



# VILLAGE OF HARTLAND

## Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan



October 2019

## **Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Resolution of Adoption**

**Adopted by the Village of Hartland**  
**Date TBD**

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## Chapter 1 Introduction

The Village of Hartland's Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) is a planning document that reviews the Village's outdoor recreation opportunities and defines goals and priorities for the future. The implementation of this plan's recommendations will depend on the collective efforts of elected officials, public agencies, private organizations and, most importantly, residents. The CORP provides data and context related to the current and future supply and demand of outdoor recreation facilities in Hartland. Understanding existing conditions, current supply, trends in future population growth, and the needs of residents will guide local decision making as it applies to outdoor recreation facilities in Hartland.

The Village of Hartland developed this CORP for several reasons. First, regular updates of a CORP allow the Village to understand the status of outdoor recreation in Hartland, receive feedback from residents on how facilities are being used and who they are used by, and to identify areas of opportunity for improvement or enhancement in the outdoor recreation system. Secondly, a CORP is a prerequisite that any city, town, or village in the State of Wisconsin needs to participate in a variety of outdoor recreation grant funding programs. The information found in the CORP can be used by the Village to apply for grants that fund a wide variety of improvements to outdoor facilities that are important to the community. These programs include, but are not limited to, the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund Program (LWCF), Urban Green Space Program (UGS), and the Urban Rivers Grant Program (URGP).

This document should be used to guide outdoor recreation decision making for 2019 to 2024, and replaces the Village of Hartland Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (2013-2017) adopted in 2012.

### Public Participation

The process to develop this CORP update included multiple stages including: data collection, public engagement, goal development and outdoor recreation analysis. Public engagement played a large role in the development of the CORP, including pop-up events, an online survey, and an open house. Pop-up events were held to discuss outdoor recreation and facilities with residents. These events provided an opportunity to bring engagement to residents with stations set up at community events, a grocery store, and high school. An online survey was also administered to the public during fall of 2018. This survey looked to gain input on which facilities are being used, who is currently using each facility and for what purpose, to identify positive aspects of outdoor recreation, and areas for improvement throughout the system in Hartland. Finally, an open house meeting will be held at the end of the planning process to provide residents and stakeholders with an opportunity to review and comment on the draft Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

### Plan Preparation

The CORP for the Village of Hartland seeks to accomplish several objectives. First, this CORP will describe the Village of Hartland, its social and physical characteristics, its existing outdoor recreation facilities, and how past plans and investments have shaped recreational opportunities available in the Village today. Second, this Plan will outline a set of goals and policies based on input from residents that the Village will aspire and plan towards for outdoor recreation over the next five years in Hartland. A complete, detailed list of goals and policies can be found in Chapter 4. Third, this Plan summarizes the existing supply inventory of all Village-owned outdoor recreation facilities, as well as facilities available to the public on school grounds and directly adjacent to the Village boundary. The complete inventory and needs assessment can be found in Chapter 5. This information was then used to produce

an outdoor recreation facility needs assessment, utilizing the 2018 National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Park and Recreation Agency Performance Benchmarks, along with public input.

### **Summary of Past CORPS**

The Village of Hartland has regularly updated community CORP plans in the past, with the most recent adopted in December 2012. The 2013-2017 plan looked to accurately capture the existing parks system and plan for a future system that provided ample resources and met the recreational needs of an older and more diverse population. It followed the lead of the Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) and included information related to participation rates of various activities in Wisconsin, finding that the parks and recreation system ultimately meets the needs of residents.

CORP plans have also been published by Waukesha County and the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR). The most recent plan for Waukesha County was published in 2018. Beyond capturing an inventory of existing parks and facilities, this plan laid out a framework for coordination among local governments and provided goals that sought to provide opportunities for outdoor recreation as well as policies designed to protect natural resources.

WDNR has published a draft State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) in the fall 2018. The previous SCORP was adopted plan in 2011. This Plan focused on several key themes: Wisconsin outdoor recreation uses and trends, outdoor recreation and public health, access to outdoor recreation in urban areas, and the conservation of open spaces for outdoor recreation purposes. This plan surveyed residents throughout the state to understand how, why, how often, and where people recreate throughout the state. This comprehensive plan provided a wealth of information on outdoor recreation in Wisconsin and provided solid goals and policies that municipalities could emulate as they developed their own CORP plans. The final version of this SCORP will be published in 2019.

### **Planning Process**

The development of this CORP occurred in conjunction with an update to the Village's Comprehensive Plan. The process began in with a kick-off meeting with Village of Hartland on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018. This meeting outlined the project's overall scope, timeline, schedule. The purpose of this meeting is to set in motion the development of the plan. In May 2018, an inventory gathering period took place, which included a half day field visit with Hartland Public Works staff. These on-site visits collected detailed information on the facilities available at each park. This information was supplemented with additional data collection to analyze the existing condition of outdoor recreation in Hartland. This included the collection of data related to social and demographic trends, as well as the physical and natural characteristics of the area. An online survey was also conducted during the fall of 2018. This survey asked residents how, where, when, and at what facilities they recreate in Hartland. Next, using the information gathered during the inventory process, a needs assessment was carried out to understand if the Village is lacking, or has a surplus, of certain facilities. These efforts culminated with the completion of the draft and final CORP plan in 2019.

### **Amending the Plan**

This plan is an update to the CORP that was adopted in 2013. Following Wisconsin DNR CORP guidelines, municipalities should update their CORP every five years. Amendments can be made within this five-year window and are encouraged to ensure that the CORP remains a living document and responds to the current needs of the residents of Hartland.

## Chapter 2 Planning Region

There are a number of conditions that influence the need for particular types of parks and recreation facilities within a community. These conditions are continually changing, and these changes should be monitored to analyze needed changes in recreational offerings. Some of the more common factors to be considered include:

- **The Population is Aging** – The Baby-Boomers generation (those born between 1945 to 1964) had a large impact on communities. The leading edge of this generation began to turn 65 around 2010. Unlike their parents, the Baby-Boomers are more likely to age in place and remain physically active in their retirement years. Active seniors are likely to increase the overall demand on recreational facilities and services with specific recreational desires.
- **Children make up a smaller part of the total population** – Although the numbers will increase, the share of the population under 18 will decrease in coming years. Part of the challenge for park planners will be monitoring where these children locate. If older residents remain in their homes after their children grow, some neighborhoods may see a decrease in demand for equipment oriented to the under 18 age brackets.
- **We are becoming more diverse** – While Hartland (and most of Waukesha County) are largely homogeneous, there is a growing presence of ethnically diverse subgroups within the population, creating demand for additional facilities.
- **Non-traditional households are more common** – Traditional family households, once made up over three-quarters of the total household types, have declined to fewer than half. People living alone, in one-parent households, or in non-family situations make up the remainder, and are expected to continue to rise. It is becoming increasingly common for both heads of households to work, particularly as higher housing and living costs strain the family budget. Childcare and recreation programs for children will continue to be in demand.
- **Recreational preferences change over time** – As the population and culture evolves, the demand for various activities can be expected to change. Interest in activities like rollerblading, which enjoyed brief popularity, has receded. Other activities and facilities like pickleball and dog parks have grown in popularity in the region. Changes such as these may be reflected in decisions to add or remove facilities within the Village's parks.

### Social Characteristics

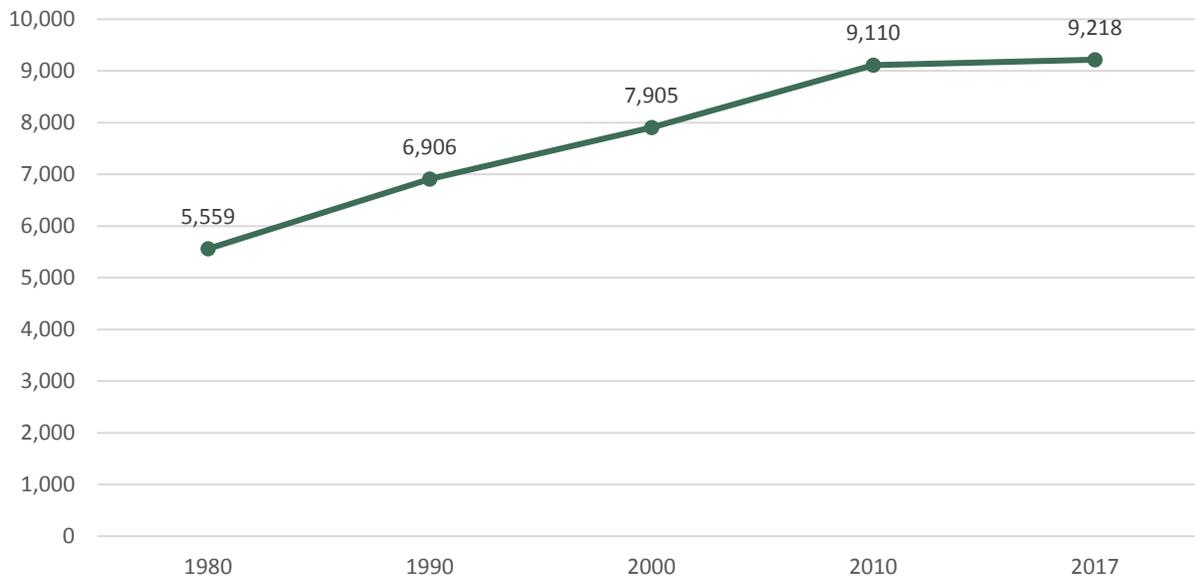
In accordance with Wisconsin Department of Natural Resource's "Guidelines for the Development of Local Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans", municipalities are required to describe the planning region and context in which the plan is being developed. The following information sets the scene for the CORP and sheds light onto social and demographic trends that are currently shaping the Village of Hartland. Changes in population, age, sex, ethnicity, employment, housing stock, and household income all have the potential to shape the recreational needs of residents in Hartland. The charts below use data from the 2010 U.S. Census, the Wisconsin Department of Administration, as well as 2017 American Community Survey 5- Year Estimates.

The characteristics of the Village's demographics can be analyzed to assess recreational needs for the community. These factors can assist in identification of additional facilities needed to meet the demand of growing population cohorts.

The population is increasing and will continue to do so through 2040 (see Figures 1 and 2). Growth has steadily occurred within the Village from 1980 to 2010, growing by nearly 64 percent. The American

Community Survey estimates that this growth rate has slowed to one percent over the past seven years.

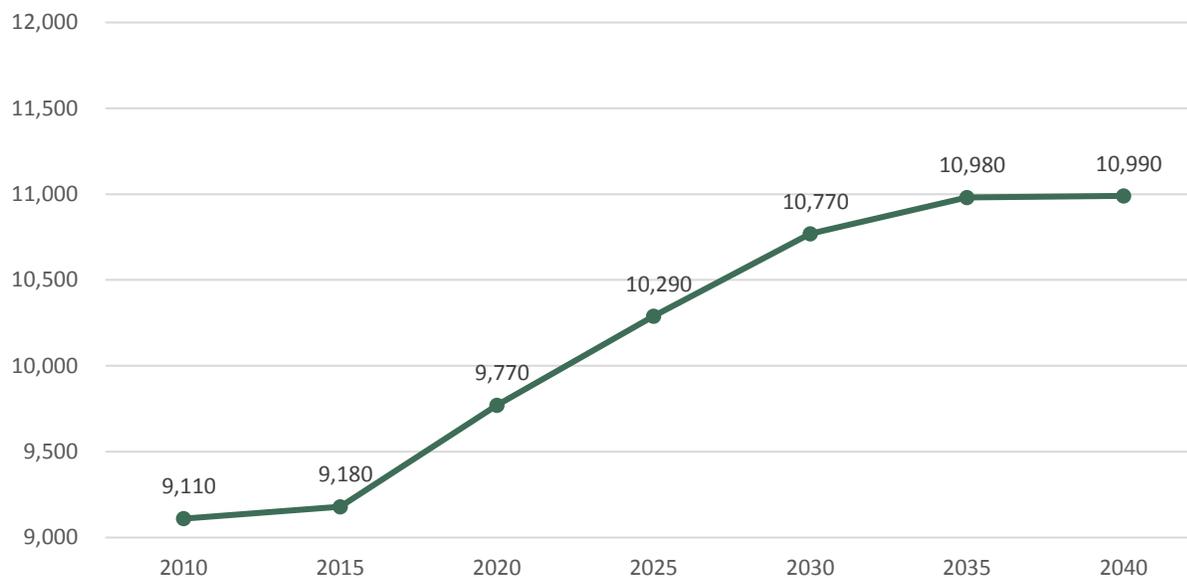
**Figure 1: Current and Historical Population (1980-2017)**



Data Source: Historic Population: Wisconsin Department of Administration and 2017 Population: American Community Survey 2017 5-Year Estimates

The Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA) develops population forecasts for each municipality within the state. The DOA estimates that the Village’s population will grow by 20 percent from 2010 to 2040, reaching a population of 10,110 in 2040.

