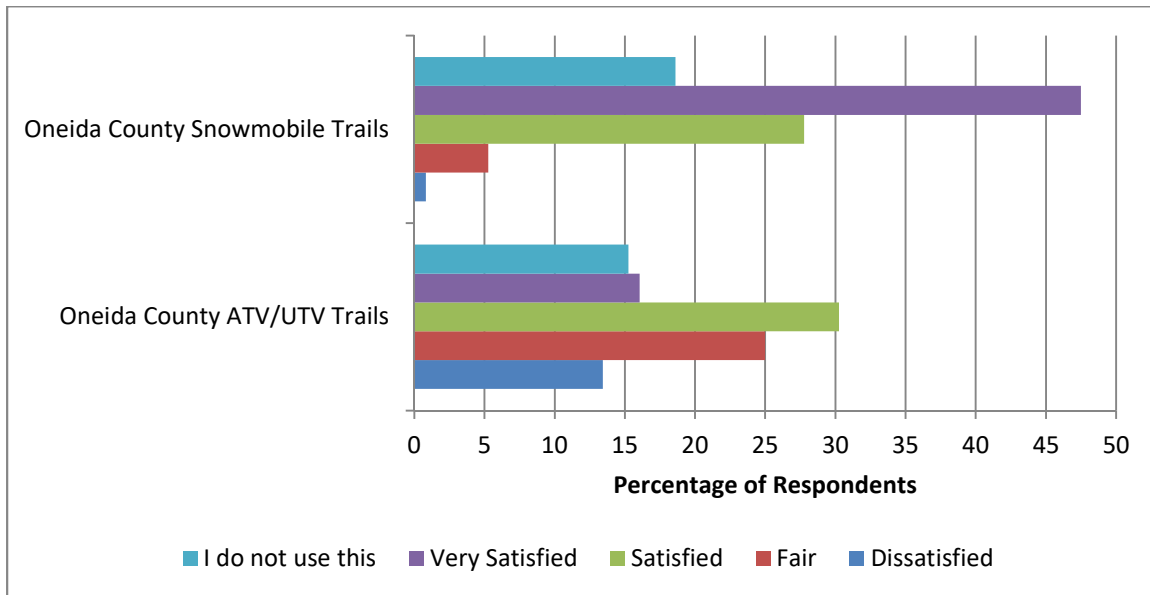
Casual user. (I like to use motorized vehicles for fun, but only do so occasionally, OR only on my own land.)

Enthusiastic. (I access or go on motorized routes and trails regularly in summer, and I might occasionally access the ice in winter.)

Avid. (I am always on a motorized vehicle every chance I get – all year long.)

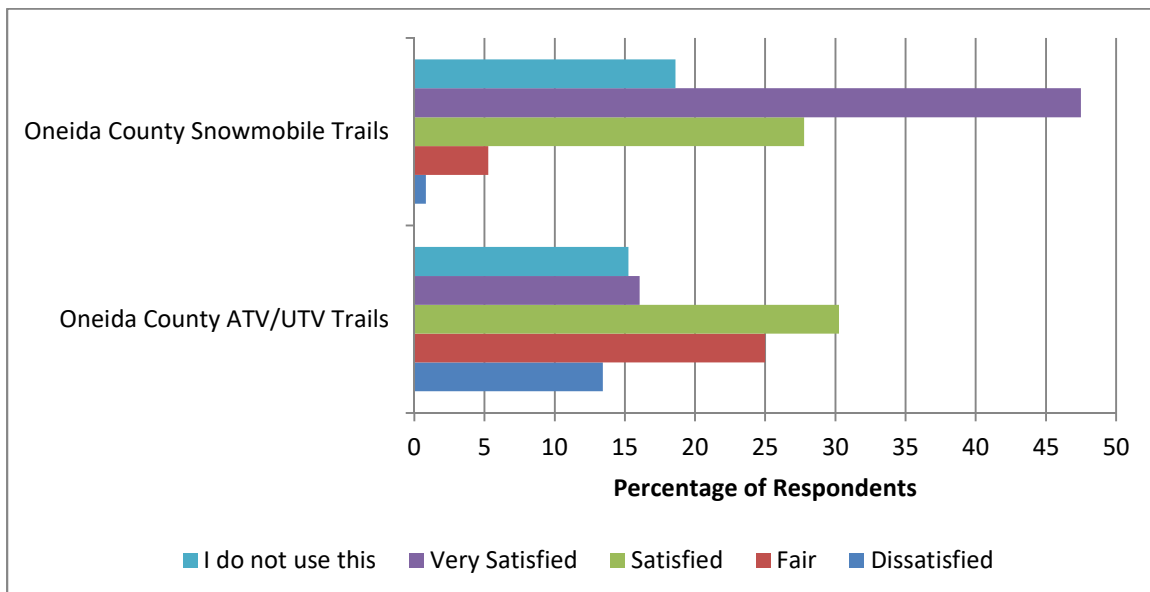
Q23 How often do you use the following Motorized Sport Trails?

Answered: 384 people.



Q24 Rate your overall satisfaction with the Motorized Sports Trails:

Answered: 384 people.



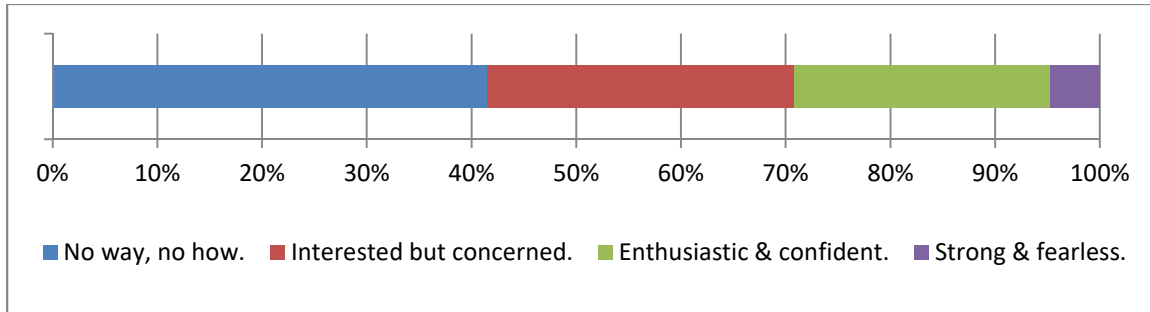
Q25 What improvements to Motorized Sport Trails (ATV/UTV or Snowmobile) are needed?

Answered: 236 people. (# of responses) Most common sentiments:

- (119) More ATV/UTV trails, instead of routes.
 - (4) Lake Tomahawk/Woodruff area;
 - (2) town of Newbold area;
 - (2) Three Lakes area;
 - eastern part of the county;
 - to get around Minocqua;
 - finish the loop from Lake Tomahawk to 51 East;
 - access to area by St Germain;
 - Squirrel Lake area;
- (15) Open more roads to access ATV trails.
 - road by Menards;
 - Bo-de-lac Road;
 - Town of Newbold;
- (9) Better snowmobile trail grooming.
- (7) More snowmobile trails.
 - need a trail from Harrison to Rhinelander;
 - fund trail between The Edge & The Cantina. It is THE link between Northern Trails Unlimited and the Bearskin. Major economic impact of that trail.
- (4) Snow should be left along roads that are designated as a snowmobile trail.
 - Oneida Lake Rd; Oscar Jenny Rd; and Fawn Rd;
- (5) Paragraphs worth of ATV/UTV comments.
- (3) Paragraphs worth of snowmobile comments.

