

COMPREHENSIVE PARK AND OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN

TOWN OF DEKORRA



Town of Dekorra - Camp Rest Park

ADOPTED BY THE TOWN OF DEKORRA BOARD – December 9, 2008

Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan Town of Dekorra, Wisconsin

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Chapter 1: Introduction

Purpose of Plan

Park land and open space serve many important functions in a community. Parks can serve a limited neighborhood, a portion of the town, an entire community, or greater region by providing space and facilities for outdoor recreation. The Town of Dekorra is home to many unique landscape features including lakes, rivers, streams, steep bluffs, wetlands, woodlands, state and federal owned natural areas. The Parks Commission, under the direction of the Town Board is dedicated to preserving and providing access to these features.

This document has been developed to serve as a guide for the Town of Dekorra in planning for the acquisition and improvement of park, open space, and outdoor recreation facilities for the five-year period 2008 through 2013. This plan, along with the Town of Dekorra Comprehensive Plan and other long-range plans and development-related ordinances, will be used to implement the Town of Dekorra's park objectives.

The State of Wisconsin requires communities to prepare and adopt a five-year park and outdoor recreation plan in order to maintain eligibility for State and Federal grants and loans. This plan follows the "Guidelines for the Development of Local Governmental Comprehensive Recreation Plans" published by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) and is intended to meet the WDNR criteria for a local park and outdoor recreation plan.

Decisions made by the Parks Commission, Plan Commission, and Town Board for park acquisitions and improvements should be guided by the goals and recommendations of this adopted Plan. Actual decisions or choices are contingent on funding sources, new opportunities and ideas, changing growth patterns, budget priorities, and changing community needs. Because of this, the Plan should be reviewed annually, and a detailed update such as this should be completed every five years. The development and continual updating of a Parks and Outdoor Recreation Plan such as this becomes a valuable asset to a community and contributes to its stability and attractiveness. Updating the Plan every five years is also a requirement of the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to stay eligible for matching government funds for park land acquisition and facility improvements. But just as importantly, the Town of Dekorra needs to set a course of action for continued improvement of its parks and outdoor recreation system.

Planning Process Overview

This planning process is part of an ongoing effort by the Town of Dekorra Parks Commission and the Town of Dekorra Board of Supervisors, to meet the park and recreational needs of the community. The Town of Dekorra Parks Commission meets quarterly to review park and outdoor recreation issues. All meetings are posted and open to the public.

The Town of Dekorra Board has appointed an ad hoc committee (Parks Master Plan Committee) to prepare this plan. The Town Board and Parks Commission will hold public hearings as part of the process of updating this plan.

Methodology

Step 1: Current Issues and Goals

The Parks Master Plan Committee distributed a survey to gather public input on current park and recreation facilities. The survey was distributed with the annual tax bill mailing as well as in the Poynette Press and Poynette shopper newspapers. 370 surveys were returned out of the 2500 distributed. The committee used the survey results to assist in forming the goals and objectives of this document.

Step 2: Inventory and Analysis

Town park lands were visited, documenting existing conditions and facilities. A map was created using the Columbia County Land Records Department. Current trends and demographics were collected. General growth predictions were made to facilitate a 5 year plan.

Step 3: Plan development

The committee then developed recommendations for existing park improvements as well as recommendations to guide park planning and development.

Step 4: Draft Plan Preparation and Distribution

Draft copies of the plan were distributed to the Town Board and other citizens for review and comment.

Step 5: Public Hearing and Plan Adoption

[Fill in dates and actions as they are completed]

Step 6: Plan implementation

The Parks Commission along with the Town Board will work to implement the plan recommendations and actions. Implementation techniques include annual budget, and an annual report including accomplishments and plans for operations and maintenance of following year projects and objectives. Funding sources and grant opportunities will also be reported.

The Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan is intended to be a "living" document for the future. Therefore, if situations change and decisions need to be made which are contrary to the recommendations of the Plan, the Plan must be amended. Amendments to the Plan should be approved by the Town board, based on recommendations by the Parks Commission and/or the Plan Commission.

This Plan is based on the best judgment of the Park Master Plan Committee. It does not represent, however, a commitment by the Town of Dekorra to complete any particular project during the duration of the plan. As always, implementation of the plan will depend upon adequate financial resources being made available by the Town of Dekorra, taxation, user fees, grant monies, private donations, or other as-yet unknown sources.

Chapter 2: Inventory of Facilities

Planning Area

The “planning area” includes the Town of Dekorra. The Town of Dekorra is located in southwestern Columbia County, contains a mostly rural landscape of ridges and gently rolling ground moraines. Over the past decade or so the 41 square mile Town has experienced modest growth due to its landscape and location. Residents enjoy the rural atmosphere of the Town, Lake Wisconsin, and accessibility to nearby roadways such as Interstate 39/90/94 and US Highway 51. Most of the land in the Town of Dekorra is undeveloped, but pockets of residential development, especially along the Wisconsin River and Lake Wisconsin, punctuate the landscape. The landscape is attractive to an increasing number of residents and visitors. Increasing tourism and growth of nearby communities place pressure on the area’s natural resources.

Natural Resources

The Town of Dekorra is situated near the eastern edge of Wisconsin’s Driftless Area. The elevation ranges between 835 feet above sea level at the Wisconsin River and 1,080 feet in bluff areas. The Town of Dekorra is located in the Lower Wisconsin River Basin. The Wisconsin River and Lake Wisconsin occur at it’s western boundary. Significant streams course through the Town. The Lower Wisconsin River drains approximately 4,940 square miles of south-central and southwestern Wisconsin. There are a few small sand and gravel quarries, mostly near the Wisconsin River/Lake Wisconsin. There are several high quality streams: Rowan Creek, Hinkson Creek and Rocky Run Creek. These surface waters are important to the health of the Wisconsin River. Overall, the Lower Wisconsin River is classified as a diverse warm water sport fishery. The Town of Dekorra has other natural resources including wetlands, woodlands, DNR natural areas, and the Mackenzie Environmental Education Center.

Population Trends and Demographics

The Town of Dekorra’s outdoor recreation needs have been determined by evaluating acreage, demographics, demand criteria, survey results, development activities and future growth projections. The evaluation has resulted in identifying needs relating to community parks, neighborhood parks, mini parks, recreation, conservancy, and special needs. While various definitions and standards outlined later have been used as a guide, every effort has been made to ensure the unique needs of the Town are represented accurately.

1. Population Projections:

The State of Wisconsin, Department of Administration, Bureau of Demographic Services, prepares population estimates and projections for all municipalities in Wisconsin. Table 1 reflects the estimates and projections for the Town of Dekorra.

Table 1 - Town of Dekorra Population

Year	Population	Change	Percent Change
1980*	1,914	N/A	N/A
1990*	1,829	-85	-4.6%
2000*	2,350	521	28.4%
2005**	2,448	98	4.2 %
2010**	2,525-2656	77-208	3.2-8.5%
2015**	2,627-2947	102-291	4.0-11.0%
2020**	2,729-3269	102-322	3.9-11.0%
2025**	2,831-3627	102-358	3.7-11.0%

*Population Source: Town of Dekorra Comprehensive Plan

2. Demographics:

The Town of Dekorra is clearly in a state of change, moving from a traditional rural township to a more complex blend of limited traditional agriculture, non-traditional agriculture, suburban developments, and rural single-family homes. Table 2 shows a breakdown of the population by age group.

Table 2 - Age Distribution

Age Group	1990		2000	Percent of 2000 population
Under 5 years	112		114	4.9
5 to 9 years	109		164	7.0
10 to 14 years	140		180	7.7
15 to 19 years	130		136	5.8
20 to 24 years	95		93	4.0
25 to 34 years	259		244	10.4
35 to 44 years	335		458	19.5
45 to 54 years	254		440	18.7
55 to 59 years	82		153	6.5
60 to 64 years	110		114	4.9
65 to 74 years	138		155	6.6
75 to 84 years	52		84	3.6
85 years and over	13		15	0.6
Median age (years)	37.1		40.2	
Total population	1829		2350	100.0

Source: US Bureau of the Census

Table 3 indicates the number of new home building permits issued by the Town of Dekorra in the period of 2001 – 2007 which is on track with the projected demand of 15 – 30 units per year projected by the Town of Dekorra Comprehensive Plan. Table 4 illustrates the existing land use in the Town using data from the Comprehensive Plan.

Table 3 - New Home Permits 2001-2007

YEAR	# of Permits
2001	12
2002	14
2003	23
2004	18
2005	16
2006	11
2007	12

Table 4 – Town of Dekorra Land Use, 2002

Land Use	Acres	Percent
Agriculture/Open Lands	16,439	55%
Wetlands	4,442	15%
Woodlands > 40 acres	3,598	12%
Rural Single Family Residential (Town)	797	3%
Road	360	1%
Public Open Space	411	1%
Recreation	638	2%
Surface Water	2,787	9%
Institutional	48	<1%
Mixed Residential	26	<1%
Landfill/Extraction	8	<1%
Central Business District	2	<1%
General Business	89	<1%
Industrial	30	<1%
TOTAL	29,675	100%

Source: Town of Dekorra Comprehensive Plan

Outdoor Recreation Survey Results

In December of 2006, the Town of Dekorra distributed 2,500 survey questionnaires to residents seeking information regarding parks, recreation programs and facilities. A total of 370 responses were received which reflects a participation rate of 14.8 %. The final results of the survey are summarized in the Appendix. It is important to view the results of any survey as primarily an indicator of trends rather than concrete evidence to be acted upon without further evaluation.