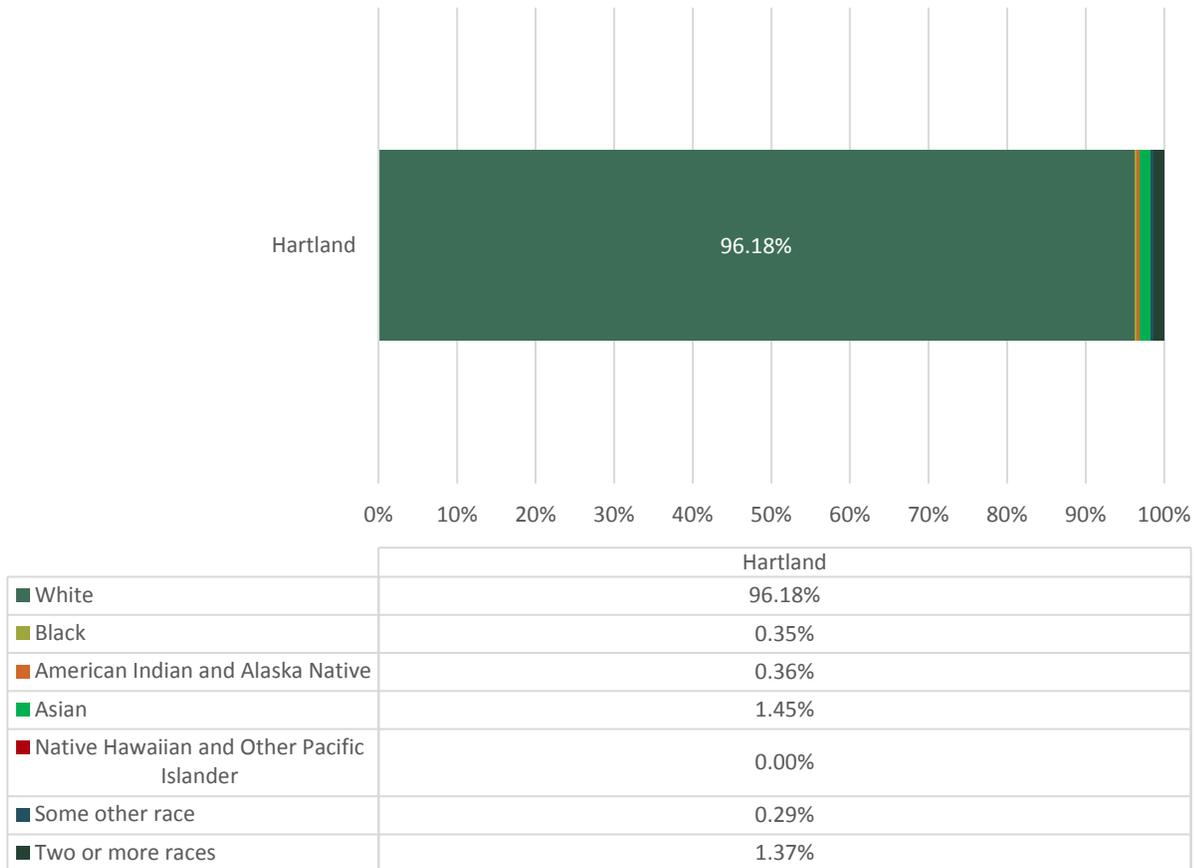
**Figure 2: Population Projections**



Data Source: Wisconsin Department of Administration

The Village of Hartland remains a generally homogeneous community, with over 96 percent identifying as white. (see Figure 3). Other races in the village comprise the remaining 3.8 percent, including Asian populations (1.3 percent), American Indian and Alaska Native (0.36 percent), and African American (black) populations (0.35 percent) in 2017.

**Figure 3: Race, 2017**

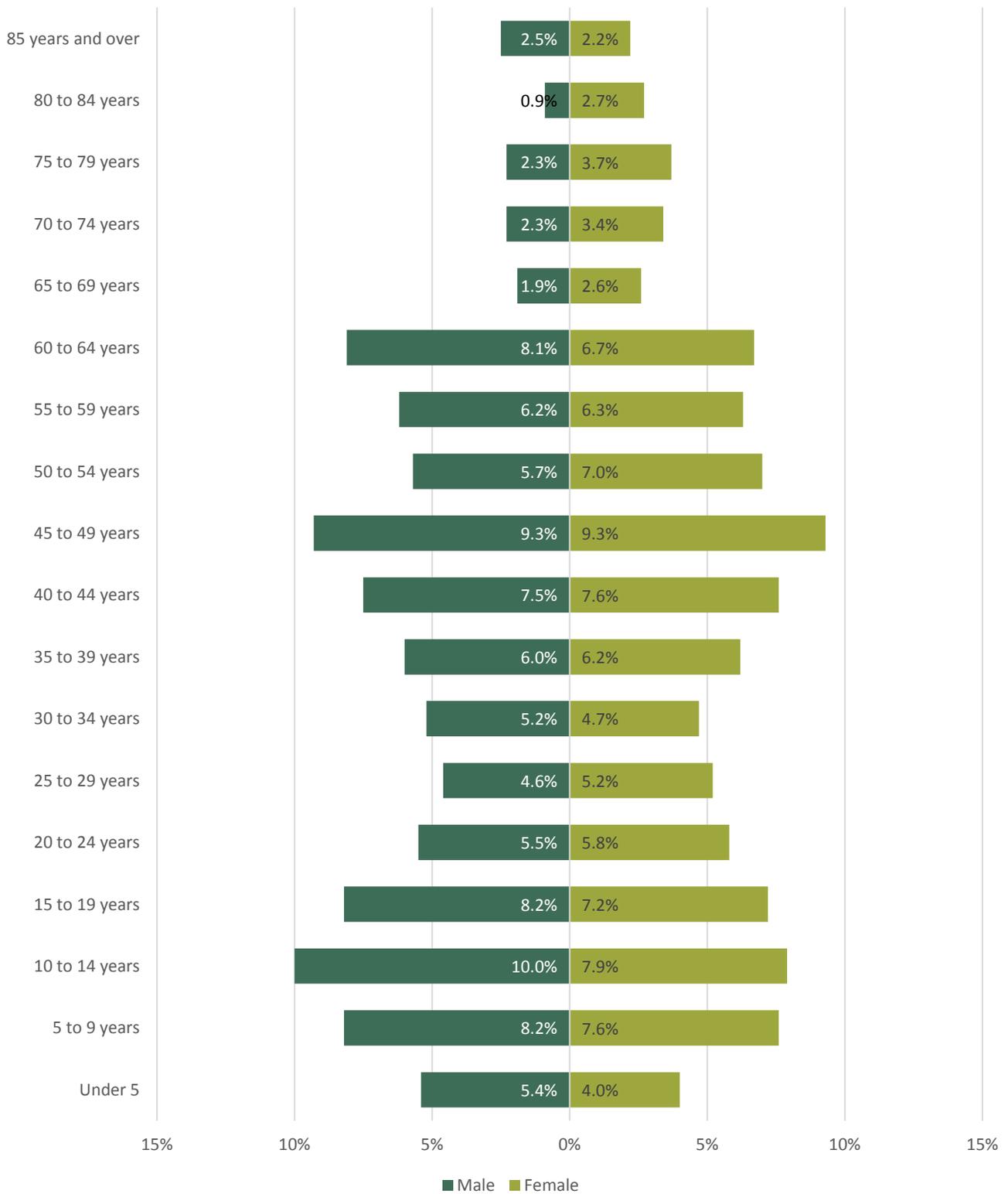


*Data Source: American Community Survey 2017 5-Year Estimates*

Village residents represent a range of age groups. The largest age cohort in 2016 was 45 to 49-years-old, representing 18.6 percent of the population (see Figure 4). The 10 to 14-year-old age cohort is not far behind, representing 17.9 percent of the population. The populations over 60 represent over 40 percent of the Village’s population. The diversity of these large population groups confirms the range of outdoor recreation needs within the community.

As the population ages, the largest age cohorts within the Village are likely to change over time. The Wisconsin DOA analyzes the age cohort breakdown for the forecasted populations for each County. In 2010, the largest population group in Waukesha County was the 45 to 54-years-old. In 2025, the largest age cohort is projected to shift to the 60 to 69-years-old, accounting for the passing of 15 years. The 5 to 9, 10 to 14, and 15 to 19 age cohorts are projected to remain relatively consistent over the next 20 years, comprising around 20 percent of the total County population.

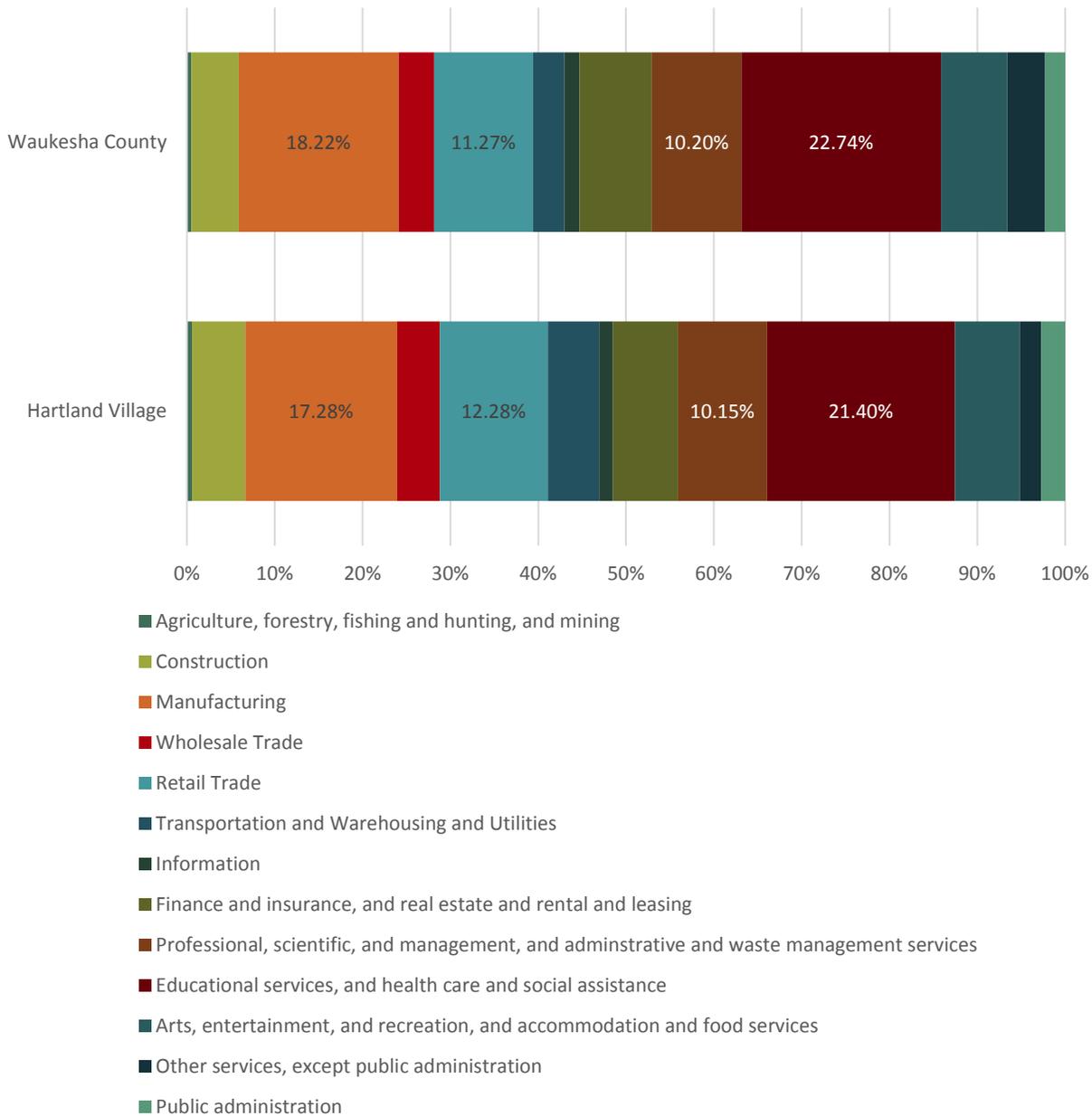
**Figure 4: Population Pyramid, 2016**



Data Source: American Community Survey 2016 5-Year Estimates

The employment industries within the Village of Hartland are similar to those within Waukesha County (see Figure 5). The professional, scientific and management professions comprise over 20 percent of the jobs within the Village, followed by manufacturing (17.3 percent), and retail trade

**Figure 5: Employment by Industry, 2016**

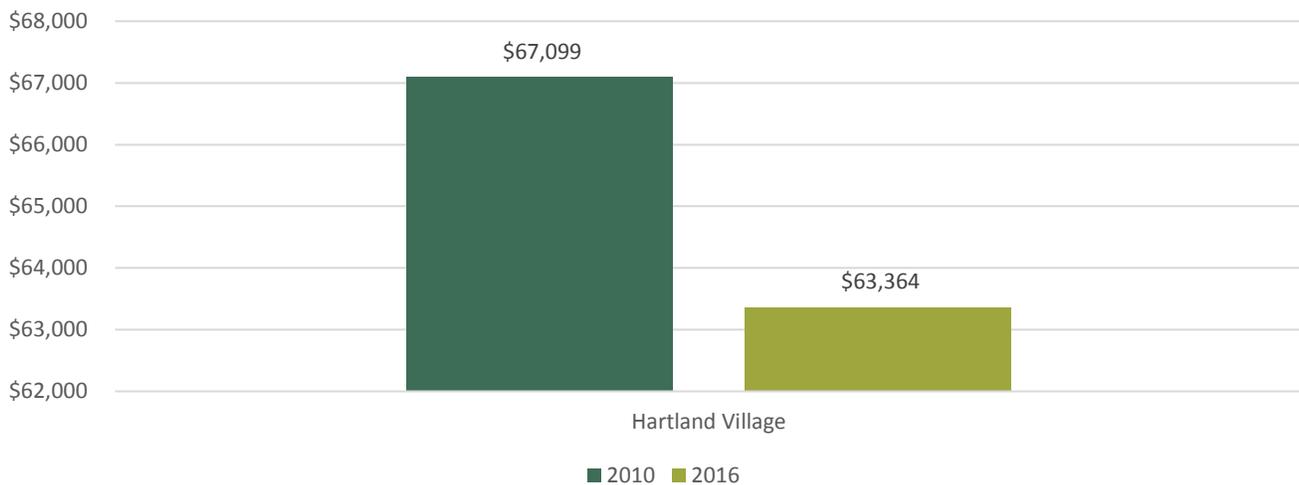


Data Source: American Community Survey 2016 5-Year Estimates

According to 2017 5-Year estimates from the American Community survey, 1.9% of the workforce (percent of the population aged 16 and older) were unemployed. The Village maintains an unemployment rate lower than the State of Wisconsin (2.9 percent in June 2018) (see Figure 6).