Q26 What type of bicyclist are you?

Answered: 383 people.



No way, no how. (I'm not interested in biking at all, not even for recreation.)

Interested but concerned. (I like riding, but don't do it regularly. I'm generally concerned that my route is not safe to ride, so I don't ride often. I definitely do not ride when the weather is bad.)

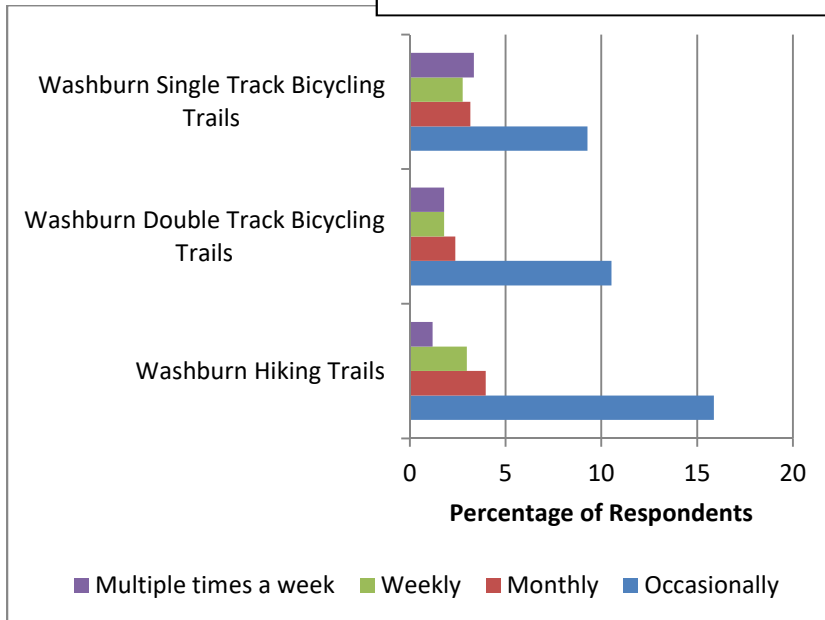
Enthusiastic and confident. (I feel comfortable sharing the road with motor vehicles, but I prefer to ride on separate facilities like bike lanes. I may or may not ride in inclement weather.)

Strong and fearless. (I am confident in my abilities and will ride regardless of roadway conditions, amount of traffic, or inclement weather.)

Q27 How often do you use the following Summer Silent Sport Trails?

Answered: 512 people.

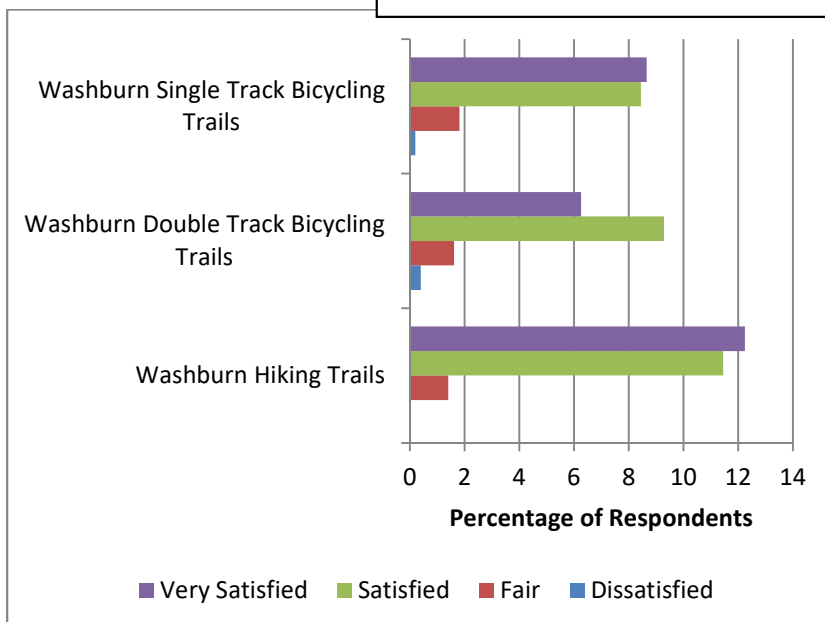
75-84% of respondents don't use these trails (not shown for legibility).



Q28 Rate your satisfaction with Summer Silent Sport Trails:

Answered: 503 people.

75-82% of respondents don't use these trails (not shown for legibility).



Q29 What improvements to Summer Silent Sport Trails are needed?

Answered: 95 people. (# of responses) Most common sentiments:

(24) None.

(21) Various individual improvement comments.

(9) More trails.

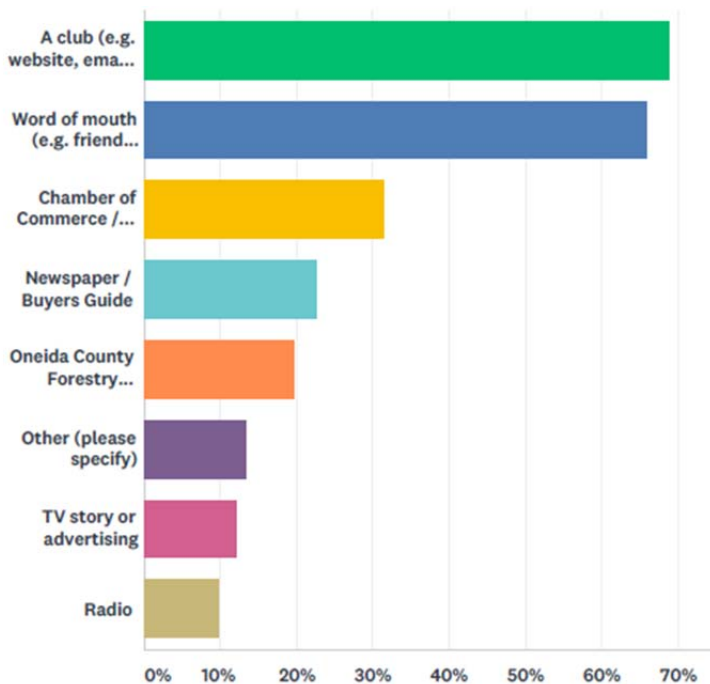
(8) More single track trails.

(7) Mow trails more frequently.

(2) The Washburn “stone soup” single track segment is clearly a safety hazard. Need to maintain and sign a bypass trail around these technical spots.

Q30 How do you learn about outdoor recreation in Oneida County?

Answered: 511 people.



ATTACHMENT B

Park Design and Location Criteria

From: Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) 2011-2016

Park and Recreation Designs

This section is presented in the interest of assisting park and recreation agencies in the development of a system of parks and recreation areas. A recreation system is composed of many different components, the combination of which provide facilities and landscapes for outdoor recreation. Many entities are involved in the development and management of recreational areas and facilities for a community or region. Facilities provided by these entities should be complementary and serve a particular geographic area or recreational need. For this plan, parks and recreation areas have been classified on the basis of their service areas. They are described as the following:

▪ Mini Park	▪ School Park
▪ Neighborhood Park	▪ County Park
▪ Community Park	▪ State Park
▪ Special Use Park	▪ State Forest

Mini Park

1. Definition Summary:

A play lot or playground provides space for parental supervised recreation of toddlers and young children within a neighborhood, or as part of a larger neighborhood or community park and urban center, including retail shopping areas.

