

OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN VILLAGE OF OREGON, WISCONSIN

INTRODUCTION

The Village of Oregon (see map 1) is located in the southern half of Dane County in southern Wisconsin approximately 10 miles south of Madison. The overall size of the incorporation area is 2,006 acres.

The configuration of the surrounding land is gently rolling. This formation was developed by the receding glacier. Although originally covered with oak-savannah vegetation, almost no remnants are to be found since most lands were cleared and farmed or left to grow to dense oak woods.

In 2000 the census population of Oregon was 7,514. This represents an increase of 68% over the 1990 census population of 4,551. The increase in population is due primarily to the number of people who have moved in search of the rural, small town character, but who hold their job in nearby Madison.

The estimated population for the Village of Oregon in 2005 is 9,014, the projection for 2010 is 10,514, and the projection for 2015 is 12,014.

Early growth of the community was based on farming. Farming is still a significant element in the local economy. Oregon has two commercial centers and has mostly service and convenience shops with Madison providing area residents with a wider selection of goods. Industry is presently limited with some increase expected in the next 5-10 years.

The present street system evolved from an extension of the original route patterns established in the 1800's. The phenomenal rise in the number of motor vehicles coming into or passing through Oregon has resulted in heavier traffic problems during morning and afternoon rush hours.

U.S. Highway 14 bypasses Oregon to the north and east, and connects with Madison to the north and Evansville to the south. The railroad corridor passes from the northwest boundary of Oregon and along the west boundary in a southerly direction. Passenger service has been discontinued, as well as freight service.

The closest commercial airport providing passenger service is in Madison, located north of Oregon.

The general land use pattern in Oregon is typical of most villages founded around agriculture.

Commercial development occurred in Oregon's center originally as a marketplace for surrounding farms. Supporting commercial activities developed as a convenience for the shoppers. Schools, doctor and dentist offices, and churches developed near this activity node.

With Oregon's growth, new commercial development occurred on North Main Street and along Janesville Street.

In general, residential growth developed as single family homes close to the central market district. As the demand for land increased, residential development moved outward to the west, north, south and east. This development is expected to continue.

The Village of Oregon realizes that planning is a process and that the purpose of any planning is implementation. The Village has the opportunity to use this plan to acquire and develop park and playground land. Completion of this Outdoor Recreation Plan qualifies the community for cost sharing under the Land and Water Conservation Fund Program (LAWCON), the Outdoor Resources Action Plan (ORAP 200) and State stewardship grants. Eligibility for these programs, however, does not guarantee adequate recreation space and facilities; in fact, implementation depends more upon commitment by the community, service groups, and residents to adapt and carry out these recommendations. The plan and the funding opportunities, including the possible use of impact fees, building fees and grants are the framework within which the community can work.

As Oregon grows, the Village should strive to provide diversity in function, location, size, development and service area of recreational facilities. This can best be accomplished by the Village taking the lead in assuring that these objectives are met through land acquisition, development and improvement. It must be the responsibility of the Village to guide recreational planning for the future.

This plan begins with a presentation of definitions and recreational planning methodology. This is followed by a discussion of existing recreational facilities and recreational needs in the Village. It concludes with the 5-year action plan and discussion of long-range goals, objectives and implementation procedures.

RECREATION AREA DEFINITIONS

It is necessary that all persons involved in recreation and park planning share a common language. The following recreation area definitions are commonly used and are applicable to the local recreation resources and needs in the Village of Oregon. It should be noted that all Village parks are open to use by all residents. The term neighborhood is descriptive in nature and does not imply "ownership" or exclusive use by any one group or area of the Village.

Playlots and Totlots: Playlots or totlots are frequently found in high-density neighborhoods as a part of a neighborhood park. In either case, they substitute for the backyard as an area of supervision and play for small children. Playlots should be within a short walking distance of home, generally no more than 1/8 mile. These areas can and should be equipped with safe and creative play devices, such as sandboxes and basic play structure components.

Neighborhood Parks: These parks are designed to serve neighborhoods, but more frequently they serve residential areas of sufficient size to require a passive recreation area for young and old. Ideally, these parks should be located not more than 1/4 mile from home, and if possible, associated with a natural feature. Access to these recreation areas should be safe and easy, avoiding major thoroughfares and other obstacles.

Neighborhood parks generally range in size from 1 to 7 acres, with 3 acres the desirable minimum. Site development should include walkways, benches, picnic tables, landscaping, and if possible, a playlot and equipment for younger children.

Neighborhood Playgrounds: Neighborhood playgrounds serve approximately the same areas as do neighborhood parks, but they provide school age children with playground and playfield equipment. Frequently, these playgrounds are associated with an elementary school or a neighborhood park. When associated with the latter, residents are afforded both passive and active outdoor opportunities.