Despite the higher rate of employment as compared to Waukesha County, the median household income is actually 5.6 percent lower than 2010.

**Figure 6: Median Household Income, 2016 Dollars**



*Data Source: 2010 U.S. Census and American Community Survey 2016 5-Year Estimates*

The social and demographic characteristics of the Village of Hartland are elements that should be considered when making decisions about the Village's outdoor recreation inventory and how these facilities are used in the future, as demographics change and residents are in need of unique opportunities. However, as a community that is more well-off than many others in Wisconsin, this also means that the Village has and will have the capacity to provide high quality outdoor recreation facilities and opportunities for residents for years to come.

### Physical Characteristics

Situated in the southeastern corner of Wisconsin, Hartland is located in a part of the state that is flat and rich in resources, from dense forests to an abundance of lakes and water resources: Pewaukee Lake, Nagawicka Lake, Pine Lake, and the Bark River to name a few. Hartland's climate provides all four seasons, from hot, humid summers to long, cold winters. Four seasons provide many opportunities for a variety of outdoor activities all year round. Due to this lack of topography, abundance of lakes, and the combination of the four seasons, many outdoor activities in Hartland are geared towards field sports such as soccer and baseball, water sports, and winter activities such as cross-country, skiing and hockey. The wealth of natural resources in the surrounding areas allows residents to enjoy the wealth of natural beauty and outdoor recreation opportunities that this part of the Midwest provides.

### Natural Resources

The natural resources of the Hartland area provide an ideal starting point for identifying park and recreation sites. These lands are often unsuitable for development or may contain amenities conducive to park uses. Many of these resources areas are already contained within the Village's system of parks and open spaces.

### *Environmental Corridors*

The Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission identified environmental corridors and isolate natural areas throughout the region. Hartland contains approximately 998 acres of primary environmental corridors, often found along major streams. They contain most remaining wetlands, woodlands, and wildlife habitat areas, as well as major lakes, streams, and associated flood lands. These corridors offer many of the best remaining potential park sites.

An estimated 33 acres of secondary environmental corridors are found in Hartland. These corridors are often remnants of primary environmental corridors that have been partially converted to intensive urban or agricultural use. Secondary environmental corridors facilitate surface water drainage and maintain pockets of natural resource features. Such corridors should be considered for preservation as the process of development proceeds.

Isolated natural resource areas are smaller pockets of natural elements that are isolated from the environmental corridors by urban development or agricultural uses. Approximately 81 acres of isolated natural resources areas are found in Hartland.

These primary and secondary environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas may represent the only wildlife habitat in the area, provide good locations for local parks and nature study areas, and lend unique aesthetic character and natural diversity to an area. The Village has identified recommendations for the preservation of these areas.

### *Wildlife Habitat*

The region is home to a variety of wildlife species, many of which have adapted to urban conditions. These include birds, small mammals, and aquatic species. Designated wildlife habitat areas tend to be located within environmental corridors. Future park and open space plans may include protection or restoration of these areas. Wildlife viewing opportunities may be considered in future development of these lands.

### *Water Resources*

The Village of Hartland contains approximately 33 acres of surface water. The most significant waterway is the Bark River, which flows through the western third of the Village and into Lake Nagawicka. Residents of Harland have access to water-based recreation on nearby lakes such as Pine Lake, Beaver Lake, Nagawicka Lake, and Pewaukee Lake.

## Chapter 3 Goals and Objectives

The development of goals and objectives for recreation within the Village provide an opportunity to guide future decision making based on the input received from residents. The goals outlined throughout this chapter identify opportunities or conditions that the Village would like to attain. The objective identified within each goal outline actions that should be taken by the Village to achieve the stated goals. These goals and objectives should be referenced by elected and appointed officials, village staff, residents and stakeholders on a regular basis.

### GOAL 1: RECREATION OFFERINGS

Create opportunities for active and passive recreation through publicly accessible areas that respond to the current and projected demand.

#### *Objectives:*

1. Provide opportunities for active recreation for all residents through the provision of year-round facilities.
2. Maintain passive recreation that provides opportunities to preserve and connect with natural areas.
3. As growth and development occur, balance the maintenance of existing facilities and development of new facilities to provide safe, maintained and adequate recreational opportunities.

### GOAL 2: DIVERSE OPPORTUNITIES

Ensure that the Village's parks and recreational areas provide adequate facilities and furnishings that respond to the standards of the park type and the demand of the residents within each service area.

#### *Objectives:*

1. Regularly analyze the park classifications within the Village to ensure the appropriate designation is given.
2. Provide facilities and programs within each park that correlate with the size and characteristics of its service area.
3. Monitor future growth areas and the timing of development. New neighborhood parks shall begin construction when at least 25 percent of the park's service area is inhabited.
4. When private parks are proposed within a development, work with developers to ensure that all area residents have access to outdoor recreational offerings that would be otherwise provided in a Village neighborhood park.

### GOAL 3: PARTNERSHIPS

Collaborate with schools, adjacent municipalities, Waukesha County, the State of Wisconsin, conservancy organizations, and other agencies to provide adequate sites and facilities to meet the needs of Village and surrounding residents.

#### *Objectives:*

1. Encourage the use of school facilities for public use outside of school hours.
2. Explore partnership opportunities between the Village of Hartland and the schools to provide additional recreational offerings that are cost effective for all parties.
3. Pursue partnering with regional jurisdictions to provide recreational offerings that are available to Hartland residents and the greater region.

**GOAL 4: ACCESSIBILITY**

Ensure that outdoor parks and recreational opportunities throughout the Village are accessible to all residents. When planning for the development of new recreational areas, consider the scale of the potential service area and the development of larger recreation areas that can accommodate a greater service area and a wider range of potential uses.

**Objectives:**

1. Continue to analyze the location, size, and function of existing and proposed parks within the Village and future growth areas.
2. Locate future parks in accordance with defined service area standards.
3. When siting future park and recreation areas, consider how residents will access the site to ensure access for all.
4. Provide recreational opportunities that provide activities for all ages and ability levels.

**GOAL 5: ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION**

Encourage the preservation and enhancement of environmentally sensitive sites, environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas in the Village.

**Objectives:**

1. Encourage the use of natural features such as floodplains, rivers, wetlands and woodlands for passive recreation.
2. Preserve existing environmental resources during the development of park and recreation sites.
3. Explore opportunities to showcase or enhance natural resources during park development.

**GOAL 6: SAFETY**

Create parks and recreational areas that include a safe, accessible, and reliable environment for recreation that promotes access to an active lifestyle.

**Objectives:**

1. Maintain facilities and equipment to meet safety standards and replace old and deteriorating equipment as needed.
2. Maintain existing park equipment and facilities to ensure longevity and safety.
3. Evaluate playground equipment for compliance with U.S. Consumer Safety Commission standards and replace or repair non-compliant equipment.
4. Provide education on the health benefits of physical activity, and on the opportunities for exercise available in Village parks and recreational sites.

**GOAL 7: NEW OPPORTUNITIES**

Monitor changing trends and recreational demands to provide new and creative recreational opportunities within the Village.

**Objectives:**

1. Continually evaluate the demand for new recreational facilities and programs.
2. Provide increased opportunities for passive recreation within Village parks and open space areas.

### **GOAL 8: ACTIVE PLANNING**

Continue to complete long-range planning related to recreational offerings within the Village that includes community input and the utilization of existing resources.

#### ***Objectives:***

1. Continue to update the Village's Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan on a five-year cycle to maintain eligibility for state and federal grant programs, especially the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.
2. Include public participation throughout all stages of the planning process.
3. Promote the recreational offerings available to residents to increase use and awareness.
4. Pursue state and federal funding which can provide assistance for park and open space acquisition and development.
5. Identify and pursue potential funding from other public and private sources.

### **GOAL 9: OPTIONS FOR ALL PEOPLE AND SEASONS**

Provide a diverse range of programming that provides year-round options for all segments of the community.

#### ***Objectives:***

1. Develop programs and facilities for senior citizens, persons with disabilities and others with special needs. Ensure that all residents have access to facilities that meet their needs.
2. Design park facilities to accommodate persons with disabilities and retrofit existing parks to meet ADA guidelines.
3. Explore opportunities for programs and facilities that provide for year-round outdoor recreation within parks and recreation areas.
4. Support the efforts of local recreational providers in addressing the recreation needs and desires of all segments of the community, including children, teens, adults, elderly, and the disabled.

### **GOAL 10: IMPLEMENTATION**

Participate in fiscal planning and the preparation of park and Village budgets to implement the recommendations of the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

#### ***Objectives:***

1. Use the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan as guidance in preparing budgets for park improvements.
2. Explore other funding sources to assist in the implementation of the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan recommendations.
3. Incorporate recommended improvements from the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan into the Village's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).
4. Conduct an annual operational analysis to evaluate revenues and expenses; programs; schedules; and staffing.
5. Annually review and adjust park program fees for residents and non-resident users.
6. Where appropriate, establish fee structures that accurately reflect the maintenance or programming costs associate with the park use.

**GOAL 11: CONNECTIVITY**

Explore ways to connect recreation areas through environmental corridors, greenways or active transportation facilities that can become a part of the Village's overall outdoor recreation system.

**Objectives:**

1. Secure additional land along environmental corridors and natural areas to ensure public access and trail continuity.
2. Diversify the trail system to incorporate other uses, while remaining ADA compliant.
3. Ensure that the Village requires a public access easement on private trail systems that can be part of a community-wide trail system, connecting neighborhoods and providing access to the Ice Age Trail.

**GOAL 12: PROMOTE HARTLAND**

Showcase the Village's recreational, built and natural resources through education and tourism programming.

**Objectives:**

1. Identify historic and culturally significant sites within the Village and explore ways to promote them. An example could include a historic walking tour throughout the Village.
2. Explore tourism opportunities that incorporate outdoor recreation throughout the community.

## Chapter 4 Existing Parks Inventory

In accordance with Wisconsin Department of Natural Resource’s “Guidelines for the Development of Local Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans”, municipalities are required to provide an inventory of outdoor recreational facilities. Below is a list and description of all parks located in Hartland, as well as the characteristics and resources found at each. The current status of the inventory of parks within the Village can help to understand where improvements can be made in the future.

### Park Classifications

The seventeen public and eight school parks can be grouped together into various classifications that identify similar characteristics or offerings throughout the village (see Table 1). There are seven park and open space classifications and two trail classifications that are used to define Hartland’s outdoor recreation sites (see Table 2). These classifications also align with the needs and standards recommended by the State of Wisconsin and Waukesha County.

**Table 1: List of Parks in Hartland**

Regional Park	Community Park	Neighborhood Park	Mini Park	Special Use Area
-Naga-Waukee Park -Nashotah Park -Ryan Park -Lapham Peak State Park	-Centennial Park -Hartbrook Park -Nixon Park	-Bark River Park -Castle Park -Joliet Park -Penbrook Park	-Sunnyslope Park -Nottingham Park	
Conservancy Area	Greenway	School Park	Private Park	Trail
-Cottonwood Wayside -Maple Wayside -Hartland Ice Age Marsh	-Bark River Greenway -Mill Place Greenway	-Arrowhead High -Hartland North Elem. -Hartland South Elem. -Swallow Elem. -St. Charles Catholic -Lake Country Lutheran High	-Ice Age Wetlands - Various private sites within private areas, such as Bristlecone Pines, Windrush, and Summit Lakes.	-Ice Age Trail -Ice Age Wetlands Trail -Village of Hartland Trail

**Table 2: Park Classifications**

Mini Park
A mini park is a small site used to address limited, isolated, or unique recreational needs. These parks may be found in any type of setting. Examples might include a downtown “pocket park” or plaza, a memorial or historic site, or small open areas. These parks may be either active or passive, but speak to a specific recreational need rather than a particular population density.
Neighborhood Park
Neighborhood parks are designed to meet the immediate active and passive recreation needs of those people living within a short distance of the park (usually between ¼ and ½ miles uninterrupted by non-residential roads and other physical barriers). These parks serve as the recreational and social focus of their neighborhood, helping to establish a neighborhood identity. The average neighborhood park serves from 500 to 2,500 people. Neighborhood parks commonly range from 5-10 acres in size. The design focus is typically on children (five to fifteen years old)

and families, although the demographic composition of the neighborhood should determine if facilities for other population groups are warranted.