2. Size Objectives:

0.5 to 1.5 acres.

3. Service Area Objectives:

Generally within a neighborhood of a half mile radius or population of 2,000-3,000. Mini parks may be included in parks that serve a larger population or service area.

4. Location Objectives:

Located in protected areas with separation from street traffic and high visibility; serving local neighborhoods and adjoining schools, libraries, or police and fire facilities.

- Population Ratio to Acreage: 0.25 to 0.5 acre per 1,000 population to achieve a park unit size that serves 2,000 to 3,000 people.

5. Space, Design, and Service Area:

The size of a play lot or playground may range from as small as 2,500 sq. ft. to 1.5 acres.* Amenities offered by these facilities generally include sand play areas, play apparatus, play equipment, and other special child-oriented features. The service radius for these parks in

terms of distance from population served is limited to less than a quarter mile, or within a super block space, unless the playground is incorporated into a larger park. (*Stand-alone play lots require more land area than play lots incorporated into larger parks.)

6. Orientation:

Small geographic areas, sub-neighborhoods, or neighborhoods, when combined with a larger park unit, serves youth ranging in age from toddler to 12 years, with adult supervision. Playgrounds also serve important needs in city business districts and inner city areas where a mix of commercial and recreation activity is desired.

7. Function:

Provides outdoor play experiences for youth under parental supervision. Generates neighborhood communication and provides diversion from work and domestic chores. Promotes neighborhood solidarity.

Neighborhood Park

1. Definition Summary:

A neighborhood park, by size, program, and location, provides space and recreation activities for the immediate neighborhood in which it is located. It is considered an extension of neighborhood residents' "out-of-yard" and outdoor use area.

2. Size Objectives:

5 to 25 acres.

3. Service Area Objectives:

Generally a one mile radius, but actually defined by collector street patterns which form the limits of a neighborhood or recreation service area. Population served may range from 2,000 up to 5,000.

4. Location Objectives:

Centrally located for equitable pedestrian access within a definable neighborhood service area. Adjoining or adjacent to an elementary school, middle school, high school, fire station, or library, if possible.

5. Program Objectives:

Compatible with the neighborhood setting and park site constraints. Generally includes the following facilities, which are determined with public input as to use and activities:

- a. Parking for 10 to 20 vehicles.
 - 1) On-street parking is acceptable if negative impact to residential units can be mitigated. On-site parking is preferable as a planning objective.
 - 2) Bike racks with Class II trail connections where possible.
- b. Restrooms
 - 1) Men's restroom with 2 water closets, 2 urinals, 2 lavatories.
 - 2) Women's restroom with 3 water closets and 2 lavatories.
 - 3) Utility and minimum park janitorial storage space.
- c. Tot lot/children's play area
- d. Family event/group picnic facility
- e. Informal family picnic area with benches and tables
- f. Unstructured turf grass play area/play or practice field for children, young adults, and families.
- g. Sport facilities—compatible with neighborhood setting and park site constraints.
 - 1) Basketball—half court, full court, or tri-court configuration
 - 2) Volleyball area
 - 3) Softball field/soccer practice or game overlay
 - 4) Other features as needs or site conditions allow

6. Orientation:

Serves all age groups, with an emphasis on youth and families in neighborhood settings.

7. Function:

To provide a combination of active recreation and passive activities, both outdoor and indoor facilities and special features as required or needed.

8. Space, Design and Service Area:

A minimum size of 5 to 25 acres with amenities including sports facilities, picnic areas, swim facilities, cultural activities, arts, crafts, and individual passive activities. The park should primarily serve a defined neighborhood area population of 2,000-5,000. Distance from this neighborhood will vary depending on urban development pattern, zoning, and densities in the respective neighborhoods being served. Efforts should be made to allow easy pedestrian access to the park.

Community Park

1. Definition Summary:

A community park, by size, program, and location, provides space and recreation activities for a defined service area, the entire city, or significant geographic segment of the city's population.

2. Size Objectives:

Usually more than 25 acres.

3. Service Area Objectives:

Generally a 2 to 5 mile radius within the city and adjacent neighborhoods outside of city limits.

4. Location Objectives:

Centrally located if planned to serve a particular geographic segment of the city. Located adjoining or immediately adjacent to a collector street providing community-wide vehicular access, thereby reducing neighborhood traffic impacts. Connected with Class II on-street and/or off-street community trail and bike lane system. Adjoining or adjacent to an elementary, middle, or high school if possible.

5. Program Objectives

Elements that fulfill the service area, park facilities and recreation program demands. The following facilities may be compatible with community setting and park site constraints:

- a. Off-street parking calculated to satisfy demand of park and recreation activities provided. Includes bike racks and a public transit station at the site as well as both on-site and street parking.
- b. Restrooms designed to accommodate the level of park and recreation activities provided and the number of people served. Restrooms should be located within a reasonable walking distance from children's play equipment and other high-use areas.
- c. Community recreation center
- d. Park maintenance and equipment storage building
- e. Tot lot/children's play area
- f. Group picnic shelters
- g. Family picnic facilities
- h. Sport/recreation facility fulfilling the overall city demand

Appropriate program elements include:

- 1) Community pool/water feature
- 2) Soccer fields
- 3) Softball, little league baseball, junior pony league baseball
- 4) Football
- 5) Roller hockey/skateboard area
- 6) Tennis courts
- 7) Basketball courts
- 8) Amphitheater/performing arts center
- 9) Volleyball (indoor and outdoor)
- 10) Jogging trails
- 11) Other facilities as desired and as permitted under park site plan
- 12) Concessions (food and beverage)

6. Orientation:

Multi-purpose service area or community-wide recreation resource serving most or all of the population.

7. Function:

Provides opportunities for a diverse mix of indoor and outdoor recreation, including walking and bicycling, outdoor performances, various programmed and non-

programmed field sports, swimming, and special events.

8) Space, Design, and Service Area:

The minimum space for a community park is 15 acres. Facilities typically provide for some sports activities, through emphasis is on passive cultural and community centers with recreational programming and organized activities. The community park may serve populations within a 2 to 5 mile radius, a scope that would allow residents of other communities to use the park as well.

Special Use Park

1. Definition Summary:

A special use park is often designed as a revenue-generating enterprise created to satisfy demand for a particular sport, recreational activity, or special event. A special use park may also be a sports park combined with enterprise activities and administered as a community recreation resource.

2. Size Objective:

The actual size of a special use park is determined by land availability and facility/market demand for special uses or recreation programs.

3. Service Area Objectives:

Community or area-wide and determined by the type of recreation program, special events or use activities.

4. Location Objectives:

Determined by the property opportunity, service area and size objectives.

