

*NOTE: Charts, figures, and tables in this draft may differ from those in subsequent drafts. These variations, intended to facilitate effective visual communication, are solely graphic in nature and do not indicate changes in the data used to prepare this report.*

DRAFT

SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. CA-737-280

CITY OF WAUKESHA COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, 2ND EDITION

## **Chapter 7**

# **PARKS, RECREATION, AND CULTURE**

This chapter describes parks, recreational areas, and cultural resources in the City of Waukesha and presents related goals and policies as a component of the agricultural, natural, and cultural resources element required by State law.<sup>83</sup> It contains information on parks and open space sites managed by the City, and also discusses opportunities for outdoor recreation including trails in the area. Cultural resources, including historic sites in the City, are also presented.

Park, recreational, and cultural resources are of vital importance to a community's quality of life and their provision can be considered an essential community service. These amenities have a symbiotic relationship with components of the natural resource base. Natural resources establish a foundation for parks, recreation, and culture in the City; parks and recreational and cultural features offer opportunities to engage with nature; which in turn contributes to preserving the natural environment. In addition, various components of the natural resource base can directly and indirectly support opportunities to participate in active and passive recreational activities, like kayaking the Fox River or nature study at Glacial Cone Park, thereby supporting overall public health.

*Call Out + Graphic: Cultural resources are irreplaceable physical remains or places of past human activity that encapsulate important information about the City's rich history. These resources may include landscapes, buildings, archaeological sites, and other physical objects and areas.*

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<sup>83</sup> Requirements for the agricultural, natural, and cultural resources element of a comprehensive plan are set forth in Section 66.1001(2)(e) of the Wisconsin Statutes.

Parks, recreational, and cultural features also provide economic value and promote social welfare by fostering an understanding of people’s common experiences. Components of the natural resource base, including surface water and groundwater, varied topography, scenic landscapes, and geological features, have all been influential to the City’s early settlement and subsequent growth. Providing park and open space sites that protect the natural resource base and accommodate outdoor recreational and cultural activities is therefore an important public policy objective.

*Call Out: Bethesda Park signifies the location and importance of natural springs within the City.*

*Insert Image: Natural resources within park site, potentially kayaking the Fox River and or visiting Glacial Cone Park*

## **PARK AND RECREATIONAL RESOURCES**

The City contains many high quality natural resource amenities including a portion of the Fox River, a number of streams, attractive woodlands and wetlands, and areas of rugged terrain and scenic landscapes. Preserving and protecting these resource amenities and finding ways to accommodate outdoor recreational activities that frequently depend upon the natural resource base are important public policy objectives. Further information about the importance and value of preserving park, recreational, and cultural opportunities are provided later in this Chapter. Goals, objectives, policies, and recommendations related to these resources are also set forth in this Chapter.

### **► Recommendation: Additional Park and Open Space Sites**

This report recommends that the City consider acquiring remaining undeveloped natural areas to preserve as open space sites or for parks that support outdoor recreation. In addition, it is recommended that the City consider strategically acquiring vacant parcels for use as neighborhood parks in areas with unmet park, recreation, or open space needs.

### **Park, Recreation, and Open Space Sites**

The City’s Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department is responsible for managing 50 park and open space sites within the City, which are shown on Map 7.1 and listed in Table 7.1. These City-managed sites are given classifications to help City officials and staff, residents, and others to learn more and make informed decisions about recreational opportunities. Due to the multi-use nature of park and open space sites, sites may have more than one classification, definitions of which follow:

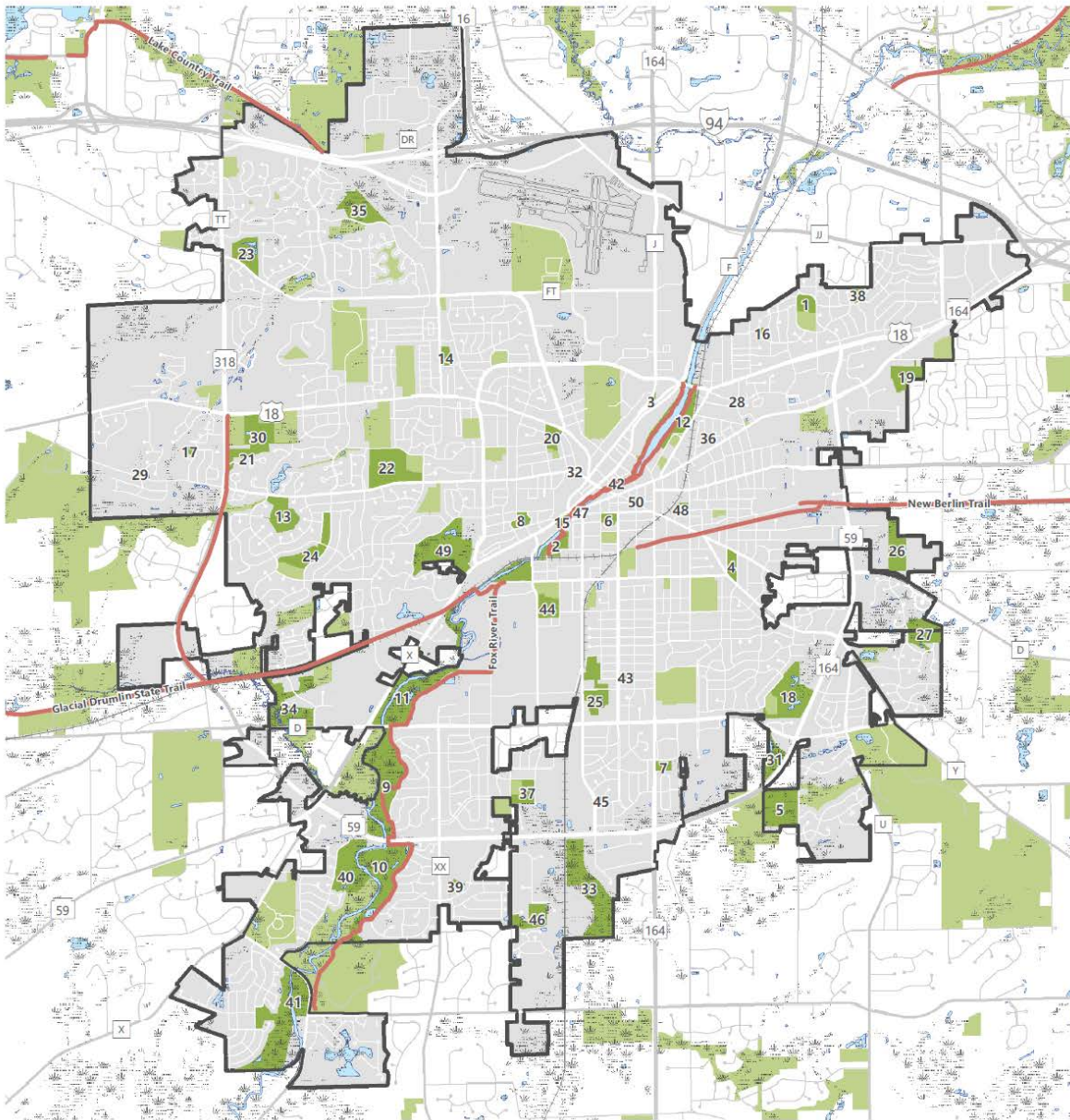
- Neighborhood Parks (N) serve as neighborhood social and recreational nodes, providing facilities for active and passive recreation, to create a more involved community
- Community Parks (C) meet community-based recreation needs and preserve unique landscapes and open spaces for public use
- School Parks (S) provide additional open space for recreation, especially for younger residents
- Mini-Parks (M) address limited and unique recreational needs
- Greenways (G) unify park and open space sites in the City into a cohesive, continuous park system
- Sports Complexes (SC) consolidate heavily programmed athletic fields and associated facilities to coordinate larger organized recreational activities
- Areas of Historical Significance (H) denote sites of historical and cultural importance
- Natural Resource Areas (NR) preserve natural resources, open space, and natural aesthetics and include remnant landscapes and visual and spatial buffers
- Undesignated or Under Development (U) sites are not otherwise categorized due to their special nature

As indicated in these park classifications, City park and open space sites provide a means for people to participate in a variety of active and passive recreational activities. Resource-oriented recreational activities depend upon high-quality features of the natural resource base.<sup>84</sup> Non-resource-oriented recreational activities, which are far less dependent upon natural resources, usually require the provision of man-made recreational facilities.

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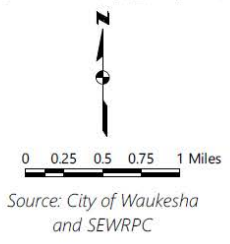
<sup>84</sup> Chapter 8 of this report contains information on the City's natural resource base and significant environmental areas.

**Map 7.1**  
**Park and Open Space Sites within the City of Waukesha: 2023**



- 1 CITY-OWNED PARK AND OPEN SPACE SITE
- PARK AND OPEN SPACE UNDER OTHER OWNERSHIP
- WETLAND
- EXISTING OFF-STREET TRAIL
- SURFACE WATER

Note: City-owned site numbers correspond to Table 7.1. Sites under other ownership are identified in Appendix 7.



