



DAVISS-MARTIN JOINT COUNTY
PARKS & RECREATION
DEPARTMENT
2016-2020



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Introduction

Welcome to the 2016 Recreation Master plan of the Daviess-Martin Joint County Parks and Recreation Department. This plan is established to serve as guidelines for the department in providing quality recreation to our visitors. This planning effort is part of our ongoing commitment to assuring that the park remains a vibrant respite from the stresses and demands of modern life. To make sure that happens, we must take an objective look at who we are, what we offer, and who we serve. In this plan we will examine the complex, and often confusing, role our organization plays in providing recreation opportunities to a clientele that is not always the same as the citizens of the two county area we serve.

As we proceed with this planning process we will examine some of the perceptions, and misperceptions, that exist in our communities concerning our department, its unusual two-county make up, and how that affects our operation. While a major element of our mission is to operate with a minimum of taxpayer funding, it is inescapable that we find many park visitors that have experienced other park systems where the level of service often exceeds the capability of user fees alone to provide. Elsewhere in this planning document we will examine some of these issues and explain why we do not establish situations where one group of people are required to pay for the recreation interests of another group of people.

Mission Statement

We have seen our mission evolve over the years into one in which the mission of the Daviess-Martin Joint County Parks & Recreation Department is to *"provide the widest possible range of recreation opportunities, to the largest possible number of people, at the lowest possible public cost, without depleting the underlying natural resources."*

Ancillary to this mission statement are several working concepts that make West Boggs Park a unique experience. In the broad field of outdoor recreation today, most organizations focus on healthy lifestyle promotion, nature interpretation and education, and conservation or preservation of natural resources. All of these are incorporated into the mission of West Boggs Park, but we make a concerted effort for them to not be overly overt. Where many parks systems begin with a program to educate a public in any of these areas and then attempt to make those programs interesting; we attempt to develop programs that are fun and then try to incorporate the education. This approach was probably stated best by Walt Disney, when he said *"I would rather entertain and hope that people learned something than educate people and hope they were entertained."*

Much of the operation of West Boggs Park is based on the principle that parks are for people. Ours is not a pristine, natural setting that must be preserved from man, but rather it is a largely artificial creation of man that was designed to give people a place to play and get away from the day-to-day stress of modern life. Our land, air and waters are all natural resources, but are arranged into this particular setting by human design, for human endeavor. And yet we attempt to manage this assembly of resources to create at least a reasonable illusion of wildness. We have areas set aside for limited uses, and other areas designated for more intense use. We have systems in place internally and with outside agencies to apply sound science to the management of fisheries and forests, and have a high level of interest in clean water technology and strategies. There is a goal in all efforts to conserve the underlying natural resources of the park so that people can continue to enjoy the benefits of this setting for many decades to come; but our focus is always on people.

When we speak of seeking the lowest public cost, we refer to taxation. Our department has evolved a corporate outlook in which we clearly see that it is difficult to justify taking money from one person for the leisure time interests of another person. Our goal is to provide services that are a good value to the people who participate in them, and for which those people are willing to pay the realistic costs associated with providing the services they use. That does not mean we will not seek and accept public funding where the revenue is already collected in other forms and distributed in grants for recreation activities. Since we have no control of the collection of those funds we feel it is incumbent on us to attempt to recover as much of them as we can for our constituencies; who at some point were the source of the funds being distributed. Yet, where possible, we plan budgets and operations around user fees established at rates intended to cover the cost of services.

Contacts

President of Park Board

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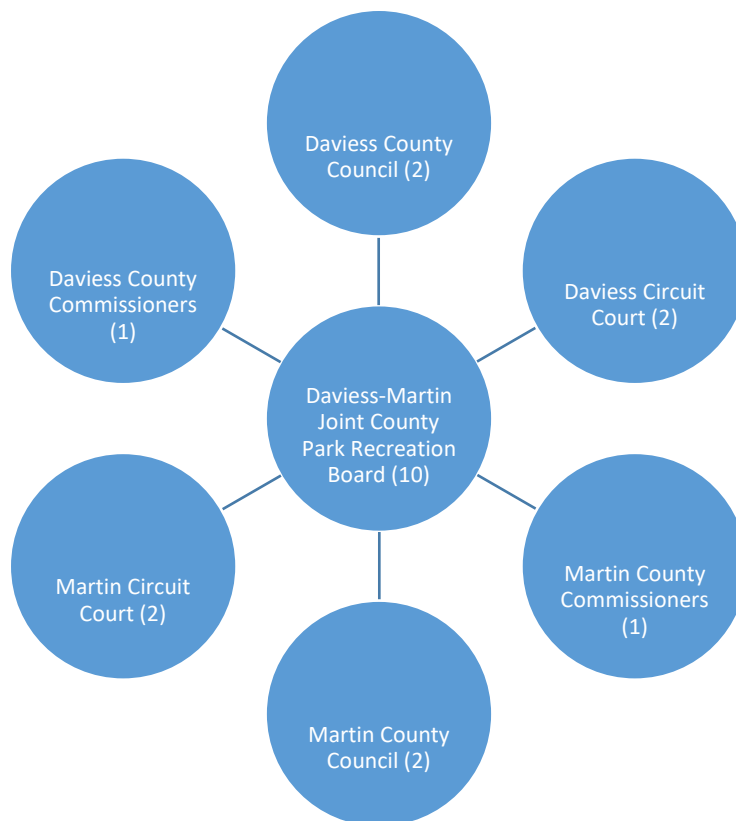
Superintendent

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Organization

The Department is an unusual entity in Indiana. Formed under IC 36-10-3-29, the Department represents the parks and recreation interests of two Indiana counties under Park and Recreation Boards formed under IC 36-10-3-3. Thus, the organization operates under the auspices of a joint park board made up of 10 members, five of which represent each county. The Daviess-Martin Joint County Parks & Recreation Board is further distinguished from more typical local government park boards, in that it was created specifically to construct, own and operate West Boggs Park near Loogootee, Indiana. West Boggs is a Regional Park, under Indiana's SCORP park classification system, and perhaps the only example of a regional park operated by a joint county entity in Indiana. The Daviess-Martin Joint County Parks & Recreation Department is currently administered by a Superintendent. Under his direction are divisions of Administration, Programs, Maintenance and Security.

Park Board Appointment Chart



Martin County Board Members

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Appointed By: Martin County Commissioners

Political Affiliation of Record: Democrat

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Brian George, President

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History

The joint parks department was formed for the purpose of owning and operating West Boggs Park. West Boggs is a relatively large and diverse facility, which opened to public use in 1972. The 1,500 acre facility includes 622 acre West Boggs Creek Reservoir, offers boating, fishing, waterfowl hunting, camping, and a wide variety of day use activities. The two separate county Park Boards do not currently have any other properties or activities, although Martin County has recently begun to investigate the potential of having their portion of the Joint Park Board act as Martin County Board for development of additional recreation venues in that county. To assist in facilitating those initiatives we are including in this plan a goal of becoming proactive in assisting in the development of additional recreation interests in the two county area; including support for planning groups who wish to become involved in those efforts.

West Boggs Creek Reservoir was created circa 1970 as a project of the Small Watershed Flood Control Act, or PL566. West Boggs was a joint project of several federal, state and local entities, as it was one of the largest PL566 projects in the region that was to include a significant recreation component in the development.

The park participated in several work programs in the 1970's and into the early 1980's, as it was singularly available in the immediate area for activities in such programs as SPEEDY, YACC, YCC, Green Thumb, and others. After the termination of these programs, the park reduced its operational scope and trimmed its activities to a more sustainable level.

Today, West Boggs operates under a fully self-funded budget of roughly \$780,000.00 per year, and is able to maintain user fee levels similar to those of comparable facilities. The park serves in excess of 150,000 visitor days of recreation each year, and offers an array of outdoor recreation activities found nowhere else in the region.

The scale and scope of the West Boggs facility makes it unusual in many ways. The property is owned by the Daviess-Martin Joint County Parks & Recreation Board. Deed records exist in both of these counties, showing such ownership. However, the lake is still considered "public waters" under Indiana law, and as such falls within the jurisdiction of several state management activities as well. Boating enforcement is thus provided by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Law Enforcement, along with county Sheriff's officers, and Park Rangers from the parks department itself. Likewise, the IDNR division of Fish & Wildlife is the management entity for the West Boggs fishery, and provides almost all resources needed for that activity. The Indiana Department of Environmental Management, IDEM, has jurisdiction of certain watershed and surface water activities related to West Boggs, and IDNR's Division of Water is charged with dam safety issues.

Strategic Plan

Where we fit

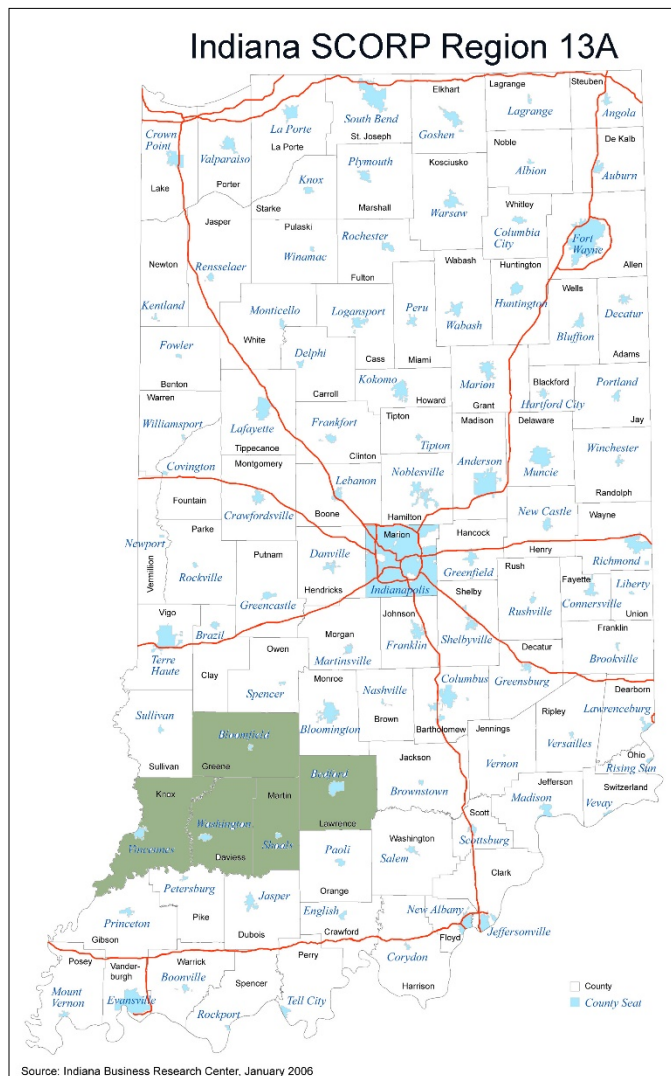
Along with addressing specific recreation goals and objectives that deal with supply and demand for services, we also acknowledge our macro strategy related to funding. In an era in which funding for public programs is increasingly under stress, we will continue to address this need by focusing on activities that are appropriate for an outdoor recreation area of the scale and scope of ours, and which are at the same time revenue positive in their operation. Our long term goals include continuing to apply the principles of business to our operations so that we can maximize our revenue streams while providing recreation opportunities that the public is willing to support with user fees. As we work to maintain an outdoor recreation focus, we will also try to develop new enterprise activities to keep revenue streams at appropriate levels, to not only operate effectively, but to also grow the inventory of recreation opportunities in the future as our population changes over time.

Some examples of how we attempt to mesh our recreation planning with our strategic planning can be seen in the action schedule of this plan. IDNR's Division of Fish and Wildlife recently performed a complete renovation of the West Boggs fishery. Thus, we know that a substantial surge in park traffic will accrue in the within the next two years. This substantial increase will certainly accelerate the deterioration rate of the park roads, of which are presently in less than average condition. An attempt to restore the entire road system in one year is rendered too

problematic for exceptional customer service and just as importantly, financially unsound. According to the action plan of this schedule, we plan to break up this project into two separate years. This will be less inconvenient on our park customers and allow us to find adequate funding for the entirety of the project.

Indiana's 2006 SCORP, or Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, has provided a wealth of information relative to the development of our own recreation master plan. Readers here who would like to read the entire SCORP for Indiana can do so online at <http://www.in.gov/dnr/outdoor/4201.htm>. From the SCORP we are able to better see how our facilities and recreation opportunities fit within the larger recreation community on the local, regional and state levels. As we proceed with this planning process it will help to know where we fit in that big picture. Indiana has divided the state into 15 planning regions, of which we fall in Region 13A. Daviess and Martin counties share that region with Greene, Lawrence and Knox counties.

Over the years, West Boggs Park has become the preferred outdoor recreation facility for a large number of visitors from outside the two county area. Camping registration records indicate that visitors come from all over Indiana and from other states as well. This creates a thriving tourism traffic which is important to the local citizens in several ways. One of those is that the park operations have become self-supporting and has not required property tax support from the local public, at least since 1996. Having the only regional level park in the area with no tax cost is a positive benefit to locals, who only pay small user fees when they visit. In turn we also find that we provide regional park opportunities for some other counties in the region, at no cost to them since they have not had to address the regional needs of their citizens with West Boggs Park providing those opportunities. Perhaps most noticeable in this aspect is Lawrence County, which is listed in the SCORP as having insufficient regional recreation assets. This may help explain the large representation of Lawrence County residents in West Boggs user demographics.



Because the Department receives no fiscal support from the two county governments, an operational paradigm has developed which of necessity focuses on business principles. The unit obtains 100% of its operating budget revenue from user fees and other earned income from its activities. This mode of operation makes the unit unusually focused on customer service, which has led to a mixture of park facilities and activities that is somewhat different than the typical regional park model.

A primary objective of the department is to provide basic, appropriate recreation resources for the residents of Daviess and Martin Counties. These basic resource needs are believed to focus on open space, play areas, shelters, and other family oriented facilities. To be appropriate, the resources offered must be supplemental to, rather than competitive with, other resources in the region, and be those resources actually desired by the constituencies of the community. The administration is committed to working to provide what the public desires, rather than what managers want them to have.

It is inescapable in this discussion that West Boggs Park is often inadequate for local needs for some types of recreation, but has a great excess of supply in other recreation forms, compared to local needs. For example, West Boggs struggles with providing basic local and community oriented park services, like playgrounds, tot-lots, picnic shelters, court sports, etc. It also has found it difficult to maintain some large infrastructure such as roads, sanitary sewer systems and utilities. But in the area of outdoor recreation, such as camping, fishing, boating and others, the unit has a supply that greatly exceeds the current needs of the local public.

Economic Impact

A secondary but important objective of the department is to provide stimuli for economic development, tourism and overall quality of life in the communities it serves. This objective is addressed through many goals and initiatives, including working partnerships with other organizations. The department has worked diligently in recent years to improve and protect the lake's water and fisheries resources, protect and preserve riparian habitat and other wild spaces, and has initiated a number of innovative programs to make the park community more attractive to a wider range of visitors.

A very significant project was just completed linking major metropolitan areas. I-69 is now a golden pathway linking us to a substantial customer target. This interstate now provides existing and future customers a more accessible pathway to West Boggs Park. Utilizing this development to increase our visibility as a potential leisure destination will not only increase the vitality of our facility, but it will also increase economic impact of our local communities.

Goals & Objectives

The Daviess-Martin Joint County Parks & Recreation Department, including the Board and Administration, were established to own and operate West Boggs Park. As such, its goals and objectives uniquely focus on that facility, and its impacts on the Daviess and Martin county communities.

Goal #1: Protect and conserve the natural resources of West Boggs Park and the district.

Objective 1.1: Promote and encourage awareness and use of Best Management Practices (BMP) in the watershed of West Boggs Lake, including those for agricultural and residential activities.

Objective 1.2: Provide planning support and implementation of appropriate lake management practices for West Boggs Lake and its surrounding wetlands, riparian areas and uplands.

Objective 1.3: Encourage conservation ethics and responsibilities within the community, among local government offices and with visitors to the area.

Objective 1.4: Develop and implement resource protection strategies, including the use of Parks Department staff and state and local law enforcement personnel.

Goal #2: Develop and operate appropriate recreational use of West Boggs Park and within the district.

Objective 2.1: Develop and operate a range of appropriate outdoor recreation activities and facilities to enhance the quality of life of local residents..

Objective 2.2: To the extent that outdoor recreation space may exist in excess of the current needs of the local community, provide regional, fee based, outdoor recreation opportunities as a mechanism to provide funding for overall park and recreation operations.

Objective 2.3: Use the scale and scope of West Boggs Park in conjunction with its extensive management structure, to provide support for other park and recreation opportunities within the district, including in the cities and towns in the two county area.

Objective 2.4: Work with outside organizations and other governmental entities to explore appropriate growth and development of additional recreation facilities within the district.

Objective 2.5: Develop and offer new programs designed to eliminate barriers to participation involving age, gender, culture and physical mobility.

Objective 2.6: Establish a formal evaluation system for measurement of program participation, cost and effectiveness.

Objective 2.7: Develop volunteer opportunities to foster sense of ownership and personal involvement on the part of area residents.

Goal #3: Promote and facilitate cultural and educational opportunities in the area served by West Boggs Park.

Objective 3.1: Provide opportunities to allow outside organizations, including schools, other local governments and organizations, to utilize parks department lands and facilities for meetings, events and gatherings for appropriate purposes.

Objective 3.2: Develop and operate an outreach/liason activity to provide off-site outdoor education opportunities to local schools and other organizations.

Objective 3.3: Provide a range of programming opportunities to promote better understanding of the health, wellness and social benefits of quality leisure time activities

Goal #4: Promote economic development in the communities surrounding West Boggs Park.

Objective 4.1: Promote the use of West Boggs Park as a destination for tourism.

Objective 4.2: Promote and where possible facilitate the development of additional park space and outside support services for tourism in the district.

Objective 4.3: Promote and provide leadership of the appropriate and well planned development of infrastructure and facilities for recreation within the district.

