



Town of Middleton 2013 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan



Adopted by the
Town Board
October 7, 2013

vierbicher
planners | engineers | advisors



Acknowledgements

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This document is a guide and is only advisory. The Town of Middleton exceeds all standards for parks and open space (5,900 sq. ft. per resident) and intends to add parks only on an as needed basis. This is in addition to approximately 1,500 acres of parks being added on the West edge of the Town.



Town Board Authorizing Resolution

Town of Middleton Resolution No. 20131007C

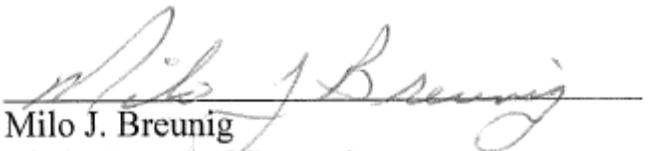
**RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE TOWN OF MIDDLETON
COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN**

WHEREAS, the Town of Middleton Parks Commission created and approved the Town of Middleton Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan;

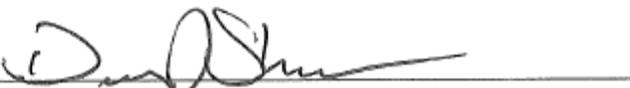
WHEREAS, the Town of Middleton Board of Supervisors has reviewed and previously approved the Town of Middleton Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Middleton Board of Supervisors hereby adopts the 2013 Town of Middleton Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

Adopted this 7th day of October, 2013


Milo J. Breunig
Chair, Board of Supervisors

Approved this 7th day of October, 2013


David D. Shaw
Attest - Town Clerk

Posted / /2013



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I. Introduction and Plan Purpose

The Town of Middleton Board and Park Commission present this Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) to assure that adequate park, open space and recreational resources are available for both present and future residents of the Town. Access to outdoor recreation is an important predictor of community health and wellness. Parks, trails, and sports facilities provide convenient, safe, and attractive spaces for people to get outside. Time spent outdoors is associated with a number of important health factors, including improved physical and mental health, better connected communities, and more active citizens.

It is important to note that this plan is an advisory document. It will serve as an active guideline to both the Park Commission and the Board over the next five years. However, due to unforeseen opportunities and changing conditions in the physical and economic environments, this plan will be subject to modification on an annual basis in response to those changes.

This Plan has been developed by the Park Commission using information from the previous 2008 CORP, the results of a Spring 2012 survey of Town residents, recent projects and expenditures, and several other relevant park planning documents. The purpose of the plan is to outline the recreational goals and objectives over the next five years including specific improvements to be made to achieve those goals and objectives. A prerequisite to participation in various state and federal outdoor recreation grant programs is the adoption and acceptance of local comprehensive outdoor recreation plans, such as this one, by the WI Department of Natural Resources.

This Plan consists of a description of the planning method and planning area, an inventory of existing resources and facilities, a needs assessment, an action plan, and finally an implementation and funding plan. This CORP also includes a five (5) year Capital Improvement and Maintenance Program for parks and recreation areas. The goals and objectives appearing in section 6 of this document form the basis for the rest of the plan and will guide the decisions of the Park Commission and the Board in the future.

The Town of Middleton Park Commission is comprised of non-elected members selected by existing Park Commission members, appointed by the Town Board Chair, and approved by the Town Board. The Park Commission is an advisory body and provides recommendations to the Town Board on issues of development and maintenance of Town parks, trails, and other recreation amenities. The Park Commission meets once per month, and meetings are attended by one member of the Town Board who serves as a liaison to the Board itself.

Beginning approximately in the 1970s, the Town of Middleton has transitioned from a predominantly rural community to a blend of farms, single-family homes, and medium density suburban residential developments. The Town of Middleton entered into Intergovernmental Agreements with the cities of Madison (1994 & 2002) and Middleton (1994) that were designed to accommodate and control growth and development in the eastern portion of the Town.

Increasing population presents the Town with the challenge of maintaining a balance between traditional town management concepts and offering a diverse set of recreational amenities, facilities, and services that residents expect. The desire of the Town to maintain its "rural character" dictates that development opportunities incorporate substantial open space and that significant lands be devoted to parks, trails, open space and recreation areas.

II. Definitions

Parks and Open Space Categories

The Town of Middleton provides parks, open spaces, and trails. These amenities are divided into 6 categories based upon standards established by the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA). Note that under Town of Middleton ordinances parks and conservancies are categorized differently than the NRPA standard. The Town uses two categories for parks: active and passive. Mini-parks, neighborhood parks, and community parks are active parks, while nature areas and conservancies are included in the passive park category. Appendix 5 contains a map of all Town park locations and service areas, and Appendix 6 contains a map of nature areas and conservancies. NRPA categories are:

1. Mini-Parks

Mini-parks are the smallest park classification. They address limited or isolated recreational needs, or unique recreational opportunities. Mini-parks may also be used to serve a concentrated or limited population or specific group such as young children or senior citizens.

Past classifications of mini-parks were often oriented toward active recreation. The updated classification of mini-parks has a broader application that includes both active and passive uses. Passive uses might include picnic areas, arbors and sitting areas.

Location Criteria: The justification for a mini-park relies more on servicing a specific recreational need or taking advantage of a unique opportunity instead of demographics and population density. Service areas can vary. In a residential setting, the service area is usually less than ¼ mile in radius. Accessibility by trails, sidewalks, or low-volume residential streets increases the opportunity for use.

Size Criteria: Typically, mini-parks are approximately one acre or less in size.

Parking: Parking lots are not generally required for mini-parks, unless there is no available on-street parking.

Site Selection Criteria/Guidelines: The site for a mini-park should exhibit the physical characteristics appropriate for its intended uses. The variance in topography and vegetation should reflect these uses. Vegetation should be used to enhance the aesthetic qualities of the park and to buffer it from the neighboring residences. The following key concerns should be taken into account:

- Servicing a specific recreational need
- Ease of access from the surrounding area
- Links to neighborhood trails

Development Parameters: Mini-parks are generally not intended to be used for programmed activities. Providing one acre or less space will tend to prevent team sports as there would be insufficient space for these activities. Parking is typically not required. Site lighting should be used only for security and safety.

Note: Developers may be required to dedicate and improve mini-parks as a condition for approval of a land division. Developers may also be required to provide playgrounds as part of the required infrastructure for a mini-park. However, the fees otherwise owed by a developer for the development are reduced by the cost of the land dedicated for the park and the cost of the playground equipment.

II. Definitions, continued

2. Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood parks serve as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood. They should be developed for both active and passive uses geared specifically for those living within the service area. It is important to accommodate a wide variety of age and user groups, including children, adults, elderly and other special populations. The character of the park site and the neighborhood should be brought together to create a sense of place.

Location Criteria: The service area of a neighborhood park should encompass a ¼ to ½ mile radius uninterrupted by non-residential roads and other physical barriers. Neighborhood parks should be centrally located within this service area. The service area may vary depending on development diversity and density. The park site should be accessible from throughout the service area via trails, or low-volume residential streets. Residents are much less likely to use a neighborhood park if they perceive it to be difficult to access or not within a reasonable walking distance.

Size Criteria: The primary determinants of a neighborhood park's size will be demographics and population density. Five acres is generally accepted as the minimum size necessary to provide a variety of recreational activities. Seven to ten acres is considered optimal.

Parking: Neighborhood parks should provide between 15 to 30 off-street parking spaces.

Site Selection Criteria/Guidelines: The following key concerns should be taken into account when selecting a site:

- Ease of access from the surrounding neighborhood
- Central location
- Linkages to trail network

Development Parameters/Recreation Activity Menus: Neighborhood input should be used to determine the development program for each park. Neighborhood parks should support a balance of active and passive uses. Neighborhood parks are not intended to be used for programmed activities that result in overuse, noise, or parking problems. A menu of potential active recreation uses includes: play structures, playfields, tennis courts, informal ballfields, volleyball courts, horseshoe areas, ice skating rinks. Potential passive recreation uses could include: internal trails, picnic and sitting areas, open space.

3. Community Parks

Community parks are larger in size and serve a broader purpose than neighborhood parks. The focus of a community park is on meeting the recreational needs of multiple neighborhoods or large sections of the community. Additionally, community parks may serve to preserve unique landscapes and open spaces. They allow for group activities and other uses that are not feasible or desirable at the neighborhood level. Community parks should also be developed for both active and passive recreational activities.

Location Criteria: Community parks should serve two or more neighborhoods. The service area should generally be ½ to 3 miles in radius; however, the quality of the natural resource base should play a significant role in site selection. The park site should be accessible via arterial and collector streets as well as the local trail system.

Size Criteria: A community park's size will be determined by demographics, population density, natural resources, and recreation demand within the service area. An optimal size may be between 15 and 20 acres, but the actual size should be based on the land area needed to accommodate the desired uses.

II. Definitions, continued

Parking: Community parks should provide parking commensurate with the activities contained within the park.

Site Selection Criteria/Guidelines: Natural character and existing resources should play a significant part in site selection for a community park. Sites that preserve unique landscapes or that provide recreation opportunities not otherwise available should be given special emphasis. Ease of access from throughout the service area and relationship to other park facilities should also play a role in site selection. Where feasible, community parks should be located adjacent to natural resource areas. This serves to expand the recreational opportunities available and enhance the general perception of surrounding open space. The following key concerns should be taken into account when selecting a site:

- Natural character of the site
- Ease of access
- Relationship to other park areas

Development Parameters/Recreation Activities Menu: Community input should be the primary determinant of the development program for a community park. Reserved and programmed uses are compatible and acceptable with community parks.

Potential active recreation uses include: play structures, formal play fields/ballfields, game courts (tennis, volleyball, basketball, etc.), disc golf areas, horseshoe areas, ice skating rinks, and others. Potential passive recreation uses include internal trails, open space, ornamental gardens, facilities for cultural activities, unique landscapes and natural features, and others.

4. Nature Areas/Conservancies

Nature areas and conservancies are lands set aside for the preservation of significant natural resources, remnant landscapes, open space and visual aesthetics/buffering. Such areas can include:

- Individual sites exhibiting natural resources
- Lands that are unsuitable for development but offer natural resource potential, such as parcels with steep slopes and natural vegetation, drainageways, surface water management areas and utility easements
- Protected lands, such as wetlands or shorelines

Location Criteria: Natural resource availability and opportunity are the primary factors in determining location.

Size Criteria: The size of nature areas and conservancies will depend upon resource availability and opportunity.

Parking: Parking may be required at natural resource areas depending on their size and proposed uses.

1. Green space/community separation areas
2. Acquiring/developing hiking trails
3. Acquiring environmentally sensitive areas
4. Developing an outdoor skating rink

Development Parameters/Recreation Activity Menu: Natural resource areas can provide some passive recreational uses. Development should be limited to preserve the integrity of the resource.

II. Definitions, continued

5. Primary Trails

Primary trails are multipurpose trails often located within greenways, parks, and natural resource areas. These trails serve as major links between various Town parks and facilities as well as other destinations. The Town envisions an eventual interconnected network of primary trails servicing all parts of the Town. Primary trails should be planned and designed with the following concepts in mind:

- Emphasize harmony with the natural environment
- Tie the various parks and conservancies together to form a comprehensive park and trail system
- Protect users from vehicular traffic
- When/if physically and economically feasible, consider established trail standards (American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials "AASHTO" / Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines "ADAAG")

See Appendix 3 for further discussion of trails.

6. Secondary Trails

Secondary trails are intended to serve smaller areas than primary trails. Secondary trails allow neighborhood residents to access the primary trail network. Secondary trails may be located adjacent to or within utility easements or along artificial drainageways provided that the trails do not interfere with their intended purpose. Secondary trails should be located within road rights-of-way only when necessary.

This Plan recommends that developers be required to construct secondary trails as a requirement of plat approval. A ratio of 20 lineal feet per new residential dwelling unit may be required to maintain the existing ratio in the Town.

III. Plan Development Process and Amending the Plan

The development of this CORP began in January 2012 with a discussion held at the regularly scheduled Park Commission meeting. As a first step, the Park Commission members spent time reviewing the 2008 CORP, as well as other relevant and appropriate plans from the Town and others. A survey was developed and administered from March 26—April 30, 2012 to determine the opinion of Town residents on current and potential future parks and trails amenities.

During the months of March through July 2012, the Park Commission members divided themselves into teams to review and discuss park and trail amenities in different sections of Town in conjunction with survey results to come up with recommendations for facilities into the future.

At its September 2012 meeting the Park Commission reviewed an updated map displaying existing and planned Town trails and approved the map for use in the CORP. The Park Commission worked to develop plan goals, objectives, recommendations, and a capital improvements schedule in late 2012 and early 2013. The plan was drafted in late 2012 and early 2013, while review, public input, and finalizing of the plan occurred in early 2013. The Plan was approved by the Board on October 7, 2013.

The CORP shall be reviewed each year, and may be amended using the same process as was undergone to create the CORP. It is recommended that this CORP be updated at least every five years in order for the Town to remain eligible for all available funding opportunities and to adequately reflect current Town park priorities.

The Park Commission intends to incorporate funding designed to meet the Capital Improvement Plan and the Annual Operating Plan in the Parks and Recreation Budget submitted to the Town Board in September /October of each year.

IV. 2012 Survey Results

Survey Results

The Park Commission distributed an online survey in March and April 2012 after extensive work to draft, edit, and finalize survey questions. The survey was available to be completed from March 15, 2012 until April 30, 2012, and a total of 269 responses were received from residents of all parts of the Town. The general goal of the survey was to determine Town residents' opinions on existing and potential future Town park and recreation facilities and amenities, in order to help guide the Town's maintenance and development of these facilities. Results from the survey were used by the Park Commission to develop the Goals and Objectives, Action Plan, Park and Open Space Planning Standards, and Capital Improvements Plan included in this document.

The specific purpose of the survey was to determine what parks and recreation facilities are used most frequently, what types of recreation activities are most common among residents, the desire of residents to see certain facilities and amenities (including trails) improved, expanded, or added, and opinions of Town residents on certain park and recreation facility maintenance funding mechanisms. The survey included a combination of multiple choice and open-ended questions. A summary of the responses provided to the multiple choice questions is as follows, with the full results included in Appendix 9:

- Pope Farm Conservancy is the recreational area used most frequently
- Recreational trails, conservancies, and playgrounds and equipment are more frequently used than horseback riding trails, tennis courts, basketball courts, soccer, and baseball fields
- Conservancies and recreational trails are the highest priority facilities listed for expansion
- Designated dog exercise areas are the most popular item to be added
- Per-use fees and existing park general funds were the two funding mechanisms most favored for using to fund the ongoing maintenance of park and recreation facilities
- Respondents are generally pleased with park, conservancy, and trail amenities available in the Town
- Acquiring easements to establish trail linkages in the Town, and restoring native plant communities and habitats are important

Several open-ended questions on the survey yielded useful information. Highlights include the following, with the full results available at Town Hall:

- Many respondents expressed the desire to have more recreational facilities in the Town.
- Of the 269 surveys received, 44 expressed the desire for additional areas open to dogs and that a dedicated off-leash dog park be created in the Town.
- More trails and paths, both on and off-road, be established for walking and bicycling in the Town as part of an overall, comprehensive, interconnected Town route system.

V. Progress Since the 2008 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

The Town delivers high-quality park and trail recreation amenities to Town residents. The following outlines the major accomplishments of the past five years:

Parks Acquired:

Although the Sunnyside Seed Farm area north of U.S. Highway 14 is not a Town park, the Town worked closely with Dane County to help the County secure the purchase of the farm. A master plan for the 292-acre park was completed in 2010. The park is now known as the Black Earth Wildlife Area – Sunnyside Unit.

Park Amenities Added/Developed:

- Tennis courts were added at Settlers Prairie Park.
- Play structures were upgraded at Vickiann Park, Cherrywood Acres Park, Murphy Park, Settlers Prairie Park, and Summit Ridge Park.
- A tennis backboard was added at Pioneer Park.