5. Program Objectives:

Special use parks require facility programming that is user- or market-driven and based on community needs or economic and service principles for public and private partnerships. The magnitude and type of special use facilities may include:

- a. Water play park
- b. Amphitheater
- c. Festival/swap meet/farmers market
- d. League/individual sports complex
- e. Fitness/entertainment center
- f. Skateboard/in-line hockey park

g. Recreation programs and classes

6. Orientation:

Provides recreation programming, sports and special event attractions and activities for all age groups.

7. Function:

Special events, fairs, festivals, expositions, symposiums, sports, community gatherings, ethnic/cultural celebrations, plays and numerous other recreational programs and activities.

8. Space, Design, and Service Area:

The minimum size for special parks varies depending on intended use and programming.

School Park

1. Definition Summary:

By combining the resources of two public agencies, the school park classification allows for expanding the recreational, social, and educational opportunities available to the community in an efficient and cost-effective manner.

Depending on the circumstances, school park sites often complement other community recreation or open lands. As an example, an elementary/middle school site could also serve as a neighborhood park. Likewise, middle or high school sports facilities could do double duty as a community park or as youth athletic fields. Depending on its size, one school park site may serve in a number of capacities, such as a neighborhood park, youth athletic fields, and a location for recreation classes. Given the inherent variability of type, size and location, determining how a school park site is integrated into a larger park system will depend on case-by-case circumstances. The important outcome in the joint-use relationship is that both the school district and park system benefit from shared use of facilities and land area.

2. Size Objective

The optimum size of a school park site depends on its intended use. The size criteria

established for neighborhood park and community park classifications may apply.

3. Service Area Objectives:

Neighborhood park and community park classifications criteria should be used to determine school park functions and area served. For planning purposes, the degree to which school lands, including building or facilities, meet community needs depends on the specific inter-local agreements formed.

4. Location Objectives:

The location of a school park site will be determined by the school district based on district policy. Coordinated city and school district planning allows for siting, acquisition, and facility development to be responsive to community needs. Service areas for school park sites will depend on the type of use and facilities provided.

5. Program Objectives:

The criteria established for neighborhood parks and community parks should be used to determine how a school park site is developed and programmed. If athletic fields are developed at a school park site, they should, where feasible, be oriented toward youth rather than adult programs. Establishing a clearly defined joint-use agreement between involved agencies is critical to making school park relationships workable. This is particularly important with respect to acquisition, development, maintenance, liability, use, and programming of facility issues.

The orientation of school park projects is typically for neighborhood and community recreation services. The functions may include sports, recreation classes, passive recreation activities, and other recreation programs suitable to an elementary or secondary education school.

County Park

1. Definition Summary:

A county park provides sufficient park and recreation area to meet the needs of county residents. County parks consist of land that is specifically set aside for active and passive

recreation uses, and that accommodates large gatherings, special events, and individual users. County parks offer a wide variety of compatible outdoor recreation activities, and may provide areas that do not primarily serve a recreational purpose such as protected natural areas, historic areas, and special use areas.

2. Size Objectives:

The size of recreation parks varies greatly from park to park, but with the exception of those parks that serve a special use or are trail corridors, a recreation park should consist of a minimum of 100 acres of land. Each park should be of sufficient size to accommodate the estimated use and to allow for the operation and maintenance of planned recreational facilities.

3. Service Area Objectives:

County parks provide for a regional user group and serve primarily county residents. Special facilities like camping and trails are also used by tourists and visitors to the county.

4. Location Objectives:

The land should have high recreational potential and be able to withstand intensive and extensive recreational activities. Land should have potential to accommodate large groups of people. Land for corridors should be located so as to connect to communities, parks, and open spaces. The potential for future land acquisition should be taken into account.

5. Program Objectives:

Development should be appropriate for intended use and should accommodate moderate to high use. Development and planning should consider the physical condition and characteristics of the land and recognize potential environmental or structural limitations that might require intensive maintenance. County parks may include the following facilities:

- a. Camping/group camping
- b. Picnic areas
- c. Recreational trails (hiking, bicycling, mountain biking, equestrian, cross-country ski, snowmobile, etc.)
- d. Play areas

- e. Swimming beaches
- f. Water access
- g. Fishing access
- h. Shelters
- i. Restrooms
- j. Shower facilities
- k. Sport fields (basketball, volleyball, softball, etc.)
- l. Pet exercise area

6. Orientation:

Multi-purpose service area and regional recreation resource serving a significant portion of a county or multi-county population.

7. Function:

To provide sufficient parks and recreation areas to meet the needs of the people of the county.

8. Space, Design, and Service Area:

The size of a county park should be a minimum of 100 acres. Facilities vary by park. Some parks offer active recreation (camping, recreational trails, etc.), while others provide passive recreation (scenic lookouts, picnic areas, beaches, etc.). Most parks provide both active and passive recreation. County parks provide for a regional user group and serve primarily county residents, through special facilities also serve tourists and visitors to the county.

State Forest

1. Definition Summary:

A state forest consists of well blocked areas of state owned lands that are managed to benefit present and future generations of residents, recognizing that forests contribute to local and statewide economics and to a healthy natural environment. State forests practice sustainable forestry. The management of state forests is consistent with the ecological capability of state forest land and with the long-term goal of maintaining sustainable forest communities and ecosystems. Benefits of maintaining these ecosystems include soil protection, public hunting, protection of water quality, production of recurring forest products, outdoor recreation, native biological

diversity, aquatic and terrestrial wildlife, and aesthetic value. The range of benefits provided in each state forest reflect its unique character and position in the regional landscape.

2. Size Objectives:

Typically between 1,000 and 250,000 acres, but can be larger or smaller.

3. Service Area Objectives:

Generally a 100 mile radius. State forests typically provide close-to-home recreational area. Day users typically travel approximately 50 miles one-way to reach state forests, while overnight users tend to travel further, approximately 100-150 miles one-way. Travel to state forests can, however, exceed 160 miles for longer vacation stays and travel to "destination areas."

4. Location Objectives:

Areas with large blocks of land.

5. Program Objectives:

State forests must meet ecological, economic, social, and cultural needs. Elements are compatible with the natural resource setting and park site constraints. Facilities may include the following:

Current Level of Supply:

Hiking trails	1,256 acres per linear mile of trail
Cross-country ski trails	2,551 acres per linear mile of trail
Snowmobile trails	639 acres per linear mile of trail
Equestrian trails	559 acres per linear mile of trail
ATV trails	1,795 acres per linear mile of trail
Camping sites	1 campsite per 265 acres

6. Orientation:

Multi-purpose service area and regional recreation resource serving a significant portion of a state or regional population.

7. Function:

To provide for nature conservation, provide income to forest owners, supply raw materials to the wood processing industry, and provide public recreation.

8. Space, Design, and Service Area:

The size of a state forest is determined by the extent of the area's natural resources and

recreation capabilities. There is no minimum or maximum size for a state forest. Facilities are not universal and vary by forest. The geographic location of the forest and the natural resources present dictate recreation available at the site. State forests serve large geographic areas of a state or region.

State Park

1. Definition Summary:

A state park, by size, program, and location, provides space for outdoor recreation and education about nature and conservation. These parks serve a significant geographic segment of a state or regional population. State parks aim to preserve, protect, interpret and enhance the scenic and cultural resources of the state.

