

JEFFERSON COUNTY PARKS DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT AUGUST, 2016



Mission Statement:

To preserve natural resources for public use and conservation, to operate and maintain a parks system with resource oriented recreation, trails and specialty parks; and to expand the parks system for environmental and land use benefits and the health and enjoyment of Jefferson County residents.



The Jefferson County Parks Department manages a system that includes 17 County Parks. The Park System is primarily nature based. In addition, it also includes a dog park, Indian Mound & Trail Park, and a nature preserve.

We also manage a comprehensive bike trail and water trail system. These trail systems have grown to become some of our most popular offerings.

The Parks Department administers the Public Snowmobile Program in Jefferson County.

We manage the grounds of all county owned properties. This includes comprehensive landscape services at the Courthouse, MIS building, Highway Department, Fairgrounds, Human Services, Workforce Development/University of Wisconsin-Extension, Sheriff's Department annex and Potters Field.

The Parks Department also manages 117 Flood Mitigation properties.

We cooperate with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to offer the Glacial Heritage Area Program.

Current Grants & Donations

- \$ 45,675 2015-2016 WiDNR Snowmobile grant
- \$ 45,675 2016-2017 WiDNR Snowmobile grant
- \$ 45,000 Carnes Park Parking Lot - Recreational Trails Act Grant
- \$ 30,000 Rock River Park – Recreational Trails Act Grant
- \$ 28,000 Rock River Public Access Cappies Landing – Quirk Foundation
- \$ 15,043 Rock River Public Access Cappies Landing – Outdoor Recreation Aids Grant
- \$178,805 Interurban Trail – WiDNR Stewardship Grant
- \$ 45,000 Interurban Trail – Recreational Trails Act Grant
- \$ 1,560 Garman Nature Preserve – WiDNR County Conservation Aids
- \$ 28,000 Addition to the Garman Nature Preserve - Theo Garman
- \$ 14,000 Addition to the Garman Nature Preserve - Chuck & Joni Crave
- \$ 25,000 Carlin Weld Parks - Robert Ehlers Donation
- \$ 50,000 Interurban Trail – Anonymous Foundation
- \$ 9,960 Interurban Trail – Citizen & Business Donations (\$10-\$1,500)

Fundraising Events

- Brew with a View
- Mason Farm Jamboree

Private/Public Partnerships

We are always striving to respectfully expand our private/public partnerships

Community Outreach/Special Event Participation

- Dog Dayz of Summer - In cooperation with the City of Jefferson Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department the department hosted the annual Dog Dayz of Summer at the Jefferson Aquatic Center.
- Dog Park Events include: Lure Coursing & Educational Outreach Programs
- Mason Farm Jamboree, Carnes Park – The 4th annual Mason Farm Jamboree
- Tour Da Goose, Watertown, WI - participated on the planning team for the Tour Da Goose bicycle ride. The ride brought in nearly 200 riders with the last leg of the route on the Glacial River Trail between Johnson Creek and Watertown.
- Lake Ripley Ride, Cambridge, WI – participated on the planning team for the Lake Ripley CAP bicycle ride.
- Brew with a View – in cooperation with Tyranena Brewery, the department hosted Brew with a View at Korth Park as a fundraiser for the department.
- Canoeopia Participation
- Member of the Rock River National Water Trail

Friends of GHA & Friends of Rose Lake

Both friends groups continue to recruit and manage volunteers on projects, organize outdoor activities in our parks including bird walks, winter recreation activities, education, paddling outings, help with funding small park projects, and staff our parks department booth at events and fundraisers.

Glacial Heritage Area

The department continues to work in partnership with the Friends of GHA and many others on a variety of projects within the Glacial Heritage Area (GHA).

Glacial River Trail

- Parking Lot and connector trail installed at Hwy W in Jefferson thanks to the Jefferson County Highway Department

Blackhawk Island

- Handicapped Fishing Wharf installed

Mountain Biking – Human Services Complex

- The Jefferson County Parks Department and numerous volunteers have completed the first loop

Carlin Weld Park

- 9 Hole Disc Golf Course completed

Cold Spring Park

- New restroom installed

Crawfish River Park

- Master Plan updated and approved

Dorothy Carnes Park

- Earth Art Lab – Art Exhibit



Jefferson County Dog Park

- Annual tag sales continues to grow

Pohlmann Park

- Timber Harvest

Rock River Public Access – Cappie’s Landing

- Plan approved
- Park Opened

Thank you!!!