The survey sought to assess residents' satisfaction with existing parks and recreation facilities and opportunities. A majority of those who responded to the questions reported they were satisfied or more than satisfied with existing town park and recreation facilities.

The survey also asked to rank the need for the various types of park resources. Primary interest was in acquisition and development of a bikeway and walking/hiking trails with 41% selecting high or very high

priority, 30% selected low priority, 17% did not respond to this question and 11% had no opinion. This pattern followed for the remaining recreation types and can be viewed in question 8 from the survey results in Appendix A. Continuing with categories of very high and high priority, the development and utilization of natural or historic areas was next with 39%, followed by community parks 24%, neighborhood parks 21%, mini-parks 12%, and those having no opinion 32%. The figures do not add up to 100% because people could select more than one category. The survey did not include water accesses as a park category; however in the activity question, the highest use was water based. Taking all of the survey information, including the free form comments into consideration, the following priorities emerged.

Survey Priorities:

1. Maintain/improve access to water
2. Develop new and link existing pedestrian and biking trails
3. Maintain/develop scenic, historic and environmentally sensitive areas
4. Maintain cleanliness and safe usable condition of existing parks and equipment
5. Spend wisely, utilize existing facilities fully before expanding

Town of Dekorra Public Lands inventory

This Plan uses terms from the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) to describe the characteristics of a park. Chapter 3 contains a full definition of the terms. A mini park is typically less than one acre, a neighborhood park is 1 -2 acres, and a community park is generally 10 – 20 acres. The Town of Dekorra owns 5 mini parks, 3 neighborhood parks, no community parks, 4 areas of conservancy, 14 developed water accesses, 3 undeveloped water accesses, and the Town Hall / Dekorra School recreational facilities.

Town Owned Parks and Recreational Facilities

Mini-Parks

Mini-Parks typically serve a residential neighborhood within ¼ mile and are less than 1 acre in size.

Corning Street Park

Location: Near W10963 Corning Rd. Section 34, T11N, R8E; W of County Rd V, turn W onto Corning Street

Facilities include: sign designating park, has Lake Wisconsin frontage, picnic table area, sand beach (swim at own risk), parking available, portable toilet and access from water for picnic, etc.

Camp Perry Park

Location: Near W10934 Willow Ave. Section 33, T11N, R8E; N of County Rd V, turn N onto Willow Street,

Facilities include: sign designating park, has Lake Wisconsin frontage, ADA accessible playground area (2007), picnic table area, sand beach (swim at own risk), charcoal grill pit, pier, dirt road to boat launch (Camp Perry Park Access), parking available, portable toilet and access from water for picnic, etc.

James Whalen Park

Location: Near W10893 Tipperary Rd. Parcel 915, Section 27-28, T11N, R8; across from Tipperary Point Rd Access - Boat Landing

Facilities include: sign designating park, ADA accessible playground area (2007), picnic table areas, parking for fishing, across the street from Tipperary Point Access and portable toilet

Camp Rest

Location: Near N3814 Tipperary Rd. Parcel 1600.02, Section 22, T11N, R8; located on Tipperary Rd.

Facilities include: sign designating park, has Wisconsin River frontage, shelter, well with hand pump, new playground equipment (2004), picnic table areas, sand beach (swim at own risk), paved boat launch, parking, portable toilet and access from water for picnic, etc.

Irene's Isle

Location: Parcel 1600,03,04,05,06, Section 22, T11N, R8; between Isle and Tipperary Road, 50' by 300' area adjacent to and South of Camp Rest Park

Riverside Park

Location: Near W9370 County Highway V. Section 6, T11N, R9; N of County Road V next to Wisconsin Street Access, frontage between Wisconsin River and Hooker's Resort. Frontage width varies from approximately 100 feet by Hooker's to approximately 50 feet where it almost joins the land at Dekorra Park, separated by one parcel.

Facilities include: sign designating park, has Wisconsin River frontage, adjacent to Wisconsin Street paved boat launch, horse shoe pits, picnic table area, parking, portable toilet, and access from water for picnic, etc.

Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood parks include areas for intense recreational activities such as field games, court games, playground equipment, and can be from 1 to 9 acres in size.

Happy Hollow Park

Location: Near N3685 Tipperary Rd. Parcel 766.1, Section 22, T11N, R8E; located on Tipperary Road

Facilities include: sign designating park, tennis court, baseball field, basketball court, playground equipment, picnic table areas and portable toilet

Dekorra Park

Location: Near W9306 County Highway V. Section 6, T11N, R9E, lots 3,4,5,8,9,10,11, Dekorra Village Plat; N of County Road V and next to Main Street Access

Facilities include: sign designating park, Wisconsin River frontage, tennis court, ADA accessible playground area, picnic table areas (2007), fishing, adjacent to Main Street paved boat launch, parking, 2 charcoal grill pits, well with hand pump, portable toilet and access from water for picnic, etc.

Hickory Oak Park

Location: Near W7350 Hickory Ln. Section 1, T11N, R9E; E of Phillips Rd, Hickory Oak Subdivision

Facilities include: undeveloped at present, New playground equipment, shelter, and basketball court are planned for the 2008.

Community Parks

Community parks are generally 10 to 20 acres and may have lighted playfields, spectator areas, restroom facilities, and picnic shelters.

None

Water Accesses - Developed

These areas provide access to the lake or river from town roads. Some are improved with pier and driveway. Some are grass access only that may primarily serve as storm water run-off areas.

Camp Perry Access

Location: Near W10934 Willow Ave. Section 33, T11N, R8E; 50 ft x 200 ft, N of County Rd V, turn N on Willow St., next to Camp Perry Park.

Facilities include: dirt road to boat launch, limited access, access by water for picnic

Stein Road Access (Lake Wisc. Highlands)

Location: Near W10702 Becker Rd. Section 34, T11N, R8E; Stein Rd N of County Rd V, 60 ft x 100 ft

Facilities include: sign designating access, has Wisconsin River frontage, sandy area (swim at own risk), fishing, canoe or small boat launch by foot, minimal parking, and no toilet, access from water for picnic

Tipperary Point Access

Location: Section 27-28, T11N, R8; 75 ft x 125 ft, off Tipperary Point Rd

Facilities include: Lake Wisconsin frontage, paved boat launch, pier, fishing, parking along side of access and across street at James Whalen Park

Second Rd Access

Location: Section 27, T11N, R8E, between parcels 807 and 808, 25 ft x 75 ft off Tipperary Rd

Facilities include: Lake Wisconsin frontage, sign designating access, grassy picnic area (no table), parking along road fishing, canoe or small boat launch by foot and no toilet, access from water for picnic

Copse Road Access

Locations: Section 22, T11N, R8; 25 ft x 150 ft, between parcels 750 & 751, located off Tipperary Road

Facilities include: sign designating access, Wisconsin River frontage, gravel road to boat launch, parking along sides of access, and new cement pavements put in launch area (2007)

Saddle Road Access

Location: Section 22, T11N, R8E; 25 ft x 150 ft, between parcels 740 & 744, off Tipperary Road

Facilities include: sign designating access, Wisconsin River frontage, paved boat launch, parking along the sides of access

Camp Rest Access

Location: Section 22, T11N, R8; 25 ft x 50 ft off Tipperary Rd

Facilities include: Wisconsin River frontage, paved boat launch and parking

Wildcat Rd Access

Location: Near N3933 Wild Cat Rd. Section 22, T11N, R8E; 60 ft x 100 ft, off Wildcat Rd., between lots 681 & 682,

Facilities include: sign designating access, fishing, canoe or small boat launch by foot, foot path to river, only parking would be along side of Wildcat road, picnic area (no table), access from water for picnic.

Cedar Street Access

Location: Near N4020 Wild Cat Rd. Section 23, T11N, R8; 25 ft x 100 ft, off Wildcat Rd.

Facilities include: sign designating access, fishing, canoe or small boat launch by foot down a stairway only, stairway and foot path to Wisconsin River below, parking – limited parallel to cul-de-sac, picnic area, access from water for picnic.

Oak Knoll Access

Location: Near N4567 Oak Knoll Dr. Parcel 1701.13, Section 12, T11N, R8E, 25 ft x 100 ft. off Oak Knoll Dr.

Facilities include: sign designating access, Wisconsin River frontage, paved boat launch, parking along side of access, minimal water – canoe or small boat launch only, No picnic area available

Woodlawn Terrace to River Access

Location: Section 6, T11N, R9E; W of Parkway Drive, between parcels 1274 & 1285

Facilities include: paved road to river, steel rail across water's edge with 3 red posts, canoe or small boat launch by foot, parking along side of access, no picnic area

Beach Garden Rd Access

Location: Section 6, T11N, R9E; W of Parkway Drive between parcels 1292 & 1306.2

Facilities include: paved road halfway down access, canoe or small boat access by foot, fire pit, picnic area (no table), parking at pavements end, access from water for picnic

Wisconsin Street Access

Location: Near W9370 County Highway V (Hooker's Resort) Section 6, T11N, R9E; W of County Rd V, next to Riverside Park

Facilities include: paved boat launch, Wisconsin River frontage, minimal parking but additional parking at DNR parking lot up the road.

