



- DISC GOLF COURSE-18 HOLES
- PLAYGROUND
- PICNIC PAVILION
- RV CAMPGROUND-20 SPACES

SEATING NODE

SEATING NODE

SEATING NODE

EXISTING BOAT RAMP

PROPOSED

8' MULTI-USE PATH

RESTROOM  
PLAYGROUND  
SEATING  
NODE  
PAVILION

CAR AND TRAILER  
PARKING  
BOAT LAUNCH  
PROPOSED NEW BRIDGE  
EXISTING COVERED BRIDGE  
CAR PARKING



Decatur - Adams County Parks & Recreation  
 5 Year Master Plan  
 February 17, 2012



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

**Common Council** | John L. Schultz, Mayor | Phyllis J. Whitright, Clerk-Treasurer | Cameron Collier | Matthew J. Dyer | Charles E. Cook | William L. Crone | Kenneth L. Meyer

**Decatur Parks Board** | Larry Isch | Medford Smith | Fred Schultz | Kara Martin | Joan Siefring | Kelly Ehinger

**Adams County Parks Board** | Phyllis Hebble | Richard Stimpson | Marc Ripley | Jenny Karner | Larry Butler | Amy Johnson

**Parks and Recreation Master Plan Committee** | Steve Krull | Larry Isch | Chris Krull | Sue Milholland | Dwight Pierce | Nan Everett | Deb Stimpson

**Planning Consultant** | Wightman Petrie

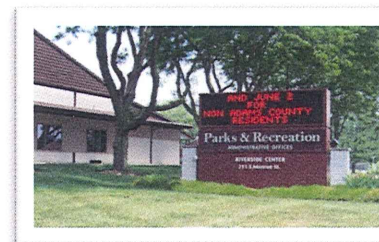


*River Greenway Trail*



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Parks and open space play a key role in the quality of life in an area. They can provide residents with the opportunity to be physically active, can improve nearby property values, and can offer locations for relaxation and social interactions. They should be considered urban necessities, not civic frills. As budgets tighten, the maintenance and expansion of these valuable resources become increasingly difficult. The proper allocation of resources will be necessary to see the perpetuation of these assets.

The Decatur-Adams County Parks and Recreation Department (DACPRD) Five-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan is intended to provide short and long term guidance to the Park Department's staff in the development and stewardship of the parks, trails, recreation facilities, and programs. Long term sustainability depends on prioritized decision-making, identification of core services, and maximized use of resources.

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan is divided into four major components: *Who are we?*, *What do we want?*, *What can we do?*, and *How can we do it?*

*Who are we?* provides a brief history of the Parks and Recreation Department, an overview of the area's characteristics and settings, and a review of its existing services and facilities.

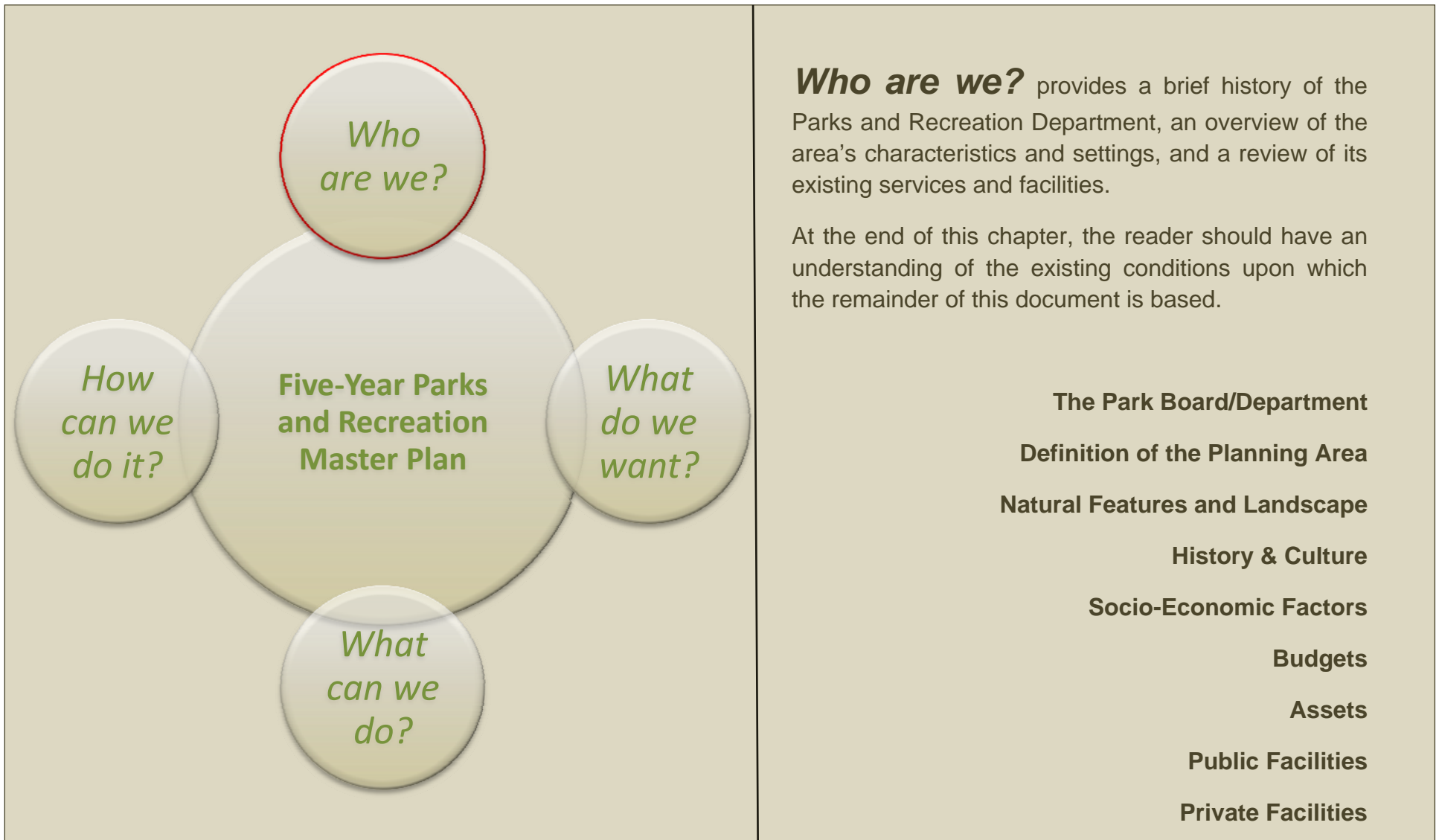
*What do we want?* is a compilation of stakeholder input, key person interviews, and public participation. This segment drives the entire focus of the plan. It assimilates the concerns and comments of the community into a cohesive vision.

*What can we do?* offers solutions. After a thorough analysis of the system, any amenity deficiencies will be addressed in this section.

*How can we do it?* outlines various long and short range expanded implementation strategies for selected component plans. This chapter details the duties, partnerships, and funding models needed to achieve specific community visions. It is a valuable reference for planners, officials, and community stakeholders alike.









## THE PARK BOARD / DEPARTMENT

The DACPR department is controlled by two separate boards; the Decatur Parks Board and the Adams County Parks Board. These two entities have a long history of sharing duties, equipment, and man power. This hybrid parks and recreation department was created in an effort to best provide for both jurisdictions. By combining the populations of the two, the inherent benefits of greater size are attained that might otherwise be inaccessible to both. This partnership has allowed for the better use of funding and municipal resources. They have also been able to provide quality parks and open spaces to all residents, regardless of their physical location. With the local and regional populations being relatively small, this joint effort has given both jurisdictions the means to provide quality services, facilities, and amenities that might not otherwise be achievable. As budgets continue to tighten and funding continues to be cut, most parks and recreation departments will struggle. However, the DACPRD will prove to be more resilient as they have already successfully adapted to some of these challenges.

The Decatur Parks Board was first created in 1970, and was re-established in 1982 according to the requirements of Indiana Code 36-10-3. The Adams County Parks Board was created in 1967 and was re-established in 1982 also in accordance with the abovementioned Indiana Code. In 1974, the City and Adams County created a beneficial agreement that enabled the different departments to share equipment and people.

In 1972, the positions of Superintendent and Secretary were created with a contract. Two additional positions, Director of Leisure Services and the Leisure Services Manager were added in 2009.

### Current Decatur Parks Board:

- Larry Isch President
- Medford Smith Vice President
- Fred Schultz Board Member
- Kara Martin Board Member
- Joan Siefiring Board Member
- Kelly Ehinger Secretary

### Current Adams County Parks Board:

- Phyllis Hebble President
- Richard Stimpson Vice President
- Marc Ripley Board Member
- Jenny Karner Board Member
- Larry Butler Board Member
- Amy Johnson Board Member

The main office of the DACPRD is located at the Riverside Center, 231 E. Monroe Street, in Decatur. The following is a list of the department staff:

### Current Decatur Parks and Recreation Department:

- Stephen A. Krull Superintendent
- Chris Krull Director of Leisure Services
- Sue Milholland Director of Maintenance
- Dwight Pierce Director of Forestry
- Nan Everett Leisure Services Manager
- Mary Friedt Maintenance / Youth Sports Coordinator

### Current Adams County Parks and Recreation Department:

- Craig Krull County Maintenance
- Deb Stimpson Office Manager



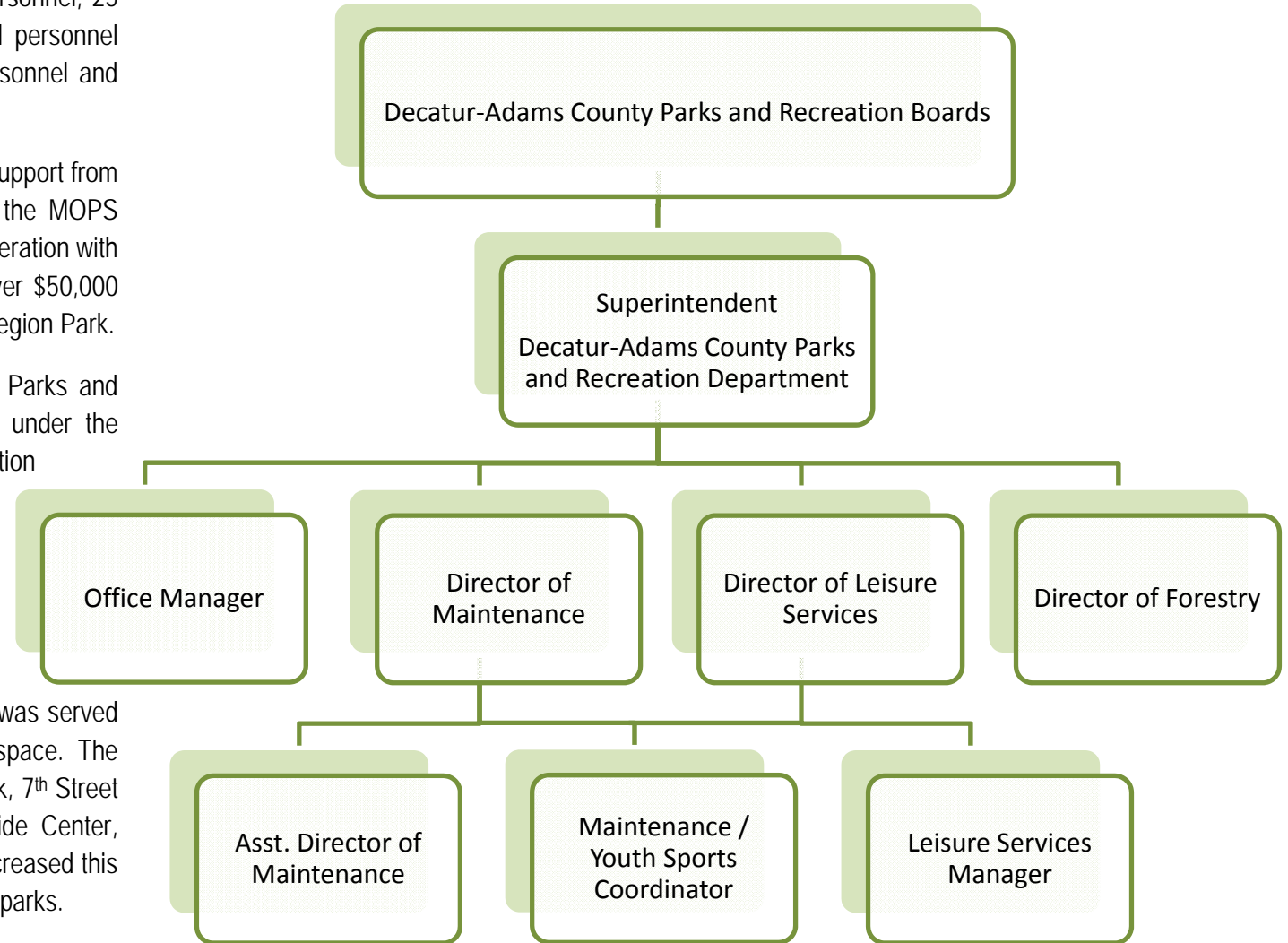
## Who are we? THE PARK BOARD / DEPARTMENT

Currently, the City employs 6 full-time personnel, 25 part-time personnel, and 20-25 seasonal personnel while the County employs 2 full-time personnel and 10 part-time personnel.

The department also receives additional support from volunteer organizations. Most recently, the MOPS (Mothers of Pre-Schoolers) group, in cooperation with the Decatur Parks Department, raised over \$50,000 to upgrade the playground equipment at Legion Park.

At this time, the Decatur-Adams County Parks and Recreation Department is not operating under the guidance of a 5-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan. In December of 1971, a Park and Open Space Plan for the City of Decatur and Adams County was completed by James H. Neidigh and Associates.

According to this study, in 1971 Decatur was served by approximately 90 acres of public open space. The addition of Kekionga Park, Eastbrook Park, 7<sup>th</sup> Street Depot, the acreage north of the Riverside Center, and the park maintenance building has increased this number to over 172 acres of Decatur-only parks.



## DEFINITION OF THE PLANNING AREA

The Decatur-Adams County Parks and Recreation Department (DACPRD) service area includes the City of Decatur as well as all of Adams County. The department shares maintenance duties and facilities with other agencies and schools, as needed, in an effort to maximize resources. The planning area for the Decatur-Adams County Parks and Recreation Department is the same as its service area.

### Department Philosophy:

The philosophy of the Decatur-Adams County Parks and Recreation Department is to enhance leisure lifestyles and quality of life, through program development, leisure services, beautification projects, educational services, and park maintenance. The department supports all efforts towards quality leisure services and thrives on the challenges set forth to meet the interest and needs of all citizens.

Promote public awareness and support Parks and Recreation services, facilities, and programs.

Enhance the quality of life through the development, beautification, and maintenance of our park systems and facilities.

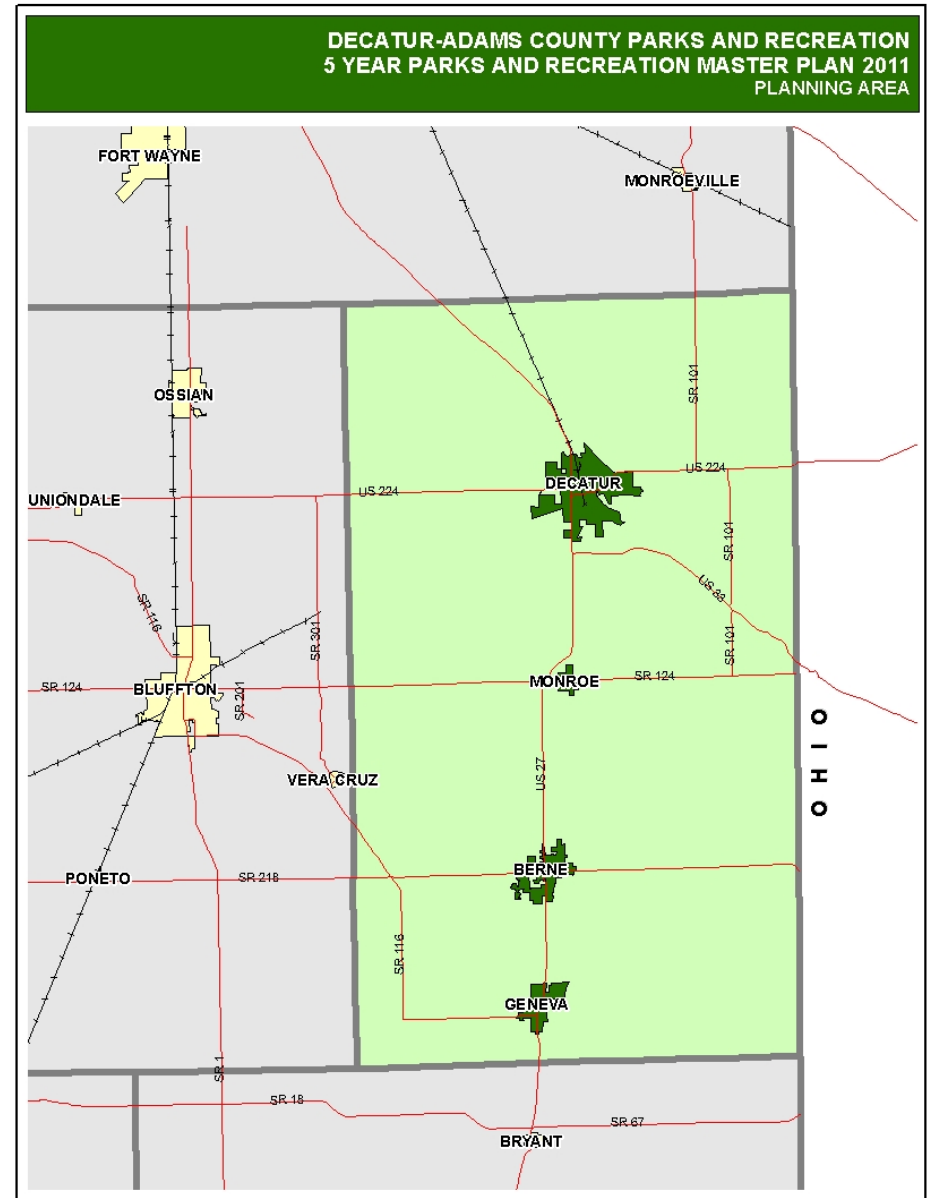
Promote sound environmental programs and practices.

Provide quality leisure time activities and programs.

Promote inter-agency cooperation.

Provide leadership and direction for the changing needs of our community.

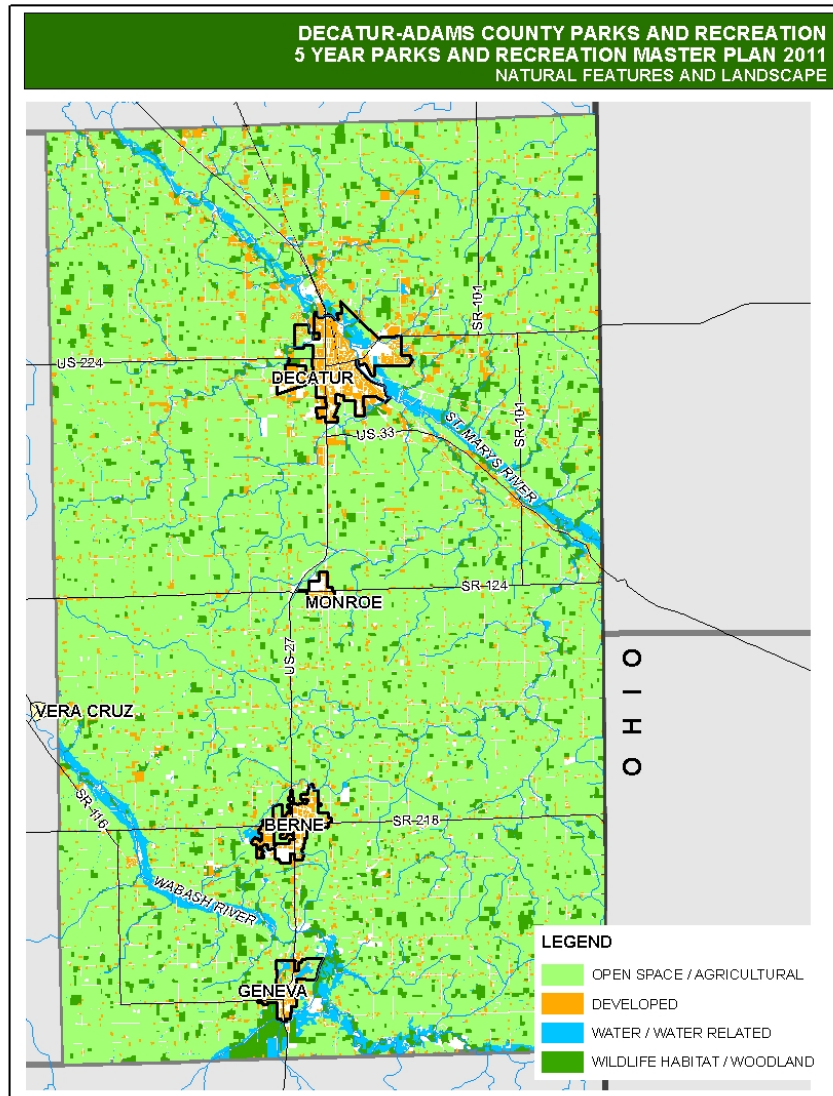
Preserve, protect, and restore historical sites and heritages.





# Who are we? NATURAL FEATURES AND LANDSCAPE

## NATURAL FEATURES AND LANDSCAPE



As seen on the figure to the right, most of Adams County is agricultural. The majority of the remaining land is either developed, water, or remains in some natural state.

Almost all of the topography in the County is flat to gently sloping. The areas closest to rivers and major creeks demonstrate a much greater change in elevation as the land slopes toward these water features.

The hydrologic flow in Adams County is generally to either the St. Marys River or the Wabash River, both of which flow in a northwesterly direction. In addition to these two major rivers, there are numerous creeks and ditches that help to complete this substantial water network.

There are two areas in the county that are designated preserves (see Regional Public Facilities figure). Northeast of Monroe is the Baltzell-Lenhard Woods Nature Preserve and in the extreme south central portion of the County is the Limberlost Swamp Wetlands Preserve.

Approximately 78% of the County's land is comprised of three soil types: Pm – Pewamo silty clay; BcA – Blount silt loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes; and BcB – Blount silt loam, 1 to 4 percent slopes. These soil types are generally associated with being 'somewhat' to 'very' poor to drain with frequent ponding.

It has been observed that the water flow and elevation within the St. Marys and Wabash Rivers drastically fluctuates throughout the year and flooding frequently occurs after major rain events.

A few of the parks in the system have natural features that should be protected and expanded if possible; Belmont Pond contains a pond and natural area, Kekionga Park has a wetlands area, Limberlost Park has a prairie, and both Limberlost and Linn Grove parks (both next to the Wabash River) have the potential to convert some of the mowed areas to native plantings.

**HISTORY AND CULTURE – ADAMS COUNTY**

Adams County was created by statute on February 7, 1835, and was officially organized on March 1, 1836. It is named after the sixth President of the United States, John Quincy Adams. There are 12 Civil Townships: Blue Creek, French, Hartford, Jefferson, Kirkland, Monroe, Preble, Root, St. Marys, Union, Wabash and Washington, four cities: Decatur, Berne, Geneva, and Monroe and numerous smaller communities.

In an effort to have the county seat located in Decatur, a Decatur resident



*Adams County Courthouse*

named Samuel Johnson donated four church lots, half an acre for a public square, one acre for a seminary, and two acres for a cemetery in downtown Decatur. The County is populated with many Amish families. These families may augment the local economy and labor force, but their true contributions are in their enhancements to the local culture.

**HISTORY AND CULTURE – DECATUR**

The City of Decatur, founded in 1836 by Samuel Rugg, is located in Root and Washington Townships in Adams County. The city functions as the county seat of Adams County and is named after Stephen Decatur, Jr., an American naval officer who served in the Barbary Wars and in the War of 1812.

Decatur is proud of its culture and heritage. It is this legacy that gives the City a hometown feel and provides the residents with a great place to call home. They play host to many celebrations and traditions such as the Motorcycle Festival, Christmas Open House, the annual Callithumpian Parade, the weekly Farmer's Market, and the annual Kekionga Festival. The anticipated renovations to the historic railroad depot and county courthouse as well as improvements to the downtown river district will provide the community with additional cultural centers for public enjoyment.

Continuing to provide quality cultural amenities for both the County and City will require a coordinated effort between the Parks and Recreation Department as well as the governing bodies of both jurisdictions.



*Decatur Farmer's Market*



## DEMOGRAPHICS

The following statistics are based on data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010, unless otherwise noted.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Adams County has a population of 34,387 and the City of Decatur has a population of 9,405. A majority of this population is classified as white with a very small percentile being non-white.

The table to the right indicates that Adams County has a higher percentage of children (ages 0-19) and a lower percentage of adults (20-74) than the State of Indiana. However, Decatur is for the most part within a half a percent of the State for each category, although they do have a significantly higher senior population of 75 to 84 years of age.

With the exception of the 'less than 9<sup>th</sup> grade', the County and City education percentiles are very similar and will therefore be compared jointly to the Indiana education statistics. Fewer inhabitants in the City and County have either a high school diploma (or equivalent) or a Bachelor's degree or higher.

Based on Decatur's growth patterns over the past two decades, it is estimated that by 2020 the community will have a growth of 175-198 people for a population between 9,750 and 9,773. This represents an annual growth rate of between 0.15% and 0.17% and a 12 year growth rate of 2.08%.

Currently, Indiana has 6.7% below the poverty level, Adams County is 6.1%, and Decatur is 5.6% below poverty.

Population (Percent)	Indiana	Adams County	Decatur
Under 5 years	7.0	8.0	7.0
5 to 9 years	7.3	8.9	7.8
10 to 14 years	7.3	8.8	7.3
15 to 19 years	7.5	8.4	7.1
20 to 24 years	7.0	6.1	7.0
25 to 34 years	13.7	12.3	13.7
35 to 44 years	15.8	14.0	15.0
45 to 54 years	13.4	12.0	12.7
55 to 59 years	4.8	4.3	4.2
60 to 64 years	3.9	3.8	3.5
65 to 74 years	6.5	6.0	7.0
75 to 84 years	4.4	5.3	6.0
85 years and over	1.5	2.2	1.7
Race (Percent)	Indiana	Adams County	Decatur
White	87.5	97.3	94.6
Black or African American	8.4	0.1	0.2
American Indian and Alaska Native	0.3	0.2	0.3
Asian	1.0	0.2	0.4
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.1
Some other race	1.6	1.5	3.6
Two or more races	1.2	0.7	0.8
Education - 25 years and older (Percent)	Indiana	Adams County	Decatur
Less than 9th grade	5.3	9.3	4.2
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	12.6	10.7	10.8
High school graduate (including equivalency)	37.2	45.0	47.9
Some college, no degree	19.7	18.3	19.8
Associate degree	5.8	6.0	6.1
Bachelor's degree	12.2	6.2	6.8
Graduate or professional degree	7.2	4.4	4.4

*U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000*

## Who are we? SOCIO ECONOMIC FACTORS

### DEMOGRAPHICS

On average, both the City and County have a higher percentage of residents with an income of less than \$50,000. The table at the right indicates that the State has a higher percentage of household incomes of \$50,000 and greater. However, Indiana has a greater percentage of residents below the poverty level than does Adams County or the City of Decatur.

Vacancy rates are greater for Indiana than in the County and City. The City does show a disproportionate share of renter-occupied housing units when compared to the County and State figures. Similarly, Adams County has a relatively higher percentage of owner-occupied units than either the State or the City.



Household Income (Percent)	Indiana	Adams County	Decatur
Less than \$10,000	8.1	6.3	8.4
\$10,000 to \$14,999	6.2	6.5	7.2
\$15,000 to \$24,999	13.5	14.7	16.2
\$25,000 to \$34,999	13.7	15.0	14.9
\$35,000 to \$49,999	17.9	20.5	20.0
\$50,000 to \$74,999	21.4	20.8	18.5
\$75,000, to \$99,999	10.2	10.3	10.4
\$100,000 to \$149,999	6.3	4.2	3.2
\$150,000 to \$199,999	1.4	1.0	0.7
\$200,000 and more	1.5	0.7	0.3

Poverty (Percent)	Indiana	Adams County	Decatur
Percent of population below poverty	6.7	6.1	5.6

Housing Units (Percent)	Indiana	Adams County	Decatur
Owner-occupied housing units	65.9	73.4	64.3
Renter-occupied housing units	26.4	21.9	30.2
Vacant housing units	7.7	4.7	5.5

*U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000*

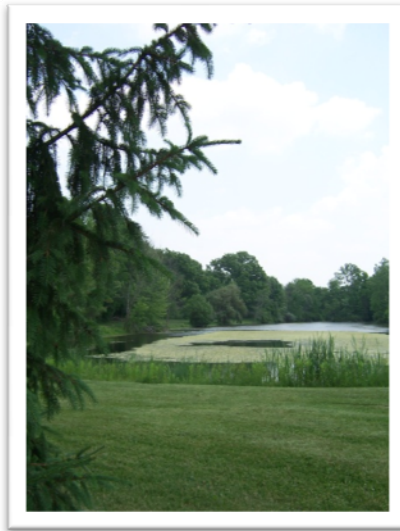


**BUDGETS**

Parks and open space play a key role in the quality of life in an area. They can provide residents with the opportunity to be physically active, can improve nearby property values, and can offer locations for relaxation and social interactions. They should be considered urban necessities, not civic frills. As budgets tighten, the maintenance and expansion of these valuable resources become increasingly difficult. The proper allocation of resources will be necessary to see the perpetuation of these assets.

Currently, the DACPRD manages assets totaling over 28 million dollars on a combined budget of \$960,656. A reduction in full-time staff enabled the Department to set aside funds for minor capital improvement projects in 2011.

The tables to the right demonstrate the Projected 2012 budget as well as the current 2011 budget for both the City and the County.



County Budget	2011	Projected 2012
Personal Services	\$103,875	\$106,787
Supplies	\$7,950	\$6,350
Other Services and Charges	\$50,075	\$51,689
Equipment and Misc. Appropriations	\$2,000	\$2,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$163,900</b>	<b>\$166,826</b>

County Budget Non-Reverting Funds	2011	Projected 2012
Personal Services	\$7,540	\$7,540
Supplies	\$33,000	\$33,000
Other Services and Charges	\$22,600	\$22,600
Equipment and Misc. Appropriations	\$40,000	\$40,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$103,140</b>	<b>\$103,140</b>

City Budget	2011	Projected 2012
Personal Services	\$564,259	\$485,740
Supplies	\$69,000	\$69,000
Other Services and Charges	\$79,150	\$95,950
Capital Outlays	\$20,000	\$40,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$732,409</b>	<b>\$690,690</b>



**ASSETS**

The following pages inventory the assets of both the City and County public and private facilities. Each park inventory is accompanied by a brief description of the park, a listing of the park’s amenities and facilities, a park profile, and a map showing the park, a vicinity map, and its proximity to trails, wetlands, and floodplains. This review will enable a more thorough analysis in the *What can we do?* portion of this document.

The description and profile are based on input from the staff, key person interviews, as well as comments from the public survey.

The Parks and Recreation Department staff was responsible for gathering this information by completing an inventory sheet for each facility. All data was then added to a customized Geographic Information System (GIS) that can be utilized for planning, maintenance, and asset management. All conditional ratings are subject to the knowledge and opinions of the staff.