Neighborhood parks will usually provide play apparatus for preschoolers and school age children. They typically provide informal recreational facilities, stressing versatility to accommodate multiple recreational pursuits. Examples include multi-purpose turf fields and paved court areas, and lawn areas that may be used for intermittent activities (horseshoes, lawn games, badminton, etc.) and seasonal activities (ice rinks, etc.). Other features found in neighborhood parks may include picnic shelters, restroom facilities, and maintenance or storage buildings. They may include passive recreation areas with naturalized landscaping.

As neighborhood parks are intended to meet the needs of persons living within a walkable distance, vehicle parking will usually be provided on the street, rather than in the park. Bike racks should be provided. Where feasible, neighborhood parks will provide connectivity to a regional path system.

The service area for a neighborhood park should include the entire adjoining neighborhood. If the park contains some unique features, such as a wading pool, the service area may be slightly larger.

### **Community Park**

Community Parks are designed to serve several neighborhoods or an entire community, meeting the needs of all age groups. Whereas neighborhood parks cater to younger children, a community park will contain features geared toward teenagers and an adult population. Although size is not always a sound criterion for classifying parks, it is generally recognized that community parks are more spacious than neighborhood parks or playgrounds. Most community parks have an average size of between 20 and 35 acres, but may be larger. Community parks have an effective service area of one to three miles (or an entire municipality) and can serve from 2,500 to 20,000 people.

Community parks provide a combination of intensive and non-intensive development ranging from play apparatus to trail systems. In addition to the kinds of facilities provided at neighborhood parks, community parks may provide facilities such as swimming pools, formal playing fields, sports complexes, community centers, amphitheaters, and other facilities serving a large population base. Parking is typically provided within the park, with the amount determined based on the types of uses the park will accommodate.

### **Regional Park**

Regional Parks provide a wide range of natural resource-related recreation opportunities as well as preserving high quality and unique landscapes and open spaces. They meet the needs of multiple communities. Waukesha County has established criteria for regional parks including a 250-acre minimum size, four-mile service area, and access to natural areas and water bodies. They support activities such as camping, swimming, walking and hiking, picnicking, boating and canoeing, nature study, cross country skiing, sledding, and snowshoeing.

Although these parks are owned and maintained by Waukesha County (or the State of Wisconsin, in the case of Lapham Peak State Park), they are accessible to Village residents and a part of the overall park system. Where facilities have been provided by the County, it may not be necessary for the Village to provide duplicate services. In other cases, the resources contained within these parks may not be available within Village boundaries.

### **Special Use Area**

A special use park is often created to satisfy demand for a particular sport, recreational activity, or special event. Examples might include a sports park, water park or pool, arena, community center, fitness center, or theater/event center. These are needs that are not generally found in

neighborhood or community parks, greenways, or trail corridors, or may be incompatible with passive, nature-based outdoor recreation. The actual size of a special use park is determined by land availability and facility/market demand for special uses or recreation programs. These parks may be designed as a revenue-generating enterprise.

### **Conservancy Area**

Conservancy areas or natural resource areas are lands set aside to preserve significant natural resources, remnant landscapes, or open space. They may also be used to provide buffering between residential and more intensive land uses. Aside from habitat preservation and visual aesthetics, uses within these areas are generally limited to activities such as hiking trails and wildlife viewing.

### **Greenway**

Greenways are corridors providing connections between parks or other community destinations, and may preserve significant environmental resources in the area. The majority of land area within greenway corridors is used to preserve natural features such as floodways, wetlands, river corridors, and woodlands. Trails will often be found located within the greenway. Other active and passive uses may be found at nodes within the greenway system. Greenways may be owned and maintained by the local or county governments, as well as conservation organizations and others.

### **School Park**

Depending on circumstances, combining parks with school sites can fulfill the space requirements for other classes of park, such as neighborhood, community, and special use parks. Shared use of school park facilities can provide cost and operational efficiencies benefitting both the Village and the school district, while ensuring that student and neighborhood needs are adequately served.

The criteria established for neighborhood parks and community parks should be used to determine how a school park site is developed and programmed. Establishing a clearly defined joint-use agreement between involved agencies is critical to making school park relationships workable. This is particularly important with respect to acquisition, development, maintenance, liability, use, and programming of facility issues.

### **Private Parks and Recreational Facilities**

Private parks and recreation areas are sites owned by organizations, clubs, or homeowner associations, which provide public access to privately owned open space or recreational facilities. These parks and recreational facilities function similar to a neighborhood park, but for a defined group or area. The recreational value contributes to the overall amenities within the community, though the Village has no management or control over the maintenance of the facilities.

### **Trail System**

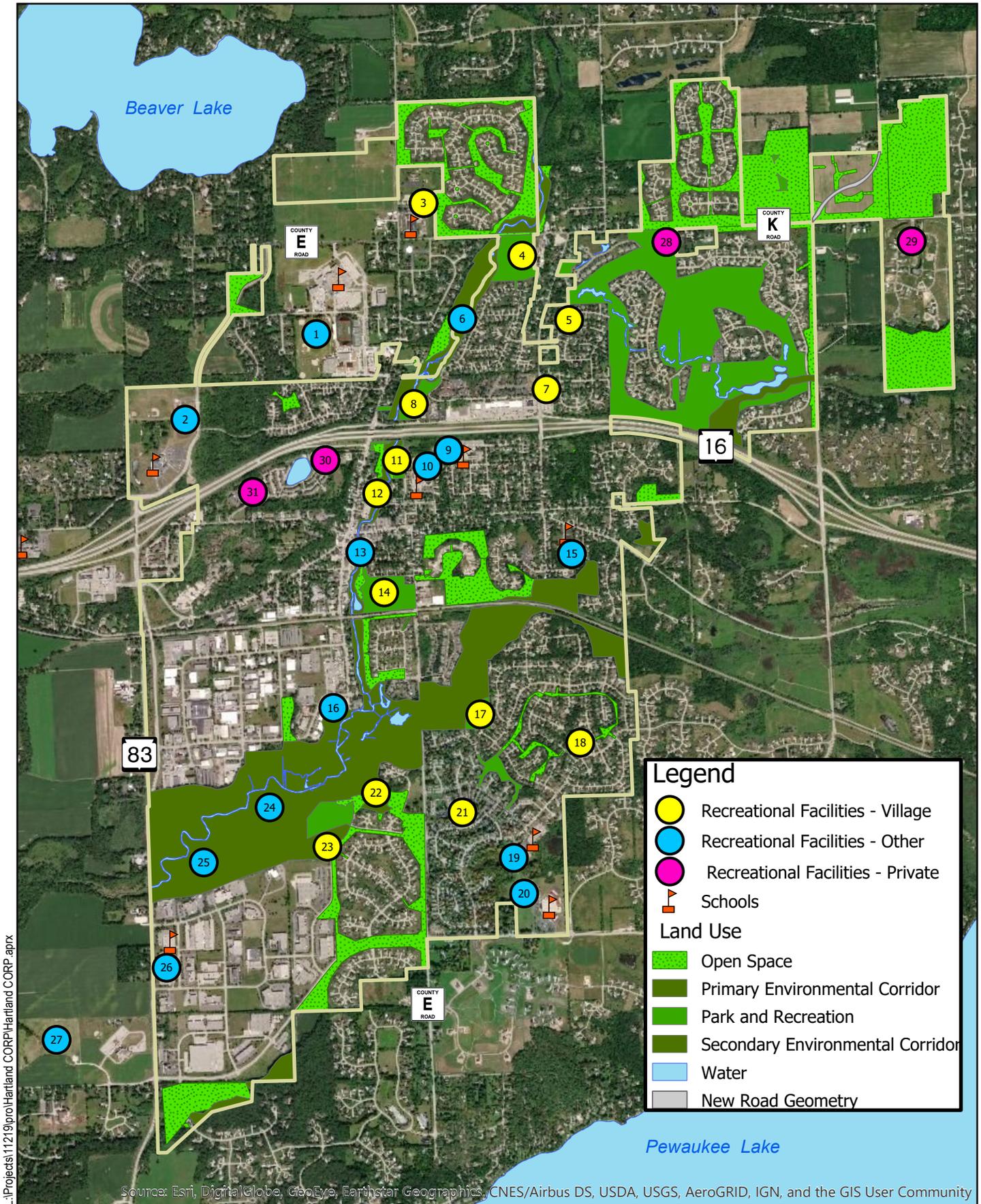
A trail system is comprised of hard and soft-surfaced paths designed to accommodate some combination of hiking, walking, bicycling, mountain biking, skating, horseback riding, and similar activities. Nature trails are also included in the trail system. Trails may be designed for a single purpose, or as multi-use paths for several kinds of users (ex., cyclists and pedestrians). Standards for bicycle and pedestrian path design and maintenance have been established by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO).

## Village of Hartland Park and Recreation Sites

The Village of Hartland contains 13 existing parks and recreation sites providing outdoor recreational opportunities to its residents. Park and recreation sites owned by the Village are supplemented with public and private school, Waukesha County and State of Wisconsin facilities, and private facilities in the Village.

The following pages describe these parks and note potential areas for improvement based on a comprehensive site assessment completed in 2018. Figure 7, identifies the existing parks in the Village of Hartland. The follow numbers correspond to the following parks on Figure 7:

- |                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Arrowhead High School             | 17. Penbrook Park                                  |
| 2. Lake Country Lutheran High School | 18. Nottingham Park                                |
| 3. Swallow School                    | 19. Hartland South Elementary                      |
| 4. Centennial Park                   | 20. LIFE Charter Middle School                     |
| 5. Joliet Park                       | 21. Castle Park                                    |
| 6. Ice Age Trail                     | 22. Maple Wayside                                  |
| 7. Sunnyslope Park                   | 23. Cottonwood Wayside                             |
| 8. Hartbrook Park                    | 24. Hartland Ice Age Marsh                         |
| 9. St. Charles Catholic School       | 25. Ice Age Wetlands Trail                         |
| 10. Hartland North Elementary        | 26. Lake Country Montessori                        |
| 11. Bark River Park                  | 27. Oakwood Community Park Disc Golf Course        |
| 12. Bark River Greenway              | 28. Summit Lakes Playground (Private)              |
| 13. Ice Age Trail Contd.             | 29. Windrush – Basketball Court and Pool (Private) |
| 14. Nixon Park                       | 30. Summit Lakes – Pool (Private)                  |
| 15. Zion Lutheran School             | 31. Summit Lakes - Playground (Private)            |
| 16. Ice Age Wetlands                 |  |



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Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community



**Parks and Recreation Facilities - Village and Neighboring Communities**

**Figure 7**

Village of Hartland - Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan  
 Village of Hartland

## Mini Parks

### SUNNYSLOPE PARK



Classification: Mini park

Area: 0.1 acres

#### Description

Sunnyslope Park is the smallest park within the Village of Hartland. It is located in the northeastern part of the Village on Merton Avenue. It formerly contained a small playground, which was removed in 2007 due to safety concerns. It is poorly accessed by pedestrians or bicyclists. No improvements have been made to the park since the last CORP Plan.

#### Resources

Sign  
Bench (1)  
Natural Area

#### Comments

Sunnyslope Park is a small passive park. Two potential uses could be considered:

- 1) Create a Village entry feature at the intersection, including a sign and landscaping
- 2) Use the site for a garden. Options might include a formal garden, prairie demonstration plot, or community gardening site

### NOTTINGHAM PARK



Classification: Mini park

Area: 1.8 acres

#### Description

Nottingham Park is an urban greenspace located in the southeastern portion of the Village. The park was developed around a Village water tower. It is a wooded hill with a paved trail leading up to the water tower and connecting to a private path system through the surrounding residential development. The park is not heavily used and is only developed for passive uses such as walking and bird watching.

#### Resources

Paved path

#### Comments

The Village may consider signage to denote that this is a public park. It is primarily used as passive park land and provides heavily wooded areas and walking paths for the enjoyment of residents. Village staff has noted that several invasive plant species are present in the park and will need to be removed in the future.

## Neighborhood Parks

### JOLIET PARK



Classification: Neighborhood park

Area: 1.4 acres

#### Description

Joliet Park serves the northeastern section of the community. It is bounded by Anton Road on the north and west, by Dona Road on the south, and by private residences on the east. The extensive road frontage provides excellent visibility to the park. The street frontage is lined with trees. The park contains uses appropriate to a wide age range.