Habitat Restoration Projects (completed by Biologic Environmental Consulting, at the direction of the Park Commission and Town staff):

- Settlers Prairie Park
 - A vegetation management plan has been developed for the park, in addition to a partnership with a local school for volunteer invasive species removal.
 - Native seeds donated by Dane County have been sowed into the prairie, and a total of about 1 acre of prairie planting has been maintained.
- Goth Conservancy
 - A management plan was completed and implementation of this plan has begun.
 - Implementation has included removal of understory vegetation and non-savanna trees, sowing oak woodland and prairie seed that was received from Dane County, conducting prescribed burns, and installing interpretive signage.
- Noll Valley Oak Savanna
 - Brush and invasive species have been removed from the savanna to improve savanna conditions.
- Pope Farm Conservancy
 - Over 32 acres of prairie and savanna have been actively managed and maintained, with the establishment of native shrubs in the ravine, and the removal of invasive species.
 - The conservancy is now home to over 53 species of birds, and prairies now have 40—80 native plant species established.

Trails Developed:

- Stonebrook Estates.
- Serene Court to Wood Pond Trail.
- Rocky Dell Estates.
- Summit Ridge Estates (trail was extended in Northern Lights Estates).
- Settlers Prairie Park (trail was improved).
- Ed Tallard Park (trails were improved).

VI. Plan Goals & Objectives

The following are statements that will apply in general to all endeavors of the Town Park Commission. The Town of Middleton will consider the CORP goals and objectives as a template for the future park development and maintenance only within the financial abilities of the Town's resources. Each of the five goals are followed by several objectives that state the policies and philosophies that will be used to implement the goals.

1. Develop and maintain existing parks.¹

- Evaluate current lands and facilities and assess the physical and economic feasibility of development, including court/field additions, playgrounds, prairies, etc.;
- Perform safety and maintenance inspections, drawing on Town staff expertise;
- Ensure that Town parks and facilities comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to the extent physically and economically feasible;
- Provide information to the public on the existing facilities;
- Evaluate reservations, park usage, park rules annually.

2. Develop and maintain existing trails.

- Enhance the existing neighborhood trail systems and their interconnections;
- Establish a connection to regional trail systems (Dane County, City of Madison, City of Middleton, Ice Age Trail, etc.);
- Determine and evaluate trail functionality, usage and surfaces as trails are developed;
- Ensure that trails comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) when/if physically and economically feasible;
- Provide information to the public on the existing trail system;
- Evaluate trails usage and trail rules annually.

3. When feasible, acquire new land for parks/trails.

- When feasible, acquire lands to protect scenic and environmentally sensitive resources and native natural areas;
- Identify and acquire lands for green space when feasible, particularly lands that will create natural municipal boundaries and buffers;
- When feasible, acquire additional land and evaluate land dedications to determine active and passive recreational use and conservation based on current demand, demands created by increased future population, and the conservation value of the land;
- Ensure protection of wildlife and plant life, watershed areas, aquifer recharge areas, and specifically the historical vegetation of the area including native oak savanna and prairie areas.

4. Manage capital and maintenance costs for activities and development.

- Ensure aesthetics and safety consistent with available resources;
- Consider and plan for the long-term expense of maintenance of land and equipment when developing parks, trails and open space;
- Conduct financial analyses as to the type of improvements.

5. Identify and support recreational and community activities.

- Identify recreation program needs of Town residents through periodic surveys and other mechanisms;
- Determine economic feasibility of recreation programs;
- Acquire or improve facilities for recreation programs;
- Implement and monitor local recreation and education programs;
- Evaluate program effectiveness;
- Develop programs to encourage volunteer groups to assist in maintaining parks, trails and conservancies.

1: "Parks" includes the definition of Active Parks and Passive Parks as defined by Town Ordinance Section 4-5-1(a).

VII. Park and Open Space Planning Standards

Establishment of Park and Open Space Planning Standards

Traditionally, guidelines used to identify the future recreational needs of a community are provided by the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA). These guidelines categorize parks by the level of service each is intended to provide, and are a required part of the parks and recreation facilities planning process as outlined by the State of Wisconsin. The guidelines recommend 6.25 to 10.5 acres of park and recreation area per 1,000 people. This guideline includes mini-parks, neighborhood parks, and community parks, but does not include conservancies.

The recommended guidelines have been modified when considering what standard is established for Town park planning to take into consideration the topography, physical barriers, particular demands and characteristics unique to the Town of Middleton. Town park planning standards directly impact the Town's park and recreation facilities and capital improvements planning. Park space standards for the Town are incorporated into the calculation of the current Town park fee in-lieu-of land dedication.

The Town's planning standards far exceed NRPA guidelines for each park and recreation facility category—see Appendix 10 for a comparison of Town standards vs. NRPA guidelines. The park and facility planning standards presented here, as well as the Goals, Objectives, and Action Plan included in this document are presented in an attempt to better match planned parkland and amenities with future maintenance obligations, while still maintaining a robust parks system. This was informed by feedback received from residents who completed a park and recreation needs analysis survey conducted in 2012.

Park and facility planning standards are summarized below, with further detail in Appendix 10.

Table 1: Park Planning Standards

Type of Park	Town CORP Planning Standard ¹	Existing Acres	Existing Acres Per 1,000 Town Residents ²	Surplus or (Deficiency) Under Current Standards ²	Total Acreage Needed in 2030 to Meet Town CORP Planning Standards ³	Assessable Additional Acreage Needed by 2030 ⁴
Mini-Park	0.8	7.05	1.20	2.35	7.05	0
Neighborhood Park	5.1	44.89	7.63	14.93	44.92	0
Community Park	5.8	51.47	8.76	17.12	51.47	0
Nature Area / Conservancy	20.5	180.18	30.65	59.96	180.56	0

1: Acres per 1000 residents.

2: Based on 2010 population of 5,877.

3: Based on WI DOA predicted 2030 population of 8,808 (includes existing acreage and additional acreage necessary to meet Town CORP planning standards).

4: Attributable to new development and assessable to Developers.

Note: The above table does not include any recreational lands controlled by other governmental entities aside from the Town of Middleton.

VIII. Action Plan

The Town Park Commission has developed this action plan to meet existing and future parks, open space and recreation needs of Town residents. The action plan is based on prior Town plans, the results of the 1998, 2003 and 2012 Town surveys, the current development policies of the Town Plan Commission and Town Board, and guidelines from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

The following principles frame the action plan:

- Park and trail development and maintenance are appropriate functions of the Town and are conducted by the Park Commission, Plan Commission and Board with strong input from neighborhoods and/or interest groups.
- The CORP is a part of the Town's comprehensive planning and reflects the Town's commitment to encouraging cluster development and conservation design.
- The Town encourages the preservation of open spaces, greenways, wetlands, woodlands, natural areas and scenic areas. As the Town continues to develop, preservation of these areas through public or private ownership will assure preservation of the traditional visual character of the Town.
- The CORP will be regularly reviewed and updated with complete revisions every five years.
- It is recognized that in areas to be developed, the recreational needs of the population will need to be met. Providing neighborhood parks in small subdivisions may be cost-prohibitive. Mini and community parks are a solution for meeting many of these needs.
- Community parks can serve the needs of the people who do not live in subdivisions.

The following actions are linked directly to the Goals and Objectives given in Section 2.

Goal #1: Develop and Maintain Existing Parks

1. Assess parking lot expansion and an exercise station course in Pioneer Park.
2. Complete the planning and development of Settlers Prairie Park in accordance with the Settlers Prairie Ecological Assessment and Management Plan, including assessing the needs for bathrooms, installation of exercise stations and improvements to baseball diamond.
3. Routinely conduct a park facility assessments, considering changes in response to citizen input and safety concerns.
4. Increase the visibility and residents' knowledge of park assets through the following means: installation of decorative information kiosks that display rules, regulations, and trail maps, increased online information, and produce a regular parks feature in the Town's newsletter.
5. Town staff will conduct ADA compliance assessment of parks.

Goal #2: Develop and Maintain Existing Trails

1. Improve existing trail easements (identify specific trails annually).
2. Develop a system that allows for an east/west corridor of trails and a north/south corridor of trails.
3. Determine anticipated use of trails (i.e., dogs, bikes, etc.) and types of trail surfaces (i.e., crushed stone, grass, asphalt, etc.).
4. Work with Dane County to develop a trail crossing at Mineral Point Road when the County plans for reconstruction of Mineral Point Road.
5. Properly document and clearly mark existing maintained trails.
6. Publicize the Canine Coordinator Program for on-leash dog walking opportunities on selected trails. Recommend changes if warranted.
7. Town staff will conduct ADA compliance assessment of trails.
8. Continue installation of trail markers on currently unmarked trail easements.

VIII. Action Plan, continued

Goal #3: When Feasible, Acquire New Land for Parks/Trails

1. Coordinate possible acquisition of easements when feasible to interconnect the trail system.
2. Coordinate with developers, land owners, the general public, potential donors and the Plan Commission to acquire lands during land dedication and plat reviews. Land should be acquired to address existing or projected deficiencies in the types of parks/nature areas/conservancies shown in Appendix 10, or to preserve exceptional landscape features.
3. Identify and facilitate access to off-road paths and parks.
4. Ensure on-site land inspections by a Park Commission member(s) prior to making recommendations.
5. Review reports, such as the 1990 Kailing and Zimmerman "Natural Systems Land Use Feasibility Study" when acquiring new lands to assist in identifying critical areas for wildlife and plant life protection.
6. Consider off- and on-road bicycle route options to establish the connection of major facilities, including parks and schools, with residential areas.
7. Assess the southern tier (south of Mineral Point Rd.) of the Town for the siting of a neighborhood park. This area is underserved with park facilities.
8. Site additional mini-parks to address the current acreage deficiency in mini-parks shown in Appendix 10 and keep up with projected population growth. New mini-parks should be sited to serve existing or planned residential development and be outside of existing mini-park or neighborhood park service areas.

Goal #4: Manage Capital and Maintenance Costs for Activities and Development

1. Budget annual parks and open space maintenance costs in a manner so as not to exceed available and estimated future Town resources.
2. Coordinate with Town staff, Plan Commission, Finance Committee and Town Board to make sound fiscal decisions.
3. Make maximum use of federal, state, county and private grant opportunities to help with land acquisition efforts and the development of park, recreation and trail improvements.
4. Coordinate with and support organized athletic groups on maintenance and development costs of park facilities.
5. Implement management plans for tracking capital maintenance costs in parks.
6. Review possible expansion of Pioneer Park into Town-owned adjacent land south of park.

Goal #5: Identify and Support Recreational and Community Activities

1. Encourage civic, service, individual and neighborhood donations of time, money and materials, such as occurs with the Friends of Pope Farm Conservancy.
2. Collaborate with the Middleton-Cross Plains School District on joint use of Town and School District recreational facilities. The advantages of such an agreement include the avoidance of facility duplication, combined use of prime land, monetary savings to the Town and the School District and greater diversity in recreational opportunities.
3. Investigate small scale, zero-budget recreational programs to determine demand for such programs. Utilize existing area indoor and outdoor facilities.
4. Explore opportunities to identify and encourage volunteer groups and individuals to assist in long term maintenance of parks and trails (e.g., friends of Pope Farm Conservancy).
5. Match construction of amenities in existing and planned parks with planning standards, as shown in Appendix 10.

IX. Operation, Maintenance, and Funding Plan

Operation and Maintenance

The Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) in Appendix 8 lists both major maintenance projects and construction of new park improvements. The CIP lists all work anticipated for Town parks, conservancy properties, and trails for the next 5 years, with cost estimates.

The Town’s parks and conservancies need to be maintained at a level of quality necessary to preserve the original intended use of that property. Maintenance projects generally have short durations and use of the park/trail is not significantly disrupted. General examples of weekly/monthly/yearly maintenance items include: mowing, replacing mulch, and maintenance of equipment and amenities.

In addition to the maintenance items called out in the CIP, which tend to be longer-term in nature, the Town’s actual and budgeted park maintenance from 2011-2012 and budgeted maintenance for 2013 is summarized in the chart below:

Table 2: Park Maintenance Budget Summary

Category	2011	2012	2013
Budgeted Expenditures	\$170,281	\$225,699	\$179,333*
Actual Expenditures	\$162,079	\$215,111	—
Expenditures per Parcel (2011 & 2012 are actual; 2013 is budgeted. Assumes 2,843 parcels.)	\$57.01	\$75.66	\$63.08*

* Does not include one-time purchase of a new mower for \$61,000.

The Town has been able maintain a high-quality park system and avoided accruing deferred maintenance obligations. Specific maintenance projects that don’t reoccur each year will be prioritized by need and impact for each year of this plan, and weighed with other general fund budgetary items when the overall Town budget is developed.

The Town has also developed a “Parks and Trails Maintenance Cost Tool” spreadsheet that shows the costs of various park/conservancy related activities, such as mowing, weed whacking, spraying, fertilizing, mulching, playground equipment repair, prairie maintenance, trail maintenance, and other activities. The maintenance spreadsheet breaks down costs of each item/activity and how much the activity costs per year. For example, the total cost per year of park mowing is derived by taking the anticipated fuel cost, fuel use, labor cost, and equipment cost to derive a total cost per year and a cost of mowing per acre of park per year. This spreadsheet is used by the Town to plan budgets and make sure that land to be added to the park system can be adequately maintained.

Funding Plan

Adoption of this plan by the Town Board, Plan Commission and Park Commission is fundamental and the first step toward implementation of this plan. The Town of Middleton Park Commission will initiate implementation by project according to the following priority: in general, the Park Commission recommends the lowest cost approach to establishment of a quality parks system by following these guidelines:

1. Whenever possible, acquire land through developer dedications or cash donation in lieu of land;
2. Acquire and develop parkland with County, State and Federal matching funds;

IX. Operation, Maintenance, and Funding Plan, continued

3. Encourage landowners abutting Town parks to gift lands to the Town;
4. Encourage resident participation in planning and implementation of park development;
5. Plan effectively to eliminate waste and to increase utilization;

Existing and future funds from fees collected in lieu of land dedication are to be utilized for capital improvements in the high priority projects. Additional park funding will come from a combination of Federal, State, County and non-profit organization matching grants, and the annual parks budget. Maintenance of all parks will be funded from the Town's general fund. The Park Commission and the Town Board will consider the Town's ability to fund the maintenance of existing parks, trails and open spaces when considering the new development of public spaces.

Appendix 1:
Planning Region

Appendix 1: Planning Region

The Town of Middleton is located in the western half of Dane County, bordered on the east by the cities of Madison and Middleton, on the north, west and south by the Towns of Springfield, Cross Plains and Verona respectively. Most of the eastern one-half of the northern portion of the original township has been annexed by the City of Middleton. Much of the eastern one-half of the southern portion of the original township has been annexed by the City of Madison.

Per the March 28, 2002 boundary agreement with the City of Madison, the City will eventually annex all areas south of Blackhawk Road and east of Pope Farm Conservancy and Pioneer and Meadow Roads. The remaining Town area consists of agricultural land, small farms, scattered individual homes, small subdivisions, and several major subdivision areas. The Town has limited commercial areas and a limited number of traditional agricultural entities that continue to operate. Non-traditional agriculture such as tree farms, non-metallic mineral extraction, landscape businesses, and stables are significant commercial entities in the Town.

Much of the Town of Middleton remains zoned "Agricultural." The Town of Middleton has not adopted "Exclusive Agricultural Zoning" to allow the Town to promote growth, in part due to the proximity of the neighboring urban development. Dane County is responsible for zoning administration and enforcement in the Town. The majority of home sites in the Town have traditionally been located on lots of ½ acre or more. The relatively large lot size increases distances between homes, and from homes to parks, and the low density of housing development contributes to the suburban / semi-rural character of the Town. The Town facilitates and directs development in a way that protects the semi-rural character and valuable natural resources and landscapes of the Town that make it a distinctive place. Open space is generally dedicated with new lot development to create an overall density of development of approximately 1 lot per 1.5 acres.

A. Social Characteristics

Table 3: Town of Middleton Population Trends

Past Trends

Table 3 shows the growth patterns in the Town of Middleton between 1970 and 2010, the date of the most recent U.S. Census. The 1970 census estimated the Town of Middleton's population to be 2,028. The Town's population in 2010 was estimated to be 5,877, which is equivalent to an approximately 2.7% growth rate per year, compounded.