Master Plan Goals

This plan has short term and long term goals. The first goal is to qualify and quantify trends in park visitor demands, identify deficiencies in park infrastructure, and forecast looming needs in advance of their becoming a crisis. From this information will be developed a five year plan to upgrade, repair and replace existing infrastructure components, and to add new components as determined from needs identified in the planning process. An even longer range and more comprehensive goal is to get park planning better situated for a sustainable future, where growth and development is more closely matched by operation and maintenance activities, and by funding sources.

As with most such planning efforts, this one is designed to qualify and quantify the relationships between the supply of recreation, and the demand. A second objective is to identify current and future recreation needs. The third objective is to develop an action plan and development schedule to guide the implementation of balanced and needs-based recreation growth for a wide variety of users. Implicit in all these objectives is the desire to clearly recognize that West Boggs is actually serving a recreation supply role exceeding that of the local population.

Applying the needs assessments from this plan to actual recreation opportunities on the ground will likely be a changing and evolving strategy. As the plan is being developed, it is not clear what funding will become available from such sources as grants. West Boggs also has developed a history of trying to operate at a gross profit, and to then apply any excess funding to development and improvements. It is likely that each improvement step taken in this plan will result in additional revenue production from increased visitation levels; which in turn would allow for accelerated completion of development schedules. For these reasons, many aspects of this plan are designed to address issues and propose solutions, in a manner that will allow goals to be achieved in either less or more time than the five year cycle, depending on ability over time.

Accessibility and Universal Design

All current and future implementation of this plan must recognize two pieces of federal legislation regarding accessibility. The first of these is Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. This federal law requires specific actions by agencies, including ours. Among these actions is a self-evaluation of all policies, facilities, programs and services. The second piece of legislation related to this subject is the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. This act, known as ADA, guarantees equal opportunities to, among other things, recreation.

Most of the existing facilities at West Boggs are sufficiently old that they no longer meet the standards of current needs. For this reason, we have already begun the process of trying to bring some old facilities to more appropriate standards where feasible. This process is hampered by the fact that many of the original buildings at the park were of masonry construction, and with limited space, a combination that does not lend itself well to retrofitting. However, we understand that the age and disrepair of the buildings also presents an opportunity to see the needs of visitors with all levels of ability better met, as the facilities are replaced for other reasons.

The subject of accessibility in parks in the past, and too often in even more current design theories, has focused almost exclusively on restroom facilities and playgrounds. While we acknowledge that these are important aspects of making any park accessible, and that our older facilities do not meet these needs; our current planning is more inclusive. The entire concept of universal design is being rethought and retooled at West Boggs to eliminate to the degree possible, both the physical and psychological separations between facilities usable by individuals with disabilities, and those without. In this planning we are cognizant of the fact that people with disabilities who visit parks desire to do more than use the bathroom. We also understand that the majority of disabled persons do not wish for their disability to be the primary criteria by which their needs, their desires, or their personalities are measured.

Most of the campsites at West Boggs are scheduled for renovation, utility upgrades and modernization during this planning cycle. While this process is intended to provide more modern services at reduced maintenance cost, it also offers an opportunity to implement the concepts of universal design in this very important part of the recreational inventory in the region. Rather than the more common approach of blacktopping a few marginal sites next to the restrooms and calling them accessible, the new plan calls for making all but the most difficult sites to be usable by anyone, including those with disabilities.

This theme will continue into new facilities such as restroom/shower buildings. A new building constructed in 2004 incorporates a "family assist" room, rather than the standard accessible restroom stall. This design is an acknowledgement of several facts, including that being in a wheelchair is not the only form of disability, and that people with disabilities often need additional privacy to feel comfortable in public settings. Examples of this need can be seen in cases where a caregiver must tend to a disabled person, where a single parent needs to assist an adolescent of the opposite gender, or when a wife or husband needs to enter a restroom area to assist a disabled spouse. For these and other reasons, West Boggs will concentrate on universal design as the preferred paradigm in addressing accessibility needs.

Incorporation of accessibility and universal design into plans for future construction and renovation projects is subject to restrictions imposed by budget constraints inherent in this property's user fee funded system of operation. While these restrictions result in the necessity of somewhat longer term solutions to problems created by buildings and facilities original to the park's recreation services development, there are more immediate steps possible in moving toward remediation of these concerns and providing as much consideration for universal access as possible under existing conditions.

West Boggs Park is a primary facility for individuals seeking to spend their leisure time in our region. Due to this utilization there is an immense need for supplying recreation needs to every ability. Accessibility to boating, shoreline fishing, adaptive learning and play is on our agenda. Renovations and new structures will enhance the visitor services that incorporate provisions for accessible and universal design. The inclusion of such items can be viewed on our priorities and action schedule (numbers 1, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, and 16).

During this process careful attention will also be dedicated to other park facilities that provide group accommodations or serve as common meeting venues, again attempting to accomplish most immediate improvements in accessibility to services utilized by significant numbers of park visitors. These facilities include five rental shelters, the Beach Complex and the Activity Center, a central location for park sponsored programs and events. The Activity Center features a new addition that includes accessible rest room facilities. The beach complex also offers accessible rest rooms and showers. However, of the five rental shelters, all of which predate ADA design dictates, only two offer feasible access to patrons with mobility concerns. While all of these shelters will eventually require renovation or replacement and the potential for enhanced accessibility, the ADA self-assessment process offers the opportunity to identify these problems and areas where short term remediation of some obstacles to more universal accessibility is possible.

Only one of the four restroom/shower buildings located within the park's campground features accessible facilities. As described in a previous paragraph, it is the campground's newest and largest containing not only accessible rest rooms and showers, but also a family assist area. The three remaining buildings original to the park and of masonry construction will require extensive renovation or replacement to meet ADA guidelines. In some cases the physical location itself presents an additional problem in developing feasible plans for practical access. For these reasons focus on provision of additional accessible facilities will center on new construction. Fortunately, the park's newest and most recently renovated buildings already provide accessible accommodations in areas of most concentrated visitor activity: beach complex, Activity Center and campground. Planned construction of accessible rest rooms at the boat ramp will extend this coverage.

There are, however, some measures allowing immediate implementation even prior to completion of the ADA Self-Assessment. Review and inventory of available designated parking will identify accessible facilities where these spaces are inadequate, misplaced or insufficient allowing simple and immediate correction with necessary relocation or addition of appropriate signage. The park does provide wheel chair accessible tables for rental shelters and attempts to have these available in all of the rental shelter units. Due to variations in usage levels, these tables are often moved among the shelters as need dictates. An inventory system would be easily established to assure that each shelter always contains at least one, and when possible, more of these. A related effort will include routine involvement by the Customer Service Division in ascertaining when and at what level these requirements exist in order to better serve members of groups with special needs. This can easily be accomplished during the reservation process when arrangements for rental of group accommodations are made. The same approach will assist us in campsite reservations, insuring assignments that provide most convenient proximity to accessible facilities. These measures, although requiring only minor changes in staff training procedures, will result in an improved ability to serve our customers well.

Assuring universal access is not limited to assessment of infrastructure, but must also include programs offered to entertain and educate. The approach to developing programs here at West Boggs Park has always included the effort to be as inclusive as possible, to engage as wide a range of ages, interests and abilities as possible. Scheduled programs always include events of both active and passive nature. This attempt to provide a quality outdoor recreation experience to as broad a range of visitors as possible will also be subject to review during the ADA self-assessment process.

Most items listed below are duplicated in the Recreation Master Plan's Priorities and Action Schedule. This is due to direct impact on the availability of accessible facilities and services at West Boggs Park.

Accessibility and Universal Design Self Assessment Review and Implementation

Year	Project	Cost Estimate
2017	Construct ADA fishing piers	\$30,000
2017-2019	Upgrade Infrastructure in Camping Sections	\$75,000
2018	Construction of new Playgrounds ADA	\$80,000
2018	Improve Courtesy Dock at Boat Ramps – ADA	\$30,000
2019	Construct new Fish Cleaning Station	\$60,000
2019	Events Amphitheatre	Unknown
2020	Construction of Splash Pad	\$350,000

Providing all customers with modern leisure services is encased in our decree, goals, and responsibilities as a public leisure service facility. Inclusion of all persons in programs, events, activities, buildings, and amenities is a common goal we share with like departments throughout the country. Making these efforts visible for review and feedback is an obligation we must and will uphold. As of March 2016, we are working on a new website and this site will host the information regarding ADA reform and efforts made by our department to provide actions to include all persons. Such information will also be available at our main office through tangible and digital forms. Our park gatehouse will display and provide such information to individuals wishing to check and authorize our efforts. To obtain such information or to discuss all ADA procedures, individuals my contact our park superintendent Jameson Hibbs, CPRP by calling our main office at 812-295-3537 or emailing at jameson@westboggs.com.

Natural Features & Landscape

West Boggs Park is a 1500 acre facility located in the eastern edge of Daviess County and the western edge of Martin County, north of the city of Loogootee, Indiana. That acreage includes a 250 acre outdoor recreation area, 622 acre West Boggs Lake, with remaining acreage consisting of a buffer zone around the entire perimeter of the lake.

The West Boggs Creek watershed is located in the Lower East Fork White watershed, designated as 05120208 in the USGS Cataloging system. More specifically West Boggs Creek watershed is approximate 1500 acre drainage on the boundary between the Lower East Fork White and the Lower White watersheds.

The West Boggs Creek watershed is at a relatively high elevation in the Lower East Fork White watershed, and as such is not affected by flooding in the East Fork of White River; making it a good location for water based recreation area.

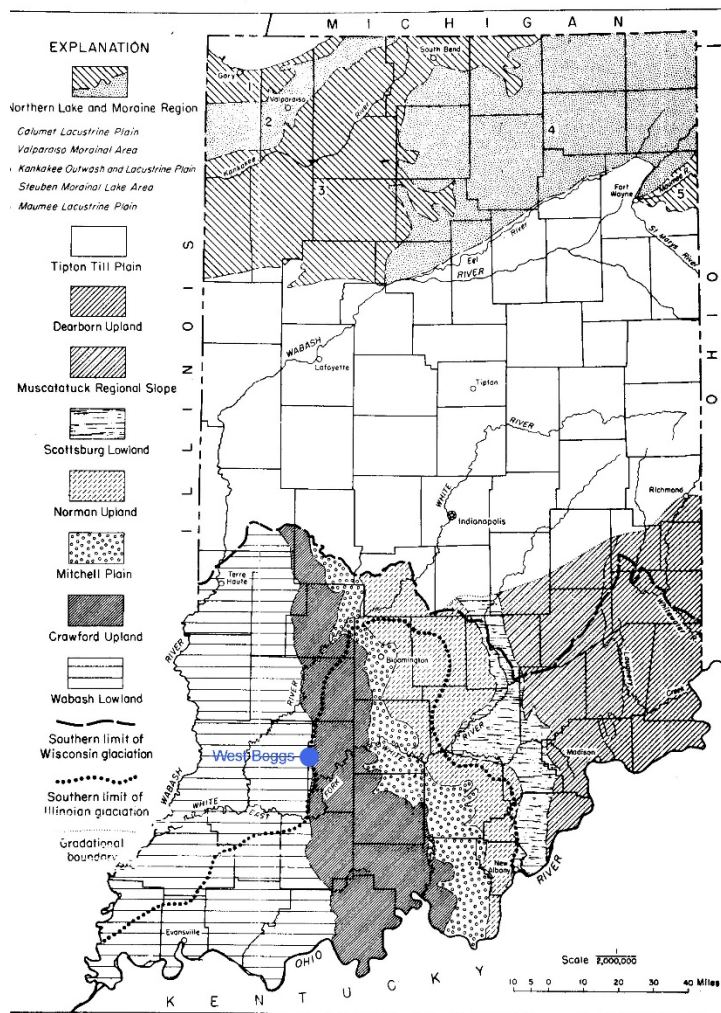


Figure 13.--Map of Indiana showing physiographic units (from Wayne, 1956).

The landscapes in and around West Boggs Park are the results of a long series of natural phenomenon. While the park is on a boundary between two modern counties, the area is distinctly a boundary region in multiple natural ways as well.

West Boggs Park is immediately on the Physiographic Division boundary between the Crawford Uplands and the Wabash Lowlands. This boundary is particularly distinct as one cross the lands of West Boggs Park from the Martin County portion to the Daviess County portion. The Martin County hills drop off to become the gentle rolling country of Daviess County, and even the rocks are different. Martin County, being in the Crawford Uplands, is underlain by sandstone, whereas Daviess County has bedrock of mostly siltstone and shale.

West Boggs is also directly on the lower boundary of the Illinoian Glaciers that covered parts of Indiana from 300,000 to 140,000 years ago, and which extended farther south than the Wisconsin Glaciers and into most of southeast and southwest Indiana, but not in south-central parts of the state. Most of Daviess County was under that ice flow, whereas most of Martin County was not, leaving the two areas with vastly different topography and soil compositions.

These differences in turn create different types of landscapes, flora and fauna communities, and to some extent differences in how humans interact with the land. This is visible in the differences between the Oak-Hickory forested uplands of Martin County, and the un-forested lowland, glacial till plains of Daviess County. The boundary between those vastly different regions is in West Boggs Park.

The park area and watershed are home to a wide variety of wildlife. Whitetail deer, rabbit, squirrel, red and gray fox, coyote, and muskrat, beaver, mink, raccoon, are some of the common mammals found on the property. Birds include Bald eagles, hawks, owls, woodpeckers, songbirds, quail, most regional species of waterfowl, and the state endangered Loggerhead Shrike. The park is also home to a variety of native trees and various other flora. Unfortunately, our facility and surrounding environment is riddled with invasive species that threaten all of the indigenous species and will have a vital impact on their continued existence. The introduction of species such as various honeysuckles, autumn olive, kudzu, multiflora rose, winter creeper, burning bush, garlic mustard, Callery Pear, Buckthorn, and numerous others invasive plants has altered our landscapes in such a way that recovering our once unique ecosystem will be a daunting task. Luckily, there are numerous interest groups and professionals that are exploiting the ideology of stopping and eradicating the progress of the invasive species. We would like to assist and possibly lead our communities with an Invasive Species Eradication Committee to begin efforts of ridding our surrounding environments of these invasive species and restoring our beautiful indigenous ecosystem.

West Boggs Park owns a unique property providing our region with adequate leisure services and opportunities. There are always possibilities of expanding our facility to create additional leisure opportunities for users. Adjacent to our park property and adjacent to U.S. Highway 231, and to the south of the Lakeview Golf Course, lays 70 acres of property that would assist our efforts of expanding our leisure services. This property hosts 3,500 feet of West

Boggs Lake Shoreline providing direct access to this man-made feature. Such access certainly increases the value and potential of the property. This property also hosts three small cabins along with a large building with an office and large shop/storage area. The natural features of the property are gently rolling hills draining into West Boggs Lake, small stands of pines, various oaks, hickory, poplar, ash, elm, cherry, and maple. The property also has several acres of open space that could be utilized for numerous leisure activities/amenities, native restoration projects, school conservation programs, FFA programs, and other conservation affiliated group projects. Ownership of this property would allow us to target and accommodate special interest groups, corporate and group outings, adventure programs, inn-keepers, through the development of multi-use trails, developmental team courses, multi-use building, lake access, golf course access, and other suggested amenities. Highway 231 would allow for direct and safe access to the property and would also allow for ease of use. The current owners of this property have assisted lake and land projects in the past and are advocates of Daviess-Martin Joint County Parks & Recreation Department. They wish us to acquire their property but negotiations have not yet commenced.

Man-Made, Historic and Cultural

West Boggs Park exists because of the creation of West Boggs Lake, which was built under the PL 566 Small Watershed Flood Control Act. The West Boggs Creek project consisted of the development of the reservoir and the associated recreation facilities. The earthen dam was constructed in 1971, below the confluence of West Boggs Creek and Shurm Creek, just west of U.S Highway 231. The reservoir has a surface acreage of some 622 acres, with about 50 acres in Martin County and the remaining 572 acres in Daviess County, when the lake is at normal pool level of 499.6 feet above sea level.

The upper watershed totals about 8,492 acres, most of which are agricultural lands. West Boggs Reservoir was designed to hold 6,220 acre/feet of water with a maximum depth of 25 feet, and an average depth of 12.5 feet. The shoreline of the impoundment totals 21.47 miles, and gives the water body a shoreline development index of 6.14.

The Parks & Recreation department owns all of the lake and 100% of the lake shore with a minimum of 100 feet horizontal distance from an elevation where the land would be inundated when the lake is three feet above normal pool. In all, the department owns an approximate 1,500 acres at the West Boggs property; with 622 being water surface and the remaining 887 acres being a combination uplands, wetlands and riparian areas encompassing the lake.

West Boggs Park offers a wide range of outdoor recreation to visitors. These include fishing, boating, swimming, waterfowl hunting and bird watching. A three bay, six lane boat ramp serves anglers and boaters for lake access. Services in the boat ramp area also include a fish cleaning station, rest room, mooring posts, rental and courtesy docks. There are multiple access sites for bank fishing including an accessible fishing jetty and dock. Boat rental is available on a seasonal basis. Beach area services include bath house, accessible rest rooms and showers, sand volleyball court, concession stand and camp store.

The campground at West Boggs Park contains 248 campsites. All campsites offer electric and water service. 26 sites also provide sewer service. Camping services include three combination shower and restroom facilities and one rest room building. The newest of these, completed in 2004, features a family assist room with accessible shower and restroom facilities open year round. One sanitary dump station with two bays serves the campground. Also available in the campground area is a small playground area (original installation) and open activity area.

The park includes a large, shady picnic area of approximately five acres. Facilities in this area include one picnic shelter (accessible), multiple tables (some accessible) and stationary grills, playground equipment (original installation) and rest room building. Four additional picnic shelters serve visitors requiring accommodations for group activities. With one exception, these shelters include some accessible tables.

The outdoor court complex contains a tennis court, basketball court, shuffleboard court, volleyball area and horseshoe pits. As with playground equipment, these facilities are part of the park's original installations and have met or exceeded their design lifespan.