The size of a neighborhood playground can vary, but these areas are generally larger than neighborhood parks to accommodate ball fields, basketball backboards, open play fields, skating rinks in the winter, playground equipment and tennis courts. The desirable minimum acreage for a neighborhood playground is 5 acres, with a range of 5 to 10 acres.

Playfield: The playfield provides active recreation space for youth and adults. These areas frequently include lighted ball fields and athletic fields and are the sites of organized recreational activities. Because of the acreage demands of such activities, playfields are generally between 10 and 20 acres in size, with 12 acres as a desirable minimum. Playfields have a tendency to be used by youth and adults from throughout the community and from outlying regions as well.

Community Parks: A community park is generally a large park under municipal jurisdiction, which provides a variety of outdoor recreational facilities for residents. Community parks vary tremendously in size and development, frequently containing a number of the following facilities: Swimming pools, picnic area, shelter houses, playfields and equipment, tennis courts, toilets, nature study areas, hiking trails, zoo facilities, marinas, bandstands, and winter-related facilities. Community parks are for young and old alike. These areas have an effective service area radius of one mile.

Specialized Recreational Area: These are areas which are limited in recreational value, are limited as to who wishes to use them, or are undeveloped for recreation. Examples of these specialized recreational areas include conservancy areas, floodplains, historic sites and golf courses. While all of these areas perform important functions and should be considered as part of the Village's outdoor recreational system, only two areas are included in calculation of current recreational acreage.

PLANNING METHODOLOGY

There are four methodologies which can be used to analyze the Village's current and future outdoor recreational needs. The most common is to relate spatial park needs to numbers of people. The second appraises each park's serviceability of the age groups most likely to use the facilities. The third calculates future demand for facilities and activities based upon recognized public demand. The fourth does not attempt to quantify need, but to identify and preserve valuable land for parks.

Standards for public recreational facilities are presented in Table I.

<u>Type of Facility</u>	<u>Preferred Walking Distance (Miles)</u>	<u>Acres Minimum</u>	<u>Primary Age Group Served</u>
Playlots & Totlots	1/8	1/8	1-5
Neighborhood Park	1/4	1	All Ages
Neighborhood Playground	1/4 - 1/2	5	5-12
Playfield	3/4 - 1	12	All Ages
Community Park	1	12	All Ages
Specialized Recreational Areas	-----	-----	All Ages

Source: Adopted from: National Recreation Association & Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Bureau of Planning.

- A) **ACREAGE STANDARDS:** There are a number of acceptable standards which relate park acreage for each 1,000 persons in a community. Standards of 10, 12 and 15 acres per thousand populations are commonly used for local units of government. Many counties in Wisconsin establish, in their **Open Space Plan**, a goal of 15 acres of open space for every 1,000 county residents. For the purposes of this study, a standard of 15 acres per thousand population is used as a basis for evaluation the Village's acreage requirements. Standards are flexible and the Village feels comfortable with the recommended standard.

There is some danger in adhering to this technique exclusively. A quantitative measurement of recreation acreage says nothing about the diversity of parkland available, the type and condition of the facilities provided, or whether residents are best served by the existing acreage. For these reasons, recommendations in the Village's Outdoor Recreation Plan are based upon more than a need for additional acreage.

- B) **SERVICE AREA:** A neighborhood recreation area has limited usefulness if its access is blocked by a heavily traveled thoroughfare. It is obvious that the extent to which an area is frequented is heavily dependent upon its effective service area. Neighborhood park and playground facilities have a service area radius of 1/4 mile when not interrupted by obstacles to access. Playlots should be within 1/8 mile of home, while playfields and community parks are used by residents living throughout the community.
- C) **RECREATIONAL DEMAND:** In this report, recreational demand is a qualitative assessment. The methodology used involves estimating what types of activities and areas are in demand and who will use them. This approach most closely matches facilities with current and future needs and the recreation activities of the residents.
- D) **RESOURCE PRESERVATION:** One important factor in meeting needs and planning for the future is to conserve and preserve potential recreation lands. It is never too early to think in terms of acquiring potential parkland. Scenic hilltops and glens, wooded areas, wetlands, streams, and well-located parcels are frequently attractive for development. This competition for potential recreation land necessitates that local units of government and regional agencies plan to acquire and protect these resources.

EXISTING RECREATION AREAS AND FACILITIES

AREAS WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF OREGON

A comprehensive land use survey was conducted to inventory existing recreation areas and facilities and their relationship to residential and potential residential developments. Included in the inventory were municipal and educational recreational areas which contribute to the recreational supply and opportunities in the Village.

All school areas listed are used for summertime school and recreation programs. Also many areas of the schools such as gyms, theaters and play areas are used extensively by Village residents for a wide variety of activities throughout the year. The Oregon School administration, the School Board and educators have worked in cooperation with the Village of Oregon and the coordinators of youth and adult recreation programs in the development of the outside facilities.

The following is a description of each recreational area and a summary of the facilities in it. A summary of the existing areas is presented in Table 2. Existing recreation areas are located on Map 1.