Year	Population Estimate	% Change
1970 Census	2,028	----
1980 Census	2,598	28.11%
1990 Census	3,628	39.65%
2000 Census	4,594	26.63%
2010 Census	5,877	27.93%

Source: U.S. Census Summary File 1

The number of households in the Town grew steadily between 2000 and 2010. According to the U.S. Census, the number of households in the Town increased by 424 for a total of 1,996. However, since the economic downturn in 2008, the number of new homes constructed per year is 23.4. From 2000 to 2010 the average household size in the Town increased slightly from 2.90 to 2.93, though it is still down from 3.17 in 1990.

Population Projections

The Wisconsin Department of Administration prepares population estimates and projections for all municipalities in the state. Table 4 reflects the population estimates and projections for the Town of Middleton.



Appendix 1: Planning Region

Table 4: Town of Middleton Population and Household Growth

Category	2000 ¹	2010 ¹	2015 ²	2020 ²	2025 ²	2030 ²
Population	4,594	5,877	6,761	7,463	8,151	8,808
# Households	1,572	1,996	2,392	2,653	2,902	3,149
Persons Per Household	2.90	2.93	2.83	2.81	2.81	2.80
% Increase in Population from 2010 Population	n/a	n/a	15.0%	27.0%	38.7%	49.9%

1—Source: U.S. Census (2000 Census and 2010 Census)

2—Source: Wisconsin Department of Administration Demographic Services

Demographics

In recent years, the Town of Middleton has transitioned from a traditional rural township to a more complex blend of limited traditional agriculture, non-traditional agriculture, suburban developments and rural single-family homes. Recent information indicates a definite trend toward a younger median age as well as a significant increase in the number of new residents in the Town. Table 5 provides a breakdown of the Town’s population by age group.

According to the 2010 U.S. Census, the Town of Middleton is 50.3% male and 49.7% female, and predominantly white. Over 96% of occupied housing units are owner-occupied as opposed to renter-occupied.

Economy

The majority of residents in the Town of Middleton travel outside of the Town for employment, as the Town only has small, isolated areas of non-residential development. Over 62% of residents age 25 to 64 have attained a Bachelor’s Degree or higher, and 78.5% of residents in this age group are employed. The Town of Middleton has an unemployment rate of 2.6%, compared to 4.3% in Dane County, and 5.5% in Wisconsin (2011 American Community Survey, US Census Bureau).

Table 5: Town of Middleton Age Distribution, 2010

Age	Number	% of Total
Under 5 Years	335	5.70%
5 to 9 Years	477	8.12%
10 to 14 Years	585	9.95%
15 to 19 Years	443	7.54%
20 to 24 Years	156	2.65%
25 to 29 Years	117	1.99%
30 to 34 Years	177	3.01%
35 to 39 Years	364	6.19%
40 to 44 Years	488	8.30%
45 to 49 Years	641	10.91%
50 to 54 Years	573	9.75%
55 to 59 Years	601	10.23%
60 to 64 Years	401	6.82%
65 to 69 Years	229	3.90%
70 to 74 Years	110	1.87%
75 to 79 Years	86	1.46%
80 to 84 Years	58	0.99%
85 Years and Over	36	0.61%

Source: 2010 U.S. Census



Appendix 1: Planning Region

B. Physical Characteristics

The terrain of the Town of Middleton is characterized by generally rolling uplands, with some steep wooded hillsides, especially along the glacial terminal moraine. Other features include marshy pot-holes, open prairie and oak savannas. There are steep wooded slopes, ridges, and deep ravines connected to the flat valley of Black Earth Creek. The Town is home to a wide variety of geological features, including rocky bluffs, sink holes, ravines, caves, and sandstone or limestone outcroppings, and native landscapes such as oak savanna remnants, glacial terminal moraines, and open prairies. Several rare species of plants and animals depend on these unique landscapes and features. See Appendix 4 for a map of endangered plants and animals in the Town and Dane County as a whole.

Transportation System

The Town's transportation system consists of one U.S. highway (14), two county highways (M and S), and a set of local roads providing access to various subdivisions. Major north-south connections include Timber Lane, which acts as the Town's western boundary, Rocky Dell Road in the northwestern part of the Town, Meadow and Moundview Roads in the southwest of the Town, as well as Twin Valley Road and Pioneer Road in the central and southern parts of the Town. Primary east-west connections include, from south to north, Valley View Road, Mineral Point Road, Old Sauk Road, U.S. Highway 14, Airport Road, and Midtown Road, which forms the southern boundary of the Town. Blackhawk Road also runs east-west, from Twin Valley Road in the Town to Deming Way in the City of Madison. The only other significant transportation facility within the Town is a freight-only railroad line operated by Wisconsin and Southern Railroad Company that runs east-west along the south side of U.S. Highway 14.

Natural Landscape

In addition to the agricultural land, small farms, scattered individual homes, small subdivisions, and several major subdivision areas, the Town also has limited commercial areas and a limited number of traditional agricultural entities that continue to operate. According to a "Natural Systems Land Use Feasibility Study" done for the Town in 1990 by Dr. James Zimmerman and Kenneth Kailing, "The landscape in Middleton is still characterized by rolling uplands with remnant, marshy pot-holes, open prairie and oak savanna, and by steep wooded slopes, humped ridges, and deep ravines connected to the broader, flat valley of Black Earth Creek. The Town contains a wealth of natural geologic features including rocky bluffs, sink holes, ravines, caves, and sandstone or limestone outcroppings." The Town strives to protect and preserve its most important natural features and resources to the extent possible through public land preservation, as well as protective measures in Town land division ordinances.

Water Resources

The Town contributes to the Black Earth Creek, Sugar River and Pheasant Branch Creek watersheds. A popular and productive trout stream, Black Earth Creek, transverses a portion of the Town along Highway 14. There are some marshy areas in the Town, and some artificial ponds, but the natural pond areas that originally were in the Town have been annexed by neighboring municipalities with the exception of the Old Lake Middleton area, which has been acquired by Dane County. Dane County hopes to restore this wetland/pond sometime in the future.

Flora and Fauna

The Bureau of Endangered Resources, part of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, maintains a database of threatened and endangered species and their locations throughout the state. The Bureau also maintains the state's Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI). This program maintains a database of the status and locations of rare and endangered species found or



Appendix 1: Planning Region

potentially found throughout the state. In order to protect these species, their specific locations are not provided.

However, the National Heritage Inventory provides free maps that show the potential general locations of endangered species in each county. A map identifying these locations in Dane County has been included as Appendix 4. This map indicates that there are endangered aquatic species located in several locations along the Black Earth Creek/Highway 14 corridor in the western portion of the Town. There are also endangered terrestrial species located in the northwestern corner of the Town, and the northeastern corner of the Town along U.S. Highway 12.

Endangered species and habitat that have been found in the Town of Middleton include:

Species

- Prairie Vole
- Western Harvest Mouse
- Flodman Thistle
- Hairy Wild-petunia
- *Houstonia caerulea* (Innocence)
- Banded Killifish
- Lake Sturgeon
- Blanding’s Turtle
- Purple Milkweed
- Cyano Darner
- Silphium Borer Moth
- Pugnose Shiner
- Sweet-scented Indian-plaintain
- Roundstem Foxglove

Habitats

- Shrub-carr
- Stream-fast, hard, warm
- Emergent marsh
- Southern sedge meadow
- Springs and spring runs, hard
- Southern Dry-Mesic Forest

Further information about endangered species is available through the Wisconsin DNR at <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/endangeredresources/>.

Climate and Soils

The Town of Middleton is located in a temperate climate zone with four distinct seasons. The Town of Middleton has cold winters and hot, humid summers. According to The Weather Channel, the average high temperature in July is 82°F, while the average high temperature in January is 27°F. Average monthly precipitation peaks in June at 4.89 inches, and dips to 1.24 inches in January.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Soil Conservation Service has developed a County Soil Survey for each Wisconsin county. These surveys include soil association maps that delineate landscapes that have a distinctive proportional pattern of soils. The soil types in one association may occur in another, but in a different pattern. The Dane County soil survey shows that the following soil associations are found within the Town of Middleton.

Dodge-St. Charles-McHenry

The Dodge-St. Charles-McHenry association is the predominant soil type in the northwestern quarter and a portion of the southeastern corner of the Town. This association is characterized by both well-drained and moderately well-drained soils with a silt loam subsoil, and is underlain by sandy loam glacial till. These soils typify a varied landscape that is characterized by drumlins and moraines.



Appendix 1: Planning Region

Batavia-Houghton-Dresden

The Batavia-Houghton-Dresden association is found throughout the Town. This association is characterized by both well-drained and poorly drained, deep and moderately deep silt loams and mucks underlain by silt, sand, and gravel. These soils were formed by outwash material near streams or adjacent to glacial moraines.

Plano-Ringwood-Griswold

The third predominant soil association, found in the southern half of the Town, is the Plano-Ringwood-Griswold association. This association is characterized by moderately well-drained and well-drained deep silt loams underlain by sandy loam glacial till.

Appendix 2:

Review of Relevant Plans

Appendix 2: Review of Relevant Plans

Summary of Past Town Outdoor Recreation Plans

The most recent predecessor to this plan was the 2008 Town of Middleton Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP), an update of the 2003 Outdoor Recreation Plan. The 2008 CORP presented overall goals and objectives, the recreation “philosophy” of the Town and Town Park Commission. This plan reiterated the basic park and recreation facility categories, as well as presented a needs analysis and planning standards for facilities moving forward. It also laid out a specific action plan of recommendations and a Capital Improvements Plan for the maintenance and development of park and recreational facilities.

Dane County Parks and Open Space Plan (POSP) 2012-2017

The 2012 – 2017 Dane County Parks and Open Space Plan was formally adopted by the County Board in March of 2012 and identifies the “significant cultural, historical, and natural resources” to be considered for possible protection, preservation, or restoration. The plan predicts moderate increases in the number of county residents age 65 or older, and also foresees a continuation of a large population age 20 or younger. According to the plan, this suggests a need for more passive recreational facilities such as picnic areas and trails, and a need to actively involve youth in county facilities.

A recreational facilities needs assessment was performed as part of the development of the POSP. The assessment indicates strong needs for trails, lake access facilities, camping, picnicking and shelters, disc golf, dog exercise areas, and other amenities.

In the General Recommendations portion of the POSP, the Town of Middleton/Mt. Horeb “region” is defined as a suggested area for consideration of a new dog park that has been proposed for the western portion of the county. Town efforts to establish such a facility should be coordinated with appropriate Dane County officials.

Several aspects of the Dane County plan involve facilities in the Town of Middleton that are discussed below. The points below are intended as a summary only, and do not indicate Town endorsement of the POSP.

Black Earth Creek Natural Resource Area

According to the POSP, “Some of the lands along the creek are owned by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources as public fishing and wildlife habitat areas. Future land acquisitions would seek to fill in the gaps between existing publicly owned lands and protect the scenic quality of the stream corridor.” The POSP acknowledges the completion of a master plan for the Sunnyside Seed Farm property in the Town of Middleton and has the following recommendations:

- “Acquire “Old Mud Lake” north of USH 14 and additional headwater lands immediately south of USH 14 with the help of multiple partners for future wetland restoration projects.”
- “Expand Sunnyside Seed Farms property west and south along the creek, and north to expand future park, access and recreation potential.”
- “Continue working with the Natural Heritage Land Trust on its identified priority areas within the project boundary, including acquisition of conservation easements from ridge top to ridge top between Cross Plains and Mazomanie.”
- “Investigate allowing hunting on county lands adjacent to WDNR public hunting grounds where compatible with other park uses.”
- “Begin implementation of the Sunnyside master plan.”

Appendix 2: Review of Relevant Plans

- “Continue discussions with the Town of Middleton and WDOT on future road access to the former Sunnyside property.”

Black Earth Creek Wildlife Area – Sunnyside Unit

Related to several points above, Dane County acquired the 292-acre former Sunnyside Seed Farm property in the Town of Middleton in 2004 and 2005. The property is now known as the Black Earth Creek Wildlife Area—Sunnyside Unit. Dane County adopted a Master Plan for the wildlife area in February 2011 that designated it as a “wildlife area,” open to all types of public hunting and trapping, as well as fishing, hiking, and cross-country skiing. The Master Plan notes that special hunting provisions and a “no-shooting buffer” will be posted on parking lot kiosks.

A small gravel parking lot/access point has been installed on the north side of U.S. Highway 14 in the southeastern part of the park. A second parking lot/access point south of U.S. Highway 14 off of Low Road is proposed. The Master Plan calls for a potential future access off of Rocky Dell Road or Airport Road if and when the property is allowed to expand to the east in order to enhance the safety of access points.

The Master Plan is currently being implemented by Dane County and the Dane County Parks Department.

Ice Age National Scenic Trail

The POSP discusses the Ice Age Trail as one that “traverses north to south through the western side of the County and follows the end moraines that mark the extent of the glacial advancement in Dane County. The POSP recommends the following:

Good Neighbor Trail and Other Trails

Part of Dane County’s Bike Dane Initiative, an effort to connect more county assets with off-road bicycle infrastructure, the 2012 – 2017 Regional Trail Map shows two trail connections through the Town of Middleton. The first connection is the proposed “off-road bicycle/ pedestrian trail” Good Neighbor Trail that runs roughly along the U.S. Highway 14 corridor and is included in the Town trails map. Many landowners who would be impacted by the trail do not support the trail’s currently proposed alignment. The Town may revisit the trail initiative in the future when/if the Wisconsin DOT reconstructs Highway 14.

Additionally, the Regional Trail shows a “proposed bicycle/pedestrian trail” that runs through the center of the Town running from Black Earth Creek to Pope Farm Conservancy to Badger Prairie County Park.

2011-2016 Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)

The Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, using survey data from the National Survey on Recreation and the Environment, identifies the most popular statewide outdoor recreation activities by participation rate of people over the age of 16 over the period of 2005—2009. They are:

- Walking for pleasure (87.7% participating)
- Gardening or landscaping for pleasure (65.4% participating)
- Viewing/photographing natural scenery (65.3% participating)
- Attending outdoor sporting events (65.0% participating)
- Family gatherings (63.5% participating)

These activities are similar to those popular in “developed land” area such as occurs in many parts of the Town of Middleton. In addition to the “developed land” recreation activity



Appendix 2: Review of Relevant Plans

segment, other segments include “limited development,” “water,” “winter,” and “viewing and interpretive.” Each of these segments is relevant to the Town due to its diverse range of natural areas and recreational opportunities and amenities.

The SCORP makes special note of the popularity of walking and bicycling as forms of recreation in Wisconsin and the importance of parks and trails, as well as connections between community assets. According to the SCORP, “While the presence of public parks and trails are essential to outdoor activities, the connectivity of surrounding communities to these recreational opportunities is also important. Public parks and trails with coherent pedestrian connectivity, such as through popular activities of walking or biking, to adjacent communities, can increase residents’ accessibility to outdoor recreation.” The Town of Middleton strives to provide a broad and diverse set of parks and natural areas, as well as a thorough and well-connected system of trails for pedestrian and bicyclists for the purpose of recreation and transportation.

The SCORP, based on trends in recreation participation rates and industry forecasts, projects the activities that will see the most increase in demand over the next five years, in no particular order:

- Adventure racing
- Driving for pleasure
- Developed/RV camping
- Kayaking
- Visiting a dog park
- Soccer outdoors
- BMX biking
- Indoor and outdoor rock climbing
- Stand up paddling/paddle boarding
- Triathlon (on-road and off-road)
- Off-highway vehicle driving
- Gardening or landscaping for pleasure

Town of Middleton Comprehensive Plan

The Town of Middleton adopted a Comprehensive Plan in 2009 that outlines the long-range perspective of the Town for planning decisions over a twenty-year period. The plan acknowledges the importance of protecting the Town’s natural resources and environmentally sensitive lands through preservation of natural areas, as well as the provision of lands through the use of lot and development design that protect environmentally sensitive areas. In conjunction with this, the Town has subdivision ordinances that call for and require preservation and provision of open space.

Additionally, the transportation section of the Comprehensive Plan calls for the improvement of bicycle and pedestrian facilities and an increase in the awareness of other transportation options. The Future Land Use map included in the Comprehensive Plan was drafted in conjunction with the 2008 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan in its designations of future land use in that natural and recreational areas owned and operated by the Town of Middleton or Dane County within the Town of Middleton remain as such as this map.