2. Size Objectives:

Parks must be large enough to accommodate a reasonable mix of outdoor recreational activities. Typically, parks are between 500 and 3000 acres, but can be smaller (<20 acres) or larger (>10,000 acres).

3. Service Area Objectives:

Generally a 100-mile radius. State parks typically provide close-to-home recreational areas. Day users generally travel approximately 50 miles one-way to reach state parks, while overnight users tend to travel further, approximately 100-150 miles one-way. Travel distances to state parks can often exceed 160 miles for longer vacation stays and trips to "destination areas."

4. Location Objectives:

Siting of Wisconsin State Parks is typically based on five criteria developed by John Nolen. These criteria are: 1) large size to serve a large number of citizens, 2) accessibility to major population areas, 3) a healthful, natural setting, 4) reasonable cost for land acquisition, 5) land possessing "decidedly uncommon charm and beauty." All, or a combination of these criteria are used to determine where to site a state park.

5. Program Objectives:

Elements that fulfill the service area, park facilities and recreation program demands.

Elements are compatible with the natural resource setting and park site constraints. Developments may include the following facilities:

Current Level of Supply:

Hiking trails	196 acres per linear mile of trail
Surfaced bicycle trails	860 acres per linear mile of trail
Mountain bike trails	549 acres per linear mile of trail
Nature trails	1,871 acres per liner mile of trail
Cross-country ski trails	430 acres per linear mile of trail
Snowmobile trails	426 acres per linear mile of trail
Equestrian trails	400 acres per linear mile of trail
Picnic sites	0.05 acres per picnic table
Camping sites	1 campsite per 29 acres
Parking stalls	Year-Round = 1 stall for every three visitors
Swimming beaches	17 linear feet per 1,000 users

5. Orientation:

Multi-purpose service area and regional recreation resource serving a significant portion of a state or regional population.

6. Function:

To provide for public recreation and education of conservation and nature study. To preserve, protect, interpret and enhance the scenic and cultural resources of the state.

7. Space, Design, and Service Area:

The size of a state park is determined by the extent of the area's natural resources and recreation capabilities. There is no minimum or maximum size for a state park. Facilities are not universal and vary by park. Some parks offer active recreation (camping, boating, mountain biking trails, hunting etc.), while others offer passive recreation (scenic lookouts, picnic areas, beaches, etc.). Most provide both active and passive recreation. The geographic area and the natural resources present dictate recreation uses and facilities present in the park. State parks serve large geographic areas of a state or region.

ATTACHMENT C

State and Federal Outdoor Recreation Funding Programs

Compiled by: NCWRPC

Wisconsin DNR Administered Programs

Community Service Specialist
Rhinelander Office
107 Sutliff Ave
Rhinelander WI 54501

Acquisition Of Development Rights (a Stewardship Program)

The program's purpose is to buy development rights (easements) to protect natural, agricultural, or forest lands from development that enhance nature-based outdoor recreation. Applicants compete for funds on a statewide basis.

Priority parcels criteria:

- Property with frontage on rivers, streams, lakes, or estuaries;
- Property that creates a buffer between land that has been permanently protected for natural resource and conservation purposes and potential or existing residential, commercial, or industrial development;
- Property that is within the boundaries of an acquisition project established by the DNR, a government unit, or a NCO where the uses of the property will complement the goals of the project and the stewardship program.

DNR considers the following factors when evaluating acquisition of development rights:

- Recreational opportunities provided or enhanced;
- Proximity to other permanently protected land;
- Natural, scenic, geologic, and archaeological values of the property;
- The degree of development pressure;
- Whether the project has been identified in a comprehensive plan pursuant to s. 66.1001, WI Stats., another plan that has as one of its purposes the protection of natural resources, or the natural heritage inventory database.

Acquisition and Development of Local Parks (a Stewardship Program)

Funds may be used for both land acquisition projects and development projects for nature-based outdoor recreation, such as fishing piers, hiking trails and picnic facilities. Applicants compete for funds on a regional and county basis. NCOs may only apply for funds for land acquisition; they are not eligible for funds for development on property.

DNR considers the following factors when evaluating projects:

- Implements priorities contained in state and local comprehensive outdoor recreation plans
- Meets needs and deficiencies identified in the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, the approved local comprehensive outdoor recreation plan, or the approved comprehensive outdoor recreation plans of other units of government including regional or integrated management plans

- Acquires land where a need for additional land acquisition is supported by an approved comprehensive outdoor recreation plan
- Is regional or statewide in nature and can be documented as such
- Documentation shows benefits to tourism
- Results in a first of a kind facility for the project sponsor or service area
- Provides or supports a water-based activity
- Serves the greatest population
- Involves volunteers, local donations or cooperation by two or more service clubs
- Applicants that have never received an outdoor recreation program grant
- Provides for completion of a project already started where the sponsor has shown the ability to provide quality outdoor recreation facilities for its citizens without grant assistance
- Sponsor has completed prior LWCF, ADLP, UGS, URGP or projects successfully.
- Involves two or more governmental agencies
- Acquires land where a need for additional land acquisition is supported by an approved comprehensive outdoor recreation plan;
- Serves as a demonstration project for other project sponsors
- Corrects a documented health or safety problem
- Renovates existing facilities which are in danger of being lost for public use
- Sponsor is able to adequately maintain and operate the area or facility
- Provides multiple season, multiple activity use
- Serves the recreation needs of elderly persons, minorities and disabled persons. Facilities provided must exceed those required by state or federal regulations

All Terrain Vehicles (ATV)

Funds are available to provide funds to accommodate all-terrain vehicles through the acquiring, insuring, developing and maintaining of all-terrain vehicle trails and areas, including routes as per s. 23.33, Wis. Stats. Counties, towns, cities and villages are eligible to apply by April 15 on forms provided by the Department. Eligible levels of reimbursement are:

- ATV trails available for spring, summer, and fall riding may be reimbursed up to 100 percent of eligible maintenance costs (up to \$650 per mile).
- ATV trails available for winter riding may be reimbursed up to 100 percent of eligible maintenance costs (up to \$100 per mile).
- Development of ATV trails and areas may be reimbursed up to 100 percent of eligible costs.
- Major rehabilitation of bridge structures or trails may be reimbursed up to 100 percent of eligible costs.
- Maintenance of ATV intensive use areas may be reimbursed up to 50 percent of eligible costs

Assistance is provided for the following, in priority order: 1) maintenance of existing approved trails and areas, including routes; 2) purchase of liability insurance; 3) acquisition of easements; 4) major rehabilitation of bridge structures or trails; and 5) acquisition of land in fee and development of new trails and areas.

All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) Enforcement Patrol

Funds are available as per s.23.22(9), Wis. Stats. and NR 64.15, Wis. Adm. Code. A county must file a Notice of Intent to Patrol form with the Department on or before July 1 of each year. Claim forms shall be filed with the Department on or before September 1 of the year following the 12-month period for which the claim is made. Notice of Intent to Patrol and Claim forms are provided by the Department Bureau of Law Enforcement. Counties may receive up to 100% of their net costs for the enforcement of ch. 23.33, Wis. Adm. Code, at a rate no more than the regular straight-time rate. Fringe benefits cannot exceed 29% of the gross salary. Salaries of officers engaged in the enforcement of Chapter NR 23.33, Wis. Adm. Code, at a rate no more than the regular straight-time rate. Fringe benefits cannot exceed 29% of the gross salary. Travel, materials and supplies are reimbursable. Depreciation is calculated at a rate of 12% annually on all equipment over \$100 except ATV's, which is figured at the rate of 20% annually.