The asset inventory is divided into the following categories:

- Decatur Public Facilities
- Adams County Public Facilities
- Adams County Public Schools
- Regional Public Facilities
- Monroe, Berne, and Geneva facilities as they pertain to the DACPRD
- Decatur Private Facilities

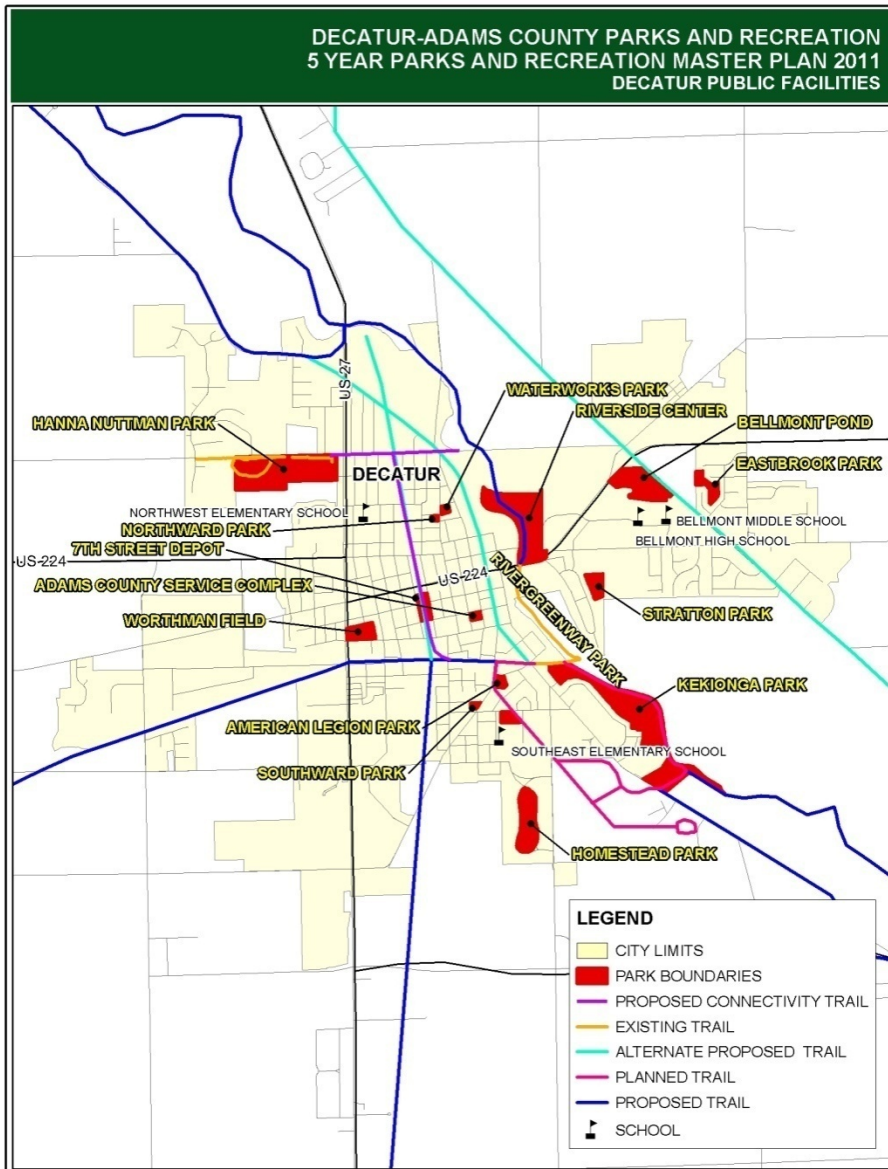
Managed Assets	City	County
Riverside Center	\$3,000,000	
Swimming Pool	\$3,000,000	
Parks-188 acres (at \$3,000/acre)	\$564,000	
Parks-101 acres (at \$3,000/acre)		\$303,000
Ball Fields – 18	\$360,000	
Ball Fields – 7 lighted (\$40,000 ea)	\$280,000	
Ball Field (completed in 2006)	\$40,000	
Pavilions and Restrooms	\$500,000	
Trail Systems (3.5 miles)	\$350,000	
Maintenance Shop	\$500,000	
Maintenance Vehicles (7 trucks)	\$120,000	\$15,000
Maintenance Mowers (5 mowers)	\$60,000	\$15,000
Maintenance Tractors and Equipment	\$50,000	\$40,000
Adams County Service Complex		\$7,000,000
Adams County Gymnasium (at Complex)		\$2,000,000
Adams County Fitness Center (at Complex)		\$250,000
Adams County Superior Court		\$4,000,000
Adams County Courthouse		\$15,000,000
Trees	\$7,000,000	
Playgrounds and Site Amenities	\$750,000	
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$16,574,000</b>	<b>\$28,623,000</b>

## DECATUR PUBLIC FACILITIES

Serving as the county seat, Decatur is the largest city in Adams County with 9,405 residents. There are four public schools located here; Northwest Elementary School, Belmont High School, Belmont Middle School, and Southeast Elementary School.

A number of proposed NIRCC trails traverse Decatur's city limits. There is a proposed trail that runs northwest-southeast along the St. Marys River and another that enters the City's northwest quadrant along Winchester Road and exits southeast of the City along Salem Road. The proposed south bound trail runs along the abandoned railroad and will connect to Monroe. The west bound trail will also utilize a vacated rail corridor. Two trails, the Rivergreenway Trail and the Hanna Nuttman Park trail, are fully operational and heavily used by the community. Another trail, the connectivity trail, has been proposed by the City's Comprehensive Plan to bisect the city within a low traffic rail right-of-way. It would serve to link the east-west NIRCC trail to the Hanna Nuttman Park trail.

Within Decatur city limits, the DACPR is responsible for fourteen facilities; eleven parks, two buildings and grounds, and one trail. The following is a list of the fourteen park assets: 7<sup>th</sup> Street Depot, American Legion Park, Belmont Pond Park, Eastbrook Park, Hanna Nuttman Park, Homestead Park, Kekionga Park, Northward Park, Rivergreenway Trail, Riverside Center, Southward Park, Stratton Park, Waterworks Park, and Worthman Field.





## DECATUR PUBLIC FACILITIES AMERICAN LEGION PARK

The American Legion Park has recently received new ADA accessible playground equipment through a combined effort between M.O.P.S (Mothers of pre-schoolers) and the Decatur Parks Department. According to the public survey, the park's appearance is listed as 'good'.

### Strengths and Liabilities

- Strengths:
  - new ADA accessible play structure
  - variety of playground equipment
  - located in residential setting
  - restroom facilities
  - heavily frequented
  - proximity to trail
- Liabilities:
  - would like to have bathrooms open
  - need more picnic tables

AMENITIES/FACILITIES	
Baseball Diamond	
Basketball Hoop	
Soccer Field	
Tennis Courts	
Swimming Pool	
Volleyball Court	X
Running/Walking	
Football Field	
Obstacle Course	
Gymnasium	
Horseshoe Pit	
Teeter Totter	
Spring Rocker	
Merry-go-round	X
Climbing Equipment	
Swings	X
Slides	X
Play Structures	X
Exercise Equipment	
Boat Launch/Marina	
Beach	
Grill	
Picnic Table	X
Pavilion	X
Restroom	X
Concession Stand	
Bleachers	
Campsite/Cabin	
Benches/Seating	
Drinking Fountain	X
Other	X
PARK PROFILE	
Use	Passive and Active
Usage	Heavy
Category	Community Park
Park Condition	Fair/Excellent
ADA Rating	Fair



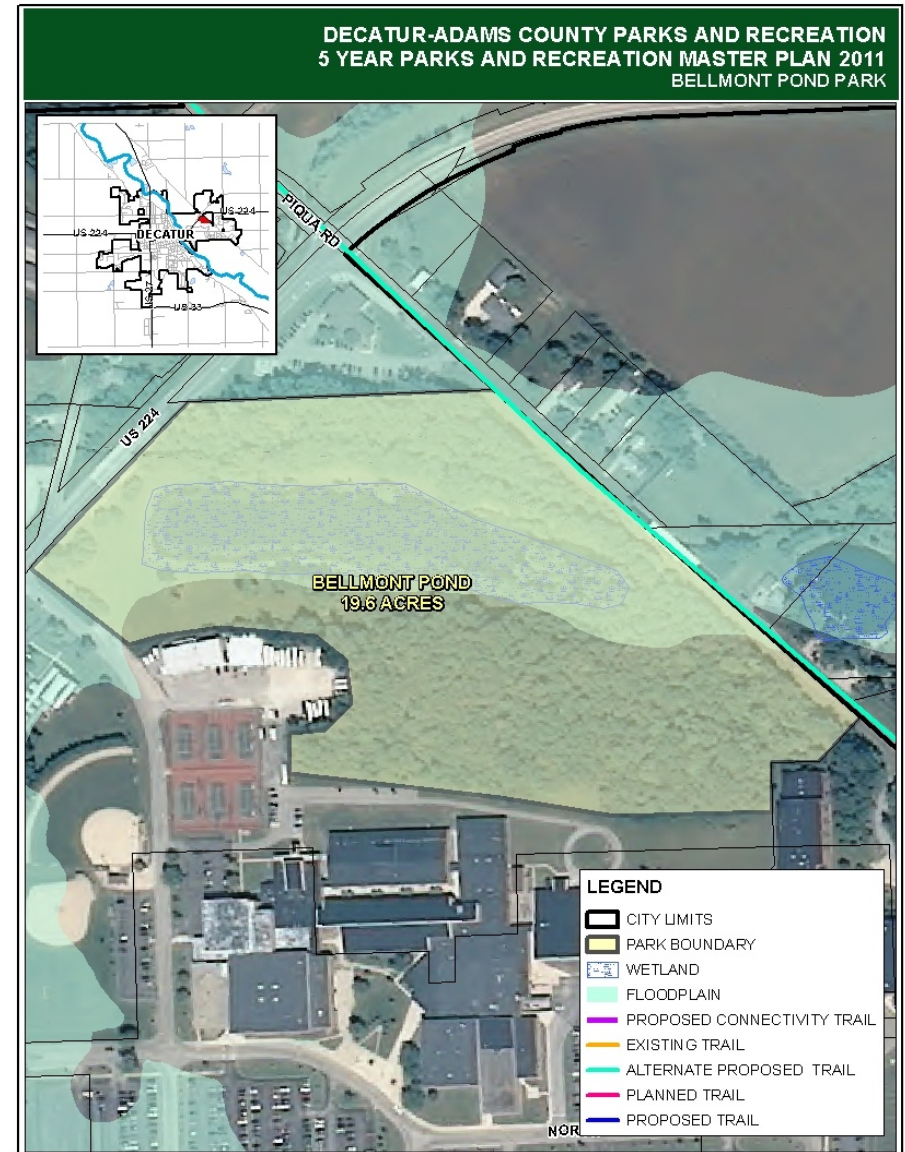
**DECATUR PUBLIC FACILITIES  
BELLMONT POND PARK**

The figure to the right indicates that approximately half of the park lies within a floodplain. It was originally constructed using Land and Water Conservation Funds and is primarily considered a nature area. The property is owned by the school system, but maintained by the parks department.

**Strengths and Liabilities**

- Strengths:
  - appearance rated as fair
  - fishing and canoeing available
  - used by school for education
- Liabilities:
  - could be enhanced to attract more visitors
  - difficult to mow due to tendency to flood
  - no parking available

AMENITIES/FACILITIES	
Baseball Diamond	
Basketball Hoop	
Soccer Field	
Tennis Courts	
Swimming Pool	
Volleyball Court	
Running/Walking	X
Football Field	
Obstacle Course	
Gymnasium	
Horseshoe Pit	
Teeter Totter	
Spring Rocker	
Merry-go-round	
Climbing Equipment	
Swings	
Slides	
Play Structures	
Exercise Equipment	
Boat Launch/Marina	X
Beach	
Grill	
Picnic Table	X
Pavilion	
Restroom	
Concession Stand	
Bleachers	
Campsite/Cabin	
Benches/Seating	
Drinking Fountain	
Other	
PARK PROFILE	
Use	Passive
Usage	Low
Category	School Park
Park Condition	Fair/Excellent
ADA Rating	Poor





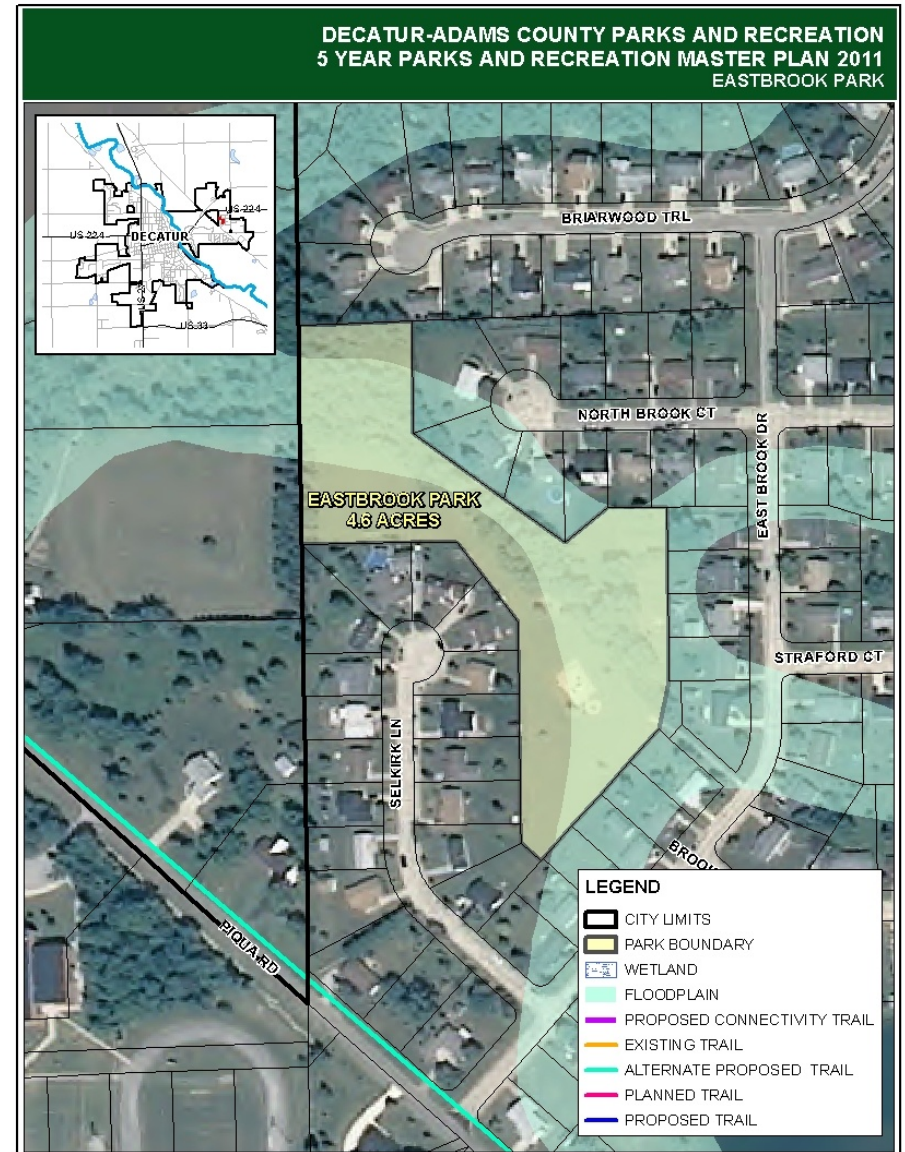
## DECATUR PUBLIC FACILITIES EASTBROOK PARK

This park is nestled behind numerous homes in a subdivision east of the middle school. A substantial portion of the park is located within a floodplain.

### Strengths and Liabilities

- Strengths:
  - good-sized
  - 29 homes have direct access
- Liabilities:
  - difficult to access
  - poor location, tucked behind homes
  - needs to be grassed

AMENITIES/FACILITIES	
Baseball Diamond	
Basketball Hoop	
Soccer Field	
Tennis Courts	
Swimming Pool	
Volleyball Court	
Running/Walking	
Football Field	
Obstacle Course	
Gymnasium	
Horseshoe Pit	
Teeter Totter	
Spring Rocker	
Merry-go-round	X
Climbing Equipment	
Swings	X
Slides	X
Play Structures	X
Exercise Equipment	
Boat Launch/Marina	
Beach	
Grill	
Picnic Table	X
Pavilion	
Restroom	
Concession Stand	
Bleachers	
Campsite/Cabin	
Benches/Seating	X
Drinking Fountain	
Other	
PARK PROFILE	
Use	Active
Usage	Moderate
Category	Neighborhood
Park Condition	Fair
ADA Rating	Poor





## DECATUR PUBLIC FACILITIES HANNA NUTTMAN PARK

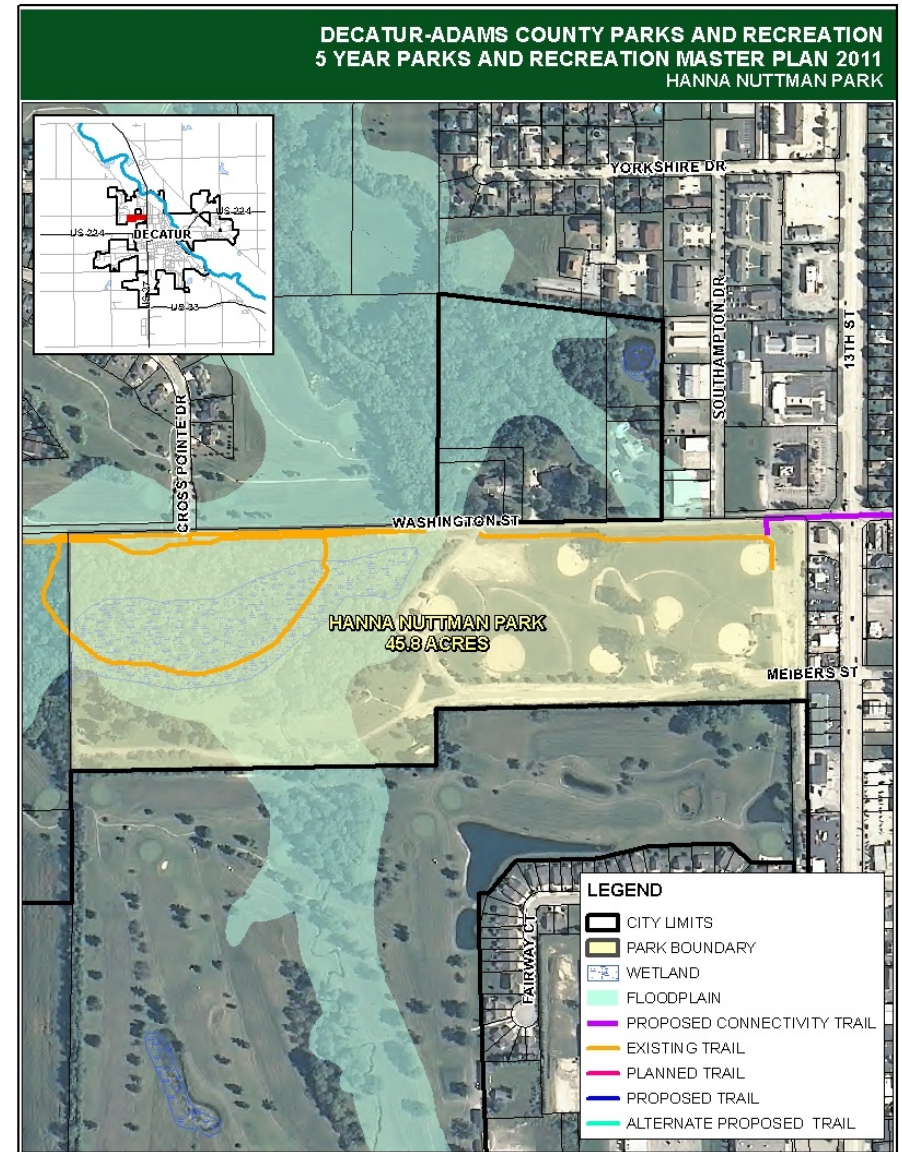
This park, donated to the City in 1932, is the last remnant of the original forest in the Decatur Area. The east portion of the park is dedicated to active uses, while the west portion is in the floodplain and geared more toward passive use.

### Strengths and Liabilities

- Strengths:
  - good-sized
  - appearance rated as fair
  - most frequented park
  - good potential
- Liabilities:
  - no place to picnic and play
  - could be better utilized
  - bathrooms are closed
  - outdated utilities



AMENITIES/FACILITIES	
Baseball Diamond	X
Basketball Hoop	
Soccer Field	
Tennis Courts	
Swimming Pool	
Volleyball Court	
Running/Walking	X
Football Field	
Obstacle Course	
Gymnasium	
Horseshoe Pit	X
Teeter Totter	
Spring Rocker	X
Merry-go-round	X
Climbing Equipment	
Swings	X
Slides	X
Play Structures	
Exercise Equipment	
Boat Launch/Marina	
Beach	
Grill	
Picnic Table	X
Pavilion	X
Restroom	X
Concession Stand	X
Bleachers	X
Campsite/Cabin	X
Benches/Seating	X
Drinking Fountain	X
Other	X
PARK PROFILE	
Use	Passive and Active
Usage	Heavy
Category	Community
Park Condition	Fair
ADA Rating	Poor



## DECATUR PUBLIC FACILITIES HOMESTEAD PARK

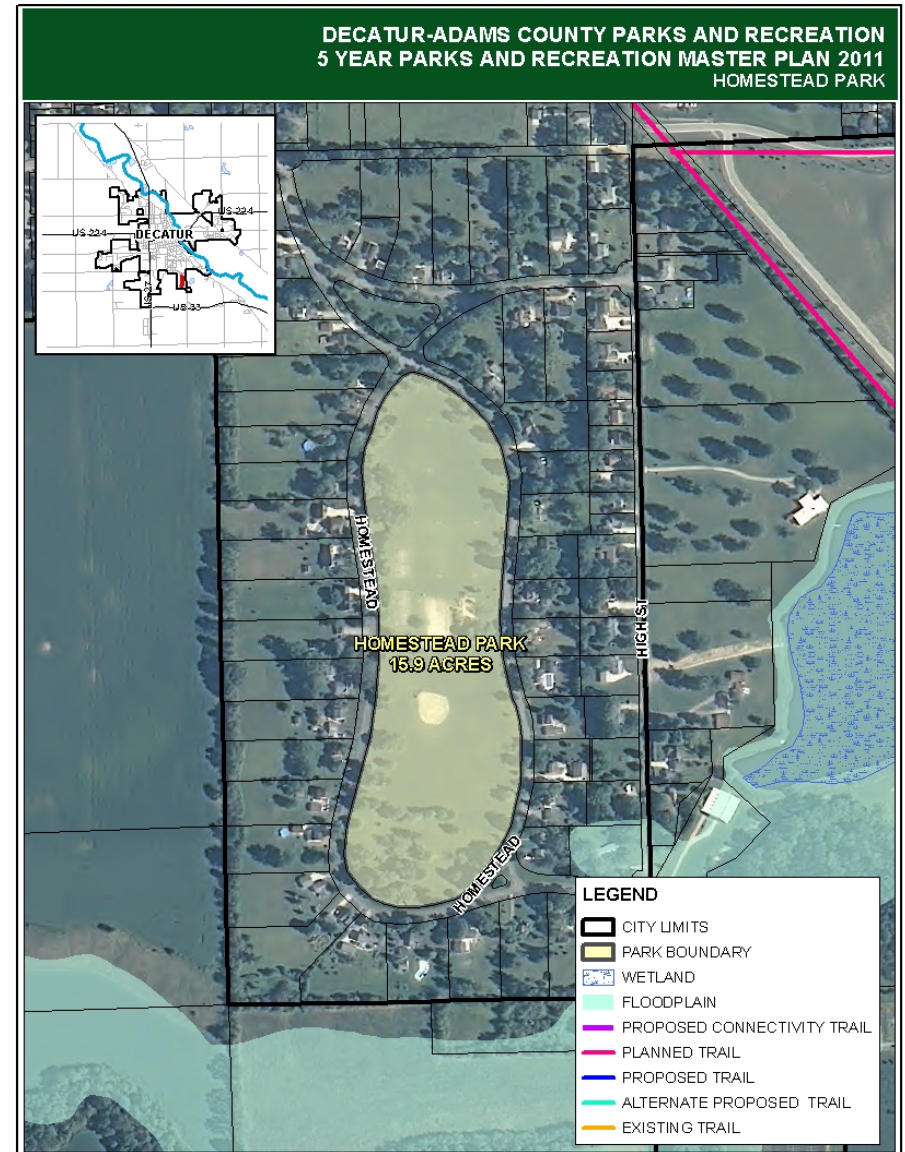
Although the park is not located in a floodplain or wetland area, both lie a short distance to the south and southeast. The park was developed as part of the Homestead Housing subdivision.

### Strengths and Liabilities

- Strengths:
  - good-sized
  - appearance rated as fair
  - great open space
- Liabilities:
  - numerous houses face the park
  - could be better utilized
  - tennis court needs resurfaced
  - basketball court needs resurfaced



AMENITIES/FACILITIES	
Baseball Diamond	X
Basketball Hoop	X
Soccer Field	X
Tennis Courts	X
Swimming Pool	
Volleyball Court	
Running/Walking	
Football Field	
Obstacle Course	
Gymnasium	
Horseshoe Pit	
Teeter Totter	
Spring Rocker	
Merry-go-round	X
Climbing Equipment	
Swings	X
Slides	X
Play Structures	
Exercise Equipment	
Boat Launch/Marina	
Beach	
Grill	
Picnic Table	X
Pavilion	
Restroom	
Concession Stand	
Bleachers	
Campsite/Cabin	
Benches/Seating	
Drinking Fountain	
Other	
PARK PROFILE	
Use	Active
Usage	Moderate
Category	Community
Park Condition	Fair/Excellent
ADA Rating	Poor





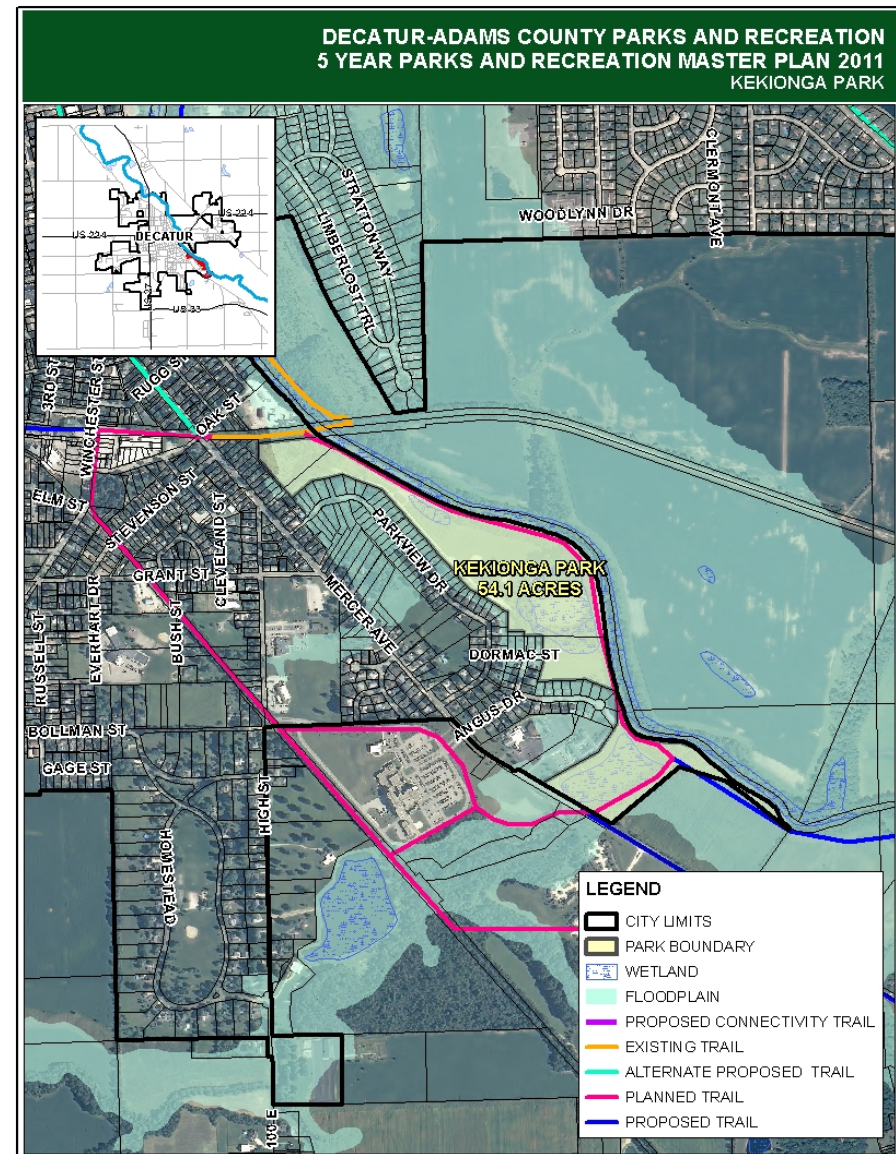
**DECATUR PUBLIC FACILITIES  
KEKIONGA PARK**

Kekionga Park is just southeast of downtown Decatur and abuts the south leg of the Rivergreenway Trail. Future plans for the area include both planned and proposed trails that will serve to broaden its accessibility to the region.

**Strengths and Liabilities**

- Strengths:
  - proximity to St. Marys River
  - appearance rated as fair
  - part of the park is being converted to a wetlands
  - water and sewer utilities are located in higher elevations
  - potential for disc golf course
  - has multi-use path
- Liabilities:
  - lower areas of park are frequently inundated with flood waters
  - pavilion, gazebo, and trail suffer from flooding
  - excess backfield is in poor condition and under used

AMENITIES/FACILITIES	
Baseball Diamond	X
Basketball Hoop	X
Soccer Field	
Tennis Courts	
Swimming Pool	
Volleyball Court	
Running/Walking	
Football Field	
Obstacle Course	
Gymnasium	
Horseshoe Pit	
Teeter Totter	
Spring Rocker	
Merry-go-round	X
Climbing Equipment	X
Swings	X
Slides	X
Play Structures	
Exercise Equipment	
Boat Launch/Marina	X
Beach	
Grill	
Picnic Table	X
Pavilion	X
Restroom	X
Concession Stand	
Bleachers	
Campsite/Cabin	
Benches/Seating	
Drinking Fountain	X
Other	
PARK PROFILE	
Use	Passive and Active
Usage	Moderate
Category	Community Park
Park Condition	Fair
ADA Rating	Poor





**DECATUR PUBLIC FACILITIES  
NORTHWARD PARK**

Northward Park is the first skate park in the region and located next to the city pool.

**Strengths and Liabilities**

- Strengths:
  - skate park
  - located in the heart of a residential area
  - good location for pickle ball court
- Liabilities:
  - some vandalism and loitering
  - courts need resurfaced and restriped

AMENITIES/FACILITIES	
Baseball Diamond	
Basketball Hoop	X
Soccer Field	
Tennis Courts	
Swimming Pool	
Volleyball Court	
Running/Walking	
Football Field	
Obstacle Course	
Gymnasium	
Horseshoe Pit	
Teeter Totter	
Spring Rocker	
Merry-go-round	
Climbing Equipment	
Swings	
Slides	
Play Structures	
Exercise Equipment	
Boat Launch/Marina	
Beach	
Grill	
Picnic Table	X
Pavilion	
Restroom	
Concession Stand	
Bleachers	
Campsite/Cabin	
Benches/Seating	X
Drinking Fountain	X
Other	X
PARK PROFILE	
Use	Active
Usage	Heavy
Category	Community Park
Park Condition	Fair
ADA Rating	Poor

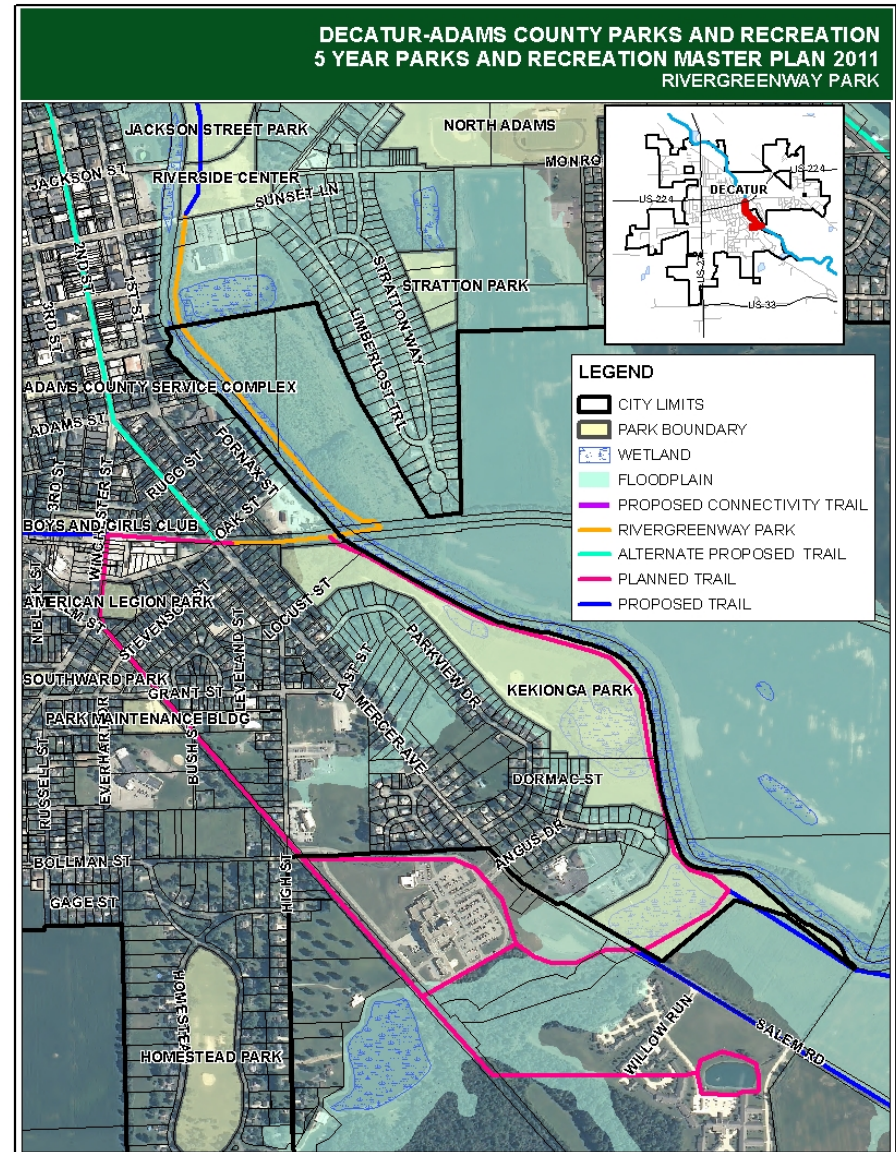


## DECATUR PUBLIC FACILITIES RIVERGREENWAY TRAIL

Constructed in 2006, this 3.5 mile long well-utilized trail is a community favorite. It sees regular use by the residents and has the potential to expand and connect to a more regional trail system. A re-built railroad bridge offers a safe way for walkers and bikers to cross the St. Marys River. It is an eight-foot wide asphalt multi-use path that begins at the Riverside Center and winds its way through Kekionga Park and the downtown area. Due to its location between the river and a wetlands area, there is a tendency for water to rise over the path, occasionally disrupting its use.

