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**AGENDA
VILLAGE OF SUSSEX
PARKS & RECREATION BOARD
6:30 PM TUESDAY, AUGUST 15, 2023
SUSSEX CIVIC CENTER – 1st FLOOR COMMUNITY ROOM
N64W23760 MAIN STREET, SUSSEX, WI 53089**

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 19.84, Wis. Stats., notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Village of Sussex Park & Recreation Board, at which a quorum of the Village Board may attend in order to gather information about a subject which they have decision making responsibility. The meeting will be held at the above noted date, time and location. Notice of Village Board Quorum, (Chairperson to announce the following if a quorum of the Village Board is virtually in attendance at the meeting: Please let the minutes reflect that a quorum of the Village Board is present and that the Village Board members may be making comments under any area where the public may comments or if the rules are suspended to allow them to do so.)

1. Roll Call
2. Consideration and possible action on the minutes from the June 20, 2023, meeting
3. Review and Possible Action on Tree Removal in Tree Preservation Easement for Hidden Hills, Michael and Sharon Hilgart, N75W23862 High Ridge Dr.
4. Discussion on Parks and Open Space Plan for the Village of Sussex – Chapter 1-4
5. Discussion and Possible Action on Coldwater Creek Park Plan
6. Comments from Citizens Present
7. Park & Recreation Director's Report
8. Topics for Future Agenda Items
9. Adjournment

Robert Fourness
Chairperson

Jeremy Smith
Village Administrator

**VILLAGE OF SUSSEX
PARK AND RECREATION BOARD
6:30 PM TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 2023
COLDWATER CREEK PARK
N78W23152 COLDWATER DRIVE, SUSSEX, WI 53089**

MINUTES

Meeting was called to order at 6:32pm.

1. Roll Call

Members Present: Chairman Bob Fourness, Chuck Vojtas, Trustee Ron Wells, Mike Waltz and Kelly Tetting

Members Excused: Nadine Coenen, Chris Kostka

Staff Present: Park & Recreation Director, Halie Dobbeck, Park Foreman, Thom Berres

2. Discussion on Coldwater Creek Park Plan

Dobbeck presented the budget that was provided in the packet and elaborated on each of the components. An open discussion followed with comments from 13 members of the community. The following items were discussed:

- Request for a Sand/Water table in Sandbox with a water line
- Request for Gaga Ball Pit
- Request for Tether Ball
- Request for Soccer Goal
- Request for more seating, either benches or tables
- Power outlet in Park
- There was a strong consensus from those present to eliminate the sandbox.

Park Board requested that staff explore the requested items and present options at the August Park Board meeting.

Consideration and action on minutes from the May 16,2023, meeting.

Motion by Waltz, seconded by Tetting to approve the meeting minutes as presented.

Motion carried 5-0.

3. Comments from Citizens Present

No one present wished to be heard.

4. Park & Recreation Director's Report

Dobbeck shared the following information:

- Day Camp is going well with over 1,100 enrolled weeks this summer.
- Melinda Weaver Park is progressing nicely. The asphalt is curing and fence installation starts soon.

- Youth Sports and Summer Dance programs are well-enrolled this year and underway.
- Cruise Night went well with over 110 cars participating.

5. Topics for Future Agenda Items

No July Meeting

August Meeting – Coldwater Creek Requests and 2024 Budget Requests

6. Adjournment

Motion by Waltz, seconded by Vojtas to adjourn at 7:19 p.m.

Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Halie Dobbeck
Park & Recreation Director

DRAFT



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MEMORANDUM

To: Park and Recreation Board

From: Gabriel Gilbertson, Community Development Director

Re: Tree removal in Tree Preservation Easement for Hidden Hills
Michael and Sharon Hilgart, N75W23862 High Ridge Dr.

Date: 8/10/2023

The Hidden Hills Subdivision was approved with a Tree Preservation Easement on the Plat and in the Deed Restrictions. The restriction reads as follows:

1. The removal or destruction of any vegetative cover, i.e., trees, shrubs, grasses etc. is prohibited, with the exception that dead, diseased or dying vegetation may be removed, at the discretion of the landowner and with approval from the municipality in which this land is located. Silvicultural thinning, upon the recommendation of a forester or naturalist and with approval from the municipality in which the land is located, shall also be permitted. The removal of any vegetative cover that is necessitated to provide access or service to an approved residence or accessory building shall be permitted only when the access or service cannot be located outside of the Tree Preservation Easement and with the approval of the municipality in which this land is located.
2. Grading, filling and removal of topsoil or other earthen material are prohibited unless specifically authorized by the municipality in which this is located.
3. The introduction of plant material not indigenous to the existing environment is prohibited unless specifically authorized by the municipality.

The Hilgart's hired American Arborists Tree Service, Inc. to identify three trees they wish to remove and one tree they recommend to trim and treat. Pictures and a map showing the locations of the trees is attached.

Policy Question:

1. Should the owners be allowed to remove the identified dead, diseased/dying trees, shrubs, and invasive species?
 - a. Staff understands the desire for removal of the dead/dying trees to prevent potential damage to the owner's property, however; Staff believes the intent of the Tree Preservation Area is to have an undisturbed natural area and undergrowth, dead trees, etc. are all part of a natural wooded area. While the applicant's request is understood, it should be balanced with what the intent of the tree preservation area is and if it will set a precedence moving forward with otherer properties that abut the tree preservation.

Action item:

1. Act on the request.

Staff recommends: Staff recommends approval of the removal of trees identified on the survey in the Tree Preservation Easement area for Michael and Sharon Hilgart, N75W23862 High Ridge Dr., submitted by Tim McAloon with American Arborists Tree Service, Inc.

August 10, 2023

To: Village of Sussex Park & Recreation Board

From: Michael and Sharon Hilgart

N75W23862 High Ridge Dr.

Sussex, WI 53089

RE: Removal of trees/limbs in Tree Preservation Easement

We recently moved in to a new home in the Hidden Hills subdivision. We are working with an arborist and a landscaper on a design for the landscaping.

There is a Tree Preservation Easement on the back side of our lot. Some of these trees are in obvious distress, are leaning towards the house, or have rotted trunks which may cause them to fall on neighbors. The arborist is recommending tree maintenance and removals for these trees in the Tree Preservation Easement.

We are concerned about branches or whole trees falling on our home, the sidewalk or on neighbor's yards, and our potential liability for any damages to the neighbors in Majestic Heights.

Please review the letter from our arborist, the attached plat with tree locations, and additional pictures of the trees in question. We respectfully request your approval to proceed with this tree work.

Please let us know if you have any additional questions.

Kind regards,

Mike and Sharon Hilgart



AMERICAN ARBORISTS TREE SERVICE, INC

N48 W31222 HILL STREET, HARTLAND, WI 53029
PHONE: 262-646-9006 EMAIL: sales@americanarborists.com



August 2, 2023

Mike and Sharon Hilgart
N75W23862 High Ridge Dr.
Sussex, WI 53089
Shilgart2@gmail.com
302-562-5103 Mike
302-562-5104 Sharon

To whom it may concern,

American Arborists Tree Service, Inc. suggests removal of 1 cherry tree and 2 basswood trees due to construction damage to trunks of the trees. All construction physical trunk damage incurred will cause decay to the entire circumference of the tree. Basswood trees are poor compartmentalizers, they do not wall off injury. In addition, there is major soil compaction that will be unfavorable for root growth and will also hinder the development of these trees. Please see the attached document and pictures of description and location of Tree A, B & C.

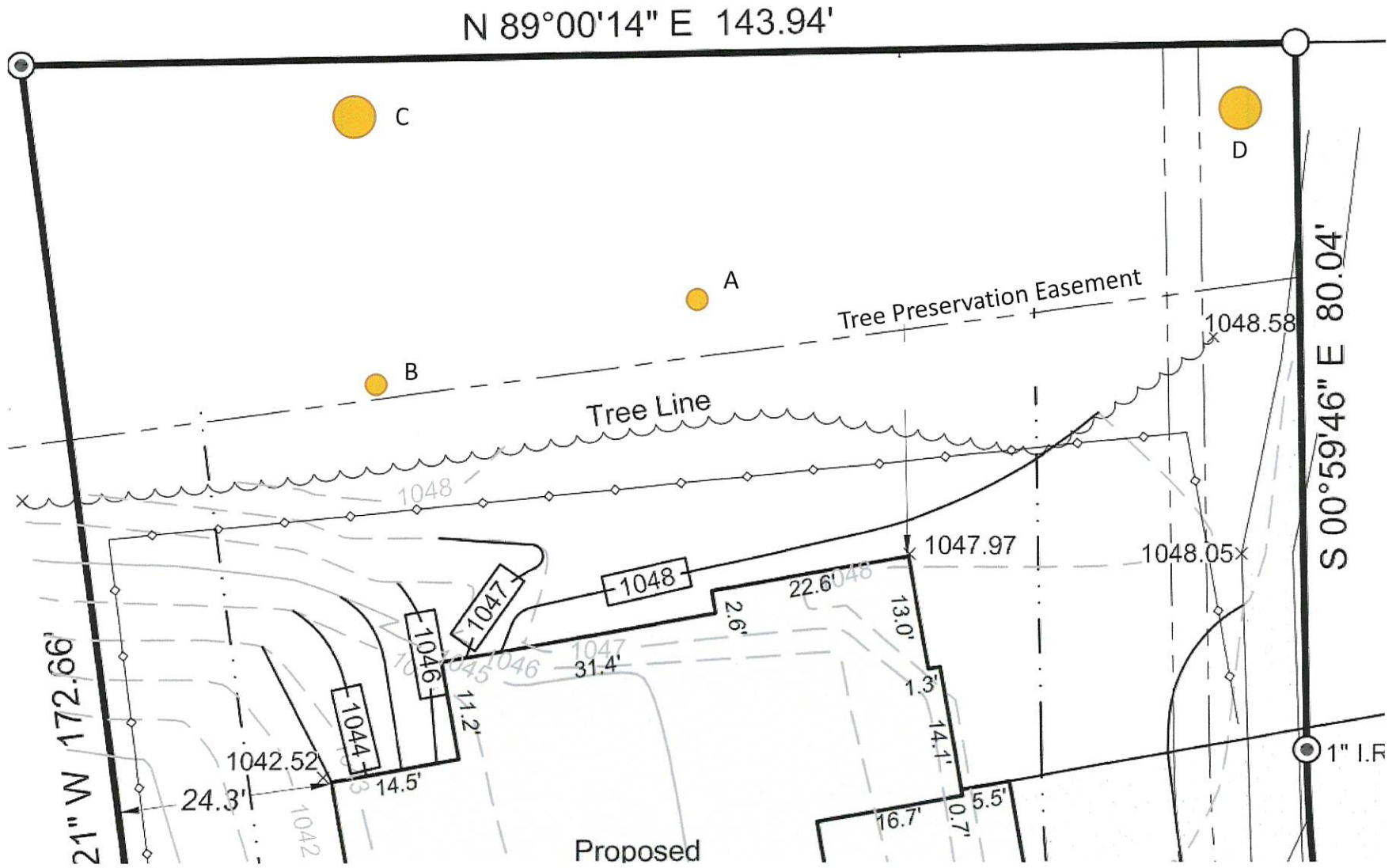
We recommend trimming deadwood from white oak tree (Tree D) and treating with both Cambistat and iron trunk injections due to root disruption from retaining wall installation near sidewalk. Cambistat is administered by soil drench to help with root growth, development and improve chlorophyll production. The iron trunk injections will help relieve chlorotic condition.

We also suggest removing invasive species buckthorn in areas. Buckthorn will impede the mature oak trees crowns and compete with moisture and nutrient at the soil level. Consideration should also be taken to mulch around these trees with ultimate goal of leaving leaf litter and such to create a wild natural look.

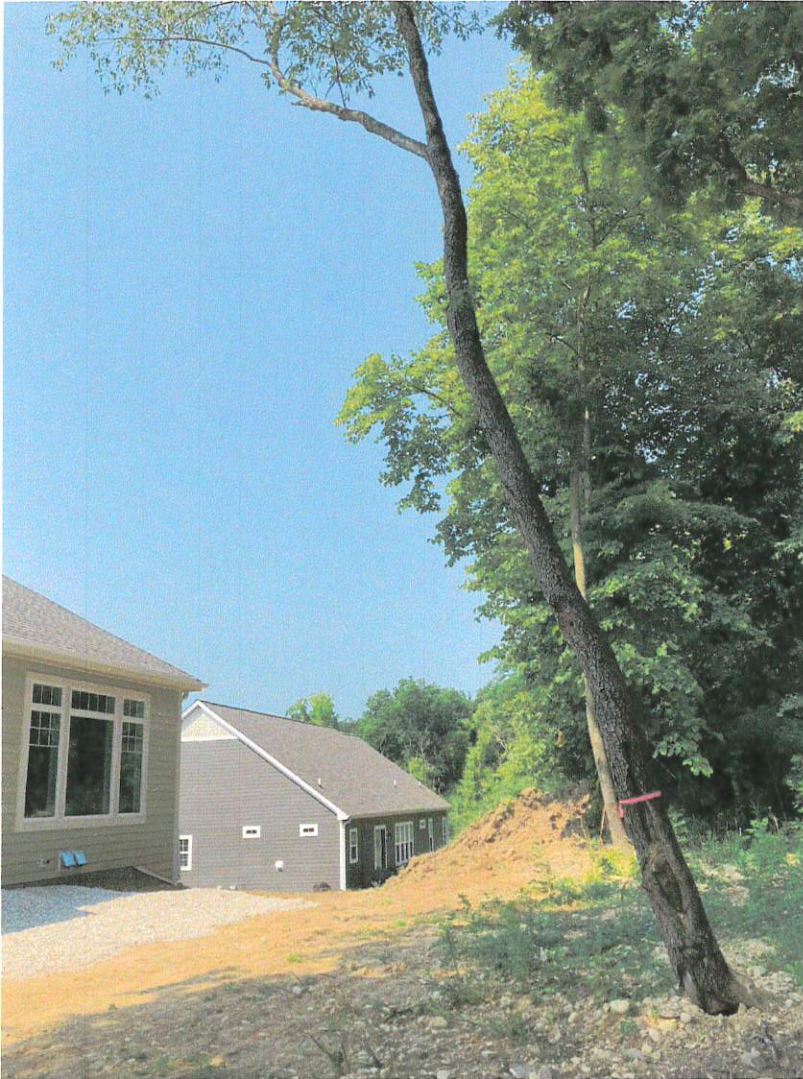
Arborist Crew Leader
Adam Colbenson
ISA Certified Arborist MN-4075A