#### Resources

Sign	Basketball ½ court
Play Structure	T-ball Field
Swing, child (2)	Multi-purpose field
Swing, infant (2)	Bench (4)
Merry-go-round	

#### Comments

No improvements have been made to this park since 2010. The surface of the basketball court is deteriorating and may need replacement in the near future. Furthermore, Village staff has noted that the spring horses will be removed at Joliet Park at the end of 2018.

### CASTLE PARK



Classification: Neighborhood park

Area: 4.2 acres

#### Description

Castle Park serves as a neighborhood park for the southeast part of the community. The park is situated in the center of a large residential block with limited visibility from the public roads. Pedestrian paths lead into the park from Oxford Drive (1), Penbrook Way (2), and Hartbrook Drive (2). These connect to form a trail system through the park. Castle Park received its name from the concrete, castle-like structures that were once located in the park.

#### Resources

Parking Lot	Basketball ½ court
Sign	Spring horse (2)
Play structure (2)	Merry-go-round
Sand box	Multi-purpose field
Slide (5)	Bench (3)
Teeter-totter	Paved path
Swing, child (4)	Shelter
Swing, infant (2)	

#### Comments

Since 2010, the only update that has been made to this park has been the widening of access paths to a width of eight feet. Currently there are no present concerns related to the terrain, age of equipment, or general safety of the facilities at this park. Village staff has noted that a future vision for this park includes replacing the swings and woodchips, as well as repainting the metal slide at Castle Park.

**BARK RIVER PARK**



Classification: Neighborhood park

Area: 6.0 acres

**Description**

Bark River Park is a neighborhood park immediately south of Highway 16 along either side of Bark River. The portion lying west of the river is wooded with a trail following the river. A foot bridge connects to the eastern portion of the park, where the more developed uses are located. The park is adjacent to Hartland North Elementary School, offering play areas and athletic fields associated with the school.

**Resources**

Sign	Bleachers (4)
Scenic/natural area	Restrooms
Softball diamond	Drinking fountain
Multi-purpose field	Shelter
Paved path	Concessions
Benches (6)	Picnic Tables (10)

**Comments**

This park is primarily used for softball. The pedestrian bridge over the Bark River was replaced in 2017. Several of the ball field improvements in this park are owned and maintained by HAAA through a formal agreement with the Village.

**Community Parks**

**PENBROOK PARK**



Classification: Community park

Area: 28.8 acres

**Description**

Penbrook Park is a neighborhood park on the Village's south side. A large portion of this park is made up of wetlands and woodlands. A path connects to Maple Avenue and the Maple Wayside. There are benches along the path, and an overlook of a small wetland. Growing brush has obscured the view. The path is steep and may be difficult for persons with mobility limitations. It is not lighted.

**Resources**

Sign	Play structure
Baseball diamond	Swing, infant (2)
Basketball court	Spring horse (3)
Soccer field	Benches (5)
Multi-purpose field	Bleachers (2)
Tennis court (2)	Shelter
Paved path	Barbeque grill (2)
Portable toilets (2)	Drinking fountain
Parking lot	

**Comments**

Penbrook Field is used primarily for Little League baseball. The wetland and woodlands provide opportunities for additional recreational offerings, including the expansion of the Ice Age Trail into the natural area. Clearing of invasive buckthorn within the park is recommended.

**NIXON PARK**



Classification: Community park

Area: 16.0 acres

**Description**

Nixon Park is adjacent to the downtown, east of the Bark River, and is connected to other parks on the river by the Ice Age Trail. It is the most heavily used of the Village’s parks. The Village’s Fine Arts Center is located within the park. This building provides a stage and backdrop, along with lighting and sound system for live performances. In addition to the Bark River, there is a constructed pond on the south side of the park.

**Comments**

Nixon Park is a hub for outdoor recreation activity within the downtown of Hartland. The park is home to the County’s only splash pad, the Fine Arts Center, baseball diamond, two tennis courts, soccer fields, shelters and play equipment. Additionally, the pond within the park provides fishing opportunities for visitors.

Pathways are located within the park and connect to the Ice Age Trail, which enters the park in the southeast corner. The paths along the river and pond are ADA accessible.

Nixon Park has been the location of many recreational investments over the last few years, including the construction of the Splash Pad. These investments provide recreational assessment for the Village

**Resources**

Sign	Play structure (2)
Baseball diamond	Sand box
Softball diamond	Spring horse (3)
T-ball field	Slide (3)
Multi-purpose field	Swing, child (3)
Tennis court (2)	Swing, infant (2)
Pickle Ball Court	Splash Pad
Paved path	Merry-go-round
Scenic/natural area	Balance beam
Parking lot	Parallel bars
Restrooms (3)	Climbing structure
Fine arts center/stage	Benches (12)
Shelter (2)	Bleachers (2)
Storage	Drinking fountain (3)
Picnic Tables (32)	Barbeque grill (3)
	Concessions

**CENTENNIAL PARK**



Classification: Community park

Area: 14.5 acres

**Description**

Located on the Village’s north side on Highway K, Centennial Park is the newest of the Village’s parks. The park is located on the Bark River and the Ice Age Trail passes through it. Both active and passive uses are provided in the park, which contains a significant sports complex for football, baseball, and soccer.

**Resources**

Sign	Play structure
Baseball diamond	Swing, child (2)
Football field	Swing, infant (2)
Soccer field	Benches (11)
Multi-purpose field	Bleachers (5)
Volleyball court	Restroom
Paved path	Drinking Fountain
Scenic/natural area	Parking lot

**Comments**

The main activities that take place at Centennial Park are lacrosse, football, baseball, and soccer. The park does have a permanent restroom facility. The Village may consider providing bicycle racks in the park.

The river bank is overgrown with invasive European buckthorn and other plants. Cutting these plants and restoring a native landscape could provide attractive views of the river. The benches are beginning to show some wear and are in need of replacement. Parking lot expansion should be investigated as lots fill during lacrosse and football events in the summer months. Potential future updates to several field amenities (press box, batting cages, kiosk, and shelter) have been noted by Village staff.

**HARTBROOK PARK**



Classification: Community park  
 Area: 12.5 acres

**Description**

Hartbrook Park is located north of Highway 16 and straddles the Bark River on the Village’s north side. It contains areas for passive and active use. The area along the river and to the west is predominantly wooded. The Ice Age Trail and a small wood chip trail pass through this part of the park, and are accessed by a pedestrian bridge over the river. Active uses are located on the eastern portion of the park site, along Rae Drive.

**Resources**

Sign	Scenic/natural area
Parking Lot	Play structure
Basketball court	Swing, child (3)
Baseball diamond	Swing, infant (2)
Softball diamond	Merry-go-round
Little League diamond	Benches (9)
T-ball diamond	Bleachers (2)
Multi-purpose field	Restroom
Volleyball court	Drinking fountain
Paved path	Shelter
Nature trail	Barbeque grill (1)

**Comments**

Hartbrook Field is principally used for baseball, t-ball, and activities on the multiuse fields. The swings at the playground are over 30 years old, and the merry-go-round does not have a braking system. Since 2010, the soccer fields, softball diamonds, and the majority of the barbecue grills have been removed. Restoration work was completed along the riverbank in 2015. Future improvements to the park could include replacement of the swings, placing new woodchips to trails, and resetting benches in a new concrete foundation.

**Greenways**

**BARK RIVER GREENWAY**



Classification: Greenway  
 Area: 1.7 acres

**Description**

The Bark River Greenway is an urban greenspace extending from Bark River Park south to the central business district, along the Bark River. The Ice Age Trail runs through this greenway. It is an attractive, semi-natural environment with grass and mature trees.

**Resources**

Paved path	Benches (3)
Scenic/natural area	

**Comments**

Since 2010, the pedestrian bridge over the Bark River, at the southern end of the park, has been replaced (2017). Village staff has raised concern with the structural integrity of the retaining wall east of the path at Lawn St.

**MILL PLACE GREENWAY**



Classification: Greenway  
 Area: 7.3 acres

**Description**

The Mill Place Greenway is an urban greenspace lying south of the railroad tracks and along the east bank of the Bark River, extending south from Nixon Park to Cardinal Lane. The Ice Age Trail runs through this greenway. It is an attractive semi-natural environment with grass and mature trees.

**Resources**

Paved path                      Benches (3)  
 Scenic/natural area

**Comments**

The open space was not noted in previous editions of the CORP.

**Conservancy Area**

**COTTONWOOD WAYSIDE**



Classification: Conservancy Area  
 Area: 52.7 acres

**Description**

Cottonwood Wayside is a small “trailhead” area providing access to the Ice Age Wetland, an extensive natural area owned by private conservation organizations. The primary feature of the area is a wood chip path and shelter

**Resources**

Scenic/natural area      Parking lot  
 Wood chip path            Parking stalls (19)  
 Bench (4)                    Shelter (1)  
 Picnic Tables (3)

**Comments**

Cottonwood Wayside is used primarily as an area for walking and picnicking. In previous editions of the CORP, the area of this recreation site was combined with a portion of the conservation land owned by others. Since 2010, three wooden benches, with concrete bases, have been installed. Village staff has noted that the future vision for the area is to convert it to an Oak Savannah lookout.

**MAPLE WAYSIDE**



Classification: Conservancy Area  
 Area: 28.9 acres

**Description**

Maple Wayside is a small “trailhead” area providing access to the Ice Age Wetland. The land on which the facility is located is owned by the Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation. In addition to wetland features, this natural area includes a steep hillside with many mature oak trees. While there are many invasive species, the Village has worked with volunteer groups to remove these.

**Resources**

Scenic/natural area  
 Gravel path/boardwalk  
 Nature Trails (1)  
 Parking lot  
 Parking stalls (5)

**Comments**

Maple Wayside is used primarily as an area for walking and for the natural wooded areas. In previous editions of the CORP, the area of this recreation site was combined with a portion of the conservation land owned by others. It is maintained by the Ice Age Tail.

The village’s 13 parks and recreation areas provide 175.7 acres of parkland that is open to the public for outdoor recreation. These areas vary from dedicated sports fields to natural areas that provide for passive recreation. Nearly 40 percent of the total acreage is provided through conservancy areas within the Village. The Community Parks provide the greatest number of park acres, with each park averaging 18 acres.

**Table 3: Total Acres of Village Parkland**

Facility Type	Number	Acres
Community parks	4	71.8
Neighborhood parks	3	11.6
Mini parks	2	1.9
Conservancy areas	2	81.6
Greenways	2	8.8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>175.7</b>

A variety of recreational resources are available throughout the Village’s parks and natural areas. These facilities provide outdoor recreation opportunities for a range of ages, abilities and interests, including 61 benches, 8 shelters, 8 baseball/softball fields, and 1 splash pad (see Table 4).

Table 4: Summary of Park Facilities and Equipment

	Sunnyslope Park	Nottingham Park	Joliet Park	Castle Park	Bark River Park	Hartbrook Park	Penbrook Park	Centennial Park	Nixon Park	Bark River Greenway	Mill Place Greenway	Cottonwood Wayside	Maple Wayside
Area (acres)	0.1	1.8	1.4	4.2	6.0	12.5	28.8	14.5	16.0	1.7	7.1	52.7	28.9
Classification	M	M	N	N	N	C	C	C	C	G	G	R	R
Park sign	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1			1	1
Parking lot					1	1	1	1	1			1	1
Shelter				1	1	1	1	1	2			1	
Storage Facility									1				
Restrooms					1	1	a	a	1				
Concession					1				1				
Stage (Fine Arts Center)									1				
Drinking fountain					1	1	1		3				
Bleacher					4	2	2	5	2				
Bench	1		4	3	6	9	5	11	12	3	3	4	
Picnic Tables			2		10				32			3	
Barbeque grill						1	2	0	3				
Paved path		1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		
Nature trail						1							1
Natural/scenic area	1				1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1
Sledding hill				1									
Play structure			1	2		1	1	1	2				
Swing, child			2	4		3		2	3				
Swing, infant			2	2		2	2	2	2				
Spring horse			2	2			3		3				
Merry-go-round			1	1		1			1				
Teeter totter				1									
Slide				1					3				
Balance beam									1				
Parallel bars									1				
Climbing structure									1				
Sand box				1					1				
Splash Pad									1				
Baseball diamond						1	1	1	1				
Softball diamond			1		1				1				
T-ball field									1				
Football field								1					
Soccer field								1					
Multi-purpose field			1	1	1	1	1	1	1				
Basketball court						1							
Basketball ½ court			1										
Tennis court							2		2				
Pickleball court									1				
Volleyball court						1		1					

M Mini park; N Neighborhood park; C Community park; G Greenway; R Conservancy area; U Undeveloped

## Privately Owned Park and Recreation Sites

Recreation opportunities can be provided by organizations other than governments. Residential subdivisions may hold land in common ownership, often to provide stormwater management or similar functions, but also to meet the recreational needs of residents. In other cases, a non-profit land conservancy may acquire property containing significant environmental or cultural features and providing public access. Within Hartland, the Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation and the Waukesha County Land Conservancy have acquired several properties for conservation purposes. Several subdivisions have constructed walking and cycling paths, as well as pools and playgrounds, on property they own in common, including in the Bristlecone Pine, Windrush, and Summit Lakes subdivisions.