**Table 7.1**  
**City-Managed Park and Open Space Sites in the City of Waukesha: 2023**

Map 7.1 ID	Name	Classification	Size (acres)	Map 7.1 ID	Name	Classification	Size (acres)
1	Banting Park	N, S	9.2	36	Phoenix Heights Park	M	0.5
2	Bethesda Park	H, N	21.8	37	Prairie Park	N, S	13.6
3	Brickson Park	--	1.8	38	Priedeman Park	N, S	4.9
4	Buchner Park	C, N	7.5	39	River Hills Park	N, S	5.0
5	Cardinal Ridge Park	--	40.0	40	River Valley Park	N, NR	34.3
6	Cutler Park	C, H, N	5.8	41	Rivers Crossing Park	N, NR	89.2
7	David's Park	N, S	4.9	42	Riverwalk Corridor	G	3.0
8	Dopp Park	N, S	6.7	43	Roberta Park	N, S	3.7
9	Fox River Parkway North	G, N	68.1	44	Saratoga Park	S, SC	14.5
10	Fox River Parkway South	G, N	62.9	45	Sentinel Park	M	0.5
11	Fox River Sanctuary	C, NR	95.5	46	Timber Ridge Park	NR	18.3
12	Frame Park	C, H, N	34.5	47	Veteran's Park	M	0.5
13	Glacier Cone Park	--	25.1	48	Waukesha Springs Park	H, N	5.0
14	Grandview Park	N, S	7.7	49	Woodfield Park	N, NR	59.4
15	Grede Park	M	3.3	50	Youmans Park	H, M	0.2
16	Greenway Terrace Park	N, S	1.2	<b>Total</b>			<b>1,146.3</b>
17	Heritage Hills Park	N, S	2.8	Note: Park classifications, defined in Chapter 7 text of the City's comprehensive plan, are as follows:			
18	Heyer Park	C, N, S, SC	49.6	C	Community Park		
19	Hillcrest Park	--	18.5	G	Greenway		
20	Horeb Springs Park	C, H, N	10.0	H	Area of Historical Significance		
21	Kisdon Hill Park	NR	13.0	M	Mini Park		
22	Lowell Park	C, N, S	50.9	N	Neighborhood Park		
23	Meadowview Park	C, N	22.0	NR	Natural Resource Area or Natural Resource Center		
24	Merrill Crest Park	N, S	25.2	S	School Site		
25	Minidiola Park	C, N	26.2	SC	Sports Complex		
26	Missile Park	--	45.6	Source: City of Waukesha and SEWRPC			
27	Moorewood Park	N, NR	22.4				
28	Niagara Park	--	0.4				
29	Oaks Park	--	0.6				
30	Oliver, William R. Youth Sports Complex	C, N, SC	24.8				
31	Pari Park	NR	16.4				
32	Parkview Park	--	0.2				
33	Pebble Brook Park	NR	68.1				
34	Pebble Creek Park	NR	62.7				
35	Pebble Valley Park	N, NR	38.6				

*Call Out & Graphic: Resource-oriented activities like hiking and kayaking involve high-quality, natural resource features, like varied topography, woodlands, and surface waters. Non-resource-oriented activities like baseball, soccer, tennis, or basketball generally require development of fields or courts.*

The City contains additional public and private park and open space sites and recreational facilities that are owned and managed by other entities such as school sites, County- and State-owned sites, etc. A map and list of these other park and open space sites are provided in Appendix I of this plan, and additional information on all of the park and open space sites and recreational facilities in the City is available in City and County park and open space plans.

*Call Out: Waukesha County was in the process of updating its park and open space plan as this report was being prepared. The updated park plan, developed in collaboration with communities and stakeholders within the County, will be a key component of the County's comprehensive development plan and will guide land use decisions pertaining to County-owned parks and open space lands.*

## **Trails**

Trails are a common component of park systems and support a variety of recreational opportunities. Trails may serve as a recreational facility within an individual park or open space site, or may provide connections between local and regional, public and private, park and open space sites.

Trails can also serve as a component of the transportation system. By providing connections between a variety of land uses, including residential neighborhoods, commercial areas, community facilities, and other areas, trails provide opportunities for safe, convenient nonvehicular travel.

### **► Recommendation: Expand Trail Network**

The City should explore opportunities to expand its network of off-street trails and create connections between trails, parks, and residential areas. An interconnected trail system provides valuable recreational and transportation access for residents to move throughout the City and connect to adjacent communities.

### **Water Trails**

The portion of the Fox River within the City is designated as a National Water Trail by the National Park Service.<sup>85</sup> The trail, known as the Fabulous Fox Water Trail, is part of a distinctive national network of cooperatively supported and sustained, exemplary water trails.

*Call Out/Graphic text: The Fabulous Fox! Water Trail, one of seven National Water Trails in Wisconsin, has more than 70 access points over its 158 mile-course from its Waukesha County headwaters to the southern border of Kendall County, Illinois.*

### **Bicycle and Pedestrian Trails**

Major off-street bicycle and pedestrian trails within the City include the portions of the Fox River Trail/Riverwalk, the New Berlin Trail, and the Glacial Drumlin State Trail. These trails provide local connections between a variety of Downtown Waukesha destinations and traverse multiple communities within the County to connect with trails in adjacent counties.

Route of the Badger is a regional coalition plan to connect trails throughout southeastern Wisconsin, including those within Waukesha, to create a more complete regional trail network. The planned 700-mile trail network is intended to provide residents with new opportunities for physical activity, tourism, recreation, and stronger businesses along its route. In addition, the New Berlin Trail and Glacial Drumlin State Trail are part of U.S. Bicycle Route 30, a 269-mile east-west bicycle route across the state.