Appendix 3:

Existing Resources and Facilities



Appendix 3: Existing Resources and Facilities

A. Parks and Open Spaces

Mini-Parks

Vickiann Park (1.4 acres)

Located at Vickiann Street and Ox Trail Way. This small park area has a free play field and is surrounded by residences. Development of this park began in 1990, when it was graded by the National Guard; seeding, clean-up and some landscaping were completed by neighborhood residents. Since the completion of the last Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, the Town has added plantings and a set of swings and playground equipment.

Playground Equipment: Two play sets and swings



*Entrance Sign to
Vickiann Park*



*Playground at
Vickiann Park*

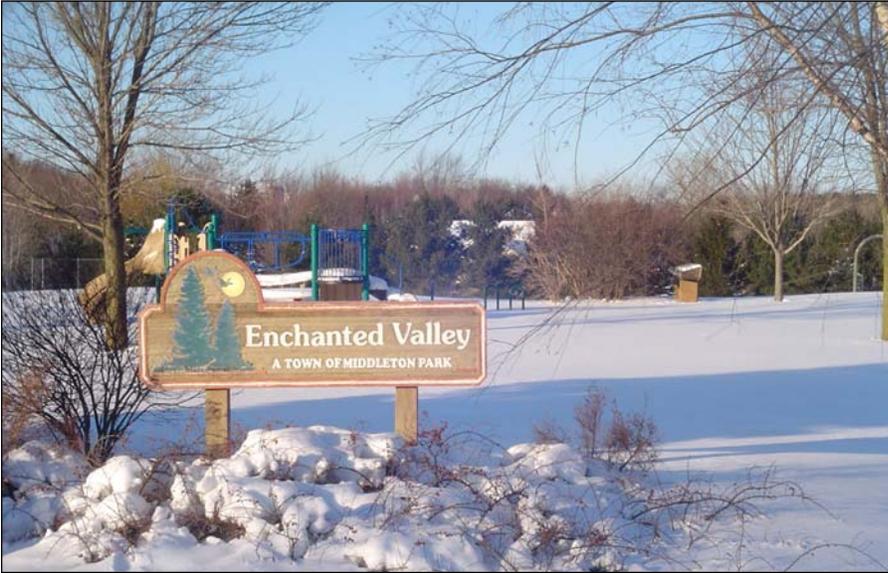
Appendix 3: Existing Resources and Facilities

Enchanted Valley Park (2.6 acres)

Located on Westman Way in the Enchanted Valley subdivision. This park is located in a rapidly growing residential area. Development of Enchanted Valley Park began in 1988. The park contains a play structure, swings, a volleyball court, a basketball court, a baseball diamond with backstop, benches, soccer goals, a picnic shelter with electrical service, some landscaping and a two-stall handicapped accessible parking area. Neighborhood residents did all of the initial development work using materials provided by the Town.

Playground Equipment: Merry-go 'round, play set, four regular swings and one baby swing

Other Amenities: baseball field, basketball court, volleyball court, three picnic tables, 16'x12' shelter



Entrance Sign to Enchanted Valley Park



Playground at Enchanted Valley Park

Appendix 3: Existing Resources and Facilities

Murphy Park (2.1 acres)

Located on Springton Drive and adjacent to Highway 12 in the northeastern part of the Town. The park was developed in 2007.

Playground Equipment: Play set and swings



Murphy Park

Summit Ridge Park (0.9 acre)

Located on Summit Ridge Road in the Summit Pass subdivision. Development of this park began in 2007. The play area was upgraded in 2012 with rubber mulch and a concrete border, and path connections to the park from the surrounding neighborhood were added. The park includes a picnic table.

Playground Equipment: Play set and swings



Entrance Sign at Summit Ridge Park



Playground at Summit Ridge Park

Appendix 3: Existing Resources and Facilities

Neighborhood Parks

Hickory Woods Park (12.5 Acres)

Located on Stonewood Drive in the Hickory Woods subdivision. This park was originally 3.7 acres in size. In 1992, 8.8 acres were added with the platting of the Third Addition to Hickory Woods. Park development began in 1989. Neighborhood residents did the initial development work using materials provided by the Town. The park was graded and seeded, landscaped, and trees planted in the early 1990's. Off-street parking was added in 2003.

Playground Equipment: Two play sets and other play equipment

Other Amenities: Soccer field, baseball field, basketball court, walking trails, 24' x 12' shelter, three picnic tables, restroom facility.



Entrance Sign at Hickory Woods Park



Playground at Hickory Woods Park



Hickory Woods Park

Appendix 3: Existing Resources and Facilities

Cherrywood Acres Park (5.3 Acres)

Located on the north side of the intersection of Mineral Point Road and Swoboda Road. This park has been improved with leveling, seeding and tree plantings. In 1997, the Town constructed one soccer field and paved some off-street parking. In 2000 and 2002, additional trees were planted. In 2012, the remainder of the parking area was paved, after previously being expanded in 2001.

Playground Equipment: Play set and swings

Other Amenities: Soccer field, restroom facility



*Entrance Sign at
Cherrywood Acres
Park*



*Soccer Field at
Cherrywood Acres
Park*

Appendix 3: Existing Resources and Facilities

Voss Park (6.3 Acres)

Located on the southwest side of the intersection of Mineral Point and Swoboda Roads. The park is flat and grassy. The park's perimeter has been landscaped with over 100 trees and with some wildflower plantings around the outside of the soccer fields. Off-street parking was added in 2003. This parking adjoins a private 20.6 acre prairie restoration and pond area owned and maintained by the Cherrywood Neighborhood Homeowners Association, Inc. The soccer field was resodded and regraded in 2010 to improve drainage.

Amenities: Soccer field, baseball field, restroom facility



Entrance Sign at Voss Park



Voss Park

Appendix 3: Existing Resources and Facilities

Ed Tallard Park (20.8 acres)

Located along the north side of Airport Road, approximately 1,000 feet west of Evergreen Road. The park is named for Ed Tallard, a former Town Chairman who ended 31 years of service in 2002. In 1984, Rolf and Marie Quisling donated 20 acres to the Town. In 2001, this land was traded to the City of Middleton for land that was formerly the Quisling Christmas Tree Farm and a small part of the Quisling Sod Farm. The eastern portion of the property was incorporated into sports fields and an off-leash dog park developed by the City of Middleton. Trails have been established through the conifers on the property.



Trail at Ed Tallard Park

Appendix 3: Existing Resources and Facilities

Community Parks

Pioneer Park (32 acres)

Located southwest of Pioneer Road and Old Sauk Road near the Town Hall. This land was purchased in 1989 to provide a new site for the Town Hall and a new large park area for organized sports, recreational land and open space. The site was purchased with a 50% matching grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. The parkland portion of the site consists of approximately 27 acres, and the Town Hall portion is approximately 4.5 acres and includes the 1998 addition that houses the West Precinct of the Dane County Sherriff's Department. The parkland is deed-restricted to park and recreational uses.

The park currently includes the following facilities and amenities:

- Regulation baseball field
- Regulation softball field with lights
- Two softball fields without lights
- Two tennis courts
- Basketball court
- Regulation soccer field
- Walking and hiking trails (gravel and paved)
- Play set for small children
- Play set for older children
- Swing sets
- Three picnic shelters (one with electrical service)
- Two ponds and a natural area with walking trail for wildlife viewing
- Concession stand and shelter with restroom facilities and electrical service
- Approximately 110 off-street parking spaces



Shelter at Pioneer Park



Playground at Pioneer Park



Entrance Sign at Pioneer Park

Appendix 3: Existing Resources and Facilities

Settlers Prairie Park (19.5 acres)

Located at the intersection of Airport and Bergamot Roads. The Prairie Home Estate plat dedicated approximately 8 acres for a park. In the Spring of 1997, the Town purchased an additional approximately 12 acres of land adjacent to the original park area. The additional land was acquired with the assistance of a 50% grant from the WDNR Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program. In 1997, the Town constructed one regulation soccer field, one practice soccer field, a large shelter (with electrical service) and paved, off-street parking. Between 2000 and 2002 the Town added a baseball/soccer field, playground, walking trail and off-street parking to the west side of the park. In early 2013 the Town adopted an ecological assessment and management plan for the wooded and prairie areas of the park. The park now includes:

- Six soccer fields
- One softball field
- One volleyball court
- Two play sets with slides, mini swings
- Two shelters, the larger is 26'x37'
- Two restroom facilities
- Seven picnic tables
- Two tennis courts (2008)



Entrance Sign at Settlers Prairie Park



Shelter at Settlers Prairie Park



Playground at Settlers Prairie Park



Ball Diamond at Settlers Prairie Park

Appendix 3: Existing Resources and Facilities

Nature Areas and Conservancies

Pope Farm Conservancy (105.3 acres)

Located between Blackhawk, Old Sauk and Twin Valley Roads. This property was purchased as a natural area for educational interpretation (with over 40 interpretive signs), walking trails and wildlife viewing. The conservancy is permanently restricted as open space. Dogs are not allowed in the Conservancy.¹ Amenities at the conservancy include:

- Rotating demonstration crops
- Walking trails
- Off-street parking
- Capitol viewing area
- Five stone amphitheaters
- Seven miles of walking trails
- Six prairie/savannah restoration areas
- Three educational gardens
- Cross-country skiing



Entrance Sign at Pope Farm Conservancy



Interpretive Trail at Pope Farm Conservancy



Sunflowers at Pope Farm Conservancy



Students Visiting Pope Farm Conservancy

Appendix 3: Existing Resources and Facilities

Applewood Hills (3.5 acres)

Located at the southeast corner of the Applewood Hills subdivision. This Town-owned conservancy abuts the City of Madison's Lois Lowry Park. The conservancy can be accessed from Applewood Drive.

Cherrywood Nature Area (Sabaka Trail) (2.8 acres)

Located in the Cherrywood subdivision behind Lots 1 through 4. The nature area can be accessed from Sabaka Trail.

Cherrywood Nature Area (3.8 acres)

Located at the south end of Swoboda Road in the southwestern portion of the Town. The area can be accessed from Swoboda Road.

Cherrywood Acres (Oak Savanna Conservancy) (1.3 acres)

Located on Swoboda Road between Almor Drive and Magellan Drive, this area serves as a conservancy and is the site of a restoration of oak savanna.

Enchanted Valley Conservancy Area (2.6 acres)

Located within the Enchanted Valley subdivision. This area is connected via Toepfer Road and an easement to Enchanted Valley park.

Goth Conservancy (19.6 acres)

Located on West Old Sauk Road, adjacent to the Pheasant Point and Sauk Point Estates subdivisions. This conservancy was gifted to the Town by Royce Goth. Document #2148244, as recorded with Dane County, specified restricted uses for the site. The Town has undertaken some development of the conservancy including clearing of underbrush and undesirable trees, preparation of a wild flower and native grass restoration area, installation of a 1-mile trail system for hikers, and the installation of a parking lot. The parking lot is located on Old Sauk Road. Dogs are not allowed in the Conservancy.¹

Hickory Woods Conservancy Area (19.7 acres)

Located on four parcels set aside within the Hickory Woods Subdivision. The conservancy can be accessed from Stone Wood Drive between Meadow Valley Road and Fountain Drive.

Moraine Highland Conservancy (4.1 acres)

Located on the northwest corner of Mound View and Moraine Ridge Roads. This conservancy serves as a viewing area, parking lot, and public entrance to the 80-acre Valley View section of the Ice Age Trail.

Noll Valley Oak Savanna Conservancy (5 acres)

Located on the eastern border of the Noll Valley subdivision. This natural area was chosen for its vistas and oak savannas and it has been designated for prairie/oak savanna restoration. Uses are restricted on the site. In 1989, an agreement between the developer and the Town regarding the management and use of this natural area was recorded with Dane County as Document #2123836. Access to the area is on Noll Valley Road.

Pheasant Point Woods (3.2 acres)

Located on Almor Drive just south of Summerfield Drive. This site contains many mature oak, hickory and black walnut trees. Trails were constructed in the woods in 2002 and along the

1: Note that dogs are not allowed in any conservancies; Goth and Pope Farm were called out since they are the Town's most popular conservancies.



Appendix 3: Existing Resources and Facilities

recreational trail easements that connect the woods to Shoveler’s Sink and to the trail system to the east.

Valley Woods (.5 acre)

Located at Valley Woods Circle.

White Oak Woodland (1.3 acres)

Located on the northern border of the Noll Valley subdivision. This property has been designated for woodland/oak savanna restoration and uses there are restricted. The Ice Age Trail traverses the east and north boundaries of Noll Valley subdivision and passes through both Oak Savanna Park and White Oak Woodland. In 1989, an agreement with the developer and the Town regarding the management and use of this natural area was recorded with Dane County as Document # 2123836. The area can be accessed from Ice Age Lane via the Ice Age Trail.

Other Areas Dedicated to the Town (23.7 acres)

This category also includes approximately 23.7 acres of land that has been dedicated to the Town, but not designated for any specific recreational uses. See Appendix 6 for a map of other areas dedicated to the Town.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Trail and Path Network

The map in Appendix 7 shows bicycle and pedestrian trails and routes in the Town of Middleton, divided into the following categories:

- Planned Trails With Easements
- Existing Town Routes With Easements - Usable Trails
- Planned Trails Without Easements
- Possible Good Neighbor Trails
- Routes Planned by City of Madison or WI DNR
- Town Has Easements But No Routes Planned At This Time
- Improved Routes Owned and Maintained By Others
- Easements or Improvement Status Uncertain

As evident by the above categories, the map depicts current usable bicycle and pedestrian trails and paths, both on-road and off-road, as well as routes that are planned by the Town and others, and routes owned and maintained by others. The Town works to acquire easements for trails that match its planned trails map, and the Town also works to construct trails in areas where easements have already been acquired. Off-road trails owned and maintained by the Town, and those planned, are of various surface types including grass, natural surface, or crushed stone. In-lieu of placing planned trails across many of the larger tracts of land in the Town, the map depicts "Route Connection Endpoints" as well as descriptions about how trails are to attempt to establish connections in those areas.

Currently, 22.3 miles of trails are owned and maintained by the Town and open to the public. The Town has acquired land or easements for an additional five miles of trails, but not yet developed that area. The Town’s standard for trails is 3.5 miles of primary trails per 1,000 residents by the year 2030. The ultimate plan for the Town’s trail network calls for 47.8 miles of primary trails by 2063.

Beyond the established route system, Town roads are heavily used by bicyclists for recreational and commuting purposes.



Appendix 3: Existing Resources and Facilities

Areas in the Town Where Dogs Are Permitted

Dogs are permitted, on-leash, in Ed Tallard Park. An off-leash dog park exists in the City of Middleton adjacent to Ed Tallard Park. Dogs may be permitted in other Town Parks and on Town Trails as the Town determines from time to time. Dogs are not permitted in conservancies. Interested users are encouraged to check with Town staff for up to date information on where dogs are permitted. Dogs on-leash may also be permitted on other non-Town owned recreational lands.



Accessibility for Persons With Disabilities

In order to conform with The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in regard to programs, services, and facilities a government entity must follow numerous requirements. The Act, as structured, first defines broad mandates followed by prescriptive technical or physical descriptions on recognized methods that best achieve the mandates. Title II of the ADA, relating to requirements of government entities, states that “no qualified disabled individual may be denied the benefits of services, programs, or activities by state or local governments or their agencies, nor be excluded from participation in those benefits.” This mandate is supported by technical requirements in Title III through the ADA Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG).

Simply put, this definition dictates that a government entity must have some type of established program in place to accommodate individuals with disabilities for nearly everything the entity provides. It further dictates that an accommodation must be “reasonable”. This includes such issues as readily achievable both physically and financially.

For a government entity this accommodation can be made through a program or a physical means. For example, if an existing concession stand counter is not at an accessible height the government entity may opt to provide food to a wheel-chair bound patron by directly handing it to them via a side door rather than physically lowering the counter. This flexibility is only afforded to government entities. Private businesses currently must make physical modifications retroactively.

This “flexibility” to accommodation for government entities provides more accessibility options but also produces a “gray” area as to what constitutes a “reasonable” accommodation. There are no rules that state unequivocally that one approach be used over another. The U.S. Justice Department ultimately decides the extent to which an accommodation is “reasonable”. Where published technical guidelines are available they are strongly recommended to be followed to minimize conflicting interpretations. Otherwise in the concession example stated above, if this accommodation was contested in court, it may be acceptable on a temporary basis but not on a permanent basis. In addition without a specific policy, regulations relating to government agencies and those required for service organizations may also produce a similar “gray” area.