Main Street Access

Location: Section 6/5, T11N, R9E; W of County Rd V, next to DNR parking lot

Facilities include: paved boat launch, Wisconsin River frontage, DNR Parking lot across the road E of County Rd V

Water Accesses – Undeveloped (possible access from the water)

These accesses are remnants of road plats and/or public water access as required in ordinance 10.82(b)(1) which also may serve as storm water run-off areas.

Sweetbrier Trail

Location: Section 6, T11N, R9E; W. of Parkway Dr, between parcels 1263 & 1273

Facilities include: undeveloped ravine

Shady Cove

Location: Section 6, T11N, R9E; W. of Parkway Dr. between parcels 1272 & 1280

Facilities include: undeveloped ravine

Wildwood Glen

Location: Section 6, T11N, R9E; W. of Parkway Dr. between parcels 1298 & 1282.4

Facilities include: undeveloped ravine

Unnamed Ravine

Location: Section 6, T11N, R9E; W. of Parkway Dr. between parcels 1271 & 1308

Facilities include: undeveloped ravine

Unnamed Access

Location: East of W10858 County Highway V. between parcels 1003 & 1004

Facilities include: undeveloped access

Unnamed Access

Location: River Oaks Road extension across Hwy V to water access.

Facilities include: undeveloped road right of way

Unnamed trail

Location: River Oaks Road cul-de-sac trail extending South and East to DNR lands

Facilities include: undeveloped trail

Natural Area, Conservancy and Green Space Preservation

These areas are set aside for their natural beauty, their function of concentrating storm water runoff, and their benefit to residents, vacationers and wildlife.

Water frontage along Tipperary Road

Location: Parcel 1100.6, Section 27, T11N, R8; all along the south border of Tipperary Road, 3400 ft x 50 ft to 100 ft

Facilities include: undeveloped and privately maintained

St. Lawrence Bluff Park

Location: Near N4691 Saint Lawrence Bluff Rd. Parcel 1356, Section 12, T11N, R8E; St. Lawrence Bluff Rd, goes to River E of Interstate I90 bridge, 1.75Acres

Facilities include: undeveloped, sign designating park, walkway along easement to signs showing entrance into park, no parking except on side of St. Lawrence Bluff Rd, walking possible but no established trails.

Forest areas – Beach Gardens Town Acreage

Location: Sections 5 & 6, T11N, R9E; Various parcels in the Beach Garden Area

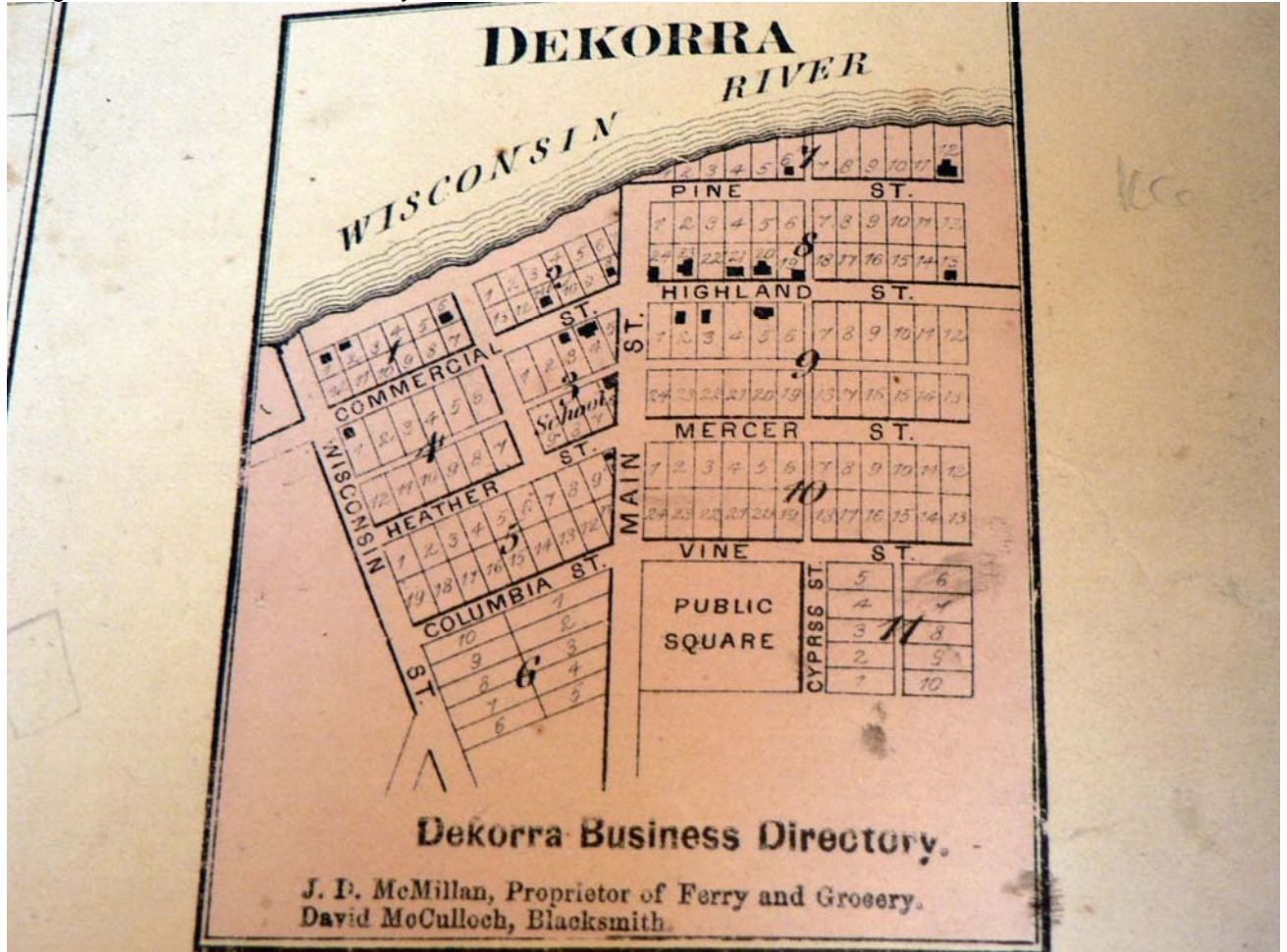
Facilities include: undeveloped, walking possible but no established trails

Public Square

Location: Parcel 104.4, Section 5, T11N, R9E; Dekorra Village Plat, plus undeveloped Main street to County Rd V

Facilities include: undeveloped, walking possible but no established trails

Image from 1873 Columbia County Atlas



Privately Owned and Association Conservancy Land with Recreational Easements/Trails

Wisconsin Power & Light – Lake Columbia

Location: Across the road from W8495 County Road J & V

Facilities include: Fishing area, Canoe launch, NO powered equipment, gravel road walking area.

Other Public Owned Lands/Facilities in Town of Dekorra

DNR Boat Landing (Whalen’s Grade)

Location: Parcel 959.E, Section 34, T11N, R8; County Rd V

Facilities Include: blacktop boat launch and large parking area, and portable toilet

Whalen's Grade

Location: Section 27, 28, 33, 34, T11N, R8; E and W of County Rd V

Facilities Include: Lake Wisconsin water frontage, fishing, ADA accessible fishing area, picnicking (no tables), parking on West side only

Dekorra Wisconsin River Public Boat Access – DNR Parking Lot

Location: Parcel 99, Section 5, T11N, R9E; Across from Main Street Access

Facilities include: Large paved boat parking area for Main Street Access, maintained by Town/DNR partnership

DNR State of Wisconsin Game Farm MacKenzie Center

Location: Section 25, T11N, R9; 364.63 acres

DNR State of Wisconsin – Land along Rowan Creek

Location: Section 36, T11N, R9; 861.4 acres

State of Wisconsin – Hinkson Creek area

Location: Section 21, T11N, R9E ; 318.16 acres

State of Wisconsin – Public Hunting DNR

Location: Section 13, T11N, R8E; 200 + acres along I 90/94

State of Wisconsin – West Rest Area off I-39/90/94

Location: Section 13, T11N, R8E; rest area off of I 90/94

State of Wisconsin – East Rest Area off I-39/90/94

Location: Section 18, T11N, R9; rest area off of I 90/94

DNR State of Wisconsin

Location: Section 1, T11N, R9E; 138 acres

State of Wisconsin

Location: Section 2, T11N, R9E; 160 acres

State of Wisconsin

Location: Section 11, T11N, R9; 10.34 acres

U.S. Fish and Wildlife

Location: Section 22, T11N, R9E; 127 acres

Privately Owned Facilities In Town of Dekorra (Not open to the Public)

Corning Street Access - Resort Access by former Lakeside Restaurant

Location: Near W10963 Corning Rd. Section 33, T11N, R8; 25 ft x 50 ft

Facilities include: paved boat launch, privately owned and maintained

Village of Poynette Facilities

Jamieson Park

Location: Section 33, T11N, R9E off County Rd CS

Facilities include: overnight camping (48 hours), trails, picnic area, portable toilets, well with hand pump.