The City also contains shorter bicycle and pedestrian trails that provide more limited connections, like the Fox River Park boardwalk and small trails serving separate, private areas, like the Lodge Apartments. Additional information on bicycle and pedestrian facilities as components of the transportation network is set forth in Chapter 5 of this report.<sup>86</sup>

*Call Out: Focus groups attendees identified the lack of safety and connectivity of bicycle and pedestrian trails within the City as an issue.*

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<sup>85</sup> The National Park Service identifies National Water Trails through the National Recreation Trails Program with intention of protecting, restoring, and providing recreational access to navigable surface waters.

<sup>86</sup> The City's bicycle and pedestrian plan also contains information on the City's trails network.

## **CULTURAL RESOURCES**

Cultural resources are important, irreplaceable physical remains or places of past human activity. These resources may include landscapes, buildings, archaeological sites, and other physical objects and areas.<sup>87</sup>

### **Historic Places**

Historic places can be of significant educational, cultural, recreational, environmental, and economic value. Historic places include individual historic buildings or structures and historic districts comprised of numerous historic buildings or structures. Historic places also include significant archeological features, such as indigenous settlements, effigy mounds, and older cemeteries.

*Insert Image: Historic place [To be provided by City].*

The Wisconsin Historical Society (WHS), the State's federally designated State Historic Preservation Office, partners with communities, organizations, and individuals to identify and preserve Wisconsin's historic places. WHS also administers the State's Certified Local Government program on behalf of the National Park Service and has designated the City as a Certified Local Government. As such, the City is responsible for the following:

- Establishing by ordinance a qualified historic preservation commission
- Enforcing appropriate legislation for designating and protecting historic places
- Maintaining a system for surveying and inventorying local historic resources
- Providing opportunities for the public to participate in the local historic preservation program

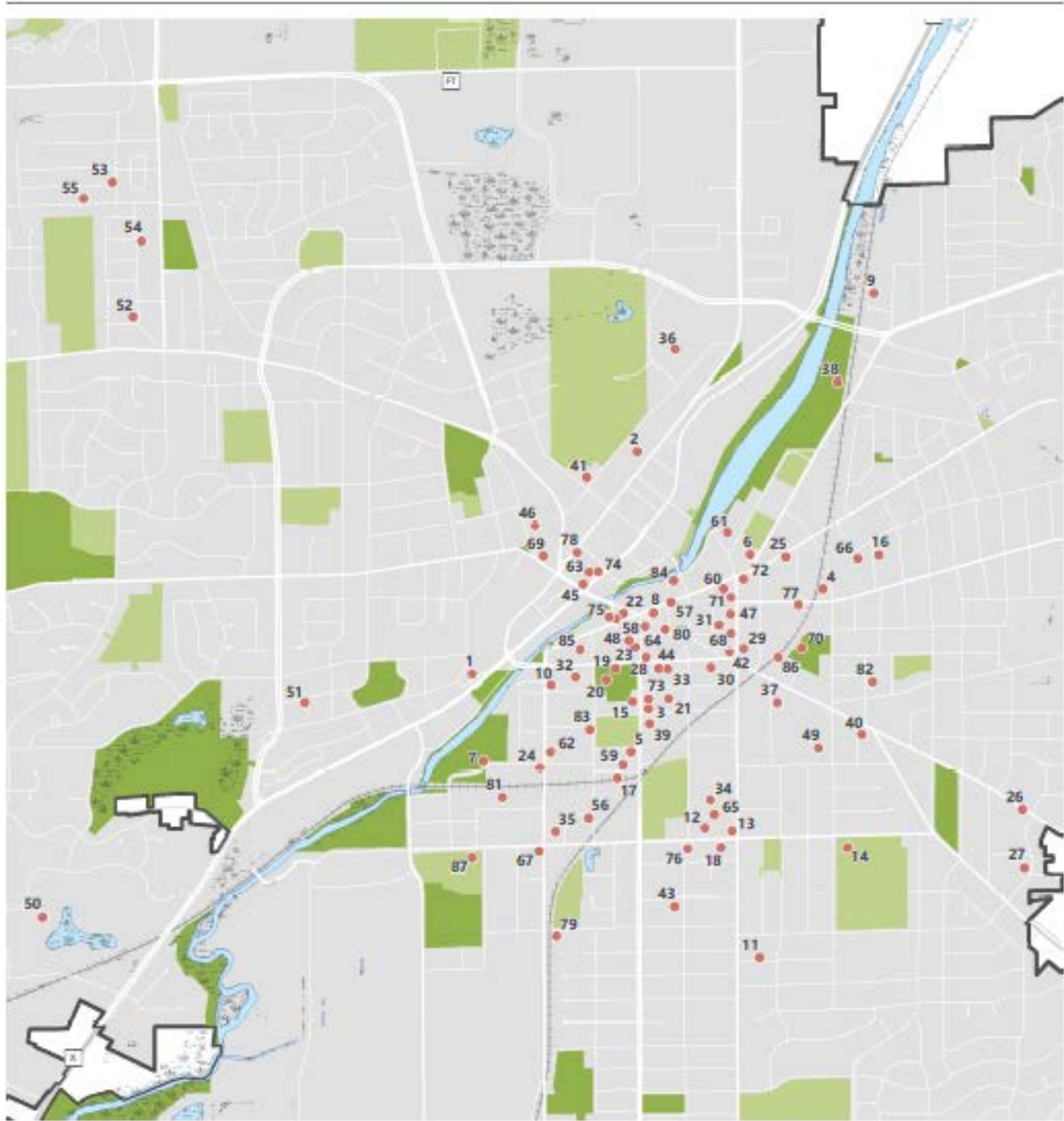
In accordance with these responsibilities, the City established a seven-member Landmarks Commission to identify and designate local landmarks, historic districts, and landmark sites within the City. The Commission reviews proposals for renovation, restoration, and repair on historically designated sites and assists property owners to ensure they maintain the historic identity and integrity of their properties.