The multi-use trail system at West Boggs Park, approximately 3.2 miles in length, allows visitors to experience a variety of outdoor environments. These include wetland, woodland, shoreline and open areas. In addition, the trail system provides alternative means of travel and access to various features of the park.

Additional visitor services include a nine hole golf course and full service restaurant. Both of these facilities are operated by contractor lease arrangements.

Our service area primarily consists of Daviess and Martin Counties. Both counties respectively have different natural features, landscapes, demographics, and historical/cultural interpretations. Based on recreational opportunities within these jurisdictions, both of these counties are dependent upon West Boggs Park to provide leisure services to their populations.

Daviess County has a population of 32,729 according to the July 2014 count conducted by the US Census Bureau. Although the percentage isn't defined, the Amish populations in Daviess County is very prominent. This Amish community comprises of nearly 8,000 acres of our 8,492 acre watershed, rendering this population vital in the planning of our leisure area. Over the past five years, this group has commenced on utilizing our facility for their recreation needs. They are increasing their consumption in our services such as camping, fishing, and boating, while also participating in our activities, programs, and events. These individuals are a definitive market and we need to begin shifting our focus on their needs, abilities, and desires. In attempt, we held a public meeting at the Simon J. Graber building in accordance to the objectives of developing this master plan. This facility is devoted to offering services to the Amish community such as bands, plays, sports, playgrounds, and various other activities. Although our attempt was advertised and administered, we unfortunately did not retain any participation from this group. Future attempts will be well designed and thoroughly executed in order to ascertain their needs within our facility and department.

The Amish community is quite engaged in the vitality of our local well-being. This community is home to several large commercial manufacturing, many of which offer services throughout the state of Indiana and our Midwest region. They also provide businesses that assist with tourism such as Dinky's Auction, various country stores, and a substantial facility called Gastofs Amish Village. This facility hosts a large Amish buffet style restaurant, crafts, antiques, flea market, bakery, and banquet area. Adjacent to the restaurant is an eighty two room hotel to accommodate tourists in our area. This type of businesses allow visitors to infiltrate the Amish lifestyle and certainly increases the tourism impact in Daviess County. Building and retaining a healthy working relationship with this group is a high priority and will certainly assist us in not only providing leisure services to our entire community, but also engulf us into a new revenue stream increasing our ability to expand our services.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Martin County, Indiana has a population of 10,203 individuals. This small population is primarily due to US Crane Naval Base consuming 100 square miles of Martin County. The majority of this population lives in or near the two main towns of Loogootee and the county seat of Shoals. Loogootee is only three miles north of our West Boggs Park facility and has the closest stores, restaurants, and conveniences and does possess a small parks & recreation. Their small facility on the west side of the town serves a small population of the county but due to the size and scope of this facility, not all recreational needs can be met.

Martin County is a very beautiful county due to the geological features and gorges cut by the East Fork of the White River. The Martin State Forest is six miles east of Shoals and provides 7,863 acres of recreational property. This facility offers activities such as class C camping, fishing, hunting, picnicking, mountain biking, hiking, and an arboretum. Martin County also boasts hundreds of acres of the Hoosier National Forest which provides opportunities for hunting, fishing, and other non-structured recreational services.

There are two important landmarks located in Martin County, both having significant impact on tourism. Just outside of Shoals to the west is a geological phenomenon called "Jug Rock". This famous rock structure has been the Martin County icon for over a century and is a stop for numerous individuals that are enjoying the scenery around southern Indiana. The other feature is located on the East Fork of the White River and is called Hindostan Falls. Hindostan was a town established in 1816 located at the falls was once an important shipping location. The falls are just too big to get boats up or down stream, so this was an important location for shipping and receiving goods up and down this waterway. This settlement was also along one of the first stagecoach roads between New Albany and Vincennes. There is a large rock shelf that still has evidence of ports, wagons, piers, and other human presence. Hindostan Falls area is owned by IN DNR and was once a recreational hotspot with camping, hiking, hunting, and fishing. The campground has since closed and now the property is laying with much potential to serve once again as an important feature to Martin County. If the right group, department, or agency would take the necessary steps to improve the quality of this location, we believe that Hindostan Falls could once again flourish as a recreational destination.

Our department has the unique opportunity to serve a multitude of cultures, ages, and ethnicities. One of the major influences in our area is Crane Naval Surface Warfare Center. This facility consumes 100 square mile with the base primarily in Martin County but also found in Daviess and Green Counties. This facility has created quite a network of industrial development in and around the base and is home to some of the most innovative technology-driven companies. This industrial zone has made Martin County that highest income per capita in Indiana and ranking Martin County as the 4th most concentrated county for STEM related jobs. (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) This type of industrial development creates jobs and attracts employees whom in turn relocate to our area. The employees and their families will be in need of recreation al opportunities to increase their quality of life. One of the common questions people ask when relocating is “what are the recreational opportunities in the suggested area? This is where we need to make certain our presence is known in and around Crane which will not only assist in attracting viable employees, but also increase our facility usage. Partnering with Crane and affiliates with programs and events will increase our presence and impact on the lives of our residents.

Programs

West Boggs Park has become a regional tourism destination, attracting customers with a broad range of outdoor recreation interests from an extensive area within and outside state boundaries. Apparently the marketing phrase, “Southwestern Indiana’s Best Kept Secret”, is no longer appropriate. Although many visitors have the opportunity to take advantage of park facilities at similar or even smaller distances from home, they continue to indicate their preference by selecting West Boggs Park as a preferred leisure venue.

Visitors to West Boggs Park may choose from a wide range of outdoor recreation activities. Many of these focus on West Boggs Lake. With 622 acres, the lake provides opportunities for competitive and recreational fishing, boating, swimming, bird watching and waterfowl hunting. Related services include a three bay, six lane boat ramp, fish cleaning station, swimming beach, courtesy docks and a rental mooring post and dock program. Multiple access sites, including accessible fishing jetties and dock, offer opportunities for bank fishing. Approximately 80 acres of constructed wetland areas provide excellent waterfowl habitat and bird watching opportunities. Swimming beach area facilities include accessible rest rooms and showers, concession and sand volleyball courts. Access to the beach complex is available to park visitors at no additional charge beyond normal entry fees.

Camping at West Boggs Park is the most popular choice for outdoor recreation activity. The campground contains 157 modern campsites available for daily, weekly and monthly rental. A total of 102 campsites are allocated for the seasonal camping program. All campsites feature electric and water service, 36 of these also offer onsite sewage disposal. Related campground support services include three rest room and shower buildings (two seasonal and one permanent with accessible rest room and showers), laundry facilities, a sanitary dump station, playground and activity area.

Available overnight accommodations also include cabin rental and four mobile home units. The cabin and mobile home rental programs offer housekeeping units in wooded settings on or near the lake.

The approximately 80 acres of wetland areas near the lake provide excellent habitat for waterfowl and opportunities for bird watching activities and nature interpretive programs.

The multi-use trail system remains a popular feature with park visitors. With a total of approximately 6.9 miles, it offers experiences of varied environments including, wooded, lakeshore, wetland and open habitat. In addition to providing an alternative and convenient means of access to many of the park’s recreational features and common areas, it has become a significant element in provision of activities scheduled to entertain and educate park visitors with opportunities for nature interpretive and natural resource conservation programs as well as events scheduled solely for the fun factor. Examples of such programs include nature hikes, scavenger hunts and bird, wildflower and tree identification activities.

Fun Activities Programs are comprised of a wide range of types of events offered to park visitors at no additional charge beyond established entry and camping fees. These are scheduled at times of highest visitor population to serve the maximum numbers of park visitors. These programs include many types of events such as nature interpretive programs, informal sports competitions, craft sessions, games for children, musical offerings, cultural and historical activities. Weekly activity schedules are organized to include programs of both active and passive nature. Attention is also paid to offering a selection that eliminates barriers to participation related to age, gender

and mobility concerns. This approach promotes access to appropriate services for as large a segment of visitor population as possible and provides a significant enhancement to the outdoor recreation experience.

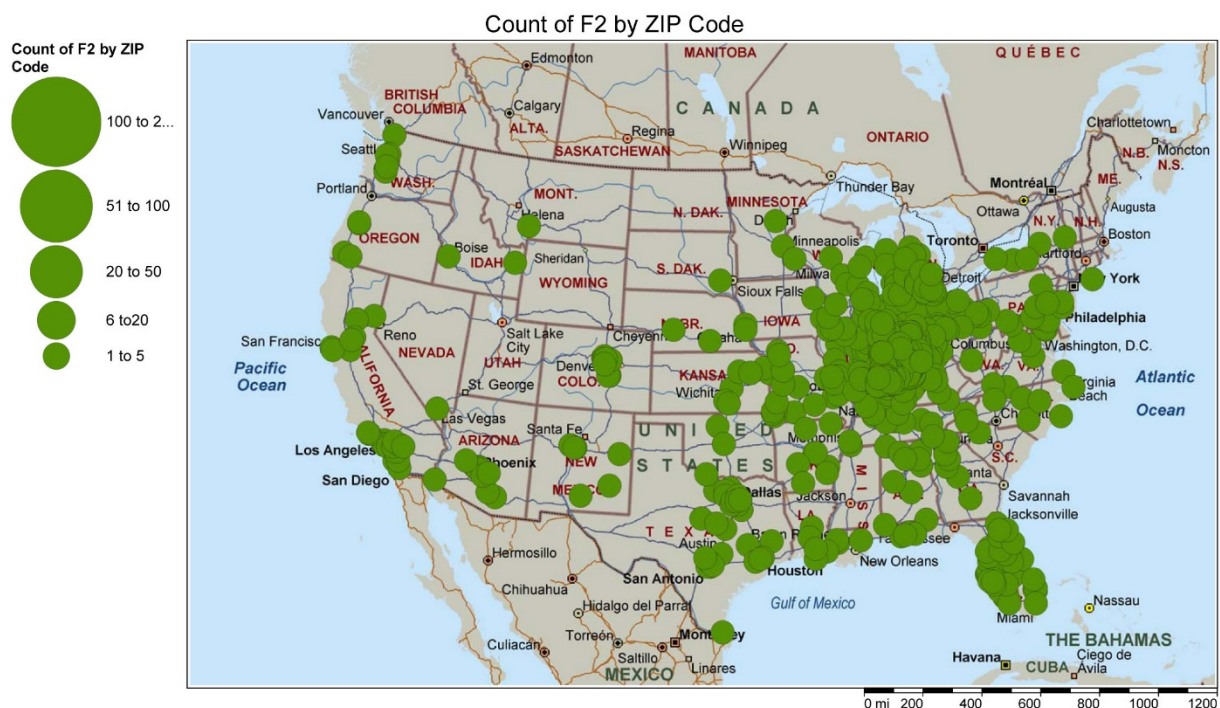
West Boggs Park continues a tradition of active involvement in the local community. This involvement has resulted in the development of events coordinated with faculty and students from area school districts, scout troops, social service agencies, civic and charitable organizations. These events allow opportunities to promote conservation and educate visitors regarding natural resource issues, fostering a sense of ownership, responsibility and involvement among residents in the planning area.

Recreation Needs Analysis

A Nationally Significant Destination

There are many ways to attempt to analyze how resources should be directed to best serve the recreation needs of a community. Like most other parks and recreation entities, we have attempted to gather information from a combination of surveys and public input activities. These data help us develop a better picture of who our current and potential visitors are, and what they want and need to make their recreation experiences satisfying.

In doing so, however, it is helpful to understand any associations between the needs being expressed, and the sources of the resources to be applied to those needs. This is one area where our planning model may differ from others, but there are some sound reasons why it must. One aspect of this planning process is that we hope it helps others understand why we sometimes seem less responsive to local demands for certain services for which those stating the desire are not also willing to fund. To help understand that it is necessary to first understand what role West Boggs has come to play in the larger field of outdoor recreation.



The map above shows that visitation to West Boggs Park is from a clientele much larger than the citizens of Davies and Martin Counties. While it is obvious, and will be even more so later in this discussion, that West Boggs serves

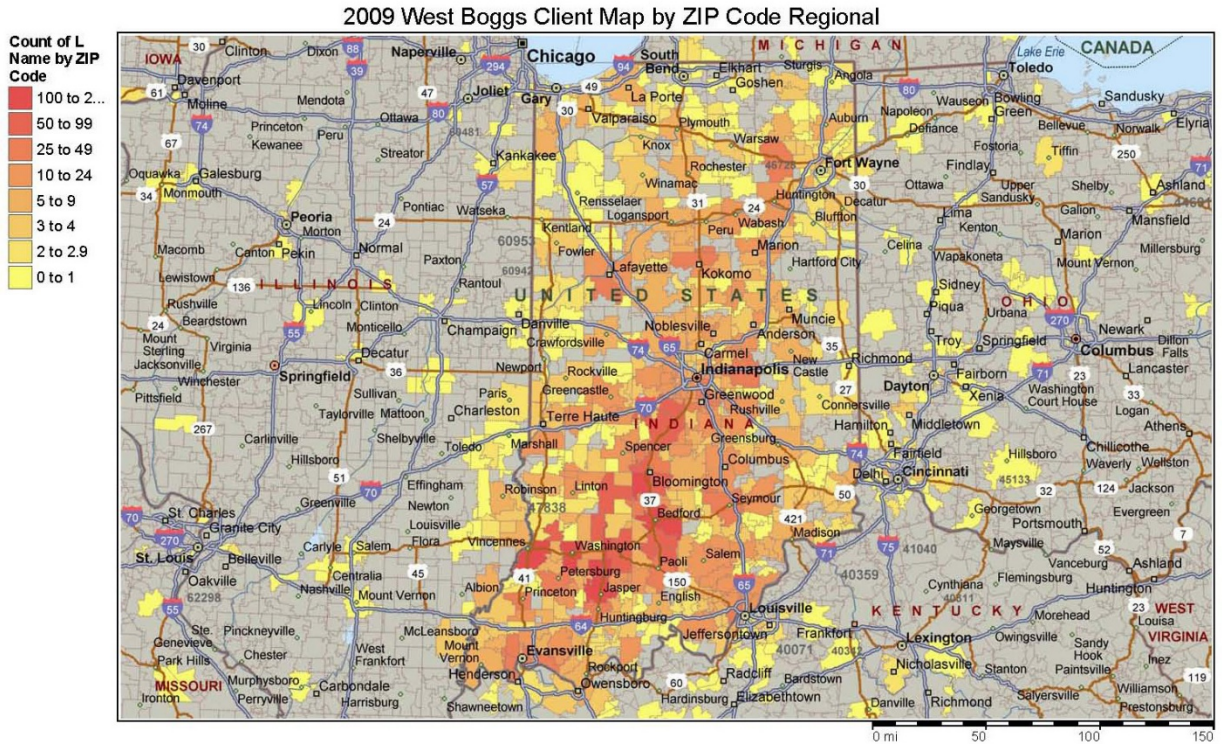
people from across Indiana, here we can see that the entire Midwest is well represented in the West Boggs clientele, along with some visitors from coast to coast in the United States.

What one begins to grasp when viewing these maps is that West Boggs is at least as much a tourism engine for the area as it is a park. Many of these non-county residents come just to visit West Boggs, making it a destination venue. Others use the park as a base from other tourism in the area, including visits to the large Amish community in Daviess County, and for the many other activities, events and venues in the region; including the casino operation in nearby Orange County.

Looking at West Boggs visitation data from this large perspective shows that the benefits to the local community from tourism may well be the most visible way for the majority of the park's assets to be utilized. The creation of some of the more desirable jobs in the area, along with a multimillion dollar influx of tourism dollars is of great importance to everyone in the two county area, if they understand it or not.

A state level park that is not a State Park

Like all previous user surveys, along with visitation records, the data collected for this planning process make it clear is that West Boggs serves a region much larger than the two county area. Daviess and Martin counties combined only represent a small portion of the user base of the facility.



The mapping of West Boggs visitor residence locations also provides an interesting look at some other elements of recreation marketing that may be of use to our peers in other departments. One such element that becomes obvious involves transportation systems.

Since the data used to develop this map included people who came to West Boggs to camp, it can be assumed that the majority of them brought along camping trailers or RV's. With that in mind is easy to see from the map that the presence of better travel routes, and larger roads, are relevant to campers' decisions about venues. One can follow major roadways in the approximate center of all of the visitor concentrations shown here, with an unbroken concentration of park visitors along Indiana Highway 37 from Paoli to Indianapolis.

It is also interesting to note how much this map of West Boggs campers appears to mimic the corridor planning maps for the I-69 project. If the already present concentrations are caused by better roads, the recent completion of I-69 will have significant impact potential for West Boggs in the future, as it becomes even more accessible for visitors from longer distances. Due to the time of completion of I-69, we have not yet had thorough analysis of the impact on our facility and local economy.

Again, from this view it becomes strikingly clear that West Boggs Park is not a typical local county park, serving a local need in only basic recreation. Rather we have become a dynamic economic force that draws millions of dollars into the local economies, and does so at a tax cost to local taxpayers of exactly zero. It is hard to overestimate the level of cost benefit this produces, since there is a no cost and such an enormous benefit.