School District Owned Facilities in Township

Dekorrra Elementary School

Location: Section 16, T11N, R9E, N. off Bilkie Rd

Facilities include: playground equipment, baseball diamond, soccer field, and parking. The Town of Dekorrra owns the grade school gym which also functions as the Town Hall.

Forest area in Beach Gardens

Location: Section 6, T11N, R9E. Parcels 1185, 1212

Facilities include: Undeveloped

Other Recreational Facilities and Opportunities

Recreational opportunities include activities that require an organization to coordinate events and activities as well as those that can be accomplished individually.

Recreational facilities

There is a tennis court at both Dekorrra and Happy Hollow Parks, along with a basketball court and baseball backdrop at Happy Hollow.

Playground equipment is at Dekorrra, Happy Hollow, James Whalen Memorial, Camp Rest and Camp Perry Parks.

Natural areas controlled by other agencies

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has the Dekorrra Public Hunting Grounds, Hinkson Creek Fishery Areas, Rowan Creek Fishery Area, Rocky Run Creek Fishery Areas, Rowan Creek Trail (Hiking and X Country Ski) and MacKenzie Environmental Center. The Village of Poynette operates Jamieson Park, Wisconsin Power and Light has land in and along the Wisconsin River, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife's area is open to the public.

Coordinated recreational opportunities

Programs that require organizations in surrounding municipalities are organized for youth and for adults. Opportunities for youth include football, wrestling, basketball, volleyball, softball, baseball, golf, hockey, soccer, curling, and swimming at the high school pool. Adult opportunities include baseball, softball, basketball, golf, volleyball, horseshoes, and curling.

Individual opportunities

Individual opportunities include the use of Lake Wisconsin and Wisconsin River boating, fishing, water skiing, canoeing, personal watercraft use, swimming, sailing, kayaking and island camping. Other activities include running, walking and biking along the roadways, tennis, basketball, golf, hiking and hunting on public hunting grounds. Winter activities include snowmobiling, ice boating, ice fishing, cross country skiing, ice skating, and ice races by the Grade.

Chapter 3: Outdoor Recreation Needs Assessment and Analysis

Introduction

For the purpose of interpretation, the following definitions shall be used. Where terms referred to in this plan are not defined, the Town adopts the terms, definitions, and standards that appear in the "Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines" (4th Edition) published by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). This system is intended to serve as a guide and not an absolute blue-print. The NRPA suggests that a park system, at a minimum, be composed of a "core" system of parklands, with a total of 6.25 to 10.50 acres of developed open space per 1,000 population.

Needs Standards

1. Mini-Parks or Neighborhood Playground

Mini-Parks typically serve a residential neighborhood within ¼ mile and are less than 1 acre in size. They typically have facilities for young children or senior citizens. The Town of Dekorra has several mini-parks and whenever possible, prefers not to develop parks that are this small. However the need for play areas in newly created subdivisions tend to be this size.

2. Neighborhood Park

A neighborhood park is a facility serving a residential neighborhood within a ¼ - ¾ mile radius. Typically, a neighborhood park includes area for intense recreational activities such as field games, court games, playground equipment, as well as picnic facilities. Larger neighborhood parks may include tennis, volleyball, and basketball courts, soccer or ball fields and restroom facilities. The preferred size of a neighborhood park is 5 acres or greater, but they can be as small as 1 – 2 acres

3. Community Park

A community park is a large recreation facility serving a population within a 1- to 2-mile radius. Typically, community parks include all of the improvements found in a neighborhood park plus athletic fields designed for competitive athletics. Generally, community parks have lighted playfields, spectator areas, restroom facilities, and picnic shelters, or pavilions. Community parks are generally 10 to 20 acres (the preferred size is a minimum of 20 acres). Community parks with adjacent natural areas may be significantly larger.

4. Regional Park

A regional park is a facility designed to serve a broad area that generally includes several local government jurisdictions. Regional park facilities are owned and maintained by a county, state, or a regional park district. Regional parks generally feature both natural areas for passive recreation and active recreation facilities.

5. Special Purpose Park

Special purpose parks are Town-owned recreational and open space facilities that are designed to serve a specific purpose, which may include a public plaza or memorial, a swimming pool or other discreet recreational use, or key open space in an otherwise fully developed commercial or industrial district.

6. Conservancy Park

A conservancy park is a publicly owned area that is managed primarily for its natural resource qualities, such as wetlands, wildlife habitats, or unique vegetation. Generally, trails and other passive recreational facilities are installed within conservancy parks. Conservancy parks are usually not suitable for active recreation facilities such as playfields or athletic facilities.

7. Drainageways or Greenways

Drainageways or greenways are undeveloped lands that are maintained in an undeveloped condition in order to provide sufficient land area to detain or retain periodic stormwater. While drainage ways and greenways have recreational benefits, they are periodically flooded or have poor drainage and are generally unsuitable for active recreational use.

8. Environmental Corridor

A defined area, often oriented in a linear pattern along rivers and streams, that contains a high concentration of environmentally significant features such as wetlands, wildlife habitats, woodlands, and unique or endangered species sites. In the Town of Dekorra, the environmental corridor has been delineated as reflected in the Town's Master Plan and consists of approximately 7100 acres.

9. Service Area

The service area is the zone of influence of a park. Service areas are usually determined by the average distance users are willing to travel to reach a facility. Although expressed in terms of service radius, features such as arterial roads, rivers, or other disruptions to normal travel may influence the extent of the service area.

Improvement Standards

The Town of Dekorra's park and outdoor recreation areas offer a high level of service. The Town of Dekorra continually strives to improve service to its residents. The following table summarizes standard NRPA park size recommendations.

Park Type	Acreage Standard	Service Area Radius
Mini-Park	.25 to .5 acres per 1,000 population	Less than ¼ mile
Neighborhood Parks	1.0 to 2.0 acres per 1,000 population	¼ to ½ mile
Community Parks	5.0 to 8.0 acres per 1,000 population	1 to 2 mile

The Town of Dekorra currently meets two of these standards using an estimated population of about 2500. There are six mini-parks of about 1/3 acre each and three neighborhood parks of about 2 acres each. We are lacking a community sized park. We recognize that the Town of Dekorra is more rural than urban, but the standards prescribed try to accommodate this. Ultimately, it is the needs of the community that should be met. There is always a need for "close-to-home" small play areas (mini-parks) in subdivisions. There is also a need for future parkland that fits the standard of a larger community park. Identification of a site that would support structured athletic fields should be studied and acquired. The development can follow as the need arises. The Annual Midsummer Night's in Dekorra fireworks display has grown substantially each year. It currently is located on privately owned land. It would require substantial acreage acquisition should the venue change to publicly owned space. The current arrangement with the private land owner is working very well. The Town of Dekorra would be hard pressed to find a better venue than the current location.

Recreational Activity Improvement Recommendations

There are currently no Town of Dekorra sponsored recreational activities. Participants join the organization of their choosing for these activities. The Village of Poynette is considering a fee for non-residents that participate in organized sports in its parks. These fees for organized recreational programs should be primarily left to the participating individual. There have been discussions with the village of Poynette on setting up a joint sports authority, but no action has yet been taken.

Chapter 4: Goals and Objectives

The Town of Dekorra has adopted the following park, open space and outdoor recreation goals and objectives:

Park and Outdoor Recreation Facility Goals

1. To provide permanent open space throughout the Town of Dekorra for outdoor recreation, access to natural resources and environmental protection.
2. To provide neighborhoods within the Town of Dekorra access to both neighborhood and community park facilities.
3. To provide safe and efficient trail access between residential neighborhoods, parks, and other recreational sites and destinations.
4. To preserve environmental corridors as permanent open space areas.

Park and Outdoor Recreation Facility Objectives

1. Provide mini-park or neighborhood park and playground facilities that are safely accessible by children within all developed residential neighborhoods.
2. Provide sufficient community park facilities to serve community-wide park and outdoor recreation interests.
3. Utilize drainageways, greenways, and environmental corridors as part of a permanent open space system suitable for passive recreation use, including nature walking, wildlife habitat preservation, and trail development. Such environmental areas are not suitable as neighborhood or community parks because of topography and drainage limitations.
4. Require new developments (per Town of Dekorra ordinance) to provide land and/or per lot fee in lieu of lands, and easements that would be consistent with the goal of safe and efficient trail access and continued park development.
5. Create and implement a maintenance plan for boat landings that would include a capital improvement schedule. Investigate options for landing usage fees. Use pier permit fees to help cover these maintenance and improvement costs.
6. Coordinate parkland and open space planning with the Village of Poynette, Town of Lodi, Town of Arlington and Town of Lowville.
7. Design park facilities whenever practical to meet the requirements of the American's With Disabilities Act (ADA).
8. Survey and mark existing Town of Dekorra lands.
9. Improve piers at Town of Dekorra boat landings.
10. Create historic kiosk or information center near the Dekorra Park area.

Chapter 5: Recommended Facilities and Improvements

Recommended Improvements to Existing Parks and Dedicated Park Lands

We will work to use ATC money as much as possible for the park projects that meet the criteria for it's use.