Tim McAloon
President/Owner
American Arborists Tree Service, Inc
262-646-9006

Tree Locations

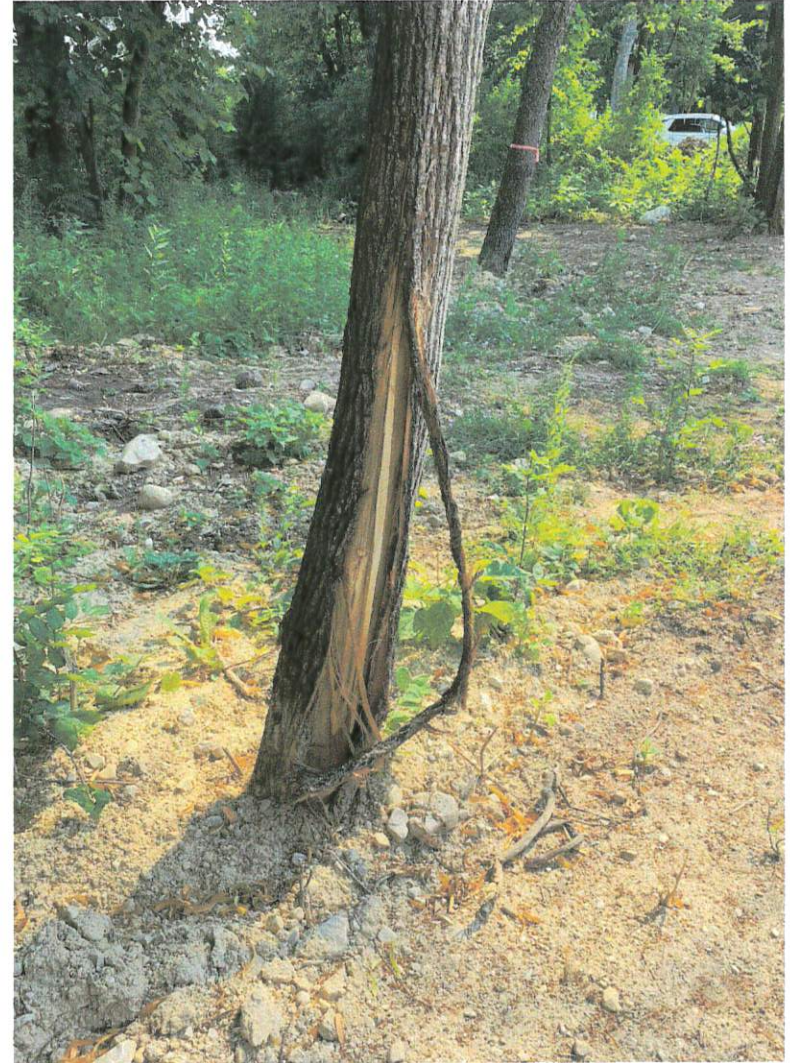


Tree A



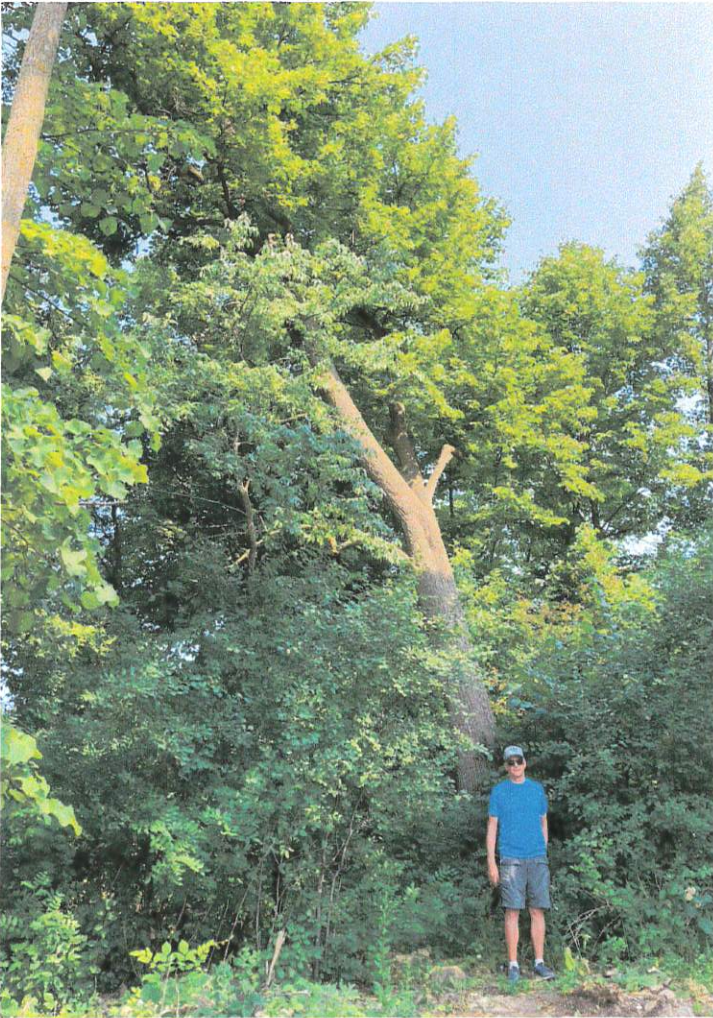
Tree A is a highly diseased cherry tree that is leaning towards the house.

Tree B



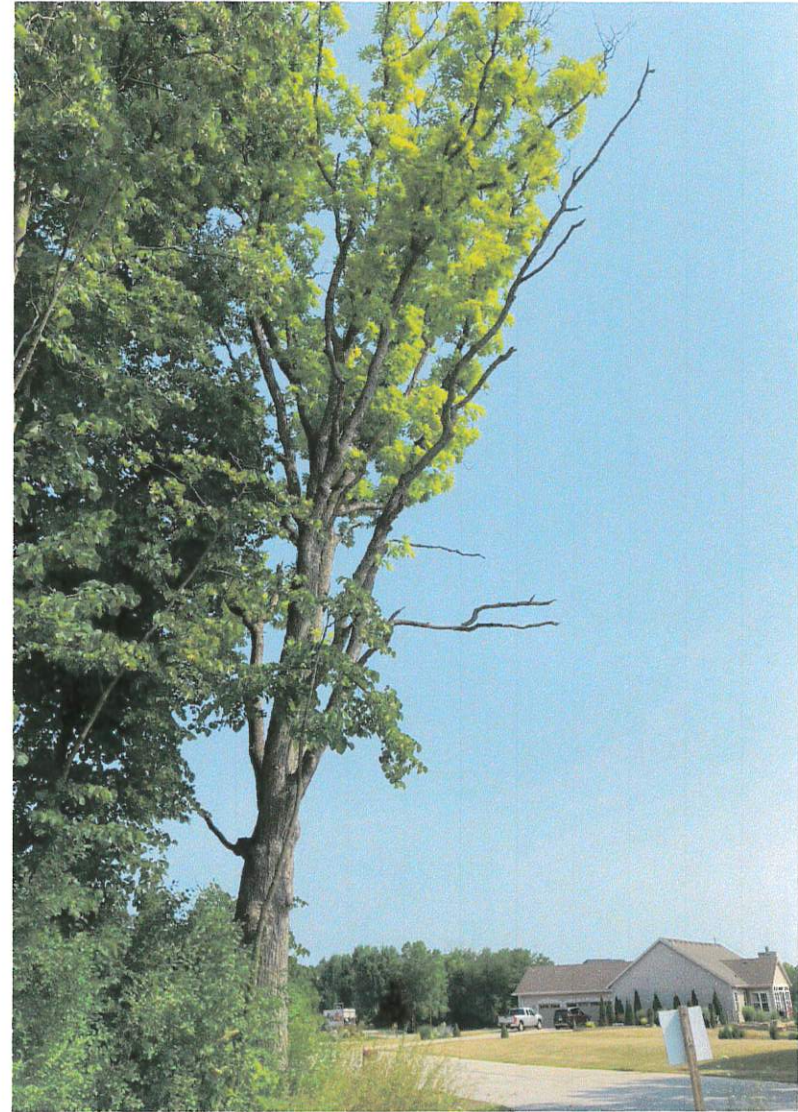
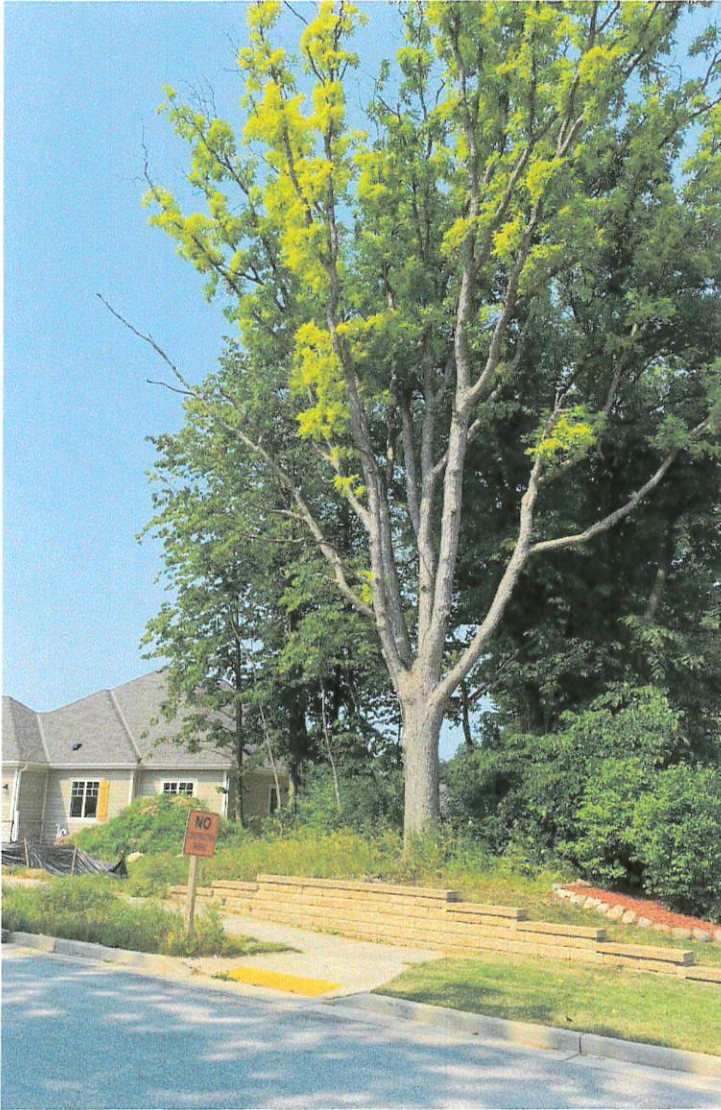
Tree B is a damaged basswood tree surrounded by highly compacted soil.

Tree C



Tree C is a large basswood tree that is leaning away from the house and towards lots in Majestic Heights. The tree used to have 3 main trunks. Only the left trunk remains. The tree trunk is compromised and at risk of coming down.

Tree D



Tree D is a large oak tree with significant root damage (from retaining wall built between tree and sidewalk) and has large dead limbs.

SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 346

A PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN FOR THE VILLAGE OF SUSSEX: 2050

Chapter 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 INTRODUCTION

This park and open space plan for the Village of Sussex is intended to assist in promoting environmental stewardship and to assess current and future park, recreation, and open space needs within the Village. The plan is further intended to guide preserving, developing, and acquiring land for park, outdoor recreation, and open space purposes through implementing over time the recommendations set forth in Chapter 5. The plan seeks to provide a variety of recreational sites and facilities that will offer opportunities for Village residents to participate in an appropriate range of active and passive recreational pursuits and to protect and enhance natural resources within the Village.

This plan is an update of the park and open space plan that was prepared and adopted by the Village in 2013. This updated plan was reviewed on a chapter-by-chapter basis and ultimately approved as a composite report by the Village Park and Recreation Board on _____, 2024. The Village Board adopted the plan on _____, 2024.

Broadly defined, recreation is an activity or experience undertaken solely for the pleasure or satisfaction derived from it. Recreation can be experienced indoors or outdoors, encompasses a wide variety of activities, and permits the opportunity for participation in many resource and nonresource-oriented activities. It includes both mental and physical exercise, personal enjoyment, enhances the quality of life, and provides various social, environmental, and economic benefits. Such benefits include improving physical health and mental well-being for individuals, protecting biological communities and natural

resources, attracting tourism and commercial and residential development, and potentially increasing property values for communities.

Although recreational preferences may vary from individual to individual, recreation occupies a necessary and significant place in every person's life. For the purpose of this report, recreation will be viewed in a narrower framework as including only those recreational activities typically carried on outdoors.

1.2 PLANNING FRAMEWORK

Regional and County Park and Open Space Planning

Owing to the importance of outdoor recreation sites and protecting natural resource areas, park and open space development and use have long been issues of concern to public officials and citizen leaders. On December 1, 1977, the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission adopted SEWRPC Planning Report No. 27, *A Regional Park and Open Space Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin: 2000*, which identified existing and probable future park and open space needs within the Region and recommended a system of large resource-oriented parks, recreational corridors, a regional trail system, smaller nonresource-oriented urban parks, and attendant recreational facilities. The regional park and open space plan was refined and detailed within Waukesha County through preparation of a park and open space plan¹ for the County in 1989. Subsequent amendments to the park and open space plan were incorporated into the Waukesha County development plan² in 1996, 1998, and 2004. The Waukesha County Comprehensive Development Plan was updated in February 2009 and included updated information and recommendations related to park and open space planning. In 2018, the County amended the development plan that also included an update to the park and open space plan component,³ which provided park, recreation, and open space recommendations for the five-year period from 2018 to 2022.

¹*Documented in SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 137, A Park and Open Space Plan for Waukesha County, December 1989.*

²*Documented in SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 209, A Development Plan for Waukesha County, August 1996.*

³*Documented in a report entitled, Waukesha County Park and Open Space Plan, March 2018. The plan is included as Appendix A, a component of the Waukesha County comprehensive plan entitled, Comprehensive Development Plan for Waukesha County, February 2009.*

The County park and open space plan includes recommendations that would provide residents of the County with opportunities to participate in a wide range of resource-oriented outdoor recreation activities and provide a system of large, nature-based regional parks and natural resource-based recreational facilities such as swimming beaches, golf courses, and group picnicking facilities. The County plan also recommends lake and river access sites for fishing and boating (both motor boats and carry-in canoes and kayaks); two County indoor ice arenas; a nature center; an exposition center; a greenway system along major streams; a Countywide bicycle plan; and a Countywide trail system, located primarily within greenways and in utility and/or former railway corridors. An inventory of Waukesha County park and open space sites, recreational facilities, and trails within the Village and the study area is included in Chapter 2.

Village Plans

The Village of Sussex has a long history of land use planning. In addition to previous Village park and open space plans, the Village has prepared land use plans, a downtown development plan, a main street vision and action plan, a park master plan, and most recently, an amended Village Comprehensive Plan⁴ to guide the orderly and efficient growth and development of the Village. Additional information regarding plans that provided a framework for the update of this park and open space plan is provided in Chapter 4.

Village Park and Open Space Planning

The initial park and open space plan for the Village of Sussex was adopted in 1988, with assistance from the Regional Planning Commission, and had a design year of 2000. Since 1988, the Village subsequently adopted park and open space plans in March 1996, August 2007, and October 2013. In June 2022, the Village of Sussex requested that the Regional Planning Commission assist the Village in updating the Village of Sussex Park and Open Space Plan. This Village of Sussex Park and Open Space Plan will have a design year of 2050. The Commission initiated the plan update in February 2023.

This plan provides an inventory of existing park and open space sites and recreational facilities, assesses the potential need for parks and recreational facilities based on accessibility and per capita standards, and provides recommendations for park and open space acquisition, facilities development, and recreational improvements within the Village. This plan also takes into account the recommendations of the amended 2040 Village of Sussex Comprehensive Plan and public input, including results from a public opinion survey conducted by the Village in 2023. In addition to updating the recommended park and open space

⁴*Documented in a report entitled, Village of Sussex Comprehensive Plan: 2040, May 2018. The 2040 comprehensive plan updates the 2020 Village comprehensive plan that was adopted by the Village in March 2003.*

plan for the Village, this plan will provide the Village the ability to qualify for and potentially receive Federal and State aids in support of acquiring and developing park and open space sites and facilities. Applications to potentially receive Federal or State aids must be submitted to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources prior to May 1 annually.

1.3 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

This park and open space plan was reviewed and discussed at meetings of the Village Parks and Recreation Board from August 2023 to _____ 2024. All meetings were open to the public, and meeting agendas were posted on the Village website in advance of the meetings. Upon completion of a draft plan report, two public open houses were held by the Village Park and Recreation Board on _____, 2023 and _____, 2024 to provide an opportunity for the public to review the plan and provide comments. The first open house was held to solicit public comment early in the planning process, including the preparation of a Village parks survey. The second open house included the consolidated draft plan, a plan summary, and a comment form for the public to review and submit comments. Those documents were also available at the Village Hall. Written comments and responses on the draft plan are summarized in Chapter 4.

1.4 ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The planning process was conducted under the guidance of the Village of Sussex Park and Recreation Board. The Board consists of a Village Board member and six Village citizens. Staff support was provided by the Village Parks and Recreation Department. A list of Park and Recreation Board members and Village support staff is provided on the inside front cover of this report.

1.5 STUDY AREA

The study area, shown on Map 1.1, consists of the entire Village of Sussex, which is located in U. S. Public Land Survey Township 8 North and Range 19 East in the north-central portion of Waukesha County. As of 2023, the Village encompasses 5,439 acres, or about 8.5 square miles. The Village is almost entirely bounded by the Village of Lisbon, except for a small portion that abuts the Village of Menomonee Falls to the east. The Village is also located one-half mile or less from the Village of Lannon to the east and from the City of Pewaukee to the south.

1.6 REPORT FORMAT

The findings and recommendations of the Village park and open space plan update are set forth in this report. Following this introductory chapter, Chapter 2 presents information about the Village pertinent to park and open space planning, including information on the resident population, the land use pattern, existing park and open space sites and facilities, and important natural resource areas and features within the Village. The implementation status of plan recommendations from the previous Village park and open space plan are presented in Chapter 3. Chapter 4 summarizes other planning programs affecting this park and open space plan, including the Village's 2040 comprehensive plan and park master plans; summarizes the results of a public opinion parks survey; describes the park and open space objectives, principles, and standards used to prepare this plan; and tabulates the results of applying those standards to the existing park system. Updated park and open space recommendations are presented in Chapter 5.

SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 346

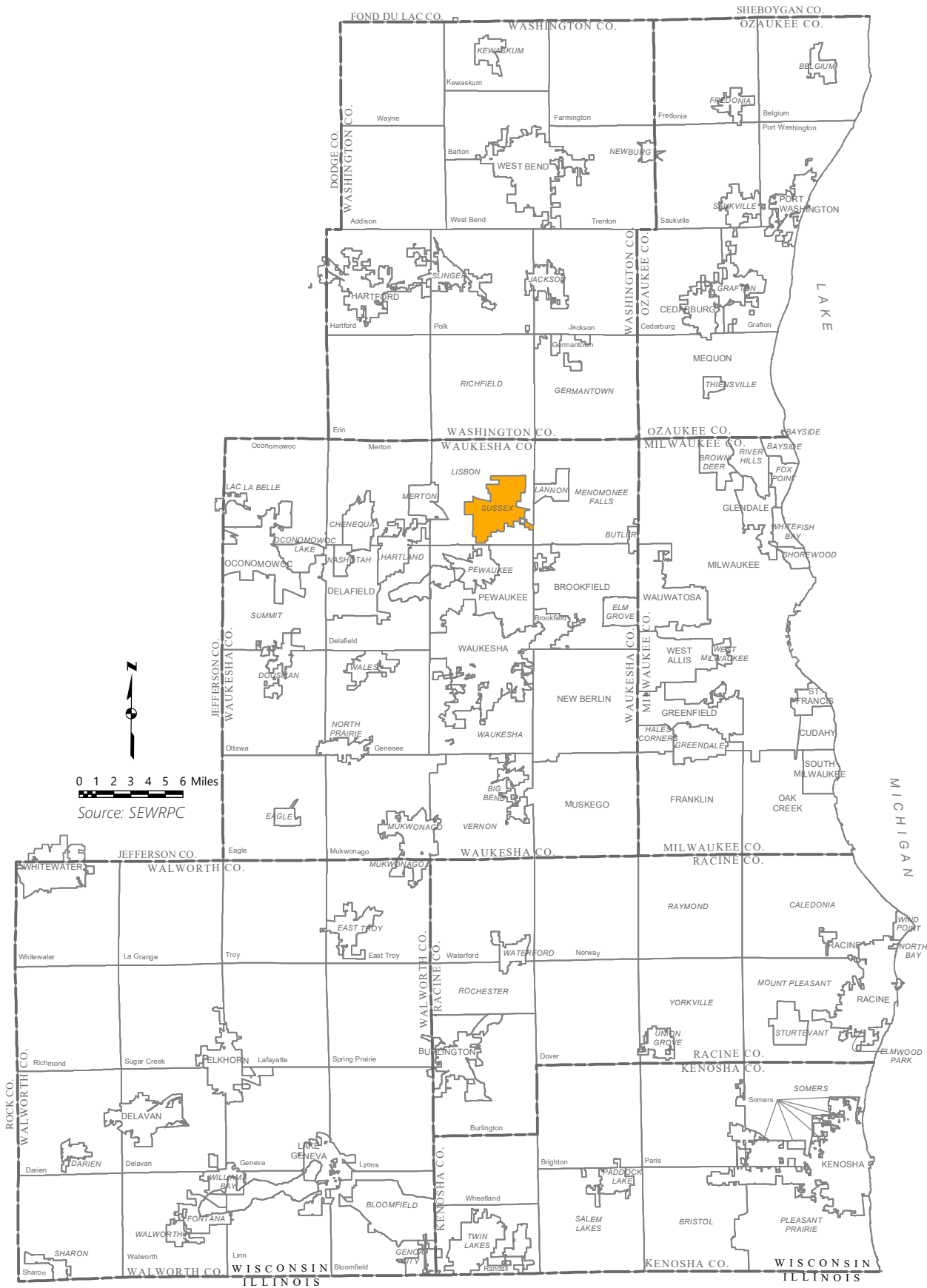
A PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN FOR THE VILLAGE OF SUSSEX: 2050

Chapter 1

INTRODUCTION

MAPS

Map 1.1
Location of the Village of Sussex in Southeastern Wisconsin



SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 346

A PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN FOR THE VILLAGE OF SUSSEX: 2050

Chapter 2

INVENTORY FINDINGS

2.1 INTRODUCTION

Existing resources and other factors that affect developing or improving a system of parks and open space areas within the Village were inventoried to assist in formulating plan recommendations. Information about population and population distribution, the pattern of land use development, existing park and open space sites and facilities, and natural resources within the Village of Sussex and the study area was collected and is presented in this chapter.

2.2 RESIDENT POPULATION

Existing and projected¹ resident population levels are an important consideration in any park and open space planning effort. Data on the historical and existing resident population for Sussex are presented in Table 2.1 and shown in Figure 2.1. As indicated in Table 2.1, the resident population for Sussex has increased steadily between 1930 and 2020, with the largest increases in the total number of people occurring between the years 1990 and 2000, 2000 and 2010, 1960 and 1970, and 1980 and 1990. The Village population level for 2020, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, was 11,487 people, an increase of 969 persons, or about 9 percent, from 2010. The Wisconsin Department of Administration's estimated population for the Village in 2022 is 11,750 people.

¹Projected population levels are presented in Chapter 4 of this report, *Framework for Plan Development*.

2.3 LAND USE BASE

Land use is an important determinant of both the supply of, and the demand for, outdoor recreation, parks, and related open space sites and facilities. Accordingly, an understanding of the amount, type, and spatial distribution of urban and rural land uses within the Village, as well as the historical conversion of rural lands to urban uses, is an important consideration in this park and open space planning effort.

The historic pattern of urban growth in the Village of Sussex for selected years beginning in 1880 is shown on Map 2.1. Map 2.1 identifies areas of the Village where residential structures or other buildings have been constructed in relatively compact groups, thereby indicating concentrations of residential, commercial, industrial, governmental, institutional, or other urban land uses. Urban land uses were first concentrated in the area of Maple Avenue and Main Street in the central portion of the Village. Development occurred in a relatively compact and concentric pattern outward from this area and primarily along Main Street into the 1960's. From 1970 to 2000, development increased steadily, including the beginning of developing large areas for new commercial and industrial areas in the 1980's and the development of new residential subdivisions and the expansions of existing subdivisions during these three decades. From 1991 to 2000, the Village experienced its largest growth in development of any decade with 738 acres developed. From 2000 to 2010, urban growth continued to occur within the Village as industrial development and residential subdivision development and expansion increased, particularly in the northern and southern portions of the Village. During this decade, about 592 acres were developed.

Information on the amount of land devoted to various types of land uses in the Village of Sussex in 2020 is presented in Table 2.2 and shown on Map 2.2. With the Town of Lisbon incorporating as a village in February 2023, Sussex is now completely surrounded by other incorporated municipalities (city and villages), which will prevent annexations by the Village.

Residential uses accounted for the largest percentage of lands developed for urban use (and is the largest land use category in the entire Village as well) encompassing about 28 percent of the total area of the Village and about 51 percent of lands developed for urban use as of 2020. Lands devoted to other urban uses, including commercial; industrial; transportation, communication, and utilities; governmental and institutional; and parks and recreational, together encompassed about 27 percent of the total area of the Village in 2020. Thus, 2,997 acres, comprising about 55 percent of the total area of the Village, were devoted to urban uses in 2020.

About 45 percent of the total area of the Village was devoted to nonurban uses in 2020. Lands in agricultural use occupied about 17 percent of the total area of the Village and about 38 percent of lands in nonurban use in 2020. About 12 and 11 percent of the total area of the Village was comprised of undeveloped/open space land and wetlands, respectively, in 2020. With almost 30 percent of lands devoted to agricultural use or undeveloped/open space in 2020, the Village has opportunities for future growth and development.

The Village of Sussex is served by a well-maintained highway transportation system. Arterial streets and highways serving the Village include STH 164, CTH F (Waukesha Avenue/Main Street), CTH K, CTH V (Townline Road), CTH VV (Main Street/Silver Spring Drive), Good Hope Road, Main Street, Maple Avenue, and Plainview Road.

In addition, two railway rights-of-way traverse the Village, one line owned by the Union Pacific Railroad and one line owned by the Canadian Pacific Railway. Both lines carry freight traffic.

2.4 PARK AND OPEN SPACE SITES

Existing Park and Open Space Sites

An inventory of existing park and open space sites and outdoor recreation facilities in the Village of Sussex was conducted in 2023. As indicated in Table 2.3 and shown on Map 2.3, there were 31 park and open space sites encompassing 736 acres, or about 14 percent of the Village. There were 27 publicly-owned sites encompassing 677 acres, or about 92 percent of the total park and open space site acreage. The remaining four sites, encompassing 59 acres, or about 8 percent of the total park and open space site acreage, were privately owned.

Table 2.3 includes sites owned by Waukesha County, the Village of Sussex, and the Hamilton School District as public sites. It should be noted that school events and school district policies may limit the availability and use of facilities located on public school grounds to the general public.

As indicated in Table 2.4, a full range of typical recreational facilities were provided in the Village of Sussex park system in 2023 including but not limited to baseball diamonds, softball diamonds, tennis/pickleball courts, playgrounds, playfields, basketball goals, and soccer fields, etc. It can also be noted that Sussex parks included sand volleyball courts, sand pits, a sledding hill, a splash pad, an 18-hole disc golf course, open-air and closed shelters, and picnic areas.

Also indicated in Table 2.4, the Waukesha County parks and Hamilton School District sites within the Village of Sussex in 2023 provided sandlot ball diamonds, playgrounds, playfields, basketball goals, and soccer fields. Other significant outdoor recreation facilities located at County and school district sites within the Village include a football field, a nature trail, and the Bugline Recreational Trail (a paved multi-use trail).

Recreational facilities available at privately-owned sites within the Village in 2023 included a baseball diamond, playfields, a playground, basketball goals, a nature trail, a sand volleyball court, horseshoe pits, an open-air shelter, and a fishing area.

Village of Sussex Park System

In 2023, the Village of Sussex owned 22 park and open space sites, encompassing a total of 592 acres, or about 11 percent of the Village. This represents an increase of four sites and 367 acres since 2013, the year the previous Village park and open space plan had inventoried Village park and open space sites. The Village of Sussex park and open space sites range from less than one acre (Old Brooke Square Park) to 202 acres (Woodland Creek Nature Preserve) in size. Park and open space sites owned by the Village are shown on Map 2.4 and listed in Table 2.5. A brief description of each of the 22 Village-owned park and open space sites is presented below.

Armory Park

Armory Park is a 32-acre community park located along Spring Creek in the southern portion of the Village. Facilities at this site include four league softball diamonds, four soccer fields, a playground, a playfield, a portion of the Corky Curtis Trail, picnic areas, two open-air shelters, concessions/restrooms, a drinking fountain, and parking lots. A pathway connects the park to Clover Drive. The site also includes less than one acre of secondary environmental corridor along Spring Creek.

Butler Nature Preserve

Butler Nature Preserve is a 39-acre conservancy area located in the northwestern portion of the Village. The site includes wetlands and woodlands within 20 acres of primary environmental corridor.

Civic Center Campus (Including Weyer Park)

Civic Center Campus and Weyer Park is a four-acre neighborhood/special use park centrally located within the Village. Facilities at this site include four basketball goals, two pickleball courts, a playground, a playfield, a portion of the Sussex Creek Trail, an ice skating rink, picnic areas, restrooms, a drinking

fountain, and a parking lot. Selected rooms at the Civic Center are also available for rent to the public. The site also includes wetlands within one acre of secondary environmental corridor along the locally known Sussex Creek.

Clover Downs Nature Preserve

Clover Downs Nature Preserve is a 10-acre conservancy area located in the southern portion of the Village. Facilities at this site include a portion of the Corky Curtis Trail. The site also includes wetlands and woodlands within six acres of secondary environmental corridor along Spring Creek.

Coldwater Creek Park

Coldwater Creek Park is a 2-acre neighborhood park located in the northern portion of the Village. Facilities at this site include a playfield, a playground, a picnic area, a sand pit, and a drinking fountain.

Grogan Park

Grogan Park is a 32-acre neighborhood park located in the west-central portion of the Village. Facilities at this site include two basketball goals, a playfield, a playground, a picnic area, and a sand pit. The majority of the park is comprised of wetlands within 29 acres of primary environmental corridor along the locally known Sussex Creek.

Madeline Park

Madeline Park is a seven-acre neighborhood park located in the east-central portion of the Village. The park includes a playfield, a playground, restrooms, closed shelter, picnic area, parking lot, a drinking fountain, and a bicycle repair station. The site also includes wetlands within three acres of secondary environmental corridor along Spring Creek. The park is split by Elm Street with the northern section of the site containing the active recreation areas while the southern section of the site is a natural resource area. The park also provides access to the County Bugline Recreational Trail.

Maple Grove Preserve Subdivision Open Space

Maple Grove Preserve Subdivision Open Space is a 24-acre open space site located in the southern portion of the Village as part of the Maple Grove Preserve Subdivision. Facilities at the site include a portion of the Corky Curtis Trail. The site includes wetlands within five acres of secondary environmental corridor along a tributary to or the headwaters of the Pewaukee River.

Mapleway Park

Mapleway Park is a nine-acre neighborhood park centrally located within the Village. The park includes a playground, a playfield, the Mapleway Trail, and a picnic area. The park provides a pathway to Waukesha Avenue and the County Bugline Recreational Trail.

Melinda Weaver Park

Melinda Weaver Park is a two-acre neighborhood park located in the south-central portion of the Village. The park includes a tennis court, six pickleball courts, two basketball goals, a picnic area, a drinking fountain, and a parking lot.

Old Brooke Square Park

Old Brooke Square Park is an 18,170 square foot special use park centrally located within the Village. The park includes a picnic area, a nature trail, a sand pit, and a drinking fountain. The park also provides access to the County Bugline Recreational Trail located adjacent to the park. The park also contains a small area of secondary environmental corridor located along the locally known Sussex Creek.

Pewaukee River Greenway

Pewaukee River Greenway is a 22-acre conservancy area located in the south-central portion of the Village. The site includes wetlands and woodlands within 15 acres of secondary environmental corridor along a tributary to or the headwaters of the Pewaukee River.

Prides Crossing Park

Prides Crossing Park is a 29-acre neighborhood park centrally located within the Village. Facilities at the site include a sandlot softball diamond, a playfield, a playground, a basketball goal, the Nancy A. Whalen Trail, a picnic area, and a drinking fountain. The site also includes woodlands within 23 acres of isolated natural resource area. The park is split by Donna Drive and residences with the northern section of the site containing the active recreation areas while the southern section of the site is all woodlands.

Redford Hills Subdivision Nature Area

Redford Hills Subdivision Nature Area is an 11-acre conservancy area associated with the undeveloped, but platted, Redford Hills residential subdivision located in the southwestern portion of the Village. The site includes a trail and wetlands and woodlands within five acres of isolated natural resource area.

Ridgeview Park

Ridgeview Park is a three-acre neighborhood park located in the north-central portion of the Village. Facilities at this site include a playfield, a playground, and a picnic area.

Spring Green Park

Spring Green Park is a 13-acre neighborhood park located in the south-central portion of the Village. Facilities at this site include a playfield, a playground, a portion of the Corky Curtis Trail, and a picnic area. The site includes wetlands and woodlands within 10 acres of secondary environmental corridor along Spring Creek.

Stone Family Park

Stone Family Park is a 10-acre neighborhood park located in the Village of Lisbon, but adjacent to the Village of Sussex, along the northeastern boundary of the Village on Plainview Road. In 2022, the Village of Sussex provided substantial funds to the Village of Lisbon for improvements to the park. The park is intended to serve residents of the Woodland Trail Preserve subdivision within the Village of Sussex with a neighborhood park. The park is also intended to serve residents within nearby neighborhoods located in the Village of Lisbon. Facilities at this site include a baseball diamond, a playfield, a playground, a picnic area, and a parking lot. The site includes wetlands within a less than one acre of secondary environmental corridor.

Stonewood Estates Park

Stonewood Estates Park is a two-acre neighborhood park located in the northwestern portion of the Village. Facilities at this site include a playfield, a playground, a picnic area, and a drinking fountain.

Sussex Village Park (Includes The Grove)

Sussex Village Park with The Grove is a 72-acre community park centrally located within the Village. Facilities at this site include a baseball diamond, four league softball diamonds (one lighted), two sand volleyball courts (both lighted), playground equipment, playfields, picnic areas, the Village Park Trail system, three open-air shelters (including the Lion's Den garage), a sledding hill, an 18-hole disc golf course, concessions/restrooms, parking lots, and drinking fountain. The park also serves as the festival grounds for the Village. The park also provides access to the County Bugline Recreational Trail.

The Grove includes a splash pad, a pavilion, an inclusive playground, and multi-sport courts (includes four pickleball courts (all lighted) and four basketball goals). The pavilion is available for rent to the

public. The splash pad is about 5,200 square feet in size and features three different areas of play—active, family and toddler. The family area contains a 20-foot-tall dumping feature, water arches, team sprays, and spiraling water feature. The active area has water cannons, fountains, additional water arches and team sprays. The toddler area has water jellies, water journey play, and a rotating spray feature. The inclusive playground is about 14,000 square feet in size, is padded throughout, and includes towers, climbing structures, slides, and opportunities for communal play. The multi-sport courts have a dual purpose that includes four pickleball courts with four half-court basketball courts (all lighted). Each court features permanent pickleball nets and permanent, fixed basketball goals. The pavilion is 5,000 square feet in size with two indoor rentable spaces, an outdoor overhang with seating, a kitchenette, and restrooms. The building also houses the Summer Day Camp program.

Vista Run Subdivision Park (Undeveloped)

Vista Run Subdivision Park is a 12-acre undeveloped neighborhood park associated with the Vista Run residential subdivision located in the western portion of the Village.

