

# PLUG INTO ALGONQUIN RECREATION

## Village of Algonquin Park and Recreation Master Plan

May 2021 through April 2026

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Public Works Director

Michele Zimmerman  
Assistant Public Works Director

Matthew Bajor  
Management Analyst

### **Project Team**

Hitchcock Design Group  
*Planning and Landscape Architecture*

Dewberry Architects, Inc.  
*Architecture*

Hey and Associates Inc.  
*Ecological Consultation*

Recreation Results LLC  
*Program Analysis*

ETC Institute  
*Market Research and Surveys*



### **Recreation**

Algonquin Recreation is committed to providing services that promote a spirit of community, enhance quality of life, and develop lifetime appreciation and involvement in cultural, recreational, and wellness activities through a responsible use of community resources, safe environments, and best practices.

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**Adopted April 20, 2021**



# Introduction

The Village of Algonquin developed this plan, with input from the local community, the Village Board and Village staff, to guide park, facility, and program development decisions for the next ten years.

## Purpose

The purpose of this Master Plan is to:

- Assess existing parks, facilities, and programs
- Determine community opinion about services and facilities.
- Identify park, facility, and program needs
- Define strategic and measurable needs and strategies.
- Provide an action plan to implement strategies over the next ten years.
- Benchmark Village recreation service assets relative to statewide, national, and industry standards and against peer communities.
- Solicit community opinion regarding the current and/or desired state of Village recreation service facilities, assets, and associated uses.
- Define measurable needs and high-level strategies to accommodate such needs.
- Develop preliminary conceptual plans and cost estimates for key parks and facilities.

## Planning Process

The comprehensive planning process covers five key phases: Analyze, Connect, Envision, Prioritize, and Implement. This Master Plan compiles the results of the first two phases (Analyze and Connect) which were used to develop the goals and objectives that will be accomplished through the ten-year action plan which was developed in the last three phases. The use of this document will assist in accomplishing the final phases of implementation and planning.

The planning process began in the winter of 2019 with an inventory and analysis of the Village of Algonquin's parks and open spaces, indoor facilities, programs, and community context. Village staff and board members and the community shared their opinions about the Village's parks, facilities, programs, and needs during the Connect phase.

Upon completion of the Analyze and Connect phases, the planning team worked with Village staff to develop strategies to meet community needs which were prioritized and then organized into a ten-year action plan. Input from Staff and Board further refined the action plan prioritization.

## How to Use the Plan

This Master Plan document will be used by the Village as a guide to implementing parks and recreation action items over the next ten years. The first two chapters provide recommendations for the next ten years while the last two chapters summarize the supporting evidence of those recommendations gained through the Analyze and Connect phases. The final phase is the appendix. The Action Plan in Chapter Two should be thought of as a "living document" that will need to be periodically re-evaluated and adjusted to reflect completed projects and the community's changing needs.

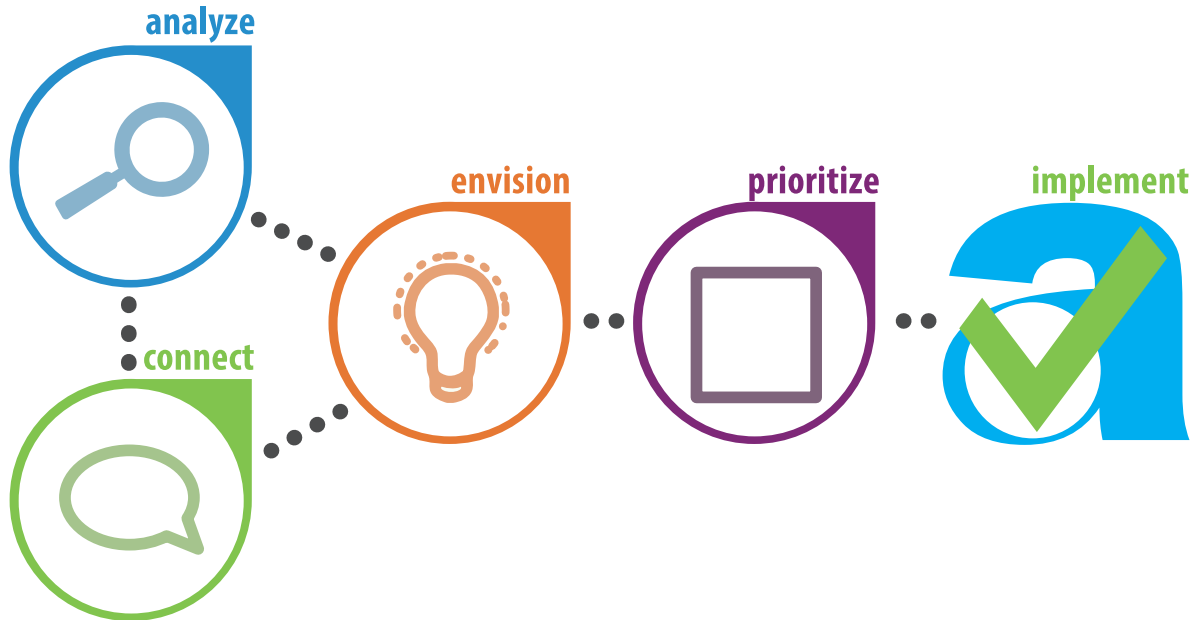
### Action Plan

The Action Plan in Chapter Two should be thought of as a "living document" that will need to be periodically re-evaluated and adjusted to reflect completed projects and the community's changing needs.



# STRUCTURE OF THE DOCUMENT

## Planning Process



### Chapter One

#### *Envision: Strategies*

Chapter One outlines the needs that arose during the Analyze and Connect phases. It provides the background of those needs, synthesizing the results from the previous Analyze and Connect phases into justification and background for future action items and the strategies to achieve them.

### Chapter Two

#### *Prioritize and Implement: Action Plan*

Chapter Two takes the strategies from the Envision Phase and prioritizes them by community need and attainability. The highest priority needs are then put into a ten-year action plan which designates when strategies will occur and how to accomplish them.

### Chapter Three

#### *Analyze: Inventory and Analysis*

Chapter Three provides a detailed inventory of the parks and open spaces, natural areas, facilities, and programs provided by the Village Recreation. This chapter also included information about the Village's demographics and relevant adjacent land uses.

### Chapter Four

#### *Connect: Community Engagement*

Chapter Four includes national, state, and local park and recreation trends. It also includes summaries of the online engagement platform results, staff and board workshops, a community meeting, stakeholder interviews, and a statistically valid resident survey.

### Chapter Five

#### *Appendix*

#### Chapter Five Contains

- Bike Route Map
- Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool Facility Plans
- Historic Village Hall Facility Plans
- Online Engagement Summary
- Post-Pandemic Survey Summary
- Community Meeting Summary
- Staff Workshop Summary
- Board Workshop Summary

# VILLAGE PROFILE

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The Village of Algonquin covers approximately 13 square miles of incorporated land and an additional 4 square miles of unincorporated land that is included in municipal planning boundaries. The population of the Village is about 31,000 people. Located in McHenry and Kane Counties, the Village maintains about 700 acres of open space.

The Village parks and recreation properties include numerous natural areas and a variety of parks providing active and passive recreation. The Village also owns one facility where it provides indoor recreation, education, administration, and support services and one outdoor pool.

The Village of Algonquin is located on the northeastern corner of Kane County and the southeastern corner of McHenry County. In addition to incorporated and unincorporated land under the Village's jurisdiction, the Village boundary overlaps two school districts and three park districts. These are Unit 300 School District and Unit 158 School District, and Barrington Countryside, Dundee Township, and Huntley Park Districts. The village of Algonquin is adjacent to the communities of Carpentersville, Barrington Hills, Cary, Huntley, Lake in the Hills, and unincorporated sections of both McHenry and Kane Counties.

Village park maintenance fall under the jurisdiction of the Public Works Department and frequently incorporate other public works and other department initiatives. The Village also works closely with other organizations to provide quality recreation. The village has formal agreements with St. Johns Lutheran Church to access indoor facility space and has utilized indoor space at School Districts #158 and #300 in the past . The Recreation Department also works with sports and fitness affiliates to provide programming. It currently has agreements in place with Trails Swim Team, Argonauts Football/Cheer, ALITHSA soccer, and AAYO Baseball/Softball as well multiple individual instructors who offer fitness classes at Village facilities.

The Village of Algonquin's primary revenue source consists of taxes and also includes licenses and permits, donations and grants, service charges, fines, and investment income. Village revenue is divided into trusts and funds which

are used to fund new developments, maintenance costs, operating costs, salaries, and other expenses. The majority of Park Improvement funding is gained through video gaming and telecommunications taxes and falls under the umbrella of Capital and Infrastructure Maintenance Funds and a special Swimming Pool Fund.

## Organizational Structure

The seven-member Board of Trustees acts as the legislative department for the Village of Algonquin and consists of six trustees and one president. Board members are elected to 4-year terms and in conjunction with the Village Manager oversee the operations and decisions of the Village's four departments: Public Works, Community Development, Police, and General Services Administration. The Recreation team (also referred to as Algonquin Recreation) is part of the General Services Administration Department, while the Parks and Forestry team is part of the Public Works Department.

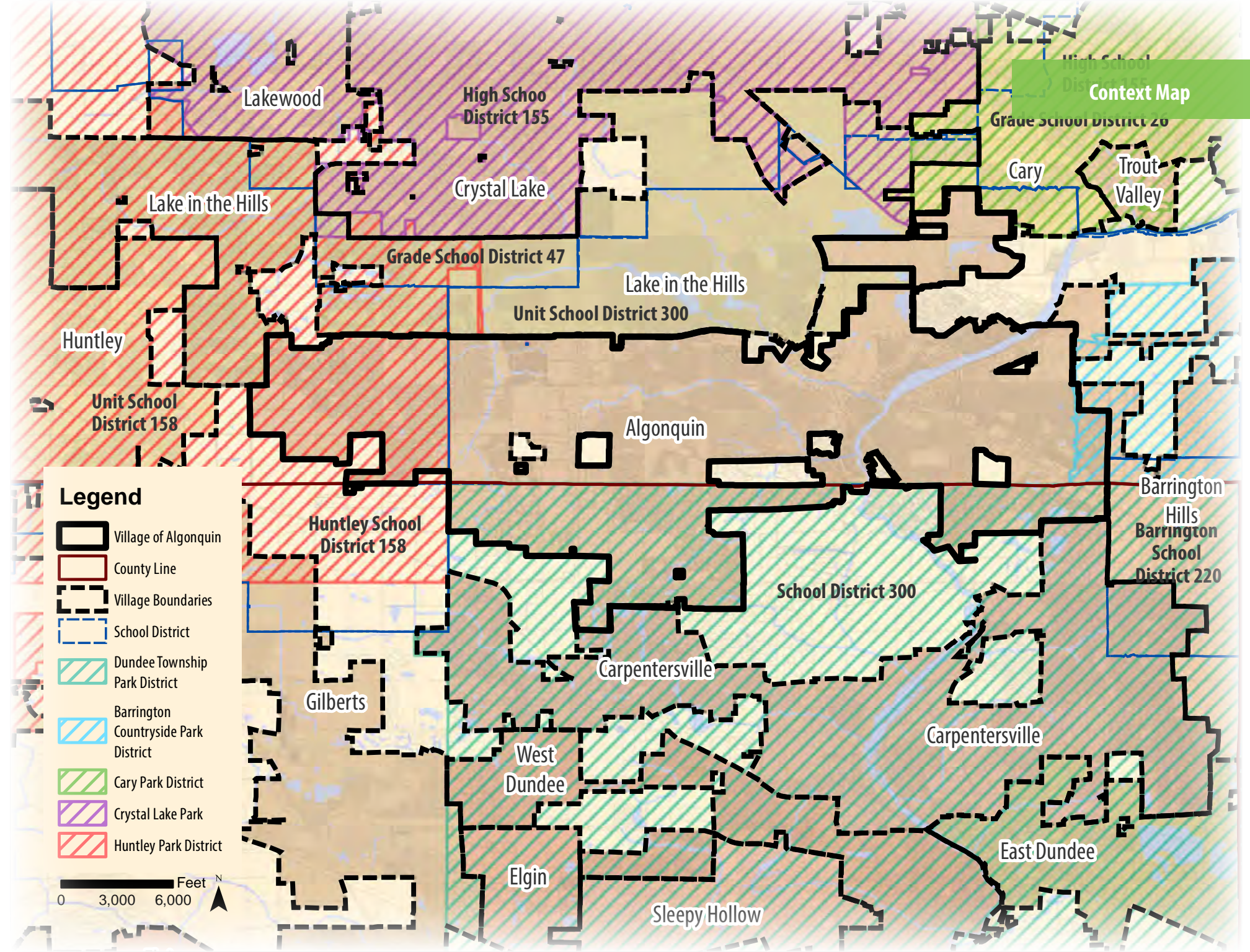
## Related Plans

Related documents referenced during the master planning process included:

- The Village of Algonquin Comprehensive Plan (2008)
- Annual Budget (May 1, 2020 - April 30, 2021)
- Village of Algonquin Bike Route Map (2017)
- Village of Algonquin Thoroughfare Plan (2008)
- Village of Algonquin Zoning Districts Map (2013)
- Water Quality Projects in Jelkes/Fox River Watershed (2011)
- Woods Creek Watershed-Based Plan - 5.0 Management Measures Action Plan (2013)
- Fox River Corridor Plan (2016)
- Downtown Streetscape Master Plan (2016)



# Context Map





## Chapter One

# Envision



# Overview

This Chapter documents the Envision: Strategies Phase of the comprehensive master planning process outlining the community needs and strategies to meet them.

## Purpose

The purpose of the Envision: Strategies Phase is to develop actionable items for the Village parks and recreation services to strive to accomplish over the next ten years. Unlike a capital plan, the strategies outlined in this chapter and Chapter 4 describe projects beyond expected maintenance. These strategies propose major site and facility use changes and the introduction of new amenities and activities. The definitions on the following pages outline the differences between the project types and other planning terminology found in Chapters 3 and 4.

The project team worked with Village staff during a visioning workshop to develop a series of community needs revealed during the Analyze and Connect Phases. These needs were then organized into primary goals and strategies to accomplish them. Following the visioning workshop, the planning team continued to work with Village staff to review and build upon the proposed strategies. These strategies were then presented to the Village Board of Trustees for final approval.

## Chapter Outline

This chapter begins with a list of definitions and abbreviations of common phrases found throughout Chapters 2 and 3 that will help the reader understand the difference between the many different types of proposed projects.

The rest of this chapter contains the complete list of the Action Plan items including descriptions of the strategies needed to accomplish them, proposed funding sources, and a detailed description of the needs that were identified in the Analyze and Connect phases. These goals are organized by type of Action Plan project: Facilities, Parks and Open Space, Natural Areas, and Programs and Operations, or as listed as Recurring actions.

"This Action plan is flexible and will be periodically re-evaluated and adjusted to reflect completed projects and the community's changing needs."



# DEFINITIONS

**Replacement Project:** Replacement Projects are intended to accommodate useful life cycles and other known maintenance needs in-place without impacting the larger site or intended use. These are commonly identified and planned as Capital Improvement Budget items and do not require site planning or design/engineering services beyond the scope of the planned replacement. For example, a playground replacement would be limited to replacing the equipment in its current location without impacting other park activities.

**Improvement Project:** Improvement Projects, also referred to as Master Plans include a full site assessment to determine appropriate use and identify major changes to park layout, land-use, and available amenities and activities. These projects involve large-scale planning efforts beyond the scope of a Replacement Project. For example, a park improvement project may recommend the addition of new amenities and moving the location of existing features. These projects also require further study to complete new construction design and engineering documentation. An Improvement Project will focus on the areas where improvements are needed, this may include the entire property where appropriate or may be limited to a smaller project limit when full-site changes are not necessary.

Sometimes, a known replacement or maintenance item may drive the need for an Improvement Project, dependent on the overall site condition. If there are other concerns on-site beyond the immediate replacement it is often useful to examine the entire property prior to investing in smaller changes. This holistic approach helps to ensure that any investments made through a replacement will not hinder other needed improvements or require removal prior to the end of their useful lives to accommodate future changes.

An improvement project includes multiple steps that take a proposed improvement from a preliminary idea to final implementation and construction.

1. **Conceptual Plan:** This first step combines initial ideas with preliminary site considerations. It may include symbolic graphics and mapping, a written program, a budget estimate, or a combination of the above. This type of plan is intended to serve as a starting point for the design, identifying what may be accommodated and any potential considerations to be aware of.

2. **Funding:** During or after the development of a project's conceptual plan, a rough cost estimation can be generated as the included amenities and materials of a project are determined. Depending on the size and scope of the project, additional funding beyond what is available in annual improvements budgets may be required. This funding phase is the Village's opportunity to allocate funding for the design and engineering and bidding and construction of the improvement project through Village funds, referendum, bonding, grant application, etc.

3. **Design and Engineering:** The final design and engineering of a project builds upon the initial recommendations of the conceptual plan to finalize all of the necessary requirements to implement the desired improvements, including the location, size, and material of all the items to be completed and the layout of the site as a whole. This stage includes the design and engineering of the amenities themselves as well as earthwork, stormwater, transportation, utility, and regulatory conditions that must be met. Permitting may also be required at this time.

4. **Bidding and Construction:** The last steps of the improvement project process use the results of the design and engineering phase to physically construct the improvements. As a public agency, improvement projects will be publicly bid with the construction completed by the lowest responsible bidder.



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**Needs Assessment:** A Needs Assessment is used to identify gaps in service that exist between currently provided conditions and the desired conditions. These studies consider the context of the gap including location (ranging from specific neighborhoods to regional or national services), underserved populations, and current and projected trends. These studies are only intended to determine if a project is appropriate for the Algonquin community and require further planning before implementation is possible. Any project considered during a needs assessment is not guaranteed to move forward.

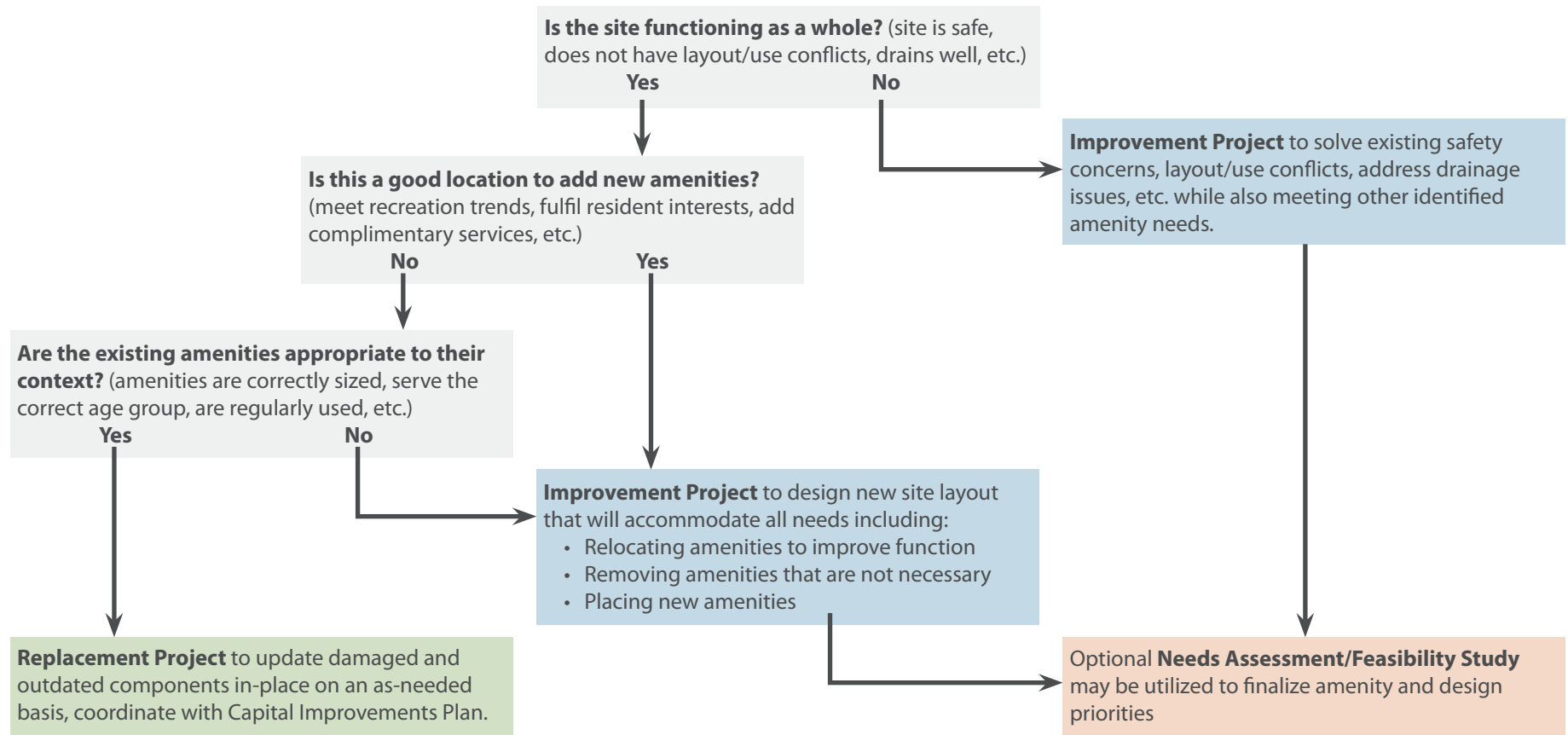
**Feasibility Study:** A Feasibility Study is used to determine what conditions must be met for the Village to commit to moving forward with a project. It may include factors such as community interest, available funding, construction costs, maintenance and operations needs, and cost recovery opportunities. Feasibility Studies may also include conceptual planning to conceptualize multiple design options. Any project considered during a feasibility study is not guaranteed to move forward.

It is important to establish the Algonquin Standard for what parks and open spaces *should* be when evaluating which properties require a more comprehensive Improvement Project and which only require a Replacement Plan. This standard will dictate the acceptable overall condition of the park and the specific conditions of the amenities within. Most importantly, the standard for Algonquin will not be the same as other communities. It will be a unique and customized approach to reflect the needs of the community while balancing the Village's resources to ensure the standard is upheld. To this end, an Action Plan item to Develop and Adopt **Park and Recreation Operations Standards Document** has been scheduled early in the ten-year plan to set these standards and evaluation criteria.

Additional information on recommended standards and criteria be found in the description of the Develop and Adopt Park and Recreation Operations Standards Document action item, on page 62.

# Park Need Assessment

The following flow chart tool is intended to assist Village staff in determining the type of planning efforts needed to bring Park and Recreation services to and keep them at established Algonquin Standards.



# ABBREVIATIONS

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**VoA:** Village of Algonquin

**IDNR:** Illinois Department of Natural Resources

**OSLAD grant:** Open Space Land Acquisition and Development Grant  
The OSLAD Grant program is offered by the IDNR to assist public recreation agencies in the purchase and development of park land for community use.

**IGA:** Inter-Governmental Agreement

**AAPLD:** Algonquin Area Public Library District

**ADA:** American with Disabilities Act



# ACTION PLAN ITEMS

Action Plan goals were identified and refined by the Planning Team and Village Staff with additional input provided by Village Board Members. Each goal is classified as a Facility, Park and Open Space, Natural Area, or Program and Operations improvement that should be accomplished over the course of the next ten years.

## Purpose

Items identified in the Action Plan focus on major changes to existing programs or infrastructure or the addition of new items that will meet the community needs identified in the Analyze and Connect Phases.

## Chapter Outline

Each item is categorized as Facilities, Parks and Open Space, Natural Areas, or Programs and Operations and includes a set of strategies to achieve the goal, a list of potential funding sources, and a detailed description of the background information and need to accomplish the item.

## Facilities

- Conduct **Indoor Needs Master Plan**
- Complete **Proposed VoA/AAPLD Community Center**
- Implement **Short-Term Improvements for Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool** (per **Indoor Needs Master Plan**)
- Implement **Short-Term Improvements for Historic Village Hall** (per **Indoor Needs Master Plan**)
- **Reevaluate Indoor Recreation Needs**
- Implement **Long-Term Improvements for Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool** (per **Indoor Needs Master Plan**)

- Implement **Long-Term Improvements for Historic Village Hall** (per **Indoor Needs Master Plan**)
- Complete **Additional Indoor Space Developments** (per **Reevaluate Indoor Needs Assessment** results)

## Parks and Open Space

- Complete **Stoneybrook Park Improvement Project**
- Complete **Towne Park Improvement Project**
- Complete **Hill Climb Park Play Structure Replacements**
- Complete **Gaslight Park Tennis Court Replacement**
- Complete **High Hill Park Improvement Project**
- Conduct **Feasibility Study for New Park Amenities**
- Complete **Presidential Park Improvement Project**
- Complete **Holder Park Improvement Project**
- Complete **Snapper's Field/Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool Improvement Project**
- Complete **Braewood Park Improvement Project**
- Develop and Implement **Remaining Park Improvement Projects**

## Natural Areas

- Complete **Natural Area Improvement Project** for Village Natural Areas and Other Environmental Improvements
- Update **Fox River Corridor Plan**

## Programs and Operations

- **Evaluate and Update Recreation Mission and Goals**
- **Update Park and Recreation Website** and Resident Resources
- Develop/Update **Risk Management and Community Safety Plan**
- Develop **Village ADA Transition Plan**
- Update **Action Plan**
- Develop and Adopt **Park and Recreation Operations Standards Document**
- Conduct **Periodic Resident Survey**
- **Update Master Plan**

# FACILITIES

## Conduct Indoor Needs Master Plan

- Identify needed indoor spaces for public use, programming, Village operations, and partnership opportunities, considering:
  - Intended square footage
  - Anticipated growth
  - Long-term use
  - Specific recreation, administration, and operations needs, considering:
    - Designated fitness center
    - Indoor walking track
    - Gymnasium(s)
    - Synthetic turf fields
    - Studio and group exercise rooms
    - Community rooms and rental spaces
    - Indoor aquatics
    - Senior center
    - Teen center
- Identify existing and anticipated deficiencies and maintenance needs at Historic Village Halls, considering:
  - Code compliance and accessibility
  - Conflicts of use
  - Facility age and replacement/maintenance cycles
- Consider other local public and private recreation provider services and resident use to evaluate actual need
- Complete pool operation pro forma to determine long-term operations feasibility for Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool, considering:
  - Code compliance and accessibility
  - Conflicts of use
  - Facility age and replacement/maintenance cycles
  - Weather limitations
  - Anticipated aquatics program goals
  - Cost of operation
- Determine and document preliminary indoor needs, considering:
  - Need for and capacity to provide a new community center
  - Short-term improvements for existing facilities
  - Long-term improvements for existing facilities

## Potential Funding Sources:

- Village Construction Fund
- Park Improvement Fund

# FACILITIES

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## Description

The Village of Algonquin has two facilities that serve public recreation needs but provide below the average number and square footage of public indoor recreation facility space compared to local peer agencies and midwest averages. It also does not currently provide many common indoor recreation areas such as fitness centers, gymnasiums, and recreation/community centers as well as some specialized facilities such as indoor ice skating, nature centers, and performing arts spaces. Community input suggested that a designated fitness center, indoor walking track, and indoor aquatics are high priority recreation needs among residents who participated in the online survey, mail-out survey, community workshop, and stakeholder interviews.

While there are some gaps in the Village's indoor services, there are numerous public and private recreation providers operating in the greater Algonquin region. A little under half of Algonquin residents are served by a second public recreation provider's jurisdiction and have resident access to those facilities. The Village is committed to providing equitable and quality recreation to its residents, including meeting indoor needs, but also fosters a strong Staff and Board commitment to fiscal responsibility and long-term feasibility for every new project. To this end, the Indoor Needs Master Plan will consider multiple factors to determine the full scope of indoor services to be provided by the Village. This includes identifying the indoor amenities the Village will plan to provide and where to accommodate them at the two existing facilities, the Proposed VoA/AAPLD Community Center, and other possible locations such as rented space, IGA facilities, or through partnership agreements. Possible indoor needs for consideration are listed on the previous page and include practical concerns such as estimating needed space and anticipated growth to types of activities to be offered. This plan should identify and document the long-term expectations that the indoor space should fulfill including how much space is needed and how it should be used. The list of possible needs includes common indoor activities that are not offered or that are at/over capacity, and activities that the community has expressed interest in.

In addition, this plan must consider existing indoor space as well as possible new construction. The Village of Algonquin currently provides two facilities that serve public recreation needs at Historic Village Hall and Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool but is limited by the size and age of both facilities. Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool includes a bathhouse/concessions building and a filter house both of which are limited in space and expected to need significant repair and upkeep in the next ten years. The bathhouse/concessions building is used by pool patrons and staff while the filter house contains the mechanical systems. A preliminary assessment of the pool facility can be found on page 140 and Village Staff and Board members are aware of the increasing maintenance and operations costs and the challenges that accompany an aquatic facility this old. Algonquin residents expressed dissatisfaction with the age of the facility and outdated activities as well but also expressed strong community ties to and affection for the pool. This master plan will require an in-depth look at the many factors impacting the pool's long-term feasibility and it is recommended that a detailed pro forma be completed to objectively determine the costs and benefits of the current facility. With this information, staff will be able to determine the best use of the facility for the next ten years, including whether it is worthwhile to continue to operate and repair in-place.