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<sup>87</sup> Information on museums, libraries, and other such facilities that house cultural resources is documented alongside community facilities in Chapter 6 of this report.

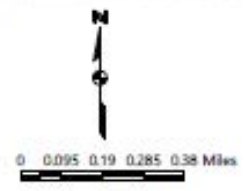


**Map 7.2**  
**Historic Places Within the City of Waukesha: 2023**



- 1 HISTORIC PLACE
- CITY-OWNED PARK AND OPEN SPACE SITE
- PARK AND OPEN SPACE UNDER OTHER OWNERSHIP

- WETLAND
- SURFACE WATER



Note: Site numbers correspond to Table 7.2.

Source: City of Waukesha and SEWRPC

## Historic Places Within the City of Waukesha: 2023

Map 7.2 ID	Name	Site or District	NRHP Designation <sup>a</sup>
1	Acme/Carleton Spring	S	--
2	Alexander Cook House	S	1983
3	Andrew Frame House	S	1982
4	Arcadian Bottling Works	S	1983
5	Arlington Apartments	S	1987
6	Becker and Schafer Store Building	S	1995
7	Bethesda Spring	S	--
8	Block C Downtown Historic District	D	1995
9	C.A. Welch House	S	1982
10	Camillia Smith House	S	1983
11	Caples Park Historic District	D	1998
12	Carroll College Main Academic Buildings	S	1982
13	Carroll College	S	1982
14	Caspar M. Sanger House	S	1983
15	Charles E. Nelson House	S	1990
16	Charles Merten Building	S	1995
17	Chicago and Northwestern Railroad/ Milwaukee & Madison Passenger Depot	S	1995
18	College Avenue Historic District	D	1982
19	Cutler Homestead Site	S	1988
20	Cutler Mound Group/Church St. Mounds	S	1988
21	David J. Hemlock House	S	1983
22	Downtown/Five Points Historic District	D	1995
23	Dr. David Roberts House	S	1983
24	Dr. F.C. Elliot House	S	1982
25	Dr. Volney L. Moore House	S	1982
26	East Broadway Historic District	D	1982
27	Everett P. Barrett House	S	1995
28	First Baptist Church	S	1983
29	First Congregational Church	S	1992
30	First Methodist Church	S	1983
31	First Presbyterian Church	S	--
32	First Reformed German Church	S	1991
33	Frank H. Putney House	S	1983
34	Ganfield Gymnasium	S	1982
35	George Dwinell House	S	1983
36	Grand View Health Resort/Moor Mud Baths	S	1983
37	Hannah Pratt House	S	1983
38	Hobo Spring	S	--
39	John Howitt House	S	1983
40	John P. Buchner House	S	--

Table continued on following page.

<b>Map 7.2 ID</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Site or District</b>	<b>NRHP Designation<sup>a</sup></b>
41	Joseph Fabacker House	S	1995
42	Joseph H. Hadfield House	S	1983
43	Lafin Avenue Historic District	D	1982
44	Lain-Estberg House	S	1974
45	Louis Yanke House/Saloon	S	1982
46	Madison Street Historic District	D	1990
47	Martin Brown House/St. Joseph's Church Convent	S	1983
48	Masonic Temple	S	1983
49	McCall Street Historic District	D	1993
50	Minniska Spring	S	--
51	Moreland Blvd. Pumphouse and Reservoir	S	1996
52	Morey-Andrews House	S	1995
53	Morey-Lewis House	S	1995
54	Morey-Markham House	S	1995
55	Morey-Seidens House	S	1995
56	Morris Cutler House	S	1982
57	National Hotel	S	1982
58	Nickell Building	S	1982
59	Northwestern Hotel	S	1990
60	Old Waukesha County Courthouse	S	1982
61	Patrick J. Buckley House	S	1991
62	Perry Grace House	S	1983
63	Pokrandt Blacksmith Shop	S	1983
64	Putney Block	S	1982
65	Rankin Hall Old Main House	S	1982
66	Resthaven Hotel	S	1982
67	Robert O. Jones House	S	1982
68	Samuel D. James House	S	1996
69	Senator William Blair House	S	1983
70	Silurian Mineral Springhouse - Monument & Spring	S	1982
71	St. Joseph's Church Complex	S	1982
72	St. Matthias Episcopal Church	S	1983
73	Totten-Butterfield House	S	1984
74	W.T. Lyle's Building	S	1982
75	W.T. Lyle's Building	S	1983
76	Walter S. Chandler House	S	1982
77	Waukesha Asbestos Company	S	--
78	Waukesha Mfg. Co./Waukesha Motor Co.	S	--
79	Waukesha Newhall Avenue Pump House and Reservoir	S	1999
80	Waukesha Post Office	S	1983