### Strengths and Liabilities

- Strengths:
  - heavily used trail
  - asphalt pathway
  - runs along St. Marys River
- Liabilities:
  - frequent moderate flooding
  - no looped system
  - safe crossing signs are minimal





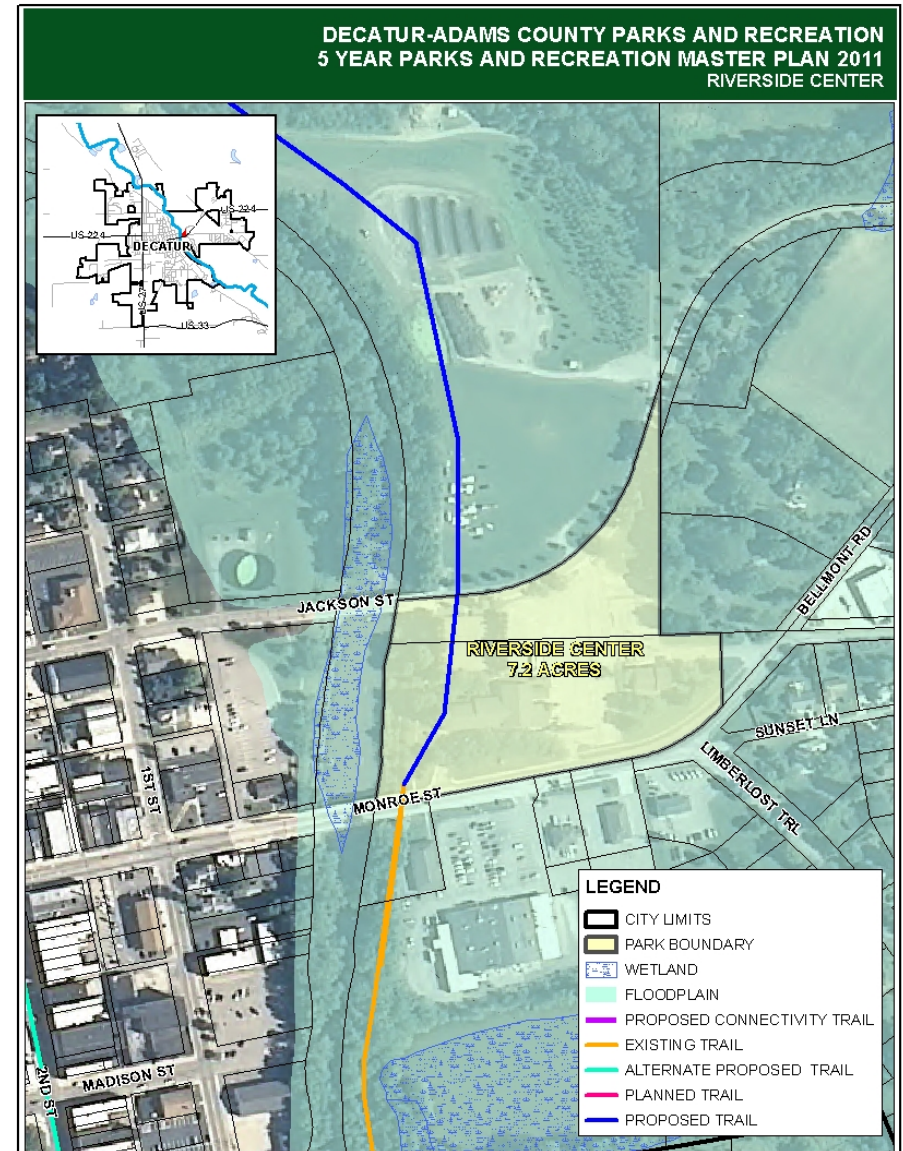
## DECATUR PUBLIC FACILITIES RIVERSIDE CENTER

The Riverside Center houses the Parks and Recreation department offices and is the hub for many of the park system's activities and programs. Due to the site's parking lot and ample open space, the City's farmer's market has recently been relocated here.

### Strengths and Liabilities

- Strengths:
  - well maintained facility
  - ability for greater use
  - multi-functional
  - updated landscape
  - located next to river
- Liabilities:
  - parking lot needs repaved and restriped
  - underutilized facility
  - additional programming may require additional staff to coordinate

AMENITIES/FACILITIES	
Baseball Diamond	
Basketball Hoop	
Soccer Field	
Tennis Courts	
Swimming Pool	
Volleyball Court	X
Running/Walking	
Football Field	
Obstacle Course	
Gymnasium	
Horseshoe Pit	
Teeter Totter	
Spring Rocker	
Merry-go-round	
Climbing Equipment	
Swings	
Slides	
Play Structures	
Exercise Equipment	X
Boat Launch/Marina	
Beach	
Grill	
Picnic Table	X
Pavilion	
Restroom	X
Concession Stand	X
Bleachers	
Campsite/Cabin	
Benches/Seating	X
Drinking Fountain	X
Other	
PARK PROFILE	
Use	Passive and Active
Usage	Moderate
Category	Regional Park
Park Condition	Fair/Excellent
ADA Rating	Fair





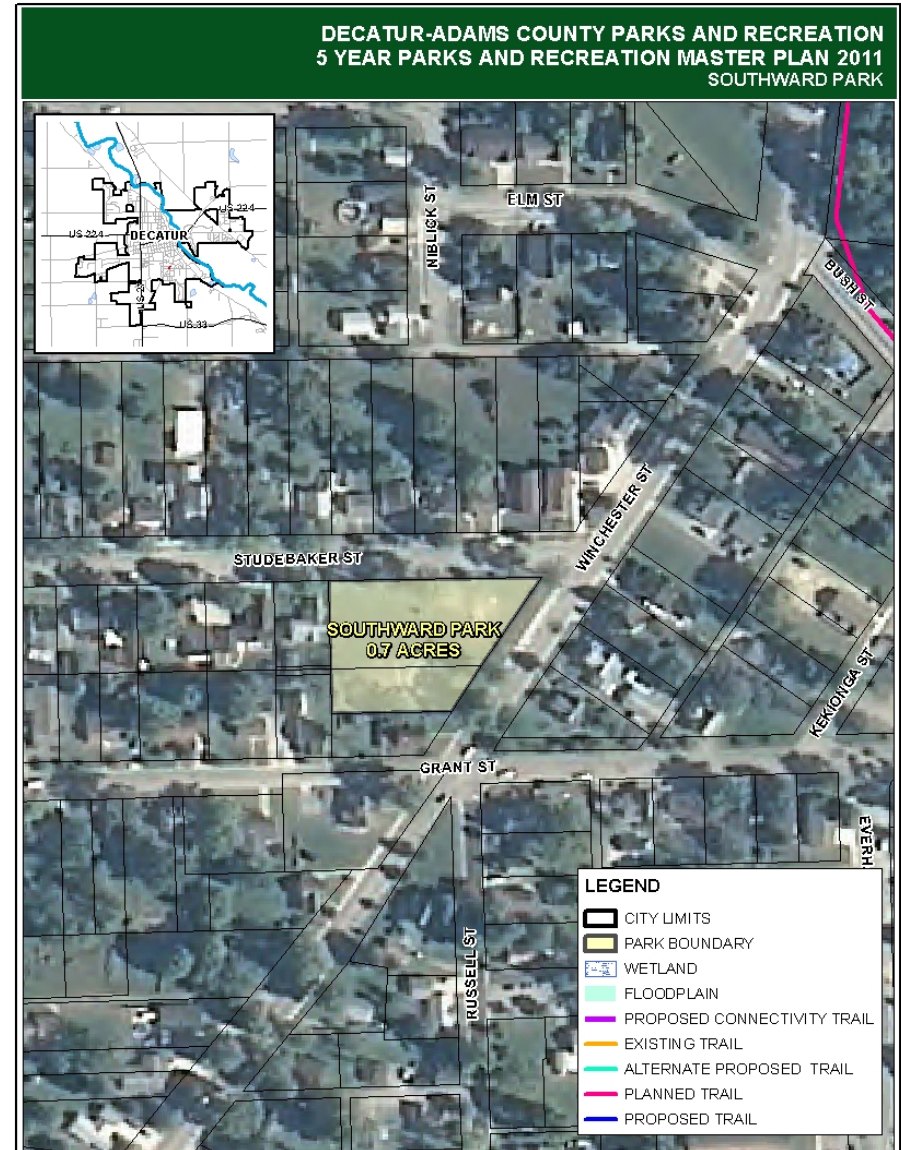
**DECATUR PUBLIC FACILITIES  
SOUTHWARD PARK**

According to the public survey, Southward Park is one of the least used parks.

**Strengths and Liabilities**

- Strengths:
  - provides recreational opportunities and open space for surrounding neighborhoods
- Liabilities:
  - only has one basketball goal
  - play equipment is outdated

AMENITIES/FACILITIES	
Baseball Diamond	
Basketball Hoop	X
Soccer Field	
Tennis Courts	
Swimming Pool	
Volleyball Court	
Running/Walking	
Football Field	
Obstacle Course	
Gymnasium	
Horseshoe Pit	
Teeter Totter	
Spring Rocker	
Merry-go-round	X
Climbing Equipment	
Swings	X
Slides	X
Play Structures	
Exercise Equipment	
Boat Launch/Marina	
Beach	
Grill	
Picnic Table	X
Pavilion	
Restroom	
Concession Stand	
Bleachers	
Campsite/Cabin	
Benches/Seating	
Drinking Fountain	
Other	
PARK PROFILE	
Use	Active
Usage	Moderate
Category	Community Park
Park Condition	Fair
ADA Rating	Poor



## DECATUR PUBLIC FACILITIES STRATTON PARK

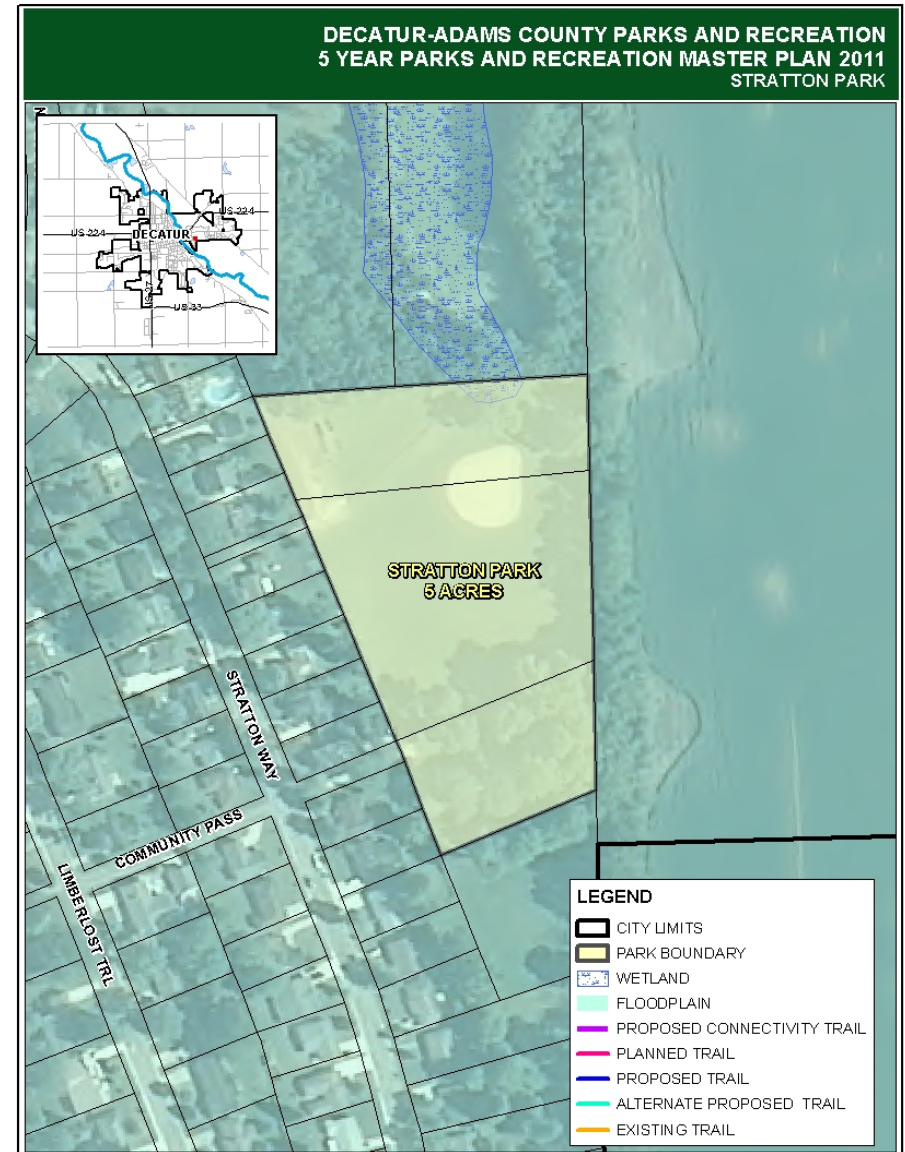
Located behind the Stratton Subdivision, this park is difficult to access. It is also entirely within the floodplain with wetlands to the north.

### Strengths and Liabilities

- Strengths:
  - good open space
- Liabilities:
  - difficult to access
  - floods
  - people use it as a personal storage site
  - difficult to mow due to flooding
  - picnic pavilion needs to be renovated



AMENITIES/FACILITIES	
Baseball Diamond	X
Basketball Hoop	
Soccer Field	
Tennis Courts	
Swimming Pool	
Volleyball Court	
Running/Walking	
Football Field	X
Obstacle Course	
Gymnasium	
Horseshoe Pit	
Teeter Totter	
Spring Rocker	
Merry-go-round	X
Climbing Equipment	
Swings	X
Slides	X
Play Structures	
Exercise Equipment	
Boat Launch/Marina	
Beach	
Grill	
Picnic Table	X
Pavilion	X
Restroom	
Concession Stand	
Bleachers	
Campsite/Cabin	
Benches/Seating	
Drinking Fountain	X
Other	X
PARK PROFILE	
Use	Active
Usage	Moderate
Category	Community Park
Park Condition	Fair
ADA Rating	Poor





**DECATUR PUBLIC FACILITIES  
WATERWORKS PARK**

Waterworks Park shares a parcel with the City's water tower, police department, and highway garage facilities. The community pool is located here, making it another community favorite. The pool was constructed in the 1950s and rehabilitated in 1978. Although this pool is a great community asset, its future remains uncertain due to its age and the financial burden it places on the department to upkeep and operate it.

**Strengths and Liabilities**

- Strengths:
  - pool
  - location in residential neighborhood
- Liabilities:
  - age of pool
  - bathhouse floor and deck needs repairs
  - expensive to maintain and operate
  - under-utilized

AMENITIES/FACILITIES	
Baseball Diamond	
Basketball Hoop	
Soccer Field	
Tennis Courts	
Swimming Pool	X
Volleyball Court	
Running/Walking	
Football Field	
Obstacle Course	
Gymnasium	
Horseshoe Pit	
Teeter Totter	
Spring Rocker	
Merry-go-round	X
Climbing Equipment	
Swings	X
Slides	X
Play Structures	
Exercise Equipment	
Boat Launch/Marina	
Beach	
Grill	
Picnic Table	X
Pavilion	
Restroom	X
Concession Stand	X
Bleachers	
Campsite/Cabin	
Benches/Seating	X
Drinking Fountain	
Other	X
PARK PROFILE	
Use	Active
Usage	Heavy
Category	Community Park
Park Condition	Fair
ADA Rating	Fair





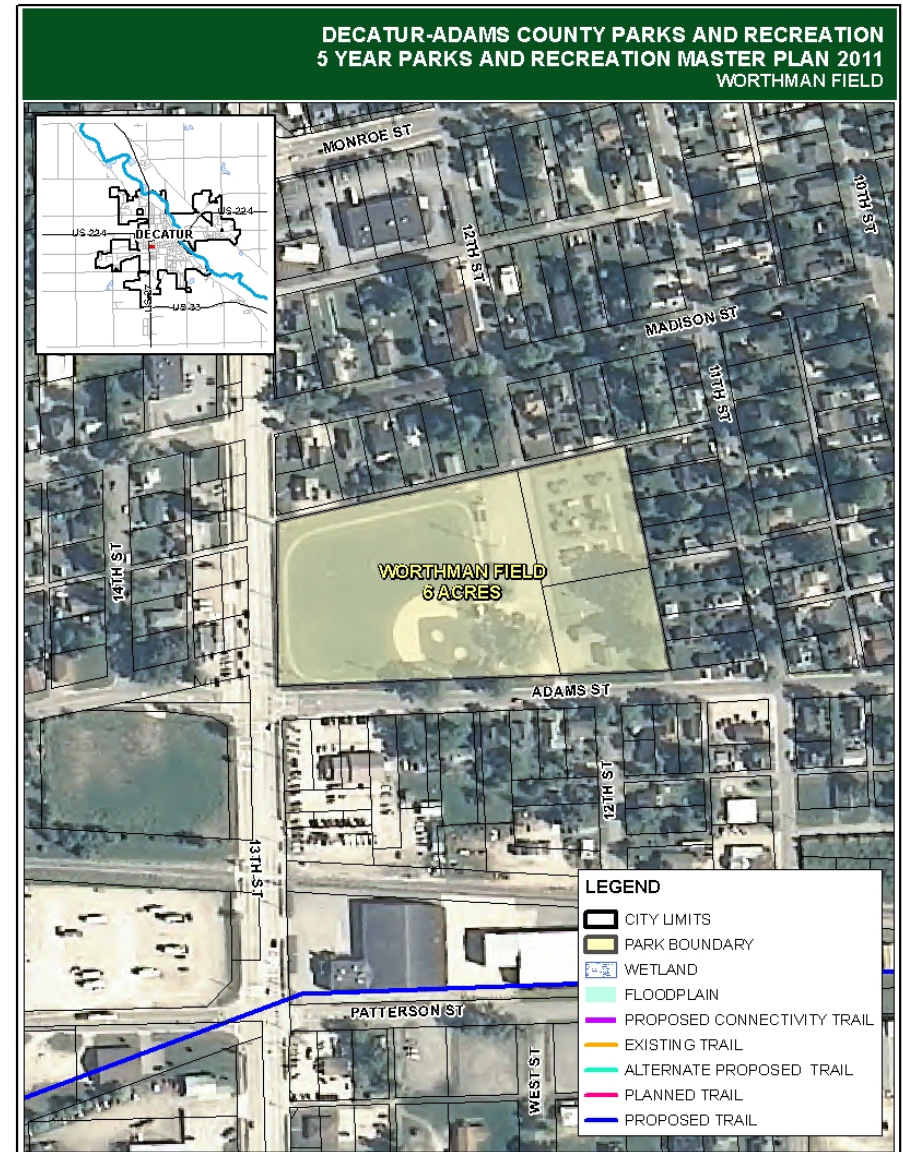
**DECATUR PUBLIC FACILITIES  
WORTHMAN FIELD**

Formerly the main football field for the high school, this park is now utilized for its ball diamond, soccer field, track, play equipment and the school Safety Park.

**Strengths and Liabilities**

- Strengths:
  - multiple uses
  - safety park
- Liabilities:
  - prime commercial location
  - limited parking
  - needs new fencing
  - no ball netting on the fence

AMENITIES/FACILITIES	
Baseball Diamond	X
Basketball Hoop	
Soccer Field	X
Tennis Courts	
Swimming Pool	
Volleyball Court	
Running/Walking	X
Football Field	
Obstacle Course	
Gymnasium	
Horseshoe Pit	
Teeter Totter	
Spring Rocker	
Merry-go-round	
Climbing Equipment	
Swings	X
Slides	X
Play Structures	
Exercise Equipment	
Boat Launch/Marina	
Beach	
Grill	
Picnic Table	X
Pavilion	X
Restroom	X
Concession Stand	X
Bleachers	X
Campsite/Cabin	
Benches/Seating	
Drinking Fountain	X
Other	X
PARK PROFILE	
Use	Active
Usage	Moderate
Category	Community Park
Park Condition	Fair/Excellent
ADA Rating	Fair



## DECATUR PUBLIC FACILITIES

### 7<sup>TH</sup> STREET DEPOT

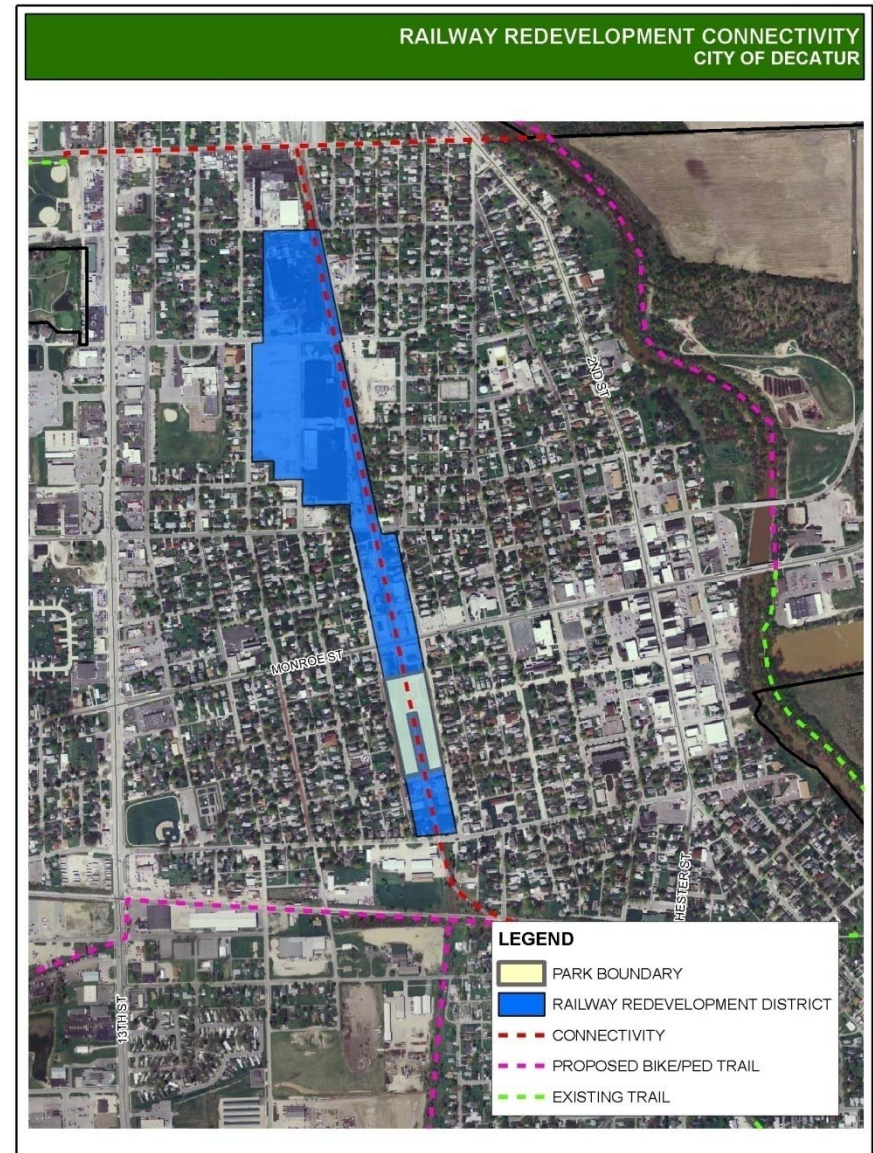
The 7<sup>th</sup> Street Depot is in the Railway Redevelopment District as defined by the City of Decatur's Comprehensive Plan. This entire corridor is strategically located at the geographic center of the City.

The former Train Station, located south of Monroe Street, has great potential. The possibilities range from a County Art Center, County Tourism Center, a center for City activities, or simply be maintained as an iconic, historic landmark.



The Railway Redevelopment District could also serve as a connectivity corridor by sharing the railroad right-of-way with a non-motorized path. As shown on the figure to the right, the trail could begin at the proposed bike trail along Patterson Street and go north to Washington Street. At this junction, the trail could diverge; going west to the path at Hanna Nuttman Park and east to another leg of the proposed bike lane on the east of the St Marys River.

The building itself is currently being renovated by the City. But the grounds are being maintained by the parks department





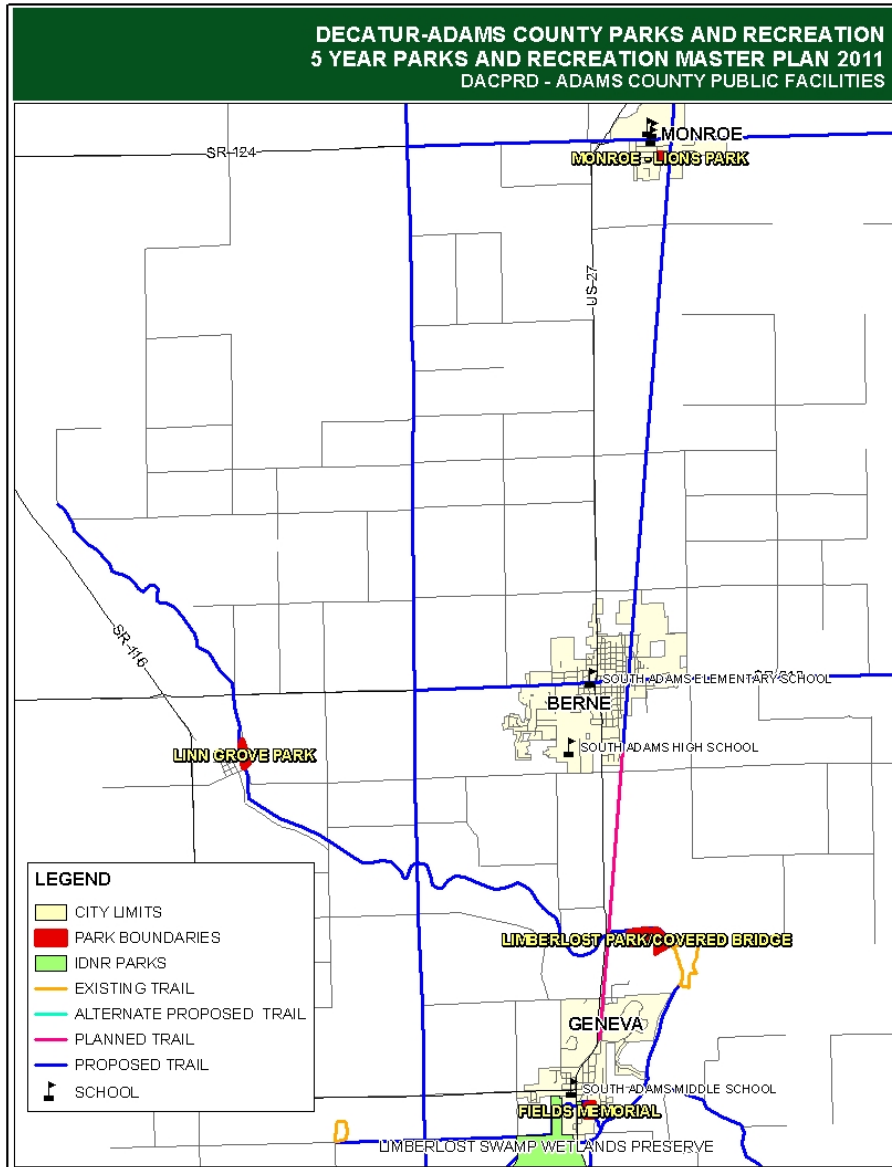
## ADAMS COUNTY PUBLIC FACILITIES

Limberlost Park, Linn Grove Park, Fields Memorial Park, and Monroe-Lions Park are the four county parks. Future trails are planned that would connect the Limberlost and Linn Grove Parks together as well as to nearby Geneva and Berne. In addition to these trails, these two parks are also connected by the Wabash River.

As of 2010, there were 34,387 residents in Adams County.



*Tall Grass Prairie at Limberlost Park*





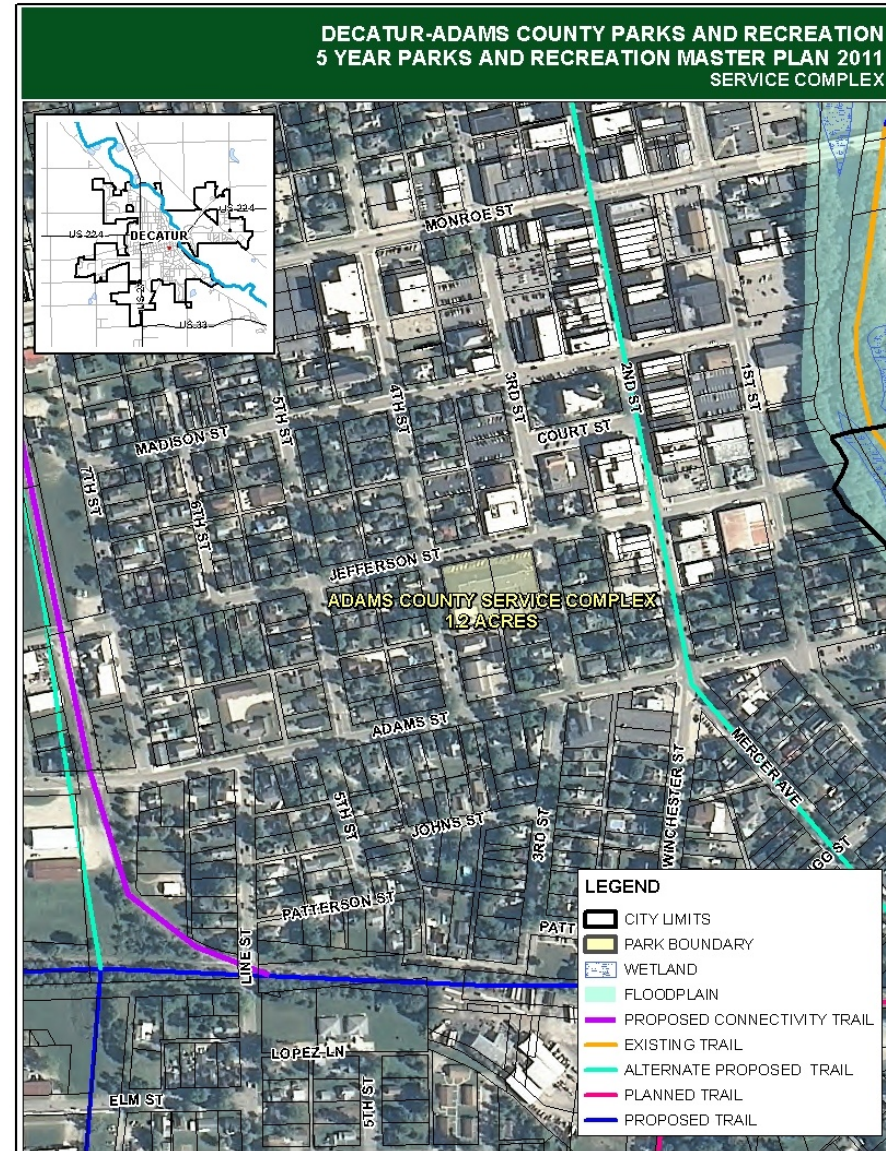
## ADAMS COUNTY PUBLIC FACILITIES SERVICE COMPLEX

The Adams County Service Complex, once a high school, has been repurposed as a municipal building for numerous government offices. It also houses a gymnasium, a climbing wall, and fitness center and offers fitness classes to the public.

### Strengths and Liabilities

- Strengths:
  - multi-functioning
  - numerous pieces of equipment
  - highly-utilized
- Liabilities:
  - ADA accessibility is very inconvenient
  - Parking is a problem

AMENITIES/FACILITIES	
Baseball Diamond	
Basketball Hoop	X
Soccer Field	
Tennis Courts	
Swimming Pool	
Volleyball Court	X
Running/Walking	X
Football Field	
Obstade Course	
Gymnasium	X
Horseshoe Pit	
Teeter Totter	
Spring Rocker	
Merry-go-round	
Climbing Equipment	
Swings	
Slides	
Play Structures	
Exercise Equipment	X
Boat Launch/Marina	
Beach	
Grill	
Picnic Table	
Pavilion	
Restroom	X
Concession Stand	
Bleachers	X
Campsite/Cabin	
Benches/Seating	
Drinking Fountain	X
Other	X
PARK PROFILE	
Use	Passive and Active
Usage	Heavy
Category	Community Park
Park Condition	Fair/Excellent
ADA Rating	Fair



## ADAMS COUNTY PUBLIC FACILITIES LIMBERLOST PARK

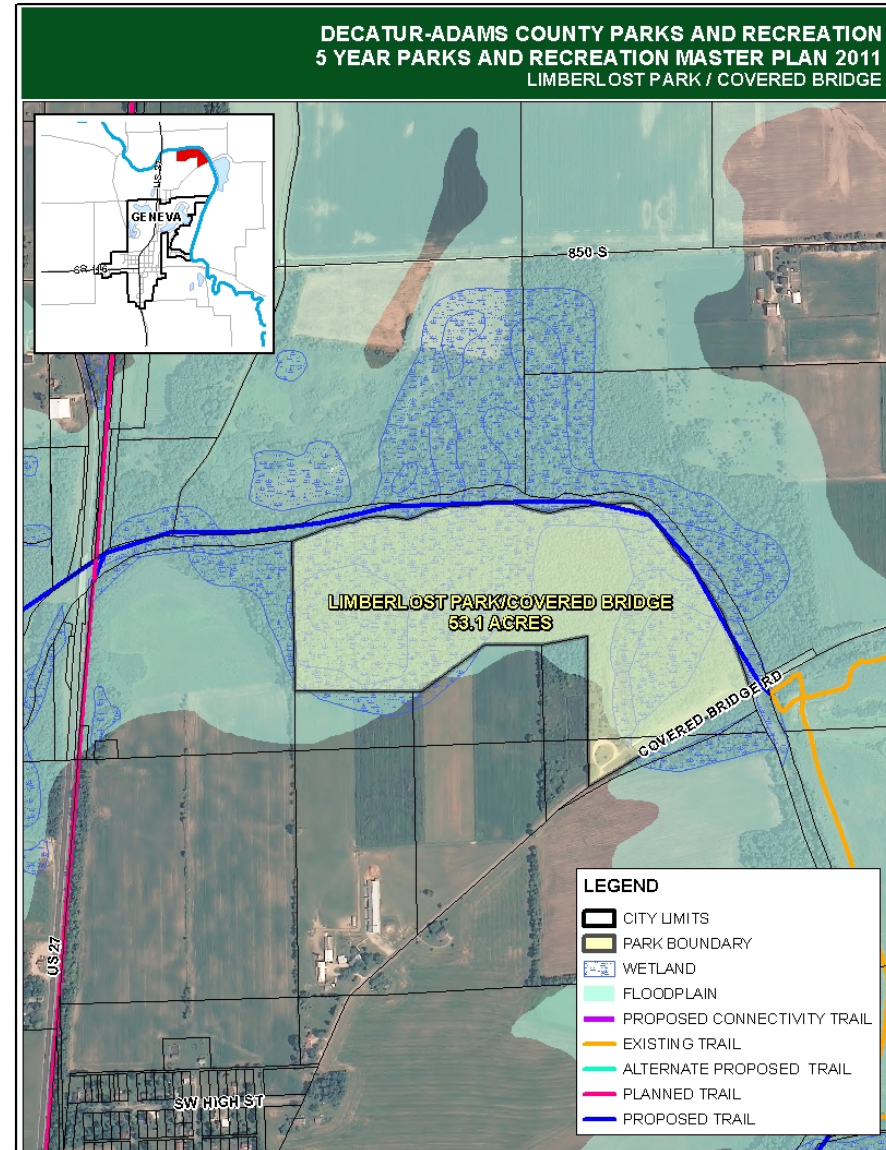
This beautiful park is both historically and environmentally important and is one of the largest parks for which the DACPRD is responsible.