### ICE AGE WETLAND



#### Resources

Scenic/natural area  
Gravel path/ boardwalk

Classification: Private Park/Conservancy Area  
Area: 159.6 acres

#### Description

The Ice Age Wetland is a large natural area owned by two conservation organizations. The Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation owns a total of 132.0 acres lying on either side of Cottonwood Avenue. The Waukesha County Land Conservancy owns another 27.6 acres west of Cottonwood Avenue. In addition to the wetland, this area contains significant oak uplands. Access is provided through Cottonwood Wayside and Maple Wayside.

#### Comments

Only a portion of these conservancy lands were identified in previous editions of the CORP, combined with Cottonwood Wayside.

The Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation may look to the Village or Waukesha County to take ownership of its portion of the wetland, as the organization does not have the capacity to sustain restoration and maintenance.

## Homeowner Association Open Space

Many of Hartland's subdivisions have provided open space for the use of home owners. These open spaces frequently serve as buffers from other development, utility easements or drainage corridors. Trails have been developed through some of these corridors to provide walking opportunities for residents of the subdivision. The Village should secure public access easements to these open spaces through the subdivision review process, especially if they will be used to offset park land and facility impact fees.

## Neighboring Public Recreation Facilities

Neighboring communities also provide recreational offerings that can be available to Hartland residents. In many cases, access to these facilities may require vehicular travel, limiting access to all residents; however, these facilities may provide opportunities to collaborate with other jurisdictions to provide regional offerings.

### Oakwood Community Park Disc Golf

Located to the southwest of Hartland, in the City of Delafield, WI, the Oakwood Community Park Disc Golf Course provides users with nine holes of disc golf situated on an open field setting adjacent to several wooded areas. Although it is not located within Hartland, it is enjoyed by many residents of the Village and is a short drive (less than 10 minutes) from the center of Hartland.

### Nearby County and State Facilities

Although there are no county or state recreations areas or facilities within the Village of Hartland, there are several within close proximity that residents utilize year-round. Within the Waukesha County and Wisconsin Department of Resources (WDNR) systems, the following list includes facilities are located within a short distance from Hartland. This list is not an exhaustive list of all Waukesha County and WDNR facilities that are near Hartland.

### Waukesha County

There are 14 Waukesha County facilities (see Table5) within 10 miles of the Village that can be accessed by residents for outdoor recreation. The amenities provided within these parks include resources that serve the greater region. These facilities are generally located to the west, east or south of the Village.

**Table 5: Waukesha County Facilities**

West of Hartland	East of Hartland	South of Hartland
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nashotah Park and Dog Exercise Area</li> <li>Naga-Waukee Park</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Menomonee Park</li> <li>Wanaki Golf Course</li> <li>Fox Brook Park</li> <li>Eble Park Ice Arena</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nemahbin Lake</li> <li>Nashotah Park and Dog Exercise Area</li> <li>Naga-Waukee Park</li> <li>Naga-Waukee Ice Arena</li> <li>Naga-Waukee Golf Course</li> <li>Nagawicka Lake</li> <li>Pewaukee Lake</li> <li>Retzer Nature Center</li> </ul>

### Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

There are seven Wisconsin State Forests and Parks near the Village of Hartland (see Table 6). These areas provide additional outdoor recreation amenities to Village residents and visitors.

**Table 6: WDNR Facilities**

North of Hartland	East of Hartland	South of Hartland
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kettle Moraine State Forest – Pike Lake Unit</li> <li>Kettle Moraine State Forest – Loew Lake Unit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heavenwoods State Forest</li> <li>Lakeshore State Park</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kettle Moraine State Forest – Lapham Peak Unit</li> <li>Kettle Moraine State Forest – Southern Unit</li> <li>Kettle Moraine State Forest – Mukwonago River Unit</li> </ul>

### School Parks

Recreational facilities associated with schools can help to meet the demand generated by community residents. Five public schools are located in or adjacent to Hartland neighborhoods, each providing different recreational facilities that may be available to the public (see Table 7). These include:

**Publicly Accessible**

- Hartland North Elementary School
- Hartland South Elementary School
- LIFE Charter Middle School

**Not Publicly Accessible/ Potentially Public Accessible**

- Arrowhead High School
- Lake Country Lutheran High School
- St. Charles Catholic School
- Swallow Elementary School

**Table 7: Summary of Park Facilities and Equipment at School Parks and Sites**

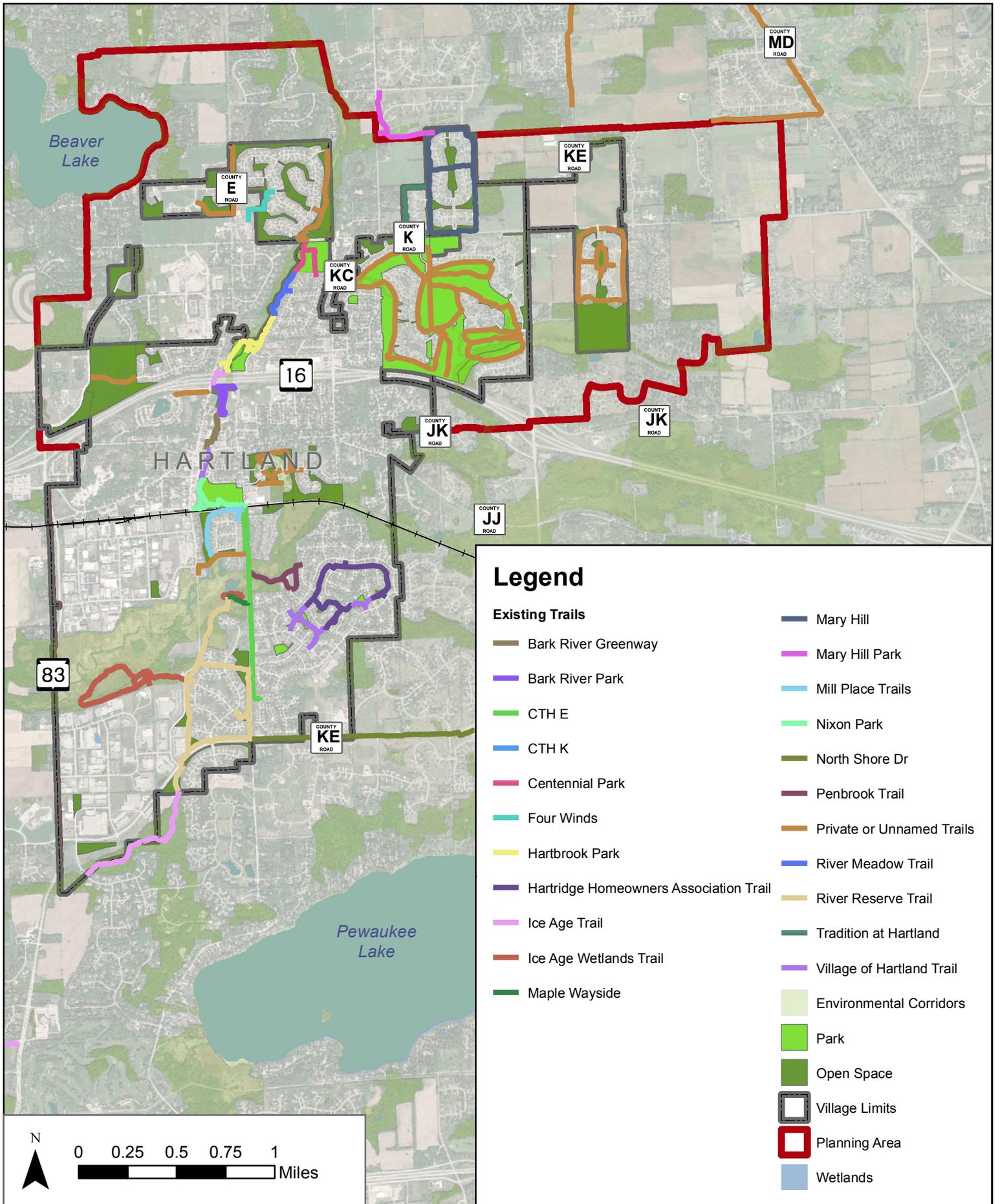
	Arrowhead High School	Lake Country Lutheran High School	Hartland North Elementary School	Hartland South Elementary School	LIFE Charter Middle School	St. Charles Catholic School	Swallow Elementary School
Open to the public	Potentially	Potentially	Yes	Yes	Yes	Potentially	Potentially
Football field	1	2					
Track (quarter mile)	1	1					
Soccer field (adult)		1					
Soccer field (youth)	6.5		1		10		1
Baseball diamond (adult)	2	1			1		
Softball diamond	3	1		1		1	
Tee ball diamond			1				
Basketball court							3
Tennis court	12						
Playground area			3	2		1	
Concrete play area (large)			1	1		1	1
Multi-purpose field							4

## Existing Trail Systems

Hartland is served by 91 trail segments totaling 12.24 miles of trails, most notably the 4.7-mile segment of the 1,200-mile Ice Age National Scenic Trail. These trails include those maintained by the Village and the Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation, as well as neighborhood associations. Among the trail network there are nearly 12 miles of paved surfaces and nearly 1 mile of unpaved surfaces, which may include wood chip paths, gravel or earthen trails, and boardwalks. These are summarized in Table 8 and in Figure 8 below.

**Table 8: Approximate Length of Existing Hartland Trails (Miles)**

	Total Length/ Size	Asphalt of Concrete Surface	Wood Chip, Gravel, Earthen, or Boardwalk Surface
Bark River Greenway	0.22	0.22	0.00
Bark River Park	0.47	0.28	0.19
Centennial Park	0.39	0.39	0.00
CTH E	1.26	1.26	0.00
Four Winds	0.16	0.16	0.00
Hartbrook Park	0.65	0.65	0.00
Hartridge Homeowners Assn Trail	1.27	1.27	0.00
Maple Wayside	0.13	0.13	0.00
Mary Hill	1.71	1.71	0.00
Mary Hill Park	0.04	0.04	0.00
Mill Place Trails	0.48	0.48	0.00
Nixon Park	0.56	0.49	0.07
North Shore Drive	0.44	0.44	0.00
Penbrook Trail	0.53	0.53	0.00
River Meadow Trail	0.32	0.25	0.07
River Reserve Trails	2.27	1.77	0.50
Tradition of Hartland	0.50	0.50	0.00
Village of Hartland Trail	0.84	0.84	0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12.24</b>	<b>11.41</b>	<b>0.83</b>



## Existing Trail System

Village of Hartland - Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan  
 Village of Hartland

Figure 8

## Ice Age Trail

A segment of the 1,200-mile long Ice Age National Scenic Trail passes through Hartland. While the entire trail is still under development, and constantly improving, those portions passing through Hartland have been completed. The Aldo Leopold Overlook and Cottonwood Wayside, and the John Muir Overlook and Maple Wayside are a part of the Ice Age Trail. The trail also passes through Penbrook Park, Nixon Park, Bark River Park, Hartbrook Park, and Centennial Park. The Village may consider two enhancements to the trail:

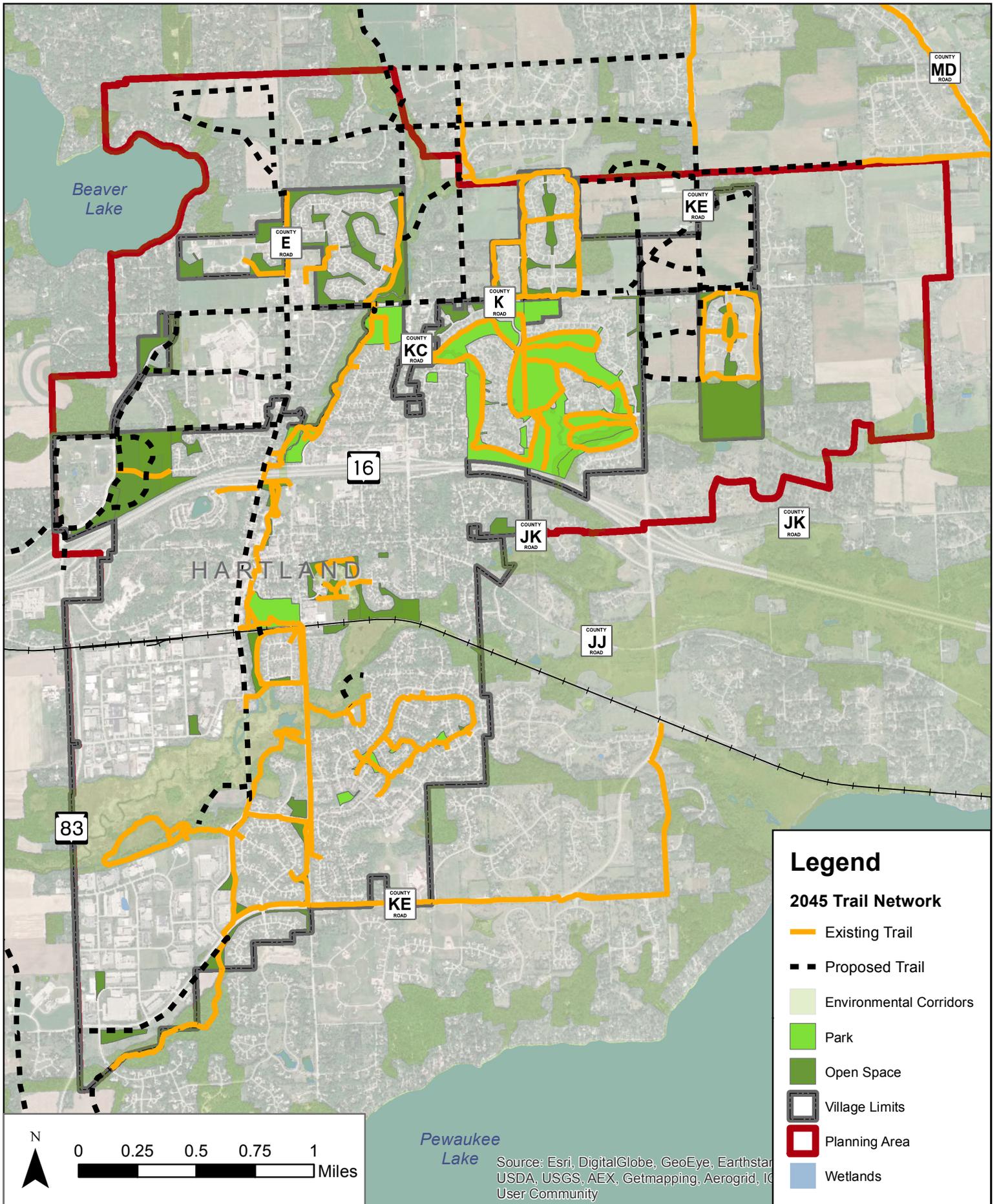
- Improve and maintain the trail, particularly through downtown, by installing additional wayfinding signage and directional signs in places where the trail is routed onto local streets, in order to provide links to sections of the trail and allow for enhanced flow through Hartland.
- Install trailhead features at the Cottonwood Wayside, Nixon Park, and Centennial Park, providing information about the Ice Age Trail and a map of its route through Hartland.

## Private Trail Systems

Within the existing trail network there are three areas that contain a total of 7.84 miles of private trails. These trails are found in the subdivisions of Bristlecone Pines, the Woodlands, and Whistling Pines. Although these trails exist within the Village, they are not available to the public.

## Proposed Trail Systems

There are also a number of proposed trails throughout the Village. These trails seek to connect existing village and county trails, as well as the Ice Age Trail, with the many wonderful outdoor recreation areas. These proposed trails also seek to provide safer, off-street pathways for cyclists and pedestrians to travel throughout the Village. As growth in the Village occurs, considerations should be made for trail extensions through right-of-way preservation. General alignments for future trail connections and recreation spaces should be considered through the platting and development review process. As of 2019, there are 5.86 miles of proposed trails. A map of the trail segments can be found in Figure 9, below.



### Proposed Trail System

Village of Hartland - Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan  
Village of Hartland

Figure 9

## Natural Resources Available for Outdoor Recreation

There are many environmental corridors, park and recreation space, and areas of open space in Hartland that have the potential to be used by residents for recreational purposes. There are 96 parcels located throughout the Village that have been designated as the following future land use types: “Open Space”, “Primary Environmental Corridor”, “Primary Environmental Corridor”, or “Park and Recreation.”

## ADA Accessibility and Compliance

Hartland has made exceptional efforts to provide access to provide access to its park and recreation facilities to residents with physical disabilities. To date and to the best knowledge of the Village of Hartland, all parks and park facilities meet and are in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Barrier Free Design Standards. This is in exception to several slides in Nixon Park which will be upgraded to stainless steel slides, specifically designed for children with cochlear implants. These improvements are listed in the CIP and are scheduled to be installed in 2020 for a total cost of \$60,000.

### COMPLYING WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

The ADA, enacted in 1990, clearly states the right of equal access for persons to local government services, including parks. On September 15, 2010 the Department of Justice published revised final regulations implementing the Americans with Disabilities Act. The 2010 Standards included new provisions for accessible design for recreational facilities such as playgrounds, swimming pools, fishing and golf facilities. Similar to when the original 1991 ADA Standards were adopted for public buildings, a community is required to complete a self-evaluation of their recreational facilities for ADA compliance by March 15, 2012. Those communities with 50 or more full or part-time employees are also required to develop a Transition Plan, which identifies what corrective work will be completed, when it will be completed, and the individual responsible for the corrective work. Any new recreational facilities designed, constructed, or shaped after March 15, 2012 are subject to the 2010 Standards. Any alteration (not simple maintenance, but something that changes the way the site is used) must make the element altered accessible and must create an accessible path of travel through the site or facility to that element.

There are some fundamental differences in how accessibility in the outdoors is accommodated compared to indoors or the built environment. While restrooms, shelters, interpretive centers, and parking lots, for example, need to follow detailed ADA guidelines, other improvements such as trails or swimming beach areas, for example, do not necessarily need to follow indoor or built environment ramp grades or surfacing requirements. A good rule of thumb for the City to follow is that anything constructed must not make the outdoor experience anymore difficult than what occurs naturally. Mother Nature does not have to comply with ADA, but the City does.

## Chapter 5 Needs Assessment

This chapter presents an analysis of how well the Village's existing park and outdoor recreational facilities satisfy the current needs of Hartland residents.

### Level of Service Assessment

In order to assess the recreational needs of the Village of Hartland, a needs assessment was conducted. Using research and standards developed by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) and the Trust for Public Land (TPL), the existing inventory of open space and facilities can be scaled against nationwide averages for villages of similar size to create guidelines for which the existing recreation system in Hartland can be measured. For example, based on a survey of over 500 municipalities, there is an average of 1 basketball court for every 3,734 residents in a village-sized municipality. If this 1 court per 3,734 residents for a village standard is used, we can calculate how many courts should be present in Hartland. The 2016 population in Hartland was estimated to be 9,195. The population of Hartland in 2016 (9,195) divided by the NRPA standard village population per 1 single court (3,734) yields a result of 2.46. This number represents the number of full-sized outdoor basketball courts that, compared with outdoor recreation facility inventories of villages nationwide, the Village of Hartland should contain within its system. This process was repeated for corresponding facilities and standards reported by the NRPA and the TPL.

Once these baseline numbers are calculated for the number of a certain facility that the village should possess, the number of existing facilities are compared with the standards in order to determine which facilities are deficient within Hartland. Table 9, below, outlines the facilities in Hartland that are publicly accessible, the quantity of each facility. These facilities are then compared to the NRPA and TPL standard population per facility unit and the average need for each facility type based on population (2010, 2016, and 2040 populations used), identifying which facilities the village is deficient or in excess of based on nationwide standards.

The results from the needs assessment give a snapshot of how the Village of Hartland is performing, compared with similarly-sized municipalities, when it comes to the type and quantity of a variety of outdoor recreation facilities. However, the desires of the residents are not always accurately reflected in the current state of the outdoor recreation system and by the current facilities provided.

**Table 9: Village of Hartland Recreational Facilities**

Facility	Village Facilities	School Facilities		Other Recreation Facilities	Total	
		Publicly Accessible	Not Publicly Accessible		Publicly Accessible	All
Play Structure	8	5	1	0	13	14
Splash Pad	1	0	0	0	1	1
Baseball Diamond	4	1	3	0	5	8
Softball Diamond	3	1	5	0	4	9
Tee Ball Field	1	1	0	0	2	2
Football Field	1	0	3	0	1	4
Soccer Field	1	0	1	0	1	2
Soccer Field (youth)	0	11	7.5	0	11	18.5
Multi-Purpose Field	7	0	4	0	7	11
Basketball Court	1	0	3	0	1	4
Tennis Court	4	0	12	0	4	16
Pickleball Court	1	0	0	0	1	1
Volleyball Court	2	0	0	0	2	2
Dog Park	0	0	0	0	0	0
Swimming Pool	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fitness Center	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disc Golf	0	0	0	1	1	1
Track	0	0	2	0	0	2

Comparing these results for desired new or additional facilities with the standards-based needs assessment allows for a thorough understanding for where Hartland is deficient and what facilities need to be provided in order to satisfy the needs of residents and to meet NRPA standards. The table below utilizes national standards for the number of facilities needed per population within a Village to identify the needed for additional facility investments. A comparison was done for both the 2016 population and the projected 2040 population. The result identifies which facilities the Village has a surplus of (positive numbers greater than one) and facilities that are in need (negative numbers). Based upon the 2016 and projected 2040 population, the Village is lacking outdoor basketball courts to meet the populations. Other facility types are approaching the need for additional facilities based on the 2016 and 2040 populations. Village officials should consider additional facilities between now and 2040 including: outdoor swimming pool, (-1.0), soccer field (-0.8), splash pad (-0.1), fitness center (-0.4), dog park (-0.2), and a football field (-0.1). The results from this analysis are meant to serve as guidelines for comparison and to aid in future decision-making efforts. Hartland is a unique community and is well ahead of the national average when it comes to the majority of the outdoor facilities provided. Village staff will continue to work diligently with residents to determine what facilities are valuable to the

community, which should be increased, and which new facilities should be further investigated for the potential to be constructed in Hartland.

**Table 10: Hartland Needs Assessment**

Recreational Facility Type	NRPA*/TPL <sup>†</sup> Standard (of residents per facility)	Publicly Accessible Facilities	Target Current Population (2016)	Surplus or (Need)	Target Need (2040)	Surplus or (Need)
Play structure	2,191*	13	4.20	8.8	5.02	8.0
Splash Pad	10,000 <sup>†</sup>	1	0.92	0.1	1.1	(-0.1)
Baseball Diamond	8,748*	5	1.05	3.9	1.26	3.7
Softball Diamond	4,667*	4	1.97	2.0	2.35	1.6
Tee Ball Diamond	13,267*	2	0.69	1.3	0.83	1.2
Football Field	9,879*	1	0.93	0.1	1.11	(-0.1)
Soccer Field	6,250*	1	1.47	(-0.5)	1.76	(-0.8)
Soccer Field (youth)	3,2918	11	2.79	8.2	3.34	7.7
Multi-purpose field	3,2918	7	2.79	4.2	3.34	3.7
Basketball Court	3,734*	1	2.46	(-1.5)	2.94	(-1.9)
Tennis Court	10,000 <sup>†</sup>	4	0.92	3.1	1.1	2.9
Pickleball Court	20,000 <sup>†</sup>	1	0.46	0.5	0.55	0.5
Volleyball Court	8,383*	2	1.10	0.9	1.31	0.7
Dog Park	56,257*	0	0.16	(-0.2)	0.20	(-0.2)
Swimming Pool (outdoor)	10,500*	0	0.88	(-0.9)	1.05	(-1.0)
Fitness Center	25,164*	0	0.37	(-0.4)	0.44	(-0.4)

### Access Standard Assessment

The Village currently supplies an adequate number of outdoor recreation facilities to meet the number of residents within the community. However, the location and accessibility of these facilities should also be considered. It is important to residents' overall quality of life and active lifestyle to provide access to facilities for all.

The Village seeks to provide residents with walkable access to parks throughout the community. Typically, the walkable area around a park includes areas within a ¼ to ½ mile radius, though some may walk further. A review of the park access must also consider physical barriers that may intersect paths or gaps in connectivity. These barriers can limit resident's ability to access parks and natural

areas. For example, the current street network within Bristlecone Pines limits residents' access to the neighboring Joliet Park area due to the lack of connectivity. An analysis of the watershed for each park, combined with the physical barriers, identifies the southeast corner of the Village as the area without public park facilities within a ¼ to ½ mile watershed. Access to the Ice Age Trail and natural areas are provided in this area. As the Village reviews future park investments within the community, considerations should be made for the populations with access to the facilities.

### Public Input Assessment

A survey was conducted asking specific recreation-oriented questions. Nearly 500 residents and nearly 100 high school students participated in the survey. Based on public feedback, 77 percent of residents are happy with the amount of recreational and sports facilities available in Hartland. More than 61 percent of respondents rate the pedestrian and bicycle facilities and trail system in Hartland as either "good" (adequate opportunities for residents of all ages), or "excellent" (among the best). Community events, hiking trails, youth activities, bicycling, and indoor activities were the top 5 responses for which recreational opportunities residents would like to see more of. In response to new or additional facility types are needed in Hartland, the top answers were sledding hill, youth baseball diamond, bicycle trails, basketball courts, and disc golf course. Only 20 percent of residents feel there are areas within the Village that need specific attention, and only 14 percent areas that require a greater maintenance focus.