Vista Run Subdivision Open Space

Vista Run Subdivision Open Space is a 54-acre open space/nature area associated with the Vista Run residential subdivision located in the western portion of the Village. Facilities at this site include a nature trail. The site includes wetlands and woodlands within 42 acres of secondary environmental corridor along the South Branch of the locally known Sussex Creek.

Woodland Creek Nature Preserve

Woodland Creek Nature Preserve is a 202-acre conservancy area located in the northeastern portion of the Village. Facilities at this site include the Woodland Creek Trail. The site includes wetlands and woodlands within 150 acres of secondary environmental corridor with a portion along the locally known Willow Springs Creek. A portion of the site is used as the Village nursery.

Waukesha County Parks (Within the Village)

Waukesha County owns three sites within the Village of Sussex: a four-mile portion of the Bugline Recreational Trail (described later in the Trail Facilities section of this chapter), the Cooling's Meadow nature area, and a County greenway.

The Cooling's Meadow Nature Area is a 15-acre site consisting mostly of wetlands containing native flora of shallow marsh, fresh (wet) meadow, and sedge meadow located on Waukesha Avenue in the east-central portion of the Village. The site is north of and abuts the Bugline Recreational Trail. The site includes a nature trail and street parking that was developed along Waukesha Avenue to provide access to the site.

The County greenway is a 10-acre site located in the southern portion of the Village adjacent to the Village-owned Pewaukee River Greenway and Maple Grove Preserve Subdivision Open Space. The greenway serves as a conservancy area for the headwaters of the Pewaukee River.

Waukesha County Parks (Located Near the Village)

Waukesha County also owns two parks located near the Village of Sussex, Menomonee Park and Ryan Park. Menomonee Park is located about one mile east/northeast of the Village of Sussex in the Villages of Lannon and Menomonee Falls. The park encompasses about 470 acres and includes a 16-acre quarry lake. Facilities at the park include campgrounds (30 family sites and seven group sites), a swimming beach, group picnic shelters and areas, a 32-acre dog exercise area, a sledding hill, sand volleyball courts, a playground, a playfield, an archery range, canoeing/kayaking, fishing and fishing pier, restrooms, and numerous trails and trailheads (hiking, biking, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and equestrian). Various shelters and picnic areas are available for rent to the public. The park also provides access to the Bugline Recreational Trail. The park is available to the public year-round from sunrise to 10 p.m. and a daily or annual entrance permit is required for all vehicle access.

Ryan Park is located about a mile southwest of the Village of Sussex in the Village of Lisbon and the City of Pewaukee. The park encompasses about 206 acres of woodlands and wetlands. Facilities at the park include numerous trails (hiking, dog-walking, snow-shoeing, and equestrian) and a small parking lot. The park is available to the public year-round from sunrise to 10 p.m. and a daily or annual entrance permit is required for all vehicle access.

School District Sites (Located Near the Village)

The Village of Sussex is mostly within the Hamilton School District with a small portion in the southwestern portion of the Village within the Hartland Arrowhead School District. The Hamilton School District owns three school sites (Hamilton High School, Templeton Middle School, and Silver Spring Intermediate School) that are located in the Village of Lisbon adjacent to the Village of Sussex. Facilities at these sites may provide public outdoor recreational opportunities for Sussex residents. As previously

cited, school events and school district policies may limit the availability and use of facilities located on public school grounds to the general public.

Hamilton High School and Templeton Middle School are located near each other and share facilities. Both schools are located just east of the Village of Sussex and provide outdoor recreational facilities including baseball diamonds, league softball diamonds, soccer fields, a football field, a running track, tennis courts, basketball goals, and playfields. Silver Spring Intermediate School is also located just east of the Village of Sussex and provides basketball goals, a playfield, and a playground.

Trail Facilities

Opportunities for trail-related outdoor recreation activities, such as bicycling, hiking, nature study, and cross-country skiing, are provided at trail facilities within park and open space sites in the Village, as noted on Table 2.4. The Village trail system is comprised of the Corky Curtis Trail, the Mapleway Trail, the Nancy A. Whalen Trail, the Redford Hills Trail, the Sussex Creek Trail, the Village Park Trail, the Vista Run Trail, and the Woodland Creek Trail. The Corky Curtis Trail is about a 1.5-mile trail that extends south and westward through the Village from Spring Green Park through Armory Park and ultimately to the Maple Grove Preserve subdivision. The majority of the trails provide uses for hiking and bicycling (paved/graveled), except the Nancy A. Whalen Trail and portions of the Corky Curtis Trail that provide opportunities strictly for hiking. Existing trails within the Village are shown on Map 2.5.

Waukesha County maintains the Bugline Recreational Trail. The Bugline Recreational Trail extends for 16 miles through Waukesha County from the Village of Menomonee Falls to the Village of North Lake, including a four-mile segment with the Village of Sussex. The trail is located on the former Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul, and Pacific Railroad right-of-way and is a paved multi-use trail that provides opportunities for biking, hiking, and cross-country skiing. No motorized vehicles, including snowmobiling, and equestrian uses are allowed on the trail. The Bugline Recreational Trail within the Village is also shown on Map 2.5.

Additional trails are also located at the County-owned Menomonee Park and Ryan Park, both located near the Village. Menomonee Park provides many opportunities for biking and hiking, including five trail loops (paved) for biking and hiking and five trail loops (nature-based) for hiking/nature-viewing only. All of the trail loops provide opportunities for either cross-country-skiing or snowshoeing, while one trail loop (bridle trail) provides opportunities for equestrian riding. Ryan Park provides various nature trails

(manicured grass) for hiking, snow-shoeing, dog walking, and equestrian riding. Some trails may also be used for snowmobiling.

2.5 NATURAL RESOURCE FEATURES

The natural resources of an area are important determinants of that area's ability to provide a pleasant and habitable environment for all forms of life and to maintain its social and economic well-being. The park and open space plan should seek to preserve the most significant remaining features of the natural resource base to help retain the ecological balance and natural beauty of the Village of Sussex. A description of natural resources within the Village, including surface water resources, wetlands, woodlands, environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas, natural areas, critical species habitat and aquatic sites, and geological areas, is presented in this section.

Surface Water Resources

Surface water resources and associated floodplains form an important element of the natural resource base of the Village of Sussex. The Village is located within portions of the Fox River watershed and the Rock River watershed. Within the Village, a portion of the Pewaukee River, or a tributary to or the headwaters of the Pewaukee River, drains to the Fox River and ultimately the Mississippi River. Major streams, lakes, and watersheds are shown on Map 2.6.

Surface water resources provide recreational opportunities, influence the physical development, and enhance the aesthetic quality of the Village. Lakes and streams constitute a focal point for water-related recreational activities and greatly enhance the aesthetic quality of the environment.

Approximately four linear miles of streams have been identified in the Village. Perennial streams² within the Village include a tributary to or the headwaters of the Pewaukee River, Spring Creek, and the locally known Sussex Creek. The Fox River, located about a mile southeast of the Village, provides opportunities for fishing and canoeing/kayaking.

The floodplains of a river or stream are the wide, gently sloping areas contiguous to, and usually lying on both sides of, the river or stream channel. Rivers and streams occupy their channels most of the time.

²*Perennial streams are defined as watercourses that maintain, at a minimum, a small continuous flow throughout the year except under unusual drought conditions. Intermittent streams are defined as watercourses that do not maintain a continuous flow throughout the year.*

However, during even minor flood events, stream discharges increase markedly, and the channel may not be able to contain and convey all of the flow. As a result, water levels rise and the river or stream spreads laterally over the floodplain. The periodic flow of a river or stream onto its floodplains is a normal phenomenon and, in the absence of flood control works, can be expected to occur periodically regardless of whether urban development exists within the floodplain or not.

For planning and regulatory purposes, floodplains are normally defined as the areas, excluding the stream channel, subject to inundation during a 1-percent-annual-probability (100-year recurrence interval) flood event. This is the flood event that may be expected to be reached or exceeded in severity once in every 100 years—or stated another way—there is a one percent chance of this event being reached or exceeded in severity in any given year. Floodplain areas are generally not well suited to urban development, not only because of the flood hazard, but also because of the presence of high water tables and of soils poorly suited to urban use. The floodplain areas, however, generally contain such important elements of the natural resource base as woodlands, wetlands, and wildlife habitat and, therefore, constitute prime locations for needed open space areas. Every effort should be made to discourage indiscriminate and incompatible urban development within floodplains, while encouraging compatible park and open space use.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) conducted a Map Modernization Program for Waukesha County that updates floodplain maps for both incorporated and unincorporated areas. Final floodplain maps for the Village of Sussex and Waukesha County were completed in November 2022. The floodplain delineations are shown on Map 2.6, and include floodplains located along a tributary to or the headwaters of the Pewaukee River, Spring Creek, the locally known Sussex Creek and its tributaries, and the locally known Willow Springs Creek.

The Map Modernization Program identifies the 1-percent-annual-probability (100-year recurrence interval) floodplain, including floodway and floodfringe areas, and the 500-year floodplain. The 1-percent-annual-probability (100-year recurrence interval) flood event information consists of floodplains delineated by known flood elevations, often referred to as “detailed” floodplains, and “approximate” floodplains where flood elevations have not been precisely determined. These “approximate” floodplains were based on less precise floodplain maps and other factors, such as soil type and vegetative growth. All the floodplains in the Village are identified as “detailed” floodplains. The 1-percent-annual-probability (100-year recurrence interval) floodplain encompasses 412 acres, or about 8 percent of the Village.

The dispersal of urban land uses over large areas and the accompanying increase in impervious areas increases stormwater runoff, which must be accommodated by a stream network or by engineered stormwater management systems. Such facilities may include 1) curbs and gutters, 2) catch basins and inlets, 3) storm sewers, 4) infiltration facilities, and 5) stormwater storage facilities for quantity and quality control such as dry and wet detention basins, respectively. Detention basins serve to moderate peak rates of runoff following rainstorms and wet detention basins further provide a permanent volume of water to capture and store pollutants. The ponds or storage basins provide floodwater and stormwater management benefits, and may provide opportunities for limited outdoor recreation use, such as fishing and ice skating. There are numerous stormwater basins located in the Village, including some located within Village-owned parks or open space sites.

Wetlands

For planning and regulatory purposes,³ wetlands are commonly defined as areas in which the water table is at, near, or above the land surface and which are characterized by both hydric soils and the growth of sedges, cattails, and other wetland vegetation. Wetlands generally occur in depressions and near the bottom of slopes, particularly along lakeshores and stream banks, and on large land areas that are poorly drained.

Wetlands perform an important set of natural functions that include supporting a wide variety of desirable, and sometimes unique, forms of plant and animal life; stabilizing lake levels and stream flows; entrapping and storing plant nutrients in runoff, thus reducing the rate of enrichment of surface waters and noxious weed and algae growth; contributing to the atmospheric oxygen and water supplies; reducing stormwater runoff by providing areas for floodwater impoundment and storage; protecting shorelines from erosion; entrapping soil particles suspended in runoff and reducing stream sedimentation; providing groundwater discharge areas; and providing opportunities for certain scientific, educational, and recreational pursuits.

Wetlands within the Village of Sussex are shown on Map 2.2, and in 2020, encompassed 608 acres, or about 11 percent of the Village. Large areas of wetlands are located in the northern and western portions of the Village.

³Wetlands are regulated under Chapters 103 and 117 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code and Section 404 of the Federal Clean Water Act.

Woodlands

Woodlands are defined by the Regional Planning Commission as those upland areas one acre or more in size with 17 or more deciduous trees per acre, each measuring at least four inches in diameter at breast height and having 50 percent or more tree canopy coverage.

Woodlands provide an attractive natural resource of immeasurable value. Under good management, woodlands can serve a variety of beneficial functions. In addition to contributing to clean air and water and regulating surface water runoff, woodlands can contribute to maintaining a diversity of plant and animal life. Woodlands, which may require a century or more to develop, can be destroyed through mismanagement within a comparatively short time. Deforesting hillsides contributes to rapid stormwater runoff, the siltation of lakes and streams, and the destruction of wildlife habitat. Woodlands can and should be maintained, to the extent practicable, for their scenic, wildlife habitat, educational, and recreational value and for air and water quality protection.

Woodlands encompass 188 acres, or about 4 percent of the Village. As shown on Map 2.2, woodlands are mainly located in the northern and western portions of the Village.

Environmental Corridors and Isolated Natural Resource Areas

One of the most important tasks completed under the regional planning program for Southeastern Wisconsin has been identifying and delineating those areas in the Region in which concentrations of remaining natural resources occur. Protecting and preserving such areas in essentially natural, open uses is crucial in maintaining both the ecological balance and natural beauty of the Region, the County, and the Village.

Identifying environmental corridors is based upon the presence of one or more of the following important natural resources: 1) rivers, streams, lakes, and associated shorelands and floodplains; 2) wetlands; 3) woodlands; 4) prairies; 5) wildlife habitat areas; 6) wet, poorly drained, and organic soils; and 7) rugged terrain and high relief topography. Certain other features with recreational, aesthetic, ecological, and natural resource values, including existing and potential parks, open space sites, natural areas, historic sites, and scenic viewpoints, are also considered in the delineation of environmental corridors.⁴

⁴A detailed description of refining the delineation of environmental corridors in Southeastern Wisconsin is presented in SEWRPC Technical Record, Vol. 4, No. 2, Pages 1 through 21, Refining the Delineation of Environmental Corridors in Southeastern Wisconsin, March 1981 (available at www.sewrpc.org/SEWRPC/LandUse/EnvironmentalCorridors.htm or by contacting the Commission).

Delineating these natural resource and resource-related elements on a map results in an essentially linear pattern of relatively narrow, elongated areas that have been termed "environmental corridors" by the Regional Planning Commission. Primary environmental corridors include a wide variety of important natural resource and resource-related elements and are at least 400 acres in size, two miles in length, and 200 feet in width. Secondary environmental corridors serve to link primary environmental corridors, or encompass areas containing concentrations of natural resources between 100 and 400 acres in size and at least one mile long. Where secondary corridors serve to link primary environmental corridors, no minimum area or length criteria apply. Isolated natural resource areas consist of smaller concentrations of natural resources, have a minimum of five acres, and are separated physically from the environmental corridors by intensive urban or agricultural land uses.

Preserving environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas in essentially natural, open uses can help reduce flood flows, reduce noise pollution, and maintain air and water quality. Preserving corridors is important to the movement of wildlife and for the movement and dispersal of seeds for a variety of plant species. In addition, because of the many interacting relationships between living organisms and their environment, destructing and deteriorating any one element of the natural resource base may lead to a chain reaction of deterioration and destruction. The draining and filling of wetlands, for example, may destroy fish spawning grounds, wildlife habitat, and the natural filtration action and flood water storage functions of interconnecting stream systems. The resulting deteriorating surface water quality may, in turn, lead to deterioration of the quality of groundwater, which serves as a source of domestic, municipal, and industrial water supply in many areas and on which low flows in rivers and streams may depend. Similarly, destructing woodland cover may result in soil erosion and stream siltation, more rapid stormwater runoff and attendant increased flood flows and stages, and destruction of wildlife habitat.

Although the effects of any one of these environmental changes may not in and of itself be overwhelming, the combined effects will eventually create serious environmental and developmental problems. These problems include flooding, water pollution, deterioration and destruction of wildlife habitat, loss of groundwater recharge areas, and destruction of the unique natural beauty of the area. The need to maintain the integrity of the remaining environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas thus becomes apparent.

Primary Environmental Corridors

As shown on Map 2.7, primary environmental corridors are located in the northwestern portion of the Village along a portion of the locally known Sussex Creek and within Grogan Park and Butler Nature

Preserve. As indicated in Table 2.6, these corridors encompassed a total area of 156 acres, or about 3 percent of the Village.

Primary environmental corridors include the best remaining woodlands, wetlands, and wildlife habitat areas, and are, in effect, composites of the best remaining residual elements of the natural resource base of the Village. These corridors have truly immeasurable environmental and recreational value. Protecting the primary environmental corridors from intrusion by incompatible uses, and thereby from degradation and destruction, should be one of the principal objectives of the Village park and open space plan. Preserving them in an essentially open, natural state, including park and open space uses and very low density residential uses, will serve to maintain a high level of environmental quality in the Village, protect its natural beauty, and provide valuable recreation opportunities.

Secondary Environmental Corridors

As shown on Map 2.7, secondary environmental corridors in the Village of Sussex are located along a tributary to or the headwaters of the Pewaukee River, a portion of Spring Creek, a portion of the locally known Sussex Creek and its tributaries, and the locally known Willow Springs Creek and a good portion within the Woodland Creek Nature Preserve. As indicated in Table 2.6, secondary environmental corridors encompass 592 acres, or about 11 percent of the Village.

Secondary environmental corridors facilitate surface water drainage and provide corridors for the movement of wildlife. Such corridors should also be preserved in essentially open, natural uses as development proceeds within the Village, particularly when the opportunity is presented to incorporate the corridors into drainageways, neighborhood parks, or trail corridors.