MERRI-HILL PARK

Neighborhood Park

1.85 Acres

This park is located in the northern part of the Village. It is surrounded by single family residential homes located on East Richards Road to the north, Saratoga Circle to the east, Landover Drive to the south and the future Potomac Place to the west. Main access to the park are paved paths from each developed access street.

Merri-Hill Park features playground equipment and a basketball court. Landscaping and tree planting has been completed in this area. There are open areas remaining for ball fields of all types. The park has a gradual slope to the south until midpoint and then drops off significantly.

Future plans include: Additional landscaping and tree planting and wood chip fall zones.

PRAIRIE VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Neighborhood Playground

(Approx.) 4.00 Acres

Prairie View Elementary School is located north of the central business district, east of Main Street and north of Netherwood Knoll Elementary. The area surrounding the school is flat and sparsely wooded. Part of this school's paved play area/bus drop off area is used as the location of the Oregon Chamber of Commerce annual Summer Fest celebration.

Prairie View's facilities include: two gymnasiums, (one used as a cafeteria), "Little Theatre", two soccer fields, baseball diamond, a variety of playground equipment ADA approved, two 1/2 court basketball courts, and small track on a bus parking lot.

Future plans include: No specific plans at this time.

NETHERWOOD KNOLL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Neighborhood Playground

(Approx.) 6.00 Acres

Netherwood Knoll Elementary is located north of the central business district, east of Main Street, south of Prairie View Elementary School and adjacent to the indoor swimming pool. The area surrounding the school is flat and partly wooded with a paved area between the building and the play area. Part of this school's paved area is used as the location of the Oregon Chamber of Commerce annual Summer Fest celebration. Kiser Firemen's park is located next to the school property on the southeast side.

Netherwood Knoll's facilities include: large gym with stage and bleacher system, small gym, soccer field, wood chip playground area with a variety of equipment including an area which is ADA approved, small arboretum with turtle pond and two basketball/volleyball courts.

An area of the school building and play area is used by the After School Club.

Future plans include: No specific plans at this time.

OREGON SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Playfield

20.00 Acres

Oregon Senior High School is located on the east side of the Village. The school is bordered by U.S. Hwy 14 to the east, the Oregon Jaycee Park to the south, North Perry Parkway to the west and School Road to the north.

The High School's facilities include: multi-purpose gym, field house, performing arts center, athletic field used for football, soccer and track and field events, two practice football fields, two softball diamonds, one baseball diamond, batting cages, eight non-lighted tennis courts, an eight-lane track and various open areas for use of a wide variety of sports.

Future plans include: No specific plans at this time.

The Oregon School District has a lease agreement with the Village for a portion of the Oregon Jaycee Park east of North Perry Parkway. The leased area includes three high school baseball/softball diamonds and one soccer field. This portion of the park was leveled and improved in cooperation with the Village and the Army Corps of Engineers in 1995.

Future plans: No specific plans at this time.

OREGON SCHOOL DISTRICT SWIMMING POOL

Specialized Recreation Area

1.64 Acres

The Oregon School District indoor swimming facility is located adjacent to Kiser Fireman's Park and Netherwood Knoll Elementary building. Features of this facility include a twenty five meter, six lane pool with a diving well, handicapped chair lift, whirlpool tub, and shower and locker room areas. The pool facilities are used extensively for school physical education classes and for the Oregon SEALS and high school girls and boys swim teams. Community program offerings include open, family, lap and adult swim times, co-ed water volleyball, water exercise classes, youth fitness swimming and lessons for all ages.

KISER FIREMEN'S PARK

Community Park

11.81 Acres

Kiser Firemen's Park covers 11.81 acres of level land bordered by N. Oak and Brook Streets where the current tennis courts, soccer and ball fields are located. It is a village wide park.

This is the heaviest used park in the community. Within this park are two lighted, fenced softball diamonds used extensively by youth and adult summer recreation programs. Other facilities include a lighted picnic shelter, picnic tables, a restroom facility with an attached open shelter, a black topped bike trail, three lighted and fenced tennis courts, a parking lot, softball warm-up area and soccer practice fields.

Kiser Firemen's Park is also the site of the Oregon Chamber of Commerce's annual Summer Fest celebration.

An upgrade to the electrical system of the entire park and an upgrade to the lighting of the softball diamonds was completed in 1997.

Future plans include: construction of skate park and reconditioning tennis court.

OREGON JAYCEE PARK

Community Park

51.00 Acres

Oregon Jaycee Park, located east of Oak Street extending to Highway 14, is low land and some is in the 100-year flood plain. North Perry Parkway passes through the eastern section of this park and provides access to the Central portion of the Park. The bike trail path was paved in 1995. Two wooden bridges provide access to the park from Oak Street. Approximately 2,400 trees and prairie grasses have been planted throughout the park.