In addition to the survey, residents had three additional opportunities to provide feedback on a number of recreation related questions at pop-up events. A recap of each event and meeting can be found below:

#### Hartland Hometown Celebration - June 29<sup>th</sup>

- Staffed a table from 5:00 pm – 8:30 pm
- Meeting served as a public kick-off and promotion of the project's Online Community Survey
- Interact with residents and introduce projects goals and objectives
- Six boards with sample survey questions relating to recreational activities
- Focused effort on qualifying Village resident responses
- Interacted with over 50 residents, and received over 40 written responses



### Sendik's Food Market – September 14<sup>th</sup>

- Staffed a table from 10:00 am – 12:15 pm
- Meeting served to solicit feedback and promote project's Online Community Survey
- Four boards with sample survey questions relating to recreational activities
- Interacted with over 25 residents, and received over 10 written responses



### Hartland Arrowhead High School – September 14<sup>th</sup>

- Staffed a table during 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Period lunches from 10:15 am – 12 pm
- Meeting served to solicit feedback specifically from high school demographic in response to Online Community Survey's low response rate from the under 20 population
- Five boards on display specifically CORP related focusing on outdoor recreational activities
- Interacted with over 30 students' residents, and received 11 written responses
- Shorter five question survey was prepared specifically for the under 20 population.
- Four emails from Assistant Principal promoting Student Online Survey to student population in north campus with survey link
- 80 total responses received

## Chapter 6 Recommendations

### Economic Corridor and Open Space Planning

The Village of Hartland Environmental Corridor and Open Space (ECOS) Task Force was formed in response to community engagement and advocacy about the degradation of Environmental Corridors and Isolated Natural Resource from invasive species. The ECOS Task Force developed a report containing proposed actions to be taken to help preserve the existing environmental corridors and open spaces in Hartland. This report outlines a set of recommendations that the Village could implement to improve the environmental corridors and open spaces in the Village. These recommendations include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Organize volunteer days to clear invasive buckthorn, install and maintain trails, and clean up garbage within the area.
- Coordinate efforts at Village-owned parks with group such as the Village of Hartland Park Board, Ice Age Trail Alliance (IATA), and the Waukesha County Land Conservancy (WCLC).
- Engage the broader public by providing signage and educational materials within Village parks.
- Develop information for private property owners within and adjacent to Environmental Corridors.
- Develop plans to expand trail network and link with surrounding non-governmental organization (NGO) properties.

As the Village maintains existing recreation and open space facilities throughout the community, the implementation of the ECOS recommendations should be considered.

### Action Program

The development plan enumerates projects that have been identified and prioritized for action over the next several years. With regard to both opportunity projects and those in the five-year development plan, consideration was given to the availability of funding for capital development and ongoing operations, in an environment where there is no anticipated increase in funding for parks and recreation in the Village budget. Many of the projects that have been identified are eligible for competitive grant funding through a variety of state and federal programs.

Table 11 identifies opportunity projects, or those that do not have a specific timeline associated with them. Action on these projects may be driven by anticipated future demand, the opportunity to acquire land through dedication or purchase, or the availability of funding through grants or other sources. While not programmed, the Village can be aware of the need or desire for these facilities and be prepared to act if an opportunity presents itself to take appropriate steps toward these goals.

Table 12 presents a list of improvements intended for action during the next several years. These projects have been identified as priority needs and in some cases the Village has already taken preliminary steps toward implementing the projects.

**Table 11: Opportunity Projects**

Project	Description	Cost (Est.)
North park site	As development occurs, acquire land for a future neighborhood park through the land dedication requirement in the Village's Subdivision Ordinance. Passive park enhancements should be considered for this project.	TBD
Passive recreation enhancements	Create additional opportunities for passive recreation throughout the park and trail system, such as benches for sitting, picnic tables, and wildlife viewing opportunities. As example project includes the clearing of invasive plant species and the placement of benches in Penbrook Park.	TBD
Resurface basketball ½ court in Joliet Park	Monitor court surface for deterioration and replace when necessary.	\$5,000
Trailhead signage in Centennial and Nixon Parks and Cottonwood Wayside	Install trailhead signage including maps of the Village's trail systems in designated parks.	\$5,000
Community Center	Investigate the desire of Hartland residents in developing a community center to meet the indoor recreation needs of residents and potential funding options.	TBD
Historic Walking Tour	Develop a walking tour that explores and showcases the historic resources and areas of Hartland.	TBD
New parklets	Look for opportunities to purchase and develop smaller parcels of open space	TBD
New trails	Look for opportunities to purchase and develop new trail segments to connect less accessible areas to the Ice Age Trail and other resources within Hartland.	TBD

**Table 12: Recommended Development Plan – Capital Improvement Plan**

Year	Project	Description	Cost (Est.)
2019	Replace pedestrian bridges in Nixon and Bark River Parks	Replace the southern Ice Age Trail pedestrian bridge due to deterioration	\$68,000
2019	Centennial park picnic shelter and baseball field reconstruction	Construct a new picnic shelter and restrooms at Centennial Park, with a storage space.	\$90,000
2020	Replace pedestrian bridge at the North Avenue Parking Lot	Replacement of the pedestrian bridge at the North Avenue Parking Lot due to wear and old age causing safety concerns.	\$30,000
2020	Hartbrook Park Baseball Field Reconstruction	Reconstruction of the baseball field at Hartbrook Park	\$30,000
2020	Replacement of swings and slides at Nixon, Hartbrook, and Castle Parks	Replacement of swings and slides at Nixon, Hartbrook, and Castle Parks due to old age and wear.	\$60,000
2021	Penbrook Park Baseball Field Reconstruction	Reconstruction of the baseball field at Penbrook Park	\$30,000
2021	Penbrook Park bathroom facility and drinking fountain improvement	Improvements to the bathroom facility and drinking fountains at Hartbrook Park due to normal wear and old age.	\$250,000
2022	Bark River Park Softball Field Reconstruction	Reconstruction of the softball field at Bark River Park	\$30,000
2023	No improvements scheduled	N/A	N/A

## Operations and Maintenance

The cost of ongoing park and facility maintenance is becoming a greater concern for the Village. Annual budgets have grown very little and are projected to remain flat for the foreseeable future, yet the costs of maintenance continue to rise. A substantial part of the rising cost is made up of materials such as fuel, landscaping materials, and supplies. The other contributing factor is the cost to maintain additional facilities. The splash pad in Nixon Park, for example, has an estimated annual maintenance cost of \$15,000. Meanwhile, staffing reductions have resulted in the loss of one full-time public works crew member, so that there are fewer workers available to maintain Village assets. These concerns need to be taken into account when considering new park facilities or even routine maintenance needs.

Data on average maintenance costs is scarce, however, the State of Colorado has conducted an empirical study of parks in communities with populations under 10,000, deriving the estimates contained in Table 10.

**Table 13: Estimated Weekly Maintenance Needs (In Season)**

Facility	Hours	Facility	Hours
Baseball diamond	16-20	Playground	2-3
Basketball court	0.5-1	Football / Soccer field	12-16
General park	17-21	Tennis court	1-2
Paved trail	2-3	Volleyball court	0.5-1

Source: *Small Community Parks & Recreation Standards, State of Colorado*

Village staff provided input to determine additional maintenance needs for park shelters and the Fine Arts Center. Park shelters require 5 to 10 hours of maintenance weekly. The Fine Arts Center requires 12 to 15 hours each week.

### Funding Programs

The following is a description of State of Wisconsin programs that may provide financial assistance for the Village of Hartland in carrying out planned improvements to its park and recreation system.

#### County Conservation Aids

*Section 23.09 (12), Wis. Stats.; Ch. NR 50, Wis. Admin. Code*

Counties or recognized Indian tribes are eligible for 50% of the costs of carrying out fish or wildlife management projects that enhance fish and wildlife habitat or relate to hunter/angler facilities. Applications are submitted throughout the year until funding is depleted.

#### Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration

*16 U.S.C. 777-777k, 64 Stat. 430 (also known as Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act)*

The WDNR prioritizes fisheries related projects (sport fish restoration, boating access, fishing piers) to identify projects eligible for a 75% cost share; the WDNR sometimes negotiates contracts and develops use agreements with counties, villages, and towns for use of this funding for construction of boat landings and fishing piers. The amount of funding available varies depending upon excise tax revenue from fishing equipment sales and the federal gas tax.

#### Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Local Assistance Programs: Acquisition and Development of Local Parks

*Section 23.09(20), Wis. Stats.; Ch. NR 51, subchapter XII, Wis. Admin. Code*

Qualified towns, villages, cities, counties, Indian tribes, and nonprofit conservation organizations as defined under §23.096, Wis. Stats., are eligible for up to 50% of the costs of acquisition of land or conservation easements and development of facilities for public park and recreation areas used for nature-based outdoor recreation purposes. Applications are due to the WDNR by May 1 of each year.

#### Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Local Assistance Programs: Acquisition of Development Rights

*Section 23.09(20m), Wis. Stats.; Ch. NR 51, subchapter XV, Wis. Admin. Code*

Qualified towns, villages, cities, counties, Indian tribes, and nonprofit conservation organizations as defined under §23.096, Wis. Stats., are eligible for up to 50% of the costs to acquire development rights

(conservation easements) in areas where restrictions on residential, industrial, or commercial development would provide or enhance nature-based outdoor recreation. Applications are due to the WDNR by May 1 of each year.

### **Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Local Assistance Programs: Urban Green Space**

*Section 23.09(19), Wis. Stats.; Ch. NR 51, subchapter XIII, Wis. Admin. Code*

Qualified towns, villages, cities, counties, Indian tribes, and nonprofit conservation organizations as defined under §23.096, Wis. Stats., are eligible for up to 50% of the costs of acquisition of land and conservation easements for nature-based outdoor recreation purposes that will protect open natural space and land with scenic, ecological, or natural values in urban areas. Applications are due to the WDNR by May 1 of each year.

### **Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Local Assistance Programs: Urban Rivers**

*Section 30.277, Wis. Stats.; Ch. NR 51, subchapter XIV, Wis. Admin. Code*

Towns, villages, cities, counties, tribes, and nonprofit conservation organizations as defined under s. 23.096, Wis. Stats., are eligible for up to 50% of the costs of acquisition of land or conservation easements and development of facilities for public park and recreation areas, including shoreline enhancements, for nature-based outdoor recreation purposes along urban waterways and riverfronts. Applications are due to the WDNR by May 1 of each year.

### **Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)**

*LWCF Act of 1965, Public Law 88-578, 78 Stat. 897; 36 CFR Ch. 1, Part 59*

Qualified towns, villages, cities, counties, tribes, and school districts are eligible for up to 50% of the costs of acquisition of land and development and renovation of facilities for public park and recreation areas. Applications are due to the WDNR by May 1 of each year. The amount of funding available varies depending upon the amount appropriated by Congress to the program within the Department of Interior's budget each year.

### **Recreational Boating Facilities (RBF) Grants**

*Section 30.92, Wis. Stats.*

Counties, cities, villages, towns, and others are eligible for up to 50% of the costs of feasibility studies and the construction of capital improvements related to the development of safe recreational boating facilities, purchase of aquatic weed harvesting equipment, purchase of navigation aids, dredging of channels of waterways, and chemical treatment of Eurasian water milfoil. An additional 10% may be available if a municipality conducts a boating safety enforcement and education program approved by the WDNR. Applications are due to the WDNR and are reviewed and recommended quarterly by the governor-appointed Wisconsin Waterways Commission.

### **Recreational Trails Program**

*The Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act - Title 23 United States Code (23 U.S.C.).*

Towns, villages, cities, counties, tribal governing bodies, school districts, state agencies, federal agencies, and incorporated organizations are eligible to receive up to 50% of the costs of maintenance

and restoration of existing trails, development and rehabilitation of trailside and trailhead facilities and trail linkages, construction of new trails (with certain restrictions on federal lands), and acquisition of easements or property for trails. Funds are available for both motorized and non-motorized trails. These funds may only be used on trails which have been identified in or which further a specific goal of local, county or state trail plan included or referenced in a statewide CORP. Applications are due to the WDNR by May 1 of each year. The amount of funding available varies depending upon federal gas excise taxes paid on fuel used by off-highway vehicles.

## **Transportation Enhancements (Statewide Multimodal Improvement Program – SMIP)**

*Wisconsin Department of Transportation*

This program funds projects that increase multi-modal transportation alternatives and enhance communities and the environment. Eligible activities include pedestrian and bicycle facilities, safety and educational activities for pedestrians and bicyclists, acquisition of scenic easements or historical sites, scenic or historic highway programs, tourist and welcome centers, landscaping and other scenic beautification, historic preservation, rehabilitation and operation of historic transportation facilities, preservation of abandoned railway corridors, control and removal of outdoor advertising, archaeological planning and research, mitigation of water pollution due to highway runoff or reduction of vehicle-caused wildlife mortality, and establishment of transportation museums. Applications are accepted every even-numbered year. A 20% local match is required.

## **Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ)**

*Wisconsin Department of Transportation*

This program provides funding for transportation projects that improve air quality and reduce traffic congestion. Eligible projects include new transit services, ridesharing, pedestrian and bicycle facilities, alternative fuel technologies, and various public education and marketing activities designed to increase public awareness of air quality and transportation issues. The federal funds are available in counties that are classified as air quality non-attainment and maintenance areas for the federal criteria pollutant ozone. Applications are accepted in spring of odd-numbered years and require a 20% local match.