Isolated Natural Resource Areas

In addition to the environmental corridors, other smaller concentrations of natural resource base elements exist within the Village. These pockets are generally isolated from the environmental corridors by urban or agricultural development. Although separated from the environmental corridor network, these isolated natural resource areas have important natural values. Isolated natural resource areas may provide the only available wildlife habitat in an area, provide good locations for local parks and open space areas, and lend aesthetic character and natural diversity to an area.

As shown on Map 2.7 and Table 2.6, isolated natural resource areas are scattered throughout the Village with a good portion of the areas comprised of woodlands, particularly within Prides Crossing Park. Isolated natural resource areas encompass 116 acres, or about 2 percent of the Village.

Natural Areas, Critical Species Habitat Sites, and Geological Sites

A comprehensive inventory of natural areas and critical species habitat sites in Southeastern Wisconsin was completed in 1994 by the WDNR and SEWRPC. The natural areas, critical species habitat sites, and geological sites inventory was updated in 2009.⁵ Natural areas are defined as tracts of land or water so little modified by human activity, or sufficiently recovered from the effects of such activity, that they contain intact native plant and animal communities believed to be representative of the pre-European-settlement landscape. Natural areas are classified into one of the following three categories: natural areas of Statewide or greater significance (NA-1); natural areas of countywide or regional significance (NA-2); or natural areas of local significance (NA-3). Classifying an area into one of these three categories is based on consideration of the diversity of plant and animal species and community types present; the structure and integrity of the native plant or animal community; the extent of disturbance by human activity, such as logging, grazing, water level changes, and pollution; the commonness of the plant and animal communities present; any unique natural features within the area; the size of the area; and the educational value and animal communities believed to be representative of the landscape before European settlement.

As indicated on Map 2.8 and described in Table 2.7, the 13-acre Cooling's Sedge Meadow natural area was identified in the east-central portion of the Village of Sussex along the Canadian National Railway. A 10-acre portion of the site is owned by Waukesha County as a nature area.

Critical species habitat sites are defined by the Regional Planning Commission as areas outside natural areas that support rare, threatened, or endangered plant or animal species. Three critical species habitat sites encompassing about 59 acres are located wholly or partially within the Village of Sussex. The sites are also shown on Map 2.8 and Table 2.7.

⁵The results of the 1994 inventory are documented in SEWRPC Planning Report No. 42, A Regional Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin, September 1997. The plan update is documented in SEWRPC Amendment to Planning Report No. 42, Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin, December 2010. The plan is currently being updated and is expected to be completed in early 2024. The sites identified in this Village park plan update reflect the sites inventoried in the 2024 update.

In addition, two geological areas were identified partially or wholly within the Village. The Sussex Lime Kiln geological area, a geological area of statewide or greater significance, is located in the east-central portion of the Village and encompasses one acre. A five-acre portion of the Sussex Railroad Cut geological area is located in the west-central portion of the Village. A portion of this site is located along the Waukesha County Bugline Recreational Trail. Portions of both sites are also located within railroad rights-of-way. Both sites are identified in Table 2.7 and shown on Map 2.8.

SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 346

A PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN FOR THE VILLAGE OF SUSSEX: 2050

Chapter 2

INVENTORY FINDINGS

TABLES

Table 2.1
Resident Population of the
Village of Sussex: 1930-2022

Year	Population	Change From Preceding Census	
		Number	Percent
1930	496	--	--
1940	548	52	10.5
1950	679	131	23.9
1960	1,087	408	60.1
1970	2,758	1,671	153.7
1980	3,482	724	26.3
1990	5,039	1,557	44.7
2000	8,828	3,789	75.2
2010	10,518	1,690	19.1
2020	11,487	969	9.2
2022 ^a	11,750	263	2.3

Note: The Village of Sussex incorporated in 1924.

^a The 2022 population is an estimate from the Wisconsin Department of Administration, all other years are from the U.S. Census.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Wisconsin Department of Administration, and SEWRPC

Table 2.2
Existing Land Uses in the Village of Sussex: 2020

Land Use Category^a	Acres	Percent of Subtotal	Percent of Total
Urban			
Residential			
Single-Family Residential	1,360	45.4	25.0
Two-Family Residential	39	1.3	0.7
Multifamily Residential ^b	122	4.1	2.3
Residential Subtotal	1,521	50.8	28.0
Commercial	160	5.3	2.9
Industrial	336	11.2	6.2
Transportation, Communication, and Utilities (TCU)			
Streets and Highways	580	19.4	10.7
Railways	90	3.0	1.6
Communications, Utilities, and Other Transportation	48	1.6	0.9
TCU Subtotal	718	24.0	13.2
Governmental and Institutional	99	3.3	1.8
Parks and Recreational ^c	163	5.4	3.0
Urban Subtotal	2,997	100.0	55.1
Nonurban			
Agricultural Lands	933	38.2	17.2
Undeveloped/Open Space Land	643	26.4	11.8
Extractive	35	1.4	0.6
Wetlands	608	24.9	11.2
Woodlands	188	7.7	3.5
Surface Water	35	1.4	0.6
Nonurban Subtotal	2,442	100.0	44.9
Total	5,439	--	100.0

^a Includes associated off-street parking areas for each land use category.

^b Includes buildings with three or more units.

^c Includes only those lands developed and used for intensive recreational purposes (ball fields, tennis courts, group picnic areas, etc.). Developed land within park sites used for hiking trails or other passive uses is included in the "undeveloped/open land" category.

Source: SEWRPC

Table 2.3
Park and Open Space Sites in the Village of Sussex: 2023

Number on Map 2.3	Site Name	Location	Ownership	Size (acres)
Public				
1	Armory Park	T8N, R19E, Section 26	Village of Sussex	32
2	Bugline Recreational Trail	T8N, R19E, Section 22	Waukesha County	28 ^a
3	Butler Nature Preserve	T8N, R19E, Section 22	Village of Sussex	39
4	Civic Center Campus (Includes Weyer Park)	T8N, R19E, Section 23	Village of Sussex	4
5	Clover Downs Nature Preserve	T8N, R19E, Section 26	Village of Sussex	10
6	Coldwater Creek Park	T8N, R19E, Section 14	Village of Sussex	2
7	Cooling's Meadow Nature Area	T8N, R19E, Section 23	Waukesha County	15
8	County Greenway	T8N, R19E, Sections 27 and 34	Waukesha County	10
9	Grogan Park	T8N, R19E, Section 22	Village of Sussex	32
10	Madeline Park	T8N, R19E, Section 23	Village of Sussex	7
11	Maple Avenue Elementary School	T8N, R19E, Section 27	Hamilton School District	11
12	Maple Grove Preserve Subdivision Open Space	T8N, R19E, Sections 27 and 34	Village of Sussex	24
13	Mapleway Park	T8N, R19E, Section 23	Village of Sussex	9
14	Melinda Weaver Park	T8N, R19E, Section 26	Village of Sussex	2
15	Old Brooke Square Park	T8N, R19E, Section 26	Village of Sussex	1
16	Pewaukee River Greenway	T8N, R19E, Sections 27 and 34	Village of Sussex	22
17	Prides Crossing Park	T8N, R19E, Section 23	Village of Sussex	29
18	Redford Hills Subdivision Nature Area	T8N, R19E, Section 33	Village of Sussex	11
19	Ridgeview Park	T8N, R19E, Section 14	Village of Sussex	3
20	Spring Green Park	T8N, R19E, Section 26	Village of Sussex	13
21	Stone Family Park	T8N, R19E, Section 13	Village of Lisbon	10
22	Stonewood Estates Park	T8N, R19E, Section 15	Village of Sussex	2
23	Sussex Village Park (Includes The Grove)	T8N, R19E, Section 27	Village of Sussex	72
24	Undeveloped Vista Run Subdivision Park	T8N, R19E, Section 21	Village of Sussex	12
25	Vista Run Subdivision Open Space	T8N, R19E, Sections 21 and 28	Village of Sussex	54
26	Woodland Creek Nature Preserve	T8N, R19E, Sections 13 and 14	Village of Sussex	202
27	Woodside Elementary School	T8N, R19E, Section 14	Hamilton School District	21
Public Subtotal: 27 Sites				677
Private				
28	Coldwater Creek Subdivision Open Space	T8N, R19E, Sections 13 and 14	Organizational	41
29	Mammoth Springs Pond	T8N, R19E, Section 26	Private	3
30	Peace Lutheran Academy	T8N, R19E, Section 27	Organizational	2
31	Quad Graphic Fields	T8N, R19E, Section 25	Private	13
Private Subtotal: 4 Sites				59
Total: 31 Sites				736

^a Includes only the acreage located within the Village.

Source: Village of Sussex and SEWRPC

**Table 2.4
 Selected Outdoor Recreation Facilities for General Use in the Village of Sussex: 2023**

Number on Map 2.3	Site Name	Baseball Diamonds	Softball League Diamonds	Softball-Sandlot Diamonds	Playfield	Playground	Tennis/Pickleball Courts ^a	Basketball Goals	Soccer Fields	Ice Skating Rink	Pool or Beach	Nature Trail	Other
Public													
1	Armory Park	--	4	--	X	X	--	--	4	--	--	X	Picnic Area, Two Open-Air Shelters, Parking Lots, Concessions/Restrooms, Drinking Fountain
2	Bugline Recreational Trail	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Paved Multi-Use Trail
3	Butler Nature Preserve	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Nature Area
4	Civic Center Campus (Includes Weyer Park)	--	--	--	X	X	2P	4	--	X	--	--	Picnic Area, Restrooms, Drinking Fountain, Parking Lot
5	Clover Downs Nature Preserve	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	X	Nature Area
6	Coldwater Creek Park	--	--	--	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--	Picnic Area, Sand Pit, Drinking Fountain
7	Cooling's Meadow Nature Area	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	X	Nature Area
8	County Greenway	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Conservancy Area
9	Grogan Park	--	--	--	X	X	--	2	--	--	--	--	Picnic Area, Sand Pit
10	Madeline Park	--	--	--	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--	Restrooms, Closed Shelter, Parking Lot, Picnic Area, Drinking Fountain, Bicycle Repair Station
11	Maple Avenue Elementary School	--	--	1	X	X	--	2	--	--	--	--	--
12	Maple Grove Preserve Subdivision Open Space	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	X	Open Space
13	Mapleway Park	--	--	--	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	X	Picnic Area
14	Melinda Weaver Park	--	--	--	--	--	1T; 6P	2	--	--	--	--	Picnic Area, Drinking Fountain, Parking Lot
15	Old Brooke Square Park	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	X	Picnic Area, Sand Pit, Drinking Fountain
16	Pewaukee River Greenway	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Conservancy Area
17	Prides Crossing Park	--	--	1	X	X	--	1	--	--	--	X	Picnic Area, Drinking Fountain
18	Redford Hills Subdivision Nature Area	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Undeveloped Area
19	Ridgeview Park	--	--	--	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--	Picnic Area
20	Spring Green Park	--	--	--	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	X	Picnic Area
21	Stone Family Park ^b	1	--	--	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--	Picnic Area, Parking Lot
22	Stonewood Estates Park	--	--	--	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--	Picnic Area, Drinking Fountain

Table continued on next page.

Table 2.4 (Continued)

Number on Map 2.3	Site Name	Baseball Diamonds	Softball-League Diamonds	Softball-Sandlot Diamonds	Playfield	Playground	Tennis/Pickleball Courts ^a	Basketball Goals	Soccer Fields	Ice Skating Rink	Pool or Beach	Nature Trail	Other
23	Sussex Village Park (Includes The Grove)	1	4	--	X	X	4P	4	--	--	--	X	Sand Volleyball Courts, Picnic Areas, Three Open-Air Shelters, Closed Shelter, Sledding Hill, Concessions/Restrooms, Splash Pad, 18-Hole Disc Golf Course, Parking Lots, Drinking Fountain
24	Undeveloped Vista Run Subdivision Park	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Undeveloped Park
25	Vista Run Subdivision Open Space	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	X	Open Space
26	Woodland Creek Nature Preserve	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	X	Nature Area
27	Woodside Elementary School	--	--	1	X	X	--	3	2	--	--	--	Football Field
Public Subtotal: 27 Sites		2	8	3	14	14	13	18	6	1	--	11	--
Private													
28	Coldwater Creek Subdivision Open Space	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Open Space
29	Mammoth Springs Pond	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	X	Fishing, Pier
30	Peace Lutheran Academy	--	--	--	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
31	Quad Graphic Fields	1	--	--	X	--	--	2	--	--	--	--	Sand Volleyball Court, Shelter, Horseshoe Plots, Parking Lot
Private Subtotal: 4 Sites		1	--	--	2	1	--	2	--	--	--	1	--
Total: 31 Sites		3	8	3	16	15	13	18	6	1	--	12	--

^a T = Tennis Court; P = Pickleball Court.

^b Site is located in and owned by the Village of Lisbon.

Source: Village of Sussex and SEWRPC

Table 2.5
Village of Sussex Park System: 2023

Number on Map 2.4	Site Name	Location	Type	Size (acres)
1	Armory Park	T8N, R19E, Section 26	Community Park	32
2	Butler Nature Preserve	T8N, R19E, Section 22	Conservancy	39
3	Civic Center Campus (Includes Weyer Park)	T8N, R19E, Section 23	Neighborhood/ Special Use Park	4
4	Clover Downs Nature Preserve	T8N, R19E, Section 26	Conservancy	10
5	Coldwater Creek Park	T8N, R19E, Section 14	Neighborhood Park	2
6	Grogan Park	T8N, R19E, Section 22	Neighborhood Park	32
7	Madeline Park	T8N, R19E, Section 23	Neighborhood Park	7
8	Maple Grove Preserve Subdivision Open Space	T8N, R19E, Sections 27 and 34	Open Space	24
9	Mapleway Park	T8N, R19E, Section 23	Neighborhood Park	9
10	Melinda Weaver Park	T8N, R19E, Section 26	Neighborhood Park	2
11	Old Brooke Square Park	T8N, R19E, Section 26	Special Use Park	1
12	Pewaukee River Greenway	T8N, R19E, Sections 27 and 34	Conservancy	22
13	Prides Crossing Park	T8N, R19E, Section 23	Neighborhood Park	29
14	Redford Hills Subdivision Nature Area	T8N, R19E, Section 33	Conservancy	11
15	Ridgeview Park	T8N, R19E, Section 14	Neighborhood Park	3
16	Spring Green Park	T8N, R19E, Section 26	Neighborhood Park	13
17	Stone Family Park ^a	T8N, R19E, Section 13	Neighborhood Park	10
18	Stonewood Estates Park	T8N, R19E, Section 15	Neighborhood Park	2
19	Sussex Village Park (Includes The Grove)	T8N, R19E, Section 27	Community Park	72
20	Undeveloped Vista Run Subdivision Park	T8N, R19E, Section 21	Undeveloped Neighborhood Park	12
21	Vista Run Subdivision Open Space	T8N, R19E, Sections 21 and 28	Open Space	54
22	Woodland Creek Nature Preserve	T8N, R19E, Sections 13 and 14	Conservancy	202
Total: 22 Sites				592

^a Park is located in and owned by the Village of Lisbon.

Source: Village of Sussex and SEWRPC

Table 2.6
Environmental Corridors and Isolated
Natural Resource Areas in the Village
of Sussex: 2015

Corridor Type	Acres	Percent^a
Primary Environmental Corridor	156	2.9
Secondary Environmental Corridor	592	10.9
Isolated Natural Resource Area	116	2.1
Total	864	15.9

^a Percent of the Village (5,439 acres) within corridor.

Source: SEWRPC

Table 2.7
Natural Areas, Critical Species Habitat Sites, and Geological Areas in the Village of Sussex: 2009

Number on Map 2.8	Area Name	Classification Code ^a	Location	Ownership	Size (acres)	Description and Comments
1	Cooling's Sedge Meadow	NA-3	T8N, R19E Section 23	Waukesha County and private	13	Moderate-quality sedge meadow and fresh (wet) meadow complex disturbed by sewer-line construction
2	Simmons Wetland Habitat	CSH	T8N, R19E Section 34	Private	1 ^b	A large poor quality wetland complex containing a State special concern species
3	Sussex Marsh	CSH	T8N, R19E Section 22	Village of Sussex and private	26 ^c	Ditched marsh containing a State special concern animal population
4	Sussex Meadows	CSH	T8N, R19E Section 28	Village of Sussex and private	32	Mix of old field and ditched, poor-quality marsh containing a rare animal species population
5	Sussex Lime Kiln	GA-1	T8N, R19E Section 23	Canadian National Railway, Union Pacific Railroad, and private	1	One of the best unaltered late 19 th century kilns remaining in Southeastern Wisconsin
6	Sussex Railroad Cut	GA-3	T8N, R19E Section 21	Waukesha County, Union Pacific Railroad, and private	5 ^d	Cuts through low bedrock hill along the railway right-of-way expose Lannon beds of the Racine dolomite; rocks that supply the Lannon stone industry

^a Classification code:

NA-3 identifies Natural Areas of local significance

CSH identifies Critical Species Habitat sites

GA-1 identifies Geological Areas of statewide or greater significance

GA-3 identifies Geological Areas of local significance

^b Includes only the acreage located in the Village. Total acreage is 239 acres. Waukesha County and the Village of Pewaukee own portions of the site outside the Village of Sussex. The remaining acreage is under private ownership.