### Strengths and Liabilities



- Strengths:
  - only remaining covered bridge over Wabash River
  - environmental significance
  - covered bridge to be rehabilitated around 2011-2012
  - tied to Gene Stratton-Porter
  - plans to tie in to regional trail system
  - remote location
  - good partners: Friends of the Limberlost, Gene Stratton Memorial, and South Adams Trail
- Liabilities:
  - problem with bugs
  - vandalism of bridge has been an issue
  - remote location
  - under-utilized

AMENITIES/FACILITIES	
Baseball Diamond	
Basketball Hoop	
Soccer Field	
Tennis Courts	
Swimming Pool	
Volleyball Court	
Running/Walking	X
Football Field	
Obstacle Course	
Gymnasium	
Horseshoe Pit	
Teeter Totter	
Spring Rocker	
Merry-go-round	
Climbing Equipment	
Swings	
Slides	
Play Structures	
Exercise Equipment	
Boat Launch/Marina	X
Beach	
Grill	X
Picnic Table	X
Pavilion	X
Restroom	
Concession Stand	
Bleachers	
Campsite/Cabin	
Benches/Seating	
Drinking Fountain	
Other	
PARK PROFILE	
Use	Passive
Usage	Moderate
Category	Regional Park
Park Condition	
ADA Rating	Poor





## ADAMS COUNTY PUBLIC FACILITIES LINN GROVE PARK

Once a borrow pit, this area has been converted into a more usable purpose. However, due to its proximity to the Wabash River, wetlands area, and floodplain boundaries, constant flooding is a major issue with this site.

### Strengths and Liabilities

- Strengths:
  - abuts Wabash River
  - used for fishing
  - has bank access
- Liabilities:
  - pavilion is old
  - constantly clearing brush and debris for bank access
  - high maintenance due to flooding
  - few amenities

AMENITIES/FACILITIES	
Baseball Diamond	
Basketball Hoop	
Soccer Field	
Tennis Courts	
Swimming Pool	
Volleyball Court	
Running/Walking	
Football Field	
Obstacle Course	
Gymnasium	
Horseshoe Pit	
Teeter Totter	
Spring Rocker	
Merry-go-round	
Climbing Equipment	
Swings	
Slides	
Play Structures	
Exercise Equipment	
Boat Launch/Marina	X
Beach	
Grill	X
Picnic Table	X
Pavilion	X
Restroom	
Concession Stand	
Bleachers	
Campsite/Cabin	
Benches/Seating	
Drinking Fountain	
Other	
PARK PROFILE	
Use	Passive
Usage	Low
Category	Regional Park
Park Condition	Fair



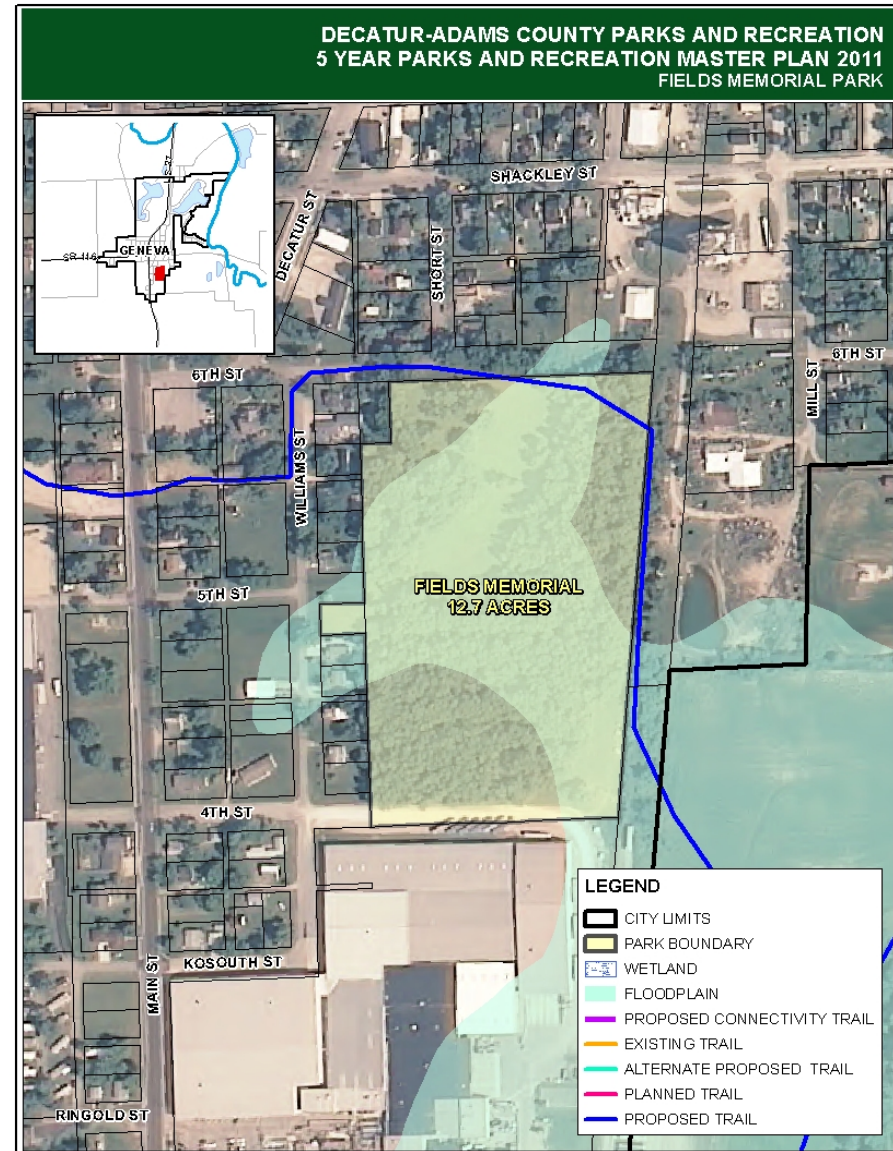


**ADAMS COUNTY PUBLIC FACILITIES  
FIELDS MEMORIAL PARK**

As shown in the figure to the right, a substantial portion of this park lies within a floodplain. This park does have a pavilion and numerous trees. However, it is seldom used due to its propensity to flood.



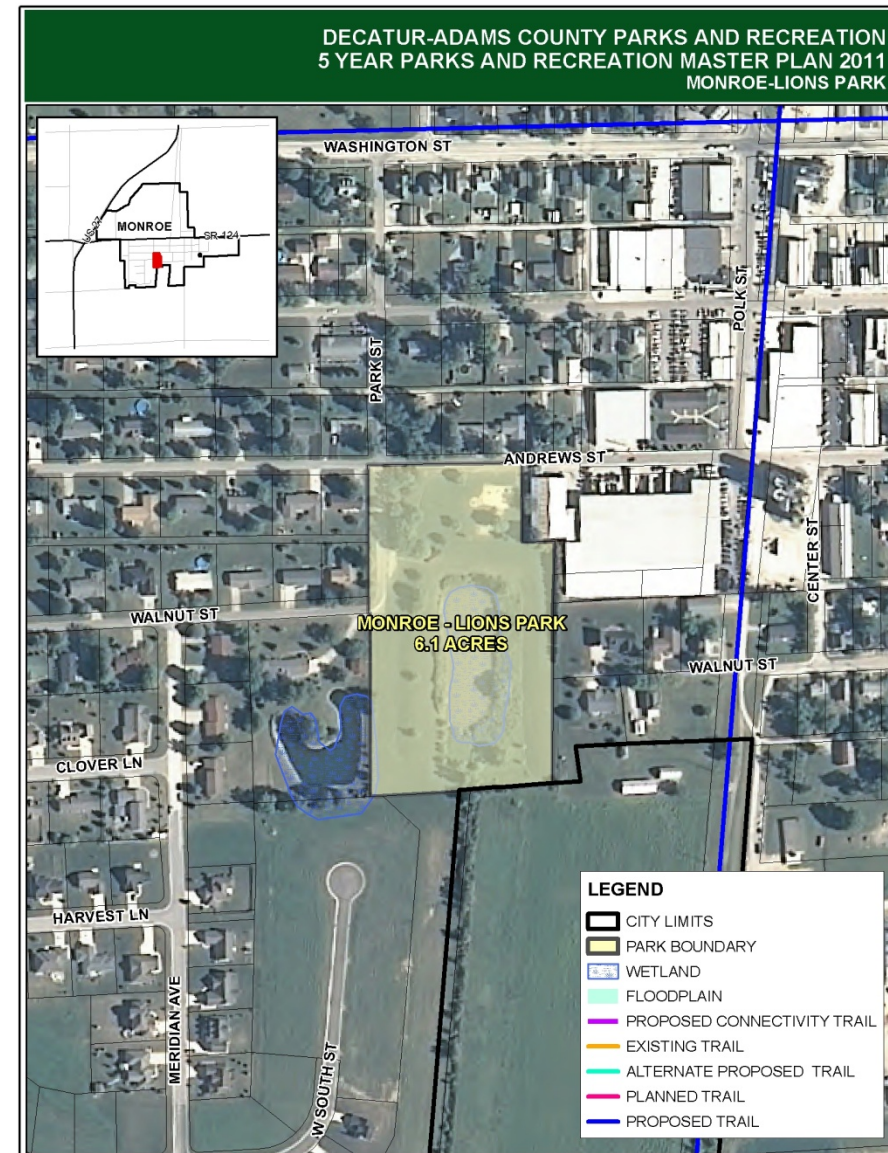
AMENITIES/FACILITIES	
Baseball Diamond	
Basketball Hoop	
Soccer Field	
Tennis Courts	
Swimming Pool	
Volleyball Court	
Running/Walking	
Football Field	
Obstacle Course	
Gymnasium	
Horseshoe Pit	
Teeter Totter	
Spring Rocker	
Merry-go-round	
Climbing Equipment	
Swings	
Slides	
Play Structures	
Exercise Equipment	
Boat Launch/Marina	
Beach	
Grill	
Picnic Table	
Pavilion	X
Restroom	
Concession Stand	
Bleachers	
Campsite/Cabin	
Benches/Seating	
Drinking Fountain	
Other	
PARK PROFILE	
Use	Passive
Usage	Low
Category	Neighborhood Park
Park Condition	Fair
ADA Rating	n/a



**ADAMS COUNTY PUBLIC FACILITIES  
MONROE LIONS PARK**

This park is utilized mainly by the residents of Monroe. There is a retention pond located on the park for fishing and sufficient topography to allow for sledding in the winter. The DACPR department assists the City with general grounds maintenance. However, purchasing and upgrading equipment and amenities at the park are the responsibility of the City and various local organizations.

AMENITIES/FACILITIES	
Baseball Diamond	
Basketball Hoop	
Soccer Field	
Tennis Courts	
Swimming Pool	
Volleyball Court	
Running/Walking	
Football Field	
Obstacle Course	
Gymnasium	
Horseshoe Pit	
Teeter Totter	X
Spring Rocker	X
Merry-go-round	X
Climbing Equipment	X
Swings	X
Slides	X
Play Structures	
Exercise Equipment	
Boat Launch/Marina	
Beach	
Grill	
Picnic Table	X
Pavilion	X
Restroom	
Concession Stand	
Bleachers	
Campsite/Cabin	
Benches/Seating	
Drinking Fountain	
Other	X
PARK PROFILE	
Use	Passive and Active
Usage	Moderate
Category	Neighborhood Park
Park Condition	Fair/Excellent
ADA Rating	Poor





## ADAMS COUNTY PUBLIC FACILITIES TRAILS

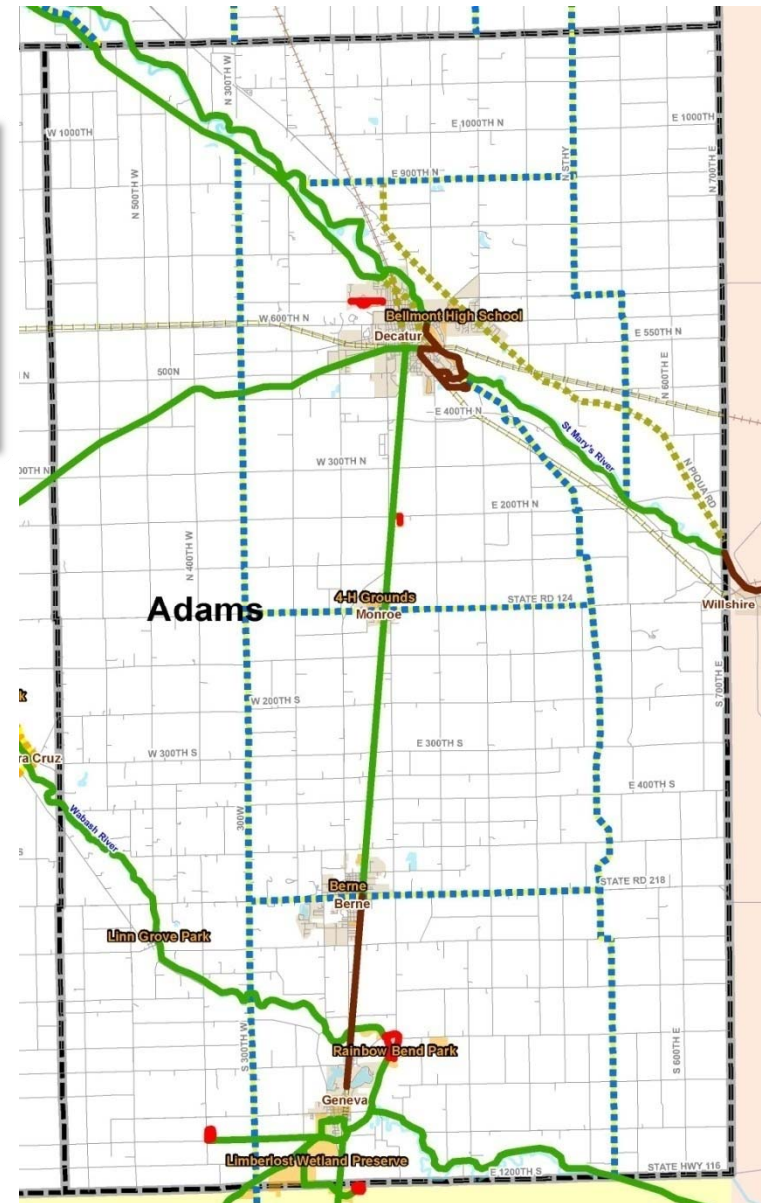
According to the regional Bicycle-Pedestrian Transportation Plan for Allen County, Adams County has numerous planned and proposed trails. Most of which will be constructed in former railroad right-of-way or along rivers.

The planned trail in Decatur (shown as brown) was built in 2006 and is the Rivergreenway Trail. The South Adams Trail (shown as brown) between Berne and Geneva is slated to be built sometime in 2012. It will parallel U.S. 27 and will utilize a former railroad corridor.

The Adams County Multi-Use Path Study performed in 2007 by Commonwealth Engineers, Inc., cites this path as the first segment meant to provide a non-motorized connection between Berne and Geneva. The second segment noted in the study would run east of Geneva and connect the Ceylon Bridge at Limberlost Park to the downtown area.

As noted on the figure to the right, a connector between the Berne-Geneva trail and the Limberlost-Geneva trail will be needed in order to fully utilize this trail system and complete the loop.

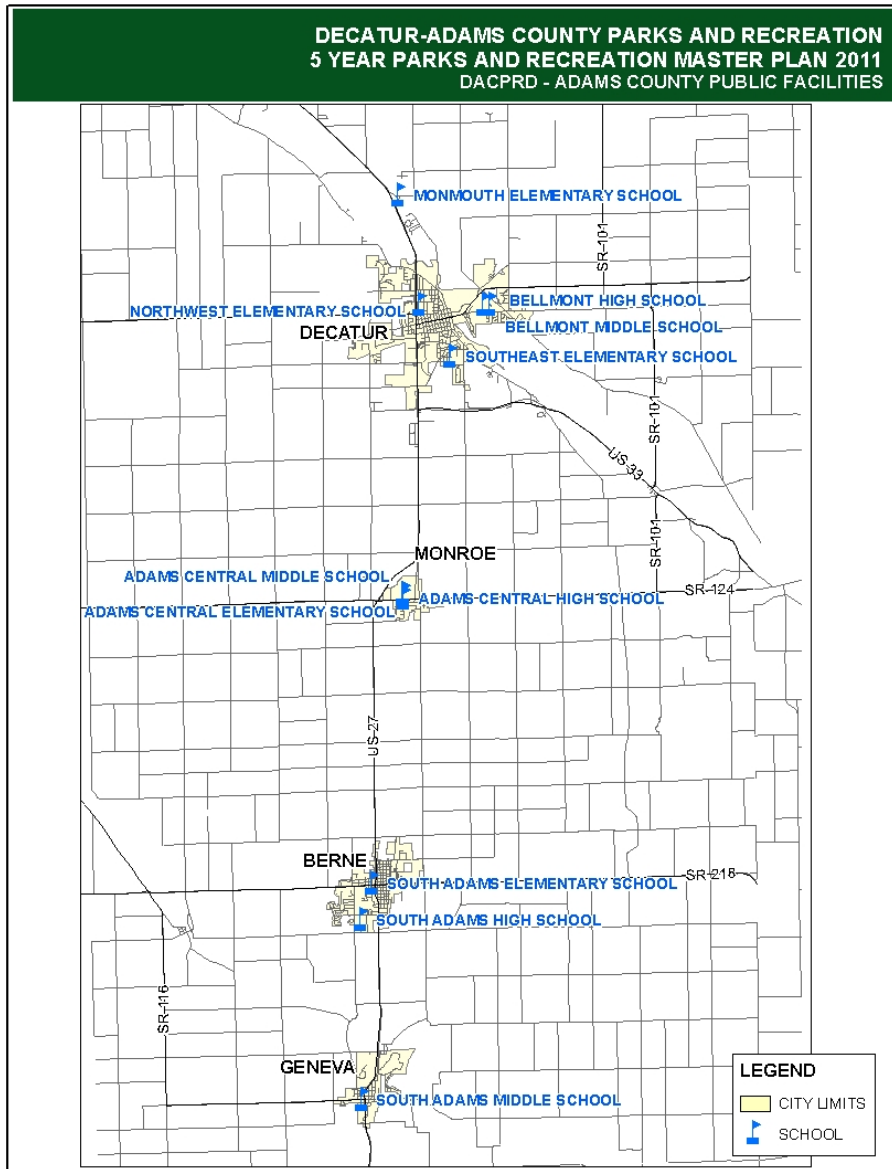
The South Adams Trail organization has been instrumental in the initiating and developmental stages of these county-wide plans and has been a driving force behind its success.



ADAMS COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Adams County has three school corporations: North Adams Community Schools, Adams Central Community Schools, and South Adams Community Schools. Most of the facilities at these schools are available to the public. The DACPRD has an excellent working relationship with these entities as they share the benefits and the burdens of maintaining these public properties. Continuing to draw upon these relationships and even expanding them will provide the best level of service for all residents.

It is also important to note that as of 2011, there were thirty-one private Amish Parochial schools. The playground facilities at these schools are heavily utilized by all residents, not just the Amish, and therefore contribute to the overall betterment of the County.



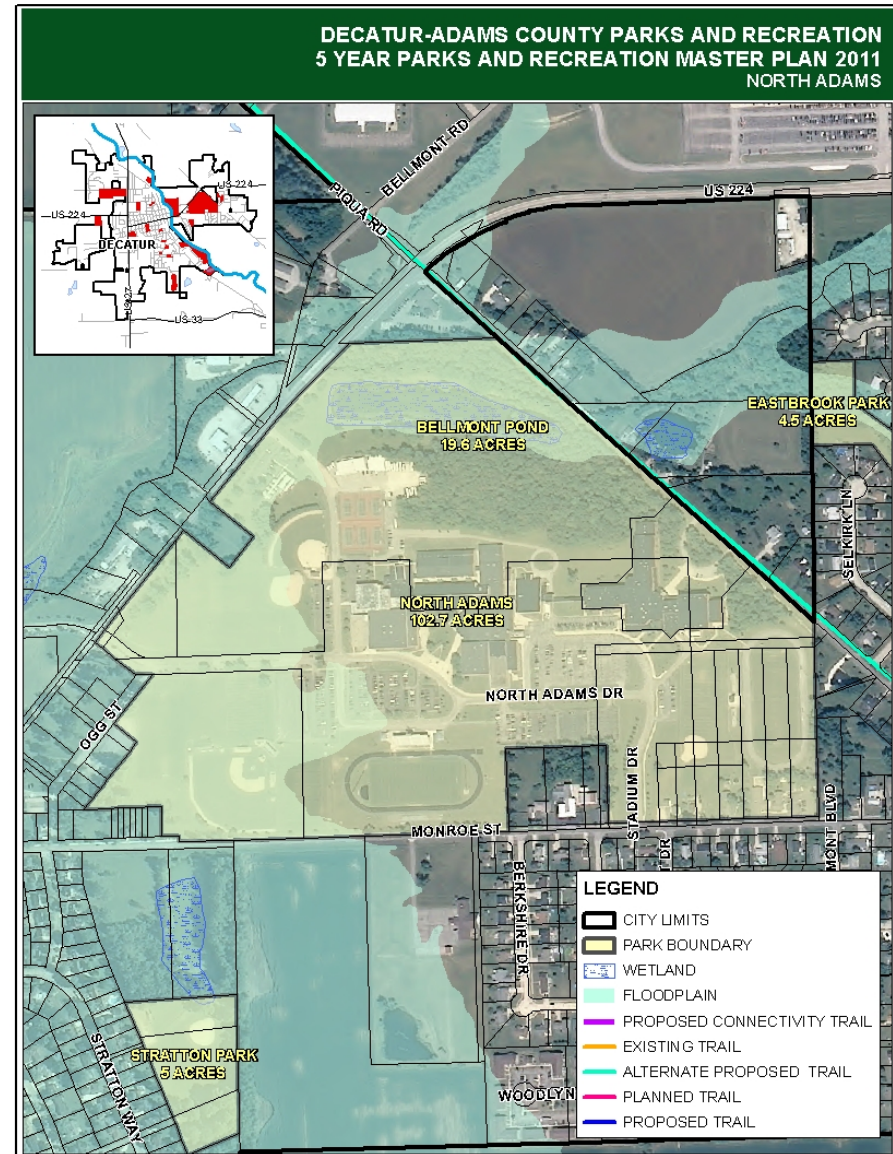


**ADAMS COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
NORTH ADAMS**

North Adams Community Schools are located in northern Adams County, primarily in Decatur. The high school boasts numerous sports facilities and trails.



AMENITIES/FACILITIES	
Baseball Diamond	X
Basketball Hoop	X
Soccer Field	X
Tennis Courts	X
Swimming Pool	X
Volleyball Court	X
Running/Walking	X
Football Field	X
Obstacle Course	
Gymnasium	X
Horseshoe Pit	
Teeter Totter	
Spring Rocker	
Merry-go-round	
Climbing Equipment	
Swings	
Slides	
Play Structures	
Exercise Equipment	X
Boat Launch/Marina	
Beach	
Grill	
Picnic Table	
Pavilion	
Restroom	X
Concession Stand	X
Bleachers	X
Campsite/Cabin	
Benches/Seating	X
Drinking Fountain	X
Other	
PARK PROFILE	
Use	Active
Usage	Heavy
Category	School Park
Park Condition	Fair/Excellent
ADA Rating	Excellent



**ADAMS COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
ADAMS CENTRAL**

The Adams Central Athletic Field is part of the Adams Central High School complex. There are numerous facilities located at this site including an indoor pool.

There is a cooperative agreement between Adams Central Community Schools and DACPRD. The department utilizes the pool and soccer fields in exchange for their maintenance and upkeep.



AMENITIES/FACILITIES	
Baseball Diamond	
Basketball Hoop	
Soccer Field	X
Tennis Courts	
Swimming Pool	X
Volleyball Court	
Running/Walking	
Football Field	
Obstacle Course	
Gymnasium	
Horseshoe Pit	
Teeter Totter	
Spring Rocker	
Merry-go-round	
Climbing Equipment	X
Swings	
Slides	X
Play Structures	X
Exercise Equipment	
Boat Launch/Marina	
Beach	
Grill	
Picnic Table	
Pavilion	
Restroom	
Concession Stand	
Bleachers	
Campsite/Cabin	
Benches/Seating	
Drinking Fountain	
Other	
PARK PROFILE	
Use	Active
Usage	
Category	School Park
Park Condition	Fair/Excellent
ADA Rating	



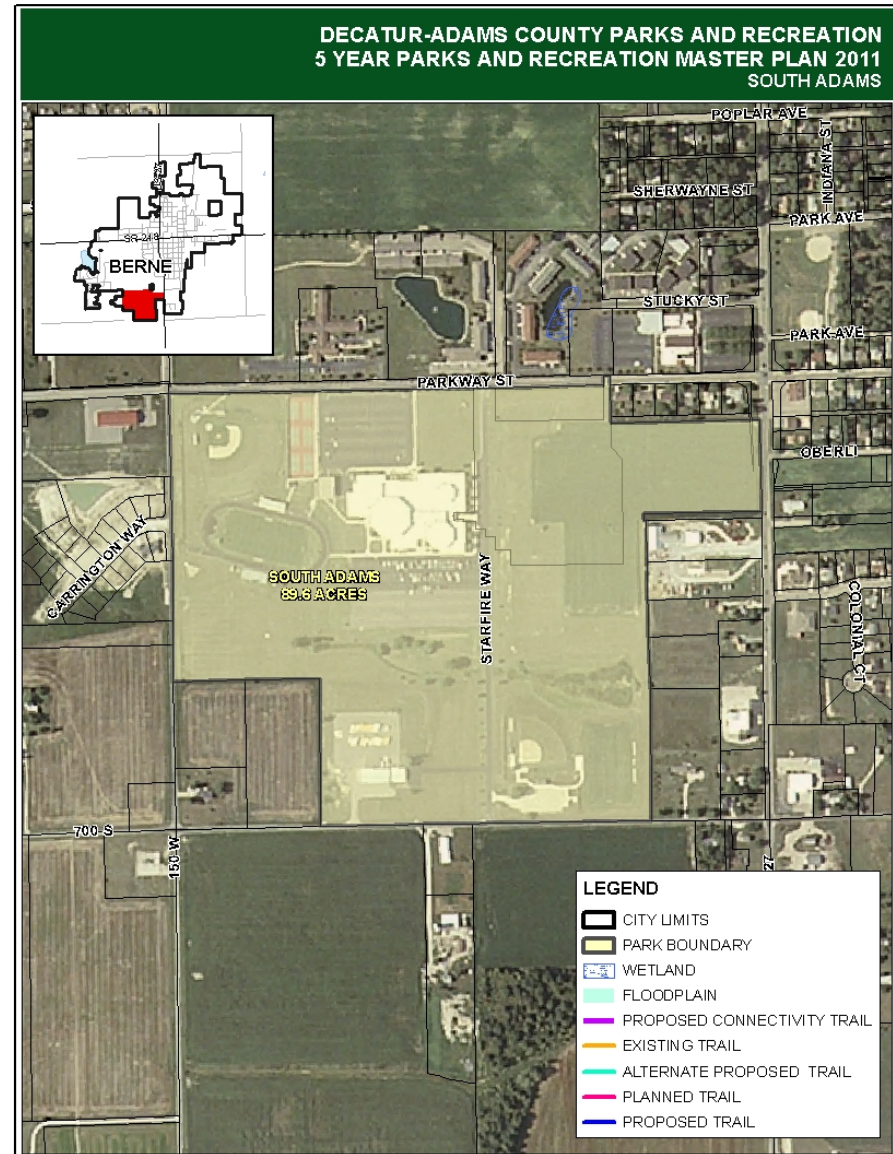


**ADAMS COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
SOUTH ADAMS**

The South Adams School High School boasts numerous athletic facilities, amenities, as well as a public playground.



AMENITIES/FACILITIES	
Baseball Diamond	X
Basketball Hoop	X
Soccer Field	X
Tennis Courts	X
Swimming Pool	X
Volleyball Court	X
Running/Walking	X
Football Field	X
Obstacle Course	
Gymnasium	X
Horseshoe Pit	
Teeter Totter	
Spring Rocker	
Merry-go-round	
Climbing Equipment	
Swings	X
Slides	X
Play Structures	X
Exercise Equipment	X
Boat Launch/Marina	
Beach	
Grill	
Picnic Table	
Pavilion	
Restroom	
Concession Stand	X
Bleachers	X
Campsite/Cabin	
Benches/Seating	X
Drinking Fountain	X
Other	
PARK PROFILE	
Use	Active
Usage	Heavy
Category	School Park
Park Condition	Excellent
ADA Rating	Excellent

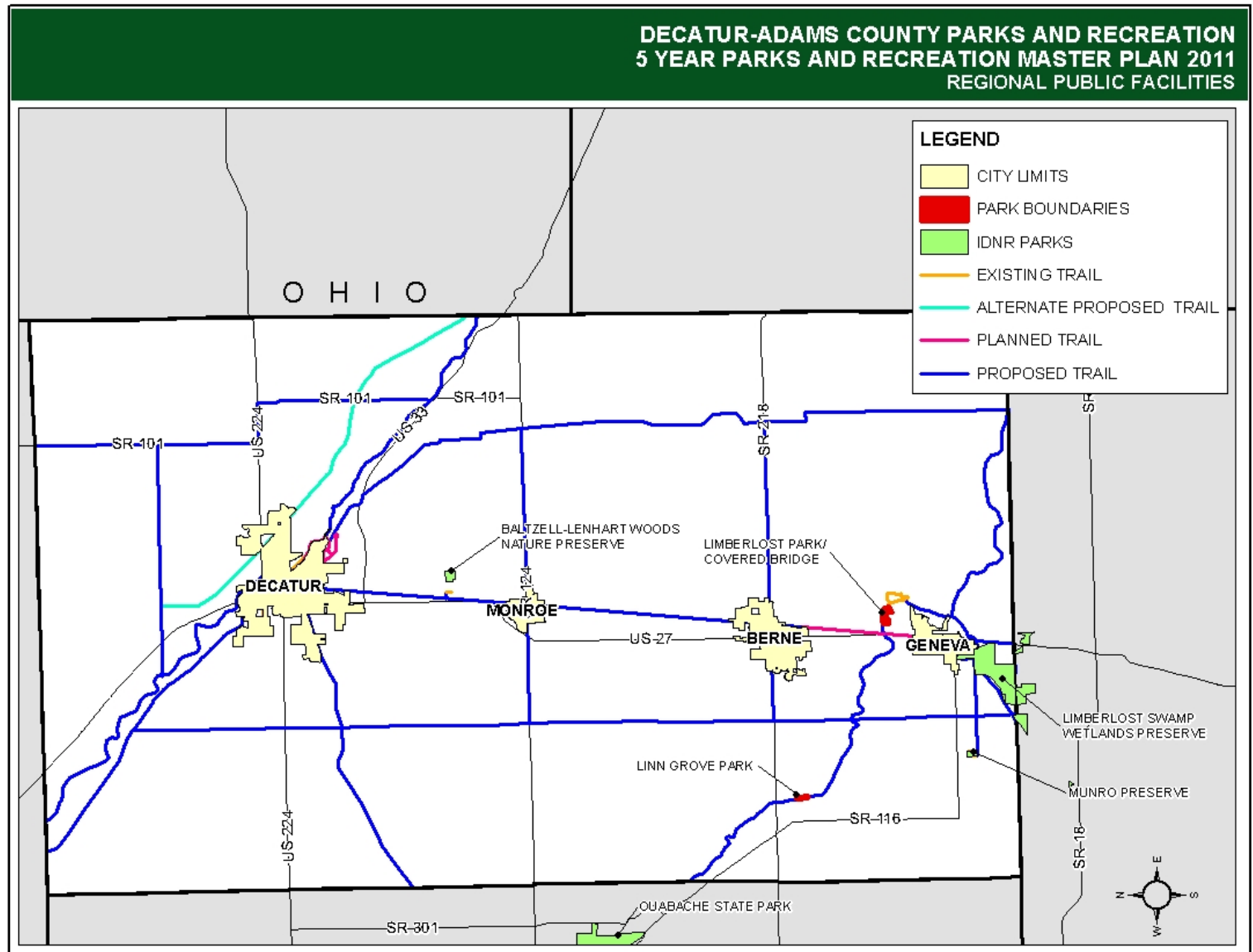


REGIONAL PUBLIC FACILITIES

NIRCC (Northeastern Indiana Regional Coordinating Council) has numerous trails and bike routes planned for Adams County. Currently, there are a few existing non-interconnected local trails scattered throughout the region.