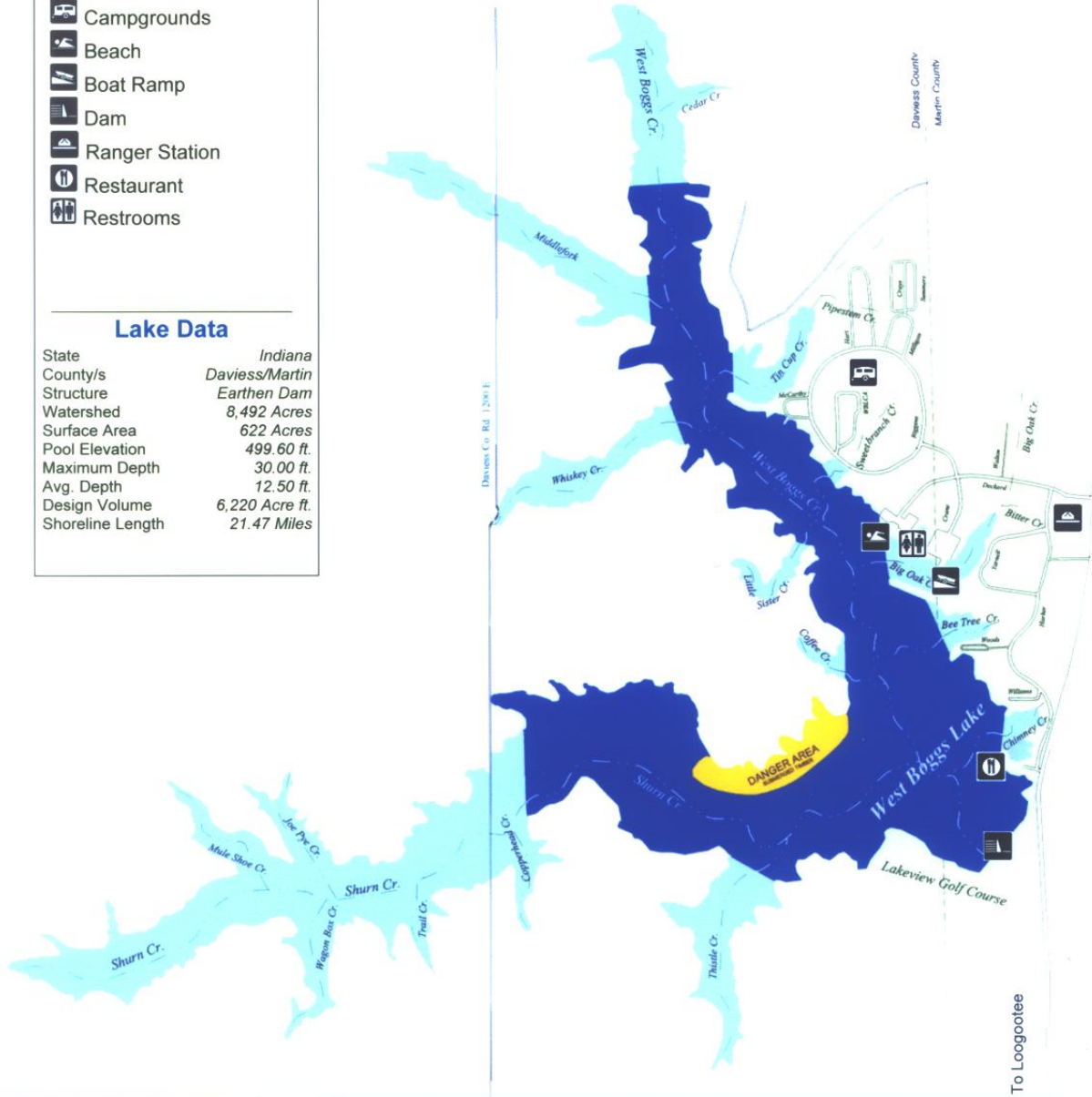
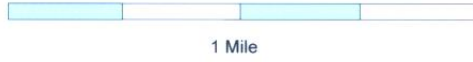
PROPERTY MAP

MAP KEY

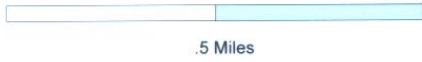
- Park Area
- Open Water
- Idle Zone
- Danger Zone
- ⛺ Campgrounds
- 🏖️ Beach
- 🚤 Boat Ramp
- 🏠 Dam
- 👮 Ranger Station
- 🍽️ Restaurant
- 🚻 Restrooms

Lake Data

State	Indiana
County/s	Daviess/Martin
Structure	Earthen Dam
Watershed	8,492 Acres
Surface Area	622 Acres
Pool Elevation	499.60 ft.
Maximum Depth	30.00 ft.
Avg. Depth	12.50 ft.
Design Volume	6,220 Acre ft.
Shoreline Length	21.47 Miles



RECREATION AREA MAP



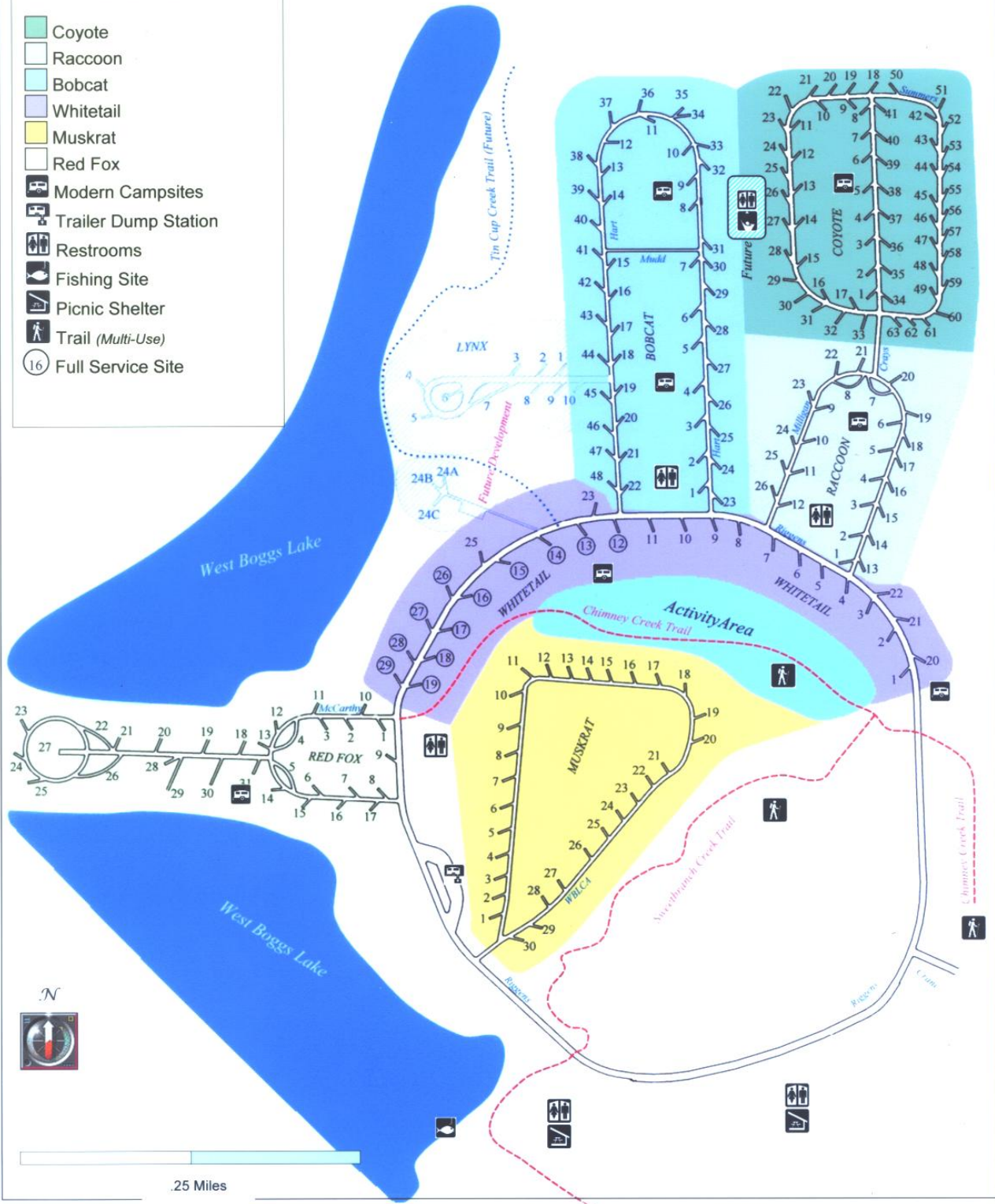
MAP KEY

- Park Lands
- Lake
- Campgrounds
- Beach
- Boat Ramp
- Dam
- Fishing Area
- Ranger Station
- Restaurant
- Restrooms
- Shelter

CAMPGROUND MAP

MAP KEY

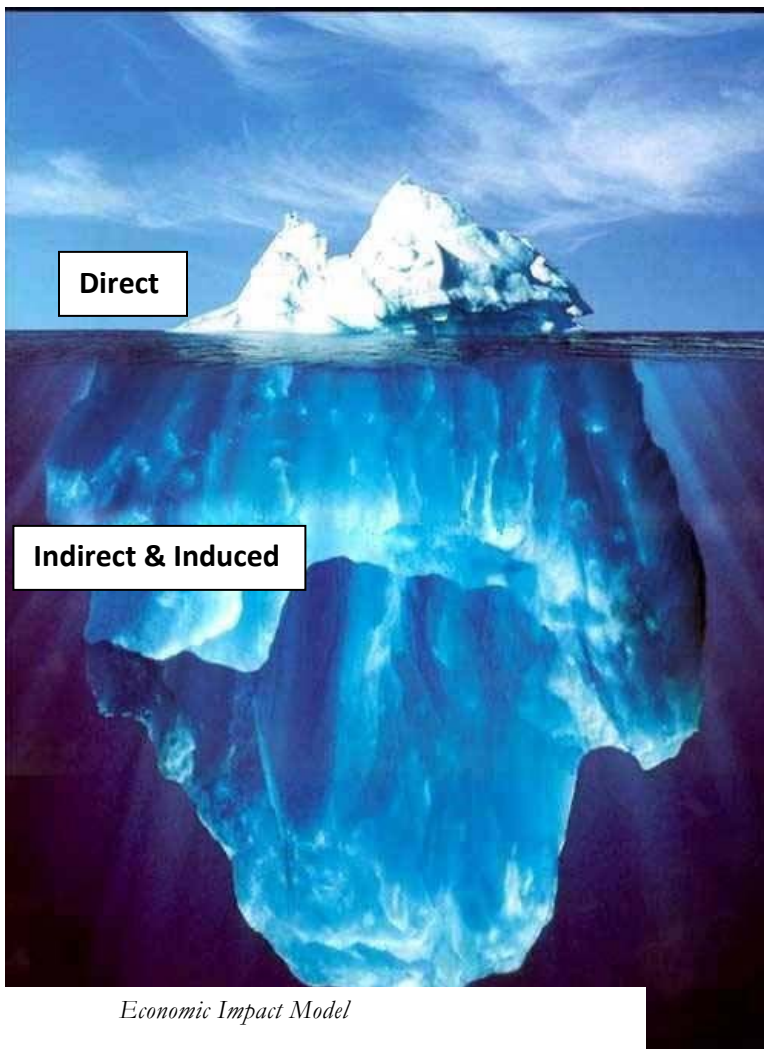
- Coyote
- Raccoon
- Bobcat
- Whitetail
- Muskrat
- Red Fox
- Modern Campsites
- Trailer Dump Station
- Restrooms
- Fishing Site
- Picnic Shelter
- Trail (Multi-Use)
- 16 Full Service Site



Social and Economic Factors

Understanding the impact that West Boggs Park has on the local economy is an imprecise science; but is important if we are going to prepare ourselves to make proper management decisions. Accepted tourism industry planning methods have determined that the real impact of a tourism activity is found by multiplying the direct revenue gained in the activity by a factor ranging from seven to eleven times that number. Any particular community will be placed in that range depending on how well the community is prepared to respond to the initial business opportunities created by the direct impact.

To better understand that principle, it will help to understand how tourism works as an economic engine. The Indiana Office of Tourism Development has created a vast reservoir of information, research and data that can be used to demonstrate the



impact of tourism. Rather than try to recreate that research, we will here draw heavily upon it. The following information comes from documents of that office,¹ edited only to fit the concept of local economic impact rather than state wide impacts.

The total economic impact of travelers is separated into three distinct parts; *direct*, *indirect*, and *induced*. The direct impacts represent the value added¹ of those sectors that interact directly with the visitor. The indirect impact represents the benefit to suppliers in those direct sectors. The induced impact adds the impact of tourism-generated wages as they are spent in the economy. The image of an iceberg represents the various impacts of tourism. Those industries that are part of the direct tourism sector represent the impact that is visible, i.e. above the water. But below the surface travelers spending generates wages, employment and taxes in a host of supporting industries. Although these are not seen, they are important to understanding the full economic impact of tourism.

Looking at the illustration to the left here, we can visualize the data showing that the indirect and induced impacts from West Boggs may exceed \$18 Million per year in the Daviess and Martin County area economy; far more than the \$2 Million in direct impact.

For a little more personal look at what this discussion is about, consider this. A park visitor from central Indiana comes to the park and camps for a week. That visitor spends money on several things during that

week, one of which is the fees for use of the campsite. The park then hires a person to maintain that campsite and pays that person from the money collected from the visitor. The park employee uses that money to buy a car to get to work, which also means he or she buys insurance. Part of the money paid for that insurance pays the salary of an insurance agent. The insurance agent buys a house, and in doing so takes out a mortgage. The bank that provides the mortgage hires a person to process it and handle all the details. That loan officer at the bank then has money to spend on college for a dependent, and the story can go on and on for a long time before that money from the campsite is exhausted in the local economy. This is part of the indirect and/or induced impact of the park being here.

¹ "The Economic Impact of Travel & Tourism in Indiana"

What can we determine about the impact of West Boggs Park on the local economy? It is hard to say for certain what the total impact would be, because much of that impact is unseen. Using the above tourism model we can reasonably apply the number we do know, and extrapolate them into other details of tourism modeling.

Early in this discussion we saw that the multiplied effect of indirect and induced impacts of visitor spending can be from 7 to 11 times the direct impact, depending on how well a community is prepared for that activity. West Boggs is in a good position to maximize that effect in several ways. First, we know that most, approximately 75%, of West Boggs camping visitors come from outside the two county area. This means that an unusually high volume of the direct impact revenue is “new” money to the local economy. Second, West Boggs has not received local tax dollars since 1996, meaning that as the direct revenue moves through the local economy it is not recaptured in taxes to be reinvested in the park enterprises in which it was generated. In essence, this means the local economy incurs no cost of sales for the revenue distributed into it from the park.

On the downside, the parks local community has not become well equipped to take full advantage of the large influx of tourists that the park provides. Although some local businesses do benefit, such as food services, grocery stores, gas stations, etc., the lack of typical tourist related businesses such as motel/hotel services, amusement facilities, theatre, museums, gift shops and similar operations cause a great deal of potential benefit to be missed as park visitors either bring more things from home or drive to sources outside the community. A good example is that there is not a full service boat or RV dealer in the area positioned to capture the large potential for those markets.

For these reasons we should probably use a multiplier near the middle of the 7-11 range. Using the conservative figure of direct sales of \$2 Million then we would see that the indirect and induced impacts might be some \$18 Million per year. Add the direct, indirect and induced impacts and West Boggs Park is likely to be having a total impact of nearly \$20 million per year on the local economy at a tax cost of zero. We can find no other example of a county government agency having anything close to that cost/benefit ratio.

It also needs to be discussed that West Boggs Park and the community have only begun to explore the real opportunities that tourism can offer our community. The park is capable of growing and sustaining much larger visitation numbers, and the community is capable of becoming better prepared to capture that traffic and add additional value to the overall tourism industry. West Boggs and its Board of Directors is currently considering taking steps within the park to provide some of those things that have been absent in the area, such as lodging accommodations. If these types of deficits to tourism growth can be overcome, they offer the community a rapid return on the investment. For this reason it is important that we assist the whole community to understand that what they see at the park is only the tip of the iceberg. This will be discussed more in another segment of this report.

The two counties involved in West Boggs ownership see disproportionate distribution of the direct, indirect and induced economic effects of all this activity. As a matter of geography, Daviess County has gained the most from residential development and the resulting property tax base. Approximately 330 homes have been built around West Boggs Lake that would not have been there if the lake did not exist. With a very conservative average assessed value of \$150,000, these homes have a total assessed valuation of over \$50 Million. The property taxes from that growth are received by Daviess County almost exclusively. Martin County, also as a matter of geography, receives a disproportionate share of the direct tourism activity, as the city of Loogootee is the closest shopping area available for park visitors.

Employment from park operation is split almost evenly between the two counties with a current annual expenditure on labor and labor related expenses of just over \$300K. This does not include labor from the contracted services that include the golf course and restaurant. The combined labor from all park related operations is likely nearer \$1 Million per year.

As we prepare this material the nation and our state are coming out of a deep economic recession. In Indiana, changes on property tax legislation have caused enormous shifts in how communities fund nearly all things in the public sector. Parks & Recreation organizations have been hard hit by reductions in funding from property tax; impacting everything from staffing to programs to development projects. Our department, while far from having all the money we think we need to carry out some needed improvements, has been somewhat insulated from these changes; due to our self-funded model. In fact, our revenue from user fees actually increased in 2009, due almost entirely to increases in camping and lake related visitor traffic as people sought lower cost alternatives to other forms of leisure activity. This has the added effect of allowing our community to benefit from a set of economic factors that helps to minimize the impact of the recession by having a magnifying effect on the tourism economics outlined here above. Where communities who have parks operating entirely on

public funds have a very limited ability to maneuver in recession market, we have been able to use their limits to our advantage.

In addition, the West Boggs Lake fishery renovation is nearly complete. Stocking efforts commenced late in 2014 and will continue through 2016. Fishing attributes to a high percentage of our revenue and due to the gizzard shad infestation, our revenue has slowly diminished until the present date. However, that is about to change, fishermen have accounted for numerous healthy stocked fish species and according to the reported sizes, the growth rate of the introduced supply is growing a much quicker rate than anticipated. Knowing how fishermen gub, we do know that a positive word will spread and a substantial increase will soon incur due to this renovation. This will also trickle down to our local economy as we receive an influx in fishing which is closely followed by a vast increase in camping.

Daviess County, Indiana

Organized in 1817 and named for Battle of Tippecanoe hero Joseph Daviess

County Seat: Washington

Largest City: Washington (2014 population: 12,020)

Population per Square Mile: 76.20

Square Miles: 429.50

[Go to county's in.gov site](#)

Population over Time	Number	Rank in State	Percent of State	Indiana
Yesterday (2010)	31,654	54	0.5%	6,483,797
Today (2014)	32,729	51	0.5%	6,596,855
Tomorrow (2020 projection)*	34,096	50	0.5%	6,852,121
Percent Change 2010 to Today	3.4%	11		1.7%

*Projection based on 2010 Census counts.