Brownfields Green Space and Public Facilities Grant Program

Funds are available per s.292.79, Wis. Stats. to promote the cleanup of brownfields where the end-use has a long-term public benefit, including preservation of green space, development of recreational areas or use by a local government.

Lake Protection Grant

Funds are available to protect and improve the water quality of lakes and their ecosystems as per s. 281.69, Wis. Stats. Grants are available for purchasing land or easements, restoration of wetlands, development of local regulations to protect water quality, lake improvement activities called for in a Department approved plan, and countywide lake classification. Counties, towns, cities, villages, public authorities and qualified lake associations as defined in s. 30.92(1)(br), Wis. Stats., public inland lake districts, non-profit groups, and other local governmental units established for lake management are eligible to apply on forms provided by the Department. The state cost shares up to 75% of project costs not to exceed \$200,000. Applications are due in the Regional offices by May 1 of each year.

Priorities are set on a statewide basis (see ch. NR 191.08, Wis. Adm. Code) and consider the following factors: 1) lakes which have not previously received a lake protection grant; 2) the degree to which the project provides for the protection or improvement of water quality; 3) the degree to which the project provides for protection or improvement of other aspects of the natural ecosystem such as fish, wildlife or natural beauty; 4) the availability of public access to, and public use of the lakes; 5) the degree to which the proposed project complements other lake and watershed management efforts; 6) the level of support for the project from other affected management units; and 7) the level of financial support provided by the sponsor.

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

Money is available to encourage nationwide creation and interpretation of high quality outdoor recreational opportunities. The program funds both state and local outdoor recreation projects per Public Law 88-578, ch. NR 50.06, Wis. Adm. Code. Counties, cities, villages, towns, school

districts, and Indian tribes are eligible for funding with an approved Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans. Up to 50% matching grants from the fund are available to state and local units of government. Priorities include acquisition of land where a scarcity of outdoor recreational land exists. Also, projects that provide access for the greatest number of potential users and provide the greatest opportunities for outdoor recreation are also desirable.

Eligible projects include acquisition of land for public outdoor recreational areas and preservation of water frontage and open space. Development of public outdoor park and recreational areas and their support facilities. Applications are available from the DNR regional Community Service Specialist. Completed applications are due to the appropriate DNR regional office by May 1 of each year.

Recreational Boating Facilities

Funds are available for the construction of capital improvements to provide safe recreational boating facilities and for feasibility studies related to the development of safe recreational facilities as per s. 30.92, Wis. Statutes. Counties, towns, cities, villages, sanitary districts, public inland lake protection and rehabilitation districts, and qualified lake associations are eligible to apply. Cost sharing is provided up to 50% for feasibility studies, construction costs, and certain types of acquisition costs. An additional 10% may be available if a municipality conducts a boating safety enforcement and education program approved by the Department.

Eligible projects include: 1) Facilities such as ramps and service docks required to gain access to the water; 2) structures such as bulkheads and breakwaters necessary to provide safe water conditions for boaters; 3) activities such as dredging to provide safe water depths for recreational boating. (Dredging is an eligible project only when it is associated with project development at the project site; maintenance dredging is not eligible.); 4) support facilities limited to parking lots, sanitary facilities and security lighting; 5) acquisition of equipment to cut and remove aquatic plants; 6) acquisition of equipment to collect and remove floating trash and debris from a waterway; 7) dredging of channels in waterways for recreational boating purposes (not more than once in ten years)(inland waters); and 8) acquisition of aids to navigation and regulatory markers. These factors are considered in establishing priorities - distance of proposed project from other recreational boating facilities, demand for safe boating facilities, existing facilities, projects underway, commitment of funds, location of proposed project within the region identified in s. 25.29(7), Wis. Stats.

River Management Grants

River Protection Management grants provide state cost sharing assistance to eligible sponsors for implementing a specific activity or set of activities, other than planning activities, to protect or improve a river ecosystem as per s. 181.70 Wis. Stats. Counties, towns, cities, villages, non-profit groups and qualified river management organizations, and other local governmental units as defined in s. 66.0131, Wis. Stats., are eligible to apply on forms provided by the Department. The state cost shares up to 75% of project costs not to exceed \$50,000. Activities eligible for funding include: 1) purchase of land or of an easement subject to certain requirements, 2) development of local ordinances, and 3) restoration of in-stream or shoreland habitat. Applications are due in the Regional offices by May 1 of each year.

Recreational Trails Act (RTA)

The Recreational Trails Act (RTA) provides funds to local units of government through the transfer of federal gas excise taxes paid on fuel used in off-highway vehicles. These funds are used to develop and maintain recreational trails and trail-related facilities for motorized (30% of

RTA funds), non-motorized (30% of RTA funds), and both (40% of RTA funds) types of recreational trail uses. This federal program was reauthorized in 2005 under SAFETEA-LU.

Eligible projects in order of priority are: maintenance and restoration of existing trails, development and rehabilitation of trailside and trailhead facilities and trail linkages, construction of new trails with certain restrictions on federal lands, and acquisition of easement or property for trails.

Snowmobile Club Signs

Funds are available to provide free cardboard trail signs and reflective material to snowmobile clubs agreeing to open their trails to public use as per s. 23.09(26) and Chapter 350, Wis. Stats. Funds are limited to no more than \$15,000 per year for the purchase of signs and reflective material. Applications are due in the Region offices by April 15 of each year for the following season.

Snowmobile Route Signs

Funds are available to provide costs for initial signing of snowmobile routes and trail crossing warning signs as per s. 23.09(26) and Chapter 350, Wis. Stats. Towns, cities, and villages are eligible to apply on forms provided by the Department. No local match is required, but state funding is limited to no more than \$30,000 per year for the route sign program. Applications are due in the Region offices by April 15 of each year for the following season.

Snowmobile Enforcement Patrols

Funds are available to encourage county snowmobile patrols to function as a law enforcement unit for the enforcement of State Statute 350 as per s. 350.12(4)(a)(4), Wis. Stats. and NR 50.12, 20.370(4)(ft), Wis. Adm. Code. Counties are eligible to apply on forms provided by the Bureau of Law Enforcement. A county must file a Notice of Intent to Patrol form with the Department on or before July 1 of each year. Claim forms shall be filed with the Department on or before June 1 of the year following the 12-month period for which the claim is made. Salaries of officers engaged in the enforcement of ch. 350, Wis. Stats., at a rate no more than the regular straight-time rate are eligible. Fringe benefits cannot exceed 29% of the gross salary. Travel, materials and supplies are reimbursable. Depreciation is calculated at a rate of 20% annually on all equipment over \$1,000.