Some common issues identified for all parks:

- Identify property boundaries
- Tree trimming and stump removal as advised
- Top coat picnic tables
- Paint back of signs that have plywood
- Add Constable phone number to signs
- If parks have street numbers, get signs and/or add number to Park sign

Cedar Street

Bounded by cottage at N4005 Wildcat Rd and private Tennis court. Resolve how this maintained. No vehicle access to park.

Dead/dying Oak in middle of park, leave stump to rot as there is no vehicle access to park.

Wildcat Access N3943 Wildcat Rd

2 small white Oaks need removal.

Some other dead limbs – are the trees on town property?

Camp Rest

Stabilize picnic table bottoms

Seal/paint sign back

Saddle Road Access

Clear Brush at sign, trim brush along fenceline.

Better pier needed at this location. (floating pier like at Hookers/Becks?)

Copse Landing N3707 Tipperary Rd

New concrete pads installed 2007. Need one more pad in water, neighbors no longer use. Broken axles, trailers falling off end of pad

Shoreline preservation needed along landing

Trim willow 2 branches North, 1 branch South

Happy Hollow

New playset tarp in spring - 86x52 multicolor

Paint Tennis court standards

Pump bench needs 1 each - 6' 2x6, 6' 2x4

Straighten Bollards along Tipperary

2nd Road Access

There are Cedar posts for property markers

Cleanup litter and driftwood at shoreline

Can't get mower in North side of rubble

Whalen Memorial Park

Move parking stops away from road further after playground equipment is installed
Add gravel after moving stops if necessary
Paint sign back

Tipperary Point Access

Remove branches from shrub under street light on corner
Paint sign back
Remove dead Willow, leave Cherry
Clear brush on North side of ramp

Stein Rd

Fix sign chain on bottom.
Remove tire at shoreline
Riprap needed for shoreline preservation
New roof on artesian well house

Camp Perry

Riprap needed to preserve shoreline
Launch cracked, but is this launch too shallow?
Remove driftwood

Corning Street

Where is the parking for this park? Garage entrance issue.
Remove driftwood
Riprap needed in future
Paint picnic tables
Need survey boundaries

Oak Knoll Access

Kill locust in middle of driveway

St. Lawrence Bluff

Weed whack boundary posts
Add parking gravel pad
Add split rail to delineate park/private land

Woodlawn

Is this a reserve? Need survey boundary
Need to resolve this area with other "known-as" names (Sweet Brier trail / Unnamed road / Shady Cove)

Woodlawn Access

No Work needed

Columbia Court Access

Is there an access here? Need survey boundaries

Beach Garden Access

Is there an access here? Need survey boundaries
Remove brush? Or leave as visual block?
Need property boundaries. – Firepit, bench, logs on town property?
Guardrail needed like woodlawn if brush is removed?

Riverside Park (Hookers)

Constable phone number on sign needed

Dekorra Park

- Paint 2 sign backs, add constable phone number
- Possible action to remove firepits
- Staples for chainlink fence repair around tennis court
- Paint standards on tennis court
- Pull/kill brush in fence on tennis court
- Repaint tennis court lines
- Paint & repair original Town well
- Remove brush for path between well and monument

Main Street Access

Talk to DNR about west side of landing pad blacktop needing repair (shared DNR/Town of Dekorra landing)

Hickory Oak Park

- Review plan commission action accepting park
- Gather neighborhood ideas
- Produce park improvement plan
- Implement park improvement plan

Recommendations for Future Parks

Linear Parks (trails)

- Extend the Rowan Creek Trail from the Village of Poynette to the DNR entrance on county road CS.
- Hiking trails on DNR lands and in the area along Parkway drive.
- Development of a biking trail.
- Trail along Rowan Creek to the Wisconsin River.
- Widen Hwy V from Grade to Harmony Grove (as was done from Harmony Grove to Lodi).

Community Parks

- Identify site that would accommodate play fields.
- Identify site that may be a sports center in the utility district.

FUTURE PARKLAND ACQUISITION GUIDELINES

It is anticipated that the parkland will be acquired through the parkland dedication requirement of the Town Land Division Ordinance (Chapter 10.81 through 10.85), which requires developers to dedicate developable land for park, school, or other public uses equivalent to 5,000 square feet per dwelling unit for plats, which are subdivisions of 5 or more lots.

There are areas where a fee for land acquisition elsewhere is more desirable and a recreational trail or easement through the property would better suit the public. Every possibility to allow this should be explored.

Other Land Acquisition

Property will continue to be acquired through delinquent tax options and donations as has happened in the in the Beach Gardens plat area. As land is acquired in this manner, it should be reviewed whether the best use is as a town park or private sale.

GUIDELINES FOR ACCEPTING PUBLIC LAND DEDICATIONS

The Town of Dekorra ordinances 10.81 through 10.85 regarding public land dedication are included in appendix B.

1. The acceptance of public land under the requirements of the Land Division Ordinance should be generally predicated on the identified need for parkland as described in the Comprehensive Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan.
2. The dedications should take into consideration trail and recreational walkway access providing links to other town facilities as well as the land required for actual park improvements.
3. Land used for trails and recreational walkways that serve existing or proposed neighborhood community parks and trails paralleling environmental corridors should be accepted as part of the public land dedications, where such land is not within wetlands or 100-year floodplains and such land provides key linkages between residential neighborhoods and community facilities.
4. Land needed for stormwater management or land within delineated wetlands or 100-year floodplains should not be accepted as dedicated parkland.
5. Where feasible, parkland should be located adjacent to either school or environmental corridors in order to take advantage of shared-use opportunities and maximize the utilization of environmental areas for recreational benefits.
6. As a general rule, mini-parks and playgrounds less than 2 acres are more costly to improve and maintain on a per acre basis. Where feasible, consideration should be given to the accumulation of public land that could support the activities of a community park.

Maintenance and Operations

While adding new park land is important to serving new residential areas, the Town Parks Commission is committed to a program of maintaining existing parks in a good condition and providing sufficient funds for operations. Such maintenance and operation include providing sufficient budget for the following:

1. Maintaining and replacing facilities and equipment, as needed.
2. Mowing and maintaining the lawn and landscaped areas.
3. Keeping the parks litter-free.

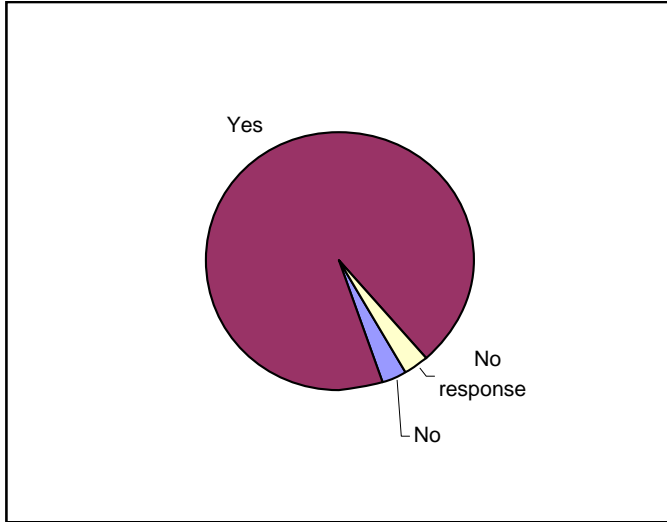
These maintenance and operations need to be considered as part of the overall budgeting for park facilities. As new lands are added to the park system, there needs to be sufficient additional funds budgeted for maintenance and operations.

Existing usage review

The Parks Commission will assess existing Town owned lands and make recommendations as to whether the Town should continue to own all these properties or whether some of them should be sold. Lands assessed shall include parks, water accesses, and erosion control green space (such as in the Beach Gardens Plat). Assessment should include level of existing uses, suitability for future development, whether the Town can indeed sell the land if it chooses (some lands if vacated by the Town may need to revert to adjacent landowners). An assessment should be made as to whether the lands are truly used by the public in general or only by adjacent property owners and their friends/patrons. Existing uses may include water access, recreation, erosion control or common green space buffer. An assessment should be made as to the benefits of using monies from the sale of less desirable properties to more fully develop other more suitable lands. An assessment and report on the impact of such action will provide the data to create an informed decision. The report along with recommendations will be presented to the Town Board for possible action. Any action by the Town Board will include a public hearing on each of the identified parcels or lots.