Table continued on following page.

<b>Map 7.2 ID</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Site or District</b>	<b>NRHP Designation<sup>a</sup></b>
81	Waukesha Pure Food Company	S	1983
82	William A. Nickell House	S	1982
83	William G. Mann House	S	1983
84	William P. Sloan House	S	1982
85	Wisconsin Avenue Historic District	D	1982
86	Wisconsin Central, Ltd. Depot	S	--
87	Wisconsin Industrial School for Boys	S	1987

<sup>a</sup> Historic places with no year are locally designated landmarks not listed on the National Registry of Historic Places (NRHP).

Source: City of Waukesha, Wisconsin Historical Society, and SEWRPC.

*Call Out: There are 78 historic sites and nine historic districts in the City, many of which are concentrated around Downtown Waukesha.*

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## **GOALS AND POLICIES**

Parks, recreational areas, and cultural resources serve many important functions in the community, including enhancing quality of life, boosting economic value, and promoting social welfare. The goals and policies presented in this chapter are intended to provide a framework to guide the future development of the City's parks, recreational facilities, and cultural resources. This framework should be used by the City to create and evaluate objectives and standards, ensuring that specific programs and projects are consistent with this comprehensive plan.

### **GOAL 7.1**

Protect the City's natural resource base and cultural amenities within park and open space sites.

*Call Out: Many of the City's high-quality natural resource amenities are located within park and open space sites.*

#### **Policy 7.1.1**

Preserve, maintain, and promote the City's historic resources, including local landmarks and National Register of Historic Places resources, within public or private park, recreational, cultural, or open space sites.

#### **Policy 7.1.2**

Continue to provide cultural and arts programming within the City, including the Les Paul Performance Center at Cutler Park.

#### **Policy 7.1.3**

Preserve, maintain, and identify opportunities to add public art to the City's parks and municipally owned properties.

#### **Policy 7.1.4**

Focus on strategic acquisition of property near existing or proposed parks and other properties that will protect additional natural resources.

*Call Out + Graphic: Components of the natural resource base offer unique opportunities for active and passive outdoor recreation and support soccer, hiking, kayaking, and nature study, as well as the Riverwalk and formal gardens.*