This plan recommends the utilization of adopted accessibility guidelines for the Town of Middleton to minimize interpretation conflicts and in the absence of adopted guidelines the

Appendix 3: Existing Resources and Facilities

use of draft guidelines and/or accommodation programs. Furthermore it is recommended that policies be developed between the Town of Middleton, Dane County, and the various service or other organizations that utilize Town Parks and recreational facilities that clearly define the public accommodation responsibilities for the spaces each occupies.

County-Owned Facilities in Town

Old Lake Middleton

Dane County acquired land in 1993 that was originally part of the wetland area known as “Old Lake Middleton”. The property consists of approximately 102 acres and is located north of Highway 14 and west of the Middleton Industrial park. The property was formerly part of the James Hinrichs farm and had been used as cropland for many years. The area was drained by means of extensive tiles and pumps in order to allow cultivation of crops. The Dane County Outdoor Recreation Plan (which has not been endorsed by the Town) recommends that the County acquire additional land north of Highway 14 and additional headwater lands immediately south of Highway 14 for future wetland restoration projects.

Black Earth Creek Sunnyside Unit Wildlife Area

Formerly owned by the children of Randall Swanson, this property was purchased by Dane County in 2004 and 2005 as part of the Dane County Conservation Fund Program. Mr. Swanson had farmed the property since the 1940’s. He also worked as a teacher and county agent, and served on the University of Wisconsin faculty as the first farm safety specialist in the country. Mr. Swanson used the property as a place to invent and adapt new and better ways of farming. Dane County worked in cooperation with the Town of Middleton, the National Heritage Land Trust and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Fund.

In 2005, the Town provided \$1.25 million for land acquisition and development of the park. This wildlife area has 292 acres of varied terrain and is open to the public as a conservancy area. A “Black Earth Creek Wildlife Area—Sunnyside Unit Master Plan” for the area was completed by the County in 2011 with close guidance from the Town and Town residents, and the plan is now being implemented.

Dane County is looking to partner with adjacent landowners who may wish to dedicate land as an extension to the park.

City of Middleton Facilities

The City of Middleton operates a broad-based recreation program that is available to all residents of the Middleton-Cross Plains School District.

The City of Middleton also owns and operates Pleasant View Golf Course, a 27-hole course located north of Blackhawk Road and west of Pleasant View Road. The course is open to the public on either a membership or daily fee basis. A new 9-hole addition opened in 2002.

Located at Pleasant View Golf Course, the Middleton Bike Park was opened in 2010 following a partnership of the City of Middleton and Capital Off-Road Pathfinders to get it constructed. The park is designed for recreational mountain biking, and consists of a pump track, jump line, and short single-track loop.

The City of Middleton initiated operation of the Walter Baumann Aquatics Center in 1998. The Center is located at 2400 Park Lawn Place in the City of Middleton. The Town of Middleton contributed \$250,000 toward the cost of construction through ten annual payments of \$25,000



Appendix 3: Existing Resources and Facilities

each. The City has also developed several soccer and baseball/softball fields at Quisling Park on Airport Road.

The City of Middleton has two off-leash dog exercise areas - one located on the west side of County Highway Q, just south of County Highway K. The other off-leash dog park was recently established by the City of Middleton next to Tallard Park.

Middleton-Cross Plains School District Owned Facilities in Town of Middleton

West Middleton Elementary School

located on the south side of Mineral Point road, adjacent to Tumbledown Golf Course. The school site consists of 18 acres.

Sunset Ridge Elementary School

Located on the north side of Airport Road, adjacent to the Enchanted Valley subdivision. The school site consists of 23 acres.

Both schools have:

- Play apparatus
- Soccer fields
- Basketball courts
- A gymnasium
- Softball field(s)

Privately Owned Facilities in Town of Middleton

Blackhawk Ski Area

Located on Blackhawk Road. The Blackhawk Ski Area is a large, privately owned facility consisting of approximately 60 acres. The facility is used for ski jumping, downhill skiing, athletic training, hiking and cross-country bicycle racing. Memberships are available to the general public.

Tumbledown Golf Course

Located on West Mineral Point Road, Tumbledown Golf Course is a privately-owned, 18-hole public golf facility. The daily fee course includes a clubhouse and practice facility.

Privately Owned and Association Conservancy Land With Residential Easements/Trails

Cardinal Point Estates

Over 20 acres of deed restricted private conservancy area (outlots) are included in this subdivision. In 2002, the Town developed over 1 mile of trails along the recreational easements in the outlots. The conservancy area can be accessed from Swoboda Road

Cherrywood Acres

The Town owns a 15-foot wide recreational trail easement around the entire perimeter of this plat. In 2002, a pedestrian trail was developed on portions of the west side of the plat. The trail can be accessed in Cherrywood Acres Park off of Swoboda Road.

Appendix 3: Existing Resources and Facilities

Cherrywood Neighborhood Homeowners Association, Inc.

This 20-acre recreation area consists of a prairie restoration and a pond. The Town has access via two recreational easements and abutting roads. The recreation area can be accessed from Voss Park, or off of Swoboda Road and Sequoia Trail.

Glacier's End

The Ice Age Trail has received an easement over several outlots in this plat. The Ice Age Trail has developed and maintains a trail from Mid-Town Road to Saracen Way.

Grandview Estates

A 30-foot wide public recreational easement is located on the east side of the 14 acres of deed restricted private conservancy area. The easement can be accessed from Serene Court.

Noll Valley

The Town owns a 4-foot wide easement along the west side of the central conservancy area in this plat. The easement can be accessed from Noll Valley Road.

Northern Lights Estates

The Town gave this plat final approval in 2003. The plat provides the Town with a recreational easement in the steep wooded portion of the property. This easement links to the easement in the southern portion of the 1st Addition of Prairie Homes Estates and is planned to be part of a trail that links to Dane County's Old Lake Middleton Park.

Pheasant Point 1st Addition

A 15-foot easement runs the entire length of the southern and eastern boundaries of the subdivision. In 2002, most of the easement was developed into a usable pedestrian trail. The easement can be accessed from Caribou Road, through the Pheasant Point Conservancy on Almor Drive, and from Timber Lane.

Prairie Home Estates

A 48.3-acre deed restricted private conservancy area is included with this subdivision. Approximately 34 acres has been restored to native prairie with the remainder of the conservancy in woodland, which could possibly be restored to an oak savanna. In 2002, the Town developed pedestrian trails along its easements. The conservancy and trails are primarily accessed from Bergamot Way and Ellington Way.

Prairie Home Estates - 1st Addition

A 28-acre deed restricted private conservancy area is included in this subdivision. The Town received an easement for approximately one mile of recreation/nature trails. The trails can be accessed from Summit Ridge Road, Meadow Valley Road, and Ellington Way.

Sauk Point Estates

8.8 acres of deed restricted private conservancy area are included in this subdivision. The Town received easements for extensive lengths of recreational trails through the conservancy area. In 2001, the Town built a 0.6 mile long graveled trail. The trails can be accessed from Summerfield Drive, Swoboda Road, Almor Drive, and Welcome Drive.

Sauk Prairie Estates

8 acres of deed restricted private conservancy areas are included in this subdivision. In 2001, the Town received an easement and built a 0.4 mile long recreational trail through the conservancy area. The trail can be accessed from Heather Knoll Lane.



Appendix 3: Existing Resources and Facilities

Stonebrook Estates

61.2 acres of deed restricted private conservancy areas are included in this subdivision. In 2008 the Town developed a 0.6 mile long trail along the recreational easement. The trail can be accessed from Timber Lane or Bergamot Way via a trail in Prairie Home Estates.

Whispering Winds

14.8 acres of deed restricted private conservancy areas are included in this subdivision. In 2001, the Town received an easement and paid for the grading of recreational trails through the conservancy areas connecting to the west edge of Hickory Woods Park. In 2002, the Town marked and mowed a trail over this easement. The easements can be accessed from Highfield Road and Meadow Valley Road.

Existing Recreational Programs and Opportunities

Baseball and Softball

The youth baseball program (which includes baseball, T-Ball and softball) has continued as a major youth activity since its inception in 1968. The program, centered at Pioneer Park, includes players and coaches residing in and near the Town. Some Town residents participate in the City of Middleton baseball program. These programs are open to all residents of the Middleton-Cross Plains School district, including Town of Middleton residents. City of Madison teams are not open to Town of Middleton residents.

Pioneer Park includes one regulation baseball field, a regulation softball field with lights, and two softball fields without lights. The Town provides the physical facilities (fencing, lights, bleachers, etc.). In addition, the Town has contributed \$4,000 per year toward the operating expenses along with field maintenance, electricity, restroom supplies and fertilizer. Settlers Prairie Park also has a softball diamond with a grass infield.

The West Middleton Youth Baseball and Softball, Inc., a non-profit group, funds uniforms, tournament fees and umpires. The Association generates revenue through participation fees, facility use charges and profits from concession sales.

Soccer

There are several soccer teams whose membership comes primarily from the Town of Middleton. Soccer participation is high among Town youth. The following is a listing of the locations and number of soccer fields provided by the Town:

- Settlers Prairie Park (6)
- Cherrywood Acres Park (1)
- Hickory Woods Park (1)
- Voss Park (1)

Four additional soccer fields are available at schools within the Town, with two fields each at West Middleton Elementary and Sunset Ridge Elementary.

Basketball

There is an active youth basketball program, the "Bluebirds", centered at the West Middleton Elementary School gym. The Bluebirds team is coached by volunteers. Children of ages ten to fourteen are selected to participate based on age, skill and order of sign-up. The program runs from November through March of each year.

Appendix 3: Existing Resources and Facilities

Hiking/Equestrian Activity/Walking/Cross-Country Skiing

Town residents presently use both public and private lands for hiking, equestrian activities, walking and cross-country skiing. As the Town's open lands are developed into home sites, consideration will be given to preserving access space for these trail-related activities.

The Ice Age Trail, currently being developed in the State of Wisconsin, transverses terrain that is located in the Town. The Town continues to cooperate with the development of this National Trail. The Noll Valley plat has provided easements to the Ice Age Trail and Moraine Highland includes access and trail property. In addition, the Glacier's End plat also provides access to the Ice Age Trail.

Cross-country skiing sites include Pope Farm Conservancy and Pleasant View Golf Course in the City of Middleton.

Appendix 4:

***Natural Heritage Inventory Map of Endangered Species—
Dane County***

Appendix 4: National Heritage Inventory Map of Endangered Species - Dane County

Dane County

AQUATIC OCCURRENCES

Animal

- Eiktoe, *Alasmodonta marginata*, 1988
- Osprey, *Pandion haliaetus*, 2005
- Ellipse, *Venustaconcha ellipsiformis*, 1985
- Buckhorn, *Tritogonia verrucosa*, 1997
- Bullfrog, *Rana catesbeiana*, 2006
- Bullhead, *Plethobasus cyphus*, 1988
- Butterfly, *Eliassaria lineolata*, 1997
- Monkeyface, *Quadrula metanevra*, 1988
- Mussel Bed, Mussel Bed, 1988
- Paddlefish, *Polyodon spathula*, 1992
- Shoal Chub, *Macrhybopsis aestivalis*, 1994
- Blue Sucker, *Cyctepus elongatus*, 1995
- Silver Chub, *Macrhybopsis storeriana*, 1993
- American Eel, *Anguilla rostrata*, 1979
- Arctic Shrew, *Sorex arcticus*, 1962
- Higgins' Eye, *Lampsilis higginsii*, 1988
- Least Darter, *Etheostoma microperca*, 1972
- Pirate Perch, *Aphredoderus sayanus*, 1993
- Redside Dace, *Clinostomus elongatus*, 1979
- Round Pigtoe, *Pleurobema sintoxia*, 1997
- An Owlet Moth, *Macrochilo bivittata*, 2001
- Cyrano Damer, *Nasiaeschna pentacantha*, 1964
- Lake Sturgeon, *Acipenser fulvescens*, 1991
- Mulberry Wing, *Poanes massasoit*, 2003
- Redfin Shiner, *Lythrurus umbratilis*, 1928
- Black Redhorse, *Moxostoma duquesnei*, 1928
- Pugnose Minnow, *Opsopoeodus emiliae*, 1964
- Pugnose Shiner, *Notropis anogenus*, 1900
- Striped Shiner, *Luxilus chrysocephalus*, 1900
- Lake Chubsucker, *Erimyzon succetta*, 1968
- Rock Pocketbook, *Arctodes confragosus*, 1997
- Smoky Shadowfly, *Neurocordulia modesta*, 1993
- Banded Killifish, *Fundulus diaphanus*, 1975
- Great Spreadwing, *Archilestes grandis*, 1983
- Blanding's Turtle, *Emydoidea blandingii*, 2004
- Smokey Eyed Brown, *Satyrodes eurydice fumosa*, 2001
- Starhead Topminnow, *Fundulus dispar*, 1992
- Red-shouldered Hawk, *Buteo lineatus*, 2007
- Silphium Borer Moth, *Papaipema silphi*, 1994
- Western Sand Darter, *Etheostoma clarum*, 1994
- Broad-winged Skipper, *Poanes viator*, 1991
- Blanchard's Cricket Frog, *Acris crepitans blanchardi*, 1983
- Black-crowned Night-heron, *Nycticorax nycticorax*, 1929
- A Predaceous Diving Beetle, *Lioporeus triangularis*, 1985

Plants

- Sycamore, *Platanus occidentalis*, 1946
- Cuckooflower, *Cardamine pratensis*, 1891
- Glade Mallow, *Napaea dioica*, 1999
- Pale Bulrush, *Scirpus pallidus*, 1916
- Whip Nutsedge, *Scirpus triglomerata*, 2001
- Pink Milkwort, *Polygala incarnata*, 2006
- Wild Licorice, *Glycyrrhiza lepidota*, 1977
- Adder's-tongue, *Ophioglossum pusillum*, 2001
- Drooping Sedge, *Carex prasina*, 1993
- Hall's Bulrush, *Scirpus hallii*, 1996
- Swamp Agrimony, *Agrimonia parviflora*, 1990
- Tufted Bulrush, *Scirpus cespitosus*, 2006
- Sheathed Pondweed, *Potamogeton vaginatus*, 1947
- Crossleaf Milkwort, *Polygala cruciata*, 1858
- Small Forget-me-not, *Mycosotis laxa*, 1936
- Smooth-sheath Sedge, *Carex laevivaginata*, 1989
- Engelmann Spike-rush, *Eleocharis engelmannii*, 1996
- Showy Lady's-slipper, *Cypripedium reginae*, 2005
- Sticky False-asphodel, *Tofieldia glutinosa*, 1858
- Common Bog Arrow-grass, *Triglochin maritima*, 1891
- Lesser Fringed Gentian, *Gentianopsis procera*, 2005
- Slim-stem Small-reedgrass, *Calamagrostis stricta*, 1947
- Hidden-fruited Bladderwort, *Utricularia geminiscapa*, 1966
- Small White Lady's-slipper, *Cypripedium candidum*, 2006
- Prairie White-fringed Orchid, *Platanthera leucophaea*, 1999
- Sweet-scented Indian-plantain, *Cacalia suaveolens*, 2001
- Northern Yellow Lady's-slipper, *Cypripedium parviflorum* var. *makasin*, 2001

Natural Communities

- Bog Relict, Bog relict, 1987
- Shrub-carr, Shrub-carr, 1984
- Wet Prairie, Wet prairie, 1981
- Alder Thicket, Alder thicket, 1969
- Forested Seep, Forested seep, 2001
- Calcareous Fen, Calcareous fen, 2001
- Emergent Marsh, Emergent marsh, 2001
- Ephemeral Pond, Ephemeral pond, 1978
- Floodplain Forest, Floodplain forest, 2001
- Wet-mesic Prairie, Wet-mesic prairie, 1985
- Northern Wet Forest, Northern wet forest, 2002
- Southern Sedge Meadow, Southern sedge meadow, 2001
- Stream-Fast, Hard, Warm, Stream-fast, hard, warm, 1973
- Stream-Slow, Hard, Cold, Stream-slow, hard, cold, 1969
- Stream-Slow, Hard, Warm, Stream-slow, hard, warm, 1974
- Lake-Shallow, Hard, Seepage, Lake-shallow, hard, seepage, 1974
- Lake-Shallow, Hard, Drainage, Lake-shallow, hard, drainage, 1985
- Springs and Spring Runs, Hard, Springs and spring runs, hard, 1985