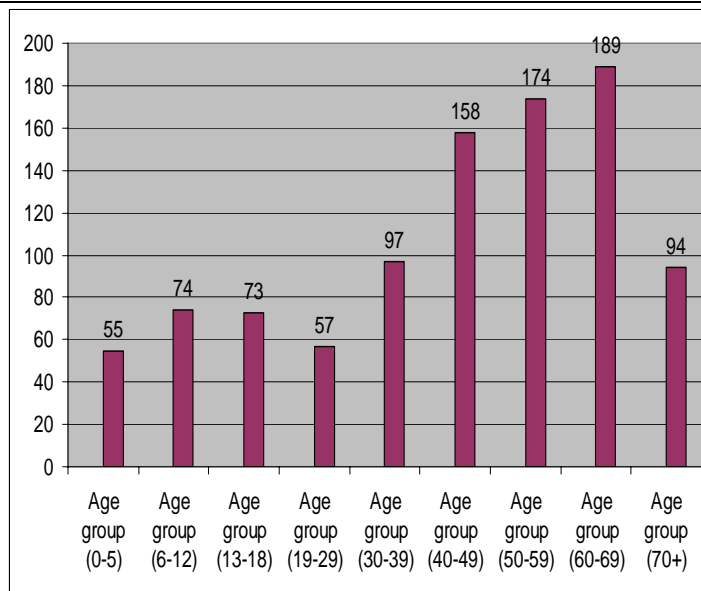
Appendix A

Survey summary



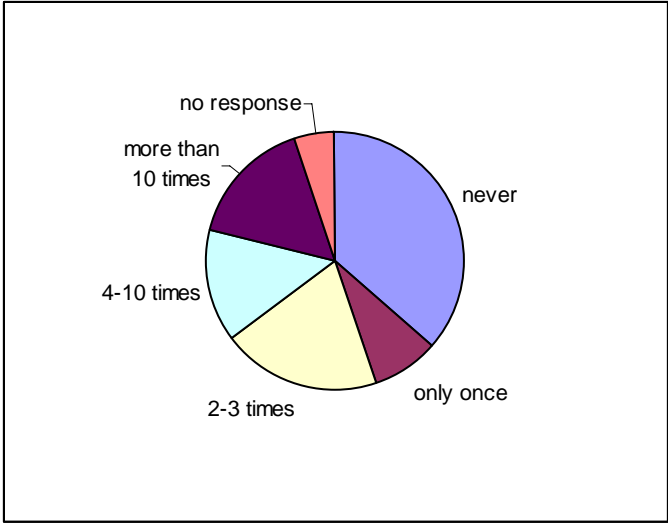
Q1 - Are you a landowner in the town of Dekorra?

Response	# resp	% resp
No	11	3.0%
Yes	348	94.1%
No response	11	3.0%



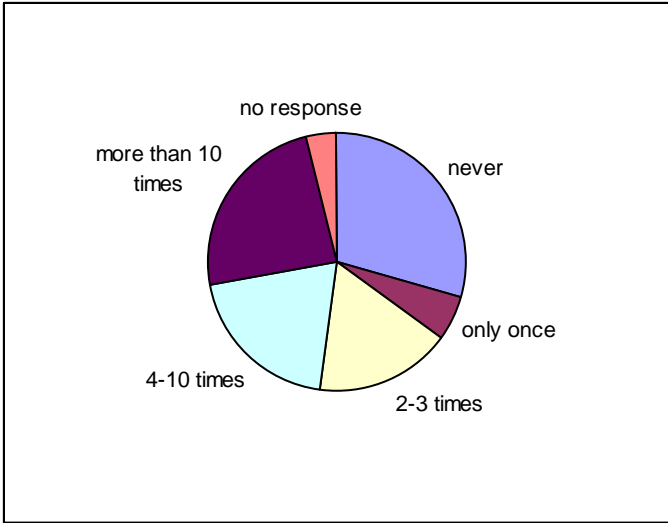
Q2 - Please fill in the number of people in each age group in your household.

Age	# of persons
0-5	55
6-12	74
13-18	73
19-29	57
30-39	97
40-49	158
50-59	174
60-69	189
70+	94



Q3 - How many times have you visited a Dekorra park in the last year?

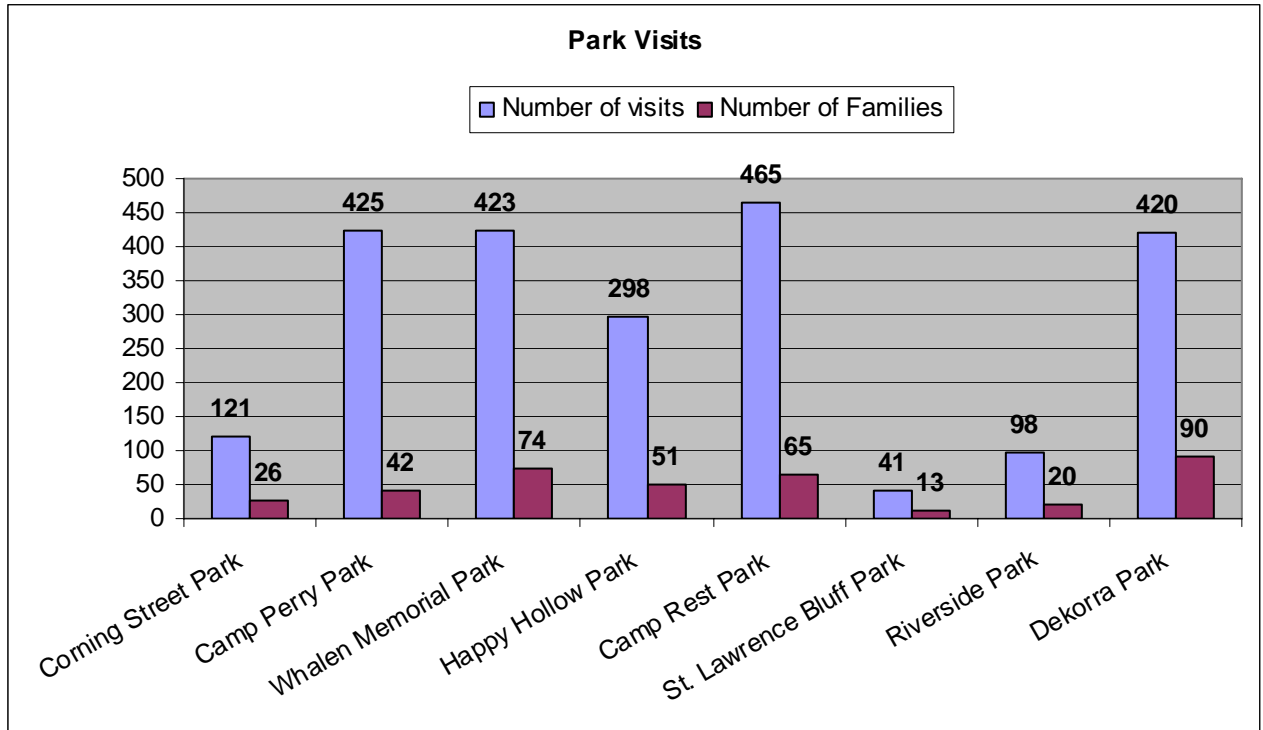
response	# resp.	% resp.
never	135	36.5%
only once	30	8.1%
2-3 times	74	20.0%
4-10 times	53	14.3%
more than 10 times	60	16.2%
no response	18	4.9%



Q4 - How many times have you visited a boat landing / water access in the last year?

response	# resp.	% resp.
never	109	29.5%
only once	20	5.4%
2-3 times	63	17.0%
4-10 times	74	20.0%
more than 10 times	90	24.3%
no response	14	3.8%

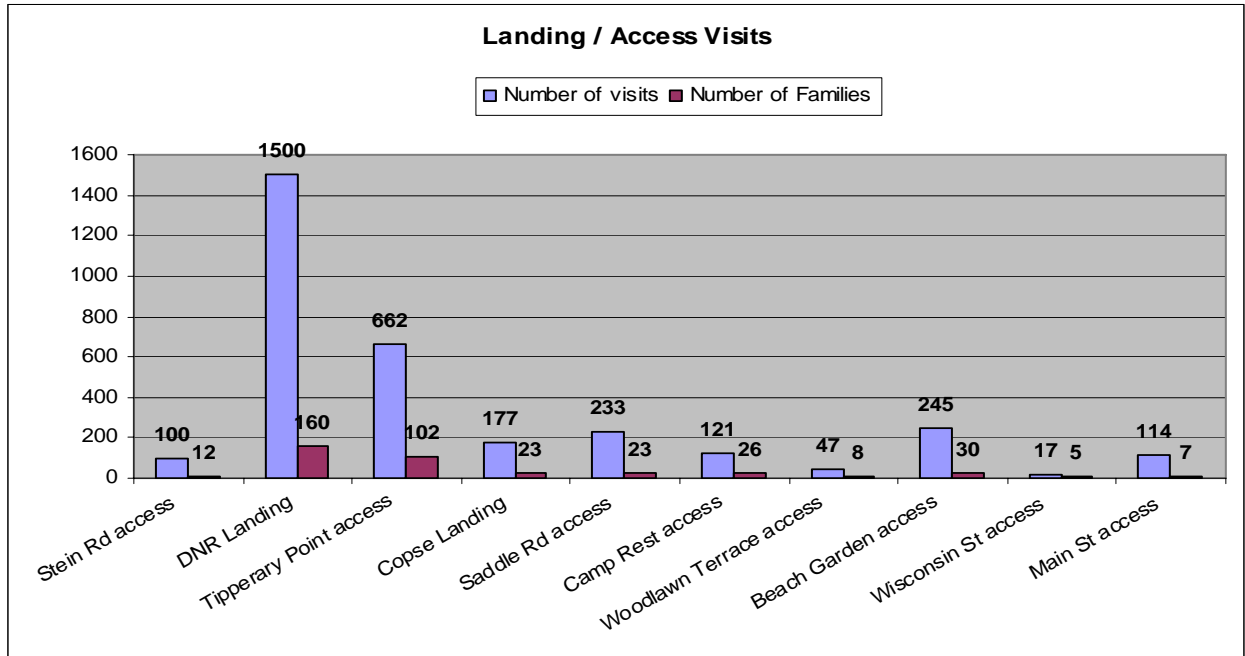
Q5(parks) – Approximately how many times in the past year has anyone in your household visited the following park, recreational or water access areas in Dekorra? (Write-in others not listed).