^c Includes only the acreage located in the Village. Total acreage is 51 acres. All remaining acreage is under railroad ownership or private ownership.

^d Includes only the acreage located in the Village. Total acreage is six acres. Waukesha County (Bugline Recreation Trail) owns over a one-acre portion of the site. All remaining acreage is under railroad ownership or private ownership.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and SEWRPC

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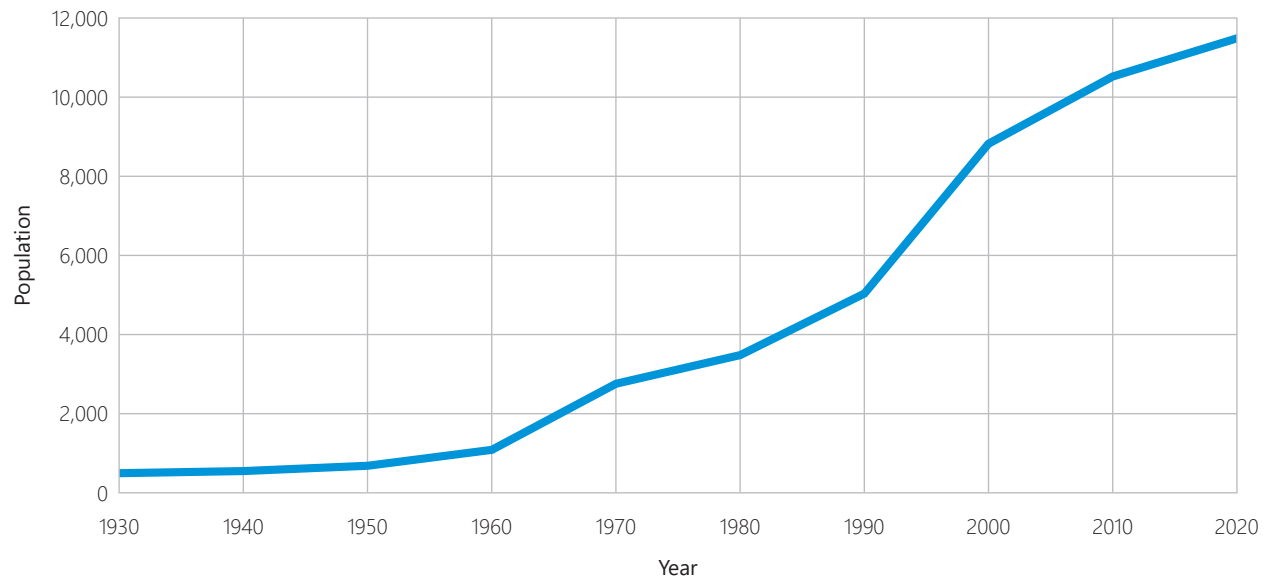
A PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN FOR THE VILLAGE OF SUSSEX: 2050

Chapter 2

INVENTORY FINDINGS

FIGURES

Figure 2.1
Resident Population of the Village of Sussex: 1930-2020



Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census and SEWRPC

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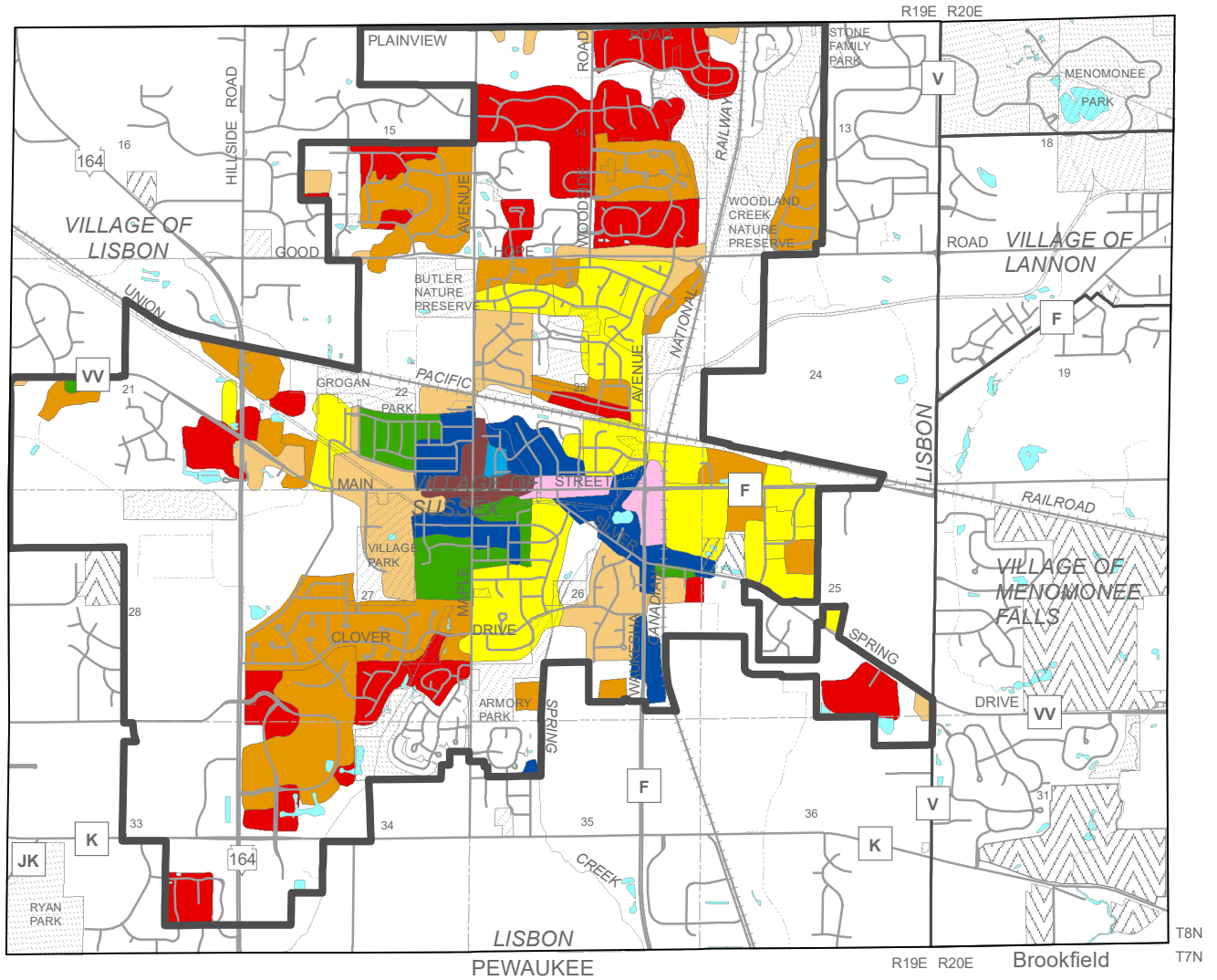
A PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN FOR THE VILLAGE OF SUSSEX: 2050

Chapter 2

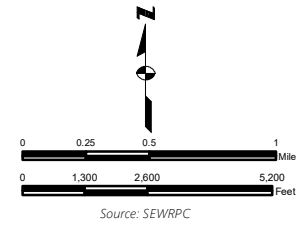
INVENTORY FINDINGS

MAPS

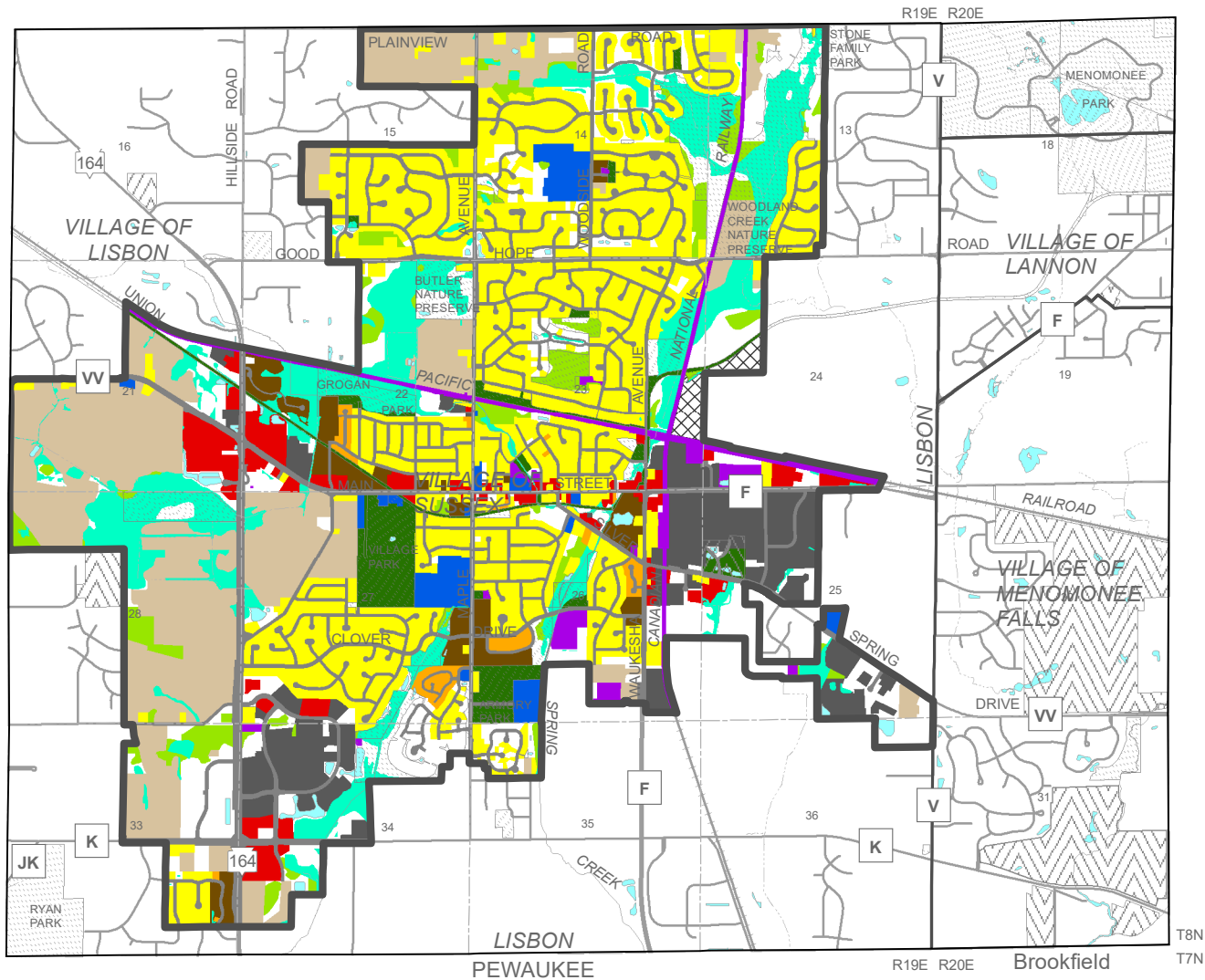
Map 2.1
Generalized Historical Urban Growth in the Village of Sussex: Pre-1900 to 2010



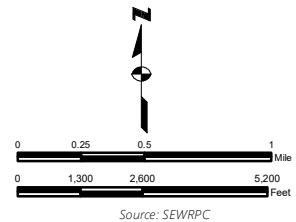
- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------|--|
| 1900 and Pre-1900 | 1971-1980 | SURFACE WATER |
| 1920-1940 | 1981-1990 | PUBLICLY-OWNED OUTDOOR RECREATION LANDS |
| 1941-1950 | 1991-2000 | PRIVATELY-OWNED OUTDOOR RECREATION LANDS |
| 1951-1963 | 2001-2010 | |
| 1964-1970 | | |



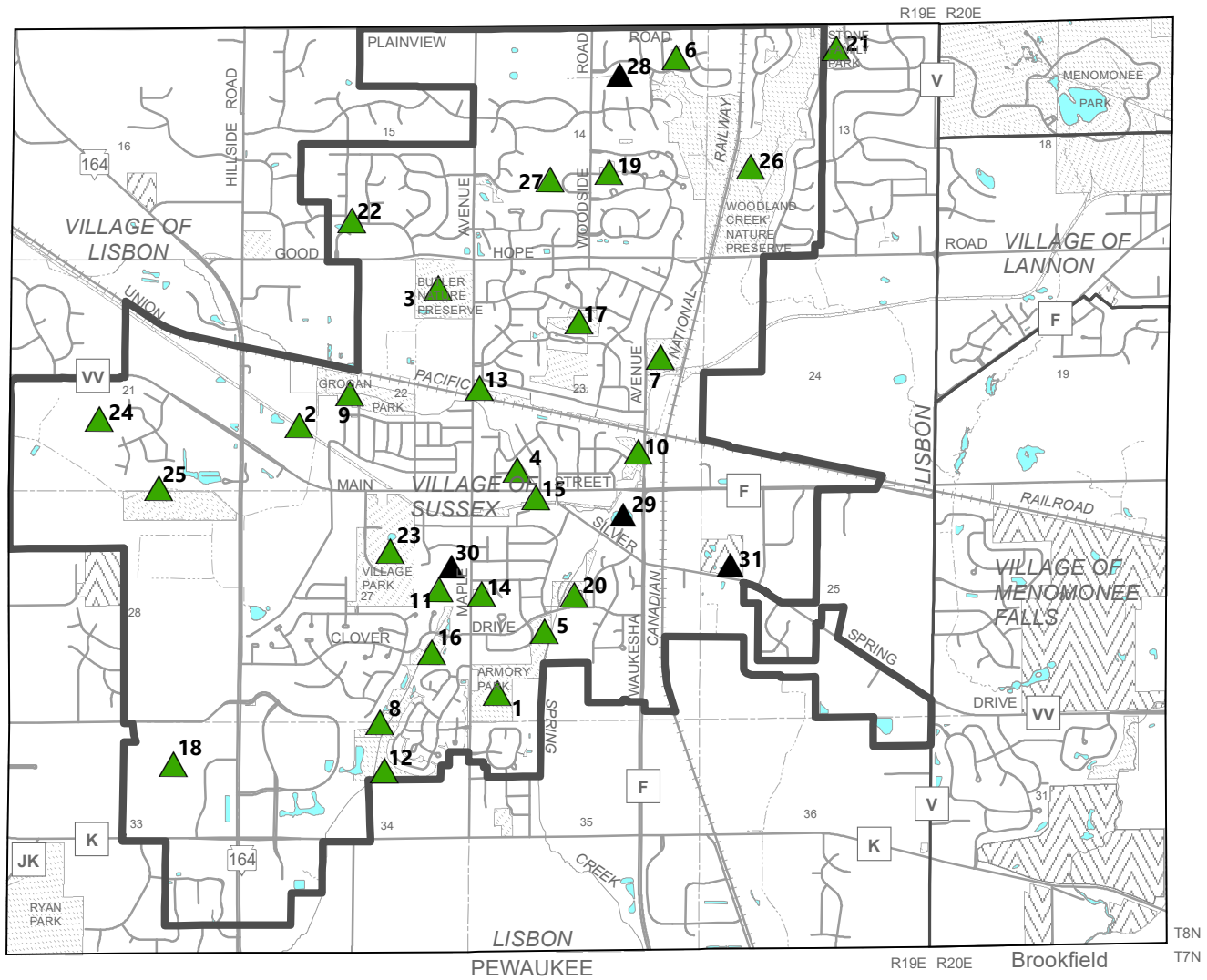
Map 2.2
Existing Land Uses in the Village of Sussex: 2020








- | | | |
|--|------------------------------|--|
| SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL | WETLANDS | PUBLICLY-OWNED OUTDOOR RECREATION LANDS |
| TWO-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL | WOODLANDS | PRIVATELY-OWNED OUTDOOR RECREATION LANDS |
| MULTIFAMILY RESIDENTIAL | EXTRACTIVE | |
| COMMERCIAL | AGRICULTURAL LANDS | |
| INDUSTRIAL | UNDEVELOPED/OPEN URBAN LANDS | |
| TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATION, AND UTILITIES | STREET RIGHTS-OF-WAY | |
| GOVERNMENTAL AND INSTITUTIONAL | SURFACE WATER | |
| PARKS AND RECREATIONAL | | |