Oregon Jaycee Park is the major community park in the Village. It features three ball diamonds, four permanent and four temporary soccer fields, a park shelter, two skating rinks used for both open skating and hockey, playground equipment near the shelter, and also two softball diamonds, a Bicentennial tree walk and a volley ball court. The park also has

restroom facilities, a heated storage/warming house facility and includes a dog run area east of N. Perry Parkway.

Future plans include: additional playground equipment, replacement of bridges, landscaping and construction of a sledding hill. Wood chip fall zones and skate board park.

MADSEN MEMORIAL AND WATERMAN (TRIANGLE) PARKS

Specialized Recreation Area .40 Acres

Madsen Memorial and Waterman (Triangle) Parks are located near each other in the center of the business district of Oregon adjacent to the Village Hall, within walking distance of the Senior Center, Library and Genesis Housing for the elderly. Included in both parks are shade trees and bushes which provide quiet places for senior citizens and other community members in the downtown area. This park also has benches. A brick and block bandstand in Waterman (Triangle) Park serves as a site for regularly scheduled summer concerts and other community events. The parking area between these parks serves as the location for a farmer's market and is part of the downtown re-development.

Future plans include: No specific plans at this time.

SCOTT STREET TOT PARK

Tot lot .25 Acres

Scott Street Tot Park consists of one-half lot on Scott Street. The lot is small and rectangular shaped. Trees are located on the eastern boundary and houses are located on the northern and southern boundaries. The public access is on the western side of the park. Playground equipment for small children has recently been installed with wood chip fall zones.

Future plans include: No specific plans at this time.

HIGH MEADOWS PARK

Neighborhood Playground 4.51 Acres

This park is located behind the homes on the east side of Scott Street with the south border of the park being Ames Street. The park connects with the Scott Street Tot Park at its northwest corner.

Facilities in High Meadows Park include: a soccer field, open space for baseball with a backstop and play structures with wood chip fall zones and an area for a future parking lot.

Future plans include: basketball courts, baseball diamonds. A water retention area has been constructed so that water can be retained in the winter to be used as a skating pond.

THOMSON PARK

Neighborhood Park

2.96 Acres

Thomson Park is located in the east central part of the Village, south of Janesville Street and on the corner of South Perry Parkway and Thomson Lane. The land is flat with a good amount of trees and brush. It is bordered on the north by a small creek which is fed by a spring located in the northwest corner of the park. There is an additional spring located in the center of the park which also runs toward the creek. This park has great potential to serve the neighborhood in which residents of all ages live. This park includes playground equipment with sand fall zones and some landscaping.

Future plans include: Additional landscaping and wood chip fall zones.

GASNER MEMORIAL PARK

Neighborhood Park

1.74 Acres

Gasner Memorial Park is located adjacent to South Main Street and Scott Streets and the Village water tower standpipe. A small shelter exists in conjunction with well No. 4 pump house. A sledding hill, playground equipment, and a 3/4-size basketball court are located in this neighborhood Park. Upgrading the playground equipment has recently been completed.

Future plans include: Local organizations in which Mr. Gasner held memberships have offered their assistance in the further development of this park and wood chip fall zones.

OREGON MIDDLE SCHOOL

Neighborhood Playground

(Approx.) 10.00 Acres

Oregon Middle School is located on the south side of the Village and is bordered on the south by Pleasant Oak Drive and the east by Wolfe Street (County Hwy MM) and is located near Foxboro Golf Course.

The Middle School's facilities include: gym, cafeteria area used for concerts, programs and both school and community meetings; arboretum with established trails; two informal softball diamonds; three basketball hoops; soccer field; running track; large open areas which could be used as additional play fields; many old oak trees.

Future plans include: football field; tennis courts.

LERNER CONSERVATION PARK

Specialized Recreational Area

38.3 Acres

Lerner Conservation Park is located on the northwest corner of the Village. The park is low, wet, grassy land which will basically remain in its current state to accommodate storm water management. Lerner Park has been under development for a number of years, with many hours of labor donated by both the Rotary Club and the local Boy Scout Troops working on trail development and habitat restoration. This park is currently designated as a dog run area.

This park is also being developed to complement the Keller Alpine Meadows Park currently in the planning stages.

Future plans include: Planting shrubs and prairie plants, burning the marsh, posting educational signs and brush clearing.

DEGA PARK

Neighborhood Park

1.3 Acres

Dega Park is on the corner of Florida Avenue and North Burr Oak Avenue on the western side of the Village and is bordered on the southwest side by the Badfish Creek. The land is level and flat. Access to the park is provided by a foot bridge over the Badfish Creek. This neighborhood park features playground equipment with sand fall zones.

Future plans include: Wood chip fall zones.

FOREST VIEW PARK

Neighborhood Park

3.34 Acres

Forest View Park is located on the west side of the Village bordered by Jefferson Street to the north and behind the homes located on the west side of Lynne Trail. Access to the park is from Lynne Trail. The area is suitable for use as a practice soccer field.