Note: The Number of Families is graphed along with the park visits to help show how many different surveys had an entry for a specific park. For example, since the question asked "how many visits", a single survey could have 50 visits to one park by one family.

Park name	# visits	% visits	# resp.	% resp.
Corning Street Park	121	5.3%	26	7.0%
Camp Perry Park	425	18.6%	42	11.4%
Whalen Memorial Park	423	18.5%	74	20.0%
Happy Hollow Park	298	13.0%	51	13.8%
Camp Rest Park	465	20.3%	65	17.6%
St. Lawrence Bluff Park	41	1.8%	13	3.5%
Riverside Park	98	4.3%	20	5.4%
Dekorra Park	420	18.3%	90	24.3%
No Response			280	75.7%
Total visits	2291			

Q5(Accesses) – Approximately how many times in the past year has anyone in your household visited the following park, recreational or water access areas in Dekorra? (Write-in others not listed).

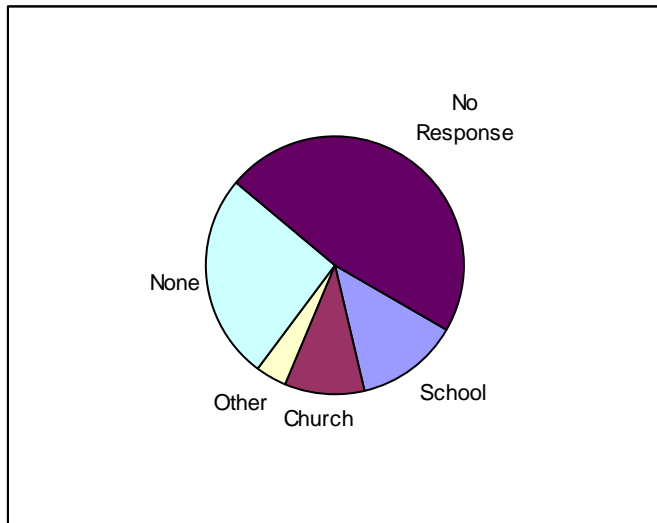


Note: The Number of Families is graphed along with the access visits to help show how many different surveys had an entry for a specific access. For example, since the question asked "how many visits", a single survey could have 100 visits to one access by one family.

Access name	# visits	% visits	# resp.	% resp.
Stein Rd access	100	3.1%	12	3.2%
DNR Landing	1500	46.6%	160	43.2%
Tipperary Point access	662	20.6%	102	27.6%
Copse Landing	177	5.5%	23	6.2%
Saddle Rd access	233	7.2%	23	6.2%
Camp Rest access	121	3.8%	26	7.0%
Woodlawn Terrace access	47	1.5%	8	2.2%
Beach Garden access	245	7.6%	30	8.1%
Wisconsin St access	17	0.5%	5	1.4%
Main St access	114	3.5%	7	1.9%
No response			210	56.8%
Total visits	3216			

Q6 - How many people in your household participated in the following activities in the past year in the Dekorra area? (Sorted by % responded).

	# activities	% act.	# resp.	% resp.
Boated	732	14.6%	230	62.2%
Walked / Jogged / Hiked	555	11.1%	212	57.3%
Visited Beach / swam	649	12.9%	204	55.1%
Fished	534	10.6%	201	54.3%
Viewed nature	414	8.3%	149	40.3%
Party, event, fireworks	445	8.9%	147	39.7%
Biked / rollerblade	259	5.2%	102	27.6%
Picnicked	284	5.7%	88	23.8%
Played on playground equipment	240	4.8%	82	22.2%
Snow mobiled / ATVed	179	3.6%	73	19.7%
Played in open area (tag, etc.)	173	3.4%	50	13.5%
Basketball	90	1.8%	34	9.2%
Sledded	100	2.0%	34	9.2%
Tennis	81	1.6%	32	8.6%
Baseball / softball	81	1.6%	29	7.8%
Ice Skated	73	1.5%	28	7.6%
Rode Horseback	36	0.7%	16	4.3%
Other	35	0.7%	15	4.1%
Soccer	27	0.5%	12	3.2%
Volleyball	31	0.6%	8	2.2%
No response			140	37.8%

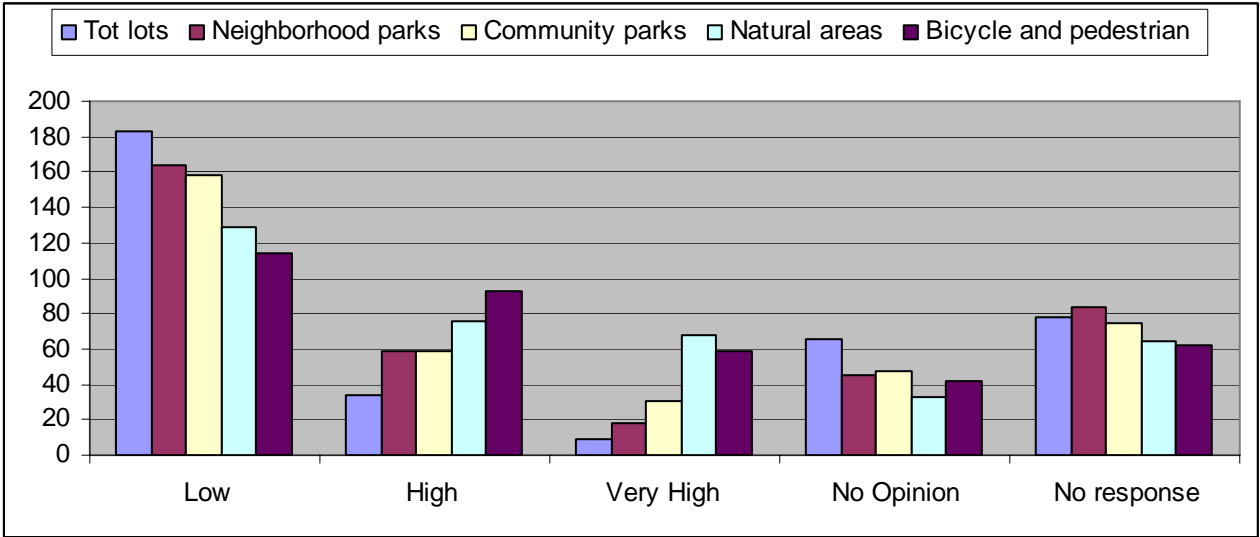


Q7 - Did you or your family utilize Dekorra-area school, church or other playgrounds or facilities in the past year for recreational purposes?

response	# resp.	% resp.
School	47	12.7%
Church	37	10.0%
Other	15	4.1%
None	96	25.9%
No Response	175	47.3%

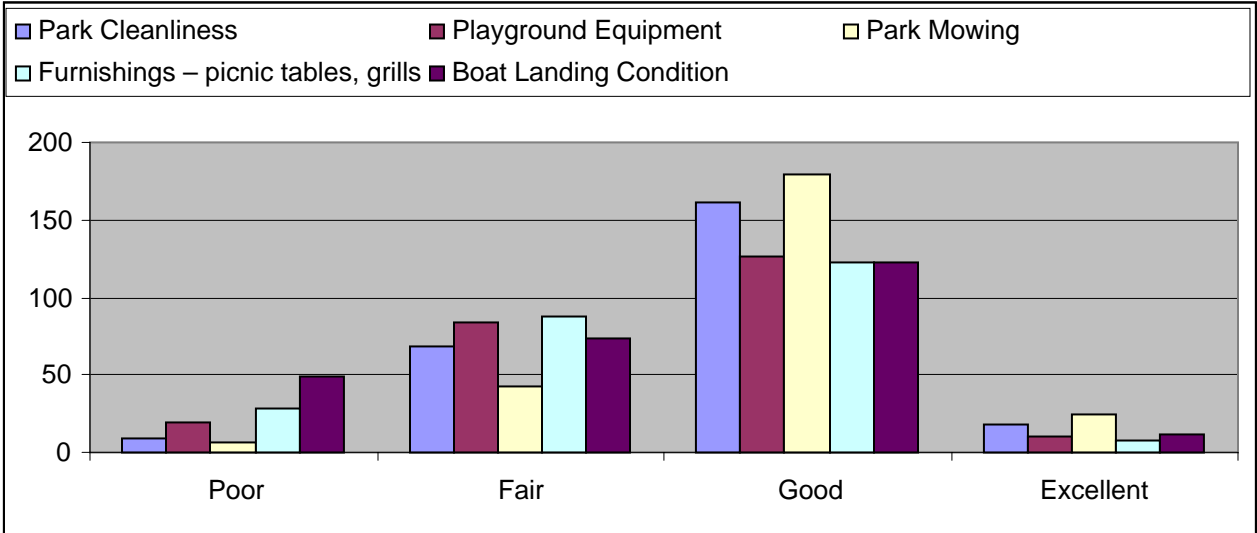
Q8 – Which of the following types of parks are currently needed to serve Dekorra residents? Tell us whether you think the Town has enough or needs more of each of the following types of facilities.