Historic Village Hall is over 100 years old and is limited by its layout, size, and accessibility challenges. This facility is used for exercise programming, community rentals, special events, and the Historic Commission offices. The facility assessment and some initial recommendations can be found on page 142. Ultimately, the Historic Village Hall is a valuable administrative resource but is not well suited for public recreation and it is recommended that it be transitioned away from that use. Instead, it is recommended that this facility be used for rentals, storage, and additional office space needs.

In addition to the two facilities owned by the Village, some programming is also offered at St. Johns' Lutheran Church. The Village has an ongoing agreement with the Church which grants access to their gym for instructor-led programming. Both parties have been satisfied with this agreement and it is recommended that St. John's continue to be utilized and the long-term availability of this space be considered when determining the need for additional gym space. The Village has also utilized agreements with School Districts #158 and #300 to use indoor and outdoor spaces at school property on an as-needed basis in the past and will likely remain available for Village recreation use on a limited, as-needed basis.



# FACILITIES

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The final consideration of this plan should be opportunities to provide new indoor space. The two existing facilities and one rented facility will likely be insufficient to meet all of the expected indoor needs identified in this plan. In 2020, the Village of Algonquin (VoA) and Algonquin Area Public Library District (AAPLD) began preliminary discussions to provide a joint community center to fulfill both agencies' unmet needs. This conceptual plan will be critical in establishing the amenities and activities that will be incorporated in this proposed community center. Furthermore, as indoor recreation needs are accommodated at this proposed community center, some activities and uses at the Village's existing locations may be reduced or eliminated, allowing these facilities to fulfill a higher and better use. Therefore, when planning for the proposed community center, opportunities to move services away from less functional locations must be considered in addition to providing new offerings. More information about the Proposed VoA/AAPLD Community Center can be found on the next page.

# FACILITIES

## Complete Proposed VoA/AAPLD Community Center

- Negotiate and enter into a formal agreement with the AAPLD to plan, design, fund, construct, and operate the joint **VoA/AAPLD Community Center**, considering:
  - Funding distribution
  - Ownership
  - Maintenance responsibility
  - Programming and scheduling
- Master plan the facility to determine size, location, and programming per the results of the **Indoor Needs Master Plan**, considering:
  - Village recreation, administration, and operations needs, considering:
    - Designated fitness center
    - Indoor walking track
    - Gymnasium(s)
    - Synthetic turf fields
    - Studio and group exercise rooms
    - Community rooms and rental spaces
    - Indoor aquatics
    - Senior center
    - Teen center
  - Coordinate Village and Library use needs, prioritizing joint and multi-use opportunities, considering
    - Community rooms and rental spaces
    - Offices
    - Auditorium/theater space
    - Storage
  - Determine Community Center site requirements, considering
    - Site access
    - Future expansion opportunities
    - Adjacent land uses
    - Potential outdoor recreation opportunities
      - Playground
      - Amphitheater/council ring
      - Splash pad
      - Outdoor aquatics
- Fund new facility development (see Potential Funding Source options on the following page)
- Design and engineer final construction plans
- Bid and construct Community Center facility and site improvements

### Potential Funding Sources:

- Grant assistance
- Community bonds
- Elective referendum
- Partnership contributions
- VoA/AAPLD contribution distribution
- Donations
- Private business rental

## Description

The Village of Algonquin (VoA) and the Algonquin Area Public Library (AAPLD) have a history of successful partnership, frequently collaborating to provide joint programming and special events, and sharing resources between the Library District's west branch and Ted Spella Community Park. Both agencies undertook master planning exercises in 2020 and 2021 to assess their existing assets and identify future needs. Both identified a common need for more public indoor space. The AAPLD noted a need for improvements in its east branch services and determined that a new facility would be the most desirable solution to met these needs. Likewise, the Village of Algonquin identified gaps in its indoor recreation services that cannot be met at its existing facilities. Building on their long-running relationship, the VoA and AAPLD began preliminary discussions to enter into a formal IGA to design, construct, and operate a new, joint community center facility in 2021.

In order to successfully complete a joint community center facility, the two agencies must first finalize terms of agreement to determine the distribution of funding, maintenance and upkeep responsibility, and operational considerations such as operating hours, and programming and scheduling protocols. Case studies from other inter-governmental agreements could be a valuable resource when considering what terms and conditions may be applicable for this agreement. The Village and AAPLD may also consider adding a private partnership to the facility development through leased commercial space. Working with like-minded partners such as hospitals, physical therapy businesses, and other wellness-related providers can help offset development and operations costs.

This proposed facility will need to provide a variety of education, recreation, administration, and operational services to meet the needs of the Algonquin community. The Village will be finalizing its indoor recreation, operations, and administration needs as part of the earlier **Indoor Needs Master Plan**, as will the AAPLD as part of their own planning study. The completion of this proposed community center will require several additional strategies to finalize what can be accommodated and in the final design and construction. Several of the in-demand indoor activities identified in the **Indoor Needs Master Plan** may be considered for inclusion in this proposed facility such as a fitness center, studio and exercise rooms, an indoor walking track, and a gym(s), while less in-demand, higher-cost, and/or highly specialized activities like indoor aquatics and indoor synthetic turf may be limited in feasibility by location and size constraints or project budget. Other amenities, such as community rooms and rental spaces, a senior center, a teen center, and/or a performing arts space that have the potential to be utilized by both agencies may receive a high priority as a strategy to avoid duplicating services.

In addition to the proposed facility, the building site may provide the opportunity to add outdoor components. Some types of amenities such as an amphitheater and shade structures may appeal to users of both agencies. Other amenities may benefit from the proximity to a facility with locker rooms such as a splash pad or outdoor aquatics center. The high volume of traffic at the proposed community center may allow other amenities that may be disruptive in the village's other parks, most of which are located in or near residential neighborhoods or lack the parking and other support amenities needed to accommodate them. Some examples of high-use activities such as competition athletic fields or community gardens. Other common and popular outdoor recreation amenities that may be included in adjacent parkland are playgrounds, shelters, and sports courts.

# FACILITIES

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## Implement **Short-Term Improvements for Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool** (per **Indoor Needs Master Plan**)

- Consider the results of the **Indoor Needs Assessment** to plan for future facility use, including:
  - Update aquatics program goals considering anticipated participation growth or reduction, available resources, and scheduling needs
    - Consider adding in-demand and trending programs and events
      - Continue hosting music and movies at the pool
      - Add all-ages programming
        - Masters swim team
        - Lessons for all skill levels
- Complete short-term Improvements that will ensure the facility's continued use as other, long-term indoor needs are accommodated through new development and/or renovations.
  - Continue to complete regular maintenance and repairs on a recurring, as-needed basis
  - Complete code compliance and accessibility updates
  - Implement low-cost amenity improvements and operation changes to improve user experiences, considering:
    - Provide mobile play opportunities such as in-water basketball hoops, volleyball nets, or inflatable obstacle courses
    - Update concessions offerings
    - Restructure memberships, passes, and fee structures
    - Update finishes
      - Considering themeing to appeal to younger children
    - Update site furnishings such as lounge chairs, tables
    - Add more shade structures

### Potential Funding Sources:

- Swimming Pool Fund

**Description:**

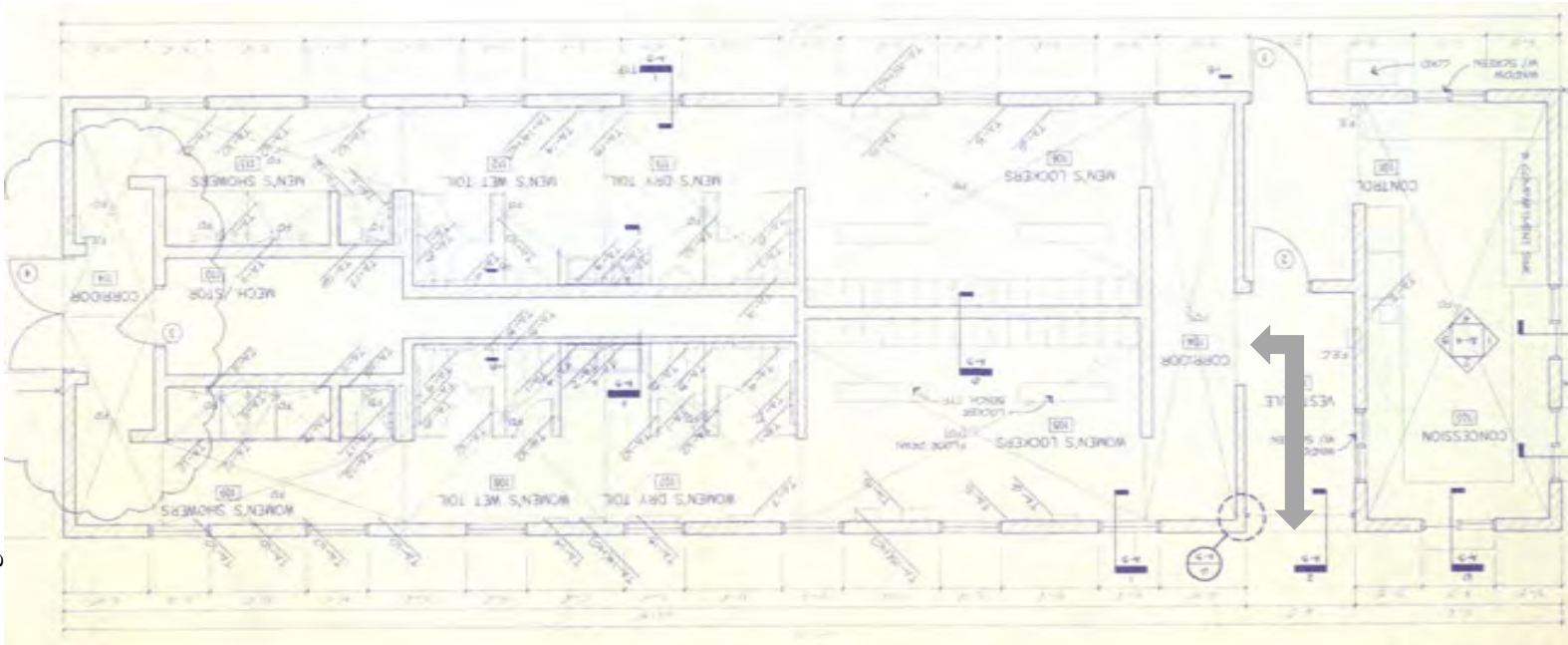
While the Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool is likely to require significant changes in its service, there are several short-term, low-investment/high-impact improvements that can be made to maximize the facility's use and resident satisfaction. Member use of the pool is decreasing annually and in 2019, only half of the previous year's members renewed their membership. There are numerous options to renew interest in the pool facility ranging from program and operation changes to small physical improvements. Programming is one of the simplest and most cost-effective ways to boost pool attendance, special events like music and movies at the pool can be continued and increased while adding programs for new-age groups like adult classes or masters swim teams can attract residents who may otherwise feel that the pool does not provide options for households without children. The overall decline in membership may also be an indicator that a change to the admission packages and/or pricing is needed.

There are also small physical changes that can be implemented at the facility which will have a large impact in refreshing the facility's overall appearance and public perception. Movable and temporary equipment like basketball hoops, volleyball nets, and an inflatable course provide new activities without permanently changing the facility or ability to accommodate other activities. On the pool deck, adding more shade structures and updating to high-quality furnishings will increase the comfort of patrons and also support multi-generational family use. These additions can also be used to add color and interest to the pool deck. Similarly, an epoxy concrete application or wall murals could enliven the deck space while supporting local artists.

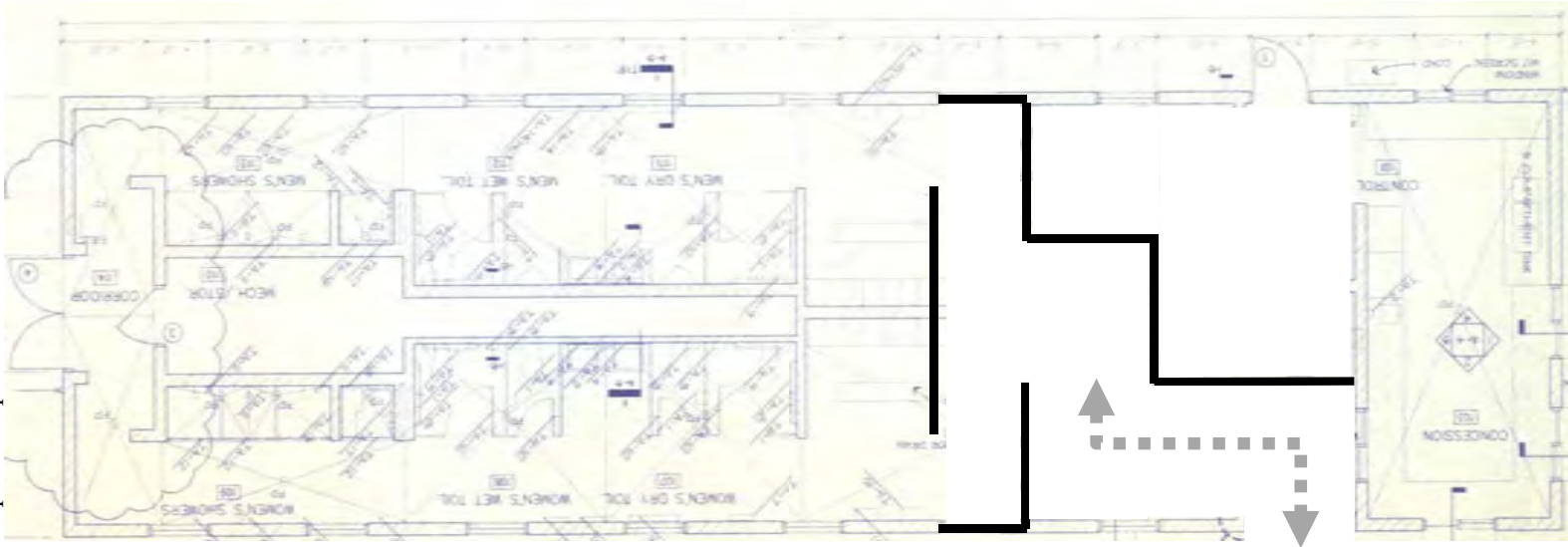
Staff members, stakeholders, and survey participant comments also indicated that the locker rooms and other spaces in the bathhouse building are not being utilized effectively or do not provide the services expected in modern facilities. The lockers are rarely used and almost never at capacity, there is not enough space for staff use and there is no separation between the concessions area and first aid area. Additionally, the concessions and ticket booth areas are not accessible by current ADA standards and should be modified for compliance as soon as possible. The conceptual proposed improvements plan on the following page shows how these facility issues can be resolved within the existing building. While these strategies do not address all of the challenges at the pool, they can have a significant positive impact on the facility's aesthetics and user experience until longer-term solutions are feasible.



Existing Plan



Proposed Improvement Plan



Reduce lockers and reconfigure walls to increase staff office/first aid/lounge.





# FACILITIES

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## Implement **Short-Term Improvements for Historic Village Hall** (per **Indoor Needs Master Plan**)

- Consider the results of the **Indoor Needs Master Plan** to plan for future facility use, including:
  - Short-term Improvements
    - Continue to complete regular maintenance and repairs on a recurring, as-needed basis
    - Complete code compliance and accessibility updates
    - Update interior finishes and materials

### **Potential Funding Sources:**

- Downtown TIF fund
- Village Construction Fund

### **Description:**

Aside from regular maintenance and repairs, there are a few accessibility and aesthetic changes that can be implemented at Historic Village Hall for immediate improvement. Additionally, because the over-all facility use is unlikely to change, these investments will remain relevant for the facility's future use. Regarding overall accessibility, the kitchenette is too high, storage and a display case in front of the woman's restroom should be relocated and ADA signage is needed throughout the facility. Aesthetically, the facility has a dated appearance and some of the current finishes do not appear to be rated for commercial use. Replacing the flooring on the first and second floors and the window coverings on the first floor will provide the professional look the facility is currently lacking.

# FACILITIES

## Reevaluate Indoor Recreation Needs

- Inventory all existing Indoor space in the context of the first five years of development and new community outreach, considering:
  - New **Proposed VoA/AAPLD Community Center, Short-Term Improvements for Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool, and Short-Term Improvements for Historic Village Hall**
    - Identify remaining unmet needs and deficiencies
- Identify remaining needed indoor spaces for public use, programming, Village operations, and partnership opportunities, considering:
  - Intended square footage
  - Anticipated growth
  - Long-term use

## Potential Funding Sources:

- Village Construction Fund
- Park Improvement Fund

## Description

The first five years of the action plan propose significant changes to the Village's indoor recreation offerings and if completed will add a new facility and lead to use changes at the Historic Village Hall and possibly the Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool. Following such a dramatic change, it is recommended that the Village reevaluate its existing indoor space, both owned and rented, to determine how these facilities are functioning after a few years of operation as well as to determine if there are any remaining unmet needs and if new needs have emerged.

Like the first Indoor Needs Master Plan, this reevaluation will provide preliminary recommendations to meet the identified remaining needs, if there are any. It is expected that the proposed new community center will have met many if not all the current needs and it would not be a good use of resources to build another new facility. Instead, if there are any remaining needs to be met, this plan should identify alternative solutions to new construction. The first priority to meeting these needs should be with the long-term improvements to Historic Village Hall and Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool. While some improvements and use changes are proposed later in this Action Plan, the final development of both facilities should also consider new indoor needs identified in this proposed reevaluation. There may also be opportunities to adjust use areas and programming at the Proposed VoA/AAPLD Community Center to meet these needs as well.

If there are any remaining needs that cannot be met with the Village's existing spaces at one of the Village's other options for partnerships, rentals, and small-scale construction may be considered. These strategies are further defined later in this chapter as part of the Additional Indoor Space action item.



# FACILITIES

## Implement **Long-Term Improvements for Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool** (per **Indoor Needs Master Plan**)

- Complete long-term Improvements to bring the facility to its highest and best use and condition per the results of the **Indoor Needs Master Plan/Indoor Needs Assessment Reevaluation** and updated community outreach, considering:
  - Evaluate need for continued operation, considering:
    - Facility age and replacement/maintenance cycles
    - Weather limitations
    - Cost of operation/revenue
    - Community interest/sentiment
    - Local duplication of services and/or competition
    - Potential regional draw
    - Staffing needs
  - Develop and implement strategies to improve the facility if it remains, considering:
    - Opportunities to expand the aquatics facility boundary into Snapper's Field to accommodate new use requirements and amenity additions such as a locker room expansion, shade and seating on the pool deck, additional storage, and new aquatic trends
    - Opportunities to extend the season such as a temporary covering or dome

### Potential Funding Sources:

- Swimming Pool Fund

### Description:

Due to the age of the Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool facility, there are a number of existing conditions that cannot be addressed by short-term improvements in-place. The shower areas are too small to accommodate large groups of simultaneous users like the swim team and the facility lacks family changing rooms. Additionally, the mechanical closet which also includes janitorial equipment and storage is undersized. The pool equipment is aging with the facility and regular maintenance and equipment repair and replacement costs have been higher than the revenue by a growing margin. The facility also relies on temporary off-season measures like plywood coverings on the windows. The pool basin itself also has some characteristics that are not compliant with modern standards, its shallow lap lanes are not deep enough for regulation competition and the diving boards should be over deeper water.

These concerns have led to an understanding among Village Staff and Board members that the feasibility of continuing to operate the pool facility should be seriously considered before high-investment changes are implemented. To that end, it is recommended that a detailed pro forma for the pool be completed as part of the **Indoor Needs Master Plan**. This pro forma, along with the constructed improvements at the proposed VoA/AAPLD Community Center will allow staff to determine if the Village will continue to provide aquatics at Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool or if the pool is no longer needed, either due to unsustainable cost or the provision of aquatic services at another location.

# FACILITIES

If the facility will remain, the challenges described above must be addressed through continued replacement when components are no longer functional or through a full or partial rebuild. There may also be opportunities to make other improvements to the facility such as expanding the pool into the adjacent parkland to accommodate a bathhouse or deck expansion needed to meet code and provide modern amenities. There was also some stakeholder interest in transition the facility into a 3-season or indoor facility to meet community interest in indoor aquatics and provide a longer or year-round competitive swimming season. Given the age of the facility and the community's love of the pool, there may also be an opportunity to market the pool's nostalgia. Aquatic facilities can be regional draws, attracting visitors from outside the community, while these are commonly large, modern aquatic centers, historic locations such as Phil's Beach in Waukegan have also become successful attractions. Updating the facility with historical context as part of the design may help mitigate renovation costs as well as gain support from Algonquin residents who grew-up with the pool and are hesitant to see major changes or the demolition of the facility.

If the facility is determined to no longer be necessary, it will likely be incorporated into changes to Snapper's Field. Strategies for Snapper's Field can be found later in this chapter.

## Implement Long-Term Improvements for Historic Village Hall (per Indoor Needs Master Plan)

- Complete long-term Improvements to bring the facility to its highest and best use and condition per the results of the **Indoor Needs Master Plan/Indoor Needs Assessment Reevaluation** and updated community outreach, considering:
  - Relocate user groups to alternative locations, where appropriate
    - Consider prioritizing administrative and storage uses over heavy public recreation and recreation uses due to limitations of the building layout and historical context
    - Consider rental or leasing opportunities as a cost-recovery strategy

### Potential Funding Sources:

- Downtown TIF fund
- Village Construction Fund

### Description:

With the construction of the proposed VoA/AAPLD Community Center, it is anticipated that many of the public recreation uses at Historic Village Hall will be accommodated at the new facility. As a result, the Historic Village Hall can be utilized for other purposes where the building's age and layout restrictions are less critical to its function. For public use, the facility has potential as a rental location for either special events or community organization meetings. The building also contains some offices and could be easily modified to provide more to meet future administrative needs. The facility already houses the Historic Commission Offices which will likely continue to occupy the building.

# FACILITIES

## Complete **Additional Indoor Space** Developments (per **Reevaluate Indoor Needs Assessment** results)

OPTIONAL - dependent on **Reevaluate Indoor Needs Assessment** results

- Complete feasibility and master planning for new facility(s) per the results of the **Reevaluate Indoor Needs Assessment**, considering:
  - Facility type
    - Three-season/enclosed shelters
    - Existing facility renovation
    - Use agreements at properties owned by others
    - Rental spaces
  - Intended user group
  - Village recreation, administration, and operation needs
  - Potential partnership opportunities

### Potential Funding Sources:

- Grant assistance
- Partnership contributions
- Donations
- Park Improvement Fund

### Description:

If the results of the Reevaluate Indoor Recreation Needs action plan item indicates a need for additional indoor space it is proposed that these be accommodated without the construction of another new facility. Instead, the Village can identify and plan for meeting these needs in other ways, preferably through changes at the proposed VoA/AAPLD Community Center, Historic Village Hall, and Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool, as described earlier in this chapter.

For needs that cannot be met by the Village's existing facilities, there are other options to provide additional indoor space without the need for more new construction. There are several commercial areas within the Village where space for programming could be rented. These commercial spaces offer several benefits including the flexibility to stop leasing when the need is no longer present and easy access to residents as these types of developments are already located on collector streets and provide large parking lots. Alternatively, the Village may be able to negotiate access to or reduced rates at existing private facilities in the Village. Similar to how the Village already contracts much of its recreation programming to independent providers, this option may allow Village to exchange advertisement/endorsement and/or rental fees for resident use of the facility and programs. This potential arrangement would further build on the success of the current contract policy by opening specialized facilities and equipment to resident use, in addition to high quality and specialized instruction.

# FACILITIES

Rental spaces may also be available through other agencies. Forming IGAs with school districts, library districts, and other nearby park and recreation providers is a very common strategy for park districts and departments. There are seven school facilities spread out relatively evenly across the Village of Algonquin most of which will have outdoor recreation such as courts, sports fields, and playgrounds as well as indoor gyms, auditoriums, and classroom spaces. A common agreement between a recreation agency and school district allows reduced or free use of interior spaces outside of school hours and school programming in exchange for the management of some or all of the school district's outdoor amenities. Additionally, the Village boundary overlaps Dundee Township, Huntley, and Barrington Countryside Park Districts, each of which has its own indoor recreation facility. While a little under half of Algonquin residents already receive reduced resident rates at these locations, there may be opportunities to expand service with one or more of these agencies to more of the Algonquin population.

The Village should also consider expanding its existing agreements with the AAPLD and St. John's Lutheran Church. Outside of the proposed VoA/AAPLD Community Center, the Library District also operates its West Branch adjacent to Ted Spella Community Park and may retain its East Branch location pending the results of its own master plan study scheduled for completion in 2021. Both these locations contain community gathering spaces for small and large groups and will likely continue to be available for recreation and joint agency programming as the two agencies remain partners. If the East Branch location is no longer needed for library services, it may have some recreation potential. Other public recreation providers have had success in converting former library buildings into teen or senior centers, for example. Similarly, stakeholders from St. John's Lutheran Church expressed satisfaction with the current agreement in which the Village uses the church's gym and some gathering space as needed and indicated that they may be opportunities to expand the Village's use.

A final option to consider if additional indoor space is needed is the creation of three-season or enclosed shelters. These are open-air park shelters with moveable or removable walls but typically are not climate-controlled. These shelters can provide flexible recreation and rental options in the warm months and also meet winter recreation needs as ice rinks or warming huts or can be used for seasonal cold storage.



Three-season/Enclosed Shelter Example



Three-season/Enclosed Shelter Example



Three-season/Enclosed Shelter Example



# PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

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## Complete **Stoneybrook Park Improvement Project**

- Complete design and engineering of approved grant improvements
- Bid and construct

### **Potential Funding Sources:**

- Park Improvement Fund
- OSLAD IDNR grant award

### **Description**

The Village of Algonquin applied for and was awarded an OSLAD grant from the IDNR for the fiscal year 2020 to complete several improvements. This park redevelopment includes new bocce courts, pickleball courts, a gaga ball pit, a pavilion, and a walking trail. It will also add a parking lot, replace the outdated playground, and renovate the existing sand volleyball court. Construction began in 2020 and is expected to be completed in the summer of 2021.

## Complete **Towne Park Improvement Project**

- Complete conceptual plan for Towne Park considering:
  - Park layout
  - Visitor access, including:
    - Vehicular
    - Bicycle
    - Pedestrian
  - Available amenities, including
    - Playground replacement
    - Ballfield updates
    - Shelter updates
    - Walking path updates
    - Natural area enhancements
    - Amphitheater addition
- Fund final design and construction considering state and federal grant funding opportunities
- Bid and construct

### **Potential Funding Sources:**

- Park Improvement Fund
- OSLAD grant application

# PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

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## Description

Towne Park is one of the Village of Algonquin's most popular and heavily used parks due to its proximity to the newly revitalized downtown corridor and event programming. Additionally, it includes strong historic and community connections as the home of the Angel Towne Playground and the Julius "Tubby" Simonini Field. Both of these amenities are beloved by the community, particularly the playground which was funded and constructed by community members in 1994. Unfortunately, these amenities are beyond their useful lives and approaching the point where continued operation in their current condition will lead to safety concerns. Likewise, the large shelter, restroom facility, and pedestrian path are also due for updates.

As one of the Village's most iconic and well-used parks, Towne Park was identified as the highest priority location for improvements. The recent downtown streetscape improvements have brought even more people to the downtown and into Towne Park and the Western Algonquin Bypass improvements along the north corner of the park have made it more visible than ever. Additionally, the regional Prairie Trail system runs into the Park at its north corner and continues south along the parking lot, into town, bringing increased non-vehicular traffic through and into the park. As part of the downtown fabric, Towne Park should be updated to complement the other local improvements and contribute to setting the new standard for what Algonquin parks should be. Its status as a drive-to community park destination and its desirable downtown location also make it a promising location to add new, trending amenities. In addition to updating and repairing the baseball field and path system, Village staff have a long-held interest in adding an amphitheater to the park. An amphitheater at Towne Park would be a great advantage to programming and is expected to be a popular destination, encouraging visits to the shops and restaurants in the adjacent downtown area. Additionally, it is understood that the Angel Towne Playground replacement must be handled with care to provide a unique and community-supported play destination. During the online survey, Algonquin residents expressed interest in specialty playgrounds such as challenge courses and ninja warrior playgrounds. Towne Park is an ideal location to begin meeting this resident interest and includes the necessary support amenities (restrooms, parking) to support the increased visitation this kind of amenity would bring.

In addition to the active recreation Towne Park provides, it also includes important historic and natural features. The park is located immediately behind the Historic Village Hall and includes a historic mineral spring. The Historic Commission is considering making enhancements to the spring which should be considered when planning for additional park improvements. Considering natural features, the Crystal Creek runs through the park before discharging into the Fox River on the east side of Main Street, in Cornish Park. The Village places a high value on creating and maintaining healthy ecosystems, particularly, water quality, and has restored and manages the Crystal Creek Natural Area which extends into the south edge of the park, along the creek. A large portion of Towne Park is also located in the floodway and 100-year floodplain. In addition to the regulatory limitations these features impose on development, it aligns with the Village's mission to minimize disturbance in these areas.