There are also three Indiana Department of Natural Resources managed lands; Baltzell-Lenhard Woods Nature Preserve northeast of Monroe, Munro Preserve southwest of Geneva, and Limberlost Swamp Wetlands Preserve south of Geneva.

In addition, the DACPRD maintains Linn Grove Park, located between the City of Berne and the Adams County western border, and Limberlost Park & Covered Bridge which is located north of Geneva.



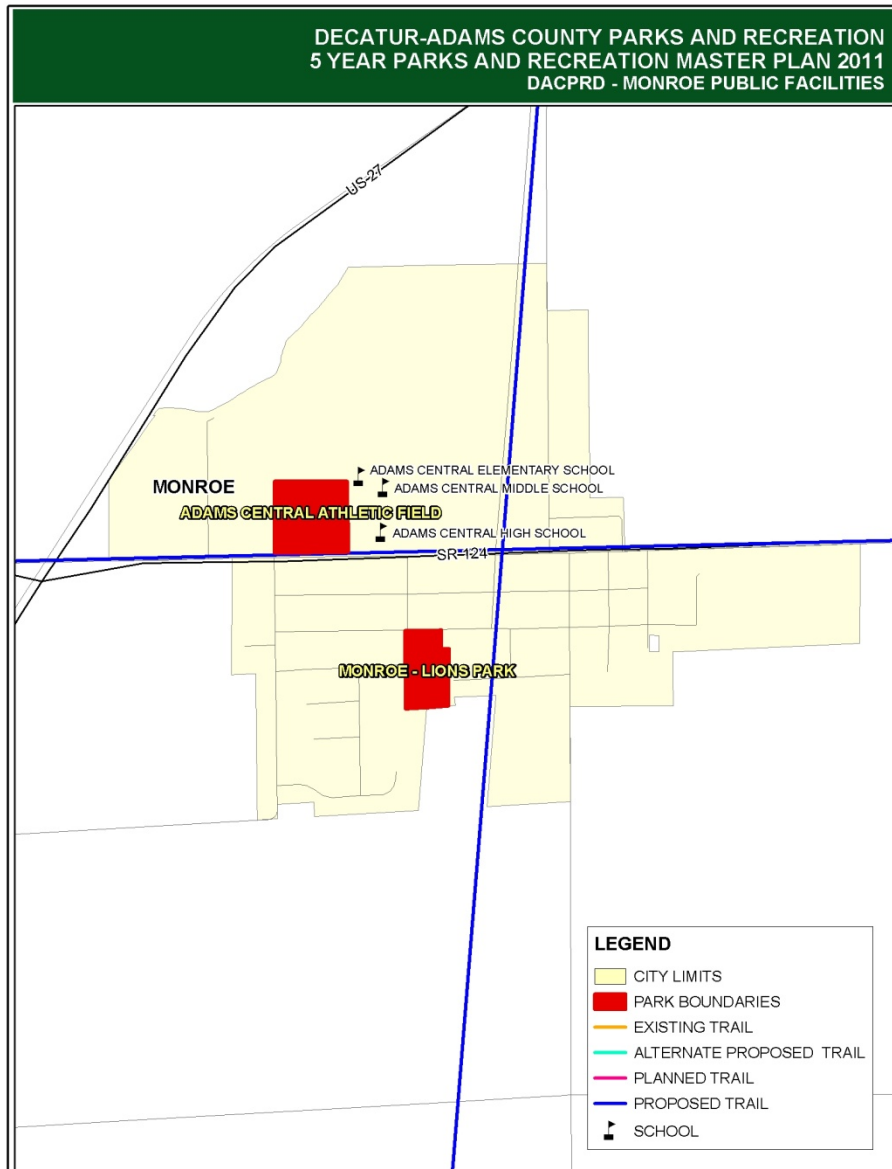


**MONROE PUBLIC FACILITIES**

Monroe is situated almost directly in the center of Adams County and lies just east of the intersection of U.S. Highway 27 and State Road 124. According to the 2010 census, they have a population of 842. All three of the Adams Central Schools (elementary, middle, and high school) are located within its borders.

Two NIRCC trails are planned that would cross through the heart of downtown Monroe. The South Adams Trail, a north-south route utilizing an abandoned railroad corridor, will eventually connect Decatur to the north and Berne to the south. The east-west trail will run along State Road 124 from 300 W to Salem Road.

DACPR is responsible for maintaining the Adams Central soccer fields while the Monroe-Lions Park, located in Monroe, is part of the County park system.

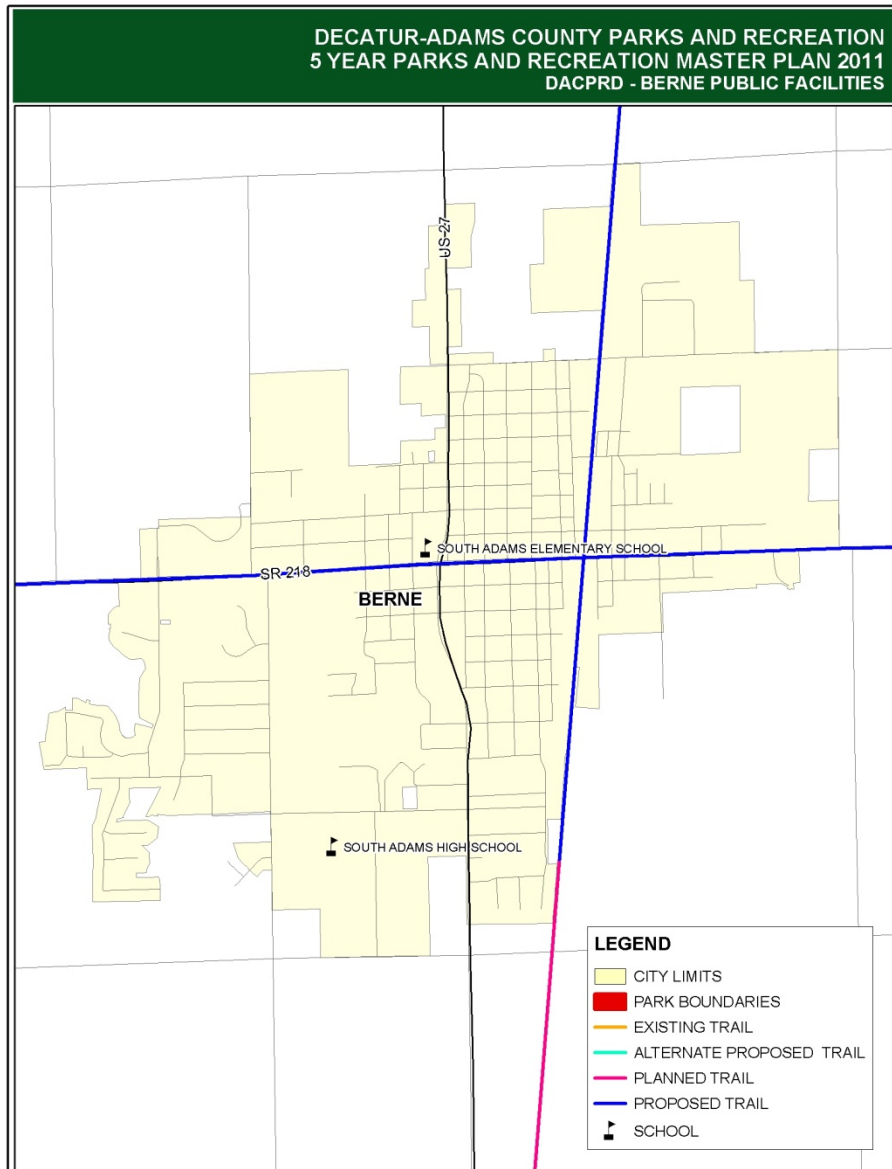


## BERNE PUBLIC FACILITIES

Located in the south half of Adams County, Berne is the second largest city in that county with a population of 3,999. It is situated at the intersection of U.S. Highway 27 and State Road 128. Two schools, South Adams Elementary School and South Adams High School, are both located here.

As with Monroe, there are two NIRCC trails planned to cross on the east side of downtown Berne. The north-south route utilizes an abandoned railroad corridor and will eventually connect Monroe to the north and Geneva to the south. The east-west trail will run along State Road 218 from 300 W to Salem Road.

At this time, the DACPRD does not maintain any facilities in Berne.



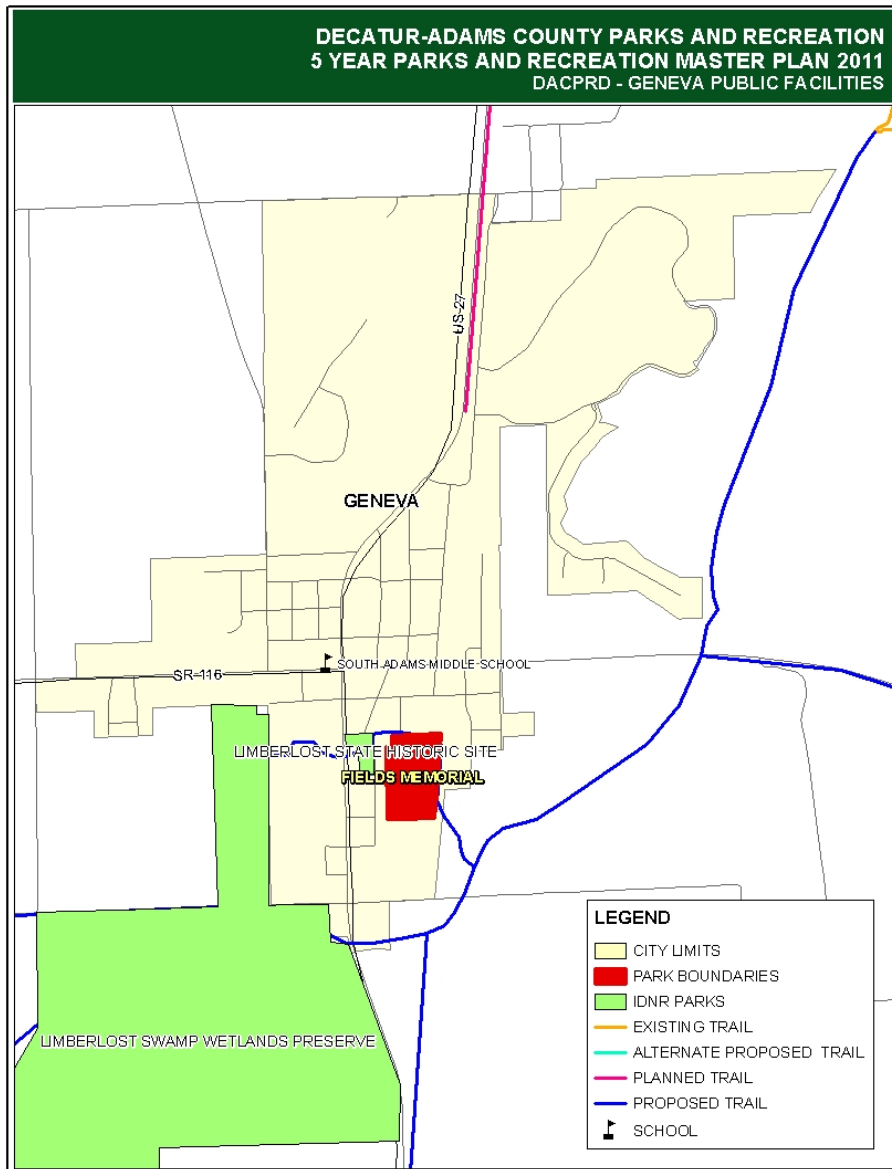


## GENEVA PUBLIC FACILITIES

Geneva is just north of the south boundary line of Adams County. With a population of 1,293, it is the third largest community in the County. U.S. Highway 27 and State Road 116 intersect in downtown Geneva. South Adams Middle School is the only school located here.

There is a NIRCC-planned trail that will be part of the same abandoned railroad line that connects the rest of the communities in Adams County. An additional trail will bypass the town to the east and connect to the Limberlost Park to the north and the Limberlost Swamp Wetlands Preserve to the south. This path will also split to the east and connect to Salem Road at the south county border.

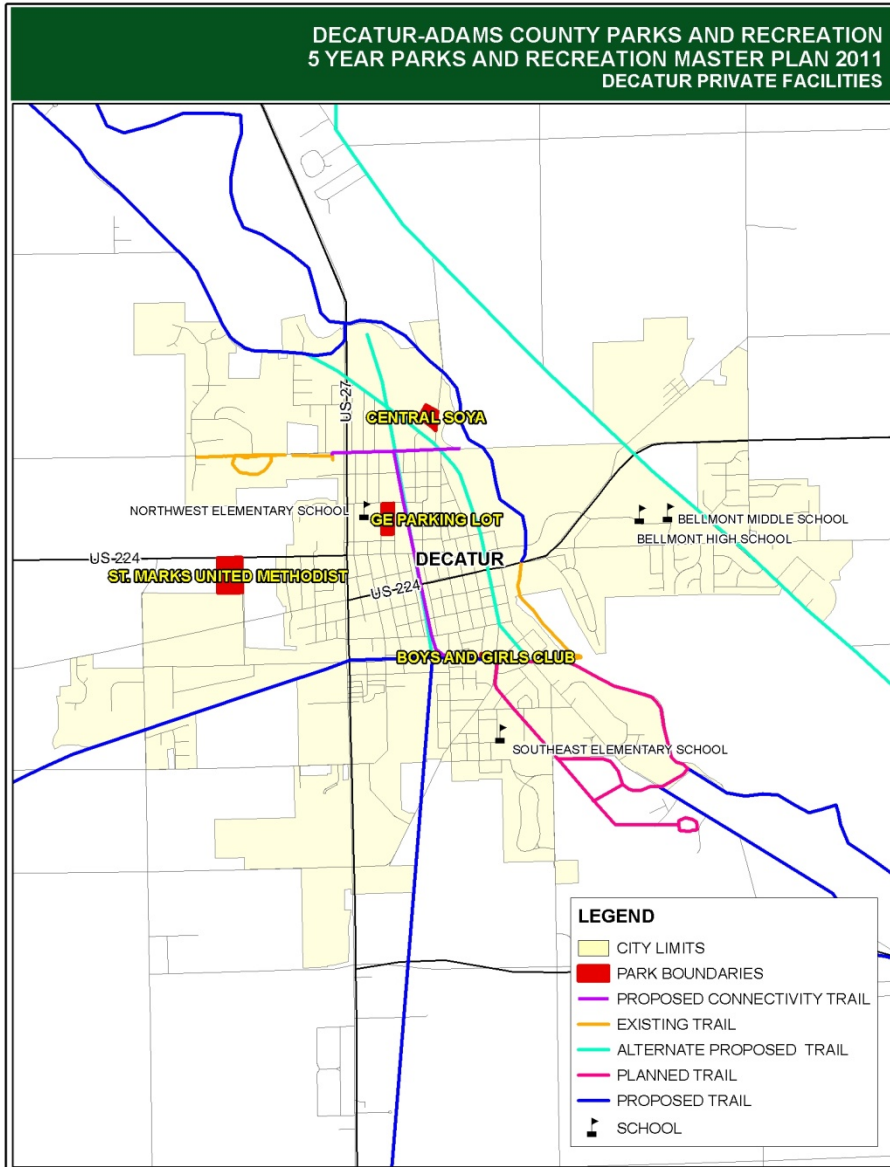
One park located within Geneva, Fields Memorial Park, is a county park and is currently maintained by the DACPRD.



## DECATUR PRIVATE FACILITIES

In addition to the numerous public facilities maintained by the parks department, the residents of Decatur also have access to four private facilities.

Central Soya, St. Marks United Methodist, and the Boys and Girls Club offer park-like amenities. The GE parking lot, however, has no civic function and is merely noted in this plan as it uses valuable park resources to keep it maintained.





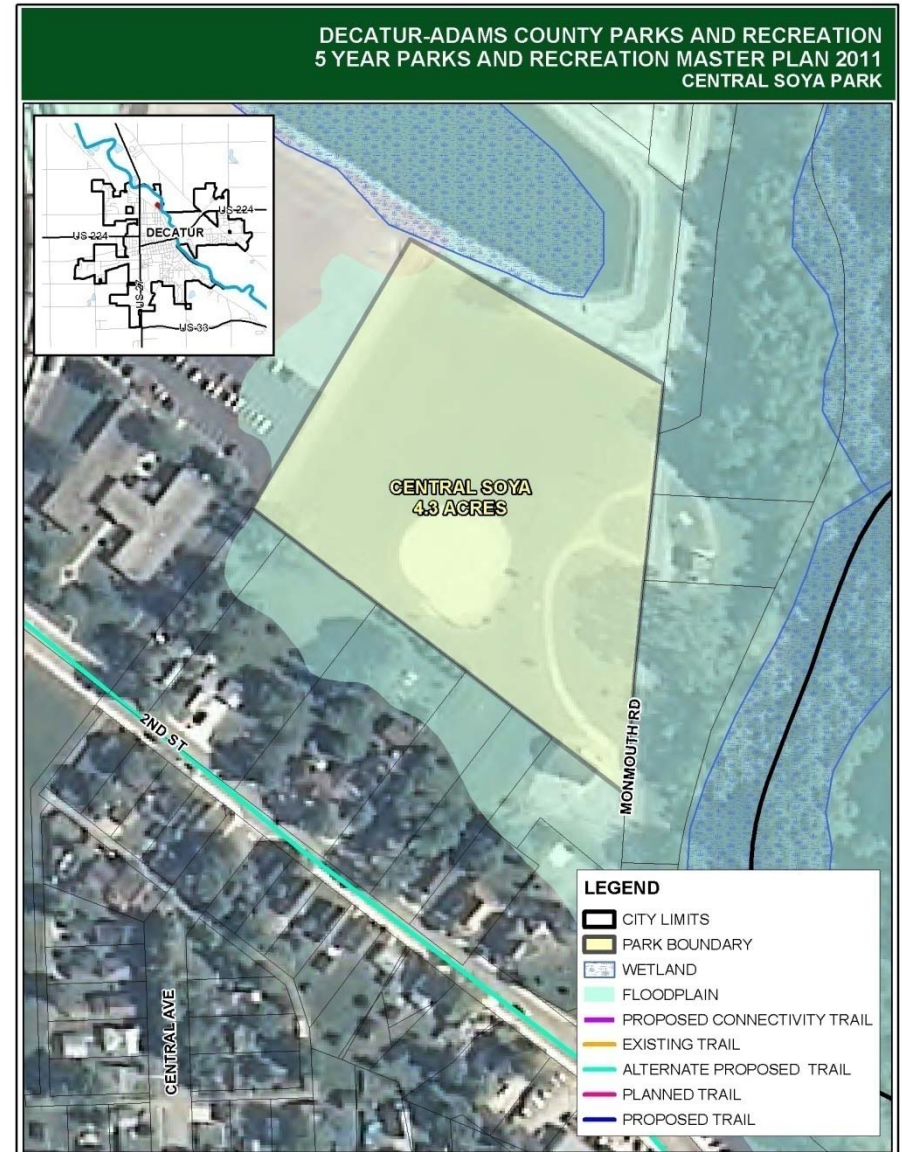
**DECATUR PRIVATE FACILITIES  
CENTRAL SOYA PARK**

This park is owned by Bunge, a large agribusiness, just north of the park. It is maintained by the DACPRD and is primarily used for its ball diamond and football field. Bunge also uses this facility for its company picnics.

It is located west of the St. Marys River and within the floodplain.



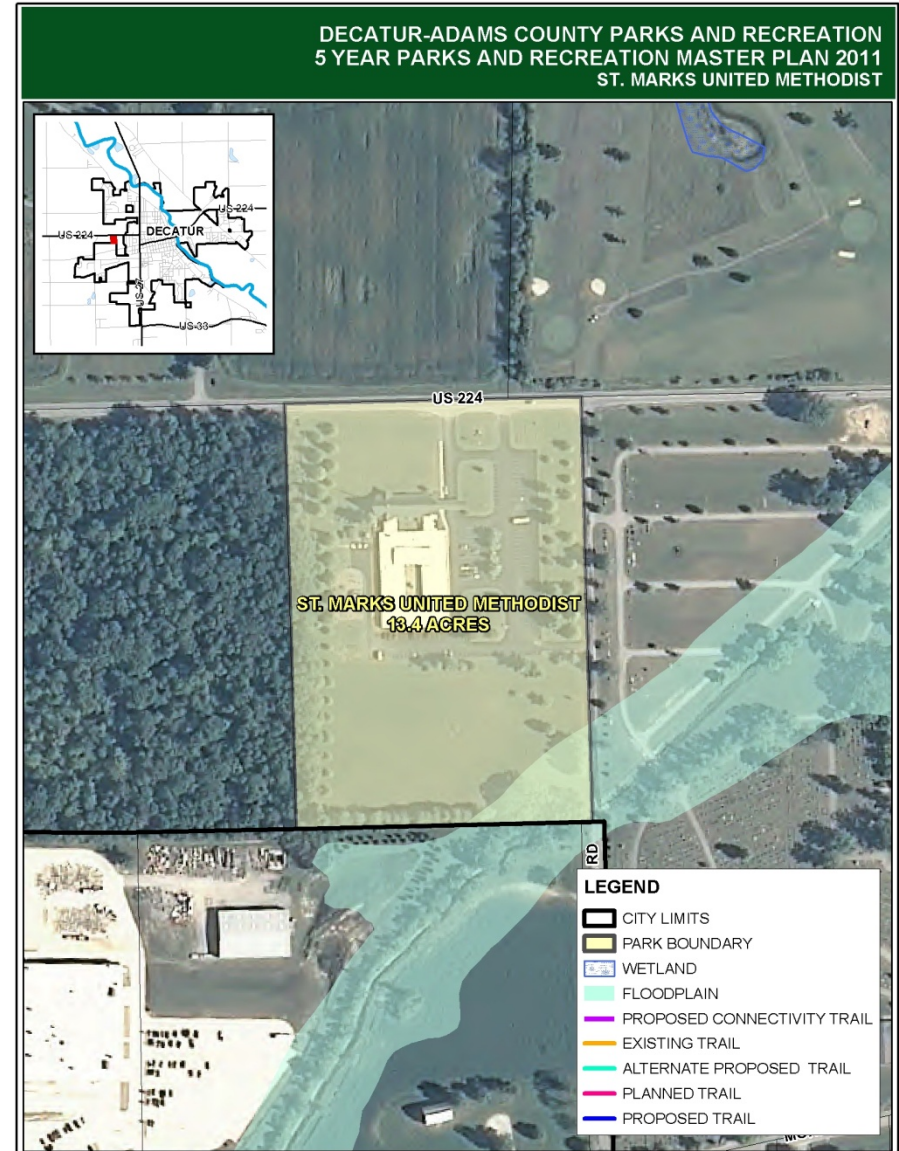
AMENITIES/FACILITIES	
Baseball Diamond	X
Basketball Hoop	
Soccer Field	
Tennis Courts	
Swimming Pool	
Volleyball Court	
Running/Walking	
Football Field	X
Obstacle Course	
Gymnasium	
Horseshoe Pit	
Teeter Totter	
Spring Rocker	
Merry-go-round	
Climbing Equipment	
Swings	
Slides	
Play Structures	
Exercise Equipment	
Boat Launch/Marina	
Beach	
Grill	
Picnic Table	X
Pavilion	
Restroom	
Concession Stand	
Bleachers	
Campsite/Cabin	
Benches/Seating	X
Drinking Fountain	
Other	
PARK PROFILE	
Use	Active
Usage	Moderate
Category	Private Park
Park Condition	Fair
ADA Rating	



**DECATUR PRIVATE FACILITIES  
ST. MARKS UNITED METHODIST**

Owned by St. Marks, this park is located just outside of the western limits of the City of Decatur. It has a wide range of equipment and amenities including a low ropes course.

AMENITIES/FACILITIES	
Baseball Diamond	
Basketball Hoop	X
Soccer Field	
Tennis Courts	
Swimming Pool	
Volleyball Court	
Running/Walking	
Football Field	
Obstacle Course	X
Gymnasium	X
Horseshoe Pit	
Teeter Totter	X
Spring Rocker	
Merry-go-round	X
Climbing Equipment	
Swings	X
Slides	X
Play Structures	X
Exercise Equipment	
Boat Launch/Marina	
Beach	
Grill	
Picnic Table	X
Pavilion	X
Restroom	X
Concession Stand	
Bleachers	
Campsite/Cabin	
Benches/Seating	X
Drinking Fountain	X
Other	
PARK PROFILE	
Use	Passive and Active
Usage	Moderate
Category	Private Park
Park Condition	Excellent
ADA Rating	Excellent





**DECATUR PRIVATE FACILITIES  
BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB**

This club is owned by the Boys and Girls Club of Adams County. In addition to their facilities, they also offer numerous activities for children of all ages.

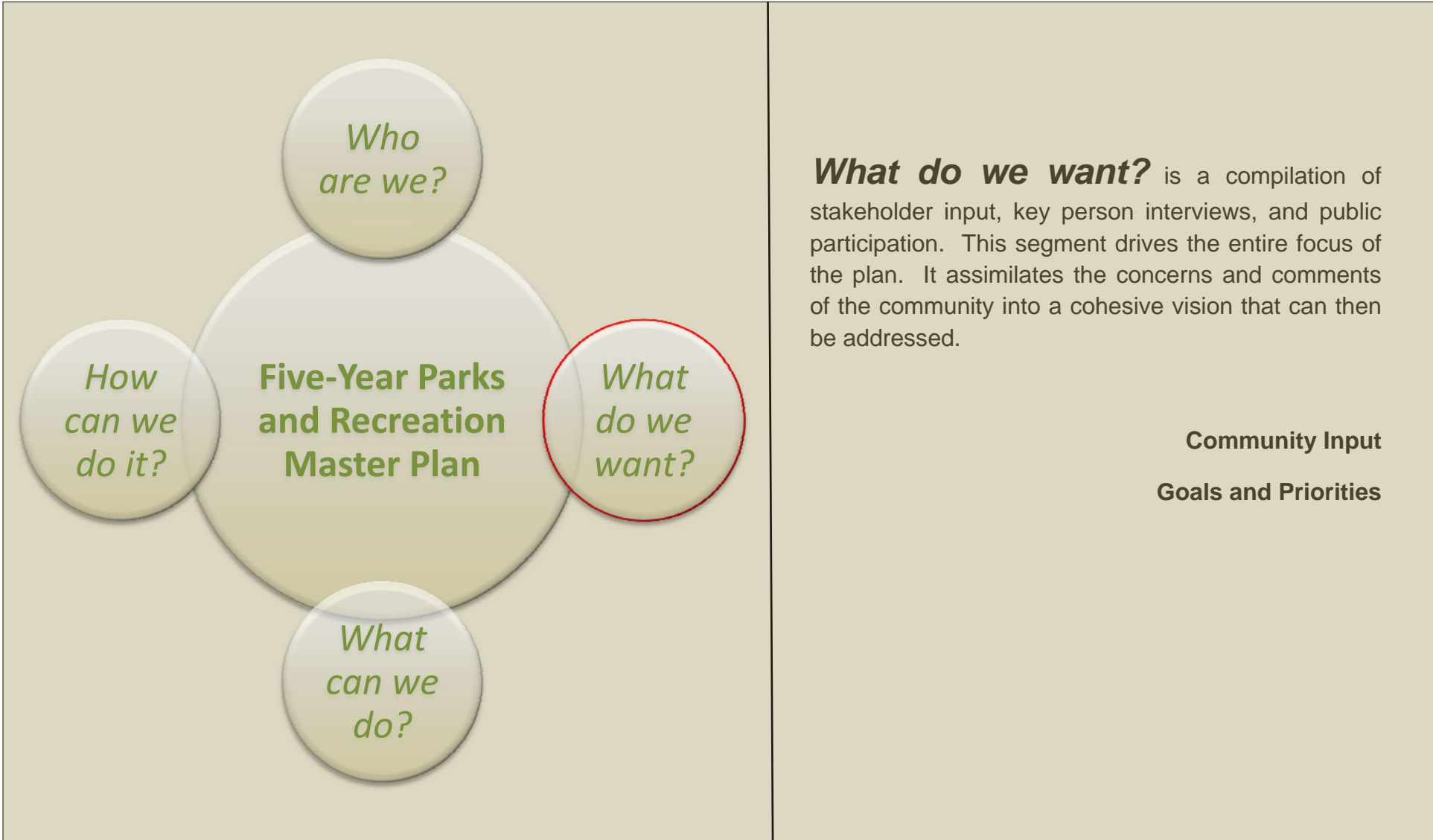
The Mission Statement of the Boys and Girls Club is “to inspire and enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, and responsible citizens.”

Their Core Promise to Youth is “to provide a safe, positive place and have a significant impact on their lives.



AMENITIES/FACILITIES	
Baseball Diamond	
Basketball Hoop	X
Soccer Field	
Tennis Courts	
Swimming Pool	
Volleyball Court	X
Running/Walking	
Football Field	
Obstacle Course	
Gymnasium	X
Horseshoe Pit	
Teeter Totter	
Spring Rocker	
Merry-go-round	
Climbing Equipment	
Swings	
Slides	
Play Structures	
Exercise Equipment	
Boat Launch/Marina	
Beach	
Grill	
Picnic Table	
Pavilion	
Restroom	X
Concession Stand	
Bleachers	X
Campsite/Cabin	
Benches/Seating	X
Drinking Fountain	X
Other	
PARK PROFILE	
Use	Passive and Active
Usage	Heavy
Category	Private Park
Park Condition	Fair/Excellent
ADA Rating	Excellent







### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION



*September 1, 2011  
Public Input Meeting*

Community input was gathered from a variety of sources.

#### Random Survey

A random thirty-two question survey was administered online as well as in pamphlet form. The survey was divided into six categories: General Information, Park Facilities / Amenities, Park Programs, Park Accessibility, Park Funding, and Park Changes.

The survey was advertised in both the Berne Tri-Weekly Newspaper and the Decatur Daily Democrat, and links to the online surveys were available on the City of Decatur's, the Adams County's, and the Parks and Recreation's websites. The survey pamphlets were distributed through both of the aforementioned papers with the instructions to complete and return to the Riverside Center.

In total, there were 114 responses received, 23 from the newspaper insert and 91 from the online survey. Approximately 65% of the respondents were Decatur residents while a majority of the remainder resided outside of city limits, but within Adams County. These 114 participants represent slightly more than 0.3% of the County's total population.

#### Non-Random Survey

Once input from the random survey was gathered and organized, a non-random survey was conducted and consisted of approximately twenty stakeholder interviews. The interview questions were to validate information collected from the random survey and to induce additional comment. These discussions corroborated the results of the random survey.

#### Public Input Meetings

On September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011 the first Public Input Meeting was held. It was announced in both papers and the same three previously listed websites. The results from the public survey and the key person interviews were summarized and presented to the public for validation. In addition, these outcomes were also accompanied with potential solutions or future directions.

The second public input meeting was held on January 16, 2012. It was also announced in both papers. The purpose of this open house was to update the public as to the status of the plan and what is expected to occur in the near future. It was also to reveal the implementation strategies and three new park concepts.

The following pages offer a synopsis of the results from the Public Input Survey as well as the two Public Input Meetings.

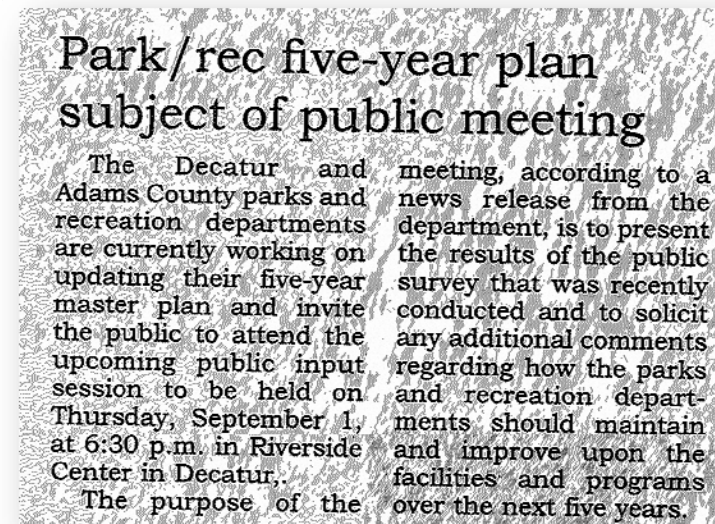
### SUMMARY OF PUBLIC INPUT SURVEY

- Over half of the respondents live in Decatur.
- Most respondents visit park facilities at least once a week.
- Most use the parks for their playgrounds, trails, and sports fields.
- Hanna Nuttman and American Legion are the two most frequented parks.
- To inhabitants of Decatur and Adams County, walking/jogging, playgrounds, swimming/splash pad, picnicking, and playing baseball are the five most important park activities.
- Many would like to see a splash pad added.
- Most would like new facilities added to Hanna Nuttman, Kekionga, and American Legion Parks.
- Over 70% support a bike friendly campaign.
- Most are unaware of the South Adams Trail system, but would support an expansion.
- Almost 50% of the respondents attend Park Department programs.
- Many of the programs are favorites.
- The programs were rated as 'generally good' and well organized.
- Residents want playground improvements ranked as the top priority for the parks department with restroom improvements and trail development as a close second and third. Almost 60% support reopening the restrooms even if it involves security measures.
- Most don't visit parks because of a lack of time and accessible parking.
- Allowing alcohol at the Riverside Center for special events is supported by over 60% of the respondents.