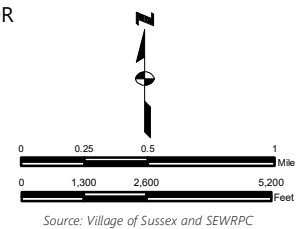


**Map 2.3
Park and Open Space Sites in the Village of Sussex: 2023**

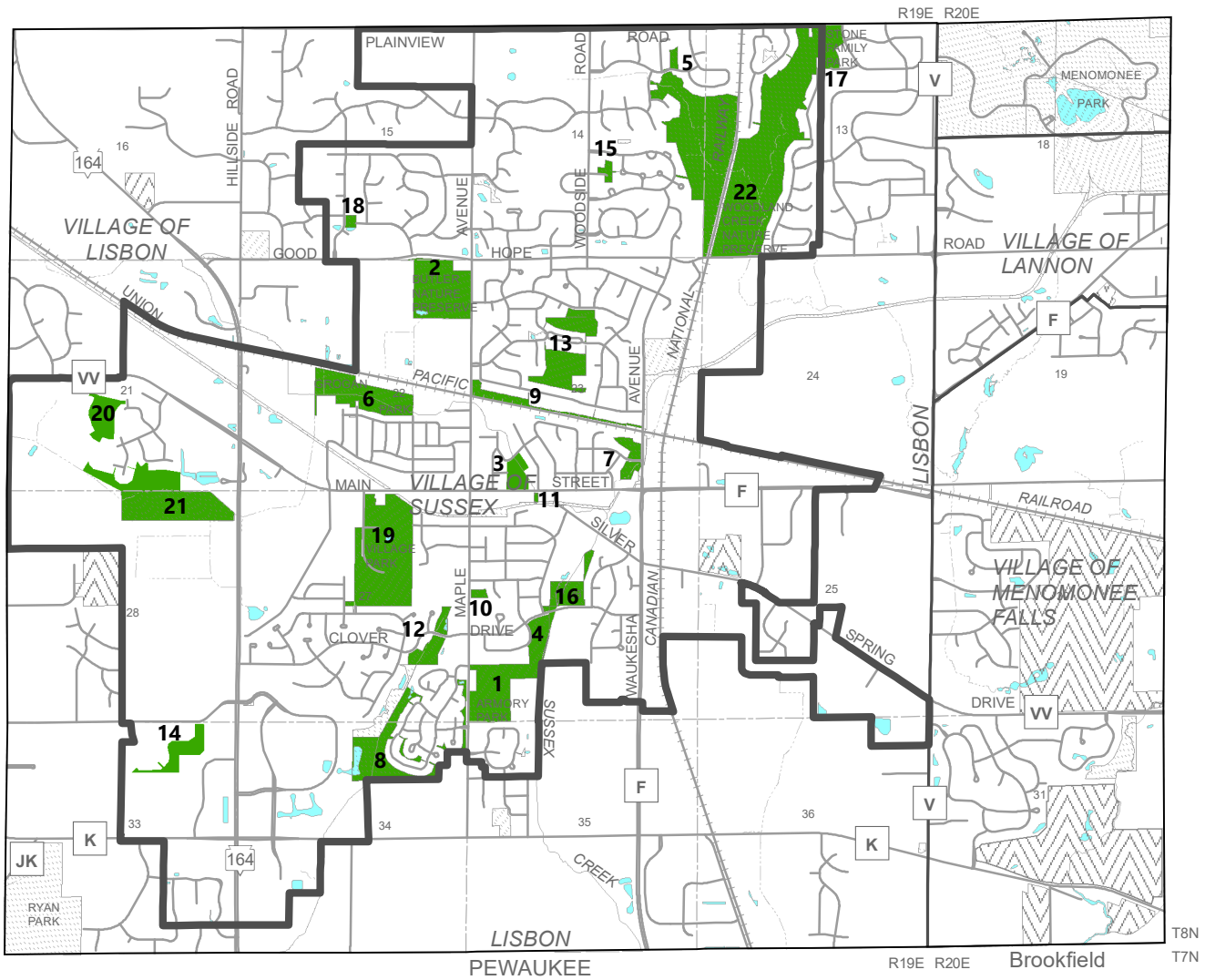


-  PUBLICLY-OWNED SITE
-  PRIVATELY-OWNED SITE
- 20** REFERENCE NUMBER
(SEE TABLE 2.3)

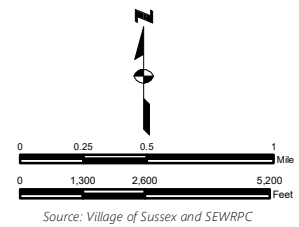
-  SURFACE WATER
-  PUBLICLY-OWNED OUTDOOR RECREATION LANDS
-  PRIVATELY-OWNED OUTDOOR RECREATION LANDS



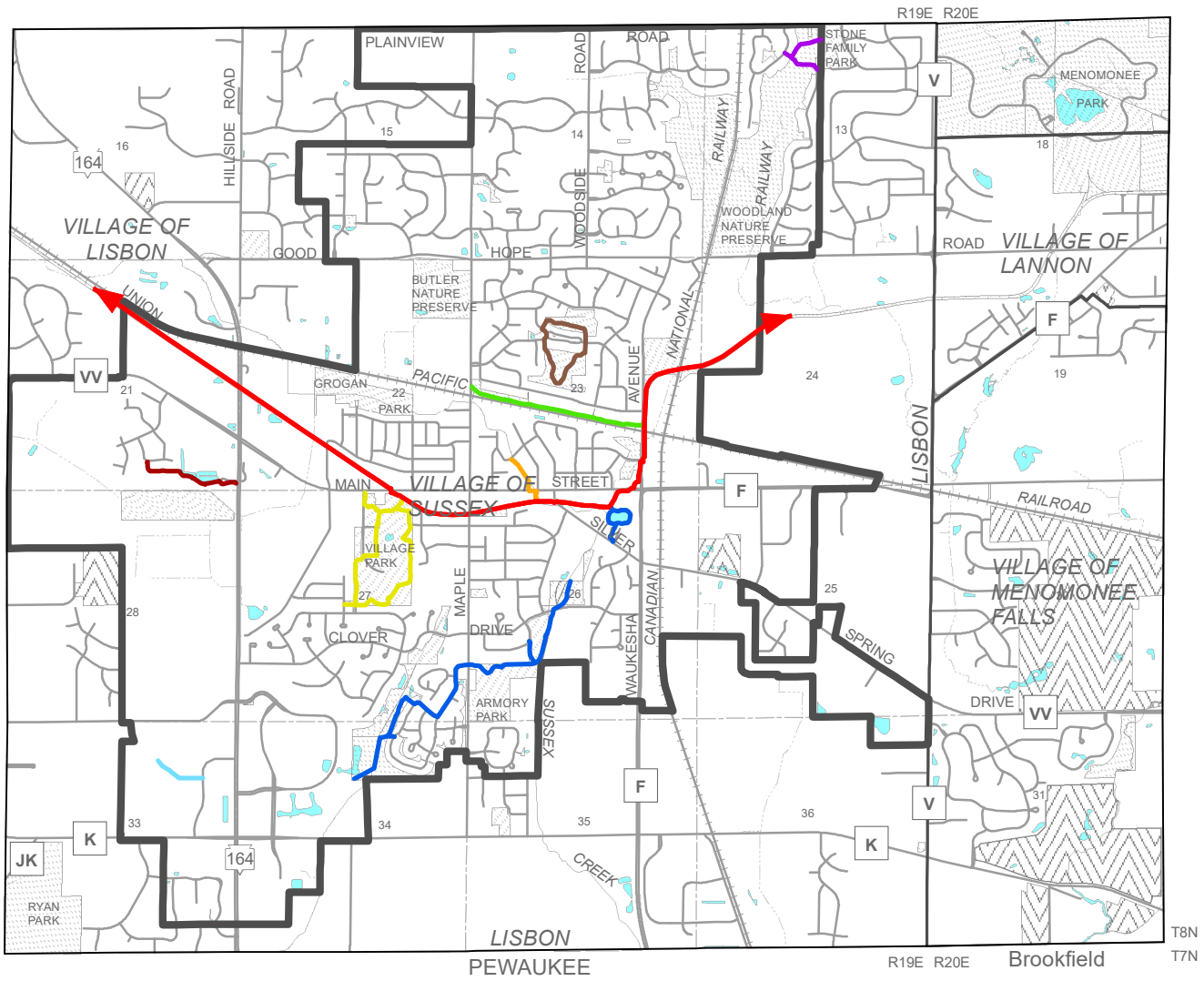
Map 2.4
Village of Sussex Park System: 2023



- VILLAGE OWNED PARK OR OPEN SPACE SITE
 - SURFACE WATER
 - PUBLICLY-OWNED OUTDOOR RECREATION LANDS
 - PRIVATELY-OWNED OUTDOOR RECREATION LANDS
- 22** REFERENCE NUMBER (SEE TABLE 2.5)

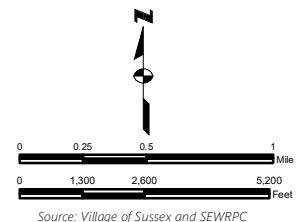


Map 2.5
Existing Trails in the Village of Sussex: 2023

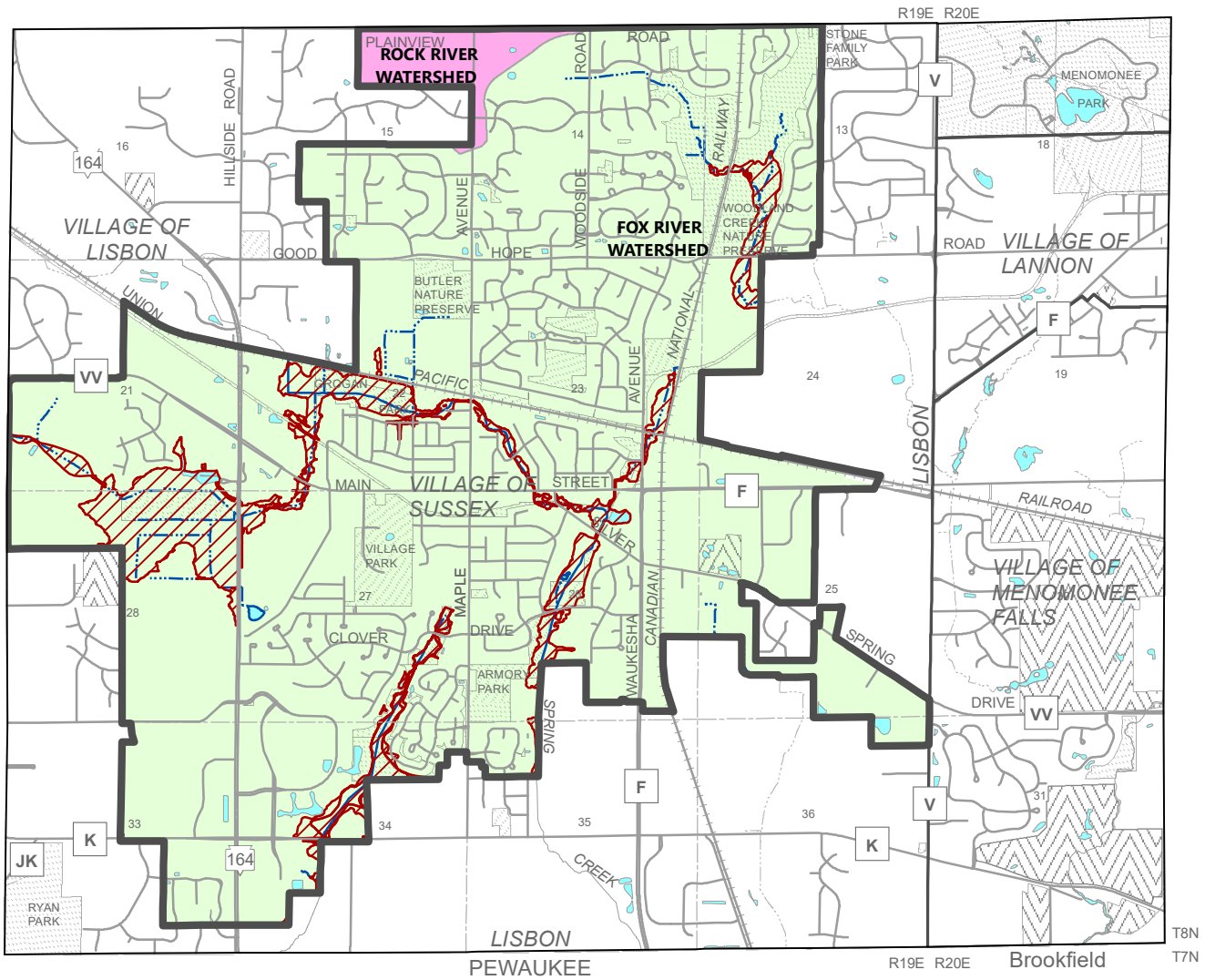








- BUGLINE TRAIL (WAUKESHA COUNTY)
- CORKY CURTIS TRAIL
- MAPLEWAY TRAIL
- NANCY WHALEN TRAIL
- SUSSEX CREEK TRAIL
- VILLAGE PARK TRAIL
- WOODLAND CREEK TRAIL
- VISTA RUN TRAIL
- REDFORD HILLS TRAIL

- SURFACE WATER
- PUBLICLY-OWNED OUTDOOR RECREATION LANDS
- PRIVATELY-OWNED OUTDOOR RECREATION LANDS

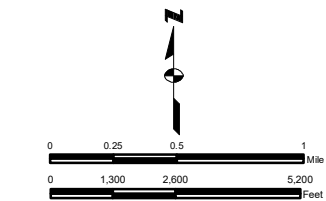


Map 2.6
Surface Water Resources in the Village of Sussex



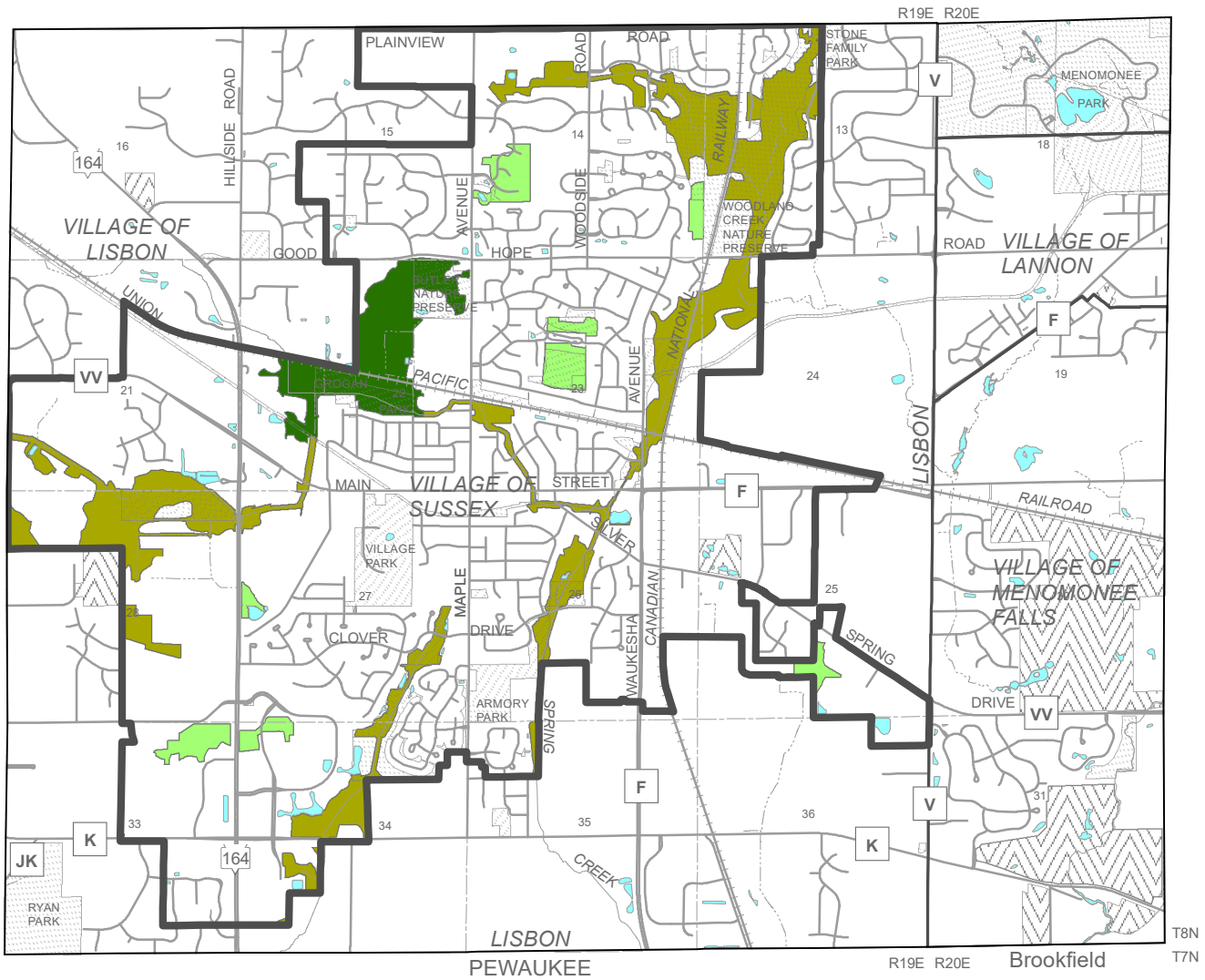
-  1-PERCENT-ANNUAL-PROBABILITY (100-YEAR RECURRENCE INTERVAL) FLOODPLAIN (WITH FLOOD ELEVATIONS DETERMINED)
-  PERENNIAL STREAM
-  INTERMITTENT STREAM
-  SURFACE WATER
-  PUBLICLY-OWNED OUTDOOR RECREATION LANDS
-  PRIVATELY-OWNED OUTDOOR RECREATION LANDS

NOTE: Floodplains shown are based on November 2022 data.