Forest View has approximately 3.34 acres of usable parklands which would remain dry during the 2 to 10 year rain events. Approximately 7.4 acres of open area adjacent to the park is for storm water management. This park includes recently installed playground equipment with wood chip fall zones.

BETHEL GREENACRE PARK

Neighborhood Park

7.0 Acres

Bethel Greenacre Park is located on the east side of S. Burr Oak Avenue. The park has considerable low land. The park has a ball diamond but for the most part is open, grassy land. Even with the low land, there are some places of higher ground where trees, playground equipment, a small park shelter and 3/4 size basketball court are located. This park also includes a dog run area on the easterly half of this park.

Future plans include: leveling of the uneven areas to be used for additional ball fields and the construction of permanent restrooms, more playground equipment and wood chip fall zone.

STONE RIDGE PARK

Neighborhood Park

1.36 Acres

Stone Ridge Park is located near the intersections of Cherry Wood Drive and Oakwood Drive.

This park has approximately 1.36 acres of useable park and recreation land which would remain dry during the 2 and 10-year rain events. Approximately 2.3 acres of open area adjacent to the park is being used for storm water management. This park has recently been developed with playground equipment with a sand fall zone and a foot path through the wooded parcel of this park.

Future plans include: Wood chip fall zone.

ROME CORNERS INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Neighborhood Playground

Approx. 9.2 Acres

This School has provided additional green space and recreational facilities to the community by adding a softball diamond, two soccer fields, and a hard surface play area which features two basketball courts. The total recreational area being created will encompass 9.2 acres.

PROPOSED FLEMING PARKLAND AND TRAIL SYSTEM

Neighborhood Playground (Bergamont Acres)

12.77 Acres

While the golf course and clubhouse are the primary recreational amenities for this subdivision, there are two public parks and a connecting trail system. A 10.04-acre public park will be located in the northeast corner of the site adjoining the "Traditional Single-Family Lot" neighborhoods. The park will be designed so that when the adjoining Sweeney parcel is developed, additional parkland can be acquired to expand the park. This park will be suitable for playfields and play equipment designed to serve primarily youth in the adjoining single-family neighborhood.

The second public park will be a 2.73-acre neighborhood park adjoining the luxury condominium and apartment community in the southwestern portion of the site along Lincoln Road. This park will be designed primarily for passive activities versus active recreation playfields and may include a sledding area.

Approximately 0.35 acres will be dedicated or reserved through easements for the connecting trail system.

RUSTIC VINEYARDS PARK

Neighborhood Park

4.4 Acres

This park has not officially been named as of this updating of the plan. This site is located north of East Netherwood Street on Vineyard Drive with additional access from Fairfax Avenue. The land is level with a paved waterway located on the northern edge of the park. Planning is currently under way with the neighborhood residents to implement improvements. Plans include playground equipment with wood chip fall zones, park benches, trees, ball diamond, open field, shelter and a water fountain.

This park could possibly increase in size with the development of Merri-Hill subdivision to the west.

HAWTHORNE ESTATES (undeveloped) [Not officially named.]

Neighborhood Park

3.0 Acres

This site is located to the east of the Fox Glen East subdivision in the Hawthorne Estates subdivision (former Gefke property) and the Foxboro Golf Course. It is to the south of Park Street and to the west of Highway 14 on Lexington Drive. This site has been approved for residential development. This park is a neighborhood park with a dedication of 3 acres.

Future plans: Neighborhood participation will be requested as the development fills in.

WINDCREST PARK [Not officially named.]

Neighborhood Park

1.8 Acres

This site is located west of S. Burr Oak Avenue, north of Leeward Lane and south of Windward Way. The land is level and dry with a retention area located on the east edge of the park. This is located in a residential neighborhood with the Rome Corners Intermediate School and recreational facility one block to the north.

This park includes newly installed playground equipment with wood chip fall zones, open play area, a walking/bike path and volleyball court.

Future plans: Tennis court, shelter and trees

SWEENEY PROPERTY

1.0 Acres

The Sweeney conceptual layout is showing a one-acre park on the western border of this plan connecting to the Fleming 10-acre park. This property is directly west of the existing Village limits.

KELLER ALPINE MEADOWS PARK

79.0 Acres

Community Park/Specialized Recreation

This park has been purchased with two major goals being: (1) To enhance the Village's long-term parkland development with additional ball fields and soccer fields; and (2) to assist the Village's stormwater management goals by creating wetlands and wildlife habitat areas.

This community park will enhance the natural environment in the northwest quadrant of the Village by complementing the formal development of Lerner Park, bordered by the easterly side of this parcel through enhancement and restoration of wetlands lost due to extensive agricultural uses over the years.

The long term goal for this area is to acquire additional lands to the west to assist in active open playfield areas, and as mentioned above, for baseball and soccer fields.