Towne Park was selected as one of four park locations for a preliminary visioning exercise to consider how these needs may be accommodated. The graphic on the following page is conceptual only and will require further planning and engineering prior to implementation. Further planning and design is expected to begin in summer 2021.



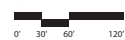
## Towne Park - Concept

### Algonquin Comprehensive Master Plan

Algonquin, Illinois



SCALE: 1"=60'



ISSUE DATE: FEBRUARY 12, 2021  
All drawings are preliminary and subject to change.  
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PREPARED FOR:  
Village of  
Algonquin





Amphitheater/Stage



Amphitheater/Stage



Updated Open Air Shelter



Updated Playground



Updated Playground



Updated Playground



Updated Playground



Gateway Feature



Trail Information Kiosk with Digital Screen





# PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

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## Complete Hill Climb Park Play Structure Replacements

- Complete themed playground equipment replacement

### Potential Funding Sources:

- Park Improvement Fund

### Description

Hill Climb Park is a unique site within the Village and one of the only locations with a highly specialized playground, themed around the historic Algonquin Hill Climb motor races. The playground consists of several small containers with equipment designed for children in the 2-5 age-range and was installed in 2003. The equipment is now beyond its useful life recommendation of 15 years and is in poor condition as a result of heavy use and weathering. As a result, all of the playground equipment and surfacing on the north half of the park will be replaced per the 2021-2022 Budget Proposal.

## Complete Gaslight Park Tennis Court Replacement

- Demolish and reconstruct the two tennis courts
  - Consider adding pickleball lines to one court

### Potential Funding Sources:

- Park Improvement Fund

### Description

The tennis courts at Gaslight Park are beyond their useful lives and in poor condition. Neighborhood residents used the courts regularly until they were closed and have expressed their strong support of repairing and reopening them for play. In response, the Village has reserved funds in the 2021-2022 Budget Proposal to completely replace the courts with new paving, color coating and striping, fencing, and netting. The village is also considering overlaying pickleball lines to accommodate the growing interest in the sport.

# PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

## Complete High Hill Park Improvement Project

- Complete conceptual plan for High Hill Park, considering
  - Replacing amenities at the end of their useful life
    - Playground
    - Shelter
  - New amenities, considering
    - Shelter at north part of the park
    - Nature education exhibit
    - Nature overlook/boardwalk
- Fund final design and construction considering state and federal grant funding opportunities
- Design and engineering
- Bid and construction

### Potential Funding Sources:

- Park Improvement Fund
- OSLAD grant application

### Description

High Hill Park provides multiple active recreation amenities at its two designated park areas. To the north, at the low side of the park, the Village provides a full basketball court, a large rectangular field that is striped annually with one soccer field, and a parking lot. The south side of the park is located at the site's high point and has additional parking, a playground, a shelter, and a sled hill. These two areas are separated by about 20 acres of natural area and connected by a paved pedestrian path with interpretive signage near the natural area. A few of the amenities at this park are in need of replacement, the playground and shelter are both beyond their useful lives and the interpretive signs along the path are in poor condition due to material deterioration caused by weathering. Additionally, the asphalt paving at the paths, parking lots, and basketball courts has a limited life expectancy and repairs or replacement of the material should be expected to occur every 12-15 for resurfacing and every 20-25 years for a complete renovation.

The need to update the park amenities provides the opportunity to improve overall park activity and function. At the south park, increased separation of the active recreation amenities from the parking lot will improve overall safety, and adding fencing may be considered to provide further barriers between playing children and vehicular traffic. At the playground, High Hill Park may be a good location for some specialty nature-based or nature-themed playground equipment that will fit within the park's natural context and align with the existing sand play activity that requires updating. The site's natural topography may also provide an opportunity to incorporate embankment play with slides and climbing activities embedded into the slope. It is also proposed that the shelter be relocated to be a central element to all of the amenities in this section of the park. By shifting the shelter to the north it will provide excellent scenic views of the natural area and better function as shelter during the winter for residents using the sled hill. The potential for the seasonal addition of temporary walls would further elevate the shelter's potential as a warming hut for winter use. Additionally, the centralization of the shelter improves the ability to add new amenities to the park such as picnic games like baggo, ladderball, shuffleboard, or bocce by opening up space next to the shelter.

# PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

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The north active recreation area which serves pick-up and organized sport activity functions well and can be expected to be maintained and updated in-place as construction material needs arise at the basketball court and parking lot. This area also provides the space to accommodate new amenities. A small shelter in this area may also be added to provide a place for caretakers to sit during children's sports events and to enjoy the park's natural areas to the south. Additionally, the use of the open field along Kirkland Drive has been decreasing and the field may be a good location to provide a new amenity with unmet need such as a splash pad or pickleball court. The proximity to the large nature area to the south and existing parking lot also allows for the possibility of future nature programming. As other outdoor recreation and programming needs are met in earlier developments and as other resident interests emerge, this field space should be considered as a potential location.

High Hill Park presents further opportunities to showcase the Village's stewardship of natural areas. In addition to repairing the existing walking path as needed, the addition of updated nature interpretive signage and designated natural area overlooks, visitors will be able to get close to, learn about, and appreciate the park's natural beauty. The Village may also consider a path extension at High Hill Park, providing an additional connection between the north amenities and the path could create a small loop and bring park visitors through the existing natural area. However, due to the established native ecosystem and regulatory protections on the creek, a future path would need to be carefully planned and permitted.

The preliminary visioning graphic on the following page illustrates how these needs and improvements may be accommodated. It is conceptual only and will require further planning and engineering planning to implement.



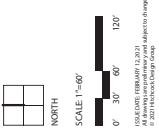


# High Hill Park

## Algonquin Comprehensive Master Plan

Algonquin, Illinois

PREPARED FOR  
Village of  
Algonquin







Updated Playground



Updated Playground



Updated Playground



Open Air Shelter



Three-Season Shelter



Lawn Games



Wetland Viewing Area



Wetland Viewing Area



Path/Bridge Connection

# PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

## Conduct **Feasibility Study for New Park Amenities**

- Identify potential new, special-use amenities for development, considering:
  - Sports complex, considering:
    - Number and type of fields
    - Artificial turf fields
    - Sports lighting
    - Support facility/fieldhouse
    - Potential partnerships
      - Sports affiliates
      - Other local recreation providers
      - Local school districts
      - Private sponsorship
  - Splash pads
    - Access/admission
- Coordinate proposed amenities with community outreach results to confirm support and interest
- Identify potential locations in existing parks or possible acquisition properties to accommodate new amenities
- Determine criteria needed to construct new amenities, considering:
  - Maintenance and operations costs
  - Staffing requirements
  - Admission and fee structures
  - Programming and rental scheduling

## **Potential Funding Sources:**

- Park Improvement Fund

## **Description**

A few types of potential amenity additions were identified during the Connect Phase with some community interest. Due to their large up-front investment and maintenance and staffing needs, these amenities require additional consideration to determine their feasibility to build and maintain and to determine the full extent of community support and expected use. Stakeholders, particularly those representing sports affiliate groups, expressed strong interest in the development of a high-quality sports complex in the Village. When compared to benchmarks, the Village offers fewer of all types of sports fields than average. The Village also does not have a single centralized location to promote competitive play. Additionally, there are not any sports complexes in the neighboring communities including the three agencies with overlapping service boundaries and representatives from these agencies noted that a sports center could be a service gap in the region during stakeholder interviews. In addition to this possible service gap, the Village includes some features which support sport complex development with the new highway interchange and expansive development along Randall Road which includes dining, entertainment, and hotels.

# PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

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While there are some preliminary indicators that a sports complex may be possible, there are numerous other factors that require further investigation. Location within the village (possibly at Presidential Park or through land acquisition) and what indoor and outdoor amenities would be included would have to be considered. Additionally, a sports complex would require significant up-front investment and would require a detailed pro forma to determine what type and size of facility the community could support, to estimate construction costs, and to project expected revenue compared to operating costs. Partnerships with other recreation providers and sports affiliates or businesses may be one option to consider to improve the overall feasibility of this type of project.

Splash pads are growing increasingly popular as alternatives to traditional aquatic facilities due to their lower upkeep needs, low to no staffing requirements, lower cost. Recreation users also like splash pads for their longer seasons and play benefits for younger age groups of children. During the Connect Phase spray pads and water play were the second-most popular rated amenity in the online survey and rated as a medium priority investment in the mail-out survey. With the uncertain future of the Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool, splash pads could help meet resident interest in providing up-to-date amenities. The lower investment costs of splash pads may also allow the construction of more than one, which could help alleviate resident concerns of unequal service on the east and west sides of the community. As with the sports complex, additional conceptual planning is needed to determine cost and maintenance requirements and location options.

For either of these types of amenities, community interest must also be considered before moving forward with construction. Other Action Plan items such as conducting Periodic Resident Surveys and the amenities included at the proposed community center and long-term Improvements at Lions Armstrong Memorial pool may also impact the need for these amenities if they are accommodated at these locations instead. Community interest overtime to ensure the need is not a passing fad. Reassessment of what is being provided to determine if the need is already being fulfilled as well as determine if Village can commit the necessary resources to the project.



# PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

## Complete Presidential Park Improvement Project

- Complete replacement and renovation of amenities beyond their useful life, including:
  - Ballfield dugouts
  - Playground
    - Relocation to provide separation from vehicular traffic
    - Consider large, signature playground
    - Consider challenge course
- Reevaluate field use and identify opportunities to re-stripe for in-demand activities
- Replace buildings with combined shelter, restroom, and concession facility
- Consider sports complex development per the results of the **Feasibility Study for New Park Amenities**

## Potential Funding Sources:

- Park Improvement Fund
- OSLAD Funding

## Description

Presidential Park is the Village's second-largest active recreation park and has the most sports fields of all locations with 3 baseball/softball fields and 2 soccer fields striped for a typical season. The park also includes a large parking lot, a playground, a loop trail with fitness equipment, and two enclosed shelters. These semi-permanent buildings consist of a metal shelter with wood walls. One of the buildings is split evenly between interior restrooms and storage space and an open-air shelter while the other is a fully enclosed concessions building serving the ball fields. Like many other parks originally constructed with OSLAD funding assistance, many of the amenities at Presidential Park are in a deteriorated condition, largely due to their age and construction material. In particular, the wood dugouts and the walls at both buildings are in poor condition and in need of replacement. Similarly, the playground and the fields themselves are beyond their recommended useful lives and in need of replacement or updates to meet modern expectations and safe use standards.

The need for improvements at Presidential Park also presents the opportunity to make other in-demand and modern adjustments to the park which will improve park circulation and function and the overall resident experience. Additionally, Presidential Park's size, location, and current use make it a candidate for more substantial changes typically seen at sports complexes. The following pages include two possible sets of improvements: Vision #1 improves the park layout and amenities with minimum disturbance while Vision #2 recommends an optimized site plan for a full sports complex.

# PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

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Both these visions relocate the park's playground away from the parking lot to improve safety and place it more centrally in the park. This park's classification as a drive-to community park destination and potential for high volumes of use during sporting events and practices also necessitate a large playground container with activities for children in the 2-5, 5-12, and even pre-teen and teenager age ranges. Given the focus on athletics and fitness at the existing park and in both concepts, Presidential park is a good location for a challenge course equipment in addition to more traditional playground equipment as part of the playground or in a separate container. Similar in design to athletic training drills a challenge course has broad appeal for young children through adult users. Disc golf is another amenity to consider adding at President Park. Disc golf was rated as moderately important to online and mail-out survey respondents and has grown as a national recreation trend over the past 10 years. As a sport that allows for social distancing during play, it is a good option for residents to remain active in spite of health concerns. Both visions also show the replacement of the park's deteriorating buildings and wood dugouts. Despite a higher up-front cost, the Village may consider CMU block and metal replacements for these structures for longer life and less maintenance.

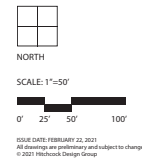
While both visions contain similar elements, Concept 2 elevates the park to a destination sports complex. This potential need was identified by sports affiliates in the stakeholder interviews and may be a good fit for the Algonquin community as described earlier in this chapter, as part of the Feasibility Study for New Park Amenities action plan item. If this proposed feasibility study and pro forma indicate that the Village should add a sports complex, Presidential Park is a good option. This park already provides sports programming, has electrical, water, and sewer service, is located on a main street, and provides a buffer between the park and adjacent residents to minimize disturbance. If the Village decides to turn the park into a sports complex it is recommended that some significant layout changes be implemented. The relocation of the parking lot will allow for the addition of a fourth ballfield to accommodate the growth of baseball and softball participation among all age groups while providing the ideal "wagon wheel" layout which centralizes the player and spectator amenities in one location. Building off this centralized layout, this vision greatly expands the potential for walking trails, creating a strong east-west spine on the site and greatly expanding the number of loops for walkers and runners to varying their routes and distance traveled. On the other side of the park, this vision recommends a large rectangular field space that can be stripped for soccer, lacrosse, and football, with seasonal use changing with community needs. Football, in particular, might be considered for this location as the Village does not currently provide any fields for this sport. At the ballfields and the rectangular field space, there is also the opportunity for synthetic turf, either as part of the initial redevelopment or as a planned future addition. Adding synthetic turf and sports lighting to at least one ballfield and the rectangular field will extend the playing season earlier into spring and later into fall, reduce weather-related delays and cancellations, allow play for longer each day, and accommodate more use without the need to rest the fields. Synthetic turf has been growing in popularity with the increase of competitive and travel sports leagues throughout the Chicagoland area and would make Presidential Park a highly desirable destination.



# Presidential Park Vision #1

## Algonquin Comprehensive Master Plan

Algonquin, Illinois



Village of  
Algonquin





#### Site Key:

- ① Updated Concession and Restroom Building
- ② Updated Bleachers and Dugouts
- ③ New Ball Field (Potentially Synthetic Turf)
- ④ Drop Off Area
- ⑤ Open Air Shelter
- ⑥ Updated Playground
- ⑦ Challenge Course
- ⑧ Multi-Use Field (Potentially Synthetic Turf)
- ⑨ New Parking Lot
- ⑩ Trail Side Seating
- ⑪ Accessible Spectator Area
- ⑫ Expanded Buffer Planing
- ⑬ 9-Hole Disc Golf Course



## Presidential Park Vision #2

### Algonquin Comprehensive Master Plan

Algonquin, Illinois



SCALE: 1"=50'



ISSUE DATE: FEBRUARY 22, 2021  
All drawings are preliminary and subject to change.  
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PREPARED FOR:  
Village of  
Algonquin





Updated Concessions and Restroom Building



Updated Concessions and Restroom Building



Updated Dugouts



Baseball Field - Synthetic Turf



Baseball Field - Synthetic Turf



Disc Golf



Updated playground



Challenge Course



Challenge Course





# Lawndale Park Nature Preserve



VILLAGE OF OAK BROOK  
NATURE PRESERVE  
The Village of Oak Brook  
has acquired this land to  
preserve it for the future.  
For more information, contact  
the Village of Oak Brook  
at (630) 584-1000.

# PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

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## Complete Holder Park Improvement Project

- Complete conceptual plan for Holder Park, considering
  - Ballfield dugouts
  - Playground
  - New shelter
  - Parking lot repair
- Fund final design and construction considering state and federal grant funding opportunities
- Design and engineering
- Bid and construct

### Potential Funding Sources:

- Park Improvement Fund
- OSLAD grant application

### Description

Holder Park is classified as a neighborhood park but has some of the highest quality sports fields in the Village. Aside from the deterioration expected from the age of the park amenities, there are some minor changes that would improve the overall visitor experience. As shown in the visioning exercise on the next page, in addition to replacing the outdated playground equipment with a more modern option, the playground could be relocated away from the parking lot to a more central location in the park. This would allow the addition of another smaller field on the west edge of the park and maintain enough space for a large field in the northwest corner. Moving the playground to be central will also benefit park visitors providing additional separation from the parking lot for improved safety. This central play area is also an ideal location to add a shelter to the park where caregivers will have a clear line of sight to the soccer fields, playground, and ballfield. Holder Park may also be a good location for the addition of lawn games such as baggo, ping-pong, ladderball, etc. for the many residents who live nearby and use the park regularly. This graphic also recommends the addition of a park path. As one of the single-most popular improvements and desired amenities identified in the Village, adding a loop path around the perimeter of the park will align well with resident interests. Finally, the remaining improvements to repair the parking lot, fix damaged sections of the outfield fence, and replace the dugouts which are at the end of their useful lives will bring the entire park to a high standard that will meet modern expectations and recreation needs.

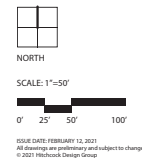




# Holder Park

## Algonquin Comprehensive Master Plan

Algonquin, Illinois



PREPARED FOR:  
Village of Algonquin





Updated shelter



Updated playground



Updated playground



Lawn Games - Baggo Courts



Lawn Games - Bocce Courts



Lawn Games - Ping Pong Tables



Updated Dugouts

# PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

## Complete Snapper's Field/Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool Improvement Plan

- Coordinate park improvements with **Long-term Improvements for Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool**
- Complete conceptual plan for Snapper's Field park improvements, considering:
  - Add pedestrian path
  - Renovate tennis court for multi-sport play
  - Replace ballfield dugouts and fence
  - Renovate concessions building
  - Replace playground
  - Provide/improve off-season access to the splash pad
- Fund final design and construction considering state and federal grant funding opportunities
- Design and engineering
- Bid and construct

### Potential Funding Sources:

- Park Improvement Fund
- Swimming Pool Fund
- OSLAD grant application

### Description

Snapper's Field is dominated by the Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool, a facility that takes up about half of the park site. Village Staff, Board, and residents are all aware of the challenges facing the pool facility, described earlier in the chapter, and of the age-related condition deficiencies of the Snapper's Field recreation amenities. While the baseball field at this park is well-used, the park's tennis courts and playgrounds are set back from the road, are not very visible, and are not thought to be heavily used. The park also has minimal path connections and none connecting to the tennis courts.

The biggest factor that will face Snapper's Field's future use and possible improvements is the **Long-Term Improvements for Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool**. Because these two locations share a site, it is recommended that their conceptual plans be combined and improvements for each be implemented at the same time. If the pool facility is retained, improvements to Snapper's Field will be limited. The damaged ballfield dugouts and fencing should be repaired and the tennis courts renovated for multi-sport tennis/pickleball play or to try a new use such as futsal (a football game played on a hard surface). The basketball courts and in-line-skating rink should also be maintained regularly, as the need arises. Adding walking paths, including connections to the sport court, and connecting the west dugout to the sidewalk should also be considered as well as replacing the playground when it reaches the end of its useful life. The Village may also consider changes to the playground area. Evaluating its frequency of use and considering the larger playground across the parking lot at Eastview Elementary School may indicate a change in use is needed. Particularly, if an expansion of the pool facility is needed, the playground and possibly the basketball and skating rink may need to be relocated or removed.

If **Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool** is determined to no longer be needed, it is recommended that it be repurposed for outdoor recreation use as part of **Snapper's Field**. This change could provide an opportunity for major site use changes requiring a new layout and amenities. Depending on if the splash pad is retained, some level of facility may still be needed on site for mechanical controls, restrooms, and shelter as well. One potential new use to explore if the pool facility is removed is a skate park, which could take advantage of the excavation already completed for the pool basin. New uses in the park such as futsal and a skate park which were not considered in this Master Plan may be explored in future Periodic Resident Surveys and the Master Plan Update proposed to occur in year 5 to determine resident interest and other determining factors such as installation and maintenance cost and liability considerations.

# PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

## Complete Braewood Park Improvement Project

- Plan pedestrian connection to Fields Property to the south
- Complete conceptual plan for Braewood Park and Lake Braewood improvements, considering:
  - Security improvements such as park signage, lighting and cameras, bollards
  - Improve basketball court striping
  - Water overlook/access at Lake Braewood
  - Passive recreation at Fields Property
    - Pedestrian trails
    - Shelter
    - Nature interpretive/educational exhibits
    - Nature observation areas
- Fund final design and construction
- Design and engineering
- Bid and construct

## Potential Funding Sources:

- Park Improvement Fund
- Natural Area and Drainage Improvement Fund

## Description

Braewood Park is one of the Village's smallest parks and does not offer a large number of recreation amenities. Located adjacent to the Braewood Pump Station, the park is set back from the road and only accessible by an asphalt path. It also lacks the standard Village park identification sign and its recreation amenities are not visible from the road. In contrast, Lake Braewood, located on the other side of Gaslight Drive, is highly visible and has an identification sign but lacks any active or passive recreation amenities. Both properties are almost exclusively used by the adjacent neighbors but are part of a larger open space corridor, connecting to the Fields Property Natural Area to the north.

As part of the Village's efforts to improve non-vehicular routes, a bike path is being considered through the Fields Property Natural Area which would connect residents in the Lake Braewood area to Edgewood Drive and the existing designated trail system that runs through to the Village and on bicycle-friendly roads. If this connection is implemented the Village expects to make additional recreation improvements to the affected areas. It is proposed that the Braewood Park and Fields Property Natural Areas be restored to high-quality habitat and appropriate passive recreation amenities be added in addition to the path. This proposed path also has the opportunity to bring more visitors to Braewood Park necessitating some improvements to the existing park space. In particular, the basketball court at the park consists of only a hoop, adding free-throw lines and drop-down bollards to separate play from the pump house and vehicular maintenance traffic are low-cost ways to enhance the user experience. Similarly, water access and viewing are popular passive recreation trends and could be meaningful additions to Lake Braewood.

# PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

## Develop and Implement Remaining Park Improvement Projects

- Determine priority order and implementation schedule for remaining parks in need of improvement
  - Jaycees Field
  - Gaslight Park
  - Merrill Pioneer Park
  - James B. Wood Park
- Continue to add in-demand and trending amenities at appropriate locations, considering:
  - Modernized, signature playgrounds
  - Accessible and inclusive playgrounds
  - Pickleball courts
  - Splash pads
  - Lawn/picnic games (baggo, bocce, etc.)
  - Bandshell
  - Evaluate existing tennis courts to determine future maintenance needs or replacement project
- Consider past OSLAD and other grant amenity retention requirements and allowable opportunities for replacement of underutilized amenities
  - Tennis courts

## Potential Funding Sources:

- Park Improvement Fund
- OSLAD grant application

## Description

One of the primary objectives of this Action plan is it must be realistically achievable, not just to implement but also to maintain Village recreation offerings at an acceptable standard. To this end, items are staggered to limit necessary resource allocation in any given year and to allow maintenance and replacement budgets to grow over time rather than being outpaced by development. This should also ease the burden of future replacement and update needs by limiting overlapping schedules which place greater strain on Village resources. When scheduling the Action Plan, several factors were considered, outlined on page 79. With these in mind, the parks identified above have been in need of improvement but able to be addressed after the initial 10-year plan.



# NATURAL AREAS

## Complete **Natural Area Improvement Project** for Village Natural Areas and Other Environmental Improvements

- Identify and prioritize Natural Areas for implementation in the next ten years
  - Continue to reference and coordinate proposed improvements with existing watershed plans (Woods Creek Watershed Plan and Jelkes-Fox Water Quality Plan)
  - Years one through five
    - Woods Creek Reach 4 (per Capital Improvements Budget)
    - Woods Creek Reach 5 (per Capital Improvements Budget)
    - Spella Park Uplands
    - Arbor Hills Nature Preserve
    - Hill Climb Park Woodland
  - Identify properties A-E for implementation in years six through ten
- Develop plan for natural area restoration, considering:
  - Site conditions
  - Adjacent properties
  - Adopted best management practices
  - Highest and best potential use, considering
    - High-quality habitat
    - Stormwater or wetland mitigation
    - Water quality
    - Educational/interpretive opportunities
  - Develop appropriate passive recreation amenities, considering:
    - Walking/nature interpretation trails
    - Interpretive/education exhibits
    - Observation areas/towers and wildlife viewing blinds
    - Shelters
    - Fishing piers
    - Non-motorized boat launches
- Complete water quality improvements for tributaries of the Fox River within the Village
  - Implement erosion control measures on lake and stream banks
  - Continue to provide native planting filter strips at stormwater management areas
  - Reduce or eliminate pesticide and fertilizer applications

### Potential Funding Sources:

- Natural Area and Drainage Improvement Fund
- Park Improvement Fund

# NATURAL AREAS

## Description

Restoring and maintaining natural areas and improving ecological function is a high priority for the Village of Algonquin. Online survey participants rated restoring high-quality native habitats as the most important ecological objective and passive park areas and nature programming and exhibits were both rated as high priorities in the mail-out survey. Additionally, passive recreation amenities like biking/walking and nature trails were consistently rated highly as important needs among all of the Connect Phase participant groups. The Village currently owns almost 530 acres of natural area. About half of these areas have already been restored and are actively monitored and managed to ensure their continued quality. The Village plans to continue restoring its currently unmanaged properties, with the strong support of many Algonquin residents and the Village Board. Similarly to prioritizing park improvements, the Village's Natural Area restorations will be divided into groups based on priority to ensure high-quality work can be completed and the necessary resources can be invested, and that the maintenance budget and resources are not outpaced by the growing amenities that will need ongoing care after the initial restoration is complete.

The Village already has a well-established set of criteria that is used to evaluate the condition of natural areas and begin estimating the required improvements. These are described under the **Regularly Reevaluate and Document Natural Area Conditions** action plan item later in this chapter. Using these criteria, Village staff have identified five properties to be addressed in the first five years of the plan: Woods Creek Reach 4, Woods Creek Reach 5, Spella Park Uplands, Arbor Hills Nature Preserve, and Hill Climb Park Woodland, some of which are also identified in the Village's annual Capital Improvements Plan. Due to the many factors that can affect a natural area's condition, the specific properties to be addressed in the last five years of the plan are currently shown as placeholders A-E. As these first five-year items are implemented, the Village will continue to reevaluate its existing managed and unmanaged sites and evaluate any new areas that are added to the Village to determine the most critical locations to address in years six through ten.

The focus of the Natural Area Improvement Projects will be to provide high-quality habitats for native plant and animal species as well as address stormwater management, watershed and groundwater quality, wetland protection, and any other ecological objectives that are determined to be necessary. Other factors, such as strategies to improve conditions on adjacent properties, connect natural areas, and implement current best management practices (BMPs) will also be considered. As a secondary priority, the restoration of natural areas also presents the opportunity to add appropriate passive recreation activities that will activate the spaces for limited public use and continue to foster resident appreciation of the village's natural areas and conservation efforts. Examples of these activities included popular and in-demand amenities such as walking/nature interpretive trails and interpretive/educational exhibits and boat launches, particularly on the Fox River, where applicable. Other potential amenities such as observation towers or blinds and good fishing locations can act as regional attractions, providing further good publicity to the Village.

# NATURAL AREAS

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## Update Fox River Corridor Plan

- Continue to contribute to Fox River Corridor Plan updates
- Implement recommended projects in Village jurisdiction

## Potential Funding Sources:

- Natural Area and Drainage Improvement Fund
- Grant assistance

## Description

The Fox River is an immensely valuable resource to the Village and recognized by residents as one of the best features in the community. With the recently revitalized downtown corridor and some of the Village's most visited parks - Towne Park, Cornish Park, and Riverfront Park located along the Fox River, it is highly visible and an increasingly popular destination within the Village. The Village of Algonquin and Village of Carpentersville collaborated on a Fox River Corridor Plan in 2016. This plan was largely based on downtown planning initiatives from 2012-2013 and was published with the goal of providing a "long-term framework for making informed decisions about development and conservation that will affect the river and the adjoining land." Following this plan, Village also updated its Downtown Streetscape Master Plan building on the results of the previous planning initiative published in 2013. In the years since the Fox River Corridor Plan was developed, the Village has implemented many improvements along the river including the Old Town Algonquin project which includes streetscape, business, stormwater management, and recreation improvements on and around the downtown stretch of the Fox River. This initiative entered into Phase 3 of development in 2021.

With the plan about 8 years old, the many changes to the downtown and riverfront, and external factors impacting the river from upstream. Village staff have begun planning for an update to the Fox River Corridor Plan to evaluate the current conditions of the river and its adjacent properties and identify any new needs that may have developed since the last plan was developed. It is recommended that applicable Action Plan items also be considered in the Fox River Corridor Plan update to ensure the plan and future initiatives align with the other planned Village projects.







# PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONS

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## Evaluate and Update Recreation Mission and Goals

- Adjust and edit official statements to be relevant and feasible to current expectations and resources
- Reevaluate revenue needs and targets
  - Set cost recovery guidelines and acceptable parameters

## Potential Funding Sources:

- N/A - Staff coordination

## Description

An agency's mission is the overarching outline or focus of what that it intends to provide and may be further supported by a series of more specific goals. As the defining statement of what the Village of Algonquin intends to provide, it is critically important that this mission be current and accurate. As a best practice, it is healthy to complete a periodic review of the mission and goals to ensure they still outline the services and role the agency is filling and to see if its offerings are leaving any gaps or shortcomings in fulfilling this mission. Depending on an agency's performance, adjustments or additions may be needed, particularly after times of rapid change such as the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic. It is recommended that the Village also consider revenue needs and targets during this assessment to determine if establishing cost recovery goals for some or all of the offered programs, events, and facilities is necessary to help support the larger mission and future recreation needs.

# PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONS

## Update Park and Recreation Website and Resident Resources

- Improve website navigation
- Add community resources to the website, considering:
  - Recreation map with park, facility, and trail locations
  - Photos of park and facility amenities
  - Additional directional and accommodation information
- Improve contact information and add community feedback collection opportunities

### Potential Funding Sources:

- N/A - Staff coordination

### Description

Online presence is increasingly important and often viewed as a necessity as well as being one of the most valuable marketing tools an agency can use. The Village website and Recreation subpages are not user-friendly to navigate and do not contain some of the information expected of park and recreation websites. Additionally, park and recreation information is not all located in the same place on the website, making it difficult for visitors to find what they need. For example, the navigation tab labeled “Recreation” links to recent news and information on offerings provided by other agencies rather than the recreation options provided by the Village of Algonquin. Much of the expected information on the specific parks and facilities is located in the Visitors menu item but most of these links go back to the main recreation page without providing additional information or resources. This arrangement is likely confusing to the average website user and does not redirect to any lists or maps of the available recreation offerings. The Village’s recreation locations (as well as numerous other community development maps and resources) are available on the website through the Village’s GIS data and mapping, however, these maps are also not intuitive to locate and are not easily legible. It is recommended that the Village make several changes to the website to improve navigation with more clearly labeled menu items and by locating its park and recreation resources in a single location or linked subpages. Additionally, the data that the Village already maintains can be used to generate a simple and legible image or pdf file for quick reference rather than directing visitors through the online GIS portal which is not a platform many users will be familiar with. Additionally, many other recreation providers offer online profiles for their parks and facilities that list the available recreation features as well as other considerations like access to parking, water fountains, and restrooms. Some also include photos of each location and make these profiles searchable so residents can easily locate their desired amenities and become comfortable with the properties before their first visit. For some people, the Village and Recreation web pages may be their first impression of Algonquin Recreation.

Participants in the mail-out survey indicated that the printed brochure and direct mailings are still the most common ways they learn about Village of Algonquin programs and activities but the Village website was a close third with 35% of respondents. The Planning Team has observed a slow transition into greater reliance on digital resources like websites, email, and social media to distribute recreation information. Computer literacy has become a common aspect of life and an expectation of younger generations of Algonquin residents. With this ongoing shift, it is expected that providing comprehensive and easy-to-use online resources will continue to increase in importance. Some agencies are even electing to discontinue their printed media entirely most often to promote environmental conciseness and/or save money as the trend toward online access grows.

# PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONS

## Develop/Update Risk Management and Community Safety Plan

- Modify existing plans and protocols to ensure current best practices are being met, considering
  - Changes to local, regional, and/or global health recommendations
  - Identify opportunities for flexible programs and spaces that can serve multiple needs or be easily transitioned between different uses to minimize service interruptions
  - Inclement weather protections
    - Upgrade lightning detection and other warning systems as needed
    - Provide sheltered locations for park and open space users
- Upgrade community contact system to improve communications between Village departments and residents, considering:
  - Online resources
  - Social media
  - Email and phone systems

### Potential Funding Sources:

- N/A - Staff coordination

### Description

Having a formally adopted and documented risk management and community safety plan in place as a best practice for public agencies. As the global, regional, and local social and health contexts change. Updating and adhering to emergency and standard practices will provide clear direction to Village Staff, improve overall preparedness to respond to new challenges, and allow effective updates to the community.

## Develop Village ADA Transition Plan

- Cooperate with proposed Village-wide ADA transition plan development

### Potential Funding Sources:

- Street Improvement Fund
- Park Improvement Fund
- General Fund
- State and federation grant opportunities

### Description

Completing a Village-wide ADA analysis and adopting a transition plan to implement needed improvements has been a staff goal for several years. These plans document an agency's compliance with current ADA standards and the necessary improvements and implementation strategies across all of the agency's public and staff locations, including but not limited to recreation locations. It is also common for these plans to establish the ADA coordination and grievance protocols, statement of ADA policy, and public outreach standards. Additionally, some grant funding opportunities require or encourage these plans to qualify for assistance. With the development of this Master Plan and subsequent Action Plan items, the timing for an ADA transition plan is ideal to incorporate the identified ADA improvements while park, natural area, and facility action plan improvements are being implemented. Completing multiple types of improvements simultaneously will minimize the disturbance and interruption of service to the location and potentially save money by funding the improvements as a single job.

# PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONS

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## Update Action Plan

- Conduct Action Plan update to reschedule missed objectives and confirm future year feasibility considering:
  - Completion or delay of past objectives
  - Major recreation market changes
  - Population and demographic changes
  - Social and/or health events
  - Fiscal Climate

## Potential Funding Sources:

- Park Improvement Fund

## Description

The following action plan is a living document that is intended to provide a realistic and achievable set of goals for recreation development for Algonquin over the next ten years. The action plan should be updated annually and each update should take into account major changes in the Village and be adjusted as the Village's capacity to complete its changes. Potential factors that may affect the action plan include the completion or delay of previous plan goals, market changes, population and demographics changes, major social or health events, and the current financial capacity of the Village.



# PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONS

## Develop and Adopt **Park and Recreation Operations Standards Document**

- Document acceptable condition for parks, natural areas, facilities, and amenities
- Update and estimate common maintenance budgets and replacement cycle costs
- Maintain and update inventory documentation, including:
  - Installation/construction years
  - Manufacturer information
  - Land use stipulations/restrictions
  - Past renovations/replacements
  - Maintenance schedules
  - Adopted level of service benchmarks
  - Asset management
- Consider applying for Illinois Distinguished Agency Accreditation
  - Reference standards as model for Village recreation services

### **Potential Funding Sources:**

- N/A - Staff coordination

### **Description**

Throughout this Master Planning process, the planning team and staff observed some common themes of outdated and in some cases deteriorated recreation amenities, many of which were added as part of OSLAD grants and are nearing or past the end of their useful lives. The Algonquin community is also aware of this trend, noting in the online survey “outdated/inadequate facilities” and “lack of activities” as the two biggest reasons they are unsatisfied with parks and when asked why they don’t visit parks the top two responses were “not interested” and “desired amenities aren’t offered”. When asked what the Village should focus on, the two highest-rated items were “improving and upgrading parks” and “maintaining existing amenities” in the online survey and every stakeholder group made similar statements. Among both Staff and Board members, park improvements/modernization were the highest prioritized objectives. As one stakeholder noted, the Village’s parks and facilities are “loved to death”

Documenting park and recreation operation standards and best practices is a valuable tool for tracking and anticipating the many needs of the Village’s recreation services. The goal of these types of documents is to reevaluate the agency’s practices and refine and improve what works well while changing ineffective processes. These practices are then recorded for adoption and use as standard best practices. The operations standards document should be tailored to the Village of Algonquin and should include, tracking maintenance and replacement timelines and amenity details such as installation date, manufacturers, completed improvements. This document can also be used to set appropriate and acceptable conditions for recreation offerings, establishing the Algonquin Standard. Determining and clearly defining this standard will improve staff, board, and community understanding of what should be expected and build consensus in determining when changes are needed. Furthermore, having a clear set of condition requirements will allow staff to better estimate and budget for the necessary projects each year. By projecting condition and useful life standards, the Village will be able to anticipate needs years in advance. This knowledge of future needs can be used to determine the feasibility of other projects, anticipating when funding may or may not be available and helping to spread projects out evenly to manage both up-front costs and ensuring that too many future maintenance and replacement needs are not falling in the same year, overwhelming the available resources. Knowing the approximate timeline of existing and future amenity’s needs will allow maintenance and staff resources to grow with these needs, rather than being outpaced.

# PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONS

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As the Village of Algonquin develops its Parks and Recreation Operations Standards, the Illinois Distinguished Accreditation program should be considered as a reference and model for the Village recreation services. This accreditation program is intended to recognize agencies who go “above and beyond” in providing services and programs and in meeting resident needs. Administered by members from the Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD) and the Illinois Parks and Recreation Association (IPRA) this program combines agency self-evaluation with committee evaluation, considering general management, finance and business operation, facilities, parks, staff, programs, and the agency’s documentation. As the Village reviews the program and its requirements as a model for Village services, it should also consider applying to receive accreditation.

# PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONS

## Conduct Periodic Resident Survey

- Conduct regularly scheduled surveys to gauge community satisfaction and changes in priorities

### Potential Funding Sources:

- N/A - Staff coordination
- Park Improvement Fund
- General Fund

### Description

Ensuring resident opinions are heard can be critical to building community satisfaction and consensus. By proactively and regularly engaging with Algonquin residents, the Village will have the opportunity to gauge community satisfaction, monitor how interests change over time, and get feedback on specific ideas before implementing any physical changes. Having clear and open communications with residents can be invaluable when determining where to allocate resources and planning efforts to ensure that they will be used and supported by the community. A biennial survey, similar to the online platform used in this Master Plan will help residents feel connected while allowing the Village to check their progress and plan improvements against community need and interest.

## Update Master Plan

- Conduct master plan update to determine future objectives for the next five years, reflecting
  - Accurate and comprehensive inventory of the Park and Recreation offerings
    - Parks
    - Natural Areas
    - Facilities
    - Programs
    - Amenities
  - Updated community outreach
  - Status of previous master plan objectives

### Potential Funding Sources:

- Park Improvement Fund

### Description

This ten-year Action Plan is divided into two parts with a more detailed list of recreation development objectives and timelines outlined for the first five years, and a less detailed outline for objectives scheduled for years six through ten. It also identifies some objectives to be completed after the ten years, but these are loose recommendations and require additional study and planning to develop into a complete and actionable plan. Because the Algonquin community and the recreation market are constantly changing and evolving it is recommended that the Park and Recreation Master Plan be reviewed and updated on a regular basis, at the five-year milestone, and again after ten-years when a new master plan should be developed and adopted. These updates should follow a similar process to that taken in this plan to rebuild and modify consensus on planned items and add new items to meet needs that have changed for the next five years. The process should include an updated inventory of the Village's parks, natural areas, facilities, programs, and amenities and reengage the community to collect a current perspective. While both plan updates can build upon the information established in this plan, it can be expected that the update at the end of the ten-year period will require a more in-depth effort since it will be establishing a new plan for adoption.





# RECURRING ITEMS

Some of the strategies identified by the Village Staff, Board, and the Planning Team are recurring items that should occur on a regular basis to help the Village maintain its existing Parks and Recreation offerings, make operational decisions, and inform future projects.

## Purpose

In order to keep up with the fast-paced recreation market, it is important that agencies reassess their facilities, programs, staff, and users on a regular basis. This recurring self-reflection will help the Village stay aware of changing demographics and industry trends and monitor its assets' evolving strengths and weaknesses.

## Section Outline

As with the Action Plan items, the Recurring items are formatted as goals with corresponding strategies to achieve the desired outcomes. They are also organized by Facilities, Parks and Open Spaces, Natural Areas, and Programs and Operations.

### Facilities

(none)

### Parks and Open Space

- **Expand Park Walking /Biking Trail Systems** and Connect Recreation and Community Destinations to Existing Trail Systems
- Continue to Implement **Planned Capital Improvement Projects**

### Natural Areas

- **Monitor Fox River Improvement Projects**
- Continue to **Maintain Restored Natural Areas**
- Regularly Reevaluate and Document **Natural Area Conditions**
- **Continue to Connect Residents to the Fox River**

## Programs and Operations

- Continue to **Provide Programming Through Partnership Agreements** and Identify New Program Opportunities
- Continue to Offer and **Expand Resident Access to Inclusive and Special Recreation**
- Continue to Identify and Provide **Trending Recreation and Programming Opportunities**
- Continue **Track Program Statistics** to Meet Recreation Trends and Resident Interest

# RECURRING ITEMS - PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

## Expand Park Walking /Biking Trail Systems and Connect Recreation and Community Destinations to Existing Trail Systems

- Complete and expand existing park walking paths
  - Complete planned connection between Cornish Park and Towne Park along Crystal Creek
  - Consider Fields Property trail development
- Connect segments of existing trails to create a longer total system
  - Provide additional connection points to the Prairie Trail
- Identify opportunities to provide safe crossing points across planning area boundaries and other barriers to access
- Identify additional locations to provide access to and across the Fox River
  - Consider a river trail along the Fox River utilizing existing public land and public roads
  - Consider increased access where appropriate, such as boardwalks and additional pedestrian bridges

### Potential Funding Sources:

- Park Improvement Fund
- Motor Fuel Tax
- Street Improvement Fund

### Description

Trail systems are consistently one of the most in-demand recreation amenities an agency can provide. Expanding and improving trails has constantly been in the top three requested amenities in U.S. and Illinois recreation trend studies for the past 10 years. Algonquin residents have mirrored this trend, rating trail expansion and addition as a high priority throughout the Connect Phase. Outdoor walking, running, and biking trails were rated as the most important amenity improvement in the online survey and the mail-out survey, and the second-most important priority for Board members.

There are already several trails throughout the Village, many of which are separated from the street and vehicular traffic and sidewalk connections at the Village Parks. While these trails are popular and residents are largely satisfied with them, there are still opportunities to connect additional trail sections and expand into new areas of the Village. In particular, there is only one designated trail crossing the Fox River. This crossing is part of a larger regional trail, the Fox River Trail which connects to the Prairie Trail to the north. Additionally, there very few other trail systems that connect to this regional spur. None of the paths on the east side of the river make a designated connection, and only one on the west does, via a public trail on a street. There are other gaps in the existing trails that can be connected to create a longer total system. Examples for consideration include: Square Barn Road between Academic and Reserve Drives, through the proposed Terrace Hill development, through the Fields Property (per the Braewood Park Improvement Project), and connecting the Algonquin Lakes neighborhood to the trails to the north along E Algonquin Road. Additionally, both the 2016 Downtown Streetscape Master Plan and the 2016 Fox River Corridor Master Plan proposed several non-vehicular connections into and through the downtown. These connections are increasingly important to complete the recent improvements and revitalization.

Finally, access to and across the Fox River should be carefully considered, both as a way to connect residents to a popular community feature and as a method to lessen the perceived east/west divide among residents. These strategies are described in the action plan item to Continue to Connect Residents to the Fox River.

The Village of Algonquin Bike Route Map can be found in the Appendix.

# RECURRING ITEMS - PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

## Continue to Implement **Planned Capital Improvement Projects**

- Plan and construct infrastructure improvements pertaining to the Village Recreation service area as scheduled in the Annual Budget
- Continue to add in-demand and trending amenities at appropriate locations, considering:
  - Modernized, signature playgrounds
  - Accessible and inclusive playgrounds
  - Pickleball courts
  - Splash pads
  - Lawn/picnic games (baggo, bocce, etc.)
  - Bandshell
- Evaluate existing tennis courts to determine future maintenance needs or replacement plan

## **Potential Funding Sources:**

- Capital and Infrastructure Maintenance Funds

## **Description**

The Village of Algonquin develops an annual Capital Improvements Budget which identifies and allocates funding for scheduled replacements and regular maintenance. The items included in these budgets are necessary for the continued operation of Village recreation services but do not typically include major use changes or new development projects. The projects included can vary greatly in type (park, natural area, or facility) and scope (from equipment replacement to full park reconstruction in-place). As these are implemented they should provide opportunities to add amenities that meet resident interests where possible.

It is recommended that the Village expand this information and develop and formally adopt a five-year capital improvement plan rather than scheduling and planning for only one year at a time. This longer-range document will help coordinate and prioritize capital improvements and manage Village resources.



# RECURRING ITEMS - NATURAL AREAS

## Monitor Fox River Improvement Projects

- Continue to monitor riverfront projects upstream that may impact the Fox River conditions in Algonquin
- Continue to follow IDNR assessments of and future plans for the dam at Cornish Park

### Potential Funding Sources:

- Natural Area and Drainage Improvement Fund
- Park Improvement Fund
- N/A - Staff coordination

### Description

As one of many communities located on the Fox River, the Village of Algonquin is affected by the changes to the river and the river bank that occur upstream. Additionally, the dam at Cornish Park is under IDNR jurisdiction. The Village should continue to collaborate in planning activities focused on the Fox River in the surrounding area, such as the Fox River Corridor Plan completed in 2016 and any potential updates to it and should evaluate any potential changes to the River's condition that may be caused by projects upstream.

## Continue to Maintain Restored Natural Areas

- Complete scheduled maintenance and monitoring of previously restored and enhanced natural areas

### Potential Funding Sources:

- Natural Area and Drainage Improvement Fund

### Description

All natural areas require some level of maintenance and care to stop the overall deterioration of quality. Typically, more recently restored areas require more intensive maintenance as the vegetation becomes established in the 3-5 years their initial restoration is completed. To this end, the Village budgets maintenance into all of its natural area restoration projects and continues to monitor and maintain natural areas after the restoration and intensive maintenance period are completed.

# RECURRING ITEMS - NATURAL AREAS

## Regularly Reevaluate and Document Natural Area Conditions

- Continue to evaluate and document managed and unmanaged natural area condition to plan for future maintenance needs, considering:
  - Areas with established protected species and high-quality habitat
  - Record of land use controls and regulations such as deed restrictions, wetlands, floodway/floodplain, etc.
  - Industry-standard ecological valuation tools such as Floristic Quality Assessment (FQA) Methodology, Invasive Species Percent Coverage, and Illinois Natural Areas Inventory (INAI) Restorability Index
- Evaluate existing unmanaged Natural Area properties to determine best use, considering:
  - Restoring and maintaining high-quality habitat
    - Consider ownership transfer of high quality, high maintenance, and/or geographically significant properties to public agencies specializing in natural area management
      - McHenry County Conservation District
      - Kane County Forest Preserve
  - Maintaining ownership and restoring land for stormwater or wetland mitigation at key locations
  - Utilizing low-quality, non-protected areas to fill unmet active park recreation or indoor recreation needs for the Village
  - Participating in land-swap agreements with other public agencies to consolidate natural area properties and obtain additional land for active and passive recreation

## Potential Funding Sources:

- Natural Area and Drainage Improvement Fund

## Description

The Village of Algonquin owns over 500 acres of natural areas and completes regular evaluation of each site to note its condition and plan for restoration and/or maintenance needs. This recurring process is crucial to the continued health of the Village's restored natural areas and in determining how to allocate the available financial and staffing resources each year. The Village is already using recommended industry standards of assessment and management keeps good records of these properties. In addition to this evaluation and documentation, it is recommended that the Village also consider the best use and possible use changes when evaluating currently unmanaged properties. Properties that are low-quality and not protected by regulatory bodies may be better suited for stormwater management or active recreation development or for land swap agreements to obtain more desirable properties, either for restoration or development of the new property. Managed and unmanaged land may also be considered for land swap or sale to other conservation agencies with more extensive resources. These agencies may be able to more effectively manage properties with highly specialized and/or challenging conditions or may benefit from the acquisition of properties adjacent to or part of larger ecological corridors. The strategic retention or divestment of some natural area properties could allow the Village to focus its resources on areas that can have the biggest impact.

# RECURRING ITEMS - NATURAL AREAS

## Continue to Connect Residents to the Fox River

- Identify acquisition and park development opportunities on the shoreline
  - Monitor available shoreline properties for potential acquisition
- Continue to provide safe piers and other boating access areas to the Fox River
  - Identify potential locations to add access points
    - Downtown access
- Expand river programming, considering
  - Fishing docks and piers
  - Nonmotorized and motorized boat launches
  - Shoreline Improvements
    - Consider stone beach (no water access)
    - Native plantings
    - Erosion control
  - Picnic shelters, tables, and/or benches
  - Nature and ecology education
  - Path/trail system
    - Boardwalk

## Potential Funding Sources:

- Natural Area and Drainage Improvement Fund
- Park Improvement Fund

## Description

The Fox River is a highly valued recreation resource within the Village of Algonquin. Staff, Board members, and the community expressed interest in fishing and boating as general activities with moderate interest levels and improving access to the river as a common, high-priority theme. The Village currently owns two parks and three natural areas on the banks of the river but the majority of the shoreline is owned by private residents and business. On the properties with river access, including natural areas, there are multiple active and passive recreation amenities that could be added to meet resident interest and bring the Village closer to benchmark averages. Fishing docks and piers and boat launches are both amenities in which the Village is below average compared to benchmarks and amenities the community expressed interest in. Additionally, trails for walking, biking, and nature interpretation are high-priority additions that will likely have strong community support. In addition to trails on the land adjacent to the river, boardwalk systems alongside and crossing the river can become special areas of interest, allow safe routes where water levels vary, and if crossing the river, will help meet other Village objectives to improve non-vehicular transportation and possible improve access to the downtown corridor. The village may also consider picnic shelters and areas to sit and observe the river and educational exhibits. Improvements along the Fox River should also include ecological improvements to control flooding, stabilize the shoreline, add native species, and improve water quality.

In addition to providing residents access to the river on property that is already owned, the Village of Algonquin will continue to monitor available property adjacent to the river. Property with good recreation potential or which may be needed to address ecological or stormwater management needs will be considered for Village acquisition at market value and planned for future improvements.







# RECURRING ITEMS - PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONS

## Continue to **Provide Programming Through Partnership Agreements** and Identify New Program Opportunities

- Continue to contract out recreation and exercise programs
  - Periodically reevaluate agreements to ensure relationships are mutually beneficial
    - Establish formal use agreements and guidelines with all affiliates
  - Coordinate contractor equipment and space needs across all programs to determine best use of Village resources and inform park and facility improvement and replacement projects to meet needs
- Identify partnership opportunities to expand recreation programming
  - Identify underserved program markets
  - Develop use agreements/resident rates with existing programs to avoid duplicating services and unhealthy competitions
    - Local recreation agencies
    - Other municipal agencies
    - Private recreation providers

### Potential Funding Sources:

- N/A - Staff coordination

### Description

The Village of Algonquin relies on contracted third-parties to provide about 80% of its recreation programming which allows staff to remain effective despite their small size of only 1 full-time and 1 part-time member. It allows the Village to offer a variety of programs and rapidly respond to industry changes providing specialized expertise for every program type. This method also benefits customers as the programs recruit from multiple other communities and market areas resulting in a low cancellation rate. Similarly, the majority of the Village's sports programming is provided by affiliate groups. Based on stakeholder and staff comments, overall satisfaction with these relationships is high. The biggest challenge in these agreements is coordinating location/facility use and the available equipment. The ongoing success of programming should be continued in healthy program areas and expanded to meet growing trends. As the Village implements other Action Plan items, many of these challenges will be addressed, through the proposed addition of more indoor space and recreation equipment. As the Village continues to develop its recreation offerings and potentially expand programming, more formalized use agreements may become necessary to track available resources and scheduling and allow staff to set pricing and cost recovery goals if necessary.

# RECURRING ITEMS - PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONS

## Continue to Offer and **Expand Resident Access to Inclusive and Special Recreation**

- Strengthen community awareness of existing opportunities including Village-provided recreation and the special recreation reimbursement program, considering:
  - Update online resources on the Village website and Park and Recreation pages
  - Spotlight opportunities in the program catalog and other marketing materials
  - Develop a special recreation mailing list, email list, and/or social media group to promote opportunities directly to interested and/or qualified residents
- Continue to develop inclusive destinations for public recreation
  - Update or replace non-compliance amenities in accordance with the proposed **Village ADA Transition Plan**
    - Angeltown Playground
  - Consider all-inclusive playground
  - Coordinate with proposed **Short- and Long-Term Improvements for Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool** and **Short- and Long-Term for Historic Village Hall** to meet code requirements

### **Potential Funding Sources:**

- Capital Improvement Fund
- Park Improvement Fund

### **Description**

The Village of Algonquin has always strived to provide fair and equal recreation opportunities to all residents regardless of ability. In addition to making Village programs, events, and locations as accessible and inclusive as possible, it also provides reimbursement so residents pay member rates when participating in Northern Illinois Special Recreation Association (NISRA) activities. The Village plans to continue supporting residents who participate in special recreation with this reimbursement program and will continue to incorporate inclusivity in the design and update of new recreation offerings and locations both as part of the Action Plan implementation, and when completing regular maintenance and replacement plans.

# RECURRING ITEMS - PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONS

## Continue to Identify and Provide Trending Recreation and Programming Opportunities

- Introduce new/additional recreation amenities to meet resident interest and demand, considering:
  - Modernized, signature playgrounds
    - Challenge courses (fitness, obstacle, ninja warrior)
    - Multi-generational play
    - Themed specialty play
      - Hill Climb Park
    - Accessible and inclusive playgrounds
  - Pickleball courts
  - Splash pads
  - Lawn/picnic games (baggo, bocce, etc.)
  - Bandshell
  - Evaluate existing tennis courts to determine future maintenance needs or replacement projects
- Identify potential OSLAD and other grant funding opportunities to support park redevelopment
- Consider past OSLAD amenity retention requirements and identify allowable opportunities for replacements where appropriate
- Introduce/expand special event offerings
  - Movies/concerts in the parks at east and west park locations
  - Movies at the pool
  - Continue to host and improve Founders Day
- Expand fitness programming for the adult market
  - Dance programs
- Expand self-directed, social-distanced outdoor activities
  - Fishing
  - Camping
  - Hiking
  - Boating
  - Story walks
- Provide meaningful online/remote alternatives
  - Take-home activity kits
  - Pre-recorded videos for “drop-in” use
  - Health and wellness tips
    - Nutrition
    - Recommendations for unguided, self-directed recreation
- Meet increasing resident interest in additional rental locations
  - Sports fields
    - Designate separate, fixed reservation times for sports affiliates that retain unprogrammed time slots for individual use
      - Include terms of use when developing formal use agreements
  - Picnic shelters

# RECURRING ITEMS - PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONS

## Potential Funding Sources:

- Park Improvement Fund
- Grant funding opportunities

## Description

The recreation market is constantly changing, as are the needs of the Village's staff and residents. In order to provide quality recreation services that align with resident needs and interests, the Village will continue to incorporate engaging and up-to-date options when updating and constructing parks, natural areas, and facilities, and when scheduling programs and special events. The Analyze and Connect phases of this master plan identified several current recreation trends that the Village should consider based on benchmark comparisons, amenities that are beyond their useful life, resident and stakeholder interest, and recreation trends as described on the previous.

In addition to considering grant funding for future development assistance, many of the parks in the Village were built using OSLAD funds and are still within the contract timeline for amenity replacement. While some amenities like playgrounds and shelters are still popular options that can be replaced on-site with modern updates, other amenities like the horseshoe pits and some of the tennis courts may be underutilized or no longer desirable in their current locations. Rather than continue to invest in amenities that are not providing value to the community, it is recommended that IDNR approval be granted to remove or replace it with a different type of amenity.

Programs and operations should also be considered when planning for development to ensure that the necessary spaces and amenities are provided to meet these needs. The 2020 COVID-19 Pandemic highlighted the need for agency flexibility to continue to provide meaningful services without compromising safety, an observation made by every stakeholder group. While popular events and programs are expected to return, interest in new types of at-home and solo activities has grown. Many of the outdoor activities align with established recreation trends and while the program offerings typically require minimal investment making them reasonably safe investments during uncertain times. Offerings that perform well remain or grow in popularity can be continued and expanded as needed.

Finally, Village staff has been aware of increasing interest in rentals over the past few years with interest in outdoor locations spiking during the pandemic as families and small groups are looking for safe alternatives to indoor recreation. In addition to addressing safety concerns, outdoor and semi-enclosed structures are more cost-effective to build and maintain than traditional facilities. Increasing recreation revenue through rental spaces will also help the Village provide new offerings and maintain existing amenities.



# RECURRING ITEMS - PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONS

## Continue **Track Program Statistics** to Meet Recreation Trends and Resident Interest

- Record and interpret program enrollment, user satisfaction, and overall lifecycle trends
- Identify and grow popular programs and change or retire unpopular or declining offerings
- Track local and industry trends to anticipate resident interest
- Explore additional opportunities to engage underutilized resident groups in Algonquin and the surrounding communities
  - Provide active adult and senior programming
  - Provide teen and pre-teen programming

## Potential Funding Sources:

- N/A - Staff coordination

## Description

In order to stay relevant and meet resident recreation programming needs, recreation providers must remain aware of changing interests in the community and in state and national trends. Providing these current and in-demand offerings leads to strong participation and allows for resident satisfaction and reallocation of resources that may otherwise be used for less effective or declining options.

Internally, the Village already uses the RecPro system to track customer transaction data from 2015 through the present. This software records information on individual program participation trends, user residency, and passholder and membership records. By assessing these statistics over time, the Village is able to determine where interest and participation are rising or falling and who their user groups are as a whole and for different types of recreation programs and events. RecPro data can also be applied to sales and revenue generation, adding feasibility and perceived/actual value context to its use analysis. As outlined in the Program and Service Analysis in Chapter 3, this information can be utilized in a variety of ways, tracking membership and passholder trends, identifying user groups, and determining the health of the Villages programs.

