

2023 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

In April, the City adopted a new Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP). This new plan updates the 2008 plan. The entire CORP is available on the City’s website. Additionally, the website has an interactive park inventory of all the parks and their features. Below are some of the plan highlights.

Park Statistics:

The City of Edgerton owns and maintains 82 acres of developed parkland in eight total Neighborhood and Community Parks. Including conservancy and special use areas, the City of Edgerton owns 109 acres of parkland in a total of 14 parks. Additionally, there are multiple other municipal, state, and county parks and trails within close proximity of the community. The analysis of the geographic distribution of existing facilities in relationship to community residents found that the majority of Edgerton is well covered in terms of service areas, but there are a few identified existing gaps within Edgerton, primarily at the edges of the community. Based on the City’s projected population and the local standard of 14 active acres per 1,000 residents, Edgerton will need to provide approximately 10 additional acres of active parkland by 2033, and 18 new acres of parkland by 2043.

Residents reported that they use the park system frequently. Notably, 69% of respondents use the community’s parks at least once per month, with 43% indicating that they use park facilities more than once per month. The City’s most utilized facilities include: • Racetrack Park (94% of respondents) • Central Park (83% of respondents) • Edgerton Aquatic Center/City Pool (63% of respondents) • Fishing Pond Park (34% of respondents).

What do Edgerton Residents want in their park system?

To make sure the plan that was developed was based on the interests and desires of the community, the planning process included many forms of public participation. In addition to several public meetings of the Parks Committee, there were stakeholder interviews, and a community wide online survey.

The online survey took place over several weeks in the fall of 2022. In total, 541 people provided feedback. The survey focused on obtaining public opinion and feedback on the current levels of park use, current conditions, and future needs of the Edgerton park and recreation system.

Of the 541 respondents, 67% were City residents and the rest were mainly from neighboring towns and cities. Notably, nearly 28% of respondents indicated that they were

residents of neighboring townships, highlighting the important role that Edgerton’s park facilities play in meeting the needs of not only the City’s residents, but also those of nearby communities.

The results of the 2022 survey provide valuable insights into the perspectives, desires, and needs of the community. Respondents indicated that they would like to see more active community parks with larger facilities such as playfields and courts for various sports. Passive recreational and natural areas with unpaved trails, wildlife viewing opportunities, picnic areas, woodlands and wetlands were also among the highest priorities for new facilities. The highest priority for new specialized facilities reported in the 2022 survey was the creation of splash pads, with 44% of respondents indicating the need for such facilities. Rounding out the top five facilities desired by respondents were outdoor ice rinks (38%), community gardens (29%), natural areas (26%), and dog parks (24%).

Regarding additional active transportation facilities, there was a strong preference for the addition of paved multi-use trails for recreation and travel throughout the community (indicated by 37% of respondents as the highest priority). Thirty respondents provided additional comments indicating the desire for safer transportation infrastructure and access around the community for children, bicyclists, and pedestrians in the form of off-road trails and traffic calming treatments. Additionally, when asked if they would like to see new or expanded trail networks in the City’s conservancy areas, 73% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed.

Survey responses also indicated that efforts on the City’s part to improve access to information about existing parks, trails, facilities, programming, sports, and events are needed. Respondents strongly agreed that the best ways for the City to increase awareness of park and recreational assets and opportunities are through the creation of an interactive online map of all parks, facilities, and trails. Demand for more digitally accessible information amongst respondents indicates that undertaking these efforts could help the community better activate its park and recreation system.

Another important question was how well the City is maintaining its existing park and recreation facilities. Overall, most respondents expressed that the City is doing well in this area, especially related to park cleanliness, safety, and mowing. Just under 50% of responses indicated satisfaction with park maintenance, and 23% were very satisfied.



DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC WORKS NOTICES

Large item pick-up is generally the 4th week of every month on your regularly scheduled pick up day (see the city's website for specific dates). You are not required to call to request a pick up. If you have a large item that requires two people to collect, like a refrigerator, Badgerland would appreciate a call. (608) 580-0580. Large item pick up does not include electronics and tires. Please do not place large items at the curb for collection more than 24 hours before collection day.

Waste Oil and Car Batteries: City of Edgerton residents can bring waste oil and used car batteries to the City garage on September 27th and December 28th from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm. There is a limit of 15 gal. of waste oil and 3 batteries per year per household. Burns Full Service and City Trans also take waste oil.

E-waste: The next electronic waste collection event for City of Edgerton residents who have collection through the City waste contract will take place on Saturday, September 23rd from 8:00am-11:00am at the City Garage, 315 W High St.

Grass and Weeds: Grass and weeds must be maintained at six inches or less in the City. If grass and weeds are not maintained according to the City Ordinance, the Department of Public Works will mow and there will be a charge to the property owners. All trees, bushes, or vegetation should be trimmed over streets and sidewalks.

Clean Sweep: Hazardous Chemical collection is on Saturday, August 26, 2023 from 9:00am-11:00am at the Rock County Public Works Garage, 3715 Newville Rd, Janesville. Advanced sign up is required (608)754-6617.

Election Workers Needed!!

Are you interested in being a part of the election process? Consider being an election worker for the City of Edgerton. All it takes is a few hours of training and you can be a part of a dedicated election staff. For more information



please contact City Clerk Wendy Loveland at 608-884-3341, or wloveland@edgerton.wi.gov.

WDNR Tree Inventory Grant

You may see the City's tree inventory intern in your neighborhood this summer. Thanks to a \$5,000 grant from the WDNR's Urban Forestry Grant Program, the city was able to hire a UW Steven's Point forestry student to inventory all the public trees in the City. The inventory process involves identifying the type, size, location and quality of each tree using a GPS data gathering tool. The data collected is then transferred to a GIS mapping system so the staff can use the data to better care for our urban forest.

The data will also be useful when selecting replacement trees so that we ensure a diversity of public trees are planted and that no one tree type dominates the tree population. Such diversity protects against the sort of devastating losses that occurred with the American Elm tree decades ago and, more recently, with the Ash trees. The data will also be useful in determining where street trees are needed.

By the end of the summer, the city will be able to report the makeup of Edgerton's Urban Forest.

New Traffic Safety Lights

The 2023 Budget provides funds for several new pedestrian safety warning lights. Five new signs will be installed within the next few months. Look for signs in the following locations:

Rapid Flashing Beacons: A rapid flashing beacon light is a pedestrian activate, flashing light. They are designed to grab the attention of drivers, providing a clear visual cue that pedestrians are present.

Two of these systems will be installed this summer: one on N Main Street at Jenson Street and one on W Fulton Street at Albion Street.

Programmable, lighted pedestrian crossing signs: Two lighted pedestrian crossing signs will be installed to assist student pedestrians. They will be located on W Fulton Street at IKI Drive and on Randolph Street at Ridgeway Street. Lights around the perimeter of the sign will be on during peak pedestrian activity. Having signs operate intermittently will improve their visibility.

Speed sign on S Main Street: One of the finishing touches made to the S Main Street corridor is a vehicular speed detection sign. The sign was installed to remind incoming traffic that the speed limit is decreasing to 25 MPH.

AQUATIC CENTER

The pool is open!!!!!!

Hours are Monday-Friday 12:00pm-5:00pm & 6:00pm-8:00pm, Sat-Sun 12:00pm-7:00pm. For more information please call 608-884-3232.



PAY YOUR UTILITY BILL WITH AUTO WITHDRAW

The City of Edgerton offers an auto withdraw option for payment on your water/sewer bills. The full amount is withdrawn from your checking or savings account on the Friday before the due date. The entire amount due must be withdrawn on that day. No more writing checks or remembering to pay the quarterly bill. If you are interested in this option please stop in at City Hall to complete an authorization form. For questions please call (608) 884-3341.