### SUMMARY OF SEPTEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup> PUBLIC INPUT MEETING

Roughly fifteen citizens (approximately half of which were government employees) attended the September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011 Public Input Meeting. A small questionnaire was completed by each participant in an effort to gauge their responses to the proposed solutions. Over half would be in favor of closing a park if it meant improving another. Two were against a downtown splash pad, three were not in favor of parks with specific purposes (i.e. dog parks, disc golf), all but one were in favor of saving the pool, and almost all would prefer to be notified of park events through multiple media sources.

These and other issues will be addressed in subsequent chapters of this plan.



*Decatur Daily Democrat  
Tuesday, August 23, 2011*



## SUMMARY OF JANUARY 16<sup>TH</sup> PUBLIC INPUT MEETING

The attendance at this January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012 meeting was comparable to the previous public input meeting. Although the turnout was similar, there were a number of new faces. Overall, there was good support for the plan and excitement for the proposed park concepts. One resident requested that the City Council names be updated to reflect the recent election, another resident asked that the 2010 population census data be used (at the beginning of this study, this data was not available), and another wanted to be sure to point out the benefits of the cooperative venture between the DACPRD and the schools. Each of these issues was addressed accordingly.

### Public meeting scheduled

A public informational meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, January 16, at Riverside Center in Decatur to receive input on the Decatur/Adams County Parks and Recreation

Department's five-year master plan. The announcement was made by Chris Chockley, a landscape architect and planning director based in Elkhart.

*Decatur Daily Democrat*  
Wednesday  
January 4, 2012



### 5-year plan for parks is unveiled

January 17, 2012

BY J SWYGART

A recreational vehicle campground along Parkview Drive as part of an expanded Kekionga Park.

A new park area east of First Street in downtown Decatur, complete with a stage area, playground and a pedestrian bridge across the St. Marys River.

Limberlost Park near Geneva enhanced with new walking trails and access points to the Wabash River. Greater accessibility for handicapped residents and more and better restroom facilities at all parks countywide.

Those proposals and more are contained in a five-year master plan that Decatur-Adams County Parks and Recreation department officials plan to send to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources for ultimate approval.

During a meeting held Monday evening in Riverside Center and attended by a dozen local residents, most of them park board members, landscape architect Chris Chockley said the master plan was developed in large part based on comments received in a survey conducted recently by the parks department.

Chockley, an employee of the Wightman Petrie engineering firm, said survey respondents had listed playground improvements and restroom upgrades at parks in Decatur and throughout the county as among their top priorities. Other important park activities identified by the survey included walking/jogging, picnicking and sports activities.

The five-year parks master plan, Chockley said, identifies Kekionga and Hanna-Nuttman parks, and a proposed First Street Promenade, as the priority areas in the city of Decatur.

Improvements at Hanna-Nuttman would include the development of athletic, campground and passive areas of the park, as well as the creation of additional walking trails. Proposed upgrades at Kekionga Park call for the creation of additional nature trails and a new RV campground on city-owned green space along Parkview Drive that was purchased following massive flooding in 2003.

The five-year plan also calls for the development of a master plan for a First Street Promenade, which would run along the river from Monroe to Jefferson streets. Park board member Larry Isch said the park would be located within Decatur's newly-established Tax Increment Financing (TIF) district and would be eligible to be funded by tax dollars generated by the district.

At the county level, Limberlost Park and Linn Grove Park were identified as areas of possible improvements. Chockley said the master plan to be submitted to the DNR includes cost estimates and possible funding sources for the proposed park upgrades.



Chris Chockley, an architect with the Wightman Petrie engineering firm, outlined proposed improvements to parks in Decatur and Adams County. (Photo by J Swygart)

*Decatur Daily Democrat*  
(web article)  
Tuesday, January 17, 2012

## GOALS AND PRIORITIES

Through the process of administering the public input survey, conducting park inventories, key person interviews, numerous Park Staff and Board meetings, and public input workshops, the issues that the DACPRD should address have been noted. These issues have been broken down by park and prioritized based on need. The Top Priorities have been identified and will be incorporated into the five-year action plan. Other issues that may not feasibly be accomplished in the short term have been identified as long term or future development. All issues, whether short or long term, have been listed to help provide direction for future planning efforts.



### Priority Listing

- 1 = Top concern, to be implemented with the next five years.
- 2 = Secondary concern, to be implemented after top concerns are completed.
- 3 = Long range concerns, to be considered for implementation beyond 10 years.

### Top Priorities - based on Survey

- 1 Develop Splash Pad within the City limits
- 1 Enhance and expand the River Greenway Trail development
- 1 Develop bike routes and improve community wide connectivity
- 1 Connect Limberlost Park trails to future South Adams Trail system
- 1 Improve playgrounds throughout both City and County park systems
- 1 Improve parking and configuration of Hanna Nuttman Park

### Administration

- 2 Establish full-time Riverside programming director
- 1 Maximize programming use at Riverside Center

# What do we want? GOALS AND PRIORITIES

## CITY OF DECATUR PARK FACILITIES

### Kekionga Park

- 2 Inspect and audit existing playground and remove or replace outdated equipment
- 1 Review ADA access to playground and restroom facility
- 1 Update restroom building with vandal resistant fixtures
- 1 Incorporate vacant land along roadway into park
- 2 Develop Park Master Plan that incorporates RV campground and possible disk golf
- 1 Construct walkway/boardwalk and observation deck in wetland area

### Hanna Nuttman Park

- 3 Increase the number of parking spaces
- 3 Reconfigure location of concession building to be more central to ballfields
- 2 Improve campground area
- 1 Inspect and audit existing playground and remove or replace outdated equipment
- 1 Review ADA access to playground and restroom facility
- 2 Develop area for picnic pavilion
- 1 Update restroom building with vandal resistant fixtures
- 1 Construct bike trail/path to improve connectivity



### American Legion Park

- 1 Add additional benches and picnic tables to park
- 1 Review ADA access to playground and restroom facility
- 2 Update restroom building with vandal resistant fixtures

### North Ward Park

- 2 Improve security features such as lighting
- 3 Replace existing site furnishing with vandal resistant equipment
- 3 Review existing skate park for needed repairs, replace outdated equipment
- 1 Resurface and restripe basketball courts

### Waterworks Park

- 2 Repair bathhouse floor
- 3 Add new features to pool to make park a destination
- 2 Audit existing equipment and replace to make energy efficient

### South Ward Park

- 2 Inspect and audit existing playground and remove or replace outdated equipment
- 3 Add additional basketball court



## What do we want? GOALS AND PRIORITIES

### Stratton Park

- 2 Improve vehicular and pedestrian access to park
- 2 Renovate existing picnic pavilion
- 1 Inspect and audit existing playground and remove or replace outdated equipment

### Homestead Park

- 2 Inspect and audit existing playground and remove or replace outdated equipment

### Worthman Field

- 3 Replace perimeter fencing
- 3 Add netting along outfield fence

### 7th Street Depot

None

### Decatur Greenway Trail

- 1 Develop overall city-wide bike route
- 1 Develop a loop system of the current Greenway Trail
- 1 Connect Greenway Trail to South Adams Trail system
- 3 Construct pedestrian bridge over river to east side trail

### River Plaza and Riverside Center

- 1 Maximize programming use within building



### Recreation Annex

- 1 Review and improve ADA access to building
- 1 Add parking spaces

## ADAMS COUNTY PARK FACILITIES

### Limberlost Park

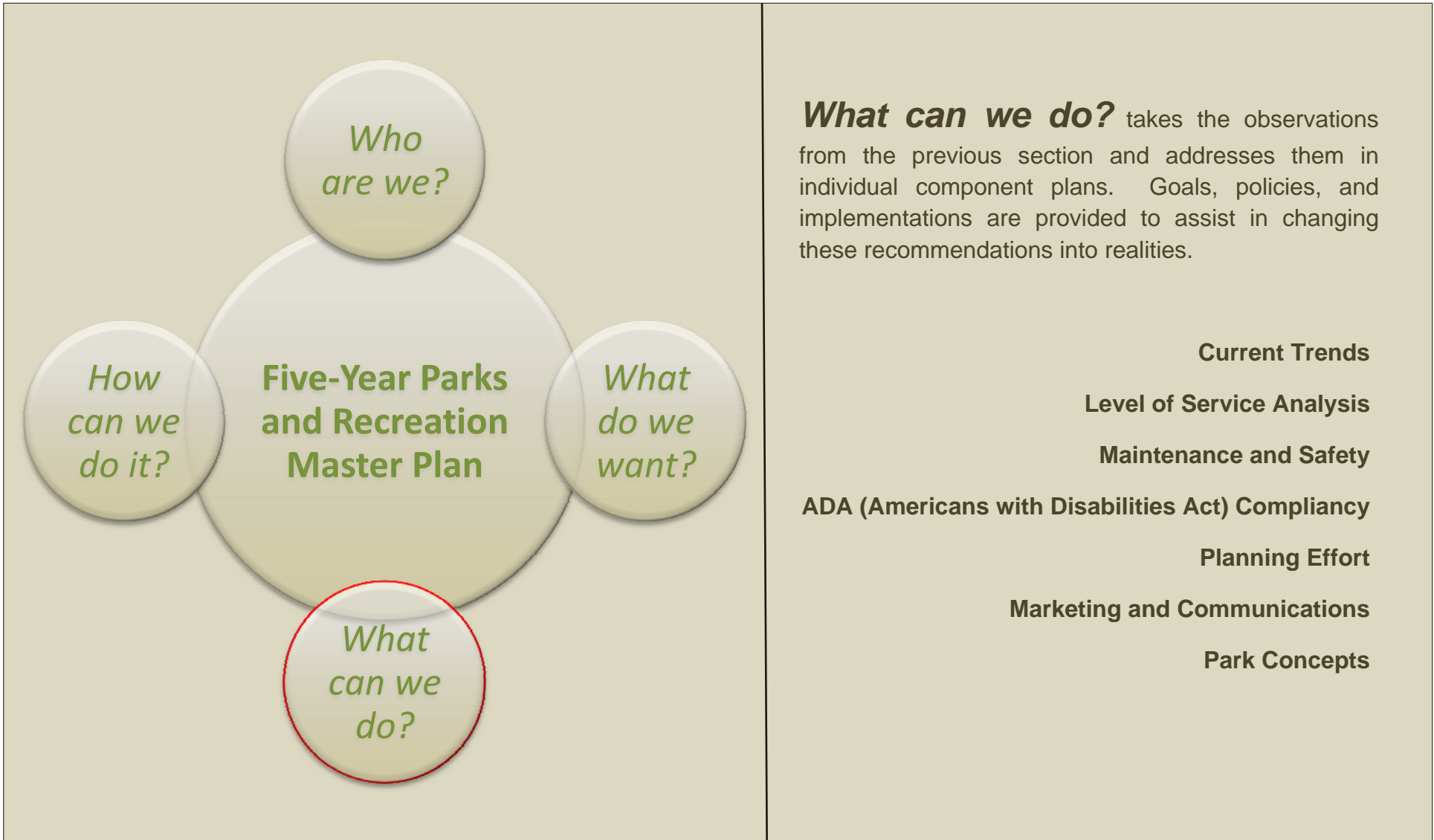
- 2 Develop park into a destination spot
- 1 Market the park as having the only remaining covered bridge on the Wabash River
- 1 Connect Limberlost Park to the South Adams Trail, improve park connectivity to the region
- 1 Construct multi-use trail throughout park including educational signage

### Linn Grove Park

- 1 Develop areas for fishing along the Wabash River and ponds
- 1 Concentrate mowing around picnic pavilion
- 1 Remove unused areas throughout the park from regular mowing maintenance, review costs and long term maintenance of planting native grasses for these areas
- 1 Develop canoe/kayak launch along the Wabash River

### Monroe Lions Park

- 1 Inspect and audit existing playground and remove outdated equipment



## CURRENT TRENDS

Current trends throughout the United States are focusing on activities that incorporate both fitness and wellness programs. Participation in these activities has been increasing over the last 10 years. It has been documented that as people age they become more health conscious pay closer attention to their overall health and fitness.

Recreational activities such as yoga, kayaking, tennis, running/jogging, and cycling are among the top fifteen activities cited by National Sporting Goods Association and the National Recreation and Park Association.

The National Sporting Goods Association (NSGA) conducts an annual study of sports participation. The latest survey (2010) listed the activities (table at top right) per million participants. Per NSGA, a participant is defined as someone seven years of age or older who participates in a sport more than once within a year for all sports.

The current Indiana Statewide Outdoor Recreation Plan 2006-2010 (SCORP) evaluates the State of Indiana's park and recreation needs on a statewide basis and identifies the top fifteen recreational activities based on participation (table at bottom right).

For the most part, the national and statewide trends are reflected in both Decatur and Adams County. Walking trails (i.e. Rivergreenway Trail), existing and new aquatic facilities, and multi-generational program needs were discussed during the public meeting, public survey, and key person interviews.

Top 15 Activities & Sports by Participation between 2009 and 2010		
Activity	Total Participation in Millions	Percent Change 2009-2010
Yoga	20.2	28.1%
Gymnastics	4.8	23.5%
Skiing (Cross Country)	2	19.5%
Aerobic Exercise	38.5	16.3%
Billiards/Pool	24	14.8%
Kayaking	5.6	14.8%
Tennis	12.3	13.2%
Hiking	37.7	10.9%
Running/Jogging	35.5	10.3%
Basketball	26.9	10.1%
Baseball	12.5	8.9%
Hockey (Ice)	3.3	7.9%
Football (Tackle)	9.3	4.8%
Bicycling	39.8	4.3%
Swimming	51.9	3.4%

National Sporting Goods Association (NSGA, 2010)

Top 15 Activities	
Activity	Percent based on respondents
Walking/hiking/jogging	84.9%
Fairs and festivals	68.4%
Swimming/SCUBA/snorkeling	60.7%
Nature observation/photography	59.8%
Camping	53.5%
Fishing	52.3%
Picnicking	52.0%
Bicycling	43.7%
Motorized vehicle use	41.6%
Boating/water skiing/personal watercraft	40.7%
Court Sports	40.0%
Playground use	37.2%
Winter Sports	34.5%
Field Sports	32.5%
Golf	29.1%

SCORP 2006-2010



## What can we do? LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS

### LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS – NRPA STANDARDS

Level of Service (LOS) is usually defined in Park and Recreation Master Plans as the capacity of system components and facilities to meet the needs of the public. The traditional method of measuring LOS often calls upon the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) Standards. This methodology, which was developed in the 1980's, is typically based on providing a set number of facilities or acres per 1,000 people. It has been discovered that this method does not provide an accurate depiction of needs of the community since each community has varied demographics, and both physical and fiscal conditions. Based on the 2007 Indiana Statewide Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), NPRA standards began to shift from this population ratio method to a Level of Service system of recommendations.

Since the population ratio method has been used extensively in the past this plan also refers to these historic comparisons for population-based components.

Park Name	Owner	Acreage	Public Private	Park Category
STRATTON PARK	CITY OF DECATUR	4.97	Public	Mini Park
HOMESTEAD PARK	CITY OF DECATUR	15.90	Public	Community Park
HANNA NUTTMAN PARK	CITY OF DECATUR	45.82	Public	Large Urban Park
NORTHWARD PARK	CITY OF DECATUR	0.60	Public	Mini Park
WATERWORKS PARK	CITY OF DECATUR	0.97	Public	Mini Park
BELLMONT POND	SCHOOL	19.59	Public	Community Park
KEKIONGA PARK	CITY OF DECATUR	54.11	Public	Large Urban Park
WORTHMAN FIELD	SCHOOL	6.03	Public	Neighborhood Park
LIMBERLOST PARK/COVERED BRIDGE	ADAMS COUNTY	53.09	Public	Regional Park
ADAMS COUNTY SERVICE COMPLEX	ADAMS COUNTY	1.20	Public	Recreation Center
JACKSON STREET PARK	CITY OF DECATUR	29.10	Public	Community Park
SOUTHWARD PARK	CITY OF DECATUR	0.74	Public	Mini Park
AMERICAN LEGION PARK	CITY OF DECATUR	2.02	Public	Mini Park
EASTBROOK PARK	CITY OF DECATUR	4.54	Public	Neighborhood Park
FIELDS MEMORIAL	ADAMS COUNTY	12.71	Public	Neighborhood Park
MONROE - LIONS PARK	ADAMS COUNTY	6.11	Public	Community Park
LINN GROVE PARK	ADAMS COUNTY	14.40	Public	Regional Park
7th Street Depot	CITY OF DECATUR	4.02	Public	Other
PARK MAINTENANCE BLDG	CITY OF DECATUR	2.59	Public	Other
CENTRAL SOYA	BUNGE	4.26	Private	Private
GE PARKING LOT	GE	5.49	Private	Private
RIVERSIDE CENTER	CITY OF DECATUR	7.21	Public	Recreation Center
BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB	BOYS CLUB	1.04	Private	Private
ST. MARKS UNITED METHODIST	ST. MARKS	13.37	Private	Private
ADAMS CENTRAL	SCHOOL	70.47	Public	Community Park
NORTH ADAMS	SCHOOL	102.66	Public	Community Park
SOUTH ADAMS	SCHOOL	89.59	Public	Community Park

## What can we do? LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS

### LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS – SERVICE AREAS

For this analysis, the standard LOS was set at the National Recreation and Park Association's (NRPA) guidelines recommendation of a total of 6.25 to 10.5 acres of open space per 1000 population.

The DACPRD total public park acreage is approximately 548. Of that, Decatur-owned parks total approximately 172 acres, County-owned parks total approximately 88, and school parks total approximately 288 acres. Privately owned parks contribute 24 acres to the community. Additional non-DACPRD parks, such as Berne, Geneva, Monroe and township parks, have not been included in this analysis, but do contribute to the quality of life of the residents.

Currently, the City of Decatur far exceeds this requirement of 100 acres by providing 172 acres. The County park acreages (which include the City) supply only 200 acres, when the suggested is closer to 353. Adding the generous school acreages serves to balance this number, bringing it more in line with the national standards.

### LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS - FACILITIES

#### Park Facilities

Almost 50% of the survey participants visit a park once a week. Hanna Nuttman, American Legion, and Kekionga Parks are the most frequented. Most use the parks for the playgrounds, paths, and sports fields. When asked what facilities should be added, there was an overwhelming response for water feature additions or improvements, especially a splash pad.

These results support the findings to the question "List the facilities you would like to see renovated or expanded." The top three answers were splash pads/pool, trails, playgrounds.

Overall, the parks were rated as "generally good" with their appearance and functionality rated as "fair" to "good".

#### Public Pool

Although the public pool is a fiscal drain on the department, it is a quality of life amenity that the residents cherish. The annual funds spent on the maintenance and staffing of the pool could easily be spent on other capital projects. However, since the key role of the DACPRD is to serve the community, its closure must be carefully considered. As noted above, the comments from the survey as well as the public input meeting demonstrate the community's desires to retain its water feature, even expand it. The pool itself was built in the 1950's but, due to the meticulous care of the facility, remains in relatively good condition. However, it is only a matter of time before the pool reaches a point of irreparability.

#### Restrooms

Operations and maintenance of restroom facilities have been and continue to be an issue for the department. Due to vandalism, many remain closed throughout the season. Based on public input, this is an amenity that residents would like readily available. Some restrooms have recently been opened in an effort to provide for the community, but are closely monitored for damage. Almost 55% of the respondents were in favor of reopening the restrooms even if it involved a fee-per-use or other security measure.

## What can we do? LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS

### Equipment Age

The average age of most of the department's park equipment is approximately 20 years. Regulations and standards have changed considerably over the past years as safety and accessibility become increasingly emphasized. See the Maintenance and Safety component of this chapter for further information.

*Level-of-service (LOS) standards are measures of the minimum amount of a public facility which must be provided to meet that community's basic needs and expectations. LOS measures are typically expressed as ratios of facility capacity to the number of users. They are used to measure whether existing facilities and services are adequate to serve its citizens, or whether there are deficiencies that should be corrected. They also serve as yardsticks to measure whether existing capacity is adequate to handle new development, or to determine what facility improvements will be required to avoid overloading existing facilities. As the community grows in population, LOS assures that facilities and services will keep pace with that growth.*

Source: Municipal Research and Services Center of Washington

### LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS - CONNECTIVITY

#### Trails

The recent addition of the Rivergreenway Trail in 2006 provides Decatur and surrounding residents with an impressive 3.9 mile multi-use path. Additional trails are slated to be built throughout the County within the next few years. Most of these trail improvements are under the guidance and direction of the South Adams Trail organization and the regional transportation planning organization (NIRCC). Unfortunately, approximately 85% of the survey respondents were unaware of the South Adams Trail System. Although, most would support its expansion.

#### Bike Programs

Currently, there is no community "Bicycle-Friendly Campaign". This type of program requires the coordination between multiple agencies and can be done in conjunction with a Safe Routes to School program. Successful implementation will not only make bike riding safer, it will help to increase the level of fitness of community residents, especially children.

#### Connectivity

Trails and bike routes, along with sidewalks, form a network of connectivity. These interconnected, non-motorized trails are quickly becoming quality of life issues in most communities. A Connectivity Plan can outline a series of well planned trails, bike routes, and sidewalks and can help with phasing, funding, and implementation. In an effort to address some connectivity issues in Decatur, the Highway Department has future plans to build sidewalks along Winchester Street from Mercer to Line Street.



# What can we do? LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS

## LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS - COMPONENTS

According to the table below, the DACPRD will not need to add any additional facilities for 2012 in order to maintain their current level of service for recreation components.

Capacity Levels of Service for Community Recreation Components																					
	Baseball Fields	Basketball Hoops	Boat Launches	Football Fields	Campsites Cabins	Concessions	Disk Golf	Gyms/Auditoriums	Nature Centers	Pavilions/Gazebos	Playgrounds	Pools	Splash Pad	Restrooms	Skate Parks	Sledding	Soccer Fields	Tennis Courts	Volleyball Courts	Tracks	
<b>Inventory</b>																					
City Facilities (Public and Private)	11	9	2	2	2	4	0	3	0	9	9	1	0	7	1	1	3	1	5	1	
Schools Facilities	8	6	0	2	0	2	0	2	0	1	2	3	0	2	0	0	12	12	6	4	
County Facilities	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>5</b>	
<b>Current Ratio Per Population</b>																					
Current City Population	<b>9405.0</b>																				
Current Ratio per 1000 Population	2.02	1.81	0.32	0.43	0.21	0.64	0.00	0.53	0.00	1.06	1.28	0.43	0.00	1.06	0.11	0.11	1.59	1.38	1.17	0.53	
Population per component	495.00	553.24	3135.00	2351.25	4702.50	1567.50	0.00	1881.00	0.00	940.50	783.75	2351.25	0.00	940.50	9405.00	9405.00	627.00	723.46	855.00	1881.00	
Current County Population	<b>34387.0</b>																				
Current Ratio per 1000 Population	0.55	0.49	0.09	0.12	0.06	0.17	0.00	0.15	0.00	0.29	0.35	0.12	0.00	0.29	0.03	0.03	0.44	0.38	0.32	0.15	
Population per component	1809.84	2022.76	11462.33	8596.75	17193.50	5731.17	0.00	6877.40	0.00	3438.70	2865.58	8596.75	0.00	3438.70	34387.00	34387.00	2292.47	2645.15	3126.09	6877.40	
<b>Projected Ratio Per Population</b>																					
Projected 2012 City Population	<b>9433.0</b>																				
<b>Total # needed to maintain current ratio of all existing facilities at projected population</b>	19.06	17.05	3.01	4.01	2.01	6.02	0.00	5.01	0.00	10.03	12.04	4.01	0.00	10.03	1.00	1.00	15.04	13.04	11.03	5.01	
Number that should be added to achieve current ratio at projected population	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Projected 2012 County Population	<b>34421.0</b>																				
<b>Total # needed to maintain current ratio of all existing facilities at projected population</b>	19.02	17.02	3.00	4.00	2.00	6.01	0.00	5.00	0.00	10.01	12.01	4.00	0.00	10.01	1.00	1.00	15.01	13.01	11.01	5.00	
Number that should be added to achieve current ratio at projected population	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

## What can we do? LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS

### LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS – PARK PROGRAMMING

Key person interviews and results from the public input survey indicate a high level of quality programming and coordination with private entities by the DACPRD.

Almost 44% of the survey respondents attend park programs a few times a year; 70% of these with family. Over 50% rate the activities as generally good and 59% state that the programs are fun and well organized.

The figure to the right shows that the Kekionga Festival is a community favorite with the flea market and the spring break specials as a close second and third.

The following is a list of suggested programming that the residents would like to see added:

- Mother – son event
- Better use of pool (open longer, aqua zumba)
- Programs for toddlers and parents

Some were completely unaware of these activities. Better marketing and communications can help to rectify that matter. Please see the Marketing and Communications portion of this chapter.

Other comments from the survey and interviews indicate that some children are unable to participate in the programs and leagues due to financial concerns. A key role of the department is to provide services to all, regardless of their financial situation.

#### 22. Which programs are your favorite?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Touch A Tractor / Father's Day Card Craft		31.6%	18
Iron Kid		15.8%	9
Fitness Fridays		3.5%	2
Spring Break Specials		38.6%	22
Christmas Break Specials		28.1%	16
Mother Goose Playtime		1.8%	1
Daddy Daughter Dance		14.0%	8
Gymnastics		29.8%	17
<b>Kekionga Festival</b>		<b>43.9%</b>	<b>25</b>
Bingo		0.0%	0
Craft Shows		14.0%	8
Euchre		0.0%	0
Farm Wagon		3.5%	2
Flea Market		38.6%	22
Painting Club		0.0%	0
Rummage Sale		15.8%	9
Senior Luncheon		1.8%	1
Take off Pounds Sensibility		1.8%	1
Fitness Center – Cardio Room		14.0%	8
Fitness Center – Weight Room		17.5%	10
Personal Trainer		1.8%	1
Silver Strength		1.8%	1

### LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS – ACCESSIBILITY

#### Service Areas

There are a number of physical barriers which could impact the level of service of a park. One of which is the accessibility of the park to the public as defined by its service area. The NRPA suggests that service areas should be based on park classification.

The classification of parks and recreational areas provides a valuable guideline in maintaining proportionate user-oriented space within the City while providing for variation in the designation of that space. General descriptions of the four main types of Decatur parks are described below:

The classifications for the Decatur parks are based more on functionality rather than the suggested acreage limits. The criteria below were used to categorize the Decatur parks for this analysis.

1. Mini Parks:
  - a. Specialized facilities that serve a concentrated or limited population, or specific group, such as senior citizens.
  - b. Size: less than 5 acres.
  - c. Service area: ¼ mile.
2. Neighborhood Parks:
  - a. Area for intense recreational activities, such as field games, crafts, playground apparatus areas, skating, picnicking, wading pools, etc.
  - b. Size: 6 to 14 acres.
  - c. Service area: ½ mile.
3. Community Parks:

- a. Recreation areas containing picnic facilities, regulation playfields/ play courts, playground, and open land, and school and county parks.
  - b. Size: 15 to 30 acres.
  - c. Service area: 1 mile.
4. Large Urban Parks:
    - a. Recreational and natural areas whose primary purpose is to make public space available to nature activities and education. Such activities include hiking, camping, observing, biking, outdoor theaters and events, and environmental education.
    - b. Size: approximately 50 acres.
    - c. Service area: 2 miles.

While largely due to the two Large Urban Parks, the City appears to have ample coverage of park service areas. A closer look reveals a shortage of Mini Parks, Neighborhood Parks, or Community Parks in the extreme northwest, west, and southwest areas of the City. The map on the following page includes possible new facility locations to rectify this shortage.

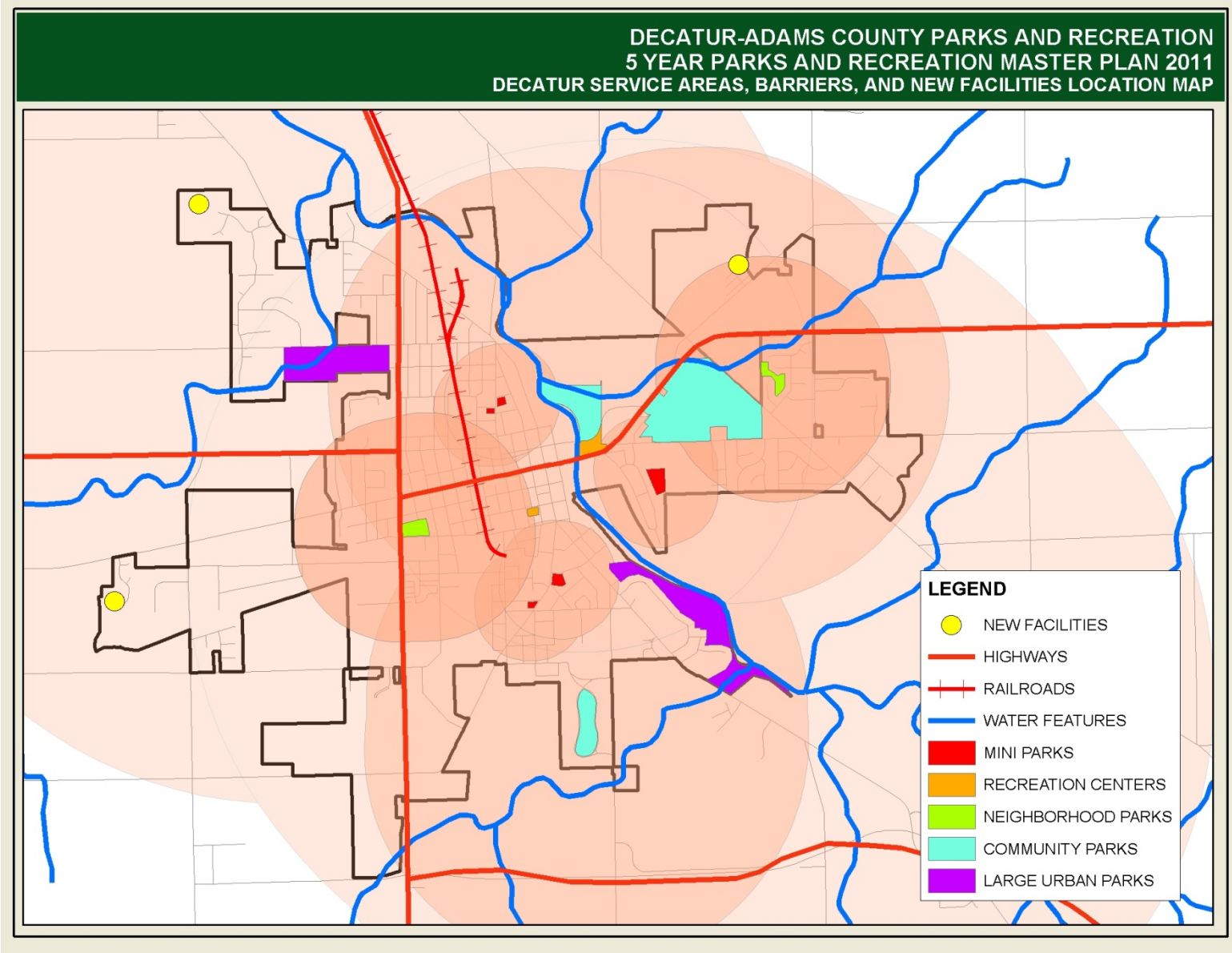
#### Barriers

Physical barriers, like highways, railroads, and natural features can also decrease the LOS. As shown on the figure on the next page, the area in the very northeast of the City is isolated by water features and the southwest portion of the City is isolated by highways.

Adhering to the seven Principles of Universal Design (equitable use, flexibility in use, simple and intuitive use, perceptible information, tolerance for error, low physical effort, and size and space for approach and use) will also help to increase the accessibility of the department's facilities and programming.



# What can we do? LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS



## *What can we do?* LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS

There is no “one shoe fits all” for level of service. There are guidelines available. However, it should be based on community needs rather than national standards. Based on the above review, the DACPRD is providing a high level of services with regard to its acreages, amenities, and programming.

### LEVEL OF SERVICE GOAL:

Facilitate the development of a well-balanced system of parks that includes active and passive recreational opportunities to meet a variety of needs for individuals, as well as groups of all ages and abilities.

### LEVEL OF SERVICE STRATEGIES:

Conduct safety inspections of all equipment to determine compliancy issues and potential safety hazards.

Due to the unique nature of the organizational structure of the DACPRD, many of the staff and the department resources carry over from one government entity to the other. To ensure that no entity receives an undo benefit at the cost of another, proper documentation of the manhours and cost for all maintenance and expenditures should be kept and reviewed periodically.

Re-calculate the LOS components of this plan annually to maintain a suitable level of service.

Apply the Principles of Universal Design to future designs, programs, and marketing strategies.

Begin a pilot project for restroom re-openings. This could include a fee-per-use or perhaps the replacement of the equipment with industrial grade stainless steel fixtures.

Increase the number of parks in the northwest, west, and southwest portions of the City. This will help to address the service area deficiency as well as the barrier issue.

Consider updating the programming to better fit community needs and current trends.

Improve marketing to the community.

Ensure that all children have access to programs and leagues regardless of income.

Assist applicable agencies with the completion and expansion of the trail systems. Utilize the Indiana Trailway Plan for any State initiatives.

Initiate a Bicycle-Friendly campaign by establishing a committee of representatives from the street, police, zoning, parks and recreation departments as well as the school system to establish routes, educational training, and implementation.

Create a Connectivity Plan that incorporates all modes of non-motorized methods of travel that will help to further their use and safety.

### MAINTENANCE

In many instances, the image of a community is based on how well its parks and facilities are maintained. Parks are known to be the front door to many areas and the first impression to visitors and guests is critical. Decatur and Adams County are fortunate to have a beautiful and unique park system.