This method of tracking participation and resident interest is invaluable for monitoring existing users and offerings but is limited in identifying gaps in service. This data can reflect recreation areas where fewer programs are offered or user groups who are not appearing as participants but is not well suited to gauge actual interest in or need for these potential deficiencies. For this, staff insight, community outreach, and knowledge of local context can help determine where additions might be needed. Village staff already connect with the community and continuing to record resident questions and suggestions can contribute to the Village's understanding of what additional offerings may be in-demand. Additionally, the proposed Periodic Resident Survey can be utilized to ask specific resident satisfaction questions, mine additional details and interest in specific ideas, and may also reach residents who are not currently engaged with Village Recreation.

Local context, as well as regional, state, and national trends can also help guide program decisions. At a local level, staying aware of community interests should be considered with local context including what other recreation providers are already offering. A gap in service may present an opportunity to not just serve Algonquin residents but also attract non-residents from the surrounding communities. A surplus of programs in the area may already be meeting this community interest and be a barrier of entry to new providers such as the Village. Recreation trends are constantly changing and another consideration when planning for recreation needs. Conferences, recreation reporting such as the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, ParkMetrics, and financial spending reports, and consultant services, like the Planning Team, are good resources for tracking trending programs that may be a good fit for the Village of Algonquin to offer.



## Chapter Two

# Prioritize & Implement



# Overview

The Action Plan is a living document and guide for the proposed recreation tasks and projects for the Village of Algonquin over the next ten years.

## Purpose

This chapter outlines the steps and potential timeline for implementing the Master Plan strategies identified in Chapter One. These strategies were further refined and finalized through workshops with the staff and Board members to develop the Action Plan. This plan is to act as a guide to assist the Village in implementing the strategies over the next ten years. This Action plan is flexible and will be periodically re-evaluated and adjusted to reflect completed projects and the community's changing needs. The Action Plan is organized by fiscal year into quarters (Q1, Q2, Q3, and Q4) to provide a general idea of when each action or action item step might occur within a given year. Each action item is also coded as Facilities, Parks and Open Space, Natural Areas, or Programs and Operations.

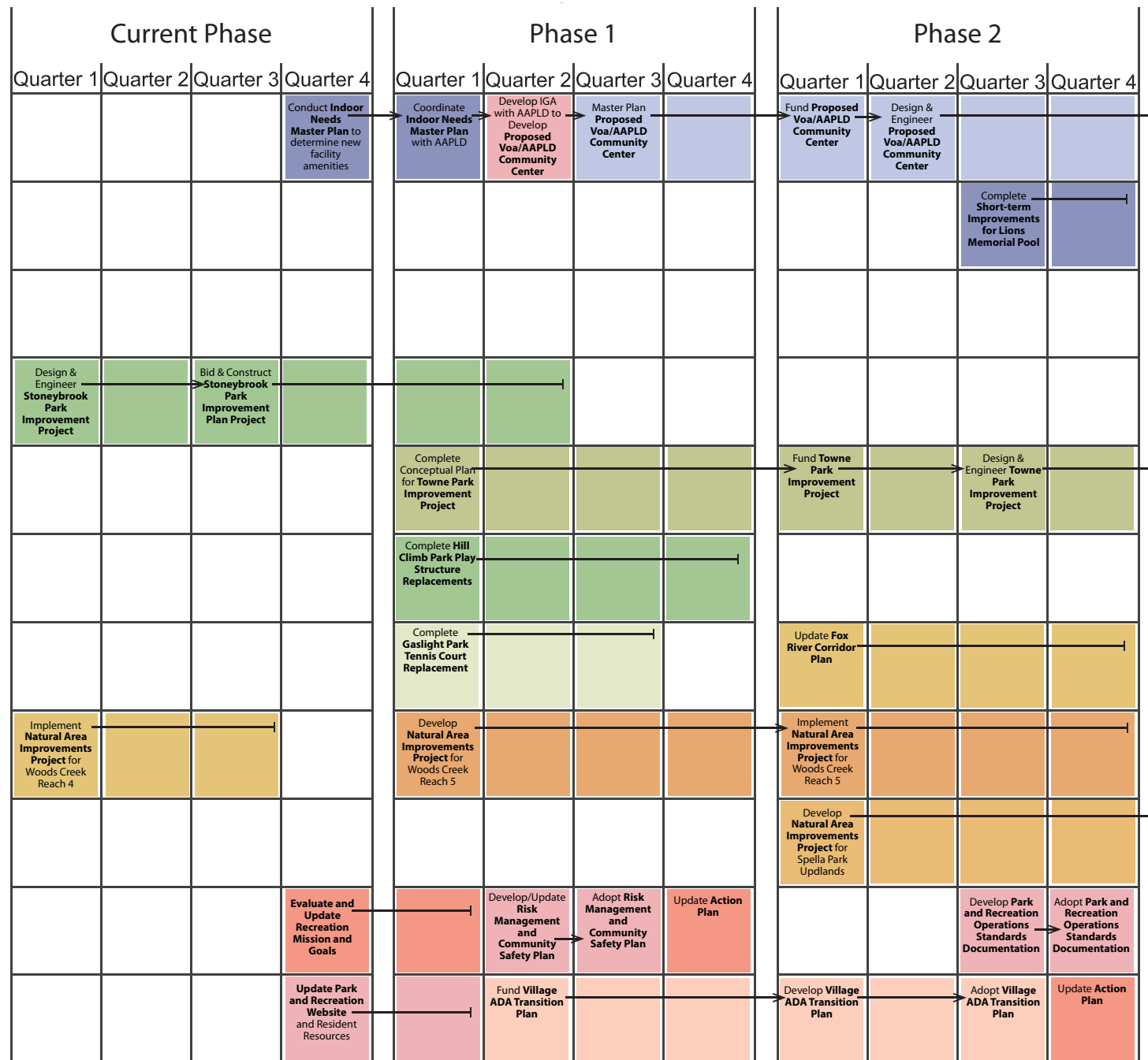
Detailed descriptions of each action item and corresponding strategies can be found in the previous chapter on pages 13-77.

## Ordering Criteria

To help determine when each item should be implemented within the ten-year plan, the following criteria were considered:

- **Current Planned Initiative:** It is a project that is already in progress or has recommended CIP funding
- **Meets Recreation Need/Interest:** It provides for a need or interest identified from the Analyze and Connect Phase findings
- **Age/Condition:** A facility or amenity is at or nearing the end of its useful life or is in poor condition
- **Availability/Utilization:** An offering, facility, or amenity has limited availability and/or is highly utilized
- **Attainability:** Considers the City's financial and staff resources to accomplish certain projects over a ten-year period
- **Additional Data Required:** More detailed information is needed concerning indoor space, market, or program needs to inform the required investments

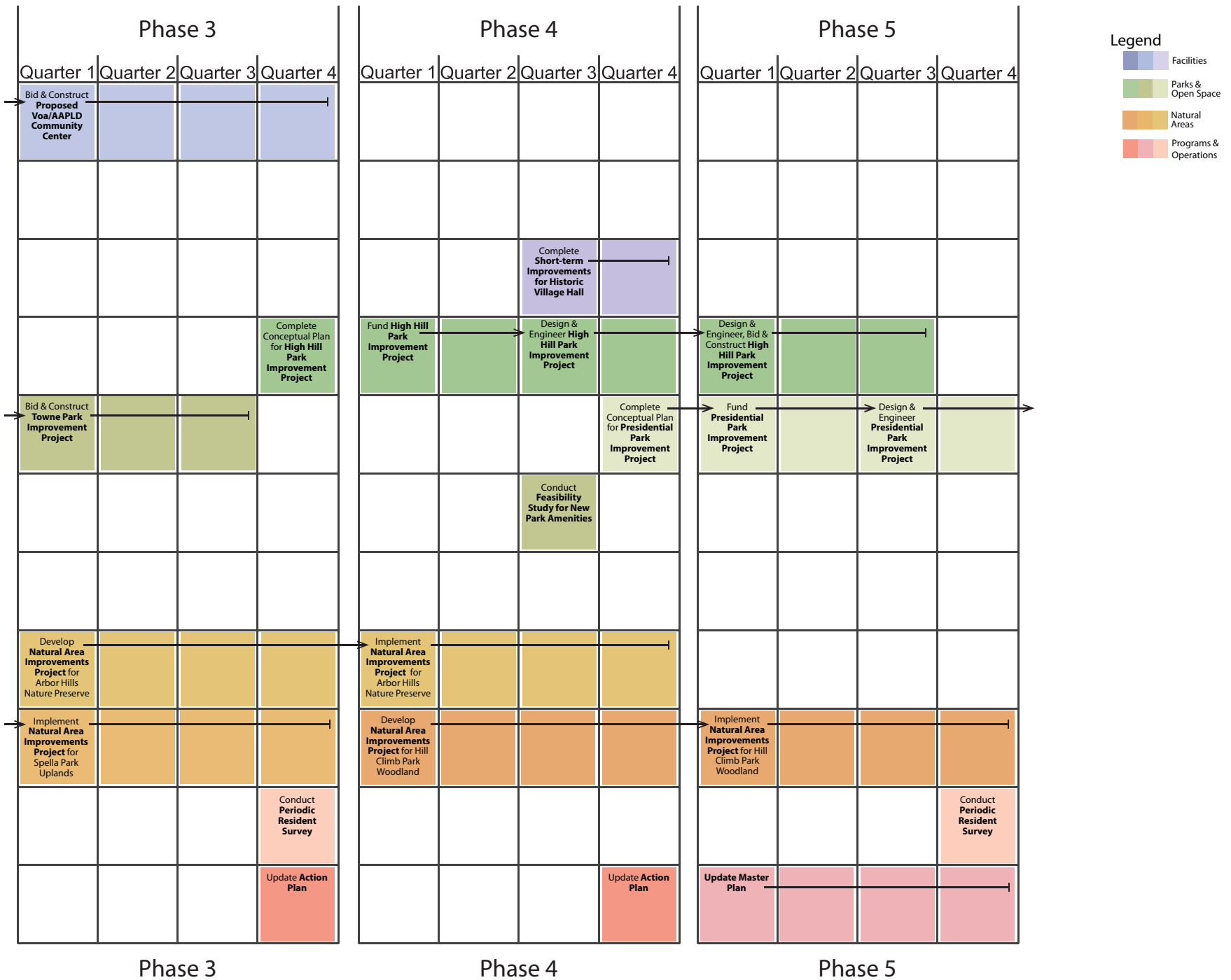
"This Action plan is flexible and will be periodically re-evaluated and adjusted to reflect completed projects and the community's changing needs."

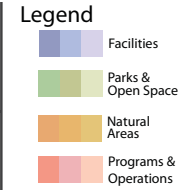
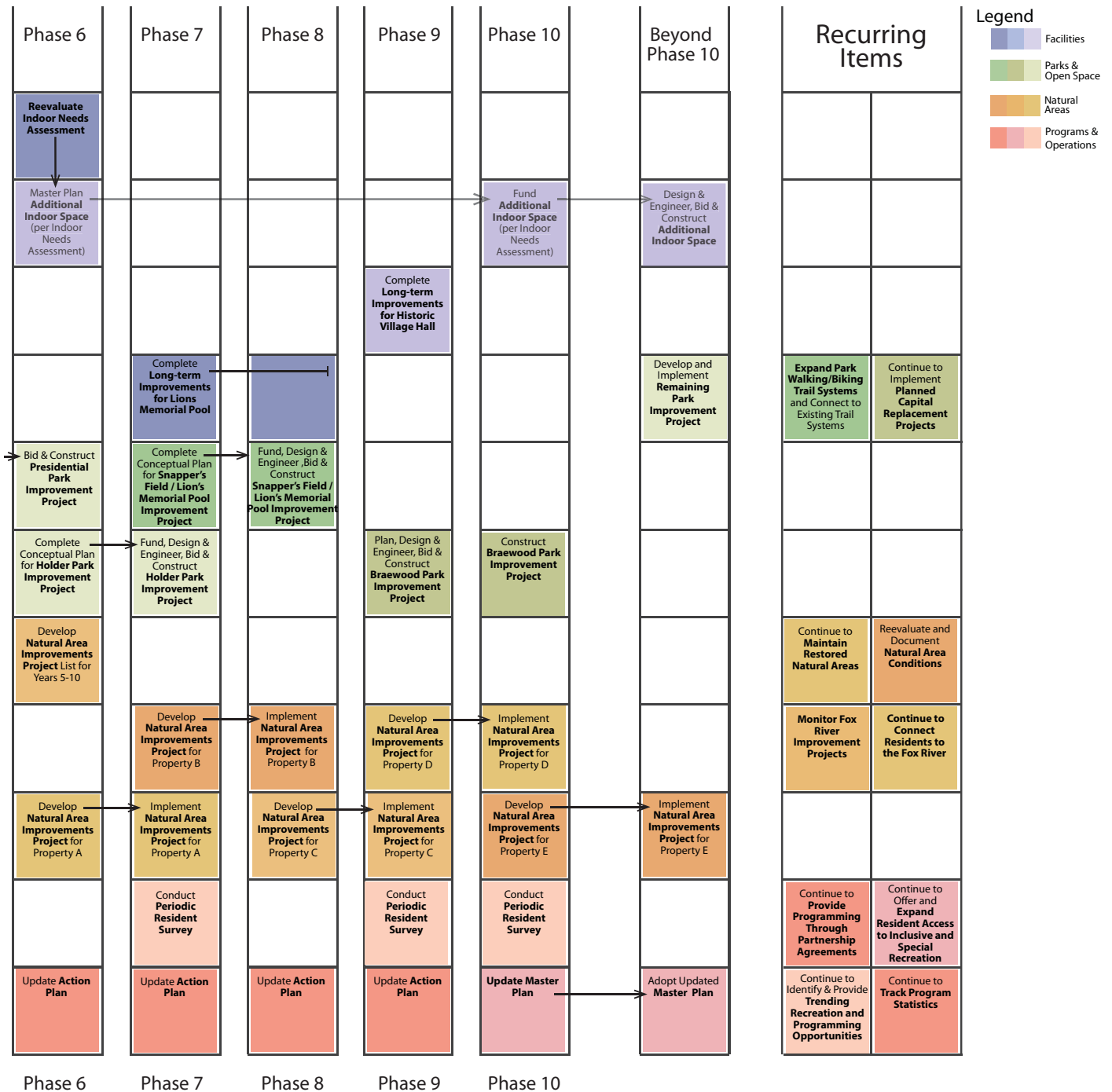


Phase 1

Phase 2









# Current Year

(May Through April)

## FACILITIES

- **Indoor Needs Master Plan**
  - Conduct

## PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

- **Stoneybrook Park Improvement Project**
  - Design and engineer
  - Bid and construct

## PLANNING AND POLICY

- **Natural Area ImprovementsProject** for Woods Creek Reach 4
  - Implement

## PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONS

- **Evaluate and Update Recreation Mission and Goals**
- **Update Park and Recreation Website** and Resident Resources



# Fiscal Year 1

(May Through April)

## FACILITIES

- Coordinate **Indoor Needs Master Plan** with AAPLD
- **Proposed VoA/AAPLD Community Center**
  - Master plan

## PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

- **Stoneybrook Park Improvement Project**
  - Complete bid and construct
- **Towne Park Improvement Project**
  - Complete conceptual plan
- **Hill Climb Park Play Structures Replacements**
  - Complete replacements
- **Gaslight Park Tennis Court Replacement Project**
  - Complete replacements

## PLANNING AND POLICY

- Develop **Natural Area Improvements Project** for Woods Creek Reach 5

## PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONS

- Complete **Evaluate and Update Department Mission and Goals**
- Complete **Update Park and Recreation Website** and Resident Resources
- Develop/Update **Risk Management and Safety Plan** and Resident Resources
- Fund **Village ADA Transition Plan**
- **Update Action Plan**

# Fiscal Year 2

(May Through April)

## FACILITIES

- **Proposed VoA/AAPLD Community Center**
  - Fund
  - Design and engineer
- Complete **Short-term Improvements for Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool**

## PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

- **Towne Park Improvement Project**
  - Fund
  - Design and engineer

## PLANNING AND POLICY

- Update **Fox River Corridor Plan**
- Implement **Natural Area Improvements Project** for Woods Creek Reach 5
- Develop **Natural Area Improvements Project** for Spella Park Uplands

## PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONS

- **Village ADA Transition Plan**
  - Develop
  - Adopt
- Develop and Adopt **Park and Recreation Operations Standards Document**
- **Update Action Plan**

# Fiscal Year 3

(May Through April)

## FACILITIES

- **Proposed VoA/AAPLD Community Center**
  - Bid and construct

## PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

- **Towne Park Improvement Project**
  - Bid and Construct
- **High Hill Park Improvement Project**
  - Complete conceptual plan

## PLANNING AND POLICY

- Develop **Natural Area Improvements Project** for Arbor Hill Nature Preserve
- Implement **Natural Area Improvements Project** for Spella Park Uplands

## PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONS

- Conduct **Periodic Resident Survey**
- **Update Action Plan**

# Fiscal Year 4

(May Through April)

## FACILITIES

- Complete **Short-term Improvements for Historic Village Hall**

## PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

- **High Hill Park Improvement Project**
  - Fund
  - Design and engineer
- Conduct **Feasibility Study for New Park Amenities**
- **Presidential Park Improvement Project**
  - Complete conceptual plan

## PLANNING AND POLICY

- Implement **Natural Area Improvements Project** for Arbor Hills Nature Preserve
- Develop **Natural Area Improvements Project** for Hill Climb Park Woodland

## PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONS

- **Update Action Plan**



# Fiscal Year 5

(May Through April)

## FACILITIES

(none)

## PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

- **High Hill Park Improvement Project**
  - Complete design and engineering
  - Bid and construct
- **Presidential Park Improvement Project**
  - Fund
  - Design and engineer

## PLANNING AND POLICY

- Implement **Natural Area Improvements Project** for Hill Climb Park Woodland

## PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONS

- **Update Action Plan**
- Conduct **Periodic Resident Survey**

# Fiscal Year 6

(May Through April)

## FACILITIES

- **Reevaluate Indoor needs Assessment**
- **Additional Indoor Space**
  - Optional master plan per **Reevaluate Indoor needs Assessment**

## PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

- **Presidential Park Improvement Project**
  - Bid and construct
- **Holder Park Improvement Plan**
  - Complete conceptual plan

## PLANNING AND POLICY

- **Natural Area Improvements Project**
  - Develop list of locations for years 6-10
  - Develop Plan for Property A

## PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONS

- **Update Action Plan**

# Fiscal Year 7

(May Through April)

## FACILITIES

- **Long-term Improvements for Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool**
  - Complete

## PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

- **Snapper's Field/Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool Improvement Project**
  - Complete conceptual plan
- **Holder Park Improvement Project**
  - Fund
  - Design and engineer
  - Bid and construct

## PLANNING AND POLICY

- **Natural Area Improvements Project**
  - Develop Plan for Property B
  - Implement Plan for Property A

## PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONS

- Conduct **Periodic Resident Survey**
- **Update Action Plan**

# Fiscal Year 8

(May Through April)

## FACILITIES

- **Long-term Improvements for Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool**
  - Complete improvements

## PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

- **Snapper's Field/Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool Improvement Project**
  - Fund
  - Design and engineer
  - Bid and construct

## PLANNING AND POLICY

- **Natural Area Improvements Project**
  - Implement Plan for Property B
  - Develop Plan for Property C

## PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONS

- **Update Action Plan**



# Fiscal Year 9

(May Through April)

## FACILITIES

- **Long-term Improvements for Historic Village Hall**
  - Complete improvements

## PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

- **Braewood Park Improvement Project**
  - Complete conceptual plan
  - Design and engineer
  - Bid and construct

## PLANNING AND POLICY

- **Natural Area Improvements Project**
  - Develop Plan for Property D
  - Implement Plan for Property C

## PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONS

- Conduct **Periodic Resident Survey**
- **Update Action Plan**

# Fiscal Year 10

(May Through April))

## FACILITIES

- **Additional Indoor Space**
  - Fund

## PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

- **Braewood Park Improvement Project**
  - Complete construction

## PLANNING AND POLICY

- **Natural Area Improvements Project**
  - Implement Plan for Property D
  - Develop Plan for Property E

## PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONS

- Conduct **Periodic Resident Survey**
- **Update Master Plan**

# Beyond Year 10

## FACILITIES

- **Additional Indoor Space**
  - Design and engineer
  - Bid and construct

## PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

- **Remaining Park Improvement Project**
  - Complete conceptual plan
  - Fund
  - Design and engineer
  - Bid and construct

## PLANNING AND POLICY

- **Natural Area Improvements Plan**
  - Implement Plan for Property E

## PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONS

- Adopt **Master Plan**

## Chapter Three

# Analyze





# Overview

The Analyze: Inventory and Analysis chapter describes and illustrates the existing conditions of the Village of Algonquin Park and Recreation system, showing a basic understanding of the Village's assets and programs

## Purpose

This chapter documents the inventory and analysis accomplished during the Analyze phase of the comprehensive master planning process. This phase describes the context in which the Village recreation service operates, the recreation services they provide, and the patrons that utilize the parks, natural areas, and facilities.

The following chapter defines the community's demographic context and provides detailed maps of the Village of Algonquin that identify parks, open space, and other relevant land uses. It also includes the level of service analysis for parks and amenities, benchmarking the Village's total acreage of parks and open recreation space, and compares a number of amenities to local, state, and national benchmarks. A distribution mapping analysis of the geographic location of parks is also found in this chapter. This information provides insight into potential surpluses or deficiencies the Village has in terms of parks, open space, and recreation amenities.

The final pages of this chapter include a detailed analysis of the Village's two recreation facilities, of the numerous programs and events provided, and an analysis of Village programming and events.

## Chapter Outline

- Demographics
- Existing Conditions
- Asset Inventory
- Park Classifications
- Park & Open Space Inventory Matrix
- Level of Service Analysis
- Acreage
- Distribution
  - Mini Park Distribution Analysis
  - Neighborhood Park Distribution Analysis
  - Community Park Distribution Analysis
  - Overall Park Distribution Analysis
- Amenities
- Indoor Facility Inventory Matrix
- Facility Summaries
- Program Analysis

# DEMOGRAPHICS

The demographics review utilized the Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) Business Analyst Online (BAO) software to gather up-to-date demographic data necessary to gain an understanding of the Village and its context.

### Summary

According to 2019 estimates, the Village of Algonquin has a population of 31,264. Census population numbers from 2010 indicate the population is increasing at an annual rate of 0.38% and is expected to continue increasing into 2024. Algonquin’s population increase is contrary to the decline in state population of -0.03% but is slower than the national population growth rate of 0.77%.

There are an estimated 10,728 households within the Village. According to the U.S. Census, a household “includes all the persons who occupy a housing unit as their usual place of residence.” Out of these households, 78.2% (8,386) are families. A family is defined as a household in which one or more people are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. The average household size in Algonquin is 2.91 people. This is expected to remain consistent over the next five years.

### Age Distribution

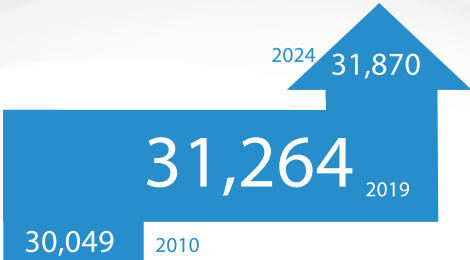
The median age of Algonquin residents is 39.1 and the population generally young while aging in place. According to 2019 estimates, 26.6% of the population is over the age of 55. This is projected to increase to 29.5% of the population by 2024, entirely due to growth in the 65+ age group. The increase in active adult and senior population growth mirrors that of the state and national trends and these populations are and will continue to be a

major Village demographic. Additionally, there is a growth in the 25-34 and 35-44 adult categories and slight growth in the 0-4 pre-school category. This indicates that young adults are settling in Algonquin and starting families.

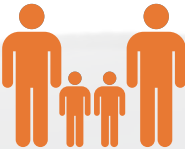
### Race and Ethnicity

According to ESRI, the Village of Algonquin has a diversity index of 27.8. The Diversity Index captures the racial and ethnic diversity of a geographic area in a single number (0 to 100) and allows for efficient analysis of diversity throughout the U.S. The Diversity Index is “the likelihood that two persons, selected at random from the same area, would belong to a different race or ethnic group.” According to demographic estimates, 84.5% of Village residents indicate their race as White, which results in a low diversity index. The largest minority group within the Village are Asian Americans, with 7.6% of the population reporting their race as “Asian Alone.” Additionally, 2.9% reported as “Some Other Race”. 9.8% of the population identifies as Hispanic in addition to the race they reported as. “Hispanic” refers to a place or origin and is not considered race so it is reported separately.

### TOTAL POPULATION



10,728 households

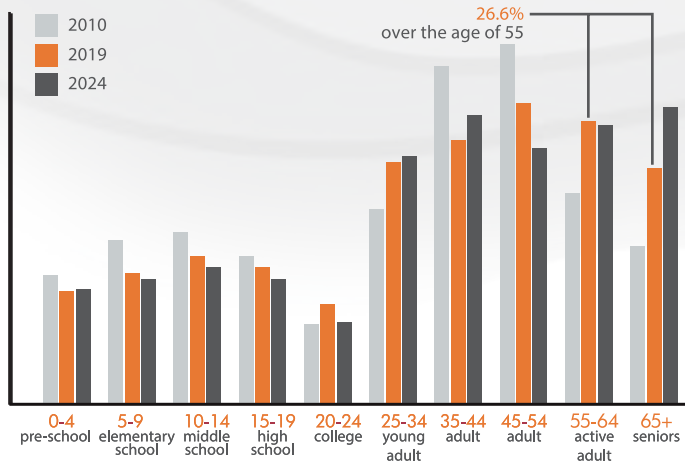


8,386 (78.2%) families



2.91 average household size

## AGE DISTRIBUTION

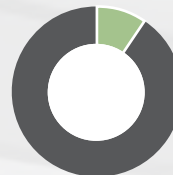
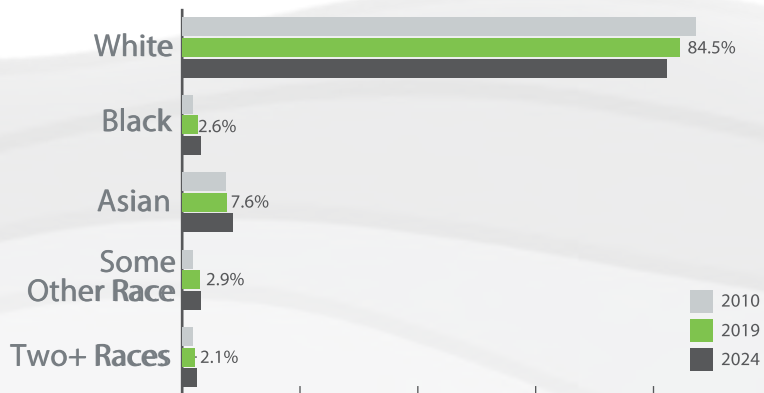


**29.5%**  
of the population will be over the age of 55 by 2024

**39.1**

2019 median age

## RACE / ETHNICITY

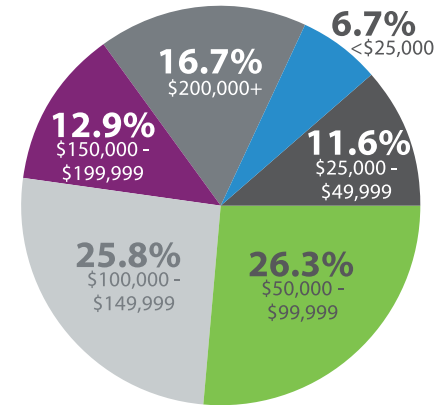


**9.8%**  
Hispanic (2019)

\* American Indian Alone: 0.2%

\*\* Pacific Islander Alone: 0.0%

## INCOME DISTRIBUTION



**\$106,868**

2019 VoA median HH income

**\$63,871**

2019 state median HH income

**\$114,619**

2024 VoA median HH income

**\$60,548**

2019 national median HH income

### Income

The median household income for Algonquin residents in 2019 is significantly higher than both the state and national median. It is expected that median household income in the Village will increase at a rate of about 2.5% per year, which is relatively consistent with the projected growth for the state and the nation (2.5% and 2.7%) and is expected to remain above the state and national median in 2024. Overall, Algonquin residents are more affluent than the state and national median with a larger population in the highest income brackets and less than half as many residents in poverty. The poverty line is defined by Illinois Legal Aid as a household that makes less than \$25,000 per year.

# EXISTING CONDITIONS

The first step in the comprehensive planning process is to understand the Village of Algonquin's surroundings and the existing conditions of the Village's assets including land use and open space.

## Land Use

Algonquin is a developing village located on the Fox River and expanding to the southwest. The Village largely consists of single-family housing with some multi-family housing located around the Village's business areas. The oldest parts of the Village are located on the banks of the Fox River and extend to the east. These areas generally include smaller residential lots and have fewer multifamily residences. Downtown Algonquin is also located in this area, running parallel to the river on N Main Street. The historic downtown business area was redeveloped from 2018-2020. Additional businesses are located along Route 62. New development is largely located on Randall Road with significant business development continuing to extend to the south. There is a small business park located west of Randall Road, on the edge of the Village, and significant general industrial zoning on the northernmost edge of the Village.