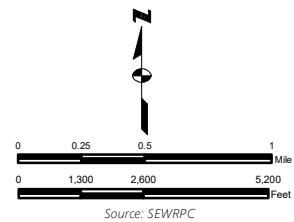


Source: Federal Emergency Management Agency and SEWRPC

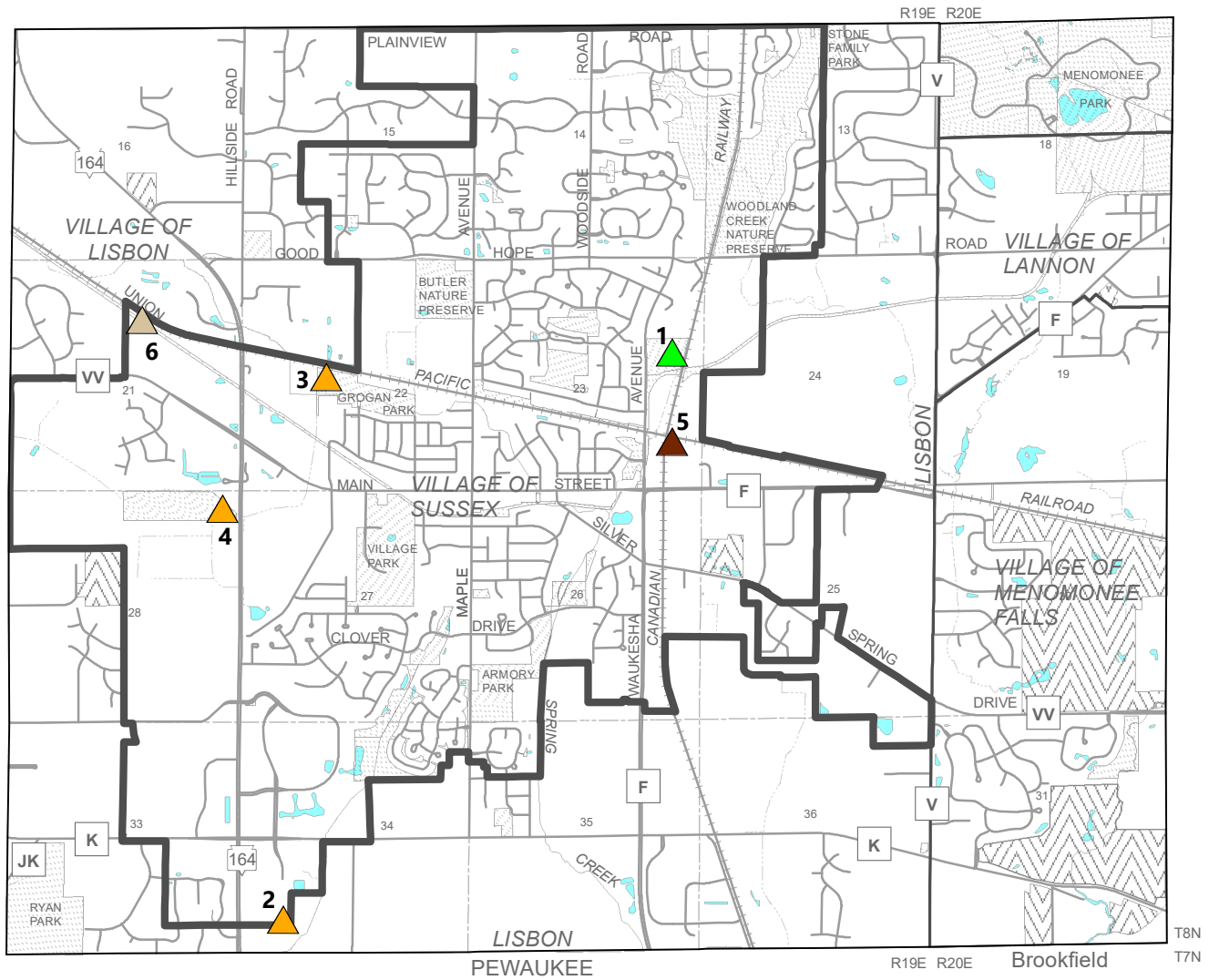
Map 2.7
Environmental Corridors in the Village of Sussex: 2015










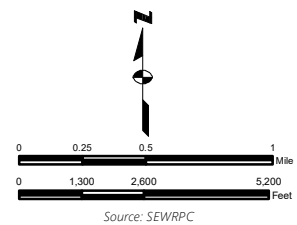
- PRIMARY ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDORS
- SECONDARY ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDORS
- ISOLATED NATURAL RESOURCE AREAS
- SURFACE WATER
- PUBLICLY-OWNED OUTDOOR RECREATION LANDS
- PRIVATELY-OWNED OUTDOOR RECREATION LANDS



**Map 2.8
Natural Areas, Critical Species Habitat Sites, and Geological Areas in the Village of Sussex: 2010**



- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
|  | NATURAL AREA OF LOCAL SIGNIFICANCE (NA-3) |  | SURFACE WATER |
|  | CRITICAL SPECIES HABITAT SITE |  | PUBLICLY-OWNED OUTDOOR RECREATION LANDS |
|  | GEOLOGICAL AREA OF STATEWIDE OR GREATER SIGNIFICANCE (GA-1) |  | PRIVATELY-OWNED OUTDOOR RECREATION LANDS |
|  | GEOLOGICAL AREA OF LOCAL SIGNIFICANCE (GA-3) | | |
| 6 | REFERENCE NUMBER (SEE TABLE 2.7) | | |



SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 346

A PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN FOR THE VILLAGE OF SUSSEX: 2050

Chapter 3

STATUS OF PREVIOUS VILLAGE PARK PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 INTRODUCTION

The Village of Sussex Park and Open Space Plan¹ adopted in 2013 includes recommendations pertaining to acquiring land for the expansion of existing Village parks and nature areas; acquiring land for the development of new parks and nature areas and recreational facilities associated with new developments; developing recreational facilities at new park sites; developing and/or improving recreational facilities at existing park and open space sites; and maintaining environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas within the Village.

While most of the recommendations are directed to the Village of Sussex, there may be recommendations directed to other units and agencies of government with jurisdiction within the Village or the Village's study area, such as Waukesha County. This chapter summarizes the recommendations made in the previous Village of Sussex Park and Open Space Plan and identifies the status of those recommendations as of 2023. Recommendations that had not been implemented as of 2023 are also summarized and were reevaluated as part of this plan update. Plan recommendations for the year 2050 are presented in Chapter 5.

¹ Documented in a report entitled, Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan: Village of Sussex Parks and Open Space Plan 2014 to 2018, Sussex, Wisconsin.

3.2 STATUS OF PARK PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED BY THE VILLAGE OF SUSSEX

Since the previous Village of Sussex Park and Open Space Plan was completed, the Village has acquired lands for the expansion of existing parks and nature areas, acquired lands for new parks and nature areas, developed recreational facilities at existing and new park sites and nature areas, and acquired lands associated with environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas. The following sections provide additional information on the status of the previous Village of Sussex Park and Open Space Plan recommendations.

Outdoor Recreation Element

Parks Recommendations

The following recommendations cited in the previous Village of Sussex Park and Open Space Plan relating to acquiring land and developing and/or improving parks and trails that have completed by the Village through 2023 include:

- Acquired lands for a new neighborhood park and a new nature area or open space in the far west portion of the Village associated with the Vista Run residential subdivision (west of STH 164)
- Acquired land for a new nature area in the southwestern portion of the Village associated with the Redford Hills residential subdivision
- Acquired additional land and developed a trail at Prides Crossing Park and also added isolated natural resource area lands for open space preservation purposes (woodlands) located directly south of Prides Crossing Park associated with the former Village-owned Standpipe Nature Area
- Acquired land for the expansion of Woodland Creek Nature Preserve
- Redeveloped Weyer Park as part of the new Village Civic Center development
- Redeveloped Old Brooke Square Park as part of the Main Street reconstruction project
- Acquired environmental corridors for open space preservation purposes along a tributary to or the headwaters of the Pewaukee River, Spring Creek, and the locally known Sussex Creek and its tributaries

- Acquired isolated natural resource areas for open space preservation purposes (woodlands) at Prides Crossing Park
- Continued development of an existing trail (Corky Curtis Trail) north and south of Armory Park
- Developed new trails at Woodland Creek Nature Preserve (Woodland Creek Trail) and Prides Crossing Park (Nancy A. Whalen Trail)
- Prepared a Master Plan for Village Park

Since 2013, the Village has also pursued new acquisitions and developments and/or improvements at various park sites that were not specifically recommended in the previous Village of Sussex Park and Open Space Plan, which include:

- Acquired lands for open space and preservation purposes along a tributary to or the headwaters of the Pewaukee River (Pewaukee Greenway) and associated with the Maple Grove Preserve residential subdivision
- Converted the tennis courts to pickleball courts and added four basketball goals and developed recreational facilities, including a splash pad and an inclusive playground, associated with The Grove at Village Park as Phase 1 of the Village Park Master Plan
- Removed the basketball courts, sand volleyball court, ice skating area, and skateboard facilities at Armory Park
- Moved the Historic Train Depot building thus providing a closed shelter, restrooms, and a drinking fountain and upgraded play equipment at Madeline Park
- Provided striping for pickleball courts with the existing tennis courts initially, and then upgraded the facility with four permanent pickleball courts, two striped pickleball courts, one permanent tennis court, one full basketball court, picnic area, drinking fountain and parking lot at Melinda Weaver Park

- Developed the Civic Center/Weyer Park with spaces for recreation programming and an indoor gym with two pickleball courts and four basketball goals, an outdoor ice-skating area, a drinking fountain, updated play equipment, and indoor restrooms
- Partnered with the Village of Lisbon to upgrade recreational facilities at the Village of Lisbon's Stone Family Park that will serve new residential developments in the northern portion of the Village of Sussex
- Updated the play equipment, play surfacing, and half-court basketball at Prides Crossing Park
- Discontinued recreational activities at the Community Center and Youth Hall and sold both properties to private entities

The following recommendations from the previous Village of Sussex Park and Open Space Plan that have not been implemented as of 2023, and were reevaluated as part of this plan update:

- Acquiring land for expansion and developing additional recreational facilities at Village Park
- Acquiring land for expansion and developing additional recreational facilities at Armory Park
- Acquiring land and developing recreational facilities at two new neighborhood parks associated with potential new residential developments (one in the far north and one in the far south portions of the Village)
- Acquiring land for expansion at Butler Nature Preserve
- Developing recreational facilities such as a playground, a playfield, an open-air shelter, a picnic area, a drinking fountain, and walking trails at the undeveloped Vista Run Subdivision Park
- Expanding the existing Village trail system by linking parks, trails, and pathways along a tributary to or the headwaters of the Pewaukee River, Spring Creek, and the locally known Sussex Creek and its tributaries; partial trail improvements have been completed
- Continue to acquire or preserve environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas for open preservation purposes

Trails Recommendations

The previous Village of Sussex Park and Open Space Plan recommended the continued development of the Village trail system utilizing the County-owned Bugline Recreational Trail, the roadway system, and environmental corridors. It is the goal of the Village that the trail system (trails and sidewalks) would link parks, existing trails, and pathways along Spring Creek, the locally known Sussex Creek, and along a tributary to or the headwaters of the Pewaukee River. The previous Village of Sussex Park and Open Space Plan recommends the continued expansion of existing trails along a tributary to or the headwaters of the Pewaukee River (Corky Curtis Trail) and the locally known Sussex Creek and its tributaries (Sussex Creek Trail) as well as the development of new trails within environmental corridors or existing or planned park or open space sites and on or within road rights-of-way, including sidewalks. The previous Village of Sussex Park and Open Space Plan also recommended the development of trails within and through the following Village parks: Butler Nature Preserve, Grogan Park, Woodland Creek Nature Preserve, and the area that is now the Vista Run residential subdivision, which includes a separate park and open space areas.

Since the previous Village of Sussex Park and Open Space Plan was adopted, the Village has expanded portions of the Corky Curtis Trail that includes segments along a tributary to or the headwaters of the Pewaukee River and Spring Creek and developed a portion of the Woodland Creek Trail linking residential subdivisions on the north side of the Village to Stone Family Park. In addition, the Village has developed the Nancy A. Whalen Trail, a one-mile, nature-based hiking trail within Prides Crossing Park; developed the Vista Run Trail from STH 164 to Heavenly Court within the Vista Run subdivision; and developed the Redford Hills Trail from Crescent Drive within the Redford Hills subdivision to Business Drive within the Highlands Business Park. Map 2.5 in Chapter 2 shows existing trails within the Village.

Open Space Preservation Element

The previous Village of Sussex Park and Open Space Plan identified the importance of maintaining primary and secondary environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas within the Village, particularly those areas located in and adjacent to Grogan Park, Butler Nature Preserve, and areas located adjacent to Spring Creek, the locally known Sussex Creek, the locally known Willow Springs Creek, Spring Green Park, and along a tributary to or the headwaters of the Pewaukee River. The plan recommended that the Village protect, connect, and enhance environmental corridors by incorporating the development of new parkways and trails, and preserving and protecting isolated natural resource areas through land use planning and property acquisition, when feasible, throughout the Village. Linking environmental corridors would provide the opportunity for establishing a Greenway, which would serve to provide open

space for human access and recreational use as well as protect and enhance natural and cultural resources.

Since the previous Village of Sussex Park and Open Space Plan was adopted, the Village has acquired additional secondary environmental corridors including lands associated with the expansion of Woodland Creek Nature Preserve; along a tributary to or the headwaters of the Pewaukee River (Maple Grove Preserve Subdivision and Pewaukee River Greenway); and along a tributary of the locally known Sussex Creek and open space areas associated with the Vista Run Subdivision development and also acquired additional isolated natural resource areas associated with Redford Hills Subdivision development.

3.3 STATUS OF PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED BY OTHER UNITS OF GOVERNMENT

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) administers State and Federal grant programs for acquiring and developing land for outdoor recreation and resource protection purposes. In order for the Village to qualify to apply for such funds, it must adopt a park plan that complies with WDNR requirements. The previous Village of Sussex Park and Open Space Plan was approved by the WDNR. It is anticipated that this plan will also meet the WDNR standards so the Village can continue to apply for and potentially receive available State and Federal grant funds to help implement the plan.

Waukesha County

County Parks Recommendations

The Waukesha County Parks System is a natural resource-based system, which demonstrates stewardship while providing recreational and educational opportunities. The previous Village of Sussex Park and Open Space Plan recommended that the County continue to preserve the Cooling's Meadow Nature Area in the east-central portion of the Village and that the Village work with Waukesha County to support the effort of developing a dog park at Menomonee Park, located just east/northeast of the Village. Since the previous Village of Sussex Park and Open Space Plan was adopted, the County designated 32 acres for dog exercise at Menomonee Park, with financial support from the Village of Sussex. The dog exercise site is comprised of three areas for different sizes of dogs and all three areas are fenced in. In addition, the County has designated a separate swim area for dogs at the park.

County Trails Recommendations

The previous Village of Sussex Park and Open Space Plan expects Waukesha County to continue to maintain the County-owned Bugline Recreational Trail that traverses the Village from east to west. About a four-mile segment of the 16-mile trail is located within the Village. The Village plans to develop a Village trail system throughout the Village that would connect to and utilize the Bugline Recreational Trail.





Coldwater Creek "Refresh" Budget 2023

Component	Notes	Estimated Cost
Cork Playground Surfacing	Materials Cost Only	\$48,886
Tear Out and Removal of Existing Poured in Place and Installation of Edge Restraint	Concrete Border for Cork Surfacing	\$24,200
Sidewalk Additions	Connect Sidewalk to Playground, Playground to Sandbox and Gaga Ball	\$6,000
Broken Toy Component Replacement	Chimney Climber bottom anchors have broken and the component needs to be replaced.	\$5,200
Gaga Ball Pit	Requested at June Park Board Meeting by Homeowners. Includes: Mat for Grass, Composite Boards, ADA door access	\$4,616
Molded Bucket Seat with Harness Replacement	Current ADA swing does not have an attached harness, you must bring straps from home.	\$1,200
Drinking Fountain (with bottle filler, pet fountain, ADA and traditional heights)	Current fountain has rusted out and is leaking.	\$5,500
Play Sand	Sandbox location is moving and will be larger	\$500
Trees	Additional 6 trees for shade and to define the space.	\$2,000
	Total Project Cost	\$98,102
	Contingency	\$1,898
	Total Project Allocated Budget	\$100,000