TERRESTRIAL OCCURRENCES

Animal

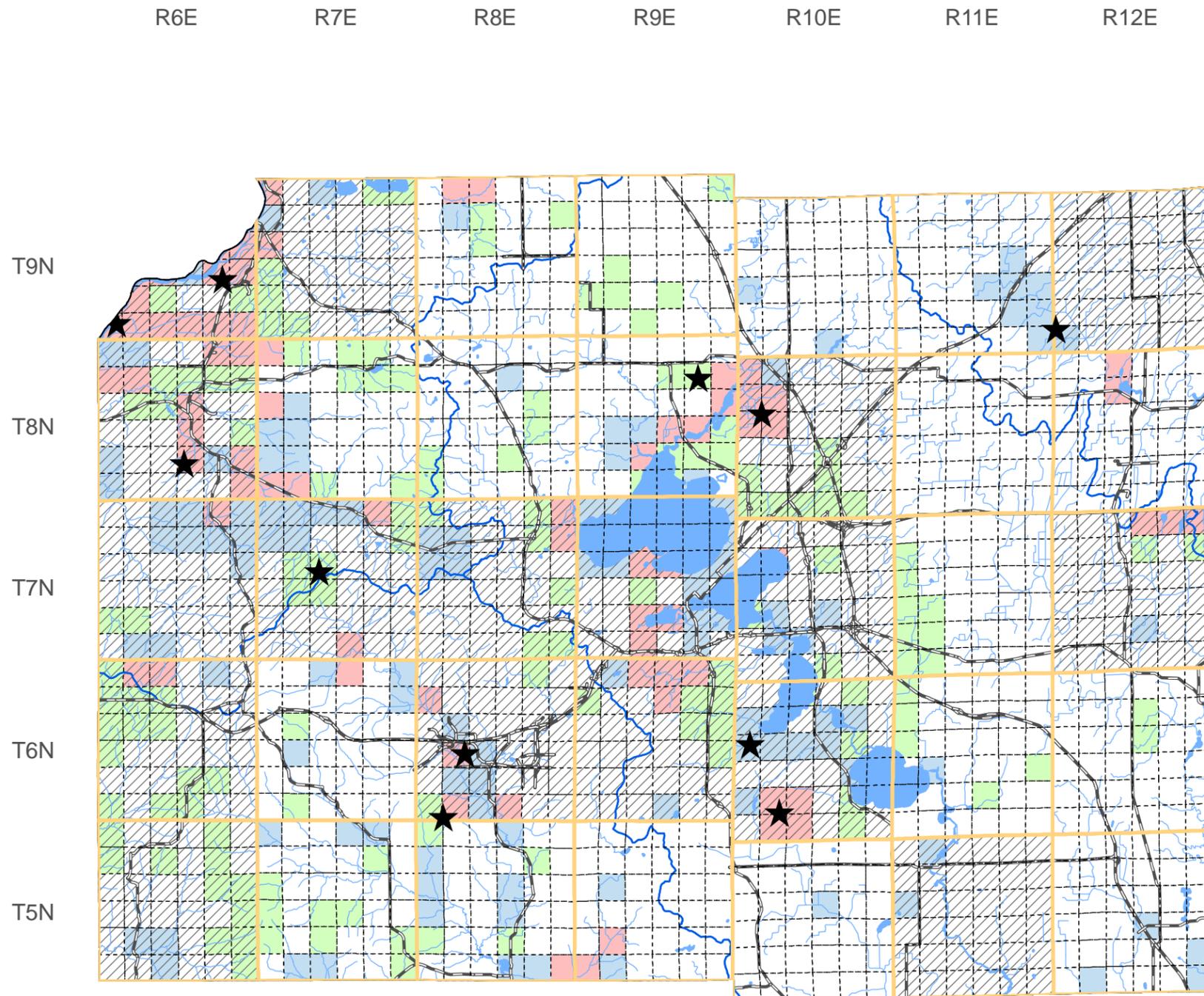
- Barn Owl, *Tyto alba*, 1994
- Bullsnake, *Pituophis catenifer*, 2004
- Dickcissel, *Spiza americana*, 2003
- Pygmy Shrew, *Sorex hoyi*, 1961
- A Leafhopper, *Prairiana cinerea*, 1996
- A Leafhopper, *Prairiana angustens*, 1996
- A Leafhopper, *Laevicophalus vannus*, 1999
- A Leafhopper, *Amplicophalus kansiensis*, 1997
- Bell's Vireo, *Vireo bellii*, 2006
- Prairie Vole, *Microtus ochrogaster*, 1997
- Ottoo Skipper, *Hesperia ottoe*, 1992
- Woodland Vole, *Microtus pinetorum*, 1944
- Bat Hibernaculum, Bat Hibernaculum, 1973
- Cerulean Warbler, *Dendroica cerulea*, 2003
- Regal Fritillary, *Speyeria idalia*, 2004
- Upland Sandpiper, *Bartramia longicauda*, 2004
- Henslow's Sparrow, *Ammodramus henslowii*, 2004
- Herp Hibernaculum, Herp Hibernaculum, 1998
- Loggerhead Shrike, *Lanius ludovicianus*, 1982
- Ornate Box Turtle, *Terrapene ornata*, 1995
- Acadian Flycatcher, *Empidonax virescens*, 2006
- Juniper Hairstreak, *Callophrys gryneus*, 1988
- Prairie Leafhopper, *Polyamia dilata*, 1998
- Timber Rattlesnake, *Crotalus horridus*, 1991
- Phyllira Tiger Moth, *Grammia phyllira*, 1996
- Yellow-billed Cuckoo, *Coccyzus americanus*, 2005
- Yellow-breasted Chat, *Icteria virens*, 1997
- Western Harvest Mouse, *Reithrodontomys megalotis*, 1996
- Short-winged Grasshopper, *Dichromorpha viridis*, 1998
- Whitney's Underwing Moth, *Catocala whitneyi*, 1992
- Abbreviated Underwing Moth, *Catocala abbreviatella*, 1992
- Franklin's Ground Squirrel, *Spermophilus franklinii*, 1944
- Western Slender Glass Lizard, *Ophisaurus attenuatus*, 1986
- Red-tailed Prairie Leafhopper, *Aflexia rubranura*, 2005

Plants

- Twinlineaf, *Jeffersonia diphylla*, 2006
- Innocence, *Houstonia caerulea*, 1993
- Marbleseed, *Onosmodium molle*, 1999
- Kitten Tails, *Besseyia bullii*, 1998
- Wild Quinine, *Parthenium integrifolium*, 1984
- Snowy Campion, *Silene nivea*, 1880
- Wild Hyacinth, *Camassia scilloides*, 2003
- Cluster Fescue, *Festuca paradoxa*, 1947
- Hill's Thistle, *Cirsium hillii*, 2002
- Prairie Turnip, *Pedicularis esculentum*, 1999
- Yellow Gentian, *Gentiana alba*, 1999
- Floodman Thistle, *Cirsium floodmanii*, 1949
- Prairie Parsley, *Polytaenia nuttallii*, 1991
- Purple Milkweed, *Asclepias purpurascens*, 1973
- Woolly Milkweed, *Asclepias lanuginosa*, 1948
- Broad Beech Fern, *Phegopteris hexagonoptera*, 1901
- Earleaf Foxglove, *Tomanthera auriculata*, 1860
- Prairie Milkweed, *Asclepias sullivantii*, 1858
- Richardson Sedge, *Carex richardsonii*, 1953
- American Gromwell, *Lithospermum latifolium*, 2000
- Autumn Coral-root, *Corallorhiza odontorhiza*, 1991
- Pale Green Orchid, *Platanthera flava* var. *herbicola*, 1998
- Reflexed Trillium, *Trillium recurvatum*, 2000
- Shadow Goldenrod, *Solidago sciaphila*, 1992
- Hairy Wild-petunia, *Ruellia humilis*, 2001
- Roundstem Foxglove, *Agalinis gattingeri*, 1999
- Short's Rock-ress, *Arabis shortii*, 1992
- Wilcox Panic Grass, *Panicum wilcoxianum*, 1958
- Yellow Wild-indigo, *Baptisia tinctoria*, 1986
- Pale False Foxglove, *Agalinis skinneriana*, 2006
- Prairie Bush-clover, *Lespedeza leptostachya*, 2006
- Prairie Fame-flower, *Tainum rugospermum*, 1993
- Yellow Giant Hyssop, *Agastache nepetoides*, 1999
- Heart-leaved Skullcap, *Scutellaria ovata*, 2001
- Purple Meadow-parsnip, *Thaspium trifoliatum* var. *flavum*, 1963
- Large Roundleaf Orchid, *Platanthera orbiculata*, 1993
- One-flowered Broomrape, *Orobanche uniflora*, 1996
- Pale-purple Coneflower, *Echinacea pallida*, 2002
- Rough Rattlesnake-root, *Prenanthes aspera*, 2001
- Prairie False-dandelion, *Nothocalais cuspidata*, 2003
- Prairie Indian Plantain, *Cacalia tuberosa*, 2000
- Purple-stem Cliff-brake, *Pellaea atropurpurea*, 1967
- Nodding Rattlesnake-root, *Prenanthes crepidinea*, 2001

Natural Communities

- Dry Cliff, Dry cliff, 1978
- Cedar Glade, Cedar glade, 1978
- Dry Prairie, Dry prairie, 1997
- Oak Barrens, Oak barrens, 1988
- Oak Opening, Oak opening, 1988
- Oak Woodland, Oak woodland, 1993
- Mesic Prairie, Mesic prairie, 1995
- Dry-mesic Prairie, Dry-mesic prairie, 2001
- Southern Dry Forest, Southern dry forest, 1989
- Southern Mesic Forest, Southern mesic forest, 1987
- Southern Dry-mesic Forest, Southern dry-mesic forest, 2005



SPECIES and/or
NATURAL COMMUNITY



Aquatic



Terrestrial



Both



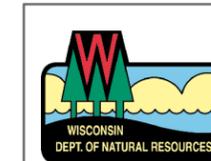
Township
Occurrences



Watershed
Boundaries



State
Natural Area



This map represents the known occurrences of rare species and natural communities that have been recorded in the Wisconsin Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI). Colored sections indicate the presence of one or more occurrences within that section. Hatched townships indicate one or more occurrences reported only at the township level. The date following the names above notes the most recent year the occurrence was recorded in the county.

Map generated using NHI data from: 10/11/2007
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Appendix 5:

Map of Town Parks and Service Areas



Appendix 5 PARK SERVICE AREAS

Town of Middleton, WI

Park Type Legend

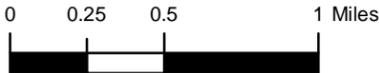
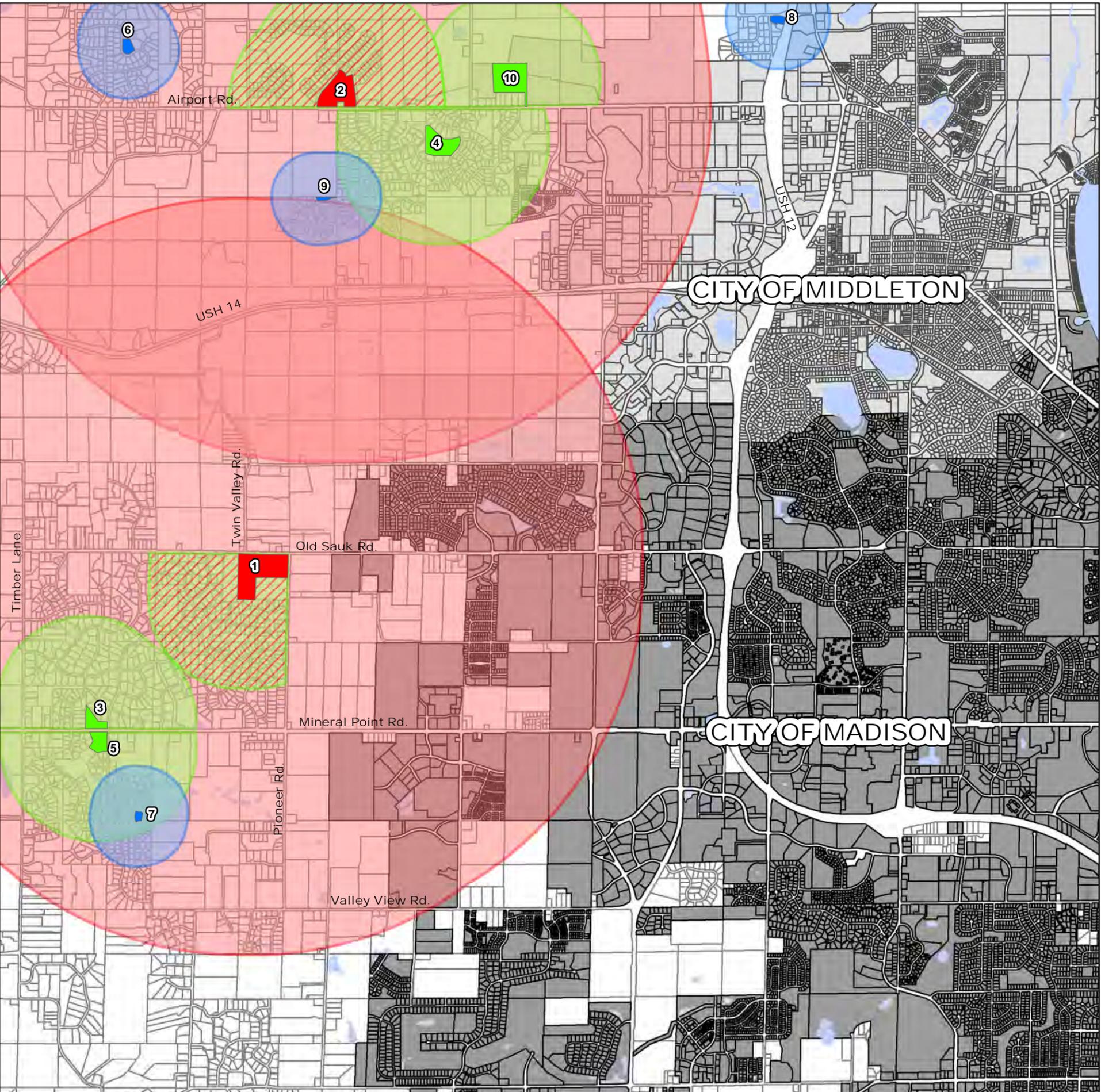
- Community Park
- Neighborhood Park
- Mini Park

Service Area Legend

- Community Park Service Area (2 mile radius)
- Community Park Neighborhood Service Area (1/2 mile radius)
- Neighborhood Park Service Area (1/2 mile radius)
- Mini Park Service Area (1/4 mile radius)

Parks Index

- ① Pioneer Park
- ② Settler's Prairie Park
- ③ Cherrywood Acres Park
- ④ Hickory Woods Park
- ⑤ Voss Park
- ⑥ Enchanted Valley Park
- ⑦ Vickiann Park
- ⑧ Murphy Park
- ⑨ Summit Park
- ⑩ Ed Tallard Park



March 25, 2013



Appendix 6:

Map of Town Nature Areas and Conservancies

APPENDIX 6 NATURE AREAS & CONSERVANCIES

Town of Middleton, WI

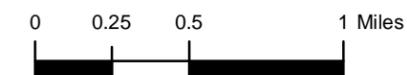
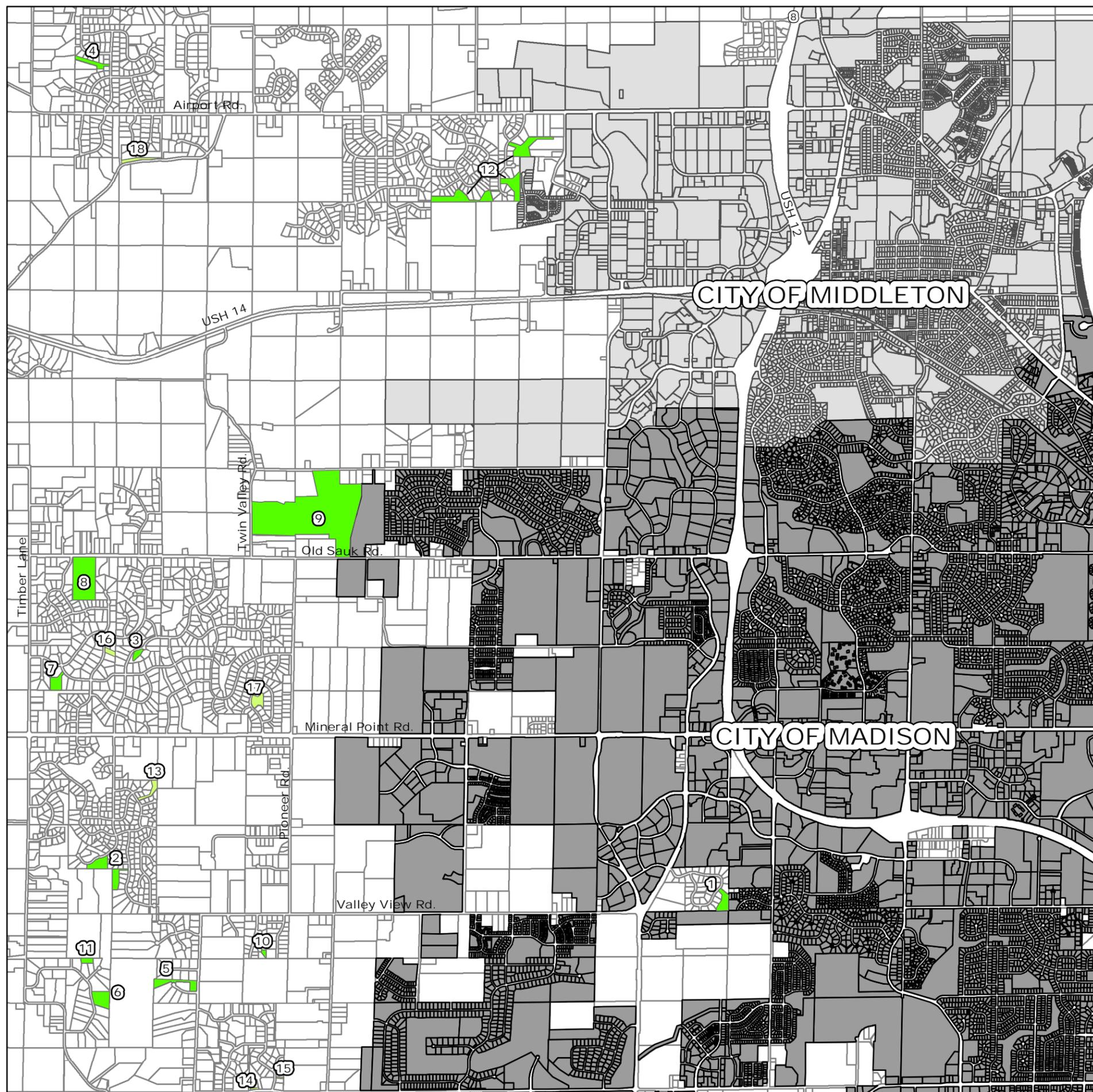
Legend

 Named Nature Areas / Conservancies

1. Applewood Hills
2. Cherrywood Nature Area
3. Cherrywood Acres Oak Savannah Conservancy
4. Enchanted Valley Conservancy Area
5. Moraine Highland Conservancy
6. Noll Valley Oak Savannah
7. Pheasant Point Woods
8. Goth Conservancy
9. Pope Farm Conservancy
10. Valley Woods
11. White Oak Woodland
12. Hickory Woods Conservancy Area

 Other Areas Dedicated to the Town

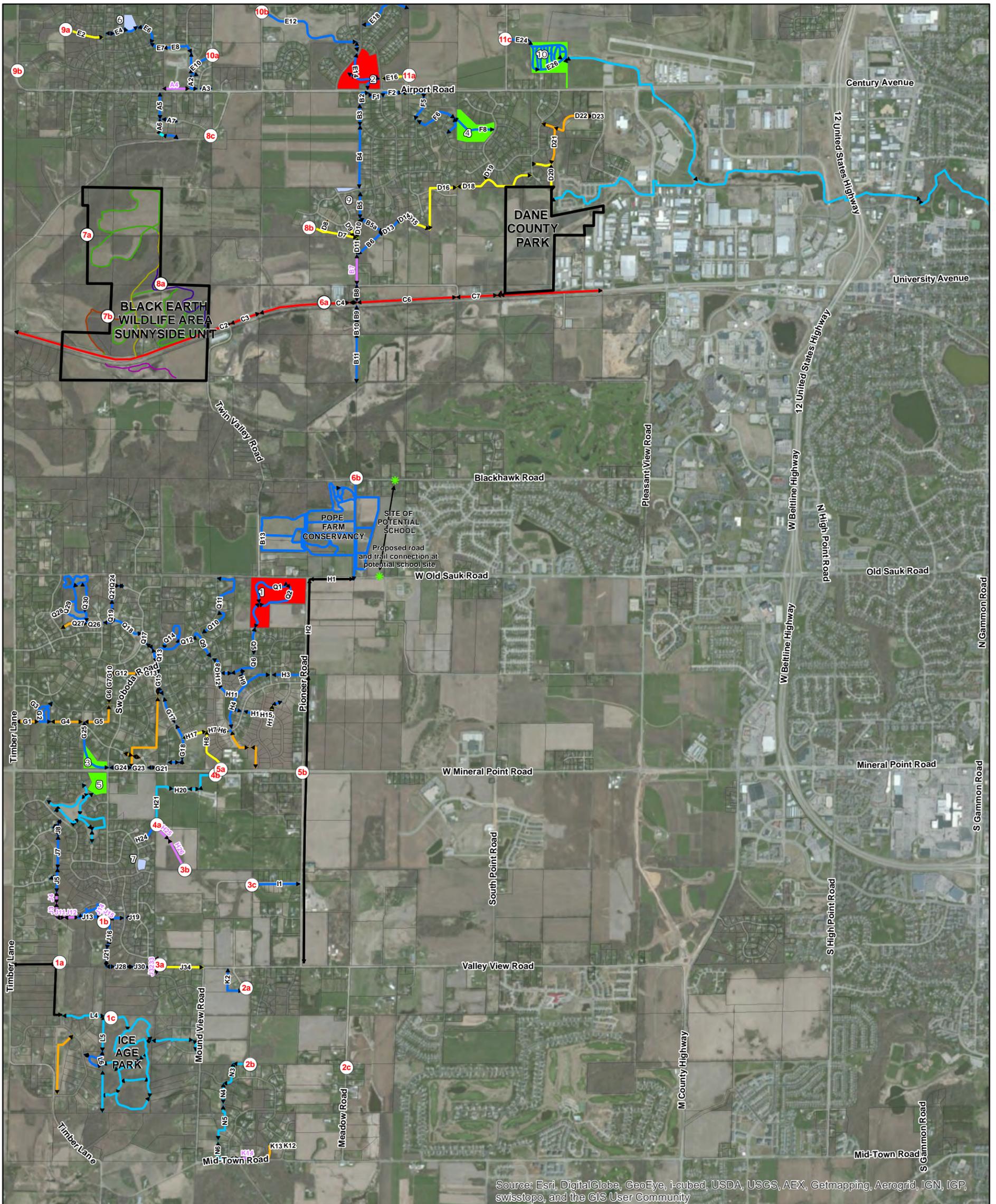
13. Public Area Between Mathias and Kempfer Streets
14. Glacier's Woods, Outlot 3
15. Glacier's Woods, Outlot 4
16. Pheasant Point I, Outlot 2
17. Spruce Hollow, Outlot 7
18. Pine Manor Estates, Outlot 1



March 25, 2013

Appendix 7:

Map of Existing and Planned Trails



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community

Town of Middleton Bicycle and Pedestrian Routes

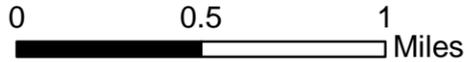
- Ultimate Town Bicycle/Pedestrian Routes**
- 1a Route Connection Endpoints*
 - Planned Routes With Easements
 - Existing Town Routes With Easements - Usable Trails
 - Planned Routes Without Easements
- Other Routes**
- Possible Good Neighbor Trail**
 - Routes Planned By City of Madison or WI DNR
 - Town Has Easements But No Routes Planned At This Time
 - Improved Routes Owned and Maintained By Others
 - Easements or Improvement Status Uncertain
- * See Attached Special Trail Planning Segments Descriptions
 ** Exact Route to be Determined

Town of Middleton Parks

- Park Type**
- Community Park
 - Neighborhood Park
 - Mini Park

- Parks Index**
- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| ① Pioneer Park | ⑥ Enchanted Valley Park |
| ② Settler's Prairie Park | ⑦ Vickiann Park |
| ③ Cherrywood Acres Park | ⑧ Murphy Park |
| ④ Hickory Woods Park | ⑨ Summit Park |
| ⑤ Voss Park | ⑩ Ed Tallard Park |

April 4, 2013



Special Trail Planning Segments

Final trail locations and configuration may vary from those identified on the map. This map is intended to identify regional connections and desired routes for the Town. Final trail location and configuration will depend on various circumstances, including but not limited to topography, parcel configuration, geographic characteristics, timing of easement acquisition, and other considerations.

The purpose of this map (and the GIS data produced in this planning process) is to enhance the ability of local residents and local government in making informed decisions about future parks, recreation, open space, and trails. The information provided is non-binding on the Town and its landowners, and should be considered as a starting point for ongoing, detailed analysis of the regional systems presented. Except where new development is proposed, all trail development must respect private property; acquisition of trail rights-of-way assumes a willing seller with equitable negotiation. In the case of new development, trail and open space elements should be a consideration in the development plan, working in partnership with landowners and/or developers.

Connections between 1a, 1b, and 1c

Note: The specific locations of all endpoints shown are unknown at this time

Trail connections from Cherrywood to Ice Age Park, and from Cherrywood/Ice Age Park to Timber Lane are planned. Trails may be constructed by the Town or Ice Age Foundation as easements are acquired or when land divisions occur.

Connections between 2a, 2b, and 2c

Note: All endpoint locations are unknown

Trail connections from Blue Glacier Valley to Glacier's End and from Blue Glacier Valley/Glacier's End to Meadow View are planned. Trails may be constructed by the Town as easements are acquired or when land divisions occur.

Connections between 3a, 3b, and 3c

Note: Locations of endpoints 3b and 3c are known; Location of endpoint 3a is unknown

Trail connections from Cherrywood Forest (approved but unrecorded plat) to Blue Glacier Valley and from trail ending at Valley View/Mound View intersection to trail on Tumbledown Trail are planned. Trails may be constructed by the Town as easements are acquired or when land divisions occur.

Connections between 4a and 4b

Note: Location of endpoint 4a is known; Location of endpoint 4b is unknown

A trail connection from Cherrywood to the West Middleton Elementary School/Mineral Point Road crossing is planned. Trails may be constructed by the Town as easements are acquired or when land divisions occur. Note an existing private trail open to the public currently exists across this area.

Connections between 5a and 5b

Note: All endpoint locations are unknown

A safe crossing of Mineral Point Road (CTH S) (at grade, underpass, overpass) is planned near the west edge of the West Middleton Elementary School property. If a safe crossing cannot be built in this location, an alternative location approximately 1,000 feet to the east will be considered. A second alternate is to obtain easements and construct trails to and from the Pioneer Road/Mineral Point Road intersection if and when the intersection is made a safe crossing (likely consisting of a signalized intersection with cross walks and medians). Trails and/or the safe crossing may be constructed by the Town as easements are obtained or land divisions occur.

Connections between 6a and 6b

Note: All endpoint locations are unknown

A trail is planned from Pope Farm Conservancy to U.S. Highway 14 in this area. An easement on the ATC property is already acquired. Much of the easement area on the ATC property is already graded for a trail but the trail is not open to the public. The easement on the ATC property may or may not be part of the ultimate trail connection from Pope Farm Conservancy to U. S. Highway 14. Trails may be constructed by the Town as easements are obtained or land divisions occur.

Connections between 7a and 7b

Note: All endpoint locations are unknown

A trail is planned that loops through the land west of Sunnyside and connects to the Sunnyside Conservancy in one or two locations. Trails may be constructed by the Town as easements or obtained as land divisions occur.

Connections between 8a, 8b, and 8c

Note: Location of endpoint 8b is known; Locations of 8a and 8c are unknown

Trails are planned from Rocky Dell Estates to Sunnyside Conservancy, from Sunnyside Conservancy to Summit Pass (roughly along the bluff ridge) and from the Airport Road/Rocky Dell Road/Rocky Dell Estates area to the above-mentioned Ridge Trail planned in this area. Trails may be constructed by the Town as easements are obtained or when land divisions occur. Note ATC transmission lines existing in this area. Access roads to transmission lines could also be used as trail locations with approval of ATC.

Connections between 9a and 9b

Note: Location of endpoint 9a is known; Location of endpoint 9b is unknown

A trail is planned from Enchanted Valley to Enchanted Valley Road. The trail may be constructed by the Town as easements are obtained or when land divisions occur.

Connections between 10a and 10b

Note: All endpoint locations are known

A trail is planned from Stonebrook Estates to Sunset Ridge Estates. The trail may be constructed by the Town as easements are obtained or when land divisions occur. Note trail is likely to be used for bicycles and thus grades and alignment conditions suitable for bicycles should be considered when selecting the route.

Connections between 11a and 11c

Note: Location of endpoints 11a; Location of endpoint 11c is unknown

A trail is planned from Prairie Home Estates to Capital View Road. The trail may be constructed by the Town as easements are obtained or when land divisions occur. Note trail is likely to be used for bicycles and thus grades and alignment conditions suitable for bicycles should be considered when selecting the route. A second trail connecting endpoints 11b to the 11a/11c may also be considered.