Several major transportation corridors pass through Algonquin. State Route 31 runs north-south and State Route 62 runs northwest-southeast through the eastern portion of the Village. Randall Road runs north-south through the center of the Village. Additionally, the Fox River curves through the east portion of the Village and is viewed as a significant dividing line in the community.

## Open Space Providers

The Village of Algonquin provides the majority of open space and outdoor recreation within the Village boundaries. Two school districts also provide public open space within the Village while private clubs and golf courses provide recreation opportunities to their members. The map to the right displays the open spaces within the Village.

### Public Open Space

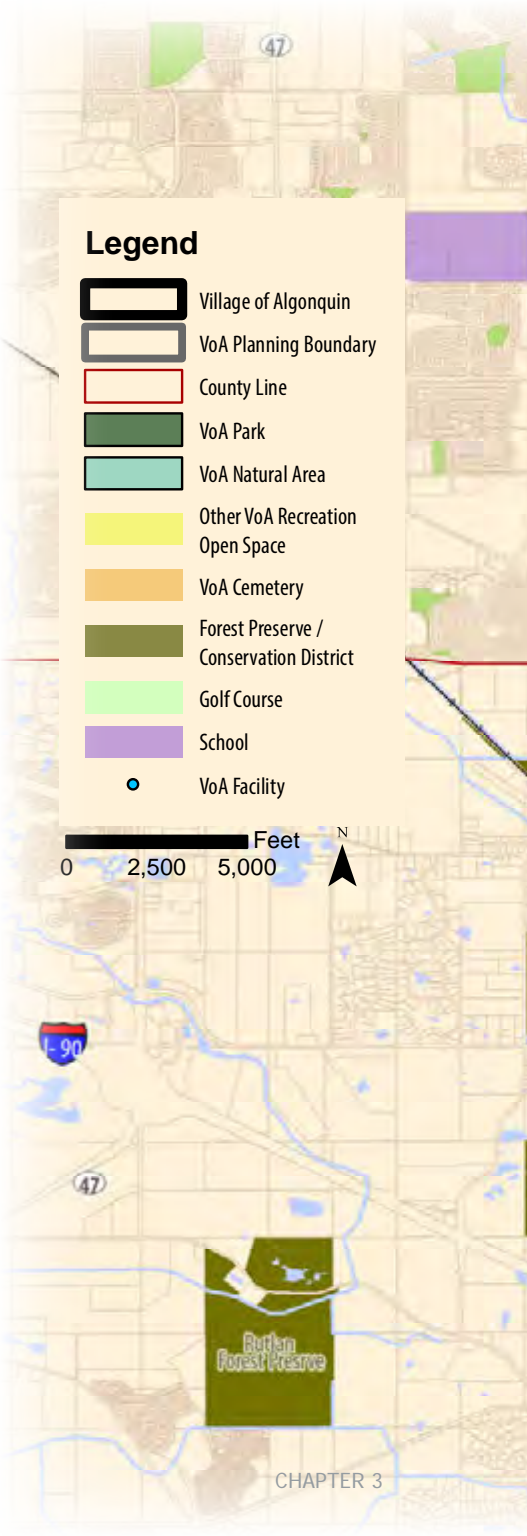
The Village of Algonquin owns about 726 acres of active and passive open space and an additional 135 acres of open space for public infrastructure use.

### Institutional Open Space

Public school districts 300 and 158 provide about 287 acres of open space across 5 campuses that can be considered public open space. An additional 18.9 acres of open space are provided by two private schools for their students.

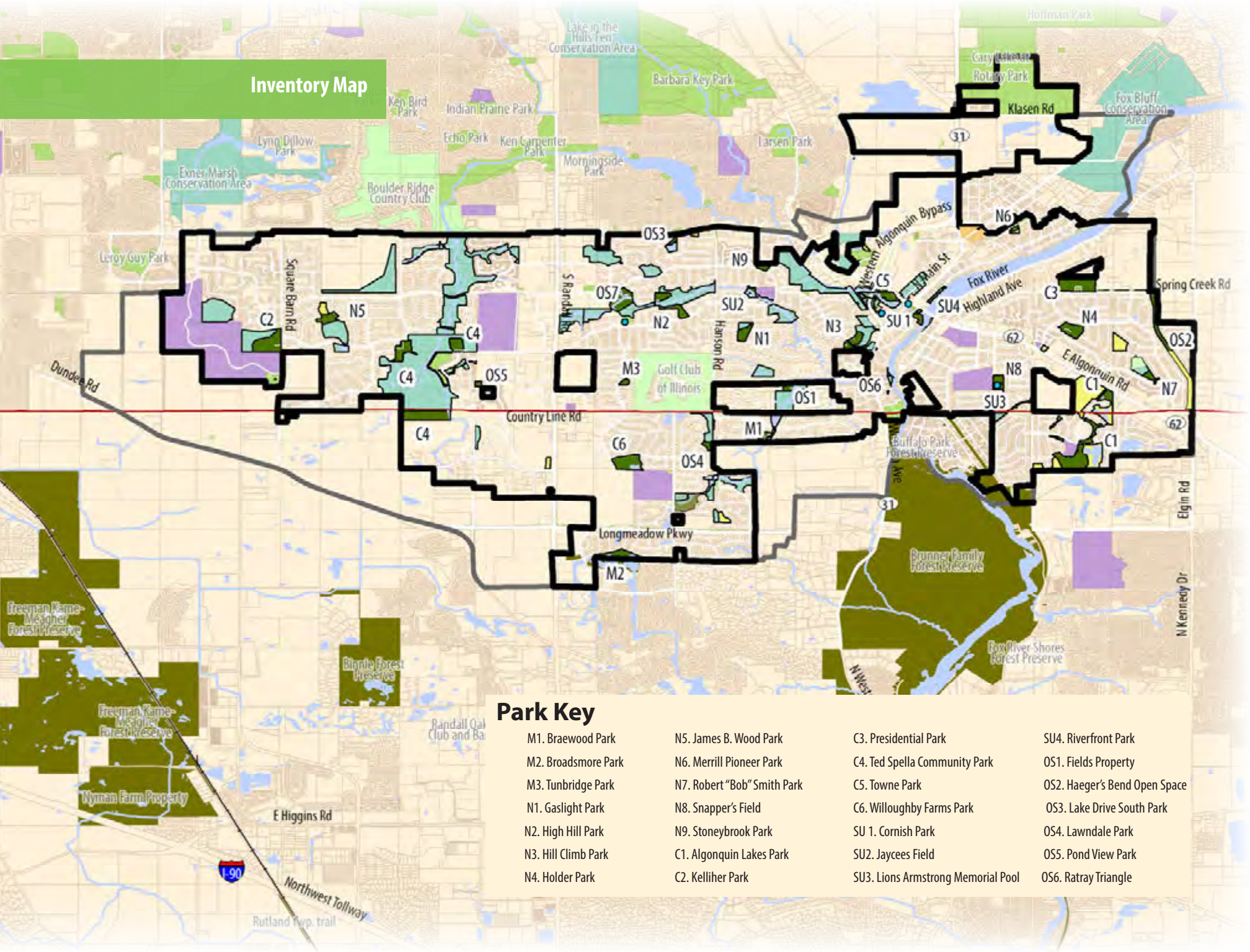
### Private Open Space

Two private golf clubs in the Village provide almost 150 acres of recreational open space to their members.





## Inventory Map



### Park Key

- |                     |                             |                                    |                               |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| M1. Braewood Park   | N5. James B. Wood Park      | C3. Presidential Park              | SU4. Riverfront Park          |
| M2. Broadmore Park  | N6. Merrill Pioneer Park    | C4. Ted Spella Community Park      | OS1. Fields Property          |
| M3. Tunbridge Park  | N7. Robert "Bob" Smith Park | C5. Towne Park                     | OS2. Haeger's Bend Open Space |
| N1. Gaslight Park   | N8. Snapper's Field         | C6. Willoughby Farms Park          | OS3. Lake Drive South Park    |
| N2. High Hill Park  | N9. Stoneybrook Park        | SU 1. Cornish Park                 | OS4. Lawndale Park            |
| N3. Hill Climb Park | C1. Algonquin Lakes Park    | SU2. Jaycees Field                 | OS5. Pond View Park           |
| N4. Holder Park     | C2. Kelliher Park           | SU3. Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool | OS6. Ratray Triangle          |



## Recreation Service Providers

In addition to the Village of Algonquin, almost half of the Village residents are served by a second public recreation provider. 28.9% of Village residents are also served by the Dundee Township Park District, 12.9% by the Huntley Park District, and 2.9% by the Barrington Hills Park District. Additionally, 0.9% of residents live outside of the Village boundaries and any adjacent park districts but are included in the Village of Algonquin planning boundary (unincorporated areas).

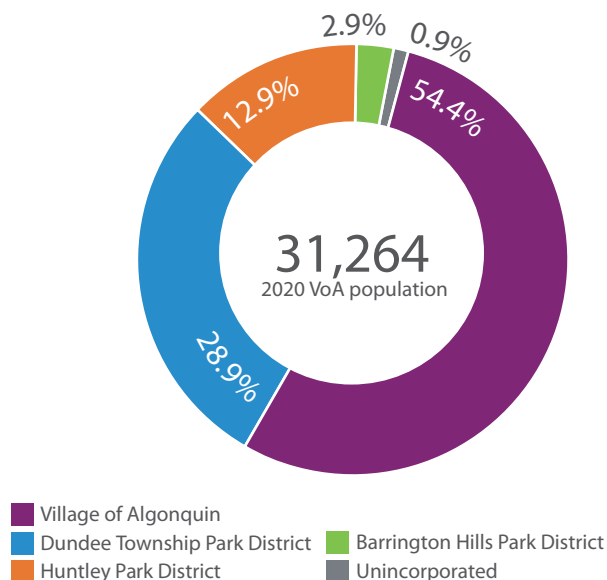
These other public recreation providers have similar missions and goals as the Village of Algonquin and provide public parks and open spaces, as well as indoor recreation facilities. The map on the right shows the Village of Algonquin boundary and planning area boundary and the overlapping park districts that serve Algonquin residents.

Additionally, the Dundee Township Park District and Huntley Park District are members of the Northern Illinois Special Recreation Association (NISRA). Residents of these Districts also receive resident rates when using NISRA programs, events, and locations.

## Indoor Recreation Space

The Village of Algonquin provides indoor recreation at two facilities: the Historic Village Hall and at St. John's Lutheran Church. Additionally, there are several privately owned recreation providers within the Village that offer a range of services from small, specialty classes to large, recreation centers with a variety of individual and group exercise options. Algonquin residents who are served by other public recreation providers also have access to these organizations' indoor recreation centers. Huntley Park District residents have access to the Huntley Park District REC Center (about 8.3 miles from the center of the Village) and Dundee Township Park District residents have access to the Randall Oaks Recreation Center and the Rakaw Center (about 5.9 miles and 5.5 miles respectively from the center of the Village).

## Recreation Service Provider Overlap



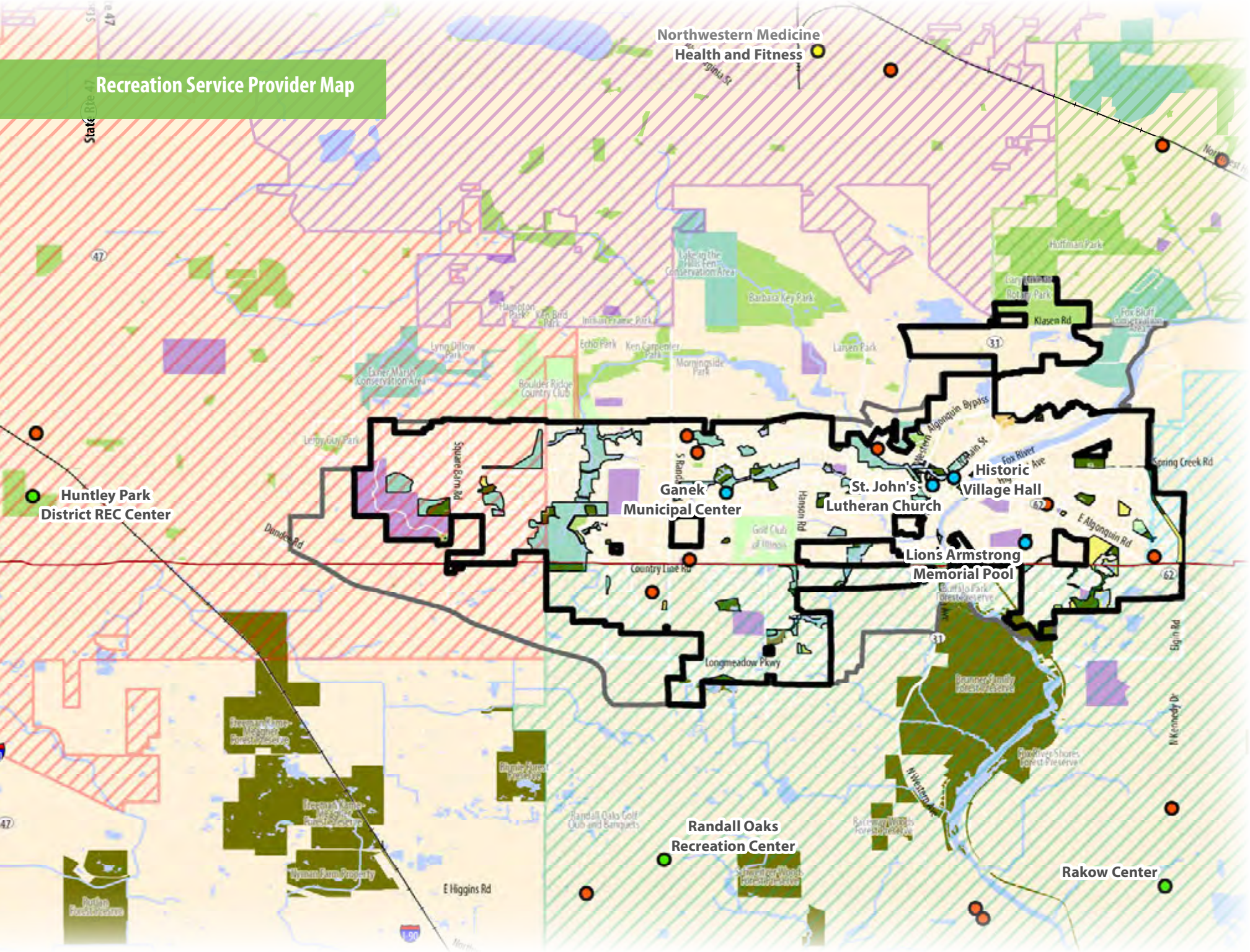
## Legend

- Village of Algonquin
- VoA Planning Boundary
- County Line
- Dundee Township Park District
- Barrington Countryside Park District
- Cary Park District
- Crystal Lake Park
- Huntley Park District
- School
- VoA Owned or Partner
- Medical Associated
- Privately Owned
- Publicly Owned

0 3,000 6,000 Feet



## Recreation Service Provider Map





# NATURAL AREAS

The section outlines the existing natural features present within the Village of Algonquin. This includes watersheds, riparian corridors, floodplains, and wetlands. These have been identified to provide a baseline of information and data for long-term decision-making.

## Watershed and Riparian Corridors

The majority of Algonquin falls within the Poplar Creek-Fox River Watershed with the western edge of the Village in the Rush Creek-Kishwaukee River Watershed.

These watersheds, and the subwatersheds within them are tributaries to the Upper Fox River Basin, draining to the Fox River. The land within these watersheds is largely developed with the primary land use being suburban real estate although there are pockets of agriculture and preserved land throughout the watersheds.

## Floodplain

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), through the National Flood Insurance Program, produces Flood Hazard Boundary maps for areas prone to flood hazards. The 100-year floodplain denotes the area potentially affected by the level of floodwater equaled or exceeded every 100 years on average or having a 1% chance of being equaled or exceeded in any single year.

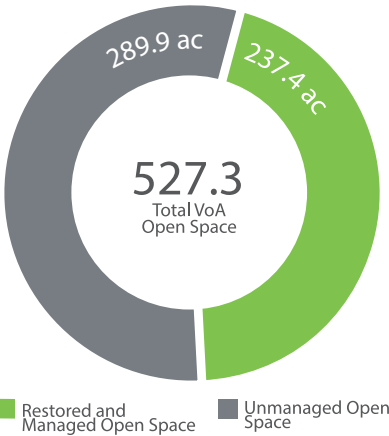
22 of the 60 parks and open space properties maintained by the Village of Algonquin partially or completely fall within the 100-year floodplain.

## Wetlands

Wetlands are defined as lands saturated with water that affects the soil character, plant and animal communities, and surface conditions of the land. Wetland data is from the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI), conducted by the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Wetlands are located throughout the county with large groupings found along...

29 of the 60 parks and open space properties managed by the Village of Algonquin contain a wetland.

**VoA Natural Areas**



## Legend

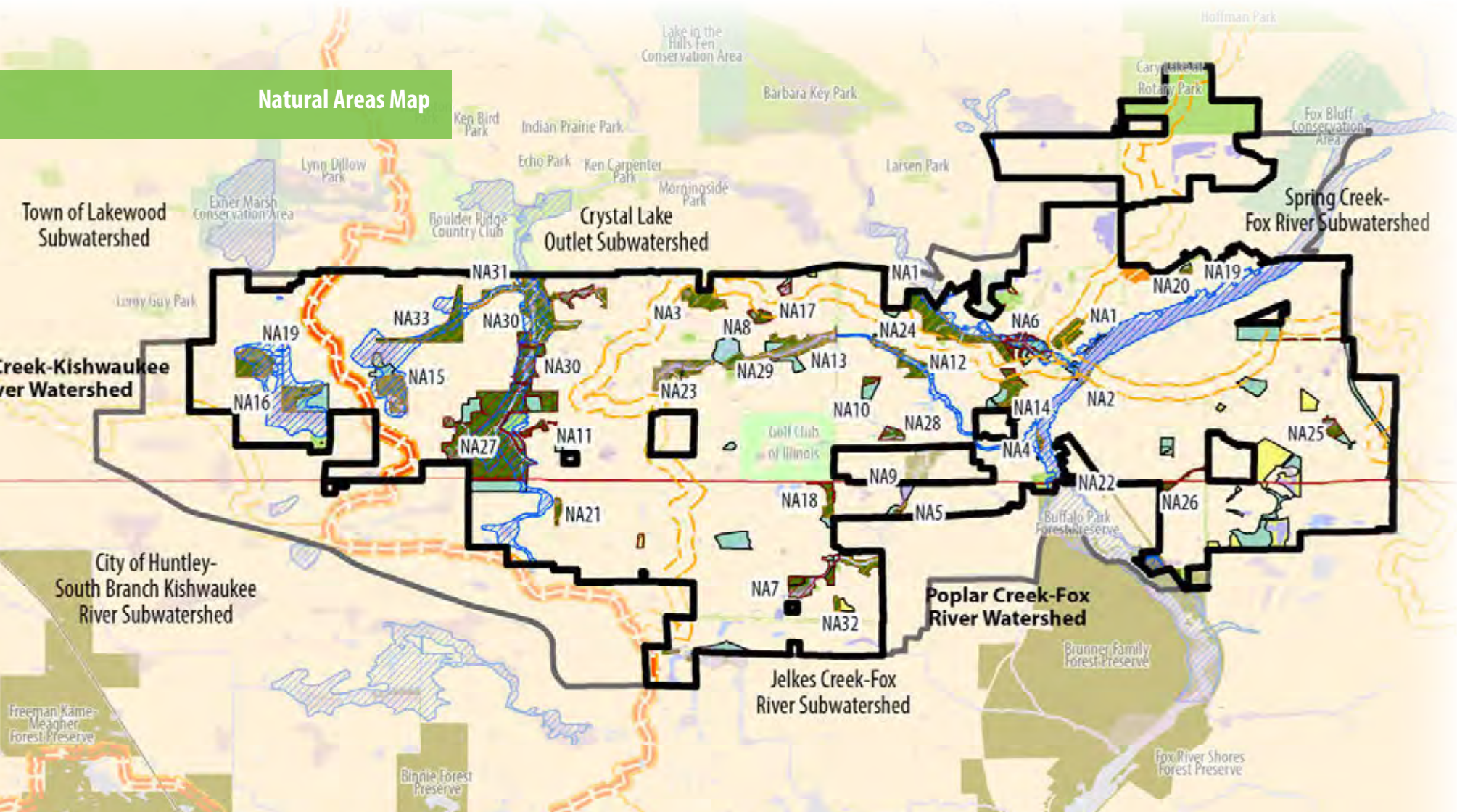
- Village of Algonquin
- VoA Planning Boundary
- County Line
- Watershed
- Subwatershed
- Restored and Managed VoA Natural Area
- Unrestored VoA Natural Area
- FEMA Flood Zone
- Wetlands
- VoA Natural Area
- Other VoA Recreation Open Space
- Other VoA Recreation Open Space
- VoA Cemetery
- Forest Preserve / Conservation Area
- Golf Course

0 2,500 5,000 Feet





## Natural Areas Map



### Park Key

NA1. Algonquin Bluffs Natural Area  
 NA2. Algonquin Dam Bluffs Natural Area  
 NA3. Arbor Hills Natural Area  
 NA4. Beach Drive Open Space "Filip Beach"  
 NA5. Braewood Park Natural Area  
 NA6. Crystal Creek Natural Area  
 NA7. Dixie Creek Natural Area

NA8. Falcon Ridge Natural Area  
 NA9. Fields Property Natural Area  
 NA10. Gaslight Park Natural Area  
 NA11. Grand Reserve Natural Area  
 NA12. High Hill Dam Natural Area  
 NA13. High Hill Park Natural Area  
 NA14. Hill Climb Park Natural Area

NA15. James B. Woods  
 Park Natural Area  
 NA16. Keliher Park Wetland  
 NA17. Lake Drive South Park  
 Natural Area  
 NA18. Lawndale Park Natural Area  
 NA19. Manchester Lakes Natural Area

NA20. Merrill Pioneer Park Natural Area  
 NA21. Millbrook Natural Area  
 NA22. Oceola Drive Natural Area  
 NA23. Randall Road Natural Area  
 NA24. Ratt Creek Natural Area  
 NA25. Robert "Bob" Smith Park Natural Area  
 NA26. Souwanas Trail Natural Area

NA27. Spella Wetland  
 NA28. Surrey Lane Natural Area  
 NA29. Village Hall Natural Area  
 NA30. Winding Creek Natural Area  
 NA31. Woods Creek Natural Area  
 NA32. Wynnfield Park Natural Area  
 NA33. Trails of Woods Creek

# Asset Inventory

As a part of the planning process, the Planning Team references the guidelines outlined by the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) - Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Guidelines Manual updated in 1996.

NRPA recommends creating a park classification system to serve as a guide for organizing an agency's parks. Park, Recreation, and Greenway Classification Guidelines are expressions of the minimum amount and development of land a community should provide for different classifications or types of parks, open space, and greenways.

Mini Park, Neighborhood Park, Community Park, Large Urban Park, and Sports Complexes are the six classifications for parks recognized by the NRPA. Commonly, School Parks serve similar functions as Neighborhood Parks and Large Urban Parks and Sports Complexes are included in the Community Park category.

These categories are based on size, function, and use. Mini Parks are the smallest and most limited in function, while Community Parks are typically the largest parks of a system and serve a variety of functions for the community. Other open space categories recognized by the NRPA are Natural Areas, Trails, Corridors or Linear Parks, and Special Use. Open Spaces are sites not yet developed for meaningful access. This category is recognized for planning purposes but is not an NRPA category.

These classifications are vital to a comprehensive level of service analysis. In the park and open space matrix on the following pages, amenities were quantified to understand the Park and Recreation Department's total recreational offerings.

# PARK CLASSIFICATIONS

Classification	General Description	Service Area	Size Criteria	Village of Algonquin Parks and Facilities
Mini Park* (M)	Mini Parks meet the need for a walkable, drop-in recreation experience. Appropriate elements in these parks include playgrounds, picnic areas, and seating. These parks usually do not include parking. They are used to address limited, isolated, or unique recreational needs.	Less than a 0.25-mile distance in a residential setting and uninterrupted by non-residential roads and other physical barriers.	Typically less than 1 acre in size.	Braewood Park, Broadsmore Park, Tunbridge Park
Neighborhood Park* (N)	Neighborhood Parks remain the basic unit of the park system and are generally designed for informal active and passive recreation and community gathering spaces. Elements in these parks often include playgrounds, picnic areas, sports fields, and trail systems. Neighborhood Parks serve as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood.	0.25 to 0.5-mile distance and uninterrupted by non-residential roads and other physical barriers.	Typically $\pm 15$ acres.	Gaslight Park, High Hill Park, Hill Climb Park, Holder Park, James B. Wood Park, Merrill Pioneer Park, Robert "Bob" Smith Park, Snapper's Field, Stoneybrook Park
Community Park* (C)	Community Parks focus on meeting community-wide recreation needs. These parks preserve unique landscapes and often serve the community as gathering places and for general athletics. Elements in these parks include playgrounds, pavilions, trails /paths, multiple sports courts, and fields. These parks serve a broad purpose focusing on meeting community-based recreation needs, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces.	Determined by the quality and suitability of the site. Usually serves two or more neighborhoods and 0.5 to 3-mile distance.	As needed to accommodate desired uses. Usually a minimum of 25 acres.	Algonquin Lakes Park, Keliher Park, Presidential Park, Ted Spella Community Park, Towne Park, Willoughby Farms Park
Special Use*(SU)	Special use facilities focus on meeting community-wide recreation needs. Often, these spaces (indoor and outdoor) are designed as single-use active recreation. Examples include golf courses, nature centers, recreation centers, and museums. These facilities/parks may also charge admission.	No applicable standard.	Variable, depending on desired the amenity.	Cornish Park, Jaycees Field, Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool, Riverfront Park
Open Space (OS)	Open Space is land owned by the agency, but not yet developed with any active or passive recreation amenities or meaningful access to the site such as trails and seating areas. These areas are eligible for future recreation development.	No applicable standard.	Variable.	Fields Property, Haeger's Bend Open Space, Lake Drive South Park, Lawndale Park, Pond View Park, Rattray Triangle
Natural Area* (NA)	Natural Areas include conservation and wildlife areas, wooded areas, and waterways that are reserved exclusively for nature conservation. Development of these properties is limited to passive recreation use only. They may be restored to their natural state and require maintenance.	Service radius is unlimited.	No applicable standard.	Algonquin Bluffs Natural Area, Algonquin Dam Bluffs Natural Area, Arbor Hills Natural Area, Beach Drive Open Space "Filip Beach", Braewood Park Natural Area, Crystal Creek Natural Area, Dixie Creek Natural Area, Falcon Ridge Natural Area, Fields Property Natural Area, Gaslight Park Natural Area, Grand Reserve Natural Area, High Hill Dam Natural Area, High Hill Park Natural Area, Hill Climb Park Natural Area, James B. Wood Park Natural Area, Kelliher Park Wetland, Lake Drive South Park Natural Area, Lawndale Park Nature Preserve, Manchester Lakes Natural Area, Merrill Pioneer Park Natural Area, Milbrook Natural Area, Oceola Drive Open Natural Area, Randall Road Natural Area, Ratt Creek Natural Area, Robert "Bob" Smith Park Natural Area, Souwanas Trail Natural Area, Spella Wetland, Surrey Lane Natural Area, Village Hall Natural Area, Winding Creek Natural Area, Woods Creek Natural Area, Wynnfield Park Natural Area
Trails and Linear Parks* (T)	These spaces effectively tie park system components together to form a continuous park environment.	Resource availability and opportunity.	No applicable standard.	The Village of Algonquin provides 28 miles (149,313 feet) of trails in its parks and open spaces and along public roadways.

\* from NRPA's Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines.