Effective park maintenance requires planning, organization, schedules, and capital. There must be a sound, basic understanding of the purpose, goals, and objectives of park maintenance in order to operate at top efficiency.

Based on observations and discussions with staff and the Park Superintendent, the park department's maintenance staff does a good job with the resources available. The level of maintenance for Decatur, as established by the National Recreation and Park Association, is currently at Maintenance Mode II and Mode III for Adams County (see the Appendix for the tasks associated with the different Modes). This is considered an acceptable operating standard for municipal parks and recreation systems of this size. Given the projected limited population growth, the current resources prove to be adequate (see Level of Service Analysis). Currently, the maintenance staff is able to deliver on all elements of park maintenance. However, as equipment and facilities continue to age, maintenance will become increasingly important and must be dealt with pro-actively rather than reactively.

Currently, the Department has some maintenance standards in place but there is no system-wide approach. Maintenance standards should be documented and tracked for compliance based on desired outcomes. These include documenting maintenance tasks that have been completed and the time it took

to complete the work. This will help with the future application of the maintenance program. The documentation and implementation of standards ought to be made a priority for the coming budget year. Creating a maintenance system that includes a work order system and establishes performance measures tied to written maintenance standards will help to develop staffing needs and equipment requirements.

#### *Maintenance and Operations Management*

*Mode I - State of the art maintenance applied to a high quality diverse landscape. Usually associated with high traffic urban areas such as public squares, malls, governmental grounds or high visitation parks.*

*Mode II - High level maintenance associated with well developed park areas with reasonably high visitation.*

*Mode III - Moderate level maintenance associated with locations with moderate to low levels of development, moderate to low levels of visitation or with agencies that, because of budget restrictions, can't afford a high intensity of maintenance.*

*Mode IV - Moderately low level usually associated with low level of development, low visitation, undeveloped areas or remote parks.*

*Mode V - High visitation natural areas usually associated with large urban or regional parks. Size and user frequency may dictate resident maintenance staff. Road, pathway or trail systems relatively well developed. Other facilities at strategic locations such as entries, trail heads, building complexes and parking lots.*

*Mode VI - Minimum maintenance level low visitation natural area or large urban parks which are undeveloped.*

CAPRA Maintenance Standards and Guidelines



## *What can we do?* **MAINTENANCE AND SAFETY**

### **SAFETY**

Based on the park inventory, discussions with staff, input gathered from the key person interviews, and public input from the survey, numerous park components throughout both Decatur and Adams County are outdated or even banned. It is critical that a thorough inspection of all park equipment is conducted to determine if the various park elements meet current standards for playground safety. Prioritizing and following through with the needed maintenance and or replacement will help to reduce the potential for any liability claims against the City and Department.

This list of items should be used as a guide in terms of regular maintenance and overall review of needed maintenance and safety inspections and audits. It is understood that some of these items are already being utilized by the City and County.

#### **MAINTENANCE AND SAFETY GOAL:**

To increase the level of maintenance at existing parks sites in order to preserve and improve their aesthetics and usability for area residents and to provide safe and reliable facilities and equipment.

#### **MAINTENANCE AND SAFETY STRATEGIES:**

Conduct a playground safety audit for all parks and playground equipment to identify equipment that either shall be removed immediately (i.e. swing gate play equipment) or updated to remove the potential for either hanging or entanglement actions, or identify items that need general maintenance (i.e. replacement of the "S" hooks for swings).

Conduct frequent and annual inspections of all play areas to determine compliancy issues, identify potential safety hazards, and maintain a maintenance schedule record.

Develop a department Maintenance Program that creates a work order system to address capital, personnel, scheduling, and task assignments for all maintenance needs. Update annually.

Maintain a clean, orderly appearance at all times by following the regulations established in the Maintenance Program.

Repair or replace damaged facilities and equipment as quickly as possible.

Conduct regular audits to perform preventative maintenance to get optimum life from facilities and equipment.

Develop and maintain quality staff by providing in-service training and continuing education.

Enhance existing park facilities by incorporating the safest and newest amenities available while maintaining the environmental integrity of the site.

Have at least one full time staff obtain their Certified Playground Safety Inspector certification and insure that is stays current.

Identify goals and objectives for park maintenance operations that will help direct the department to become more effective.

### ADA COMPLIANCY

The Department of Justice has recently published the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design. Section 1008 Play Areas addresses the standards for playground equipment and their accessibility.

A portion of the park interviews conducted by the staff was dedicated to ADA compliancy. The ADA-specific questions posed were in regards to: parking, access route from parking lot to park, curb cuts, ramps, handrails, drinking fountains, restrooms, playground equipment, playground surface, and surface depth. For the purposes of our park profile ADA component, a rating of Excellent was given if the ADA compliancy was 10 out of 10, Fair was given if 5 out of 9 were in compliance, and Poor was given if the score was less than 5.

Please note that this review includes neither the schools nor the private facilities.

The American Legion Park is currently the only park in the department that has ADA accessible equipment, but lacks adequate handicapped parking and accessibility to the equipment from the parking lot. All other parks received a Poor or Fair for ADA compliancy. ADA compliancy is a priority issue that must be addressed immediately.

Currently, the City and County are completing their Self Evaluations with the Transition Plans expected to be finished shortly thereafter. ADA compliance officers have been selected for both bodies. The DACPRD has been involved in this process and will utilize this document to help address any departmental ADA deficiencies.

### ADA COMPLIANCY GOAL:

Strive to provide recreational facilities and activities for people of all abilities.

### ADA COMPLIANCY STRATEGIES:

Utilize the City and County ADA Self Evaluations and Transition Plans. Adjust to reflect the special needs of the Parks and Recreation Department.

Carefully document all past and future efforts to rectify ADA compliancy issues.

Include these improvements as a priority in the annual capital expenditures.

#### *ADA Self Evaluation and Transition Plan*

*The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (as amended) dictates comprehensive civil right protections to individuals with disabilities. In particular, it prohibits the discrimination of individuals with disabilities in relation to programs, services, or activities offered by local and state governments.*

*In 1992, the U.S. Department of Justice issued 28 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 35, Nondiscrimination on the basis of Disability in State and Local Government Services. A provision in this regulation included a requirement for state and local governments to prepare a transition plan to:*

- 1. Identify the physical obstacles in facilities that limit the accessibility of programs and activities to individuals with disabilities;*
- 2. Describe the methods that would be used to make the facilities accessible;*
- 3. Specify a schedule for taking steps necessary to achieve accessibility; and*
- 4. Indicate the official responsible for the implementation of the plan.*

### PLANNING EFFORT

Developing this plan with the direction of both the City and County in mind will help to maximize its success. Supporting the City's and the County's Comprehensive Plans and other planning documents and in turn having this document approved by the governing bodies will serve to expedite its implementation.

There are a number of implementation strategies in the City's Comprehensive Plan for the Parks and Recreation Department (see excerpt at right). Many of them are actionable through the DACPRD with the support of the City.

#### PLANNING EFFORT GOAL:

Incorporate the action items of this plan in to the City's and County's annual work plans to achieve the recommendations of this plan and to enhance effectiveness of staff effort.

#### PLANNING EFFORT STRATEGIES:

Recommend to the City and County Council the adoption and implementation of the 5-Year Parks Master Plan.

Assign responsibilities and time frames, and allocate resources necessary to complete each action identified.

Coordinate 5-Year Parks Master Plan recommendations with other City Departments.

Assure that all levels of staff are informed and are set up to work together to implement the recommendations and strategies of the plan.

#### IMPLEMENTATION: ★ See *How can we do it?*

★ The City should develop and utilize a 5-Year Parks and Recreational Master Plan. *The City should utilize this document in the procurement of Department of Natural Resources grant funds.*

The City should continue updating the Parks and Recreation Master Plan every five years.

The City, in conjunction with the Parks and Recreation Department, should ensure that the acquisition of any park land be conducted so that each neighborhood should have convenient access to park and recreation.

The City should research and implement opportunities such as scholarship programs and commercial sponsorships to assist all youth, regardless of income or background, in the participation of recreation activities.

The City should ensure that parks, including the banks of the river, offer natural areas and preserves for quiet enjoyment and educational interpretation in addition to active use areas.

The City should continue to promote increased partnerships between the public school system and the Parks and Recreation Department.

The City should develop amenities along the river that will encourage water based recreational activities such as canoe and kayak launch points.

The City should promote the recreational use of the river in tourism brochures and publications.

The City should encourage joint sponsorship of a river trail system where city, county, and private clubs maintain routes for non-motorized navigation.

CITY OF DECATUR



## What can we do? MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

### MARKETING

Marketing is an essential tool for any organization. A proper marketing strategy will help define your objectives, products (i.e. programs and amenities), target markets, promotional direction, advertising campaign, and most effective method of communication. The proper execution of this plan should increase visibility, boost participation in park activities and leagues, and create an awareness of department needs and issues.

38.3% of Adams County's population falls between the ages of 25 to 55 while Decatur's is slightly higher at 41.4%. These figures essentially define your target demographic. Addressing the needs of this age group will require considerations on three levels: the individual, the role of the individual as a parent, and the role of the individual as a grandparent. A review of current programming indicates a number of under-utilized senior programming (based on survey results). Many of the favorites were family-oriented with numerous requests for additional family activities. A shift in programming might increase participation from the target market.

Targeting this demographic will in turn deal with activities for children of all ages. For example, a family-oriented activity could include movie night at the recreation center for teens or after school programs for pre-teens.

Utilizing the techniques discussed in the next section, Communications, will help to promote this change in programming and create awareness.

### COMMUNICATIONS

Over half of the survey respondents cited the newspaper as a primary source of park information, the park website as a close second, and the radio as the least effective method of information dissemination. However, other sources such as facebook and email were suggested by many.

The current dependency on social media as an effective form of communication cannot be ignored. Immediate updates of park activities and programs as well as instantaneous feedback from park constituents will open a valuable portal of communication.

In addition, utilizing school fliers and papers will help to hit target markets.

Saturating the community with park programming and activities through a coordinated multimedia blitz will help to re-energize the department and its direction.



## PARK CONCEPTS

Please see the attached figures at the back of this document for 1<sup>st</sup> Street Promenade, Kekionga Park, and Limberlost Park concepts.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Street Promenade

The recently completed Decatur Comprehensive Plan recommended creating a Riverfront Redevelopment District. The primary goal of this area would be to revitalize the interaction with the St. Marys River by creating a riverfront of urban mixed use developments that maximize the river and its central location to the downtown. This district would act as a gathering and activity place containing commercial, business, residential, and public uses. It would also serve to focus development that would enhance the relationships between the river, the downtown, the residents, businesses, and tourists. The development of the 1<sup>st</sup> Street Promenade and downtown park would serve as a catalyst for many of these desired changes in the Riverfront Redevelopment District.

### Kekionga Park

This park is one of Decatur's largest. As noted in the park profile, it has over fifty acres, abuts the St. Marys River, contains a portion of the Rivergreenway Trail, and has a wetlands area. In addition, a considerable portion of this park was created when a flood in 2003 claimed many of the homes lying in the lower areas. Permanent

removal of these homes solved the issue of future personal property damage and left a number of level sites with public utilities. With a few modifications, this park could be converted into an RV park or campground and become a viable income generator for the DACPRD. A disc golf course nestled in the RV park would add a popular amenity and help to cater to the target market defined in the Marketing analysis.

### Limberlost Park

Expected renovations to the only remaining covered bridge over the Wabash River will be sure to bring visitors to this park. A few other improvements could make this an Adams County gem. Adding trails throughout the park and connecting it to the South Adams Trail network will only make it more attractive as a county destination.

### Hanna Nuttman Park

Another large Decatur park, this is one of the most frequented parks and boasts numerous ball fields. Creating a centrally located hub that includes the concession stand, additional restrooms and drinking fountains, and improved play equipment can take the front acreage from a primarily athletic use, to a more community and family-friendly place. The wooded area in the back could be developed for off-road biking, again providing the target market with access to an increasingly popular sport.



*Hanna Nuttman Park*





### **LOCAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

As with many communities, the DACPRD faces the challenge of finding funding for the variety of programs and facilities needed and expected by the community. Overcoming these limitations and constraints requires use of the various funding sources available. Below are descriptions of the possible resources accessible to the Decatur – Adams County Park and Recreation Departments for implementing programs and developing recreational facilities.

#### **Parks and Recreation General Budget**

Annual tax allocations from the General City Tax Levy, Auto- Air Excise Tax and other local funding could be utilized for both staffing and financing capital improvements within the Parks and Recreation Department. However, general tax dollars may be limited or unavailable for extensive capital improvements.

#### **Non-Reverting Account Funds**

Monies collected from certain fees and rentals can be placed in one of two non-reverting accounts. Funds are available from the Non-Reverting Operating Account to offset operation costs from administration of programs within the Park and Recreation Department. Funds from the Non-Reverting Capital Account are available for capital improvements in the Parks and Recreation Department.

#### **Gifts and Donations Fund**

Donations of money, land, and time are important resources to any Parks and Recreation Department. Donations are important from the point that they can be used to match grants from other sources.

#### **Lease Purchase**

This is a traditional mechanism used to finance capital projects including equipment and vehicles. City Council must annually levy a tax payable from property taxes sufficient to pay lease rentals; except that the levy may be reduced any year to the extent other money is pledged or available for the payment of the lease rentals (I.C. 36-10-1).

### LOCAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

#### **Cumulative Capital Improvement Funds**

The Park and Recreation Law 36-10-3-20 allows money to be placed in a fund for the purposes of acquiring land or making specific capital improvements. The Parks and Recreation Department can also make requests to the City Council for funds from the general city CCI Fund for specific projects. (Note: A CCI Fund cannot be established if a Recreational Impact Fee is in place).

#### **Recreational Impact Fees**

In 1991, the Indiana General Assembly passed an impact fee bill that created an alternative funding mechanism for infrastructure improvements in fast growing areas. The essence of the legislation was to allow local governments the option of passing onto new residents the costs of building the new infrastructure expected by those same residents.

#### **Street and Road Funds**

The City of Decatur receives a designated amount from the State of Indiana for public road improvements. Park drives and parking lot lots are for public use and funds from this account could be appropriated to parks by the City Council.

#### **County Economic Development Income Tax (CEDIT)**

The CEDIT is an income tax specifically for roads and road improvement projects.

#### **General Obligation Bond**

General obligation bonds, which are retired by tax money, provide a funding source for implementation of large-scale projects. The Decatur Parks and Recreation Board's bonding power cannot be in excess of two percent (2%) of the assessed valuation of the taxing district. Hearings must be held and approval is required by the City Council.

## How can we do it? FUNDING SOURCES

### FINANCING TOOLS

Type of Financing	Description	Who pays?	Where can the funds be used?	Time Duration
Bond-General Obligation	Loan taken out by a city or county against the value of the taxable property.	City or county through taxes paid by property owners.	Park, open space, and recreation: acquisition and capital improvements.	Bonds are typically issued for 15, 20 or 30 years.
Bond-Revenue	Loan paid from the proceeds of a tax levied for the use of a specific public project, or with the proceeds of fees charged to those who use the facility that the bonds finance.	City or county through taxes paid by general population or user of a service.	Park, open space, and recreation: acquisition and capital improvements.	Bonds are typically issued for 15, 20 or 30 years.
Income Tax	Tax on individual income.	Individual taxpayers.	Park: acquisition, maintenance, and capital improvements.	Ongoing.
Mitigation	Developer set-aside of land.	Developers of a project.	Wetlands and natural areas: acquisition and protection.	One-time cost to developer.
Park Impact Fee	One-time fee to off-set costs of infrastructure caused by new development.	Developers of a project.	Park, open space, and recreation: acquisition and development.	One-time cost to developer.
Property Tax	Tax on real property.	Commercial and residential property owners.	Park, open space, and recreation: maintenance, operations, and capital improvements.	Tax ongoing or increased for a defined time period.
Real Estate Transfer Tax	Tax on the sale of property.	Sometimes the seller, sometimes the buyer.	Park and open space: acquisition (proceeds are often deposited into land banks).	One-time cost to home seller or buyer.
Sales & Use Tax	Tax on the sales of goods or services.	Purchase of goods or services.	Park, open space, and recreation: maintenance, operations, acquisition, and capital improvements.	Tax ongoing or increased for a defined time period.
Special Assessment District	Separate units of government that manage specific resources within defined boundaries.	Residents of the district through property taxes, user fees, or bonds.	Park, open space, and recreation: maintenance, operations, acquisition, and capital improvements.	Tax ongoing or increased for a defined time period.
User Fee	Fee that covers the cost of a service.	Anyone who chooses to take advantage of a service.	Park, open space, and recreation: maintenance and operations.	One-time cost to user.
Tax Increment Financing	Financing mechanism used to stimulate economic development in a blighted area.	Property owners when redevelopment results in increased property values.	Park: acquisition and capital improvements.	Ongoing.



### GRANTS

#### **Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ)**

In 1990, Congress amended the Clean Air Act to accelerate America's efforts to attain the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). The amendments required further reductions in the amount of permissible tailpipe emissions, initiated more stringent control measures in areas that still failed to attain the NAAQS (nonattainment areas), and provided for a stronger, more rigorous linkage between transportation and air quality planning. The following year, Congress adopted the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) of 1991. This law authorized the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program to provide funding for surface transportation and other related projects that contribute to air quality improvements and congestion mitigation. The CAA amendments, ISTEA and the CMAQ program together were intended to realign the focus of transportation planning toward a more inclusive, environmentally-sensitive, and multimodal approach to addressing transportation problems. The CMAQ program, continued in SAFETEA-LU at a total funding level of \$8.6 billion through 2009, provides a flexible funding source to State and local governments for transportation projects and programs to help meet the requirements of the Clean Air Act. The main goal of the CMAQ Program is to fund transportation projects that reduce emissions in non-attainment and maintenance areas.

#### **Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU)**

On August 10, 2005, the President signed into law the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users. With guaranteed funding for highways, highway safety, and public transportation, SAFETEA-LU represents the largest surface transportation investment in our Nation's history. The two landmark bills that brought surface transportation into the 21st century—the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA) and the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21)—shaped the highway program to meet the Nation's changing transportation needs. SAFETEA-LU builds on this firm foundation, supplying the funds and refining the programmatic framework for investments needed to maintain and grow our vital transportation infrastructure. SAFETEA-LU continues the TEA-21 concept of guaranteed funding, keyed to Highway Trust Fund (Highway Account) receipts.

#### **Safe Routes to School**

This program enables and encourages primary and secondary school children to walk and bicycle to school. Both infrastructure-related and behavioral projects will be geared toward providing a safe, appealing environment for walking and biking that will improve the quality of our children's lives and support national health objectives by reducing traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution in the vicinity of schools.

### GRANTS

#### Indiana Heritage Trust

The Indiana Heritage Trust was established in 1992 to ensure that Indiana's rich natural heritage would be preserved and enhanced for present and succeeding generations. The purpose of the Indiana Heritage Trust Program (IHT) is to acquire state interests in real property that are examples of outstanding natural resources and habitats have historical or archaeological significance, or provide areas for conservation, recreation, protection or restoration of native biological diversity within the state of Indiana. The use of the power of eminent to carry out its purposes is expressly prohibited. The Indiana Heritage Trust buys land from willing sellers to protect Indiana's Rich natural Heritage for wildlife habitat and recreation. General Assembly appropriations, Environmental License Plate sales, and additional donations are the three ways we've been able to protect over 45,000 acres since the program's inception.

#### Lake and River Enhancement Program (LARE) - IDNR Division of Fish & Wildlife

The Lake and River Enhancement Program (LARE) goal is to ensure the continued viability of public-access lakes and streams by utilizing a watershed approach to reduce non-point source sediment and nutrient pollution of Indiana's and adjacent states' surface waters to a level that meets or surpasses state water quality standards. To accomplish this goal, the LARE Program provides technical and financial assistance for qualifying projects. Approved grant funding may be used for one or more of the following purposes:

1. Investigations to determine what problems are affecting a lake(s) or a stream segment.
2. Evaluation of identified problems and effective action recommendations to resolve those problems.
3. Cost-sharing with land users in a watershed above upstream from a project lake or stream for installation or application of sediment and nutrient reducing practices on their land.
4. Matching federal funds for qualifying projects.
5. Watershed management plan development.
6. Feasibility studies to define appropriate lake and stream remediation measures.
7. Engineering designs and construction of remedial measures.
8. Water monitoring of public lakes.

### GRANTS

The LARE program will cost share up to 80 percent on approved watershed land treatment practices.

As of August 2011, the previous suspension LARE Grant awards have limited the number grants for sediment removal, watershed land treatment, biological, engineering, and construction projects starting in August 2011.

#### Urban Forest Conservation Grants (UFC) - IDNR Division of Forestry

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

#### Historic Preservation Fund - IDNR Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology

- Type of funds: Federal Program occurrence; Annual Total funds available: Variable
- Maximum grant award: Variable, usually \$50,000
- Matching share ratios: 50% federal / 50% local for most projects
- 70% federal / 30% local for survey projects
- Length of program: 15 months
- Eligible applicants:
  - Municipal government entities
  - Educational institutions
  - Not-for-profit organizations with 501(c)(3) status



### GRANTS

Project categories: Architectural and Historical, Archaeological, and Acquisition and Development (Rehabilitation).

Each year, the DHPA receives funding under the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) Program, which is administered by the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service. The HPF Program helps to promote historic preservation and archaeology in Indiana by providing assistance to projects that will aid the State in meeting its goals for cultural resource management. Of Indiana's annual HPF allotment, about 85% is set aside to fund a matching grants program and cooperative agreements to foster important preservation and archaeology activities, such as co-sponsorship of the annual Cornelius O'Brien Conference on Historic Preservation. The remainder of this funding pays for office interns, Archaeology Month and Preservation Week programs, printing and mailing of the Division's newsletter and other public education materials, and the purchase of necessary office equipment for the Division. Under the HPF matching grants program, grant awards are made in three project categories. When applying for grant funds, applicants must be certain to request and complete the appropriate application packet for their project category.

**Architectural and Historical projects** include: historic sites and structures surveys for cities and counties; survey publication and printing; National Register nominations for eligible historic districts; public education programs and materials relating to preservation, such as workshops, training events, publications, and brochures; feasibility studies, architectural and engineering plans, and specifications for the rehabilitation and/or adaptive reuse of National Register-listed properties; historic structure reports for National Register-listed properties; and historic context studies with National Register nominations for specific types of historic resources.

**Archaeological projects** include: survey, testing, and research focused on specific geographic areas or cultural groups; National Register nominations for individual or multiple archaeological sites; and public education programs and materials relating to archaeology, such as workshops, training events, public and mock digs, publications, and brochures.

**Acquisition and Development projects** include the preservation, rehabilitation, restoration, and acquisition of National Register-listed properties. This category is often referred to as "bricks and mortar money," and is used to help save buildings and structures that are severely threatened or endangered. Note that properties not listed in the National Register are not eligible to receive federal HPF funds.

## How can we do it? FUNDING SOURCES

### GRANTS

Grant Program	Uses	Funding Source	% Match	Min/Max Amount	Grant Rounds	Eligibility
Wabash River Heritage Corridor Fund	Applications may include land acquisition and/or facility development, conservation, or enhancement along the historic transportation corridor of the Wabash River.	State Legislature	80/20	\$25,000-250,000	Funds available late 2011, early 2012	Units of Governments (preferably Park Boards) and 501(c)(3) not-for- profits. Projects must be located in one of the 19 counties along the Wabash River Corridor
Recreational Trails Program (RTP)	Applications may include land acquisition and/or development, maintenance, and ethics education of multi-use trails.	Federal	80/20	\$10,000-150,000	Applications due by May 1st	Units of Governments and 501(c)(3) not-for- profits
Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)	Applications may consist of land acquisition and/or outdoor recreation facility construction or renovation.	Federal	50/50	\$10,000-200,000	Applications due by June 1st	Park Board & 5- Year Park and Recreation Master Plan
Shooting Range	Application may consist of development (not purchase) of rifle, handgun, shotgun, and archery opportunities	Federal	75/25	\$10,000-\$100,000	Applications due by December 29th	Units of Governments and Not-for-profit corporations

### OTHER FUNDING SOURCES

Below are a few funding options that are available to the Decatur Parks and Recreation Department/Board that should be investigated.

- Private Foundations
- "Take Pride in America", Volunteer Program
- Indiana Committee for the Humanities
- Indiana Arts Committee
- Indiana Department of Aging and Community Services
- Environmental Education Act, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- Governor's Voluntary Action Program
- Indiana Federal Property Program
- Indiana Department of Commerce
- Economic Development Administration
- Department of Education
- Experience Works
- President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports
- Army Corps of Engineers
- Armed Services
- The Nature Conservancy
- Acres, Inc.
- The Trust for Public Land
- Fish America Foundation
- Memorial Giving
- Deferred Giving
- Capital Fund Drive Campaign



## How can we do it? IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

### CITY OF DECATUR PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT – 2012-2017

Priorities	Target Year	☑ Tasks	Estimated Cost	Funding Source	Partnerships
Playground Safety and Maintenance		<input type="checkbox"/> Ensure that there is a Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI) <input type="checkbox"/> Conduct audit of playgrounds throughout City of Decatur <input type="checkbox"/> Remove/replace all outdated and dangerous play equipment <input type="checkbox"/> Conduct frequent and annual inspections <input type="checkbox"/> Conduct maintenance of playgrounds <input type="checkbox"/> Develop department Maintenance Program <input type="checkbox"/> Update Maintenance Program annually	In-house Costs	General Funds	City of Decatur Adams County
ADA Accessibility		<input type="checkbox"/> Document past and future ADA improvements <input type="checkbox"/> Utilize City's Accessibility Self-Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Utilize City's Accessibility Transition Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Modify Self Evaluation and Transition Plan as needed to address department specific issues. <input type="checkbox"/> Incorporate plan into capital improvement budget	In-house Costs	General Funds	City of Decatur Adams County
Level of Service		<input type="checkbox"/> Rectify park deficiencies in the northwest and west <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase land in those regions and develop as neighborhood parks	N/A	General Funds Park Impact Fees	City of Decatur Developers
Trails / Bike Routes		<input type="checkbox"/> Develop City wide trail/bike system Master Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Expand trail system <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure compatibility with county trails <input type="checkbox"/> Inventory existing trail signage and install additional signs <input type="checkbox"/> Initiate Bike Safety campaign	\$10,000 - \$20,000  \$150,000 - \$325,000/Mile \$500 - \$1,000 per Sign	General Funds RTP	South Adams Trails DNR Adams County NIRCC

## How can we do it? IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

### CITY OF DECATUR PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT – 2012-2017

Priorities	Target Year	☑ Tasks	Estimated Cost	Funding Source	Partnerships
Park Development		<input type="checkbox"/> Kekionga Park <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Develop Master Plan and cost estimate for park renovation and new development</li> <li>○ Develop new RV campground and utilities</li> <li>○ Develop disc golf course</li> <li>○ Develop interior park natural trail</li> </ul> <input type="checkbox"/> Hanna Nuttman Park <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Develop Master Plan and cost estimate for park renovation and new development</li> <li>○ Develop athletic, campground, and passive area</li> <li>○ Develop trails throughout park</li> </ul> <input type="checkbox"/> 1st Street Promenade <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Develop Master Plan with City of Decatur to establish ultimate function of park</li> <li>○ Tie in park development with Riverfront Redevelopment District uses</li> <li>○ Construct park in conjunction with streetscape</li> </ul>	\$25,000 - \$35,000  \$25,000 \$100,000 - \$150,000/Mile  \$25,000 - \$35,000  \$200,000 - \$350,000/Acre \$150,000 - \$325,000/Mile  \$25,000 - \$35,000  \$350,000 - \$500,000/Acre	General Funds LWCF Private Funds	DNR City of Decatur Leagues MOPS
Restrooms		<input type="checkbox"/> Conduct analysis of restrooms within park facilities <input type="checkbox"/> Renovate interiors with vandal resistant fixtures <input type="checkbox"/> Improve lighting and energy efficiency	In-house Costs \$500-\$1,250/Fixture	General Funds	City of Decatur
Marketing and Communications		<input type="checkbox"/> Develop marketing plan and strategy <input type="checkbox"/> Initiate media blitz <input type="checkbox"/> Keep residents informed of parks and recreation news with continued updates <input type="checkbox"/> Utilize all forms of media bases including social medias	In-house Costs	General Funds Sponsorships	Other municipal agencies Schools Newspapers Radio stations
Park Programming		<input type="checkbox"/> Review current programming and tailor to target market <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure programs are available to all, regardless of income <input type="checkbox"/> Revise current regulations and allow alcohol at Riverside Center for events <input type="checkbox"/> Determine appropriate and affordable fees as a possible revenue generator.	In-house Costs	General Funds	City of Decatur Adams County

## How can we do it? IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

### ADAMS COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT – 2012-2017

Priorities	Target Year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tasks	Estimated Cost	Funding Source	Partnerships
Playground Safety and Maintenance		<input type="checkbox"/> Done in conjunction with the City of Decatur (see above)	In-house Costs	General Funds	Adams County City of Decatur
ADA Accessibility		<input type="checkbox"/> Done in conjunction with the City of Decatur (see above)	In-house Costs	General Funds	Adams County City of Decatur
Trails		<input type="checkbox"/> Develop multi-use nature trail in Limberlost Park <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure compatibility with county trails <input type="checkbox"/> Inventory existing trail signage and install additional signs	\$225,000 / Mile In-house Cost In-House Cost	Donations General Funds RTP LARE	South Adams Trails DNR Adams County NIRCC
Park Development		<input type="checkbox"/> Limberlost Park <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Develop Master Plan and Cost Estimate for park renovation</li> <li>○ Construct multi-use trail from park entrance to southwest corner of property to connect to the proposed South Adams Trail</li> <li>○ Remove underutilized park areas from mowing maintenance and establish native plants</li> <li>○ Market the park as having the last remaining covered bridge on the Wabash River</li> </ul> <input type="checkbox"/> Linn Grove Park <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Remove underutilized park areas from mowing maintenance and establish native plants</li> <li>○ Construct canoe/kayak launch point along Wabash River</li> </ul> <input type="checkbox"/> Construct fishing nodes along Wabash River and retention ponds	\$25,000 - \$35,000 \$225,000 / Mile \$15,000 - \$21,000/Acre In-house Cost \$15,000 - \$21,000/Acre \$50,000 - \$75,000 \$50,000 - \$75,000	General Funds Donations RTP LARE Wabash River Heritage Corridor Fund	South Adams Trails DNR Adams County



*Appendix*

**Maintenance and Operations Management Modes**

**Results of Public Input Survey**

**ADA Resolutions**

**Section 504 Compliance Form**

**Parks and Master Plan Resolution to Adopt Plan**

**Park Conceptuals**

## MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT

The National Recreation and Park Association has developed a rating card for required maintenance based on the level of use and visibility of the various types of parks (i.e. Regional Park, Community Park, Pocket Park, etc.). This rating contains five maintenance mode levels which are defined as follows.

### Mode I

State of the art maintenance applied to a high quality diverse landscape; usually associated with high traffic urban areas such as public squares, malls, governmental grounds or high visitation parks.

1. Turf care - Grass height maintained according to species and variety of grass. Mowed at least once every five working days but may be as often as once every three working days. Aeration as required, not less than four times per year. Reseeding or sodding as needed. Weed control should be practiced so that no more than one percent of the surface has weeds present.
2. Fertilizer - Adequate fertilization applied to plant species according to their optimum requirements. Application rates and times should ensure an even supply of nutrients for the entire year. Nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium percentages should follow local recommendations from your County Extension Service. Trees, shrubs and flowers should be fertilized according to their individual requirements of nutrients for optimum growth. Unusually long or short growing seasons may modify the chart slightly.
3. Irrigation - Sprinkler irrigated. Electric automatic commonly used. Some manual systems could be considered adequate under plentiful rainfall

circumstances and adequate staffing. Frequency of use follows rainfall, temperature, seasonal length and demands of plant material.

4. Litter control - Minimum of once per day, 7 days per week. Extremely high visitation may increase the frequency. Receptacles should be plentiful enough to hold all trash generated between servicing without normally overflowing.
5. Pruning - Frequency dictated primarily by species and variety of trees and shrubs. Length of growing season and design concept also a controlling factor as are clipped hedges versus natural style. Timing usually scheduled to coincide with low demand periods or to take advantage of special growing characteristics such as low demand periods or to take advantage of special growing characteristics such as pruning after flowering.
6. Disease and Insect Control - Control program may use any of three philosophies: 1.) Preventative; a scheduled chemical or cultural program designed to prevent significant damage. 2.) Corrective; application of chemical or mechanical controls designed to eliminate observed problems. 3.) Integrated pest management; withholding any controls until such time as pests demonstrate damage to plant materials or become a demonstrated irritant in the case of flies, mosquitoes, gnats, etc. At this maintenance level the controlling objective is to not have the public notice any problems. It is anticipated at Mode I that problems will either be prevented or observed at a very early stage and corrected immediately.
7. Snow removal - Snow removal starts the same day as accumulations of ½ inch are present. At no time will snow be permitted to cover transportation or parking surfaces longer than noon of the day after the snow stops. Applications

of snow melting compound and/or gravel are appropriate to reduce the danger of injury due to falls.

8. Lighting - Maintenance should preserve the original design. Damaged systems should be repaired as quickly as they are discovered. Bulb replacement should be done during the first working day after the outage is reported.

9. Surfaces - Sweeping, cleaning and washing of surfaces needs to be done so that at no time does an accumulation of sand, dirt and leaves distract from the looks or safety of the area. Repainting or restaining of structures should occur when weather or wear deteriorate the appearance of the covering. Wood surfaces requiring oiling should be done a minimum of four times per year. Stains to surfaces should be taken off within five working days. Graffiti should be washed off or painted over the next working day after application.