This parcel is anticipated to be used as both passive and active recreation. The southerly half of this area will be used for stormwater management in a series of ponds to control stormwater as well as water quality and wetland restoration. It is anticipated that the ponds will enhance wildlife habitat with irregular shorelines and will have walking/hiking trails throughout the restored wetlands and pond system for wildlife and plant life observation and used in conjunction with the School system for educational programs.

It is the intent of the Village to actively pursue state and federal grants to accomplish the goals for this multi-purpose park.

The table on page 16 gives a summary of the park and recreational area acreage in the Village of Oregon according to park type.

**TABLE 2, EXISTING RECREATION AREAS AND FUNCTION
VILLAGE OF OREGON, WISCONSIN**

FUNCTION	PARK NAME	ACREAGE
Community Park	Oregon Jaycee	51.00
	Kiser Firemen's	<u>11.81</u>
		62.81 Subtotal
Playfield	Oregon Senior H.S.	<u>20.00</u>
		20.00 Subtotal
Neighborhood Playground	Netherwood Knoll Elementary	6.00
	Prairie View Elementary	4.00
	Oregon Middle School	10.00
	Rome Corners Intermediate School	<u>9.20</u>
		29.20 Subtotal
Neighborhood Park	Bethal Greenacre	7.00
	Dega	1.30
	Gasner Memorial	1.74
	Merri-Hill	1.85
	Forest View	3.34
	Stone Ridge	1.36
	Thomson	2.96
	High Meadows	4.51
	Windcrest	1.80
	Rustic Vineyard (undeveloped)	4.40
	Hawthorne Estates (undeveloped)	3.00
	Sweeney (undeveloped)	1.00
	Fleming (Bergamont Acres) (undeveloped)	<u>12.77</u>
		47.03 Subtotal
Tot lot	Scott Street Tot	<u>.25</u>
		.25 Subtotal
Specialized Recreational	Madsen Memorial	.10
	Waterman Triangle	.30
	Lerner Conservation	38.30
	Pool Site	1.64
	Keller Alpine Meadows Park and Water Retention Area	<u>79.00</u>
		119.34
TOTAL PUBLIC RECREATION ACREAGE		278.63

RECREATION NEEDS

A) INTRODUCTION:

The next step in this report is to analyze the existing recreational facilities in the Village of Oregon and determine if the needs of the citizens are being adequately met. The definitions, standards, and other criteria outlines earlier in this report have been applied in this analysis.

B) ANALYSIS

1. Acreage: The first step is to judge the adequacy of the Park system by using the acres/population ratio. Using the standard of fifteen acres per one thousand population, the park acreage in the Village of Oregon is above the standard and should remain so through 2010. (See Table 3)

**TABLE 3, ACTUAL AND PROJECTED MINIMUM
STANDARD ACREAGE REQUIREMENTS
VILLAGE OF OREGON, WISCONSIN**

Comparison	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010
Estimated Population	4341	4551	5760	7514	9014	10,514
Public Recreational Acreage	134.25	148.14	167.46	169.26	278.63	290.63
Minimum Standard Acreage	65.10	68.27	86.40	112.71	135.21	157.71
Surplus or Deficit Acreage	69.15	79.87	81.06	56.55	143.42	132.92

2. Serviceability: Existing parks are shown on Map 1.

Oregon High School, Kiser Firemen's Park, and Jaycee Park have, by definition, a half-mile service area. Restrictions to access are not particularly important because a large number of park users will drive to the facility from throughout the Village.

The Village does face restricted access to corresponding recreational areas by such major items as the old Chicago and Northwestern Railroad Corridor, Main Street, Janesville Street, Jefferson Street (C.T.H. CC), Netherwood Street, Oak Street and C.T.H. MM. The restricted access difficulties restrict the use of various areas, especially by younger children.

In summary Oregon's outdoor recreation acreage is surrounded by major traffic thoroughfares. In a number of cases, access problems significantly restrict service areas.

It is obvious from the map that there are several portions of the Village that are not currently served by neighborhood facilities but are being addressed as planning for future development occurs.

3. Recreation Demand. Recreation demand was measured qualitatively by surveying residents and by discussing demand with appropriate County and Village committees as well as the Oregon Park Board.

A close examination of the park inventory indicates that there are four areas of the Village which probably need or will need nearby neighborhood recreation areas or better access to existing facilities. The four areas (see Map 1) are located surrounding the Village on all four sides. Three (3) of these areas are within or on the edge of the current Village boundaries. All of these areas are experiencing rapid subdivision growth.

Included in the areas mentioned above where residential development is likely to occur in and around the Village, there are three areas outside the Village which may be developed and which would eventually require the services of a recreational area. The Village shall plan accordingly through its extra-territorial plat review process.

4. Resource Preservation: The Village shall encourage the continued preservation of open spaces, greenways, wetlands, woodlands, and scenic areas.