Type of Park	Low Priority Have enough of these	High Priority Need these and should make them a "high" or "very high" priority.	Very High Priority	No Opinion	No response (Box Left blank)
Tot lots (small, less than 2 acre parks with limited playground equipment, benches, etc.)	183	34	9	66	78
Neighborhood parks (5 - 10 acres with ball fields, playground equipment, basketball court, tennis court, picnic area, etc.)	164	59	18	45	84
Community parks (10 or more acres with a wide variety of active and passive facilities, which may include ball fields, concession areas, tennis courts, basketball courts, walking trails, playground equipment, picnic areas, natural areas, etc.)	158	59	31	47	75
Natural areas such as nature trails, wildlife viewing areas, interpretive centers which are focused on historical or natural features such as rivers, streams, ponds, wetlands, woodlands, etc.	129	76	68	33	64
Bicycle and pedestrian trails which utilize existing public right-of-ways	114	93	59	42	62



Q9 - How would you rate the following characteristics of the Town's park system? Please answer for each of the categories listed below with either a comment or checkmark. Please identify the park or landing if you have specific comments.

Characteristics of the Town's Park System	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	No response
Park Cleanliness	9	69	161	18	113
Playground Equipment Condition	20	84	127	10	129
Park Mowing	7	42	180	24	117
Furnishings – picnic tables, grills, etc.	28	88	122	8	124
Boat Landing Condition	49	74	122	11	114



Appendix B

Town of Dekorra Public Land Dedication Ordinances

SECTION 10.81 GENERAL PARK, CONSERVANCY AREAS, SHORELAND ACCESS, RECREATIONAL TRAIL, AND PUBLIC LAND DEDICATION REQUIREMENTS

- (a) **Dedication Requirement.** In order that adequate open spaces and sites for public uses may be properly located and reserved and in order that the cost of providing public areas, such as but not limited to, parks, recreation areas and public schools may be equitably apportioned on the basis of additional need created by the land division development, each land divider shall be required to dedicate land or fees in lieu of land for park or other public uses.
- (b) **General Design.** In the design of a land division, provision shall be made for suitable sites of adequate area for schools, parks, playgrounds, open spaces, drainageways, recreational trails, conservancy areas, and other public purposes. Such sites are to be shown on the Preliminary Plat and Final Plat, and shall comply with the Town Land Use Plan, Comprehensive Plan, or component of said Plan. Consideration shall be given to the preservation of scenic and historic sites, stands of trees, marshes, lakes, ponds, streams, watercourses, watersheds, ravines and woodlands, prairie and wetlands, and plant and animal communities.

SECTION 10.82 PARKLAND, CONSERVANCY AREAS, AND RECREATIONAL TRAIL DEDICATION

- (a) **Dedication Calculation.** When land within the Town is divided, a parkland, conservancy area, and recreational trail dedication of five thousand (5,000) square feet of land per dwelling unit will be required. Whenever a proposed playground, park, conservancy area, recreational trail, or other public area, other than streets or drainageways, designated in the Town Land Use or Comprehensive Plan is embraced, all or in part, in the tract of land to be divided, these lands shall be made part of the required dedication. The Town Board shall have authority to determine the suitability and adequacy of parkland, conservancy areas, and recreational trails proposed for dedication. Drainageways, wetlands, or areas reserved for streets shall not be considered as satisfying land dedication requirements.
- (b) **Shoreland.**
- (1) **Lake and Stream Shore Plats.** All land divisions abutting on a navigable lake or stream shall provide public access at least sixty (60) feet wide providing access to the low watermark so that there will be public access, which is connected to existing public roads, at not more than one-half (1/2) mile intervals as measured along the lake or stream shore except where greater intervals and wider access is agreed upon by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the Wisconsin Department of Development, and excluding shore areas where public parks or open-space streets or roads on either side of a stream are provided. No public access established under this Chapter may be vacated except by Circuit Court action. This Subsection does not require the Town to improve land provided for public access.
- (2) **Lots Adjacent to Lake or Stream Shore.** The lands lying between the meander line, established in accordance with Wis. Stats. § 236.20(2)(g), and the water's edge, and

any otherwise unplattable lands which lie between a proposed land division and the water's edge shall be included as part of lots, outlots, or public dedications in any plat abutting a lake or stream. This Subsection applies not only to lands proposed to be divided but also to all lands under option to the land divider or in which the land divider holds any interest and which are contiguous to the lands proposed to be divided and which abut a lake or stream.

(c) **Unknown Number of Dwelling Units.** Where the land division does not specify the number of dwelling units to be constructed, the land dedication shall be based upon the maximum number of units permitted by the Columbia County Zoning Chapter and this Chapter.

(d) **Deeded to the Town.** Land dedicated for public purposes shall be deeded to the Town at the time the Final Plat is approved.

(e) **Access to Dedicated Land.** All dedicated land shall have frontage on a public street and shall have unrestricted public access. There shall be a minimum public street frontage of no less than 15% of the perimeter of the park.

(f) **Utility Extensions.** The land divider shall install or provide for installation of water and sanitary sewer lines to the property line of all dedicated land, where such services are to be provided to the adjacent properties.

(g) **Fee in Lieu of Parkland.** In areas where land dedication is not desired by the Town, a fee as specified on the current Town of Dekorra Fee Schedule per lot created will be required. This amount shall be adjusted annually as of January 1st of each year using the "Consumer Price Index-All Urban Consumers for Small Metropolitan Areas," prepared by the United States Department of Labor. The determination of whether land, money, or a combination thereof will be required shall be at the discretion of the Town Board, following recommendation of the Plan Commission.

Such fees may only be used for additional land acquisition for parks, conservancy areas, and recreational trail areas or for the development of parks, conservancy areas and recreational trail areas and shall be payable at the time of Final Plat approval. Funds paid to the town under any Fees in Lieu of Land provision or contributed from other sources for park, conservancy area and recreational trail development acquisition, and improvement are to be placed in a separate account designated for park, conservancy area, and recreational trail development and improvement projects. Said accounts shall be continuing accounts and shall not lapse at the end of a budget period.

SECTION 10.83 DEVELOPMENT OF PARK AREA

(a) When parklands are dedicated, the land divider is required to:

- (1) Properly grade and contour for proper drainage;
- (2) Provide surface contour suitable for anticipated use of area; and

(3) Cover areas to be seeded with a minimum of four (4) inches of quality topsoil, seed as specified by the Town, fertilized with 16-6-6 fertilizer at a rate of seven (7) pounds per one thousand (1,000) square feet, and mulched. The topsoil furnished for the park site shall consist of the natural loam, sandy loam, silt loam, silty clay loam, or clay loam humus-bearing soils adapted to the sustenance of plant life, and such topsoil shall be neither excessively acid nor excessively alkaline.

(b) The Town Board may require certification of compliance by the Town Engineer. The cost of such report shall be paid by the land divider.

(c) Development of parklands is to be completed as soon as ten percent (10%) of the planned lots in the subdivision are sold, as determined by the Town Board.

(d) If the land divider fails to satisfy the requirements of this Section, the Town Board may contract said completion and bill such costs to the land divider, following a public hearing and written notice to the land divider of noncompliance. Failure to pay such costs may result in the immediate withholding of all building permits until such costs are paid.

SECTION 10.84 DEVELOPMENT OF TRAILS

(a) **Design Standards.** When recreational trails, trails accessing dedicated parklands or conservancy areas, or other public trails, walkways, or pathways are dedicated, the land divider is required to clear, grade, establish base coarse, and final surface appropriate for the type of trail and use based on the following design standards:

(1) **Primary Recreational Trails**

Width of right-of-way	30 feet
Width of trail	8 feet
Vertical clearing	7 feet
Horizontal clearing	10 feet
Minimum turning radius	10 feet
Surfacing	4 inches of 3/4" crushed stone choked or rolled with fines (quarry dust)

(2) **Secondary Recreational Trails**

Width of right-of-way	15 feet
Width of trail	4 feet
Vertical clearing	7 feet
Horizontal clearing	4 feet
Surfacing	Compacted earth

(b) **Exceptions.** The Town Board, with the advice of the Plan Commission, may require land dividers to develop trails that differ in their design characteristics based on the type of trail and the level of projected use. In those instances where the Town requires a developer to deviate from the design standards, the trail shall be constructed to the standards promulgated by the National Recreation & Park Association, (Park Planning Guidelines, 3rd Edition, 1990 or subsequent editions of this book).

SECTION 10.85 PRESERVATION OF CONSERVANCY AREAS

(a) **Dedicated Conservancy Areas.** When conservancy areas are dedicated to the Town by land dividers, the Town shall be responsible for imposing and enforcing all use restrictions based on the general ordinances of the Town.

(b) **Privately-Owned Conservancy Areas.** When a conservancy area or other open space is to be preserved as permanent open space through deed restrictions or protective covenants in order to meet the requirements of a cluster subdivision, the land divider shall provide the Town with a copy of such deed restrictions or protective covenants at the time that application for a Preliminary Plat is submitted.

Appendix C

Map of Park and Outdoor Recreation areas

Attachment: Map depicting publicly owned land in the Town of Dekorra as prepared by the Columbia County Land Information Department October 2008.