Sources: [U.S. Census Bureau](#); [Indiana Business Research Center](#)

Components of Population Change, 2013-2014	Number	Rank in State	Percent of State	Indiana
Net Domestic Migration	189	8		-7,506
Net International Migration	28	34		12,513
Natural Increase (births minus deaths)	220	19	0.9%	24,062

Source: [U.S. Census Bureau](#)

Population Estimates by Age, 2014	Number	Rank in State	Pct Dist. in County	Pct Dist. in State
Preschool (0 to 4)	2,678	34	8.2%	6.4%

School Age (5 to 17)	6,865	39	21.0%	17.6%
College Age (18 to 24)	2,930	50	9.0%	10.1%
Young Adult (25 to 44)	7,594	51	23.2%	25.3%
Older Adult (45 to 64)	7,911	55	24.2%	26.3%
Seniors (65 and older)	4,751	55	14.5%	14.3%
Median Age	34.9			Median Age = 37.5

Sources: [U.S. Census Bureau](#); [Indiana Business Research Center](#)

Population Estimates by Race and Hispanic Origin, 2014	Number	Rank of	Pct Dist. in County	Pct Dist. in State
American Indian or Alaska Native Alone	118	45	0.4%	0.4%
Asian Alone	228	42	0.7%	2.0%
Black Alone	320	45	1.0%	9.6%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pac. Isl. Alone	48	21	0.1%	0.1%
White	31,710	52	96.9%	86.1%
Two or More Race Groups	305	51	0.9%	1.9%
Hispanic or Latino Origin (can be of any race)				
Non-Hispanic	31,212	53	95.4%	93.4%
Hispanic	1,517	36	4.6%	6.6%

Source: [U.S. Census Bureau](#)

Household Types	Number	Rank in State	Pct Dist. in County	Pct Dist. in State
Households in 2014 (Includes detail not shown below)	11,462	54	100.0%	100.0%
Married With Children	2,947	39	25.7%	19.4%
Married Without Children	3,733	57	32.6%	30.1%
Single Parents	748	65	6.5%	9.9%
Living Alone	3,037	51	26.5%	27.8%

Source: [U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates.](#)

Housing	Number	Rank in State	Pct Dist. in County	Pct Dist. in State
Total Housing Units in 2014 (estimate)	12,481	55	100.0%	100.0%
Total Housing Units in 2014 (includes vacant units)	12,483	55	100.0%	100.0%
Owner Occupied (Pct. distribution based on all housing units)	8,513	54	68.2%	61.6%
Median Value (2014)	\$103,400	55		
Renter Occupied (Pct. distribution based on all housing units)	2,949	47	23.6%	27.1%
Median Rent (2014)	\$416	84		

Source: [U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates.](#)

Education	Number	Rank in State	Percent of State	Indiana
School Enrollment (2014/2015 Total Reported)	4,860	53	0.4%	1,130,285
Public	4,528	53	0.4%	1,045,779
Adults (25+ in 2014 ACS)	19,914	54	0.5%	4,287,819
with High School diploma or higher	77.6%	91		87.6%
with B.A. or higher degree	12.9%	71		23.6%

Sources: [Indiana Department of Education](#); [U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates](#).

Income and Poverty	Number	Rank in State	Percent of State	Indiana
Per Capita Personal Income (annual) in 2014	\$36,914	47	93.3%	39,578
Median Household Income in 2014	47,670	46	96.5%	\$49,384
Poverty Rate in 2014	13.8%	44	90.8%	15.2%
Poverty Rate among Children under 18	21.7%	32	102.4%	21.2%
Welfare (TANF) Monthly Average Families in 2014	46	41	0.5%	9,498
Food Stamp Recipients in 2014	3,366	54	0.4%	878,155
Free and Reduced Fee Lunch Recipients in 2014	2,313	52	0.4%	514,128

Sources: [U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis](#); [U.S. Census Bureau](#); [Indiana Family Social Services Administration](#); [Indiana Department of Education](#)

Health and Vital Statistics	Number	Rank of	Percent of State	Indiana
Births, 2013	527	35	0.6%	83,115
Births to Teens, 2013	40	41	0.6%	6,810
Deaths, 2013	333	48	0.6%	60,445

Source: [Indiana State Department of Health](#)

Labor Force, 2014	Number	Rank in State	Percent of State	Indiana
Total Resident Labor Force	15,149	53	0.5%	3,227,970
Employed	14,460	52	0.5%	3,035,984
Unemployed	689	66	0.4%	191,986
Annual Unemployment Rate	4.5	87	76.3%	5.9
December 2015 Unemployment Rate	3.9	1	76.5%	5.1

Source: [STATS Indiana](#), using data from the Indiana Department of Workforce Development

Employment and Earnings by Industry, 2014	Employment	Pct Dist. in County	Earnings (\$000)	Pct Dist. In County	Avg. Earnings Per Job
Total by place of work	17,643	100.0%	\$698,541	100.0%	\$39,593
Wage and Salary	12,014	68.1%	\$410,200	58.7%	\$34,143
Farm Proprietors	1,186	6.7%	\$68,273	9.8%	\$57,566
Nonfarm Proprietors	4,443	25.2%	\$113,390	16.2%	\$25,521

Farm	1,357	7.7%	\$75,275	10.8%	\$55,472
Nonfarm	16,286	92.3%	\$623,266	89.2%	\$38,270
Private	14,386	81.5%	\$527,286	75.5%	\$36,653
Accommodation, Food Serv.	881	5.0%	\$13,344	1.9%	\$15,146
Arts, Ent., Recreation	150	0.9%	\$1,019	0.1%	\$6,793
Construction	2,230	12.6%	\$116,655	16.7%	\$52,312
Health Care, Social Serv.	Data not available due to BEA non-disclosure requirements.				
Information	105	0.6%	\$4,503	0.6%	\$42,886
Manufacturing	2,472	14.0%	\$106,243	15.2%	\$42,979
Professional, Tech. Serv.	497	2.8%	\$21,123	3.0%	\$42,501
Retail Trade	1,793	10.2%	\$54,450	7.8%	\$30,368
Trans., Warehousing	1,118	6.3%	\$41,896	6.0%	\$37,474
Wholesale Trade	482	2.7%	\$29,661	4.2%	\$61,537
Other Private (not above)	2,584*	14.6%*	\$81,308*	11.6%*	\$31,466*
Government	1,900	10.8%	\$95,980	13.7%	\$50,516

Source: [U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis](#)

* These totals do not include county data that are not available due to BEA non-disclosure requirements.

Residential Building Permits, 2014	Units	Pct Dist.		Cost (\$000)	
		in County	in State	State	Cost (\$000)
Total Permits Filed	4	100.0%	100.0%	\$400	\$3,222,176
Single-Family	0	0.0%	68.1%	\$0	\$2,748,532
2-Family	4	100.0%	2.0%	400	\$40,304
3- and 4-Family	0	0.0%	1.1%	\$0	\$18,185
5+ Family	0	0.0%	28.7%	\$0	\$415,155

Notes: Detail cost may not sum to total due to rounding. Greene County does not currently issue building permits, so it is excluded.

Source: [U.S. Census Bureau](#)

Largest Cities and Towns in Daviess County

Name	Population in 2014	Percent of County
Alfordsville	105	0.3%
Cannelburg	154	0.5%
Elnora	654	2.0%
Montgomery	347	1.1%
Odon	1,394	4.3%
Plainville	490	1.5%
Washington	12,020	36.7%

Martin County, Indiana

Named for Maj. John T. Martin, founded in 1820 and home to Crane Naval Weapons and the Hoosier National Forest

County Seat: Shoals

Largest City: Loogootee (2014 population: 2,706)

Population per Square Mile: 30.39

Square Miles: 335.70

[Go to county's in.gov site](#)

Population over Time	Number	Rank in State	Percent of State	Indiana
Yesterday (2010)	10,328	88	0.2%	6,483,797
Today (2014)	10,203	88	0.2%	6,596,855
Tomorrow (2020 projection)*	10,309	88	0.2%	6,852,121
Percent Change 2010 to Today	-1.2%	60		1.7%

*Projection based on 2010 Census counts.

Sources: [U.S. Census Bureau](#); [Indiana Business Research Center](#)

Components of Population Change, 2013-2014	Number	Rank in State	Percent of State	Indiana
Net Domestic Migration	-74	48		-7,506
Net International Migration	1	75		12,513
Natural Increase (births minus deaths)	46	53	0.2%	24,062

Source: [U.S. Census Bureau](#)

Population Estimates by Age, 2014	Number	Rank in State	Pct Dist. in County	Pct Dist. in State
Preschool (0 to 4)	622	86	6.1%	6.4%
School Age (5 to 17)	1,745	88	17.1%	17.6%
College Age (18 to 24)	775	88	7.6%	10.1%
Young Adult (25 to 44)	2,290	88	22.4%	25.3%
Older Adult (45 to 64)	3,027	87	29.7%	26.3%
Seniors (65 and older)	1,744	87	17.1%	14.3%
Median Age	42.2			Median Age = 37.5

Sources: [U.S. Census Bureau](#); [Indiana Business Research Center](#)

Population Estimates by Race and Hispanic Origin, 2014 **Number Rank of** **Pct Dist. in County** **Pct Dist. in State**

American Indian or Alaska Native Alone	35	85	0.3%	0.4%
Asian Alone	33	85	0.3%	2.0%
Black Alone	23	91	0.2%	9.6%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pac. Isl. Alone	1	87	0.0%	0.1%
White	10,015	88	98.2%	86.1%
Two or More Race Groups	96	89	0.9%	1.9%
Hispanic or Latino Origin (can be of any race)				
Non-Hispanic	10,120	88	99.2%	93.4%
Hispanic	83	91	0.8%	6.6%

Source: [U.S. Census Bureau](#)

Household Types	Number	Rank in State	Pct Dist. in County	Pct Dist. in State
Households in 2014 (Includes detail not shown below)	4,199	86	100.0%	100.0%
Married With Children	742	87	17.7%	19.4%
Married Without Children	1,392	88	33.2%	30.1%
Single Parents	309	86	7.4%	9.9%
Living Alone	1,313	85	31.3%	27.8%

Source: [U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates.](#)

Housing	Number	Rank in State	Pct Dist. in County	Pct Dist. in State
Total Housing Units in 2014 (estimate)	4,742	88	100.0%	100.0%
Total Housing Units in 2014 (includes vacant units)	4,767	88	100.0%	100.0%
Owner Occupied (Pct. distribution based on all housing units)	3,426	86	71.9%	61.6%
Median Value (2014)	\$88,500	76		
Renter Occupied (Pct. distribution based on all housing units)	773	89	16.2%	27.1%
Median Rent (2014)	\$375	89		

Source: [U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates.](#)

Education	Number	Rank in State	Percent of State	Indiana
School Enrollment (2014/2015 Total Reported)	1,497	89	0.1%	1,130,285
Public	1,497	89	0.1%	1,045,779
Adults (25+ in 2014 ACS)	7,130	87	0.2%	4,287,819
with High School diploma or higher	82%	85		87.6%
with B.A. or higher degree	11.8%	80		23.6%

Sources: [Indiana Department of Education](#); [U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates.](#)

Income and Poverty	Number	Rank in State	Percent of State	Indiana
Per Capita Personal Income (annual) in 2014	\$38,333	36	96.9%	39,578
Median Household Income in 2014	48,381	44	98.0%	\$49,384
Poverty Rate in 2014	13.5%	47	88.8%	15.2%
Poverty Rate among Children under 18	18.8%	53	88.7%	21.2%
Welfare (TANF) Monthly Average Families in 2014	14	87	0.2%	9,498
Food Stamp Recipients in 2014	1,169	88	0.1%	878,155
Free and Reduced Fee Lunch Recipients in 2014	749	89	0.1%	514,128

Sources: [U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis](#); [U.S. Census Bureau](#); [Indiana Family Social Services Administration](#); [Indiana Department of Education](#)

Health and Vital Statistics Number Rank of Percent of State Indiana

Births, 2013	148	81	0.2%	83,115
Births to Teens, 2013	11	80	0.2%	6,810
Deaths, 2013	110	87	0.2%	60,445

Source: [Indiana State Department of Health](#)

Labor Force, 2014	Number	Rank in State	Percent of State	Indiana
Total Resident Labor Force	4,968	86	0.2%	3,227,970
Employed	4,702	86	0.2%	3,035,984
Unemployed	266	88	0.1%	191,986
Annual Unemployment Rate	5.4	62	91.5%	5.9
December 2015 Unemployment Rate	4.0	1	78.4%	5.1

Source: [STATS Indiana](#), using data from the Indiana Department of Workforce Development

Employment and Earnings by Industry, 2014	Employment	Pct Dist. in County	Earnings (\$000)	Pct Dist. In County	Avg. Earnings Per Job
Total by place of work	8,195	100.0%	\$698,770	100.0%	\$85,268
Wage and Salary	7,330	89.4%	\$478,480	68.5%	\$65,277
Farm Proprietors	254	3.1%	\$45,874	6.6%	\$180,606
Nonfarm Proprietors	611	7.5%	\$5,283	0.8%	\$8,646
Farm	292	3.6%	\$46,899	6.7%	\$160,613
Nonfarm	7,903	96.4%	\$651,871	93.3%	\$82,484
Private	3,372	41.1%	\$151,745	21.7%	\$45,001
Accommodation, Food Serv.	Data not available due to BEA non-disclosure requirements.				
Arts, Ent., Recreation	Data not available due to BEA non-disclosure requirements.				
Construction	122	1.5%	\$5,339	0.8%	\$43,762
Health Care, Social Serv.	141	1.7%	\$4,016	0.6%	\$28,482
Information	70	0.9%	\$1,743	0.2%	\$24,900
Manufacturing	431	5.3%	\$24,826	3.6%	\$57,601
Professional, Tech. Serv.	1,026	12.5%	\$77,409	11.1%	\$75,447

Retail Trade	335	4.1%	\$8,606	1.2%	\$25,690
Trans., Warehousing	157	1.9%	\$6,455	0.9%	\$41,115
Wholesale Trade	152	1.9%	\$7,822	1.1%	\$51,461
Other Private (not above)	541*	6.6%*	\$11,103*	1.6%*	\$20,523*
Government	4,531	55.3%	\$500,126	71.6%	\$110,379

Source: [U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis](#)

* These totals do not include county data that are not available due to BEA non-disclosure requirements.

Residential Building Permits, 2014	Units	Pct Dist. in County	Pct Dist. in State	Cost (\$000)	State Cost (\$000)
Total Permits Filed	8	100.0%	100.0%	\$1,075	\$3,222,176
Single-Family	8	100.0%	68.1%	\$1,075	\$2,748,532
2-Family	0	0.0%	2.0%	0	\$40,304
3- and 4-Family	0	0.0%	1.1%	\$0	\$18,185
5+ Family	0	0.0%	28.7%	\$0	\$415,155

Notes: Detail cost may not sum to total due to rounding. Greene County does not currently issue building permits, so it is excluded.

Source: [U.S. Census Bureau](#)

Largest Cities and Towns in Martin County

Name	Population in 2014	Percent of County
Crane	183	1.8%
Loogootee	2,706	26.5%
Shoals	781	7.7%

FACILITY GENERAL INFORMATION			
Site code	Name of site West Boggs Park		
Address (number and street, city, state, and ZIP code) 16117 US. Hwy 231 Loogootee, IN 47553			
Primary telephone number (812) 295-3537	Primary e-mail address jameson@westboggs.com	Site URL www.westboggs.com	
Name of owner Daviss Martin Joint County Parks & Recreation Dept		Name of manager Mike Axsom	
Type of facility: (Please check one)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park / Recreation Area	<input type="checkbox"/> Forest	<input type="checkbox"/> Historic / Cultural Site	
<input type="checkbox"/> Dedicated Nature Preserve	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reservoir	<input type="checkbox"/> Trail	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fishing / Boating Access Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Camping / Trailer Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Pool	<input type="checkbox"/> Fish & Wildlife Area		
Type of area: (Please check one)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> Municipal	
<input type="checkbox"/> Public	<input type="checkbox"/> State	<input type="checkbox"/> Township	
Time Open: <input type="checkbox"/> Seasonal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Year-round			
Total acres 1500	Land acres 878	Water acres 622	Wetlands acres

PICNIC AND PLAYGROUND AREAS	
Is there a Picnic Area on this site?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Is there a Playground on this site?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

ATHLETIC AREAS		
Site code		
Please record "Number of" each of the following:		
AMENITY	CHECK IF THIS SITE HAS AT LEAST ONE (1) OF THE FOLLOWING	MULTI-USE (check, if applicable)
Disc Golf	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dog Park	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Skateboard Park	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fields		
Baseball / Softball Fields	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Soccer Fields	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Football Fields	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Courts		
Basketball	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tennis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Notes: West Boggs Park offers a variety of recreational opportunities that are more nature play related. However, we have not discounted the benefits of introducing additional sporting amenities to our customers.		

CAMPING OR LODGING FACILITIES

Is there a Campground on this site? Yes No

GOLF FACILITIES

Is there a Public Golf Course on this site? Yes No

SHOOTING OR ARCHERY FACILITIES

Is there a Public Shooting Range on this site? Yes No

Is there a Public Archery Range on this site? Yes No

WINTER ACTIVITIES

Is this site open for any Winter Activity use? Yes No

TRAILS

Are there any Trails located on this site? Yes No

If Yes, please contact Indiana Department of Natural Resources - Outdoor Recreation for addition to Trails Inventory.

WATER

Is there a Pool on this site? Yes No

Is there a Splash Pad, Water Park, or other Water Feature? Yes No

Is there a Pond, Lake, River, or Creek on this site with public access? Yes No

Notes:

We have a swimming beach located at West Boggs Reservoir.