# Park & Open Space Inventory Matrix

			ACREAGE		TRAILS		INDOOR FACILITIES						
			Acreage - Own	Acreage - Lease / Manage	Regional Trail Access	Park Paths	Indoor Program/Support Facility	Restrooms	Concessions	Dog Park	Picnic Shelter	Playground	Fitness Stations
PARK AND OPEN SPACE SYSTEM													
Mini Parks													
1	Braewood Park		2.79				X						
2	Broadsmore Park		9.34			X						1	
3	Tunbridge Park		1.57		X	X					1	1	
Mini Park Acreage			13.7	0.0									
			13.7										
Neighborhood Parks													
1	Gaslight Park		4.98			X						1	
2	High Hill Park		8.59		X	X					1	1	
3	Hill Climb Park		6.22			X					2	2	
4	Holder Park		8.09			X						1	
5	James B. Wood Park		5.48			X						1	
6	Merrill Pioneer Park		1.06			X					1	1	
7	Robert "Bob" Smith Park		2.59			X						1	
8	Snapper's Field		4.18			X						1	
9	Stoneybrook Park		2.81			X						1	
Neighborhood Park Acreage			44.0	0.0									
			44.0										
Community Parks													
1	Algonquin Lakes Park		26.80		X	X	X	X	X		1	1	
2	Keliher Park		14.68		X	X		X	X			1	
3	Presidential Park		18.63		X	X		X	X			1	5
4	Ted Spella Community Park		28.41		X	X				2		1	
5	Towne Park		7.60		X	X		X	X		1	1	
6	Willoughby Farms Park		12.15		X						1	1	
Community Park Acreage			108.3	0.0									
			108.3										
			166.0	0.0									
TOTAL PARK & OPEN SPACE HOLDINGS			166.0		8	16	2	4	4	0	10	18	5



SPORTS COURTS AND AMENITIES												WATER-BASED AMENITIES					NATURAL FEATURES						
Basketball	Baseball	Softball	Disc Golf (holes)	Soccer	Football / Rugby	Golf Course (holes)	Golf Driving Range	Horseshoe Pit	Lacrosse	Skate Park	In-line Skating Rink	Tennis Court	Pickleball Court	Volleyball Court	Swimming Pool	Splash Pad	Ice Skating	Sled Hill	Boat Launch	Fishing	Creek / River / Open Water	Restored and Managed Acres	Unrestored Acres

0.5																		1			X		1.38
																				X			

1	1											2										2.01	
1				1														1					
0.5																						1.75	8.93
1	1			1																			
0.5				1																			0.84
0.5																							
																						6.74	
2.0	1										1	2											
														1									

1.5	2		9																		X		
2	2			1								1					1						13.02
	3			2																			
1.5				1								2	X					1					
	1																				X		
2	1							3				2					1		1		X		

14.0	12	0	9	7	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	9	0	1	0	0	2	3	1	0	5	10.50	24.17
------	----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	-------	-------

	ACREAGE		TRAILS		INDOOR FACILITIES			Dog Park	Picnic Shelter	Playground	Fitness Stations
	Acreage - Own	Acreage - Lease / Manage	Regional Trail Access	Park Paths	Indoor Program/Support Facility	Restrooms	Concessions				

#### OTHER DISTRICT OPEN SPACE & FACILITIES

##### Natural Areas

1	Algonquin Bluffs Natural Area	50.87		X							
2	Algonquin Dam Bluffs Natural Area	0.84									
3	Arbor Hills Natural Area	15.44									
4	Beach Drive Open Space "Filip Beach"	1.34									
5	Braewood Park Natural Area	1.47									
6	Crystal Creek Natural Area	10.50		X							
7	Dixie Creek Natural Area	27.60		X	X						
8	Falcon Ridge Natural Area	6.32									
9	Fields Property Natural Area	18.05									
10	Gaslight Park Natural Area	2.07			X						
11	Grand Reserve Natural Area	6.92		X							
12	High Hill Dam Natural Area	11.44		X	X						
13	High Hill Park Natural Area	21.57			X						
14	Hill Climb Park Natural Area	11.20									
15	James B. Wood Park Natural Area	17.44									
16	Kelliher Park Wetland	13.46		X	X						
17	Lake Drive South Park Natural Area	2.57									
18	Lawndale Park Natural Area	7.33		X							
19	Manchester Lakes Natural Area	21.99		X							
20	Merrill Pioneer Park Natural Area	0.87									
21	Milbrook Natural Area	2.95									
22	Oceola Drive Open Natural Area	0.68									
23	Randall Road Natural Area	21.08									
24	Ratt Creek Natural Area	3.40		X							
25	Robert "Bob" Smith Park Natural Area	6.92			X						
26	Souwanas Trail Natural Area	4.29									
27	Spella Wetland	134.35		X	X						
28	Surrey Lane Natural Area	5.97									
29	Village Hall Natural Area	7.49		X	X						
30	Winding Creek Natural Area	82.58		X	X						
31	Woods Creek Natural Area	6.47		X	X						
32	Wynnfield Park Natural Area	1.87									
33	Trails of Woods Creek	26.58									
Natural Area Acreage		553.9	0.0								
		553.9									

SPORTS COURTS AND AMENITIES														WATER-BASED AMENITIES						NATURAL FEATURES			
Basketball	Baseball	Softball	Disc Golf (holes)	Soccer	Football / Rugby	Golf Course (holes)	Golf Driving Range	Horseshoe Pit	Lacrosse	Skate Park	In-line Skating Rink	Tennis Court	Pickleball Court	Volleyball Court	Swimming Pool	Splash Pad	Ice Skating	Sled Hill	Boat Launch	Fishing	Creek / River / Open Water	Restored and Managed Acres	Unrestored Acres
																					X	4.37	46.50
																					X		0.84
																							15.44
																					X		1.34
																							1.47
																					X	10.50	
																					X	17.18	10.42
																						6.32	
																							18.05
																						2.07	
																						6.92	
																					X		11.44
																					X		21.57
																						1.75	9.45
																							17.44
																							13.46
																					X	2.57	
																						2.09	5.24
																					X		21.99
																							0.87
																							2.95
																					X		0.68
																					X		21.08
																					X		3.40
																						6.92	
																						4.29	
																					X	134.35	
																						5.97	
																					X		7.49
																					X	32.19	50.39
																							6.47
																							1.87
																							26.58

			ACREAGE		TRAILS		INDOOR FACILITIES						
			Acreage - Own	Acreage - Lease / Manage	Regional Trail Access	Park Paths	Indoor Program/Support Facility	Restrooms	Concessions	Dog Park	Picnic Shelter	Playground	Fitness Stations
<b>Special Use</b>													
1	Cornish Park		3.07			X		X			1	1	
2	Jaycees Field		1.56			X							
3	Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool		1.19				X	X					
4	Riverfront Park		1.89			X					2		
Special Use Acreage			7.7	0.0									
			7.7										
<b>Trails, Corridors, and Linear Parks/Greenways</b>													
1	(none)												
Trails, Corridors, and Linear Parks/Greenways Acreage			0.0	0.0									
			0.0										
<b>Open Space</b>													
1	Fields Property		3.10										
2	Haeger's Bend Open Space		17.25										
3	Lake Drive South Park		1.50										
4	Lawndale Park		2.43										
5	Pond View Park		1.03			X							
6	Rattray Triangle		0.12										
Undeveloped Park Acreage			25.4	0.0									
			25.4										
			753.0	0.0									
TOTAL DISTRICT HOLDINGS			753.0		21	30	3	6	4	0	13	19	5

BEYOND USEFUL LIFE	0	0	0	0	1	16	0
AMENTITIES AT CURRENT STANDARDS	3	6	4	0	12	3	5



SPORTS COURTS AND AMENITIES															WATER-BASED AMENITIES						NATURAL FEATURES		
Basketball	Baseball	Softball	Disc Golf (holes)	Soccer	Football / Rugby	Golf Course (holes)	Golf Driving Range	Horseshoe Pit	Lacrosse	Skate Park	In-line Skating Rink	Tennis Court	Pickleball Court	Volleyball Court	Swimming Pool	Splash Pad	Ice Skating	Sled Hill	Boat Launch	Fishing	Creek / River / Open Water	Restored and Managed Acres	Unrestored Acres
	1																1		1		X		
															1	1					X		
1																			1		X		
15	13	0	9	7	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	9	0	1	1	1	3	3	3	0	23	258.49	364.77
6	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
9	5	0	9	7	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	7	0	1	1	1	3	3	3	0	23		

# LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS

This Level of Service analysis evaluates how well the Village of Algonquin's parks, facilities, and amenities are serving the current needs of the community.

The development of a Level of Service standard for parks and recreation began in the 1980s with the development of Levels of Service for other infrastructures such as water, stormwater drainage, sewer systems, and transportation. These benchmarks provide agency officials with the ability to respond to growing communities, evolving demographics, and changing needs. It is important to note, however, that these benchmarks are not strict rules that all communities should follow. These Level of Service benchmarks are simply another gauge for agencies to use when determining future needs and services.

According to the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA), the Level of Service is a quantification of the park and recreation delivery philosophy and policy of a community. Its basic utility is in meeting a legal and/or economic requirement of quality service and equity. As a basic rule, a Level of Service benchmark should:

- Be practical and achievable
- Provide for an equitable allocation of park and recreation resources throughout a community with equal opportunity access for all citizens
- Reflect the real-time demand of the citizens for park and recreation opportunities

The Level of Service standard uses three measurements to help a community to evaluate the comprehensiveness and equity of their current outdoor park and recreation offerings. These are:

1. **Acreage:** A calculation of the minimum amount of land required to provide all of the recreation activities and facilities required to support such activities
2. **Distribution:** An evaluation of how equitable park and open space sites are placed throughout the community, as well as how accessible existing sites are to residents
3. **Amenities:** A calculation of the minimum number of amenities and facilities required to meet state and/or national averages

Level of Service guidelines are developed by state and national agencies, including the NRPA. Historically, a Level of Service analysis has been limited to total park and open space acreage alone and did not include distribution, amenities, or indoor square footage.



The national standard for acreage Level of Service was 10 acres per 1,000 population, but as park and recreation planning developed, professionals saw the need to develop a more comprehensive benchmarking tool that could be adjusted for and specific to each community. Because one size does not fit all, the NRPA recommends using community-specific benchmarks if needed.

Park Metrics is the NRPA's online management tool, designed for public park and recreation agencies. This tool is a supplement to the NRPA standards that have guided land acquisition and development for the past 45 years. Through this tool, agencies have the ability to compare themselves and their offerings with departments and agencies in their state or region. Agencies can also compare themselves to others based on factors such as total population, operating budget, and full-time technical equivalent employees. Now, agencies can plan and benchmark with more applicable data than national averages.

Park Metrics has thousands of data points and more than 600 completed profiles. It is now the largest and most comprehensive collection of detailed municipal, county, state, and special district data. As more agencies add their data to the database, trends and patterns begin to emerge that help agencies plan and benchmark.

The following Level of Service analyses reference national NRPA standards, Park Metrics benchmarks, and state-specific standards set by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. The Village of Algonquin was compared against 2019 data for agencies with populations between 25,000 and 35,000 registered with the NRPA's Park Metrics. 14 comparable agencies located in Midwest states were found.

# Acreage

Acreage Level of Service benchmarks are calculations of the recommended amount of land required to provide recreation activities and the facilities to support them.

The NRPA's population ratio method (acres/1,000 population) emphasizes the direct relationship between recreation spaces and people. It is the most common method of estimating an agency's level of service for parkland and open space. In addition to the baseline of 10 acres/1,000 population used in this analysis, Park Metrics benchmarks are also used to understand how the Recreation services compare to agencies of similar population size and region.

Based on the NRPA benchmark of 10 acres per 1,000 population, 312.6 acres of Mini, Neighborhood, and Community Park space is recommended for the Village. These park assets are designated as "Active Recreation Areas". With 166.0 acres of open space dedicated to Mini, Neighborhood, and Community Park uses, the Village has a 146.7-acre deficiency compared to this benchmark, with acreage deficiencies in all three classifications of parks. The Village has a level of service of 5.3 acres per 1,000 population, which is also below the NRPA recommended 10 acres per 1,000.

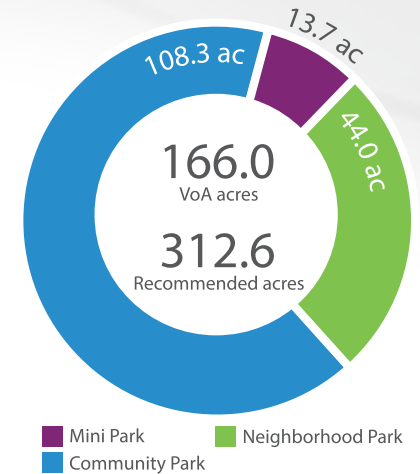
When all Village-owned and maintained recreation open space is added to the Level of Service analysis, the Village is 413.8 acres above the NRPA recommendation. This Level of Service gauge includes Open Space, Special Use Parks, and Natural Areas, in addition to Mini, Neighborhood, and Community Parks. When including all of these properties, the Department has an overall level of service of 23.2 acres per 1,000 population.

The Park Metrics database was referenced to understand how the Village of Algonquin compares to agencies across the nation with similar population sizes. The Village of Algonquin has a population of 31,264. Out of over 600 agencies reporting, there were 14 agencies located in the midwest with populations between 25,000 and 35,000. Park Metrics provided information on the following level of service benchmarks:

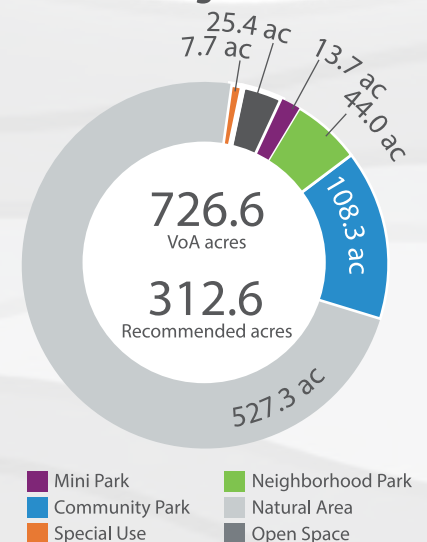
- Total Number of Parks
- Total Park Acres
- Total Acres Managed
- Acres of Parks per 1,000 Residents

The Village of Algonquin owns and/or maintains 60 park and open space sites that total 726.5 acres, this is significantly higher than the reported median of 30 parks and also higher than the median of 365 acres for comparable agencies as reported by Park Metrics.

## VoA Active Recreation Acreage

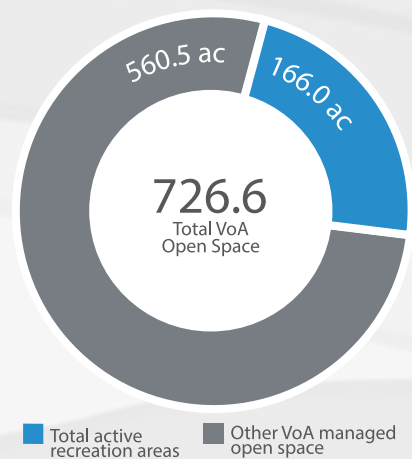


## VoA Owned Acreage





## VoA Total Acreage



## Park Metrics Benchmarks

25,000-35,000 population

14 agencies

Benchmark	Park Metrics Median	VoA
Total number of properties maintained	30	60
Total acres maintained	448	726.6

## Level of Service Analysis: 10 acres / 1,000 population

### OWNED / LEASED ACTIVE RECREATION AREAS

Classification	VoA Acreage (Total)	VoA Existing Level of Service (acres / 1,000 population)	IAPD/NRPA Recommended Acreage	IAPD/NRPA Recommended Level of Service (acres / 1,000 population)	Acreage deficiency / surplus (acre)
Mini Parks	13.7	0.4	15.6	0.5	-1.9
Neighborhood Parks	44.0	1.4	62.5	2.0	-18.5
Community Parks	108.3	3.5	234.5	7.5	-126.2
<b>Total Active Recreation Areas</b>	<b>166.0</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>312.6</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>-146.7</b>

Recommended acreage is based off the existing population of 31264

### ALL EGPD MANAGED OPEN SPACE

Classification	VoA Acreage (Total)	VoA Existing Level of Service (acres / 1,000 population)	IAPD/NRPA Recommended Acreage	IAPD/NRPA Recommended Level of Service (acres / 1,000 population)	Acreage deficiency / surplus (acre)
Mini Parks	13.7	0.4	15.6	0.5	-1.9
Neighborhood Parks	44.0	1.4	62.5	2.0	-18.5
Community Parks	108.3	3.5	234.5	7.5	-126.2
Natural Areas	527.3	16.9	0.0	0.0	527.3
Special Use	7.7	0.2	0.0	0.0	7.7
Open Space	25.4	0.8	0.0	0.0	25.4
<b>Total VoA Open Space</b>	<b>726.5</b>	<b>23.2</b>	<b>312.6</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>413.8</b>

Recommended acreage is based off the existing population of 31264

# Distribution

Planning areas are used to analyze park distribution, land acquisition, and park facility redevelopment needs. Planning areas are delineated by major pedestrian barriers, including major roads or highways, railroad corridors, and impassible natural features.

The location and geographic distribution of the parks themselves can offer an indication of how well an agency is serving its residents. By understanding where parks are located in relation to residential development determines who is underserved. This analysis may reveal the need for acquisition to expand service or may show that the Village is serving the residents well and should focus on maintaining or updating existing assets.

## Methodology

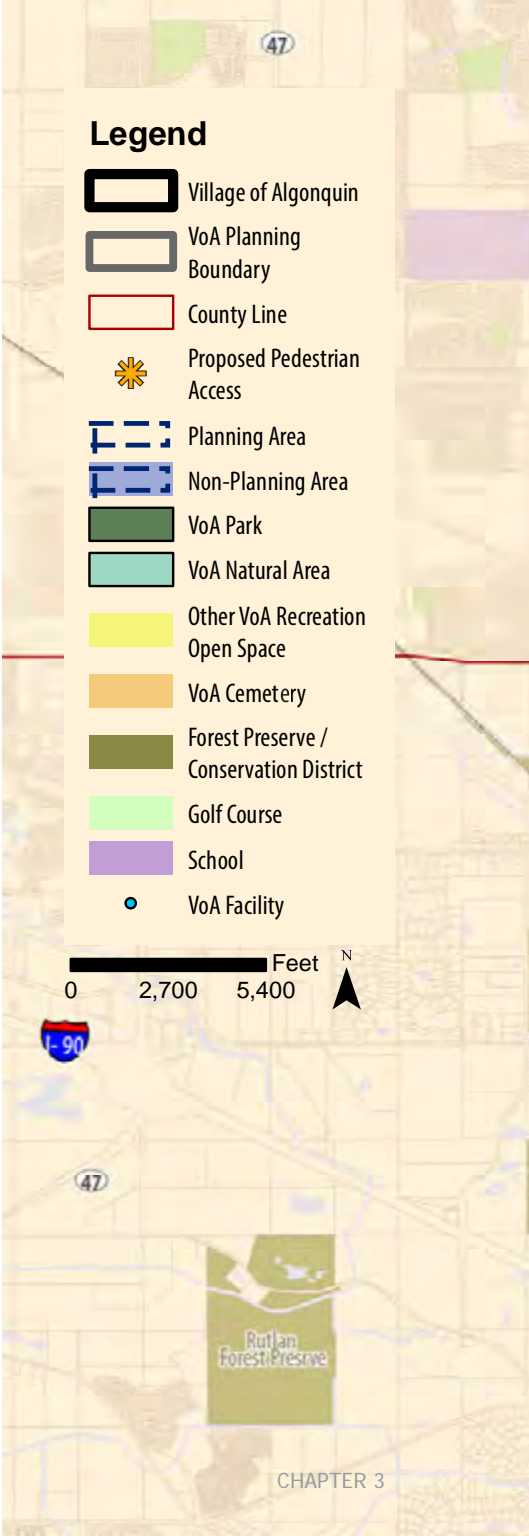
In the Village of Algonquin, arterial roads and the Fox River serve as the main pedestrian barriers which resulted in 12 planning areas. The planning team also identified several non-planning areas shown in light blue. These areas are isolated by pedestrian barriers but do not have any residents. The most significant non-planning area covers the industrial park on the northern edge of the Village.

A service area, illustrated in the following maps with an orange halo, was created around each individual park. The shape of each service area is determined by analyzing the existing road and sidewalk infrastructure to identify the actual route and distance one has to travel to access the park. The size of the service area is dependent upon the park classification and is either a quarter-, half-, or one-mile.

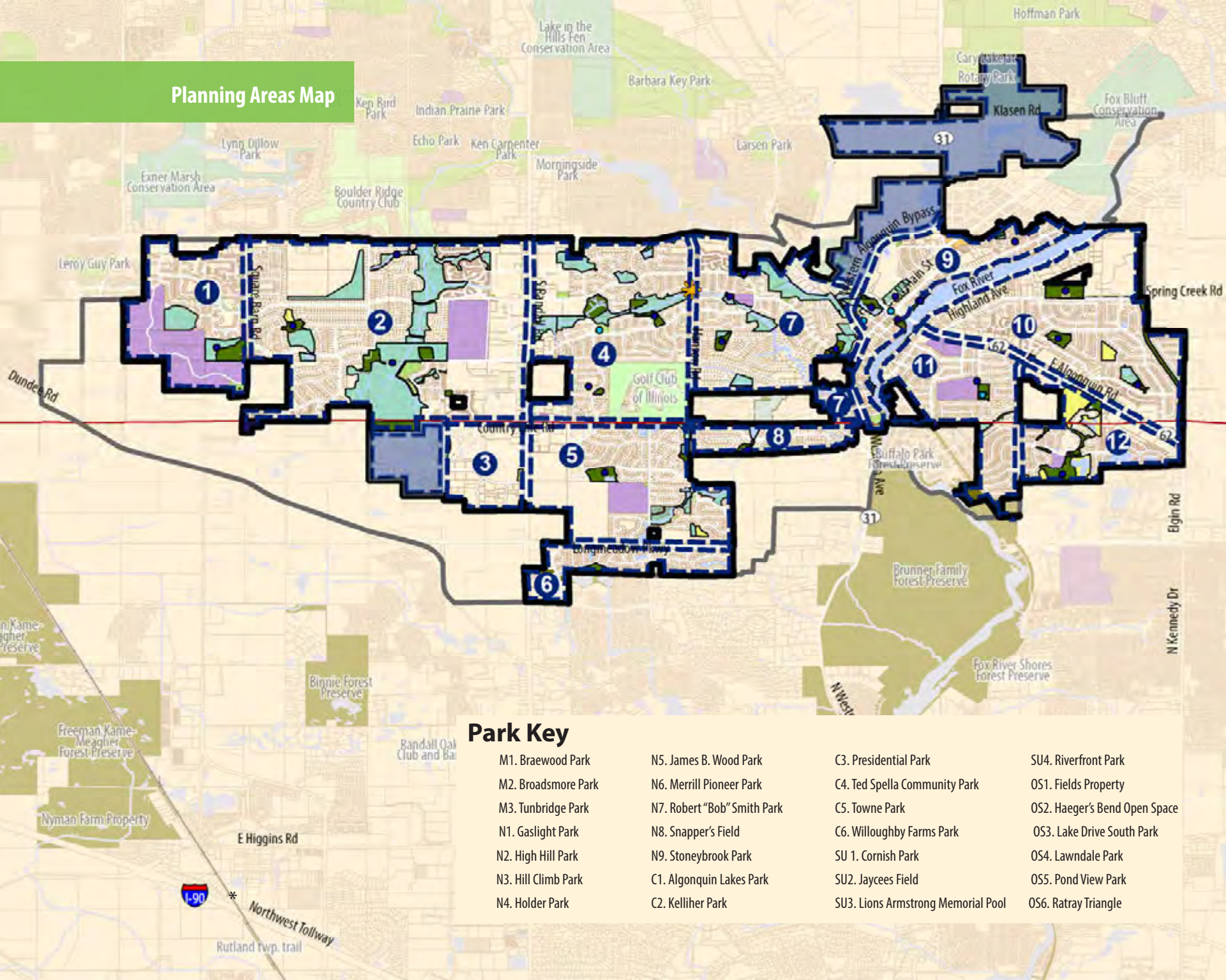
The table on page 107 notes the various recommended service area distances for Mini, Neighborhood, and Community Parks. Open Space, Special Use, and Natural Area sites, are not included in this analysis.

Service area buffers for Mini and Neighborhood Parks were truncated to the planning area boundaries in which the park is located. Planning Area boundaries are considered barriers to safe or comfortable pedestrian access, and Mini and Neighborhood Parks are considered walk-to (walkable) destinations. For Community Parks, the boundaries were not truncated because these parks are seen as drive-to destinations.

Finally, overlaying service area maps reveal which areas are most and least served by the existing park system. The orange service area buffers overlap to form a gradient that illustrates the degree to which residents are served. The darker the orange, the better these residents are served. Residents who fall within the darker or opaque orange areas are served by multiple parks and their amenities. Population for each planning and service area further informed the level of service



## Planning Areas Map



### Park Key

- |                     |                             |                                    |                               |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| M1. Braewood Park   | N5. James B. Wood Park      | C3. Presidential Park              | SU4. Riverfront Park          |
| M2. Broadsmore Park | N6. Merrill Pioneer Park    | C4. Ted Spella Community Park      | OS1. Fields Property          |
| M3. Tunbridge Park  | N7. Robert "Bob" Smith Park | C5. Towne Park                     | OS2. Haeger's Bend Open Space |
| N1. Gaslight Park   | N8. Snapper's Field         | C6. Willoughby Farms Park          | OS3. Lake Drive South Park    |
| N2. High Hill Park  | N9. Stoneybrook Park        | SU 1. Cornish Park                 | OS4. Lawndale Park            |
| N3. Hill Climb Park | C1. Algonquin Lakes Park    | SU2. Jaycees Field                 | OS5. Pond View Park           |
| N4. Holder Park     | C2. Kelliher Park           | SU3. Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool | OS6. Ratray Triangle          |



# Mini Park Distribution

Mini Parks meet the need for a walkable, drop-in recreation experience. Appropriate elements in these parks typically include playgrounds, picnic areas, and seating opportunities.

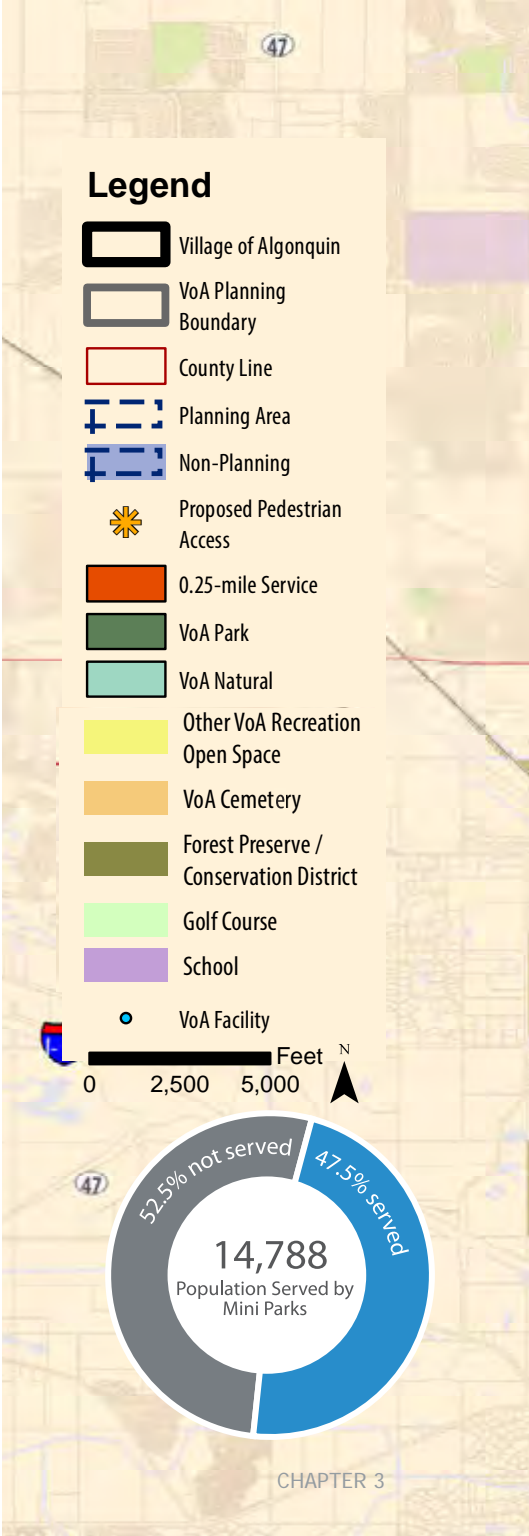
The purpose of the Mini Park Distribution Analysis is to determine which planning areas are underserved by the Village's existing Mini Park landholdings. The Village of Algonquin has three Mini Parks between 1.6 and 9.3 acres in size.

The map to the right illustrates the quarter-mile (0.25-mile) service area reach for Neighborhood and Community Parks shown in orange. Quarter-mile service areas are shown for Neighborhood and Community Parks as these parks can serve the function of a Mini Park for those residents within a quarter-mile distance from the park.

The map illustrates where Mini Park service is concentrated within the Village. Less than half of the Village of Algonquin residents, 47.5%, have access to an active recreation park within a 0.25-mile walk of their homes. Mini Park service is heavily concentrated in Planning Areas 8, 10, and 7 with over 65 percent of the population in each area served by a park. Mini Park service is relatively evenly throughout the Village.