Significant Environmental Areas in the City of Waukesha: 2023

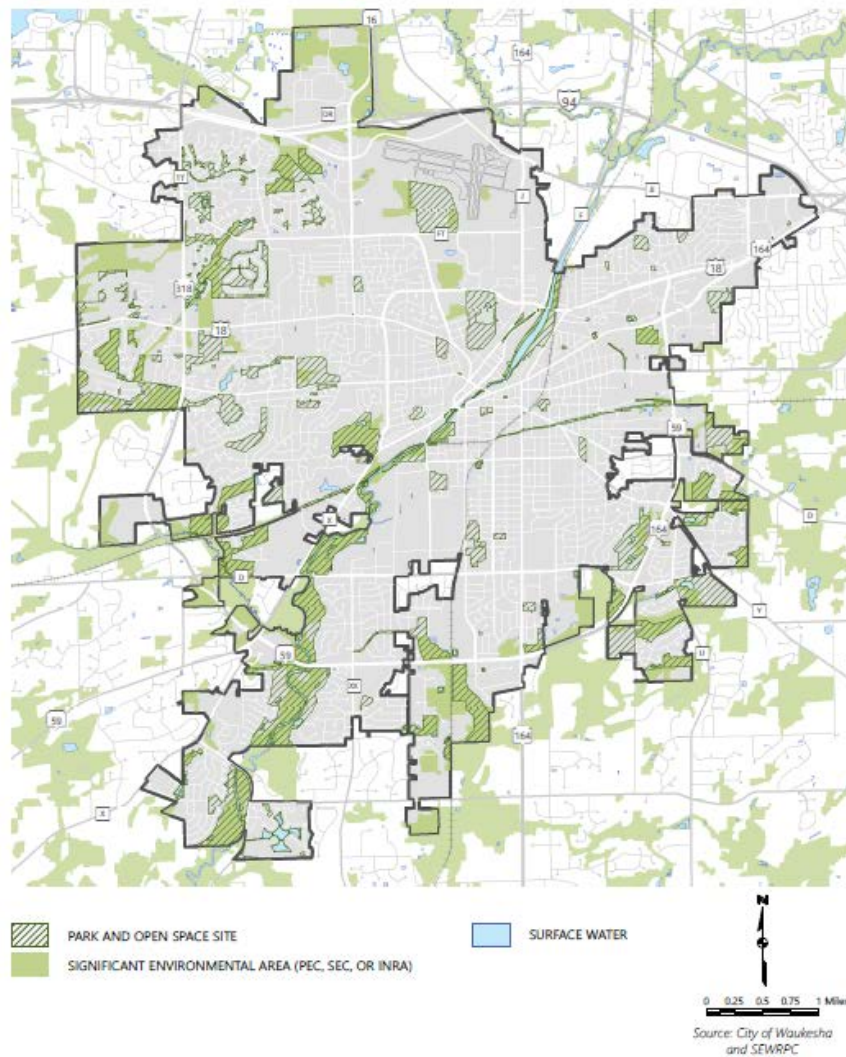


Figure 1 Park and open space sites from land use policy map

**GOAL 7.2**

Continue to provide, and expand where and when possible, park and open space sites that support recreational opportunities and opportunities to connect with nature while respecting each sites' environmental values.

*Call Out: Keeping to its commitment to create a sustainable and inviting urban landscape, the City of Waukesha hosts numerous parks and open spaces.*

## **GOAL 7.3**

Provide park and open space sites sufficient to meet all residents' needs.

### **Policy 7.3.1**

Ensure that new, expanded, or renovated park facilities are ADA-compliant<sup>88</sup> and seek opportunities to provide comparable and like experiences for people of all abilities. Seek to improve ADA accessibility for existing facilities whenever possible.

### **Policy 7.3.2**

Monitor current park and recreation trends in park and recreational facilities to meet the needs of people of all ages and abilities.

### **Policy 7.3.3**

Identify opportunities for expanding aquatic facilities and amenities throughout the park system, including centrally located splash pads, therapeutic pools, and other aquatic amenities for people of all ages and abilities.

### **Policy 7.3.4**

Develop the Riverwalk Plaza park along Bank Street, including a small performance space for music and other community events. Develop programming for this park to make the space active throughout the year.

### **Policy 7.3.5**

Expand infrastructure across the entire park system, including fiber optic cable to accommodate the broadband internet requirements needed to host community events at all neighborhood parks.

*Images: ADA-compliant recreational facilities; Riverwalk*

### **Policy 7.3.6**

Promote urban fishing in Woodfield and Heyer Park ponds and the Fox River. Explore additional opportunities to enhance urban fishing throughout the park system.

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<sup>88</sup> ADA-compliant sites and facilities satisfy requirements set forth by the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act.

**Policy 7.3.7**

Explore opportunities for an outdoor multi-generational outdoor fitness court, prioritizing a location that is easily accessible for bicyclists and pedestrians.

**Policy 7.3.8**

Seek a City park site for a designated archery range.

**GOAL 7.4**

Design the City's park system to build upon and complement public and private park and open space sites owned by other groups or agencies.

**Policy 7.4.1**

Work with the School District of Waukesha to ensure that District-owned parks and recreational facilities are available to City residents outside of school hours.

**Policy 7.4.2**

Explore opportunities to partner with other institutions, including the Waukesha YMCA, Carroll University, and UW-Milwaukee at Waukesha, to expand recreational opportunities through use agreements.

**GOAL 7.5**

Establish an interconnected City-wide system of bicycle and pedestrian trails.

**Policy 7.5.1**

Prioritize the creation of off-street trails and utilize on-street routes to complete connections as necessary.

**Policy 7.5.2**

Improve connections between neighborhoods and parks, commercial destinations, schools, and other neighborhoods while aiming to have all residents within a 10-minute walk to a City park without barriers.



**Policy 7.5.3**

Continue creating links with trails located outside of the City and expand City segments of larger trail systems, including the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy Route of the Badger trail system and U.S. Bicycle Route 30 (USBR 30).

**Policy 7.5.4**

Continue implementing the City's bicycle and pedestrian plan. Create a bicycle and pedestrian advisory committee to guide and prioritize implementation of and to take the lead on preparing an update to the 2012 *Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Plan*.

*Image: Bike trail*

*Call Out: Trails within and between greenways and other park sites support residents' mobility for recreation and for accessing essential daily needs.*

**Policy 7.5.5**

Expand the system of off-street bicycle and pedestrian trails in the City by using existing abandoned or underutilized utility easements and rights-of-way, prioritizing the Wisconsin Electric Power Company (We Energies) right-of-way that runs from Silvernail Road east of University Drive to Summit Avenue at Moreland Boulevard.

**Policy 7.5.6**

Expand bicycle route signage to enhance the user experience on both on- and off-street bicycle routes. Signage should provide guidance on how to navigate the routes and connections but also provide directions and distance to popular destinations including Downtown Waukesha, Carroll University, UWM at Waukesha, and to other parks and cultural amenities within the City.