ACTION PROGRAM

- A. **INTRODUCTION**. To meet existing and future needs, including current and projected deficiencies in park acreage, the Village shall chart a reasonable course to improve existing facilities and to acquire and develop new areas. The purpose of this Action Program is to outline such a course by presenting a series of recommendations covering general outdoor recreation policy, acquisition and development.

The recommendations in this 5-year plan are realistic and implemental. The Village of Oregon must establish which of these recommendations have the highest priority. The community's outdoor recreation needs and priorities in the next five years are closely tied to the rate at which the Village grows. This will exert considerable influence as to whether or not acreage will be purchased in the recommended locations and whether specific improvements are to be carried out.

However, both acquisition and development of new parks and improvements to existing facilities must be anticipated and not delayed until it is too late.

B. **GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. The Village should be sensitive to potential acquisition of recreational land inside and outside its present boundaries. This is particularly important when and where a recreational resource can be preserved for future use, or development pressures indicate that a site will eventually serve a neighborhood.
2. The dedication of suitable parkland by developers will be strictly enforced. The Village will insure all areas of the Village will be adequately served by parks. A combination of money and land dedication is acceptable with the agreement of the Village Park Board.

The Village of Oregon Park Board will review all plans of possible residential development of any lands inside the boundaries of, or being considered for annexation to the Village of Oregon for the need of park land dedications. This statement is intended to insure that areas not designated in this plan as proposed or potential locations for future parks are not overlooked when a developer designs a plan for their properties.

Careful consideration will be given when any areas such as (private) golf course, water flow, water detention or retention areas, or greenways are proposed by developers to meet the requirements of the park land dedication formula. These types of areas will not be considered suitable for use as parkland.

3. Acquisition and development during the plan period should be guided to meet recreational demands, service area and acreage requirements. The Village shall not plan their recreational facilities on the basis of dedications but shall aggressively meet demands and needs through acquisition and development.

4. The Village shall develop a 5-year Capital Improvements Program which will be subject to periodic review.
5. The Village shall alert the Dane County Regional Planning Commission as to outdoor recreation acquisition and development plans through the A-95 review process.
6. The Village shall provide recreation facilities for Oregon's elderly residents.
7. The Village shall make maximum use of all grants and assistance available to aid the acquisition and development of parks and recreational areas. Some available for 2002 are:

LAWCON	Land and Water Conservation Fund Act Program
ADLP	Aids for Acquisition and Development of Local Parks
UGS	Urban Green Space Program
URGP	Urban Rivers Grant Program
SBP	Streambank Protection Program
OPSP	Open Project Selection Process Stewardship Grants

8. The annual cost of maintaining neighborhood parks and playgrounds, community facilities, and open spaces shall be included in the annual budget process with input from the Oregon Park Board.
 9. Improvements to existing parks or development of new parks must include features to help the handicapped, such as ramps, traction walkways, grab rails, special seating, and special playground equipment. Currently, many handicapped individuals are restricted from both passive and active recreation opportunities.
 10. The Village shall concentrate on providing facilities for "lifetime" recreational activities. These are activities both young and old can enjoy, such as horseshoes, volleyball, hiking, jogging, skating, tennis, and target sports.
 11. Civic and service organizations, along with neighborhood associations, shall be approached for help in defraying costs and assisting with maintenance of facilities.
- C. ACQUISITION RECOMMENDATIONS: Acquisition recommendations are located on Map 1. The Village shall guarantee that neighborhood facilities be planned for the developing areas of the community. It is felt at this time that community park and playfield acreage is at its limits and the Village shall add areas of this size to the park system.
- D. DEVELOPMENT RECOMMENDATIONS: The major emphasis in the Park Plan will be to further develop Lerner Conservation, Rustic Vineyards, Hawthorne Estates, Windcrest and Keller Alpine Meadows parks. The Village will also review any new areas as they are dedicated for parkland. The development of these lands will include, where appropriate, park shelters, restroom areas and playground equipment. Areas to

play basketball, tennis and volleyball will be considered where space permits, as well as passive recreational activities.

All parks will be continually developed to include playground equipment, picnic tables, benches, trash containers, landscaping and wood chip fall zones. Civic and service organizations, along with neighborhood associations, will be approached to assist in defraying costs for neighborhood park equipment.

A formal bike trail exists in the Jaycee Park, but there is a need for additional on-street and off-street bicycle paths, serving both transportation and recreational needs. A bike trail for the Village is currently being developed, with completion anticipated by 2003, which includes connection with the Dane County Bike Plan.

**PROPOSED PARK SITES WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES
OF THE VILLAGE OF OREGON
AND ITS EXTRA-TERRITORIAL LIMITS**

The following proposed park and recreational sites (see Map 1) are to be a guide for land developers, the Planning Board, and the Village board. The proposed sites shall be flexible and adaptable. As the Village of Oregon grows, so does its need for recreational land and every plat of land shall be examined for its impact on parks and recreational land in the Village of Oregon.