Snowmobile Trail Aids

Funds are available to provide a statewide system of well-signed and well-groomed snowmobile trails for public use and enjoyment as per s. 23.09(26), and Chapter 350, Wis. Stats. Counties are eligible to apply on forms provided by the Department. 100% cost sharing is provided with limits on maintenance costs of \$250, and development costs of \$500 per mile. Applications are due in the appropriate Region Office by April 15 of each year. Eligible projects include maintenance of trails, which includes signing, brushing, and grooming of snowmobile trails, purchase of liability insurance and acquisition of short term easements, development of trails which may include general trail construction, bridges, gates and signs, major rehabilitation of existing snowmobile bridges and rehabilitation of existing trail segments

Stewardship Program

The Stewardship Program is a comprehensive program that addresses a broad spectrum of land conservation and recreation needs across the state. Stewardship has four major components:

Nonprofit Grants

Acquisition of land and easements for a wide range of conservation and outdoor recreation purposes.

Local Assistance Grant Programs

Grants for local governments or NCOs to acquire land and conservation easements of land and development projects that support nature-based outdoor recreation.

- Acquisition and Development of Local Parks
- Urban Rivers
- Urban Green Spaces
- Acquisition of Development Rights

Property Development on State Lands

Development of recreational facilities on state properties.

Baraboo Hills

Conservation of the hardwood forests of the Baraboo Hills through easements and acquisition. This category closed to new applications.

Stewardship Grants for Nonprofit Conservation Organizations

Review specific guidelines for each of the following programs online at:

<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/caer/cfa/LR/Stewardship/subprogram.html>

Natural Areas

State Natural Areas are set aside for protection of their natural values for future generations, scientific research, and teaching conservation and natural history. They are not intended for intensive recreational use such as picnicking or camping.

Habitat Areas and Fisheries

The purpose of the Habitat Areas Program is to protect, restore, and enhance wildlife habitat in Wisconsin in order to expand opportunities for wildlife-based recreation such as hunting, bird watching, fishing, nature appreciation, and viewing of game and non-game species. The goals of the program are achieved through the use of easements, land acquisition, and habitat restoration.

State Trails, including the Ice Age National Scenic Trail and the North Country National Scenic Trail. The goal of the State Trails Program is to establish a balanced system of state trails for use by hikers, equestrians, bicyclists, and cross-country skiers.

Streambank Protection

The purpose of the Streambank Protection Program is to protect the water quality and fish habitat of Wisconsin streams by establishing buffers along selected streams. Whenever possible, these buffers should be at least 66 feet from either side of the stream and at least 66 feet beyond riparian wetlands.

Wild Lakes

The purpose of the Wild Lakes Program is to protect and preserve high quality endangered wild lakes. The goals of the program are achieved through the use of easements and land acquisition.

Urban Green Space (a Stewardship Program)

Funds are available to provide open natural space within or in proximity to urban areas; to protect land from development with scenic, ecological or natural values in urban areas, and to provide land for noncommercial gardening in urban areas.

Priority is given to projects that have one or more of the following characteristics:

Planning Considerations, including:

- Specifically implementing a priority of the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan
- Implementing the approved master plans of 2 or more units of government or regional planning agencies
- Preserving land that is listed on the natural heritage inventory database
- Implementing elements of water quality plans or initiatives

Project Considerations, including:

- Serving the greatest population centers
- Serving areas of rapidly increasing populations
- Providing accessibility
- Having unique natural features, threatened or endangered species, or significant ecological value
- Providing open natural linear corridors connecting open natural areas
- Having water frontage
- Containing or restoring wetlands
- Protecting sensitive wildlife habitat
- Protecting an area threatened by development
- Preserving a natural community or one that could be restored
- Having regional or statewide significance
- Relating to brownfield redevelopment

Urban Rivers Grant (a Stewardship Program)

Funds are available to restore or preserve the character of urban riverways through the acquisition of land or easements adjacent to rivers.

Program objectives include:

- To provide for economic revitalization through the restoration or preservation of urban rivers or riverfronts
- To improve outdoor recreational opportunities by increasing access to urban rivers for a variety of public uses, including but not limited to, fishing, wildlife observation, enjoyment of scenic beauty, canoeing, boating, hiking and bicycling
- To preserve or restore significant historical, cultural, or natural areas along urban rivers

There is a cap of 20% which means that no sponsor can receive more than 20% of the funds that are available in any fiscal year.

This is a very competitive program. Projects with the following attributes will rank higher:

- Acquires land or land rights that preserve or restore natural values, including aesthetic values, and enhance environmental quality along urban waterways.
- Provides new or expanded diverse recreational opportunities to all segments of urban populations.
- Provides new or expanded access to urban waterways.
- Acquires blighted lands that will be restored to complement riverfront redevelopment activities.
- Encourages comprehensive riverway planning within and between municipalities and other agencies.
- Provides opportunities for increasing tourism.
- Acquires lands that through proper management will improve or protect water quality

Wisconsin DOT Administered Programs

Bike & Ped Coordinator
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
1681 Second Avenue South
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495

Local Transportation Enhancement (TE) Program

Objective: To promote activities which enhance the surface transportation system. Program funds are intended to accomplish something "above and beyond" what is normally done on highway projects. Eligible federal categories include bicycle and pedestrian facilities, historic transportation structures and landscaping/streetscaping projects.

Surface Transportation Program – Discretionary (STP-D)

Objective: To encourage projects that foster alternatives to single-occupancy vehicle (SOV) trips, such as facilities for pedestrians and bicycles, development of bicycle/pedestrian plans, purchase of replacement vehicles for transit systems, and other transportation demand management (TDM) projects. Funding is 80% federal; 20% local.

Transportation Enhancement Program

(Part of the Statewide Multi-modal Improvement Program (SMIP))

Program Description: Transportation enhancements (TE) are transportation-related activities that are designed to strengthen the cultural, aesthetic, and environmental aspects of transportation systems. The transportation enhancements program provides for the implementation of a variety of non-traditional projects, with examples ranging from the restoration of historic transportation facilities, to bike and pedestrian facilities, to landscaping and scenic beautification, and to the mitigation of water pollution from highway runoff. Most of the requests and projects awarded in Wisconsin have been for bicycle facilities. Examples of bicycle projects include multi-use trails (in greenways, former rail trails, etc.), paved shoulders,

bike lanes, bicycle route signage, bicycle parking, overpasses/underpasses/bridges, and sidewalks. Transportation enhancement activities must relate to surface transportation. Federal regulations restrict the use of funds on trails that allow motorized users, except snowmobiles. TEA 21 expanded the definition of transportation enhancements eligibility to specifically include the provision of safety and educational activities for pedestrians and bicyclists, which had not been clearly eligible under ISTEA.

Other Wisconsin DOT Funding Sources

Hazard Elimination Program - Bicycle and pedestrian projects are now eligible for this program. This program focuses on projects intended for locations that should have a documented history of previous crashes.

Contact WisDOT District coordinators first for more details. Chuck Thiede at 608-266-3341 is the statewide coordinator.

Incidental Improvements - Bicycle and pedestrian projects are broadly eligible for funding from most of the major federal-aid programs. One of the most cost-effective ways of accommodating bicycle and pedestrian accommodations is to incorporate them as part of larger reconstruction, new construction and some repaving projects. Generally, the same source of funding can be used for the bicycle and pedestrian accommodation as is used for the larger highway improvement, if the bike/ped accommodation is “incidental” in scope and cost to the overall project. Overall, most bicycle and pedestrian accommodations within the state are made as incidental improvements.