:

Public Participation

The following are advertisements that were utilized to inform our communities of our methods to include public information to our plan. These displays were used on social media, newspapers, and flyers.



DAVIESS-MARTIN COUNTY JOINT PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT



2016-2020 MASTER PLAN PUBLIC INPUT MEETINGS
TUES. DECEMBER 15TH 6PM SIMON GRABER BUILDING
THURS. DECEMBER 17TH 6PM WEST BOGGS PARK ACTIVITY CENTER. EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND!

YOU CAN ALSO TAKE OUR ONLINE SURVEY AT THE FOLLOWING LINK:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WestBoggsPark>

Below is an article published by the Times Herald out of Washington, IN assisting us with our planning efforts.

West Boggs Park looks to the future

Mike Grant Times Herald | Posted: Friday, December 11, 2015 5:12 pm

Officials in Daviess County are laying out a five-year plan for the West Boggs Park and they want the public to help them. The Daviess-Martin County Joint Parks and Recreation Department will be holding a pair of public hearings and will conduct online surveys to gather comments from area residents and visitors on things they would like to see at the park.

"The master plan is not required, but it just makes good business sense," said Assistant Superintendent for the Daviess-Martin Joint Parks and Recreation Department Jameson Hibbs. "We are constantly trying to improve the facility and this gives us a map to get the work done. It also makes it so that we can apply for grants from the Indiana Department of Natural Resources and private foundations."

Parks officials over the last few months have given some indication of items they feel need to be included in the plan. During budget hearings earlier this year the parks department talked with county commissioners and councilmen about the need for improving the roads in the park and some upgrading to the waste water treatment plant. "That's two of the biggest things we anticipate having on the plan," said Hibbs. "We are hoping that we can get those done in the first couple of years."

While those are the big projects, for now, the parks department is also compiling some smaller projects. Most of those have to do with recreational programs for visitors. "We're still compiling the information," said Hibbs.

Even though the public has rarely commented on past plans Hibbs says it is important for them to participate. "Demographics and some of the trends tend to change every five to 10 years," he said. "People these days have limited leisure time and limited money. We want to use the plan to give them what they want."

The public can learn about the plan and include comments at a pair of meetings. One will be held Dec. 15 at 6 p.m. at the Simon Graber Center. The other will be held Dec. 17 at 6 p.m. at the West Boggs Park Activity Center. People can make additional comments by going to the link on Survey Monkey at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WestBoggsPark>.

Park officials point out that West Boggs is a unique facility. It is one of the few that is jointly managed by two counties. That makes it additionally difficult in putting together an operation that the public wants.

Another twist is that Boggs Lake is in the process of recovering from a complete fishery renovation. "That is expected to fuel a 200 percent increase in the traffic to the park," said Hibbs. "We don't know what the impact will be exactly to the park. We just anticipate an increase in demand and the improved fishery will have an increasing impact over the next several years."

Hibbs says he believes the new master plan though should be about more than just fishing. "We need to plan for both the good times when people are filing in to fish, and the slow times," he said. "The plan needs to include the fishing and the beauty of the area. We want people to come here and enjoy a premier destination."

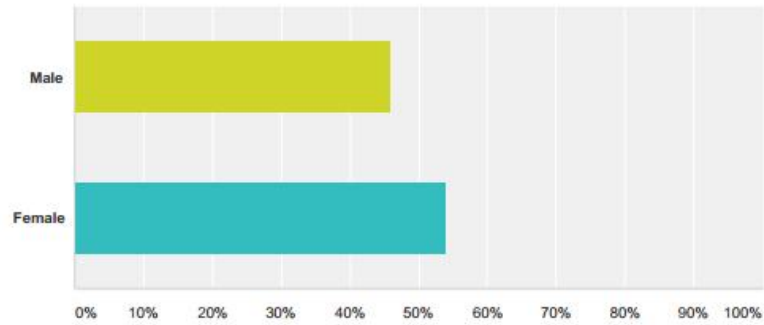
The parks department will be presenting a preliminary master plan to the state on Jan. 15 with a final report expected by April 15.

"We will be taking comments through the end of the year," said Hibbs. "If someone were to come up with a significant idea that we could incorporate into the plan we could take the comments even after the Jan. 15 preliminary report is submitted."

The Daviess-Martin County Joint Parks & Recreation Department is developing their new Master Plan. Hearings for public comment are being held Dec. 15 at 6 p.m. in the Simon Graber building and Dec. 17 at the West Boggs Park Activity Center at 6 p.m. If you can't make it or have additional input, please go to the following link on Survey Monkey and take the survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WestBoggsPark>

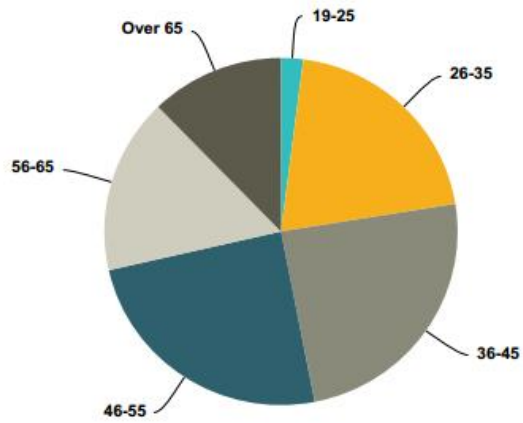
Q1 What is your gender?

Answered: 48 Skipped: 1



Q2 What is your age?

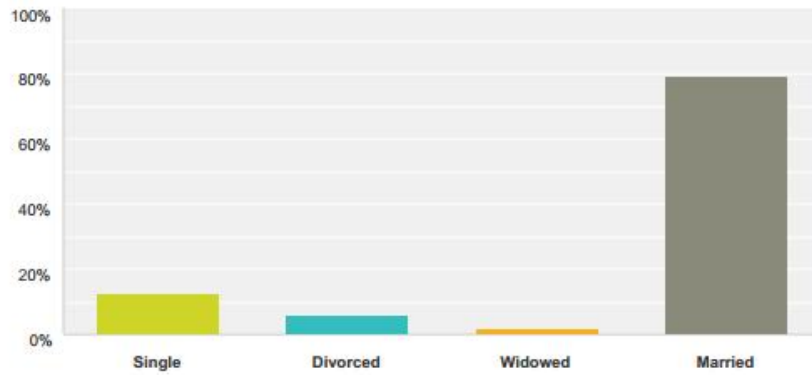
Answered: 49 Skipped: 0



Q3 What is your living arrangement?

Answered: 48 Skipped: 1

West Boggs Park - Daviess Martin County Joint Parks & Recreation Department



Q4 How many people of these age groups live in your household?

Answered: 47 Skipped: 2

	1	2	3	4	More than 4	Total
12 and under	38.46% 5	30.77% 4	15.38% 2	0.00% 0	15.38% 2	13
13-15	80.00% 4	20.00% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	5
16-20	87.50% 7	12.50% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	8
21-25	71.43% 5	28.57% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	7
26-30	80.00% 4	20.00% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	5
31-40	23.08% 3	76.92% 10	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	13
41-50	35.71% 5	64.29% 9	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	14
51-65	53.33% 8	46.67% 7	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	15
Over 65	62.50% 5	37.50% 3	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	8

Q5 What is your 5 digit Zip Code?

Answered: 46 Skipped: 3

Q6 What is your employment status?

Answered: 48 Skipped: 1

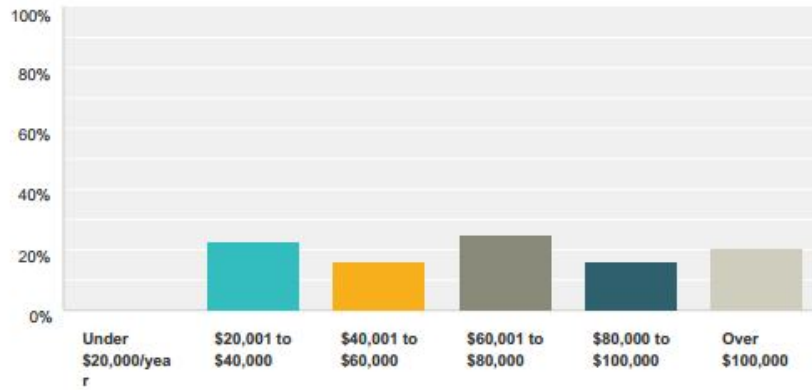
Answer Choices	Responses
Unemployed	6.25% 3

West Boggs Park - Daviess Martin County Joint Parks & Recreation Department

Retired	16.67%	8
Employed part-time	10.42%	5
Employed full-time	66.67%	32
Total		48

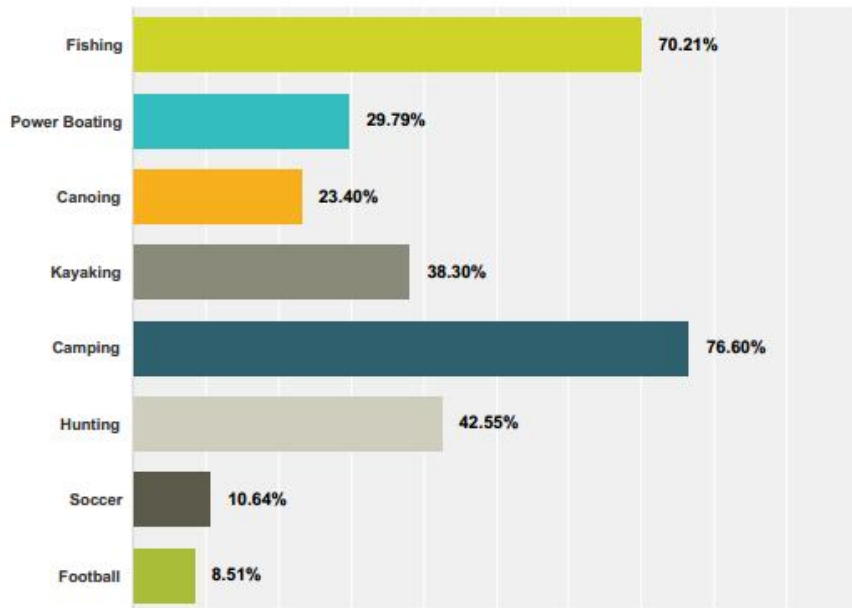
Q7 What is your approximate household income?

Answered: 44 Skipped: 5

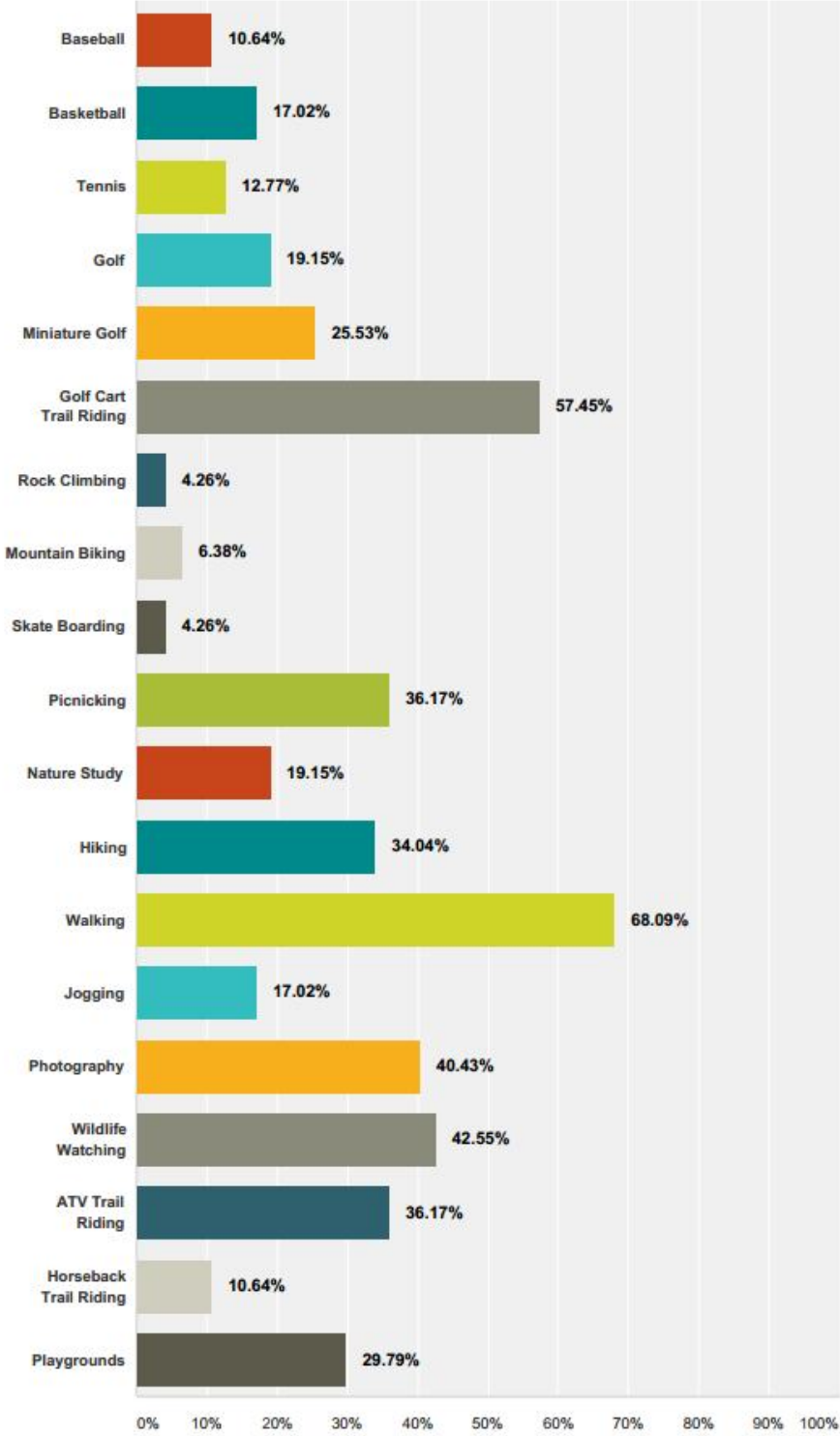


Q8 Please check ALL of the activities that you or members of your household participate in on a regular basis.

Answered: 47 Skipped: 2



West Boggs Park - Daviess Martin County Joint Parks & Recreation Department



West Boggs Park - Daviess Martin County Joint Parks & Recreation Department

Q9 Using the same activities, please check any reasons for which you NO LONGER participate in activities that you have done in the past.

Answered: 41 Skipped: 8

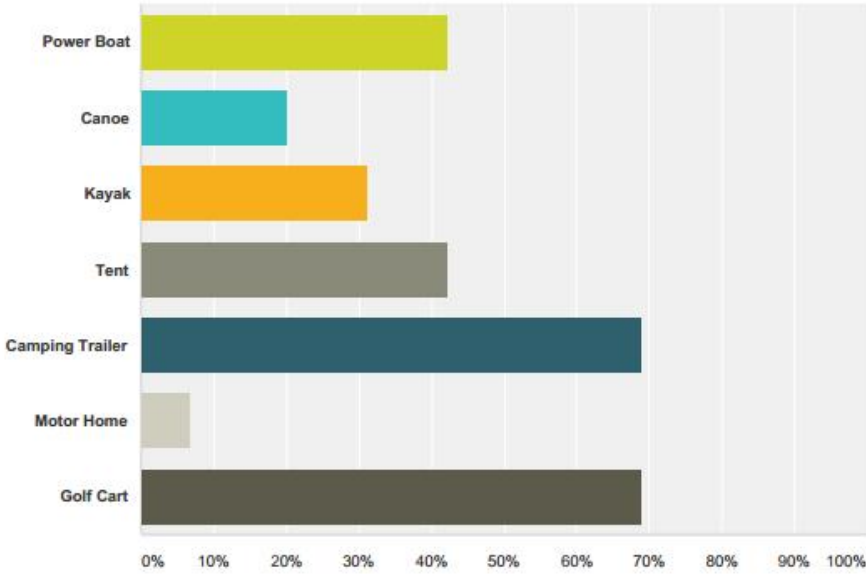
	Still Do	Just lost interest	Not available in my area	Too expensive	Health limitations	Lifestyle changes	Total Respondents
Fishing	82.14% 23	17.86% 5	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	28
Power Boating	73.68% 14	10.53% 2	5.26% 1	10.53% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	19
Canoing	71.43% 10	21.43% 3	7.14% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	14
Kayaking	81.25% 13	6.25% 1	12.50% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	16
Camping	96.77% 30	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	3.23% 1	0.00% 0	31
Hunting	82.35% 14	17.65% 3	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	17
Soccer	36.36% 4	54.55% 6	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	9.09% 1	0.00% 0	11
Football	18.18% 2	63.64% 7	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	18.18% 2	0.00% 0	11
Baseball	55.56% 5	44.44% 4	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	9
Basketball	55.56% 5	33.33% 3	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	11.11% 1	0.00% 0	9
Tennis	45.45% 5	54.55% 6	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	11
Golf	69.23% 9	23.08% 3	0.00% 0	7.69% 1	0.00% 0	7.69% 1	13
Miniature Golf	57.14% 8	28.57% 4	14.29% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	14
Golf Cart Trail Riding	73.91% 17	17.39% 4	4.35% 1	4.35% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	23
Rock Climbing	12.50% 1	37.50% 3	50.00% 4	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	8
Mountain Biking	50.00% 5	30.00% 3	20.00% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	10
Skate Boarding	12.50% 1	75.00% 6	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	12.50% 1	0.00% 0	8
Picnicking	82.35% 14	17.65% 3	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	17
Nature Study	58.33% 7	41.67% 5	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	12
Hiking	82.35% 14	5.88% 1	5.88% 1	0.00% 0	5.88% 1	0.00% 0	17

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Walking	88.46% 23	3.85% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	7.69% 2	0.00% 0	26
Jogging	61.54% 8	30.77% 4	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	7.69% 1	0.00% 0	13
Photography	66.67% 12	27.78% 5	0.00% 0	5.56% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	18
Wildlife Watching	75.00% 15	20.00% 4	5.00% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	20
ATV Trail Riding	70.59% 12	11.76% 2	17.65% 3	5.88% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	17
Horseback Trail Riding	33.33% 3	22.22% 2	44.44% 4	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	9
Playgrounds	75.00% 12	12.50% 2	6.25% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	6.25% 1	16

Q10 Please select all of the items that you currently have for your use in your recreation activities.