Appendix 8:

Five Year Capital Improvements Plan



**Capital Improvement Plan
CORP 2013-2017**

Park Facility	Item	Project Type*	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Mini-Parks							
Enchanted Valley							
	Seal Basketball Court	Main.					\$2,500
Murphy Park							
	Plant Additional Trees	New					\$5,000
Summit Ridge Park							
	Plant Additional Trees	New	\$1,500				
Vickiann Park							
	Rubber Mats Under Swings	New	\$700				
	Tree Removal & Trim Oaks	Main.	\$1,500				
Neighborhood Parks							
Cherrywood Acres Parks							
	Plant Trees	New	\$1,750				
Hickory Woods Park							
	Rubber Mats Under Swings	New	\$500				
	Remove Invasive Trees	New	\$5,000				
	Installation of Rubber Mulch	New			\$30,000		
	Seal Basketball Court	Main.		\$2,500			
Voss Park							
	Plant Additional Trees	Main.	\$1,000				
Tallard Park							
	Refurbish Entrance Sign	Main.	\$1,000				
	Information kiosk at entrance	New		\$700			
Location to be determined	Meet Board's mandate for Dog Run Area discussion	New			\$15,000		
Location to be determined	Additional Neighborhood Park to be Acquired and Developed (south of Mineral Point Road)	New					
Community Parks							
Pioneer Park							
	ADA Picnic Table	New	\$1,000				
	Hot Coal Recepticle	New	\$600				
	Rubber Mats Under Swings	New	\$700				
	Installation of Rubber Mulch	New		\$35,000			
	Seal Tennis Courts	Main.	\$10,000				
	Seal Basketball Courts	Main.	\$2,500				
	Replace Water Fountain at Concession Stand	Main.	\$700				
	Information kiosk at entrance	New		\$700			
	Plan and develop the 15 acre property south of the town hall	New		\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
Settler's Prairie Park							
	Further Development of Management Plan	New	\$6,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
	Additional Restroom Facilities	New			\$10,000		
	Plant Additional Shade Trees	New	\$10,000				
	Stripe Both Parking Lots	Main.	\$500				
	Seal Tennis Courts	Main.		\$10,000			
	Information kiosk at lower entrance	New		\$700			
	Improve drainage swale and plant trees on upper banks	New				\$40,000	
Research Development of a Recreation Program		New	\$1,500				
Unsure of location at this time	Develop partnership for skating rink	New		\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
Nature Areas/Conservancies							
Applewood Hills							
Cherrywood Nature Area							

**Capital Improvement Plan
CORP 2013-2017**

Park Facility	Item	Project Type*	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Cherrywood Acres Oak							
Enchanted Valley	Remove Invasives	Main.				\$1,000	
Hickory Woods Conservancy	Explore Management Options / Development	New	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
Moraine Highlands		New					
Noll Valley Oak Savannah		New					
	Control Invasives	Main.	\$4,000	\$3,500	\$3,000	\$2,500	\$2,000
	New Sign	New	\$2,000				
Pheasant Point Woods							
Goth Conservancy							
	North Grassland Prairie Restoration - preparation	New	\$1,200				
	Northeast Grassland Restoration - seeding	New	\$1,950				
	Further Development of Management Plan	New	\$10,000	\$8,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
	Information kiosk at entrance	New		\$700			
Pope Farm Conservancy**							
	Develop Rain Garden	New	\$1,100				
	Replace 31 Interpretive Signs	Main.	\$3,500				
	Plant Trees and Prairie Plantings	New	\$3,200	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
	Prairie Development	New	\$10,000				
	Prairie Maintenance	Main.	\$10,000	\$18,500	\$17,000	\$15,500	\$14,000
	Seal coat asphalt parking lots and driveway	Main.		\$16,000			
	Restripe parking lots	Main.		\$500			
	Replace 5 Interpretive Signs	Main.		\$750			
	Replace 3 Interpretive Signs	Main.			\$450		
	Purchase 2 Additional Interpretive Signs	New			\$1,000		
	Install new fence on north boundary (from Twin Valley Road east thru PFC)	New			\$10,000		
	Replace 4 sign boards	Main.					\$3,200
	Install two new gardens	New			\$700		\$700
	Repair Fence adjacent to Blackhawk Road	New					\$2,000
	Possible interseeding of trails	Main.		\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
	Install new woven wire fence along properties in northeast corner	New					\$10,000
	Purchase bike rack (for Blackhawk parking lot)	New		\$700			
	Two new ADA picnic tables	New			\$1,000	\$1,000	
	Replace regulatory signs	Main.					\$2,000
Valley Woods							
White Oak Woodland							
Maintenance of Lots and Outlot Areas owned by the Town (for Town Crew to remove invasives)		Main.	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Trails							
Bennett's Point/Fawn Ridge	Develop Trail to Connect Two Plats	New	\$2,500				
North Middleton	Assess Possibility to Develop Trail, Capital View to Settler's Prairie	New		\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Noth Middleton	Assess Possibility to Develop Trail, Bronner Road to Sunset Ridge Estates	New		\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
North/South Regional Trail Connection	Assess Possibility to Develop Trail North of Highway 14 to Airport Road	New		\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000

**Capital Improvement Plan
CORP 2013-2017**

Park Facility	Item	Project Type*	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Central	Assess Possibility to Connect Ice Age Trail to Pope Farm Conservancy	New		\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Central	Assess Possibility to Link Caribou Road to Pheasant Point Woods (connecting to Shovelers Sink)	New		\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
New Trail Signage		New	\$5,000	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500
Upgrade Trail Signage		Main.	\$5,000	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500
TOTALS			\$116,400	\$132,250	\$127,150	\$99,000	\$80,400

* Denotes whether the work is maintenance ("Main.") or new work ("New").

** \$45,000 may be needed for a Pope Farm Conservancy parking lot, depending upon future demand for such a facility

Appendix 9:

2012 Parks Survey Results

(note: answers to open-ended questions are available at Town Hall)



TOWN OF MIDDLETON
 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Update - 2012
 Survey Results - Non-Open Ended Text Questions
 March 15, 2012 - April 30, 2012

Viewed 569
 Started 398
 Completed 269

Question	Count	Percentage
Q1 - Address Entry		
Q2. What neighborhood/area of the Town of Middleton do you live in?		
1) North of U.S. Hwy 14	97	30.60%
2) Between Old Sauk Road and U.S. Hwy 14	32	10.09%
3) Between Mineral Point Road and Old Sauk Road	95	29.97%
4) Between Valley View Road and Mineral Point Road	62	19.56%
5) South of Valley View Road	31	9.78%
Total:	317	100.00%
Q3 - See Open-Ended Text Report		
Q4 - See Open-Ended Text Report		
Q5. Which Town Park, Conservancy, or recreational facility do you use most often?		
1) Pioneer Park	62	22.30%
2) Settlers Prairie Park	27	9.71%
3) Goth Conservancy	18	6.47%
4) Pope Farm Conservancy	83	29.86%
5) Tallard Conservancy	18	6.47%
6) Vickiann Park	11	3.96%
7) Enchanted Valley Park	20	7.19%
8) Murphy Park	6	2.16%
9) Summit Ridge Park	5	1.80%
10) Voss Park	9	3.24%
11) Cherrywood Acres Park	12	4.32%
12) Hickory Woods Park	7	2.52%

	Total	278	100.00%
Q6. The following recreational opportunities and facilities are available at our parks and conservancies. Please indicate how often your household uses each of these amenities.		278 responses to this question	
1) Baseball/softball fields			
Regular user (15 or more times per year)		33	11.87%
Occasional user (Less than 15 times per year)		65	23.38%
Never		180	64.75%
2) Soccer fields			
Regular user (15 or more times per year)		18	6.47%
Occasional user (Less than 15 times per year)		51	18.35%
Never		209	75.18%
3) Basketball courts			
Regular user (15 or more times per year)		5	1.80%
Occasional user (Less than 15 times per year)		82	29.50%
Never		191	68.71%
4) Tennis courts			
Regular user (15 or more times per year)		25	8.99%
Occasional user (Less than 15 times per year)		104	37.41%
Never		149	53.60%
5) Conservancies			
Regular user (15 or more times per year)		87	31.29%
Occasional user (Less than 15 times per year)		144	51.80%
Never		47	16.91%
6) Cross-country ski trails			
Regular user (15 or more times per year)		16	5.76%
Occasional user (Less than 15 times per year)		85	30.58%
Never		177	63.67%
7) Horseback riding trails			
Regular user (15 or more times per year)		6	2.16%
Occasional user (Less than 15 times per year)		12	4.32%
Never		260	93.53%
8) Natural surface recreational trails (including grass and crushed stone)			
Regular user (15 or more times per year)		105	37.77%

Occasional user (Less than 15 times per year)	129	46.40%
Never	44	15.83%
9) Paved multi-use recreational trails		
Regular user (15 or more times per year)	81	29.14%
Occasional user (Less than 15 times per year)	126	45.32%
Never	71	25.54%
10) Playgrounds and equipment		
Regular user (15 or more times per year)	54	19.42%
Occasional user (Less than 15 times per year)	106	38.13%
Never	118	42.45%
Q7 - See Open-Ended Text Report		
Q8 - See Open-Ended Text Report		
Q9. Please indicate what you view as the priority for expanding existing Town recreational facilities.	278 responses to this question	
1) Baseball/softball fields		
High/immediate priority	7	2.52%
Medium	56	20.14%
Low/long-term priority	95	34.17%
Do not wish to see this expanded	120	43.17%
2) Soccer fields		
High/immediate priority	5	1.80%
Medium	62	22.30%
Low/long-term priority	89	32.01%
Do not wish to see this expanded	122	43.88%
3) Basketball courts		
High/immediate priority	6	2.16%
Medium	53	19.06%
Low/long-term priority	102	36.69%
Do not wish to see this expanded	117	42.09%
4) Tennis courts		
High/immediate priority	20	7.19%
Medium	74	26.62%
Low/long-term priority	86	30.94%

Do not wish to see this expanded	98	35.25%
5) Conservancies		
High/immediate priority	85	30.58%
Medium	100	35.97%
Low/long-term priority	49	17.63%
Do not wish to see this expanded	44	15.83%
6) Cross-country ski trails		
High/immediate priority	41	14.75%
Medium	78	28.06%
Low/long-term priority	92	33.09%
Do not wish to see this expanded	67	24.10%
7) Horseback riding trails		
High/immediate priority	7	2.52%
Medium	18	6.47%
Low/long-term priority	96	34.53%
Do not wish to see this expanded	157	56.47%
8) Natural surface recreational trails (including grass and crushed stone)		
High/immediate priority	91	32.73%
Medium	89	32.01%
Low/long-term priority	54	19.42%
Do not wish to see this expanded	44	15.83%
9) Paved multi-use recreational trails		
High/immediate priority	74	26.62%
Medium	77	27.70%
Low/long-term priority	76	27.34%
Do not wish to see this expanded	51	18.35%
10) Playgrounds and equipment		
High/immediate priority	28	10.07%
Medium	96	34.53%
Low/long-term priority	77	27.70%
Do not wish to see this expanded	77	27.70%
Q10 - See Open-Ended Text Report		

Q11. The following recreational facilities/services are not available in the Town of Middleton. Please rate each of the following in terms of your household's interest in the Town exploring.	274 responses to this question	
1) Dog exercise areas		
Very interested	93	33.94%
Somewhat interested	58	21.17%
Not interested	79	28.83%
Opposed	44	16.06%
2) Exercise stations on park trails (i.e. sit-up, pull-up areas)		
Very interested	35	12.77%
Somewhat interested	85	31.02%
Not interested	115	41.97%
Opposed	39	14.23%
3) Football/La crosse fields		
Very interested	22	8.03%
Somewhat interested	54	19.71%
Not interested	148	54.01%
Opposed	50	18.25%
4) Frisbee golf course		
Very interested	26	9.49%
Somewhat interested	87	31.75%
Not interested	116	42.34%
Opposed	45	16.42%
5) Indoor community recreation center		
Very interested	41	14.96%
Somewhat interested	99	36.13%
Not interested	77	28.10%
Opposed	57	20.80%
6) Mineral Point pedestrian crossing		
Very interested	65	23.72%
Somewhat interested	84	30.66%
Not interested	87	31.75%
Opposed	38	13.87%
7) Designated mountain bike trails		
Very interested	40	14.60%

Somewhat interested	93	33.94%
Not interested	93	33.94%
Opposed	48	17.52%
8) Outdoor ice skating rink		
Very interested	73	26.64%
Somewhat interested	105	38.32%
Not interested	66	24.09%
Opposed	30	10.95%
9) Adult recreational programs		
Very interested	42	15.33%
Somewhat interested	126	45.99%
Not interested	76	27.74%
Opposed	30	10.95%
10) School-year recreational programming		
Very interested	31	11.31%
Somewhat interested	95	34.67%
Not interested	107	39.05%
Opposed	41	14.96%
11) Summer recreational programming		
Very interested	53	19.34%
Somewhat interested	104	37.96%
Not interested	86	31.39%
Opposed	31	11.31%
12) Snowmobile trails		
Very interested	12	4.38%
Somewhat interested	28	10.22%
Not interested	110	40.15%
Opposed	124	45.26%
13) Swimming pool		
Very interested	54	19.71%
Somewhat interested	82	29.93%
Not interested	55	20.07%
Opposed	83	30.29%
Q12 - See Open-Ended Text Report		

Q13 - See Open-Ended Text Report		
Q14. Understanding that developing new facilities and programs or expanding on existing facilities requires different levels of funding, how would you favor paying for the development and future ongoing maintenance of these facilities? Please indicate all funding sources that you would be in favor of using below.	269 responses to this question	
1) Per-Use Fees:		
Yes	216	80.30%
No	53	19.34%
2) One-Time Special Assessment of Residents:		
Yes	99	36.80%
No	170	63.20%
3) Property Tax Increase:		
Yes	75	27.88%
No	194	72.12%
4) Existing Park General Tax Funds:		
Yes	206	76.58%
No	63	23.42%
Q15 - See Open-Ended Text Report		
Q16. The Park Commission works to obtain property easements in an effort to link existing trails with parks, neighborhoods, and state trails. How important do you consider these efforts?	269 responses to this question	
Very Important	141	52.42%
Somewhat Important	89	33.09%
Not Important	39	14.50%
Q17. The Park Commission is working to maintain open space, restore native plant communities, protect wildlife habitat, and preserve natural resources. How important do you consider these efforts?		
269 responses to this question		
Very Important	177	65.80%
Somewhat Important	73	27.14%
Not Important	19	7.06%

Q18. Please indicate your overall satisfaction with each of these components of the Town parks and recreation system.	269 responses to this question	
1) Parks:		
Very Satisfied	71	26.39%
Satisfied	152	56.51%
Neutral	37	13.75%
Dissatisfied	4	1.49%
Very Dissatisfied	5	1.86%
2) Conservancies:		
Very Satisfied	70	26.02%
Satisfied	133	49.44%
Neutral	51	18.96%
Dissatisfied	8	2.97%
Very Dissatisfied	7	2.60%
3) Trails:		
Very Satisfied	46	17.10%
Satisfied	125	46.47%
Neutral	65	24.16%
Dissatisfied	25	9.29%
Very Dissatisfied	8	2.97%

Appendix 10:

Park and Facility Planning Standards

Town of Middleton - 2013 CORP Park and Facility Planning Standards

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Type of Park	Updated 2013 CORP Planning Standards (Acres per 1000 residents)	Existing Acres	Existing Acres Per 1,000 Town Residents (Based on 2010 population of 5,877)	NRPA Recommended Standard/Amount (ac/1000)	(Surplus) / Deficiency under current Town planning standards ²	Acreage needed in 2030 to meet Town planning standards set in column B ³	Assessable Acres (Can be assessed to developers) ⁴
Mini-Park	0.8	7.1	1.20 acres	0.25 - 0.5 acres/1000	(2.35)	7.05	0.00
Neighborhood Park	5.1	44.9	7.63 acres	1 - 2 acres/1000	(14.93)	44.89	0.00
Community Park	5.8	51.5	8.76 acres	5.0 - 8.0 acres/1000	(17.12)	51.47	0.00
Nature Area/Conservancy	20.5	180.2	30.65 acres	No standard given	(59.96)	180.18	0.00

¹ Developers are required to provide Mini Parks as part of the infrastructure required for a development - required to dedicate land for mini-parks according to 1 mini-park per 100 lots ratio.

² Existing (2010) population based on U.S. Census **5877**

³ Planned (2030) population based on WI DOA: **8808**

⁴ Formula for determining Assessable Acreage: (2030 population)*(standard)-(existing acres + absolute value of the deficiency)

*Assuming 2.9 persons/household, this means 1,010 households will be added between now and 2030 according to these projections

A	B	C	D	E	F
¹SPECIAL PARK AMENITIES					
Type of Amenity	Updated 2013 CORP Standards (Facilities per 1000 residents)	Existing Amenities	(Surplus) / Deficiency under current Town planning standards	Amenities needed in 2030 to meet Town planning standards set in column B	Assessable Amenities (Can be assessed to developers)
Playground	1.71	10	0.05	15.06	5.01
² Athletic Field	1.71	13	(2.95)	15.06	2.06
³ Baseball/Softball	1.71	11	(0.95)	15.06	4.06
Tennis	0.34	2	(0.002)	2.99	0.99
⁵ Basketball	1.14	6	0.70	10.04	3.34
Volleyball	0.23	1	0.35	2.03	0.67
⁶ Outdoor Skating Rink	0.12	0	0.71	1.06	0.35
Ampitheatre	0.56	5	(1.71)	4.93	0.00
Restroom Facilities	2.39	14	0.05	21.05	7.01
Park Seating	6.47	36	2.02	56.99	18.96
Off Leash Dog Run	0.12	0	0.71	1.06	0.35
Park Shelters	1.03	6	0.05	9.07	3.02

¹ These amenities are not necessarily located in a specific Park Facility

² Includes a field 100 yards by 60 yards.

³ Includes a fence 280 feet from home plate with 30 feet on each side for space, screenings in in base paths.

⁴ Includes a court 60 feet by 120 feet with back and side space.

⁵ Pavement area is 104'x70' corresponding to a High School size court.

⁶ Assume a rink is 200'x85' with a sand/gravel base, plywood walls and piped in water for the ice.