**Policy 7.5.7**

Regularly update the City's bicycle route map and provide both print and digital versions of the maps.

**GOAL 7.6**

Create a strategy for using the City's park and open space sites, recreational facilities, and cultural amenities to enhance economic development opportunities.

**Policy 7.6.1**

Continue developing the multi-field sports and recreation complex at Mindiola Park, which will draw visitors and spending from outside of the City.

**Policy 7.6.2**

Explore other opportunities for facilities and events that draw participants and spectators from outside of the City.

**Policy 7.6.3**

Use the City's and County's parks and open space amenities as a marketing tool to attract new businesses and residents.

**Policy 7.6.4**

Take advantage of the City's location along the Glacial Drumlin and New Berlin trail systems by promoting bicycle tourism. Consider establishing additional wayfinding signs from these trails to the City's historic downtown and to other local commercial areas.

*Call Out: The City recognizes that parks and cultural resources can be of significant educational, historical, recreational, environmental, and economic value.*

**Policy 7.6.5**

Continue to place public art in City parks, considering designation of an individual sculpture park or utilizing public art/sculptures to activate parks throughout the City.

**Policy 7.6.6**

Continue to pursue sponsorships, public-private partnerships, and other alternative revenue sources to support parks, recreational facilities, and trails within the City.

**GOAL 7.7**

Create opportunities for community engagement in parks through programming and special events.

*Call Out: City residents would like community events and other such programming to activate park and open space sites throughout the City.*

**Policy 7.7.1**

Activate parks throughout the City through community events and programming. As technology infrastructure is extended to parks, seek to hold more community events in parks in all areas of the City.

**Policy 7.7.2**

Support event programming and settings that best meet the needs of young children, the aging population, and people with special needs.

*Call Out: Some park and open space sites and community events are not designed with consideration for people of all ages and abilities.*

**Policy 7.7.3**

Establish a community beer garden that operates through the warmer months. Seek opportunities to rotate the smaller neighborhood beer gardens into parks throughout the City as infrastructure is updated to support them.

*Call Out: Park and open space sites provide facilities to support active and passive recreation and are important to creating a more cohesive and engaged community. Programming in neighborhood parks that can promote community engagement and cohesion include gatherings centered around markets, music, arts, food, and other services or entertainment.*

**GOAL 7.8**

Promote development of the Fabulous Fox! Water Trail as part of the National Park Service's National Water Trails System.

**Policy 7.8.1**

Collaborate with local partners and communities to promote recreation-oriented development along the Fabulous Fox! Water Trail.

*Image: Fox River within the City*

**Policy 7.8.2**

Add signage to the Fabulous Fox! Water Trail showing portage locations and destinations.

**Policy 7.8.3**

Provide additional parking at launch sites along the Fox River and expand opportunities for ADA-accessible launch sites.

**GOAL 7.9**

Use the City's park and recreation system plans to establish the City's vision for park and open space sites and recreational facilities.

**Policy 7.9.1**

Regularly update the City's park and recreation system plans.

*Call Out: Historic places include individual historic structures or sites, districts comprised of numerous historic structures or sites, and significant archeological features.*

**GOAL 7.10**

Establish policies and programs, and utilize the City's Landmarks Commission, to protect and maintain historic places, including local landmarks, historic districts, and properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places, to foster the City's unique aesthetic and character.

**Policy 7.10.1**

Develop programs to support the preservation of historic sites and districts within the City.

**Policy 7.10.2**

Update inventories and surveys of historical sites and districts within the City in conjunction with the Wisconsin Historical Society as necessary.

**Policy 7.10.3**

Continue to maintain and seek to develop and fund additional programs to support the preservation of historic sites and districts within the City.

**Policy 7.10.4**

Continue to seek opportunities to nominate eligible sites and districts for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places or to designate them as local landmarks.

**Policy 7.10.5**

Maintain the City's designation as a Certified Local Government by the State of Wisconsin Historical Society.

**Policy 7.10.6**

Preserve, maintain, and promote historic resources within the City's parks, including Hillcrest, Cutler, and Bethesda Parks.

**Policy 7.10.7**

Create and adopt design guidelines for downtown Waukesha, including best practices for maintaining and respecting the character of downtown's historic resources.

**Policy 7.10.8**

Use new and emerging technology, such as e-books, interactive maps, and dedicated apps, to educate the public on the City's historic resources.

**Policy 7.10.9**

Encourage and strive for new development to feature long-lasting, well-designed architecture that will stand the test of time.

*Image: Historic place marker*

*Call Out: Cultural resources, including historic places, are important for their value in preserving an area's heritage and identity, promoting civic pride, contributing to quality of life, and for hosting heritage tourism.*

## **GOAL 7.11**

Establish policies that recognize historic preservation as an economic development tool that promotes heritage tourism.

*Call Out: Properly preserving cultural resources can promote sound development and maintain community identity.*

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