Federal Assistance Programs

All other federal programs are listed under Wisconsin DNR Administered Programs.

Challenge Cost Share Program (CCSP) – National Park Service

The purpose of the Challenge Cost Share Program (CCSP) is intended to increase participation by qualified partners in the preservation and improvement of National Park Service natural, cultural, and recreational resources; in all authorized Service programs and activities; and on national trails. NPS and partners should work together on projects with mutually beneficial, shared outcomes.

The CCSP is a matching fund program. An equal amount of eligible and matching share (minimum 50%) of cash, goods, or services from non-federal sources is required. The maximum CCSP award is \$30,000. Projects selected should generally be able to be completed within one year.

One-third of the CCSP pot is earmarked for National Trails System Projects. Thus supporting work under the National Trails System Act (16 U.S.C. 1241-51), such as: National Scenic and Historic trails, National Scenic and Historic Trails in parks, National Recreation Trails, and rail-trail projects.

For additional information about this program and the application process, please contact the CCSP Program Coordinators for Wisconsin:

National Park Service
700 Rayovac Dr., Suite 100
Madison, WI 53711

ATTACHMENT D

Facility Development Standards

From: National Recreation and Parks Association

SUGGESTED OUTDOOR FACILITY DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS				
Activity Format	Recommended Size and Dimensions	Recommended Space Requirements	Recommended Orientation	Service Radius and Location Notes
Badminton	Singles--17' x 44' Doubles-20' x 44' with 5' unobstructed area on both sides	1622 sq. ft.	Long axis north - south	¼ - ½ mile. Usually in school recreation center or church facility. Safe walking or biking or biking access.
Basketball 1. Youth 2. High School 3. Collegiate	46' - 50' x 84' 50' x 84' 50' x 94' with 5' unobstructed space all sides.	2400-3036 sq. ft. 5040-7280 sq. ft. 5600-7980 sq. ft.	Long axis north - south	¼ - ½ mile. Same as badminton. Outdoor courts in neighborhood/community parks, plus active recreation areas in other park settings.
Handball (3-4 wall)	20' x 40' with a minimum of 10' to rear of 3-wall court. Minimum 20' overhead clearance.	800 sq. ft. for 4-wall, 1000 sq. ft. for 3-wall.	Long axis is north - south. Front wall at north end.	15 - 30 min. travel time, 4-wall usually indoor as part of multi-purpose building. 3-2 all usually in park or school setting.
Ice Hockey	Rink 85' x 200' (Min. 85' x 185') Additional 5000 22,000 sq. ft. including support area.	22,000 sq. ft. including support area.	Long axis is north - south if outdoors.	½ - 1 hour travel time. Climate important consideration affecting no. of units. Best as part of multipurpose facility.
Tennis	36' x 78'. 12 ft. clearance on both ends.	Min. of 7,200 sq. ft. single court area (2 acres per complex)	Long axis north - south	¼ - ½ mile. Best in batteries of 2 - 4. Located in neighborhood/community park or near school site.
Volleyball	30' x 60'. Minimum of 6' clearance on all sides.	Minimum 4,000 sq. ft.	Long axis north - south	½ - 1 mile.
Baseball 1. Official 2. Little League	Baselines - 90' Pitching distance-60.5' Foul lines - min. 320' Center field - 400'+ Baselines - 60' Pitching distance - 46' Foul lines - 200' Center field - 200' - 250'	3.0 - 3.85 A min. 1.2 A min.	Locate home plate so pitcher is not throwing across sun, and batter not facing it. Line from home plate through pitchers mound to run east-northeast.	¼ - ½ mile. Part of neighborhood complex. Lighted fields part of community complex.
Field Hockey	180' x 300' with a minimum of 10' clearance on all sides.	Minimum 1.5 A	Fall season - Long axis northwest or southeast. For longer periods, north/south	15 - 30 minute travel time. Usually part of baseball, football, soccer complex in community park or adjacent to high school.
Football	160' x 360' with a minimum of 6' clearance on all sides.	Minimum 1.5 A	Same as field hockey.	15 - 30 min. travel time. Same as field hockey.
Soccer	195' to 225' x 330' to 360' with 10' minimum clearance on all sides.	1.7 - 2.1 A	Same as field hockey.	1 - 2 miles. Number of units depends on popularity. Youth popularity. Youth soccer on smaller fields adjacent to fields or neighborhood parks.
Golf - Driving Range	900' x 690' wide. Add 12' width each additional tee.	13.5 A for min. of 25 tees.	Long axis is southwest - northeast with golfer driving northeast.	30 minute travel time. Park of golf course complex. As separate unit may be privately operated.

Source: National Recreation and Park Association

SUGGESTED OUTDOOR FACILITY DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS (continued)				
Activity Format	Recommended Size and Dimensions	Recommended Space Requirements	Recommended Orientation	Service Radius and Location Notes
¼ mile running track	Over-all width - 276' length - 600'. Track width for 8 - 4 lanes is 32'.	4.3 A	Long axis in sector from north to south to northwest - southeast, with finish line at north end.	15 - 30 minute travel time. Usually part of a high school or community park complex in combination with football, soccer, etc.
Softball	Baselines - 60' pitching distance - 45' men. 40' women Fast pitch field radius from plate - 225' Slow pitch - 275' (men) 250' (women)	1.5 - 2.0 A	Same as baseball. indimensions for 16".	¼ - ½ mile. Slight difference. May also be used for youth baseball.
Multiple use court (basketball, tennis, etc.)	120' x 80'	9,840 sq. ft.	Long axis of court with primary use north and south.	1 - 2 miles, in neighborhood or community parks.
Archery range	300' length x minimum 10' between targets. Roped, clear area on side of range minimum 30', clear space behind targets minimum of 90' x 45' with bunker.	Minimum 0.65 A	Archer facing north + or - 45 degrees.	30 minutes travel time. Part of a regional/metro complex.
Golf 1. Par 3 (18 hole) 2. 9-hole standard 3. 18-hole standard	Average length varies -600 - 2700 yards. Average length 2250 yards Average length 6500 yards.	50 - 60 A Minimum of 50 A Minimum 110 yards	Majority of holes on north/south axis	½ - 1 hour travel time 9-hole course can accommodate 350 people/day 500 - 550 people/day. Course may be located in community, district or regional/metro park.
Swimming pools	Teaching - min. 25 yards x 45' even depth of 3-4 ft. Competitive - min. 25 m x 16 m. Min. of 25 sq. ft. water surface per swimmer. Ration of 2 to 1 deck to water.	Varies on size of pool and amenities. Usually 1 - 2 A sites.	None, but care must be taken in siting life stations in relation to afternoon sun.	15 to 30 minutes travel time. Pools for general community use should be planned for teaching competitive and recreational purposes with enough to accommodate 1m and 3m diving boards. Located in community park or school site.
Beach areas	Beach area should have 50 sq. ft. of land and 50 sa. ft. of water per user. Turnover rate is 3. There should be a 3-4 A supporting area per A of beach.	N/A	N/A	½ to 1 hour travel time. Should have a sand bottom with a maximum slope of 5%. Boating areas completely segregated from swimming areas. In regional/metro parks.

Source: National Recreation and Park Association