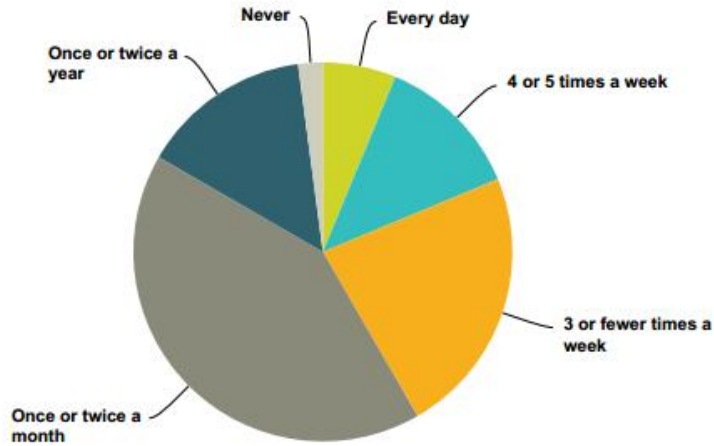
Answered: 45 Skipped: 4



Q11 How often do you visit West Boggs Park?

Answered: 48 Skipped: 1

West Boggs Park - Daviess Martin County Joint Parks & Recreation Department



Q12 Please rate West Boggs Park as to how it affects your life and the lives of your family.

Answered: 47 Skipped: 2

	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Total	Weighted Average
Distance from your home	8.70% 4	19.57% 9	26.09% 12	45.65% 21	46	3.09
Variety of recreation opportunities	10.64% 5	38.30% 18	42.55% 20	8.51% 4	47	2.49
Meeting recreation needs fo your family	10.87% 5	36.96% 17	39.13% 18	13.04% 6	46	2.54
Adding to quality of life for your family	0.00% 0	27.27% 12	54.55% 24	18.18% 8	44	2.91
Accessibility for disabled family members	6.67% 2	23.33% 7	53.33% 16	16.67% 5	30	2.80

Q13 How do you feel about the various user fees assigned to West Boggs Park?

Answered: 48 Skipped: 1

	Too Low	About Right	Too High	Total	Weighted Average
Gate Entrance Fee	0.00% 0	68.89% 31	31.11% 14	45	2.31
Daily Camping Fees	0.00% 0	51.28% 20	48.72% 19	39	2.49
Seasonal Camping Fees	0.00% 0	40.00% 16	60.00% 24	40	2.60
Boating Fees	0.00% 0	69.44% 25	30.56% 11	36	2.31

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Golf Cart Permit Fees	0.00%	74.36%	25.64%	39	2.26
	0	29	10		
Special Permit (Land Use)Fees	10.34%	65.52%	24.14%	29	2.14
	3	19	7		
Mooring/Dock Fees	0.00%	72.73%	27.27%	33	2.27
	0	24	9		

Q14 Golf Cart use on roads and trails is a popular activity at West Boggs. Please let us know how you feel about these comments on this activity being available in a public park.

Answered: 47 Skipped: 2

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Not Sure	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total
Should be prohibited so other people will walk more.	70.45%	15.91%	6.82%	4.55%	2.27%	44
	31	7	3	2	1	
Should be prohibited so I would walk more.	68.18%	20.45%	9.09%	0.00%	2.27%	44
	30	9	4	0	1	
Should be allowed only for disabled persons.	70.45%	13.64%	2.27%	11.36%	2.27%	44
	31	6	1	5	1	
Makes too much noise if allowed at night.	59.09%	15.91%	13.64%	9.09%	2.27%	44
	26	7	6	4	1	
Too dangerous if used on multi use trails.	60.47%	23.26%	6.98%	6.98%	2.33%	43
	26	10	3	3	1	
It is a lot of fun and should be allowed.	0.00%	6.52%	6.52%	21.74%	65.22%	46
	0	3	3	10	30	
I would not visit if it was not allowed.	15.91%	20.45%	11.36%	22.73%	29.55%	44
	7	9	5	10	13	
I would not visit if it is allowed.	70.45%	22.73%	4.55%	2.27%	0.00%	44
	31	10	2	1	0	
I think it is fine if well managed for safety.	4.26%	4.26%	10.64%	25.53%	55.32%	47
	2	2	5	12	26	
My golf cart allows me to enjoy my visits more.	7.32%	4.88%	9.76%	17.07%	60.98%	41
	3	2	4	7	25	

Q15 West Boggs Park offers a wide variety of programs for visitors. Please let us know how you feel about the following comments related to programs.

Answered: 45 Skipped: 4

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Not Sure	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total
My family plans visits around the programs schedule.	4.65%	27.91%	18.60%	34.88%	13.95%	43
	2	12	8	15	6	
I don't enjoy programs and prefer to be left alone.	38.10%	47.62%	7.14%	7.14%	0.00%	42
	16	20	3	3	0	

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I would like to see more programs about nature interpretation.	2.38% 1	16.67% 7	38.10% 16	26.19% 11	16.67% 7	42
There should be more focus on education in the programs.	2.50% 1	20.00% 8	47.50% 19	20.00% 8	10.00% 4	40
Our favorite programs are those that are just fun.	4.65% 2	6.98% 3	16.28% 7	53.49% 23	18.60% 8	43
We'd like to see more programs for adults and/or seniors.	4.88% 2	0.00% 0	19.51% 8	48.78% 20	26.83% 11	41
Programs help keep our kids busy so we can relax.	2.22% 1	13.33% 6	22.22% 10	46.67% 21	15.56% 7	45
I'd be willing to volunteer to lead some programs about things I enjoy.	21.95% 9	26.83% 11	21.95% 9	17.07% 7	12.20% 5	41

Q16 If the following park facilities were to be given consideration for West Boggs park or elsewhere in Daviess and Martin Counties, please give each one a priority ranking related to how important it would be to you; with 1 being the highest priority and 10 being the lowest.

Answered: 47 Skipped: 2

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total
New park properties	12.50% 4	12.50% 4	9.38% 3	12.50% 4	15.63% 5	6.25% 2	12.50% 4	0.00% 0	6.25% 2	12.50% 4	32
Development/redevelopment of other existing outdoor areas	26.47% 9	5.88% 2	17.65% 6	8.82% 3	8.82% 3	5.88% 2	11.76% 4	8.82% 3	0.00% 0	5.88% 2	34
A visitors center at West Boggs Park	5.88% 2	8.82% 3	8.82% 3	5.88% 2	14.71% 5	11.76% 4	17.65% 6	17.65% 6	2.94% 1	5.88% 2	34
An inn or similar lodging facility in West Boggs Park	8.82% 3	8.82% 3	5.88% 2	14.71% 5	14.71% 5	0.00% 0	8.82% 3	11.76% 4	11.76% 4	14.71% 5	34
A conference center in West Boggs Park	3.03% 1	3.03% 1	6.06% 2	6.06% 2	9.09% 3	15.15% 5	18.18% 6	3.03% 1	24.24% 8	12.12% 4	33
A nature center in West Boggs Park	2.94% 1	26.47% 9	17.65% 6	20.59% 7	5.88% 2	2.94% 1	8.82% 3	11.76% 4	0.00% 0	2.94% 1	34
More trails in West Boggs Park	21.62% 8	13.51% 5	16.22% 6	8.11% 3	8.11% 3	21.62% 8	2.70% 1	5.41% 2	2.70% 1	0.00% 0	37
More trails outside West Boggs Park	5.56% 2	11.11% 4	11.11% 4	8.33% 3	11.11% 4	13.89% 5	5.56% 2	13.89% 5	16.67% 6	2.78% 1	36
A shooting range	12.20% 5	14.63% 6	7.32% 3	9.76% 4	7.32% 3	7.32% 3	14.63% 6	4.88% 2	9.76% 4	12.20% 5	41
An aquatics center (pool)	18.60% 8	9.30% 4	9.30% 4	4.65% 2	2.33% 1	11.63% 5	2.33% 1	11.63% 5	6.98% 3	23.26% 10	43

Q17 If the following existing items were being considered for replacement or upgrading at West Boggs Park please give each one a priority ranking related to how

West Boggs Park - Daviess Martin County Joint Parks & Recreation Department

important it would be to you; with 1 being the highest priority and 10 being the lowest.

Answered: 48 Skipped: 1

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total	
Road resurfacing	45.71% 16	31.43% 11	8.57% 3	0.00% 0	5.71% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	2.86% 1	2.86% 1	2.86% 1	35
Campground Utilities	35.90% 14	25.64% 10	10.26% 4	5.13% 2	5.13% 2	0.00% 0	7.69% 3	2.56% 1	2.56% 1	2.56% 1	2.56% 1	39
Other utilities	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	29.03% 9	12.90% 4	12.90% 4	0.00% 0	9.68% 3	6.45% 2	9.68% 3	3.23% 1	16.13% 5	31
Restroom at boat ramp	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0
Activity Center	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0
Activity Center	2.86% 1	5.71% 2	2.86% 1	20.00% 7	14.29% 5	0.00% 0	11.43% 4	11.43% 4	2.86% 1	14.29% 5	14.29% 5	35
Comfort Stations	3.23% 1	6.45% 2	9.68% 3	16.13% 5	12.90% 4	0.00% 0	12.90% 4	12.90% 4	9.68% 3	12.90% 4	3.23% 1	31
Other restrooms	3.23% 1	3.23% 1	19.35% 6	9.68% 3	16.13% 5	0.00% 0	16.13% 5	12.90% 4	9.68% 3	6.45% 2	3.23% 1	31
Boat ramp	18.52% 5	3.70% 1	0.00% 0	11.11% 3	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	18.52% 5	18.52% 5	11.11% 3	7.41% 2	11.11% 3	27
Shelter houses	0.00% 0	17.86% 5	10.71% 3	14.29% 4	3.57% 1	0.00% 0	3.57% 1	21.43% 6	17.86% 5	10.71% 3	0.00% 0	28
Playgrounds	11.11% 4	8.33% 3	13.89% 5	8.33% 3	8.33% 3	0.00% 0	11.11% 4	11.11% 4	11.11% 4	8.33% 3	8.33% 3	36
Sports areas	11.76% 4	14.71% 5	5.88% 2	8.82% 3	17.65% 6	0.00% 0	11.76% 4	5.88% 2	5.88% 2	8.82% 3	8.82% 3	34
Beach house	0.00% 0	15.38% 4	11.54% 3	15.38% 4	7.69% 2	0.00% 0	3.85% 1	11.54% 3	3.85% 1	19.23% 5	11.54% 3	26

Q18 Please select the response that best describes your view on each of the following statements.

Answered: 47 Skipped: 2

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Not Sure	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total
Outdoor recreation is about staying healthy.	2.22% 1	8.89% 4	8.89% 4	53.33% 24	26.67% 12	45
Outdoor recreation is about having fun.	2.17% 1	2.17% 1	0.00% 0	39.13% 18	56.52% 26	46
Outdoor recreation is about learning about nature.	2.27% 1	4.55% 2	13.64% 6	54.55% 24	25.00% 11	44
Outdoor recreation is about relaxing.	6.52% 3	0.00% 0	4.35% 2	47.83% 22	41.30% 19	46
Outdoor recreation is different things to different people.	4.26% 2	0.00% 0	2.13% 1	29.79% 14	63.83% 30	47

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Q19 How do you think the following Parks and Recreation expenses should be funded?

Answered: 45 Skipped: 4

	Taxes	Taxes & User Fees	User Fees	Total
Development of new parks	29.27% 12	60.98% 25	9.76% 4	41
Development of large new park facilities (Buildings, Boat Ramps, Pools, etc.)	9.09% 4	70.45% 31	20.45% 9	44
Upgrades to major infrastructure (Roads, Sewers, Utilities, etc)	22.73% 10	56.82% 25	20.45% 9	44
Ongoing maintenance of park facilities.	13.64% 6	43.18% 19	43.18% 19	44
General operational expenses (Salaries, insurance, supplies, utility bills, etc.)	16.28% 7	48.84% 21	34.88% 15	43

Q20 Select the response below that best describes how you feel about the variety, level and value of outdoor recreation available to you and your family?

Answered: 46 Skipped: 3

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Not Sure	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total
There are plenty of recreation opportunities available within 25 miles of my home.	4.44% 2	40.00% 18	20.00% 9	31.11% 14	4.44% 2	45
There are plenty of recreation opportunities available within 50 miles of my home.	0.00% 0	13.64% 6	13.64% 6	59.09% 26	13.64% 6	44
The level and variety of recreation available to me is an excellent value for the cost I pay in combined taxes and user fees.	6.82% 3	11.36% 5	31.82% 14	40.91% 18	9.09% 4	44
I often have to go to another area to find adequate recreation opportunities for my interests.	13.95% 6	18.60% 8	25.58% 11	32.56% 14	9.30% 4	43

Q21 In the space provided here, please tell us what we could be doing to improve your recreation opportunities.

Answered: 23 Skipped: 26

West Boggs Park - Daviess Martin County Joint Parks & Recreation Department

Q21 In the space provided here, please tell us what we could be doing to improve your recreation opportunities.

Answered: 23 Skipped: 26

#	Responses	Date
1	should be more rules in the park and enforce them like the drinking and loud noises up into the morning hours . Way to much drinking and driving Golf carts .	12/17/2015 11:43 AM
2	First of all, I believe the infrastructure needs the most attention first. Install quality basketball, tennis courts, batting cages. A pool would be great.	12/17/2015 2:27 AM
3	My wife and I are year round campers in Grey Fox. We would really like to have Wi-Fi available at our campsite. People are really appreciative of Wi-Fi. Please install boosters (at least in the year round area since we pay the highest fees).	12/16/2015 2:32 PM
4	I would visit the park if there were more opportunities for hiking/birding etc.....maybe establish an area of native vegetation with trails?	12/15/2015 3:37 PM
5	Resurface roads	12/14/2015 6:22 PM
6	Upgrade electrical service to campsites to 50 amp so camper refrigerators and ACs are not being burned up due to low voltage. The labor \$\$ could be saved by using competent volunteers. Make campsites more level so leveling campers is not such a difficult task....particularly in Muskrat and part of Bobcat.	12/14/2015 6:06 PM
7	make better use of the beach area at the park	12/14/2015 2:08 PM
8	make each campsite more level or pour a concrete pad on campsites similar to lake rudolph in santa claus indiana.	12/14/2015 8:39 AM
9	get the RV parking spaces near level. Some of these spaces are way out of level, causing people to jack-up and block-up their RVs, some not too safely.	12/13/2015 12:48 PM
10	Upgrade in the infrastructure. Cleaner restrooms. Improved security in off season. Enforced age limits on golf carts. Better maintenance on the trails. Goose control. (volunteer). Better grass maintenance around the moor/dock areas. Better utilization of park employees with regard to general park maintenance.	12/13/2015 11:31 AM
11	Allow side by side ATV that are designed for low speed. Ours has maximum speed of 30 mph while some golf carts go faster. I understand some ATV, four wheeler go to fast but there are others that do not. Speed is the concern, not their design!	12/12/2015 9:25 PM
12	At Boggs, keep the banks clean for those of us that do not have a boat and love to fish. Keep the moss out of the lake. Put in boat rental. Put more catfish back in the lake. Also, put some patrol on the water on the weekend for the boaters and skiers that like to get to close to the bank and mess us our fishing. At Glendale, make more bank fishing that is easier to access for those of us that have trouble walking and offer bigger boats to rent out.	12/9/2015 9:58 AM
13	I have camped there in the past and really believe that you need to improve the electrical hook up on many of your sites. The roads are bad and in need of repair and on one site there water hydrant is about to fall over. The playgrounds are also way below average.	11/30/2015 8:26 AM
14	Improve/upgrade restrooms; possibly design walking trails separate from golf cart trails (although this would be a pain to enforce); renovate tennis and basketball courts	11/18/2015 10:46 PM
15	Improve roads add a waterpark	11/18/2015 9:50 PM
16	Make the sand volleyball courts nicer with string lines and new nets! Also nice dock at boat ramp with bumpers around the edges. List times the miniature golf is open or if we bring our own club and ball, play whenever	11/18/2015 9:24 PM
17	The playgrounds are in major need of being replaced! Also I feel the community and park could work together more with community activities at the park and in surrounding areas.	11/18/2015 3:16 PM
18	More Adult Programs	11/18/2015 12:30 PM
19	More counties are developing multi-use trails, and they are well maintained and used by people of all ages, for many activities. It would be wonderful to see something like that in Daviess/Martin counties. I am not sure where the funding would come from, but the benefits could be amazing.	11/18/2015 11:41 AM

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20	The park needs a lot of maintenance. It is sad to see what a beautiful area it is, but it does not seem to be well maintained. Roads are crumbling, playgrounds are rusting, shelter houses need painting. I would be opposed to any new buildings being added until the existing ones can be maintained properly.	11/18/2015 11:02 AM
21	I would like to see a walking trail all around the lake or into Loogootee or to St. Mary's road and back to park. Ideally marked with mileage and paved.	11/18/2015 10:59 AM
22	Restore the catfish population	11/18/2015 10:55 AM
23	The playgrounds need to have things for little ones. I have a 1 year old now. The only thing for her to do is swing in the baby swing. Need more playsets for toddlers to climb on and not worry about older kids.	11/18/2015 10:37 AM



Photo Submitted

JAMESON HIBBS was appointed the new superintendent of the Daviess-Martin Joint Parks and Recreation Department last month. Hibbs is no stranger to the department. He served as assistant superintendent under the late Mike Axsom.