10. Repairs - Repairs to all elements of the design should be done immediately upon discovery provided replacement parts and technicians are available to accomplish the job. When disruption to the public might be major and the repair not critical, repairs may be postponed to a time period which is least disruptive.

11. Inspection - Inspections of this area should be done daily by a member of staff.

12. Floral plantings - Normally extensive or unusual floral plantings are part of the design. These may include ground level beds, planters or hanging baskets. Often multiple plantings are scheduled, usually at least two blooming cycles per year. Some designs may call for a more frequent rotation of bloom. Maximum care of watering, fertilizing, disease control, disbudding and weeding is

necessary. Weeding flowers and shrubs is done a minimum of once per week. The desired standard is essentially weed free.

13. Rest rooms - Not always a part of the design but where required will normally receive no less than once per day servicing. Especially high traffic areas may require multiple servicing or a person assigned as attendant.

14. Special features - Features such as fountains, drinking fountains, sculptures, speaker systems, structural art, flag poles or parking and crowd control devices may be part of the integral design. Maintenance requirements can vary drastically but for this mode it should be of the highest possible order.

#### Mode II

High level maintenance – associated with well developed park areas with reasonably high visitation.

1. Turf care - Grass cut once every five working days. Aeration as required but not less than two times per year. Reseeding or sodding when bare spots are present. Weed control practiced when weeds present visible problem or when weeds represent 5 percent of the turf surface. Some preemergent products may be utilized at this level.

2. Fertilizer - Adequate fertilizer level to ensure that all plant materials are healthy and growing vigorously. Amounts depend on species, length of growing season, soils and rainfall. Distribution should ensure an even supply of nutrients for the entire year. Nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium percentage should follow local recommendations from the County Extension Service.



Trees, shrubs and flowers should receive fertilizer levels to ensure optimum growth.

3. Irrigation - Some type of irrigation system available. Frequency of use follows rainfall, temperature, seasonal length, and demands of plant material.

4. Litter control - Minimum of once per day, five days a week. Off-site movement of trash dependent on size of containers and use by the public. High use may dictate once per day cleaning or more. Containers are serviced.

5. Pruning - Usually done at least once per season unless species planted dictate more frequent attention. Sculptured hedges or high growth species may dictate a more frequent requirement than most trees and shrubs in natural growth style plantings.

6. Disease and Insect Control - Usually done when disease or insects are inflicting noticeable damage, reducing vigor of plant materials or could be considered a bother to the public. Some preventative measures may be utilized such as systemic chemical treatments. Cultural prevention of disease problems can reduce time spent in this category. Some minor problems may be tolerated at this level.

7. Snow removal - Snow removed by noon the day following snowfall. Gravel or snow melt may be utilized to reduce ice accumulation.

8. Lighting - Replacement or repair of fixtures when observed or reported as not working.

9. Surfaces - Should be cleaned, repaired, repainted or replaced when appearance has noticeably deteriorated.

10. Repairs - Should be done whenever safety, function, or bad appearance is in question.

11. Inspection - Inspection by some staff member at least once a day when regular staff is scheduled.

12. Floral planting - Some sort of floral plantings present. Normally no more complex than two rotations of bloom per year. Care cycle usually at least once per week except watering may be more frequent. Health and vigor dictate cycle of fertilization and disease control. Beds essentially kept weed free.

13. Rest rooms - When present should be maintained at least once per day as long as they are open to public use. High use may dictate two servicings or more per day. Servicing period should ensure an adequate supply of paper and that rest rooms are reasonably clean and free from bad odors.

14. Special features - Should be maintained for safety, function and high quality appearance as per established design.

### Mode III

Moderate level maintenance – associated with locations with moderate to low levels of development, moderate to low levels of visitation or with agencies that because of budget restrictions can't afford a higher intensity of maintenance.

1. Turf care - Cut once every 10 working days. Normally not aerated unless turf quality indicates a need or in anticipation of an application of fertilizer. Reseeding or resodding done only when major bare spots appear. Weed control measures normally used when 50 percent of small areas is weed infested or general turf quality low in 15 percent or more of the surface area.

2. Fertilizer - Applied only when turf vigor seems to be low. Low level application done on a once per year basis. Rate suggested is one-half the level recommended for species and variety.

3. Irrigation - Dependent on climate. Rainfall locations above 25 inches a year usually rely on natural rainfall with the possible addition of portable irrigation during periods of drought. Dry climates below 25 inches normally have some form of supplemental irrigation. When irrigation is automatic a demand schedule is programmed. Where manual servicing is required two to three times per week operation would be the norm.

4. Litter control - Minimum service of two to three times per week. High use may dictate higher levels during warm season.

5. Pruning - When required for health or reasonable appearance. With most tree and shrub species this would not be more frequent than once every two or three years.

6. Disease and Insect Control - Done only on epidemic or serious complaint basis. Control measures may be put into effect when the health or survival of the plant material is threatened or where public's comfort is concerned.

7. Snow removal - Snow removal done based on local law requirements but generally accomplished by the day following snowfall. Some crosswalks or surfaces may not be cleared at all.

8. Lighting - Replacement or repair of fixtures when report filed or when noticed by employees.

9. Surfaces - Cleaned on complaint basis. Repaired or replaced as budget allows.

10. Repairs - Should be done whenever safety or function is in question.

11. Inspection - Once per week.

12. Floral planting - Only perennials or flowering trees or shrubs.

13. Rest rooms - When present, serviced a minimum of 5 times per week. Seldom more than once each day.

14. Special features - Minimum allowable maintenance for features present with function and safety in mind.

#### MODE IV

Moderately low level – usually associated with low level of development, low visitation, undeveloped areas or remote parks.

1. Turf care - Low frequency mowing schedule based on species. Low growing grasses may not be mowed. High grasses may receive periodic mowing to aid public use or reduce fire danger. Weed control limited to legal requirements of noxious weeds.

2. Fertilizer - Not fertilized.

3. Irrigation - No irrigation.

4. Litter control - Once per week or less. Complaint may increase level above one servicing.

5. Pruning - No regular trimming. Safety or damage from weather may dictate actual work schedule.
6. Disease and Insect Control - None except where epidemic and epidemic condition threatens resource or public.
7. Snow removal - None except where major access ways or active parking areas dictate the need for removal.
8. Lighting - Replacement on complaint or employee discovery.
9. Surfaces - Replaced or repaired when safety is a concern and when budget is available.
10. Repairs - Should be done when safety or function is in question.
11. Inspection - Once per month.
12. Floral plantings - None, may have wildflowers, perennials, flowering trees or shrubs in place.
13. Rest rooms - When present, five times per week.
14. Special features - Minimum maintenance to allow safe use.

#### Mode V

High visitation natural areas – usually associated with large urban or regional parks. Size and user frequency may dictate resident maintenance staff. Road, pathway or trail systems relatively well developed. Other facilities at strategic locations such as entries, trail heads, building complexes and parking lots.

1. Turf care - Normally not mowed but grassed parking lots, approaches to buildings or road shoulders, may be cut to reduce fire danger. Weed control on noxious weeds.
2. Fertilizer - None.
3. Irrigation - None.
4. Litter control - Based on visitation, may be more than once per day if crowds dictate that level.
5. Pruning - Only done for safety.
6. Disease and Insect Control - Done only to ensure safety or when problem seriously discourages public use.
7. Snow removal - One day service on roads and parking areas.
8. Lighting - Replaced on complaint or when noticed by employees.
9. Surfaces - Cleaned on complaint. Repaired or replaced when budget will permit.
10. Repairs - Done when safety or function impaired. Should have same year service on poor appearance.
11. Inspection - Once per day when staff is available.
12. Floral planting - None introduced except at special locations such as interpretive buildings, headquarters, etc. Once per week service on these designs. Flowering trees and shrubs, wildflowers, present but demand no regular maintenance.



13. Rest rooms - Frequency geared to visitor level. Once a day is the common routine but for some locations and reasons frequency may be more often.

14. Special features - Repaired whenever safety or function are a concern. Appearance corrected in the current budget year.

#### Mode VI

Minimum maintenance level – low visitation natural area or large urban parks that are undeveloped.

1. Turf areas - Not mowed. Weed control only if legal requirements demand it.

2. Fertilizer - Not fertilized.

3. Irrigation - No irrigation.

4. Litter control - On demand or complaint basis.

5. Pruning - No pruning unless safety is involved.

6. Disease and Insect Control - No control except in epidemic or safety situations.

7. Snow removal - Snow removal only on strategic roads and parking lots. Accomplished within two days after snow stops.

8. Lighting - Replacement on complaint basis.

9. Surfaces - Serviced when safety is consideration.

10. Repairs - Should be done when safety or function is in question.





11. Inspection - Once per month.

12. Floral plantings - None.




13. Rest rooms - Service based on need.

14. Special features - Service based on lowest acceptable frequency for feature. Safety and function interruption a concern when either seem significant.

**1. Do you live within:**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Decatur city limits		64.8%	59
Berne city limits		0.0%	0
Monroe city limits		3.3%	3
Geneva city limits		1.1%	1
Outside city limits, but within Adams county		30.8%	28
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>91</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>0</b>

**2. What is the best method to keep you informed of the Parks and Recreation Department's programs and activities?**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Radio		3.9%	3
Parks and Recreation website		44.7%	34
Newspaper		51.3%	39
		Other (please specify)	28
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>76</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>15</b>









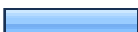







### 3. How often do you frequent any of the Park Department facilities?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Every day		10.5%	8
<b>Once a week</b>		<b>47.4%</b>	<b>36</b>
Once a month		22.4%	17
A few times a year		10.5%	8
Rarely		9.2%	7
Never		0.0%	0
<b>answered question</b>			<b>76</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>15</b>

### 4. What do you typically do in the parks?





		Response Percent	Response Count
<b>Use playgrounds</b>		<b>62.7%</b>	<b>47</b>
Walk / jog / run		48.0%	36
Fish		8.0%	6
Relax		26.7%	20
Use sports fields		36.0%	27
Picnic		22.7%	17
Swim		14.7%	11
Boat / canoe / kayak		2.7%	2
Other (please specify)			4
<b>answered question</b>			<b>75</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>16</b>

## 5. Which park(s) do you most often frequent?





		Response Percent	Response Count
Waterworks Park		13.2%	10
Limberlost Park / Covered Bridge		2.6%	2
Adams County Service Complex		13.2%	10
Fields Memorial		1.3%	1
Linn Grove Park		1.3%	1
Stratton Park		1.3%	1
<b>Hanna Nuttman Park</b>		<b>53.9%</b>	<b>41</b>
Kekionga Park		23.7%	18
Riverside Center		19.7%	15
American Legion Park		51.3%	39
Eastbrook Park		1.3%	1
Southward Park		3.9%	3
Bellmont Pond		15.8%	12
Northward Park		0.0%	0
Monroe-Tims Park		2.6%	2
Homestead Park		19.7%	15
Worthman Field		14.5%	11
<b>answered question</b>			<b>76</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>15</b>



## 6. Overall, how would you rate the Park Department facilities / amenities?


		Response Percent	Response Count
Consistent high quality		1.3%	1
<b>Generally good</b>		<b>51.3%</b>	<b>39</b>
Quality varies from park to park		44.7%	34
Poor quality		2.6%	2
<b>answered question</b>			<b>76</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>15</b>

## 7. With whom do you normally visit the park?

		Response Percent	Response Count
<b>Family / children / grandchildren</b>		<b>77.6%</b>	<b>59</b>
Friends		18.4%	14
Varies with each visit		17.1%	13
By yourself		13.2%	10
<b>answered question</b>			<b>76</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>15</b>

## 8. Check the top five most important park activities to you and your family:


















		Response Percent	Response Count
Basketball		11.1%	8
Bike Trails / BMX		27.8%	20
Ice Skating		5.6%	4
Volleyball		13.9%	10
Walking Trails		58.3%	42
Sledding		12.5%	9
Baseball		30.6%	22
Hiking Trails		20.8%	15
Skiing		0.0%	0
Football		12.5%	9
<b>Playgrounds</b>		<b>72.2%</b>	<b>52</b>
Fishing		13.9%	10
Soccer		19.4%	14
Boating		2.8%	2
Swimming		48.6%	35
Softball		29.2%	21
Skateboarding		2.8%	2
Canoeing		11.1%	8
Tennis		9.7%	7
Frisbee Golf		5.6%	4
Camping		4.2%	3
Programs		18.1%	13
Picnics		38.9%	28

Splash pad		52.8%	38
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>72</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>19</b>

**9. Please list new facilities you would like to see added:**
























		<b>Response Count</b>
		47
		<b>answered question</b>
		<b>47</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>
		<b>44</b>


## 10. In which park(s) would you like to see these new facilities?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Waterworks Park		28.1%	16
Limberlost Park / Covered Bridge		3.5%	2
Adams County Service Complex		3.5%	2
Fields Memorial		3.5%	2
Linn Grove Park		3.5%	2
Stratton Park		3.5%	2
<b>Hanna Nuttman Park</b>		<b>52.6%</b>	<b>30</b>
Kekionga Park		19.3%	11
Riverside Center		8.8%	5
American Legion Park		29.8%	17
Eastbrook Park		3.5%	2
Southward Park		3.5%	2
Bellmont Pond		8.8%	5
Northward Park		1.8%	1
Monroe-Tims Park		5.3%	3
Homestead Park		14.0%	8
Worthman Field		8.8%	5
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>57</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>34</b>

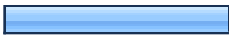





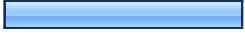










## 11. Please list the facilities you would like see renovated or expanded:

		Response Percent	Response Count
Basketball		4.9%	3
Bike Trails / BMX		16.4%	10
Ice Skating		6.6%	4
Volleyball		8.2%	5
Walking Trails		36.1%	22
Sledding		4.9%	3
Baseball		6.6%	4
Hiking Trails		16.4%	10
Skiing		1.6%	1
Football		3.3%	2
Playgrounds		36.1%	22
Fishing		4.9%	3
Soccer		1.6%	1
Boating		1.6%	1
Swimming		26.2%	16
Softball		6.6%	4
Skateboarding		3.3%	2
Canoeing		6.6%	4
Tennis		8.2%	5
Frisbee Golf		8.2%	5
Camping		6.6%	4
Programs		9.8%	6
Picnics		9.8%	6

<b>Splash pad</b>		<b>50.8%</b>	<b>31</b>
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>61</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>30</b>




## 12. In which park(s) are these facilities located?

		<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
Waterworks Park		33.3%	15
Limberlost Park / Covered Bridge		2.2%	1
Adams County Service Complex		6.7%	3
Fields Memorial		0.0%	0
Linn Grove Park		2.2%	1
Stratton Park		6.7%	3
<b>Hanna Nuttman Park</b>		<b>48.9%</b>	<b>22</b>
Kekionga Park		35.6%	16
Riverside Center		20.0%	9
American Legion Park		22.2%	10
Eastbrook Park		2.2%	1
Southward Park		2.2%	1
Bellmont Pond		13.3%	6
Northward Park		0.0%	0
Monroe-Tims Park		6.7%	3
Homestead Park		13.3%	6
Worthman Field		6.7%	3
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>45</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>46</b>




### 13. What is your opinion of the overall appearance and functionality of each facility?

	Good	Fair	Poor	N/A	Rating Average	Response Count
Waterworks Park	23.1% (12)	<b>36.5% (19)</b>	7.7% (4)	32.7% (17)	1.77	52
Limberlost Park / Covered Bridge	11.1% (6)	31.5% (17)	7.4% (4)	<b>50.0% (27)</b>	1.93	54
Adams County Service Complex	27.9% (17)	<b>39.3% (24)</b>	9.8% (6)	23.0% (14)	1.77	61
Fields Memorial	8.0% (4)	18.0% (9)	10.0% (5)	<b>64.0% (32)</b>	2.06	50
Linn Grove Park	3.9% (2)	25.5% (13)	5.9% (3)	<b>64.7% (33)</b>	2.06	51
Stratton Park	6.9% (4)	<b>50.0% (29)</b>	12.1% (7)	31.0% (18)	2.08	58
Hanna Nuttman Park	41.5% (27)	<b>47.7% (31)</b>	7.7% (5)	3.1% (2)	1.65	65
Kekionga Park	14.5% (9)	<b>58.1% (36)</b>	17.7% (11)	9.7% (6)	2.04	62
Riverside Center	<b>42.1% (24)</b>	<b>42.1% (24)</b>	5.3% (3)	10.5% (6)	1.59	57
American Legion Park	<b>68.9% (42)</b>	19.7% (12)	4.9% (3)	6.6% (4)	1.32	61
Eastbrook Park	2.0% (1)	24.5% (12)	20.4% (10)	<b>53.1% (26)</b>	2.39	49
Southward Park	3.9% (2)	33.3% (17)	15.7% (8)	<b>47.1% (24)</b>	2.22	51
Bellmont Pond	20.0% (11)	<b>43.6% (24)</b>	14.5% (8)	21.8% (12)	1.93	55
Northward Park	8.0% (4)	24.0% (12)	14.0% (7)	<b>54.0% (27)</b>	2.13	50
Monroe-Tims Park	7.8% (4)	23.5% (12)	9.8% (5)	<b>58.8% (30)</b>	2.05	51
Homestead Park	21.1% (12)	<b>43.9% (25)</b>	10.5% (6)	24.6% (14)	1.86	57
Worthman Field	25.0% (14)	<b>48.2% (27)</b>	3.6% (2)	23.2% (13)	1.72	56
<b>answered question</b>						<b>66</b>
<b>skipped question</b>						<b>25</b>



#### 14. Overall, how would you rate park restrooms?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Consistent high quality		0.0%	0
Generally good		28.2%	20
Quality varies from park to park		56.3%	40
Poor quality		15.5%	11
<b>answered question</b>			<b>71</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>20</b>

#### 15. Would you support a "bike friendly" street campaign?

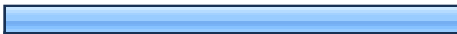

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		70.8%	51
No		9.7%	7
No opinion		19.4%	14
<b>answered question</b>			<b>72</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>19</b>

#### 16. Are you aware of the South Adams Trail system?






		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		13.7%	10
No		86.3%	63
<b>answered question</b>			<b>73</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>18</b>







### 17. Would you support the expansion of the South Adams Trail system?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		68.4%	39
No		31.6%	18
<b>answered question</b>			<b>57</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>34</b>





### 18. How often do you attend Park Department programs?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Every day		0.0%	0
Once a week		15.5%	11
Once a month		11.3%	8
<b>A few times a year</b>		<b>45.1%</b>	<b>32</b>
Rarely		16.9%	12
Never		11.3%	8
<b>answered question</b>			<b>71</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>20</b>





### 19. If you attend any of the programs, with whom do you most often attend?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Family / children / grandchildren		71.0%	44
Friends		14.5%	9
Varies with each visit		11.3%	7
By yourself		3.2%	2
<b>answered question</b>			<b>62</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>29</b>








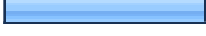











### 20. Overall, how would you rate the programs offered by the Parks Department?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Consistent high quality		7.6%	5
<b>Generally good</b>		<b>56.1%</b>	<b>37</b>
Quality varies from program to program		31.8%	21
Poor quality		4.5%	3
<b>answered question</b>			<b>66</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>25</b>

## 21. Are the programs fun and well organized?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		23.8%	15
<b>Generally</b>		<b>58.7%</b>	<b>37</b>
Sometimes		15.9%	10
No		1.6%	1
<b>answered question</b>			<b>63</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>28</b>

## 22. Which programs are your favorite?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Touch A Tractor / Father's Day Card Craft		31.6%	18
Iron Kid		15.8%	9
Fitness Fridays		3.5%	2
Spring Break Specials		38.6%	22
Christmas Break Specials		28.1%	16
Mother Goose Playtime		1.8%	1
Daddy Daughter Dance		14.0%	8
Gymnastics		29.8%	17
<b>Kekionga Festival</b>		<b>43.9%</b>	<b>25</b>
Bingo		0.0%	0
Craft Shows		14.0%	8
Euchre		0.0%	0
Farm Wagon		3.5%	2
Flea Market		38.6%	22
Painting Club		0.0%	0
Rummage Sale		15.8%	9
Senior Luncheon		1.8%	1
Take off Pounds Sensibility		1.8%	1
Fitness Center – Cardio Room		14.0%	8
Fitness Center – Weight Room		17.5%	10
Personal Trainer		1.8%	1
Silver Strength		1.8%	1



Open Gym		12.3%	7
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>57</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>34</b>

### 23. What types of programs would you like to see added?

		Response Count
		12
		<b>answered question</b>
		<b>12</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>
		<b>79</b>








### 24. Is there anything that prevents or restricts your use of the parks?

		Response Percent	Response Count
No		81.1%	43
Not applicable		18.9%	10



If yes, what? Which park? 15

		<b>answered question</b>	<b>53</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>38</b>




## 25. If you do not frequent the parks often, why?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Lack of time		68.6%	24
Poor health/mobility		2.9%	1
Parks are too far away		5.7%	2
The parks you would be most likely to visit do not have the facilities you would like to use		28.6%	10
Lack of interest		11.4%	4
Feel unsafe		2.9%	1
Park and its equipment is not handicap accessible		2.9%	1
	Other (please specify)		6
<b>answered question</b>			<b>35</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>56</b>




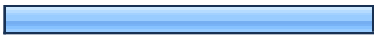


## 26. Do any of the following physical barriers restrict or prevent you from using the parks?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Physical access to the park or its equipment		0.0%	0
Lack of accessible parking		80.0%	12
Parks are too far away		26.7%	4
	Other (please specify)		7
<b>answered question</b>			<b>15</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>76</b>









**27. Would you like the City of Decatur and Adams County to invest more money in their Parks Department?**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		72.9%	51
No		2.9%	2
No opinion		24.3%	17
<b>answered question</b>			<b>70</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>21</b>




**28. How would you like the Parks Department to pay for new facilities and programs?**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Use existing budget		42.0%	29
Municipal bonds		5.8%	4
New taxes/fees		1.4%	1
Donations		55.1%	38
<b>Grants</b>		<b>56.5%</b>	<b>39</b>
All of the above		36.2%	25
<b>answered question</b>			<b>69</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>22</b>

**29. From the following list, choose three that the Parks Department should consider priorities:**




		Response Percent	Response Count
Landscape improvements		4.7%	3
<b>Playground improvements</b>		<b>60.9%</b>	<b>39</b>
Athletic field improvements		20.3%	13
Trail development		43.8%	28
Swimming pool improvements		39.1%	25
Restroom improvements		56.3%	36
Recreational programs		29.7%	19
Purchase new park and open space land		14.1%	9
<b>answered question</b>			<b>64</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>27</b>

**30. Due to past issues, many of the park restrooms are kept locked. Would you support reopening the restrooms even if it involved a fee-per-use or some other security measure?**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		56.1%	37
No		13.6%	9
No opinion		30.3%	20
<b>answered question</b>			<b>66</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>25</b>



**31. Many functions are not held at the Riverside Center in Decatur because alcohol is not allowed on any Park property. In an effort to increase Park revenues, it has been suggested that alcohol be allowed at this site. Do you feel that the Parks Department should revise their ordinances to allow alcohol at the Riverside Center for special events?**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		61.2%	41
No		26.9%	18
No opinion		11.9%	8
<b>answered question</b>			<b>67</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>24</b>

**CITY OF DECATUR PARK AND RECREATION BOARD**

231 East Monroe Street  
Decatur, IN 46714

**RESOLUTION  
Americans with Disabilities Act**


**WHEREAS**, the Decatur Park and Recreation Board is aware of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-336), and


**WHEREAS**, the Decatur Park and Recreation Board desires to provide the highest level of accessibility possible and feasible for persons with visual, hearing, mobility, and mental impairments, consistent with the obligation to conserve park resources and preserve the quality of the park and recreation experiences for everyone.

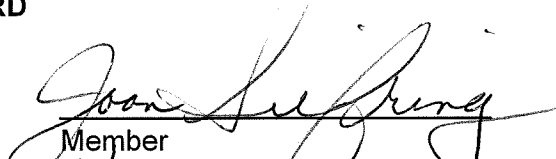
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE DECATUR PARK AND RECREATION BOARD**, will comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and will make every effort, including a self evaluation of its policies and practices, to ensure that all services, programs, and activities of the Department, or its contractors, will provide the highest level of accessibility possible; and

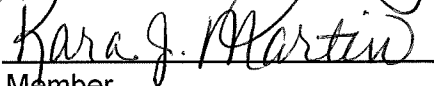
**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Decatur Park and Recreation Board that the Board designates the Park Superintendent to act on behalf of the Board in resolving complaints and grievances pertaining to this Act.

**DECATUR PARK AND RECREATION BOARD**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Member

Attested:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent

Adopted and signed the 16<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2012.

**ADAMS COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION BOARD**

231 East Monroe Street  
Decatur, IN 46714

**RESOLUTION  
Americans with Disabilities Act**

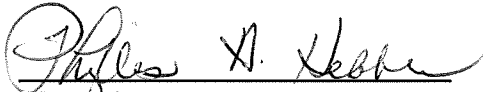
**WHEREAS**, the Adams County Park and Recreation Board is aware of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-336), and

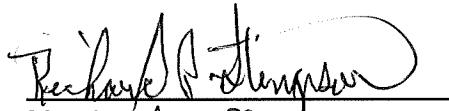
**WHEREAS**, the Adams County Park and Recreation Board desires to provide the highest level of accessibility possible and feasible for persons with visual, hearing, mobility, and mental impairments, consistent with the obligation to conserve park resources and preserve the quality of the park and recreation experiences for everyone.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE ADAMS COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION BOARD**, will comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and will make every effort, including a self evaluation of its policies and practices, to ensure that all services, programs, and activities of the Department, or its contractors, will provide the highest level of accessibility possible; and

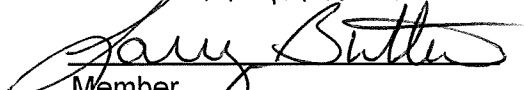
**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Adams County Park and Recreation Board that the Board designates the Park Superintendent to act on behalf of the Board in resolving complaints and grievances pertaining to this Act.

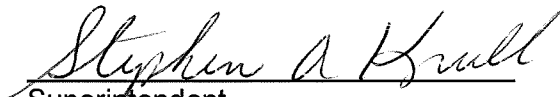
**ADAMS COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION BOARD**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Member ~~VICE PRESIDENT~~

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Member


Attested:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent

Adopted and signed the 16 day of January, 2012.

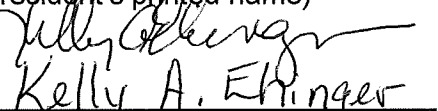
**CITY OF DECATUR PARK AND RECREATION BOARD**  
231 East Monroe Street  
Decatur, IN 46714

Assurance of Compliance  
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation  
Act of 1973

The Decatur Park and Recreation Board has received and read the guidelines for compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 issued by the United States Department of the Interior and will comply with these guidelines and the Act.

SIGNATURE   
APPLICANT PRESIDENT

LAURENCE J. ISCH  
(President's printed name)

SIGNATURE   
(Secretary's printed name)

DATE 1-16-2012



**ADAMS COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION BOARD**

231 East Monroe Street  
Decatur, IN 46714

Assurance of Compliance  
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation  
Act of 1973

The Adams County Park and Recreation Board has received and read the guidelines for compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 issued by the United States Department of the Interior and will comply with these guidelines and the Act.

SIGNATURE Phyllis A. Hebble  
APPLICANT PRESIDENT

PHYLLIS A. HEBBLE  
(President's printed name)

SIGNATURE MARC RIPLEY  
(Secretary's printed name)

DATE 1-14-2012

**DECATUR PARK AND RECREATION BOARD**

231 East Monroe Street  
Decatur, IN 46714

**REQUEST FOR ELIGIBILITY**

We hereby request eligibility to participate in the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund Program administered by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources.

Decatur Park and Recreation Board  
231 East Monroe Street  
Decatur, IN 46714  
Telephone (260) 724-2520  
FAX (260) 724-2229

Park Board President: LARRY ISCH  
Work Telephone: ( ) - -  
Home Telephone: ( ) - -

The Decatur Park and Recreation Board was established under the provisions of Section 201, Chapter 311, Article II of the Acts of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana for 1965. This Act empowers the Board to plan, construct, operate and maintain recreation and park facilities.

By virtue of the powers vested in our Board by the Indiana General Assembly we agree, if approved, to abide by all applicable State and Federal laws and the provisions outlined in the Guidelines for Local Agencies participating in the Land and Water Conservation Fund Program.

Adopted and signed the 16 day of January, Two Thousand and Twelve.

**ADAMS COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION BOARD**

Lawrence J. Isch  
President  
Jelly Albright  
Secretary

Joan Seegering  
Member  
Kara J. Martin  
Member

Attested: Stephen A. Hull  
Superintendent

**ADAMS COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION BOARD**

231 East Monroe Street  
Decatur, IN 46714

**REQUEST FOR ELIGIBILITY**

We hereby request eligibility to participate in the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund Program administered by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources.

Adams County Park and Recreation Board  
231 East Monroe Street  
Decatur, IN 46714  
Telephone (260) 724-2520  
FAX (260) 724-2229

Park Board President: PHYLLIS HERBLE  
Work Telephone: ( ) - -  
Home Telephone: ( ) - -

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Adopted and signed the 16 day of January, Two Thousand and Twelve.

**ADAMS COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION BOARD**

Phyllis A. Herble  
President

Richard P. Stimpson  
Member - VICE PRESIDENT

Marc Ryznar  
Secretary

Paul Butler  
Member

Attested: Stephen A. Knoll  
Superintendent

**CITY OF DECATUR PARK AND RECREATION BOARD**

231 East Monroe Street  
Decatur, IN 46714

**RESOLUTION 01 -01  
2012-2016 Park and Recreation Master Plan**

**WHEREAS**, the Decatur Park and Recreation Board is aware of the park and recreation needs of the residents of the City of Decatur, and

**WHEREAS**, the Decatur Park and Recreation Board is desirous of providing aesthetic and functional park and recreation facilities and programs to the residents of the City of Decatur to meet their needs, and

**WHEREAS**, the Decatur Park and Recreation Board realizes the importance of sound planning in order to meet the needs of its residents, and

**WHEREAS**, the Decatur Park and Recreation Board is continually aware of the value and importance of leisure opportunities, recreational programs and facilities for the future of the Decatur Park and Recreation Department and its programs, and to the residents of the City of Decatur,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE DECATUR PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD**, by unanimous declaration, does adopt the Decatur – Adams County Park and Recreation 5-Year Master Plan 2012 to 2016 as its official plan for the growth and development of parks and recreation opportunities in Decatur, Indiana over the next five years. The Decatur Park and Recreation Board is committed to an annual review and update of the goals and objectives of this Master Plan.

Adopted and signed the 16<sup>th</sup> day of January -" Two  
Thousand and Twelve.

**DECATUR PARK AND RECREATION BOARD**

Lawrence J. Cook  
President  
Yelby O'Rourke  
Secretary

Joan Kirkling  
Member  
Kara J. Martin  
Member

Attested: Stephen A. Hull  
Superintendent



**ADAMS COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION BOARD**  
231 East Monroe Street  
Decatur, IN 46714

**RESOLUTION 01 -01**  
**2012-2016 Park and Recreation Master Plan**

**WHEREAS**, the Adams County Park and Recreation Board is aware of the park and recreation needs of the residents of Adams County, and

**WHEREAS**, the Adams County Park and Recreation Board is desirous of providing aesthetic and functional park and recreation facilities and programs to the residents of Adams County to meet their needs, and


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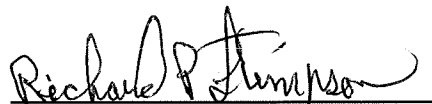
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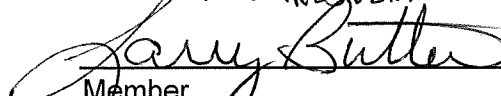
Adopted and signed the 16 day of January -" Two  
Thousand and Twelve.

**ADAMS COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION BOARD**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Member VICE PRESIDENT

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Member

Attested:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent





Monroe Street

1st Street

Madison Street

W. Jefferson Street

St. Marys River

Trail node & kiosk

Proposed pedestrian path

Existing pedestrian path

Public parking

54 spaces

Pedestrian bridge

Plaza & gathering space

River overlook

Adaptive re-use restaurant & retail

Outdoor seating/performance space

Open lawn passive recreation

Angle parking 15 spaces

Playground

Shared use parking 32 spaces

Potential commercial use

# DECATUR MASTER PLAN

## DECATUR RIVERFRONT DISTRICT

### CONCEPTUAL MASTER PLAN

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WIGHTMAN PETRIE



architecture • gis • civil engineering • landscape architecture  
environmental • planning • renewable energy • land surveying



0 20 40 Feet





# KEKIONGA PARK

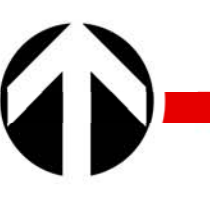
## CONCEPTUAL MASTER PLAN DECATUR, INDIANA

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WIGHTMAN PETRIE

architecture ◊ gis ◊ civil engineering ◊ landscape architecture  
environmental ◊ planning ◊ renewable energy ◊ land surveying



0 100 200  
Feet





# LIMBERLOST PARK

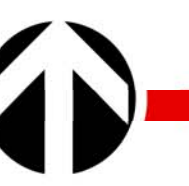
## CONCEPTUAL MASTER PLAN ADAMS COUNTY, INDIANA

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WIGHTMAN PETRIE

architecture • gis • civil engineering • landscape architecture  
environmental • planning • renewable energy • land surveying



Feet  
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