Four sites are located within the boundaries of the Village of Oregon and four sites are located in the extra-territorial boundaries in the Town of Oregon. A brief explanation describes the location of the park sites, physical terrain and factors to be considered in selecting the park sites.

Location A: Within the Village boundaries.

This site is located to the north of Richards Road and east of the cemetery. This area is part of the Merri-Hill subdivision and will have residential development in the future. This Park shall be a neighborhood playground with a minimum area of 5 acres up to the maximum of 10 acres as per the village planning methodology as stated previously. This park shall be developed in conjunction with the Rustic Vineyard Park previously mentioned.

Location B: Within the Village boundaries.

This site is located in the Hawthorne Estates subdivision (former Gefke property) and the Foxboro Golf Course. It is to the south of Park Street and to the west of Highway 14. This park shall be a neighborhood park with a minimum of 1 acre to a maximum of 7 acres as per the Village planning methodology as stated previously and currently designated and dedicated on the approved subdivision plat map—Hawthorne Estates Park previously mentioned.

The Fleming and Sweeney properties are currently in the annexation process with 12.7 acres currently shown on the Fleming conceptual layout. One park is shown as a 10-acre park on the eastern edge of the property adjacent to the Sweeney property and a 2.7 acre park on the southwest side adjacent to Lincoln Road.

Location C: Outside the Village boundaries.

A park site is needed in the southeast area of the Village. Consideration shall be given to a portion of the Georgeson property when and if it is annexed to the Village and developed. This area borders on the Autumn Woods Fairway Estates and Ridge View

subdivisions. This park should be a neighborhood playground with a minimum area of 5 acres up to a maximum of 10 acres as per the Village planning methodology as stated previously.

Location D: Outside the Village boundaries.

Any development or annexation to the south of the Village should be seriously considered for the need of suitable park space.

Location E: Outside the Village boundaries.

A housing development has been developed in the Town of Oregon west of the Village limits along W. Netherwood Road. Attention should be given to a future park site in this area.

Location F: Within the Village boundaries.

The Sweeney conceptual layout is showing a 1-acre park on the western border of this plan connecting to the Fleming 10-acre park.

LONG RANGE GOALS & OBJECTIVES

The Village of Oregon's long range recreational goals and objectives are based upon a continuing concern for quality recreational facilities and for the future growth and development of the community.

Recreational goals beyond the current 5-year planning period must be a result of a periodic re-examination of this plan, a review of the adequacy of facilities and area, as well as a review of recreational demand.

LONG RANGE GOALS SHOULD BE:

1. Provisions for sufficient land areas and park facilities are important. But just as important, is the need to maintain existing areas and park equipment.
2. Provide a variety of recreation opportunities for all persons regardless of age, race, social or economic status, sex or religious beliefs.
3. Provide adequate access for handicapped individuals.

OBJECTIVES

1. The type of park facilities must be scaled to the needs of the area and population served, both present and future.
2. The various types of park facilities must be available and reasonably accessible to all social and economic groups and geographic areas of the community.
3. Acquisition of parklands must occur in advance of development to provide for reasonable acquisition costs and facilitate site planning for development.
4. Preservation of the lowlands, natural waterways and marshes in their natural state must receive special attention to insure their maintenance as wildlife and fish habitats, as natural drainage areas, and as reservoirs for sedimentation deposits. Particular attention should be given to linking the community's high and low areas so as to preserve and enhance the community's water resources.
5. The Park Plan must reflect the community's financial program, but should be flexible enough to take advantage of any financial opportunities that may occur.
6. Park and recreational facilities may be combined with school facilities where possible.
7. The Park Plan must be coordinated between the different local agencies, (Village Board, Park Board, Planning Commission, Civic Organizations, Director of Public Works, Village Engineer and adjacent town governments) to insure unity on the implementation of the Park Plan.

8. The Park Plan must be coordinated with the land acquisition, land use control and planning programs of all federal, state, county and local agencies concerned with parks and conservation.

IMPLEMENTATION

Adoption of this plan by the Village is the first step in the implementation process. Following adoption, the Village may wish to appoint a committee to officially establish project priorities and to prepare a capital improvements program, complete with costs and an estimated timetable for implementation. In Oregon, the Park Board might very well handle these tasks.

If the community desires to pursue acquisition and development of park land, it is recommended that the Community Services Specialist for Southern District of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) be advised as to the Village's eligibility to participate in the Federally-sponsored grant programs and other outdoor recreation grant in aid programs. These programs are administered by the Wisconsin DNR and potentially reduce the cost of recreation land acquisition, development, and planning by 50 per cent. The Village may submit an outdoor recreation project to DNR for cost sharing at any time during the 5-year eligibility period.

Implementation of the Parks Plan is as dependent on citizen support and involvement as it is on monetary assistance. Funding assistance coupled with a community effort to acquire, develop and improve parkland can insure implementation of Oregon's 5-year Outdoor Recreation Plan.