Hibbs takes reins at West Boggs

LINDSAY OWENS
TIMES HERALD

LOGOOTE - While he's not exactly new to the Daviess-Martin Joint Parks and Recreation Department, Jameson Hibbs does have a new title, superintendent.

Hibbs, a native of Terre Haute, started with the department in August, serving then as the assistant superintendent to the late Mike Axsom, who'd been at the helm of the department for over 21 years.

>> See **HIBBS** // Page **A2**

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For a list of activities scheduled for West Boggs, find them on Facebook or contact the park at 812-295-3421.

Hibbs ...

<< **CONTINUED** from Page **A1**

"I'm really excited to get started on things," said Hibbs, who was appointed last month. "We're still in the process of working on our master plan, but we're really excited about some things we are hoping to do in the future."

A 2003 graduate of Indiana State University, Hibbs earned a degree in parks and recreation management. He's worked at a dude ranch in Wyoming, managed the Rockville Lake Park, and served as superintendent in Parke County.

Hibbs said he hopes to find out the needs and desires of those utilizing West Boggs Park.

"The unique thing is we serve both Daviess and Martin counties," he said. "We really want to hear what they'd like to see at the park."

In the works are already an Americans with Disabilities Act playground, several programs and improved Wifi.

"While we get a lot of people from around the state

that come here to camp, we really want to get locals to the park as well," said Hibbs, who said he hopes to offer more amenities for day-to-day users of the park. "We focus a lot on the lake and camping, but we really want to offer things other than that for people to do."

One thing, Hibbs said, he and the park staff found out from a survey conducted was that park patrons were hoping to have more wildlife and

natural elements.

"We're wanting to do some pollinator mixes that will bring in wildlife," he said, adding those mixes should attract butterflies, hummingbirds and more.

Fishing, Hibbs said, will also be back this year. In the fall 2014, West Boggs Lake was drained in hopes of removing gizzard shad that were hindering bass and bluegill from growing, but the lake is now up and fish-

ermen are back again.

"We're known as a great Midwestern fishing destination and we're glad to have that back again," said Hibbs, who said he also has a wish list for West Boggs. "We knew we needed to upgrade our Internet access and take care of some other upgrades first, but there are a few things I'd really like to do in the next several years."

That wish list includes an amphitheatre that Hibbs

hopes could one day play host to not only programs, but also concerts and other performing arts.

"That's on the long-term wish list," he said. "But we really want to bring more culture programs to the park."

Beginning in March with the Camper Kids Easter Egg Hunt and continuing through October's Halloween celebration, West Boggs has multiple activities slated each month.

Participation Needs Results

As with most surveys, participation is conducted by a small percentage of the customer base. However, information portrayed through these individuals, especially repetitive suggestion does exhibit needs and desires of our facility customers. Our survey began on October 29, 2015 and the last recorded response was February 2, 2015. The public announcement of this survey was portrayed on social media once per week and through newspaper media outlets. We had 51 responses online and two handwritten responses. We combined the information and insight gained from this public input series and these common themes should probably be reflected in our long term planning methods and schedules. The following is a derivative from our input strategies and are needs, concerns, and were expressed from the public, department staff, and board.

One such project that is commonly construed as our foremost urgent project is road repair. The topic of this deteriorated infrastructure has been suggested by several interest groups, public scrutiny, and departmental concerns and as time passes, only escalates in urgency. As the lake recovers from the fishery renovation conducted to IDNR, a substantial influx of traffic from both fisherman and campers is expected in very short order. The fear of our department is the current state of the roads between the main-entrance of the park to our boat ramp will not endure this surge. Unfortunately, the capacity of our operating budget is insufficient to incur the expense of such a project. Assistance must be sought in order to accomplish the renovation of our park roads.

Another such suggestion that is seen in numerous responses both external and internal, is the urgent need to improve our campground infrastructure. The majority of the campsites were constructed within the first decade of the parks operation. Customer needs have dramatically changed since conception and now require additional services. It is common to see immense distances between camping units to available electrical utility resulting in the utilization of inadequate extension systems. The consequences of such applications are typically overheating and damage of infrastructure, low voltage problems resulting in multiple issues with camping units and a negative impact on customer perceptions of our facility. Public and staff concerns have been reported on numerous occasions. First and foremost, deteriorated electrical infrastructure can cause safety issues. Deteriorated infrastructure also leads to poor customer service and a substantial increase in maintenance costs. Bringing these systems up to date, will reduce usage of energy and associated costs, reduce environmental and human risk, and also amass positive customer experience.

Additional information that we can extrapolate from our public input is that the highest percentage of visitors utilize this facility for fishing and camping. Over 70% of survey responses stated such information, thus, making these two aspects of our business still our highest priority. Preservation of West Boggs Lake and continuation of upgrades to our camping infrastructure will impact the highest number of facility users. However, various other high percentage responses from public input are certainly worth entertaining. Activities such as walking (68.09%), golf cart riding (57.45%), photography (40.43%), wildlife watching (42.55%), and playgrounds (29.79%). These activities are essential pieces of a puzzle that reflects the entire usage of our facility for leisure experiences and accommodation of such actions can also be remedied with a dual purpose. An example is storm water control through landscaping and prairie plantings which will not only assist the overall quality of West Boggs Lake, but it will also provide opportunities for both photography and wildlife viewing while also increasing our nature programming repertoire.

One essential piece of information that was portrayed by our staff and board, is the need to increase and include the local communities through the development of day use amenities and community focused programming. Such amenities should include playgrounds, fishing piers, sporting courts, and nature observation areas. Such an area should be developed so that one centralized location can view the entirety of the day use area. After researching and carefully analyzing potential locations in our facility, we have determined to focus developing these amenities around our beach location. Adequate parking, swimming, volleyball, restrooms, concessions, two shelters, and lake access already exists in this location. Adding additional amenities such as modern playgrounds, fishing piers, basketball courts, and observation availability will enhance this section of our facility. Due to the proximity of our beach and two shelters, development in this location will also instill security by providing an adult three locations to keep a constant visual on children utilizing any of these amenities at one time. Essentially, through the development of this location revenue will increase from gate fees, shelter rentals, and concessions sold at our beach.

Other information that our public survey provides is our pricing structure is justified by participant responses. The highest percentages view our prices as just right, meaning that the value they place on their leisure experience is comparable to our use charge. Parks and recreation departments and leisure service facilities such as ours have a direct effect on the quality of life of the average day American. The effectiveness of our facility is an important issue to dissect as it has the foremost impact on customers, but also understanding the flak will assist our efforts in improving impact resulting not only with an increase in the quality of life but also an increase in facility revenue. According to question #12 on our survey, respondents portray that our proximity is excellent, however our services and amenities offered are only fair to good. The same description was gathered at our second public input hearing along with staff and board input..

Viewing the responses from public input once again concludes that so many people come to West Boggs from other areas due to the lack of recreational opportunities in close proximity to their residence. This is due to the void of public recreation opportunities in their region of Indiana making West Boggs Park a sufficient element in supplying residents with desired leisure services.

Priorities and Action Schedule

Parks and recreation facilities create priorities and actions in order to commit and accomplish goals that will positively reflect the mission of providing leisure services while maintaining a safe and exciting place of employment. It is quite simple to list potential projects that are based around the essence of fun or aesthetics but it is difficult to prioritize projects that have no hands on use of customers and are just flat out boring for consideration. However, such priorities must be set in order for us to properly service our customers and for West Boggs Park to even continue as a regional recreational service facility in Indiana. Various infrastructures in the park are in dire need of attention. The waste water system is old, inadequate, and the imminent threat of its loss could lead to catastrophic consequences. Revenue for such actions is difficult to locate due to the type of project and the overall cost of the repair. Our roads throughout the park have sustained numerous years of deterioration but once again the immense cost is something that our operating fund is not sufficient to cover. Attempts to receive assistance from INDOT have been made but are simply not available to local park roads, in part because those roads are controlled by a gatehouse that administers an entrance fee similar to our state parks.

Camping is our main source of revenue and modern day camping units combined with the needs of customers has increased the necessity of utility upgrades. There are several sections in our campground that simply do not meet the basic need of our customers. This includes not only the electrical utilities of the section, but also the topography and accessibility to all individuals. This situation is not only an inadequate service leading to negative perceptions, but it also increases our maintenance costs and our liability.

There are numerous smaller scaled projects prioritized throughout our action schedule to coincide with the larger projects. Although they may not require comparable funding, they are important to the operations and services non-the-less. Such items as a new fish cleaning station and accessible fishing pier will have an immense positive influence, especially just after a fishery renovation. Construction of a new modern accessible playground will entice more families to utilize our facility as their main leisure destination. Storm water control through landscaping will have multiple impacts not by alleviating erosion issues, but also supplying additional activities. One of our unique amenities we provide are the miles of multi-use trails that are utilized by golf carts. Maintaining these trails is an important maintenance procedure and must be accommodated to provide safe usage.

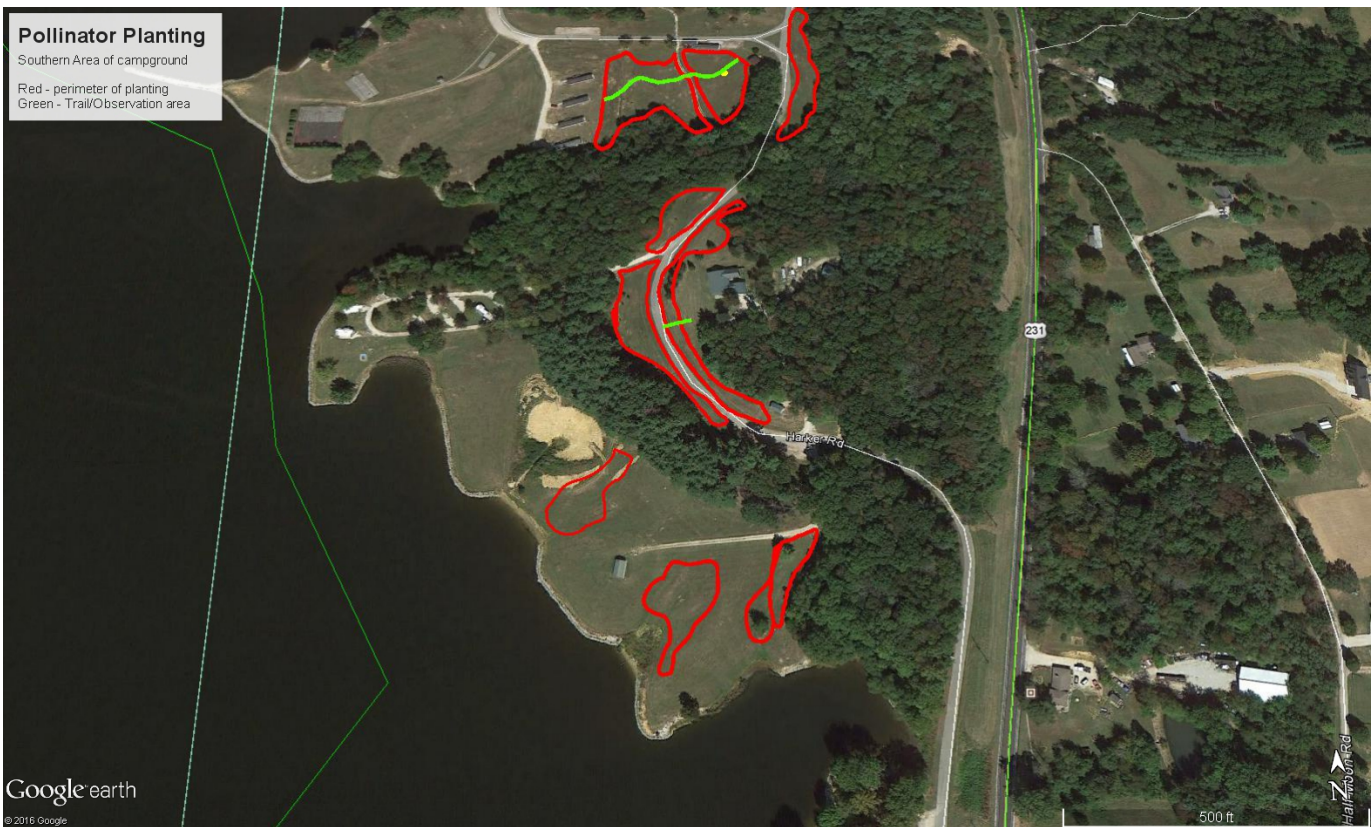
As with any recreational facility we have big dreams. Two of these projects are on the action schedule and with assistance could possibly become a reality in the next five years. The Multi-Use Amphitheatre is allow us to dive in to providing community events such as music concerts, movies, theatrical arts, and other programs. The economic impact from this venture will certainly assist not only ourselves but our communities with increased vitality. Construction of a splash pad is a water feature that has been requested by customers for several years. This addition to the facility will certainly increase our visibility, presence, and revenue. Third, but not on the list yet, is a multi-generational play area. This area will consist of elements targeting all ages of our demographics from seniors to toddlers. Inclusion of various activities, gardens, lake access, and a multi-use building will all be encumbered into this project. The cost is projected to be \$2-\$3 million to complete but some an endeavor will certainly take our facility to the next level in leisure services.

Assistance from various public and private groups will be necessary to include these changes for our continuation of public servitude. Funding from LWCF will be essential for our larger projects as other funding sources have fallen short. Finding creative approaches to various target groups and receiving their volunteerism on specific projects will be another focus of efforts.

Action Schedule

	Year	Action	Cost Estimate	Potential Funding Source(s)
1	2016	Upgrade Campground Utilities Whitetail Section	\$30,000	General Fund/Volunteers
2	2016	Purchase Trail Maintenance Equipment - Trail Maintenance	\$25,000	General Fund/Volunteers
3	2016	Storm Water Control - Landscaping/Culverts	\$15,000	General Fund/US FW/Local Support/Volunteers
4	2016	WiFi	\$15,000	General Fund/Local Support
5	2017	Replace Deteriorated Road Culverts	\$10,000	General Fund/County Support/Volunteers
6	2017	Replace current main sewage lift station	\$100,000	General fund/County support
7	2017	Upgrade Campground Utilities in Muskrat Section	\$30,000	General Fund/Volunteers
8	2017	Construction of new Playgrounds ADA	\$100,000	General Fund/Community Support
9	2018	Resurface Roads - Main Entrance to Boat Ramp	\$42,411	General Fund/County Support
10	2018	Upgrade Campground Utilities Bobcat Section	\$15,000	General Fund/Volunteers
11	2018	Storm Water Control - Landscaping/Culverts	\$10,000	General Fund/US FW/Local Support/Volunteers
12	2018	ADA Courtesy Dock at boat ramp	\$30,000	General Fund/Local Support/Volunteers/Duke
13	2018	Construct two 125' Fishing Piers	\$50,000	General Fund/Local Support/Duke Energy
14	2019	Events Amphitheatre	Unknown	General Fund/Local Support/ROI
15	2019	Replace Fish Cleaning Station	\$60,000	General Fund/Volunteers
16	2019	Replace Gatehouse	\$35,000	General Fund/Volunteers
17	2020	Resurface Roads - Four way stop sign around main camp loop	\$56,955	General Fund/County Support
18	2020	Splash Pad	\$350,000	General Fund/Donations Fund/Community Support
		Totals	\$959,366	





Final Public Presentation

To ensure ample opportunity was made for our communities and customers to evaluate and comment on our plan, conducted two methods in which to accommodate their assistance. We placed a copy of our plan in the libraries at Shoals, Washington, Loogootee, and Odon for two weeks. Promotion of these locations was made on our facebook page and through newspaper ads. We also held a public review meeting at our West Boggs Park activity center on March 30th at 6pm. This also was promoted via social media and newspaper ads. Unfortunately, we did not accumulate any attendance at our meeting nor did we acquire any feedback at our library locations.

The staff input is a valuable aspect of creating our master plan. Several of our team members have been employed by the department for over ten years. They have been on the front lines every day during our operations and have direct experience with our customers and our infrastructure. The ideas, suggestions, comments, and input that has accumulated via our staff has been prioritized and much of this information is visible in our plan.

Post Adoption:

Implementation

Implementation of this plan is a combined effort between the staff of the Daviess Martin Joint County Parks & Recreation Department, the governing park board, the Daviess and Martin County Commissioners, the Daviess and Martin County Council members, and the customers of the park facility. Implementing the prioritized changes discussed in this plan will take planning, budgeting, and construction, and evaluation. The items listed in this plan are unique to the information collected through various input segments conducted in order to understand what our customers and staff need. As these actions are completed, movement may or may not be to the very next item listed. Trends, needs, and priorities constantly change and we plan to remain limber and able to adjust our strategies to best fit these changes.

Evaluation

In order for the department to fully implement this master plan and meet the needs of the customer, we must evaluate our efforts and the effectiveness of this document. One important method to utilize to ensure the influence of our plan, is to continue to educate the public and allow feedback concerning their needs and wants. This will assist us in staying up to date on trends, spending habits, and customer needs. Placement of the master plan at strategic areas in our communities will allow for this continued public involvement and assist our efforts in staying in tune to the needs of our communities.

The staff, park board, and park affiliates will biannually review progress reports and public comments accumulated from our master plan locations. Such review will allow us to maintain a constant vision as stated in this document and keep us from veering to alternate influences. Review will also keep us in check to the demands and needs of our communities. Biannual reviews allocate a time to include and/or amend any actions stated in this plan. Such amendments will only be adopted after research, discussion, and public feedback.


Board Resolution Adopting Plan

The Daviess Martin Joint County Parks & Recreation Board is aware of the parks and recreation needs of the residents of Daviess and Martin Counties, Indiana, and;


The board realizes the importance of sound planning in order to meet the needs of its citizens, now, therefore be it resolved that the park and recreation board, by unanimous declaration, does adopt the 2016 Park & Recreation Master Plan and its official plan for the next five years, for the growth and development of parks and recreation opportunities in Daviess and Martin Counties, Indiana.

Passed and signed this 12th day of April, 2016

ATTEST:



Chadd Mosby, President



Lee Bennett, Vice President