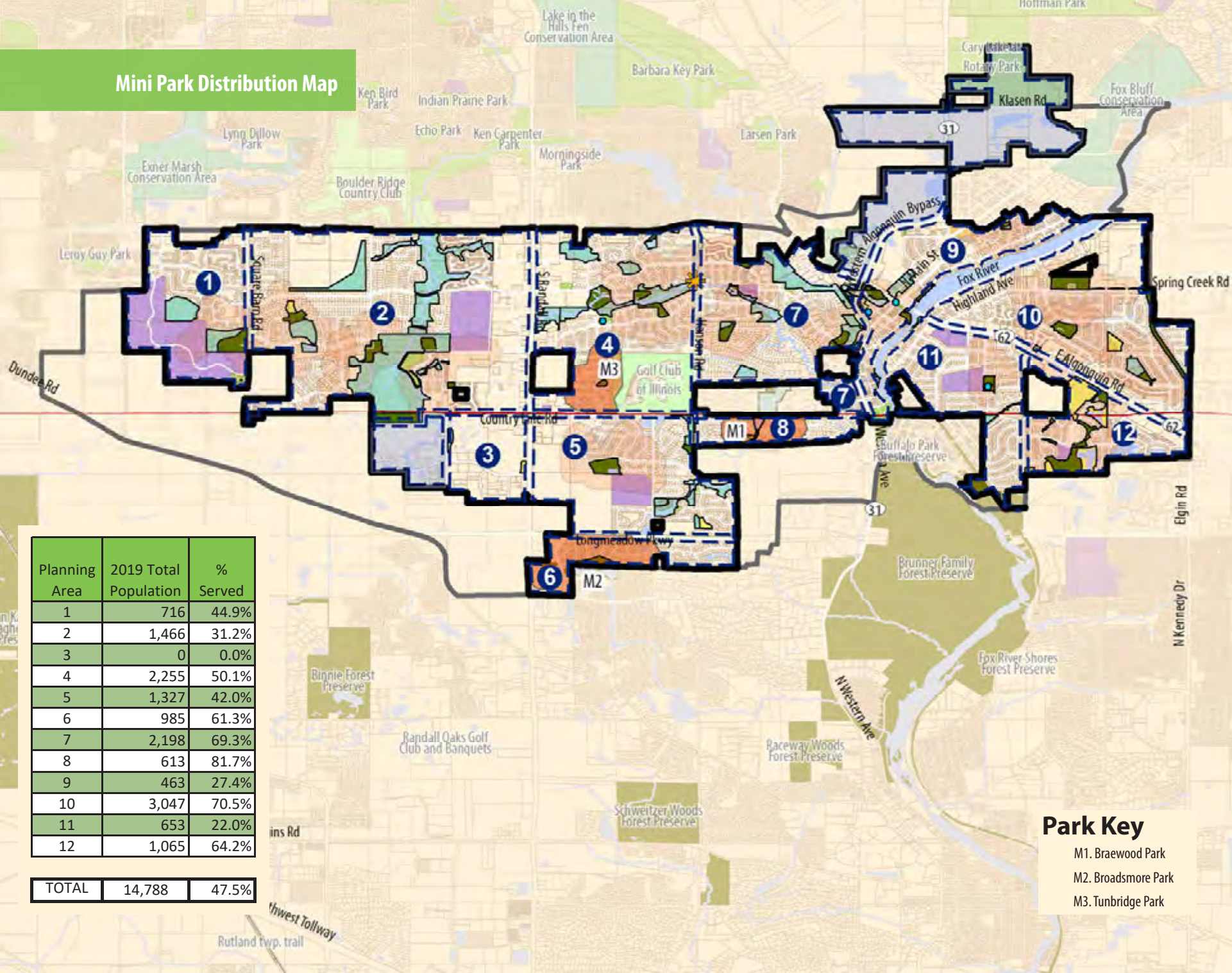
The most significant service gap is in Planning area 3 where 0% percent of the population is served. In terms of population, this area also has a significant number of residents, over 1,000 who are not being served. Other areas in the Village with high numbers of underserved residents are Planning Areas 2, 5, 9, 10, and 11 which all have under half of their populations served and have over 1,000 residents who are not being served.

Despite the existing service gaps, some Village of Algonquin residents may be finding active recreation access through other providers.





## Mini Park Distribution Map



Planning Area	2019 Total Population	% Served
1	716	44.9%
2	1,466	31.2%
3	0	0.0%
4	2,255	50.1%
5	1,327	42.0%
6	985	61.3%
7	2,198	69.3%
8	613	81.7%
9	463	27.4%
10	3,047	70.5%
11	653	22.0%
12	1,065	64.2%

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14,788</b>	<b>47.5%</b>
--------------	---------------	--------------

## Park Key

- M1. Braewood Park
- M2. Broadmore Park
- M3. Tunbridge Park

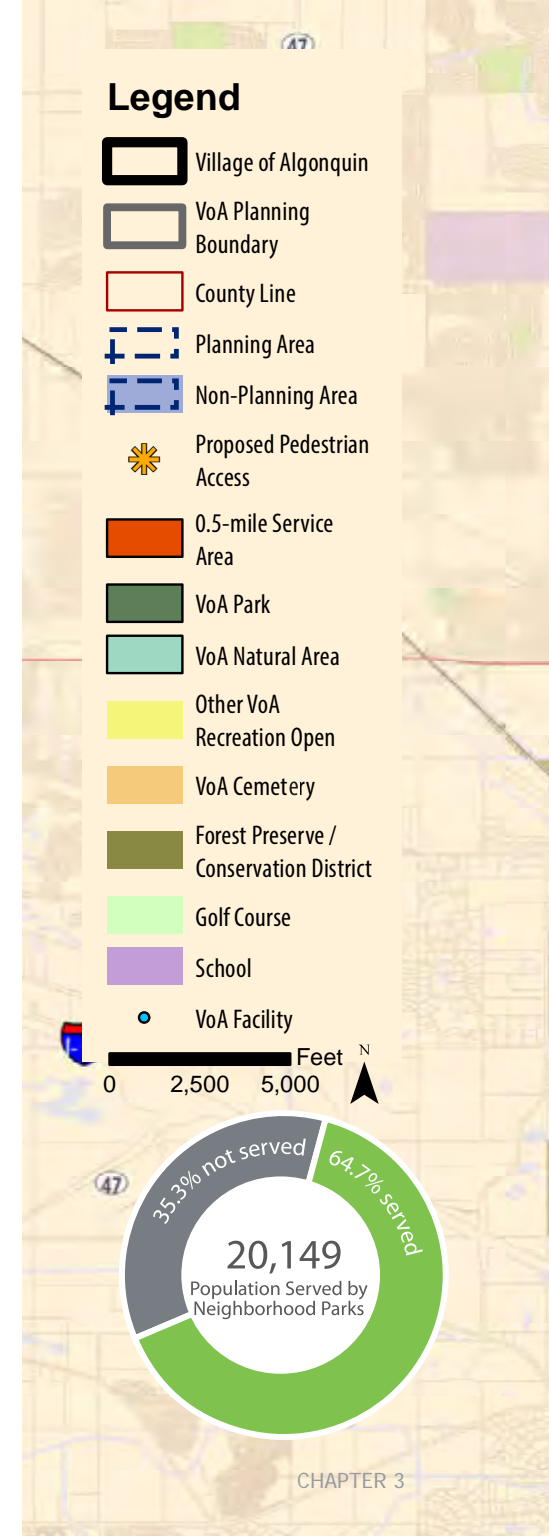
# Neighborhood Park

Neighborhood Parks remain the basic unit of the park system and are generally designed for informal active and passive recreation and community gathering spaces.

The purpose of the Neighborhood Park Distribution Analysis is to determine which planning areas are under-served by the Village's existing Neighborhood Park landholdings. Currently, the Village has 9 Neighborhood Parks that range from 1.1 acres to 8.6 acres in size.

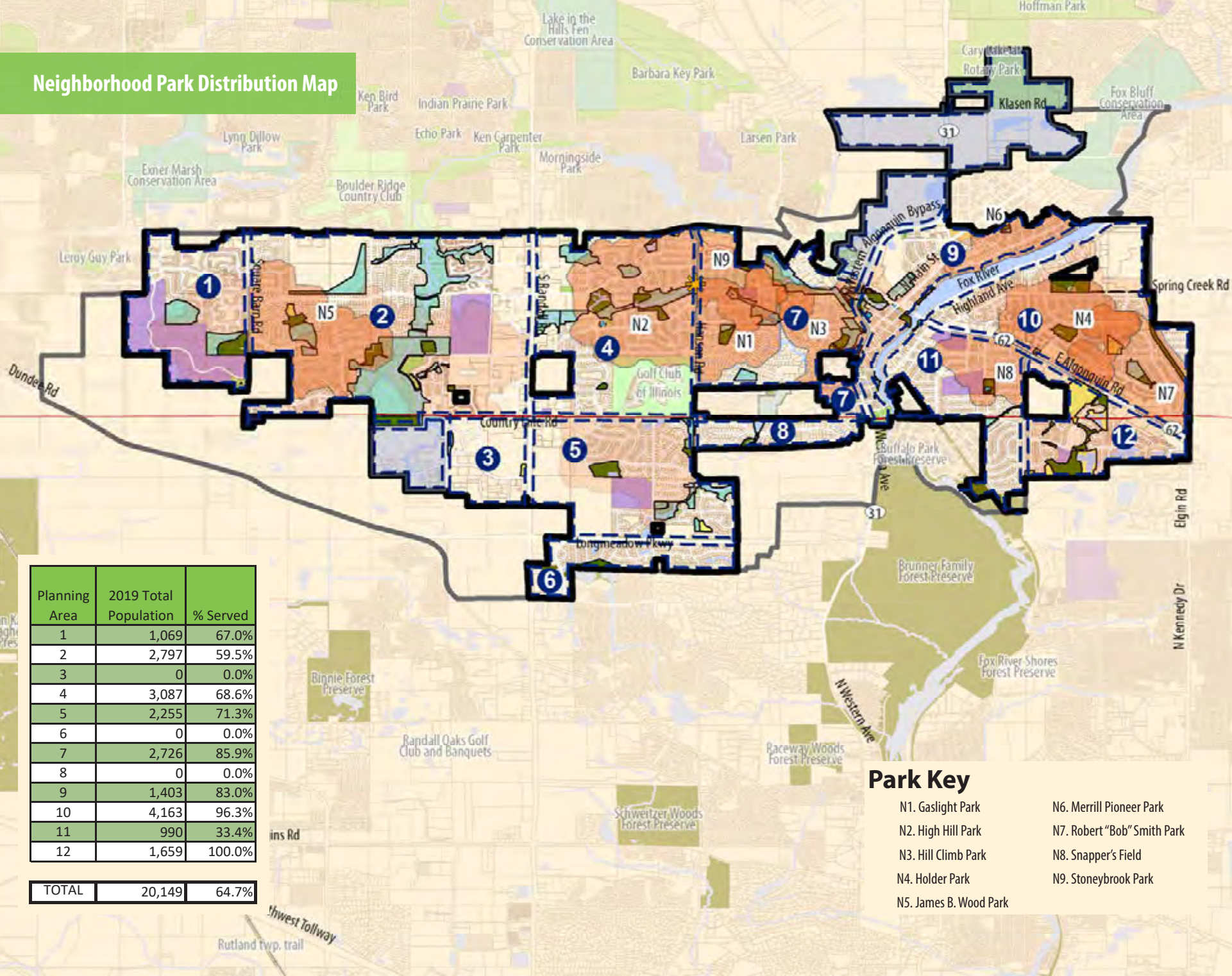
The map on the right illustrates the half-mile (0.5-mile) service area reach for Neighborhood parks. This plan also illustrates a half-mile service area (shown in orange) for Community Parks, as these parks can serve the function of a Neighborhood Park for residents within a 0.5-mile from the park. According to NRPA's Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Guidelines, Neighborhood Park service areas do not include residents who must cross a planning area boundary to reach the park. Service areas are truncated to all planning area boundaries.

The map to the right illustrates where Neighborhood Parks service is concentrated within the Village of Algonquin. All of the Planning Areas except 3, 6, and 8 contain at least one Neighborhood Park and a few (including 7 and 10) contain multiple neighborhood parks and/or a Community Park(s) that can meet Neighborhood Park needs. In total, 20,149 people, or 64.7%, of the Village of Algonquin are served by a Neighborhood or Community Park within a 0.5-mile walk of their home. Planning area 12 is the best-served area with 100% of its residents served. The biggest service gaps for Neighborhood Parks are Planning Areas 3, 6, and 8 where 0% of the population is served; with 1,016, 1,608, and 750 people not having access to a neighborhood or community park respectively.





## Nearhood Park Distribution Map



Planning Area	2019 Total Population	% Served
1	1,069	67.0%
2	2,797	59.5%
3	0	0.0%
4	3,087	68.6%
5	2,255	71.3%
6	0	0.0%
7	2,726	85.9%
8	0	0.0%
9	1,403	83.0%
10	4,163	96.3%
11	990	33.4%
12	1,659	100.0%

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20,149</b>	<b>64.7%</b>
--------------	---------------	--------------

### Park Key

- N1. Gaslight Park
- N2. High Hill Park
- N3. Hill Climb Park
- N4. Holder Park
- N5. James B. Wood Park
- N6. Merrill Pioneer Park
- N7. Robert "Bob" Smith Park
- N8. Snapper's Field
- N9. Stoneybrook Park

# Community Park

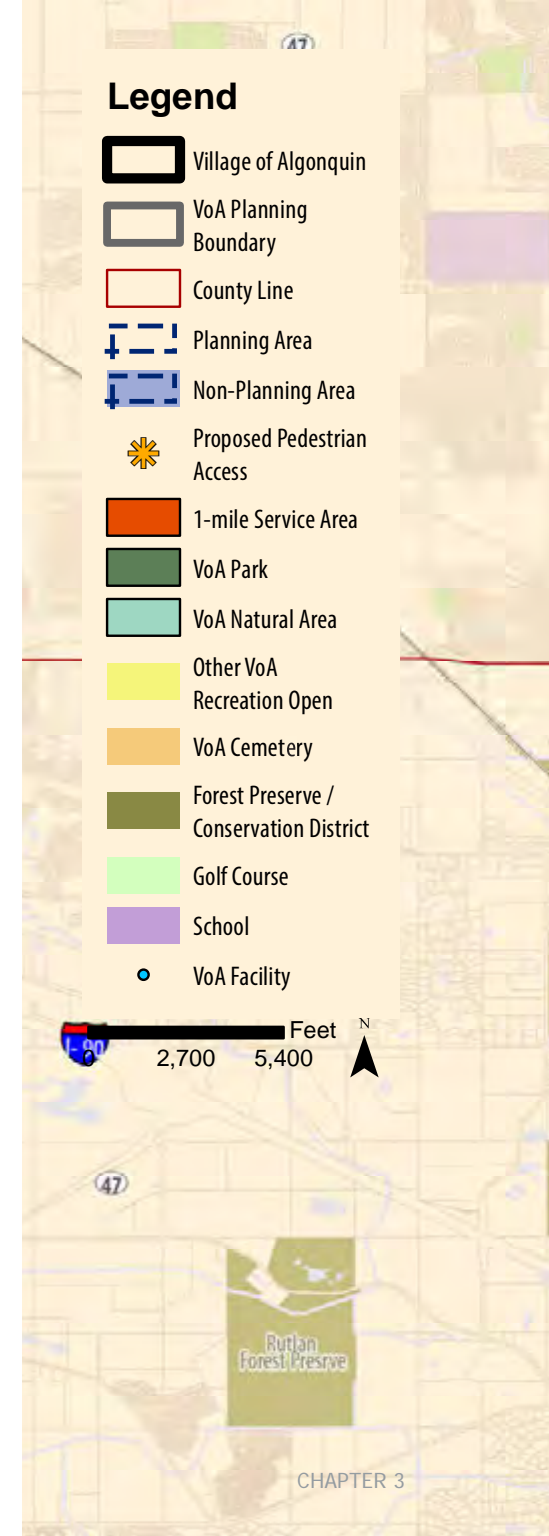
Community Parks focus on meeting community-wide recreation needs. These parks may preserve unique landscapes and often serve as event and recreational team sports spaces.

The purpose of the Community Park Distribution Analysis is to determine the location of gaps in Community Park service area coverage. Currently, the Village has six Community Parks that are between 7.6 acres and 28.41 acres in size.

The map on the right illustrates the one-mile (1-mile) service area reach for Community parks, shown in orange. Unlike Mini and Neighborhood Parks, Community Parks are considered drive-to recreation destinations so service areas are not limited to the boundary of the planning area in which they are located. These drive-to destinations cover multiple planning areas and are community destinations for Village residents. Community Park Service Areas also extend past municipal boundaries and it is common for local residents who do not live within the Village to utilize these spaces as well.

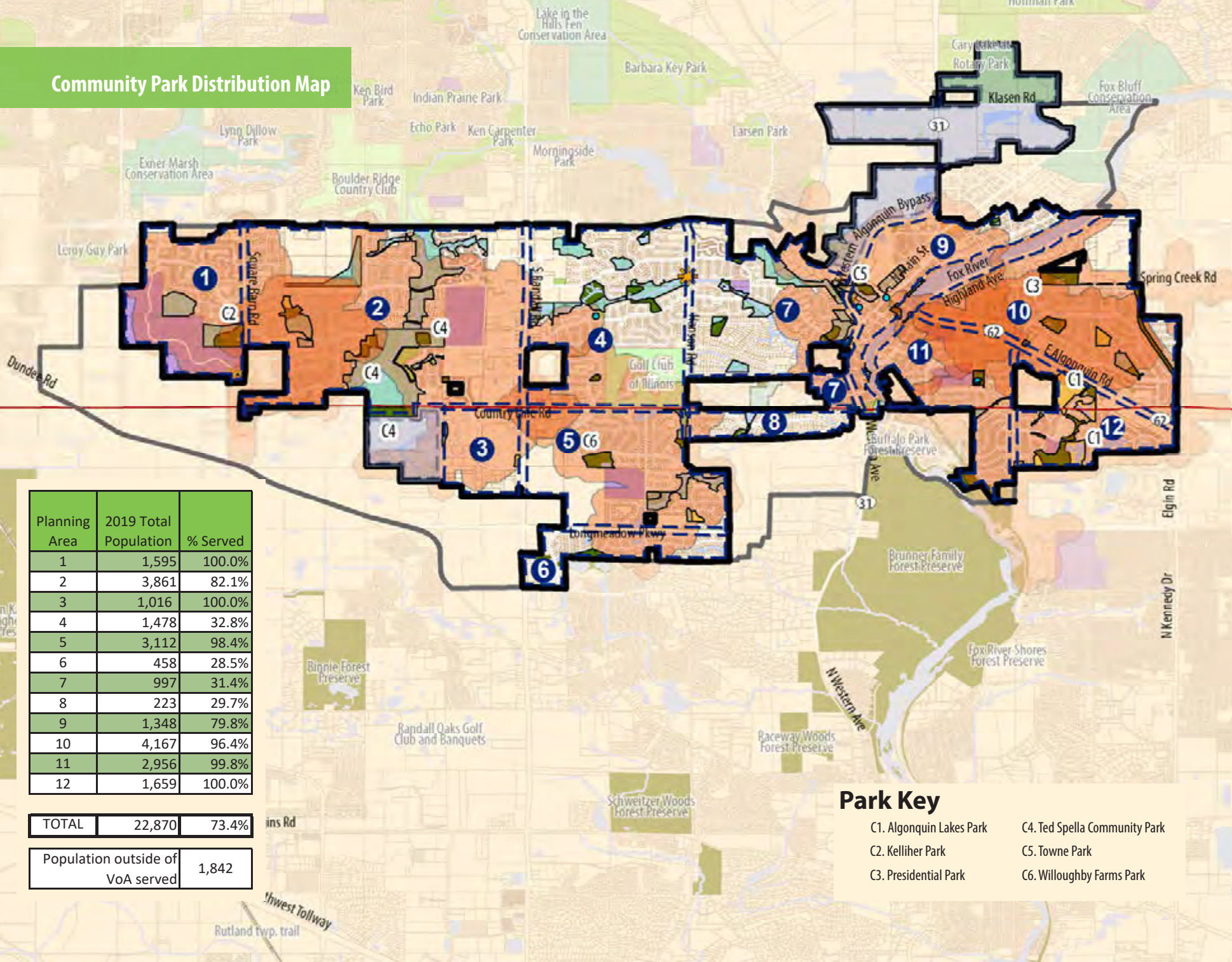
Even though Community Parks are only located in seven of the Village's Planning Areas, the Community Park Service Areas extend into every Planning Area. These service areas also extend into the adjacent communities of Huntley, Dundee, and Barrington. In total, 22,870 (73.4%) of Village of Algonquin residents and an additional 1,842 non-Village residents reside within a 1.0-mile drive of a community park.

Three Planning Areas, 1, 3, and 12 serve 100% of their residents with Community Park Access. There are 843 residents in Area 2, 3,022 in area 4, 50 in area 5, 1,105 in area 6, 2,175 in area 7, 527 in area 8, 342 in area 9, 157 in area 10, and 7 in area 11 who are underserved. Unlike Mini and Neighborhood park spaces, Community Parks serve a unique recreation need that cannot be met by smaller active recreation open spaces or by passive use parks. When considering population, additional Community Park access is most needed in Planning Area 4 and in Planning Area 7 (as shown by the large gap in the orange service area in the center of the map to the right).





## Community Park Distribution Map



Planning Area	2019 Total Population	% Served
1	1,595	100.0%
2	3,861	82.1%
3	1,016	100.0%
4	1,478	32.8%
5	3,112	98.4%
6	458	28.5%
7	997	31.4%
8	223	29.7%
9	1,348	79.8%
10	4,167	96.4%
11	2,956	99.8%
12	1,659	100.0%

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22,870</b>	<b>73.4%</b>
--------------	---------------	--------------

Population outside of VoA served	1,842
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### Park Key

- C1. Algonquin Lakes Park
- C2. Kelliher Park
- C3. Presidential Park
- C4. Ted Spella Community Park
- C5. Towne Park
- C6. Willoughby Farms Park

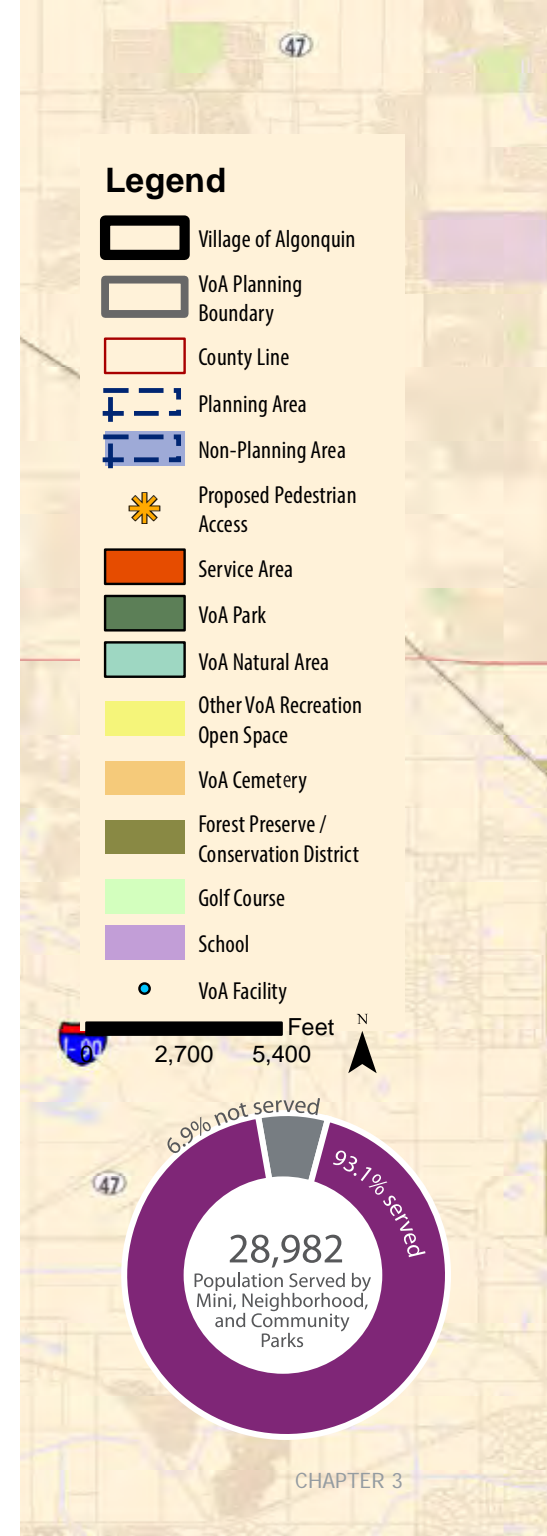
# Overall Park Distribution Analysis

The Overall Distribution Analysis illustrates the combined Village-wide service for Mini, Neighborhood, School, and Community Park assets.

The map on the right illustrates the service areas for all mini (quarter-mile), Neighborhood (half-mile), and Community (one-mile) Parks. Per NRPA Guidelines, the Mini and Neighborhood Park service areas are truncated to the boundaries of the individual planning areas in which they reside. Community Parks are considered drive-to destinations, so those service areas are not truncated to the planning area boundaries. Open Lands and Special Use land holdings are not included in this analysis.

Park service in the Village of Algonquin is well distributed among residential areas and serves over 90% of Village Residents in addition to almost 2,000 non-district residents. In total 93.1% of Village residents live within at least one active park service area. This is slightly above the planning team database median of 88.6% service. Gaps in service exist in small pockets around the village where a total of 2,161 residents are unserved.

Despite this high level of service, park distribution is not entirely uniform. Many Village Residents are served by multiple service areas as shown by the darkest gradients of orange on the map to the right. Areas of lighter orange represent access to only one park property. These areas of more limited service are spread around the community. There are areas of the community concentrated in planning area 2 and planning area 10 which are served by multiple parks.





**Overall Park Distribution Map**

The map displays the Town of Algonquin, divided into 12 numbered planning areas. Various parks and preserves are labeled, including Ken Bird Park, Indian Prairie Park, Echo Park, Ken Carpenter Park, Morningside Park, Barbara Key Park, Larsen Park, Hoffman Park, Caryl Lake Rotary Park, Fox Bluff Conservation Area, Spring Creek Rd, Elgin Rd, N Kennedy Dr, Raceway Woods Forest Preserve, Brunner Family Forest Preserve, Fox River Shores Forest Preserve, Binnie Forest Preserve, Randall Oaks Golf Club and Banquets, and Freeman/K. Meagher Forest Pres.

**Park Key**

M1. Braewood Park	N3. Hill Climb Park	N8. Snapper's Field	C4. Ted Spella Community Park
M2. Broadsmore Park	N4. Holder Park	N9. Stoneybrook Park	C5. Towne Park
M3. Tunbridge Park	N5. James B. Wood Park	C1. Algonquin Lakes Park	C6. Willoughby Farms Park
N1. Gaslight Park	N6. Merrill Pioneer Park	C2. Kelliher Park	
N2. High Hill Park	N7. Robert "Bob" Smith Park	C3. Presidential Park	

Planning Area	2019 Total Population	% Served
1	1,595	100.0%
2	3,861	82.1%
3	1,016	100.0%
4	4,289	95.3%
5	3,112	98.4%
6	1,127	70.1%
7	2,833	89.3%
8	677	90.3%
9	1,690	100.0%
10	4,167	96.4%
11	2,956	99.8%
12	1,659	100.0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>28,982</b>	<b>93.1%</b>
Population outside of VoA served		1,842

TOTAL	28,982	93.1%
Population outside of VoA served	1,842	

M1. Braewood Park	N3. Hill Climb Park	N8. Snapper's Field	C4. Ted Spella Community Park
M2. Broadsmore Park	N4. Holder Park	N9. Stoneybrook Park	C5. Towne Park
M3. Tunbridge Park	N5. James B. Wood Park	C1. Algonquin Lakes Park	C6. Willoughby Farms Park
N1. Gaslight Park	N6. Merrill Pioneer Park	C2. Kelliher Park	
N2. High Hill Park	N7. Robert "Bob" Smith Park	C3. Presidential Park	

# Amenities

In addition to park acreage and distribution, another measure of Level of Service is the total number of recreational amenities available to residents. These benchmarks come from the Illinois Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Park Metrics databases, and local peer agencies.

## SCORP Comparison

Based on the Illinois SCORP, the Village of Algonquin meets or exceeds the recommended number of amenities for 12 of the 27 amenities outlined in the chart to the right. Amenities that meet or exceed the recommendation are identified by green text in the “Surplus / Deficit” column.

This surplus/deficit analysis only counts Village amenities that are at current standards (not beyond their useful life). By replacing aged assets, the Village can quickly meet or exceed some of these recommendations.

Items with red text noted in the “Surplus / Deficit” column are deficiencies. The five amenities with the greatest deficiencies, according to the comparison against SCORP averages are:

- Fishing Pier / Docks / Water Access: -12.8
- Playground: -9.6
- Tennis Courts: -8.3
- Baseball Fields: -4.4
- Volleyball Courts: -4.3

Additionally, the last column on the right prioritizes the amenities most in need according to the SCORP benchmarking where 1 represents the highest priority.



## SCORP Amenities Needs Analysis

### Existing Population 2019

	Name			Illinois Facility Average		Surplus / Deficit	Ranking
	Existing # of Facilities (total)	Existing # of Facilities at current standards	Existing # of Facilities per 1,000 population	Total # of Facilities needed to meet IL Average	IL Average # of Facilities per 1,000 population	Surplus / Deficit	Highest to Lowest Need
<b>WATER-BASED FACILITIES</b>							
Fishing Pier / Docks / Access	0	0	0.00	12.8	0.41	-12.8	1
Boat Launch Ramps / Access	3	3	0.10	3.8	0.12	-0.8	12
Swimming Pools	1	1	0.03	0.9	0.03	0.1	23
Spray Grounds / Splash Pads	1	1	0.03	0.9	0.03	0.1	22
<b>TRAILS</b>							
Multi-Use Trail System	1	1	0.03	0.3	0.01	0.7	24
Fitness Stations	5	5	0.16	6.9	0.22	-1.9	8
<b>DAY USE FACILITIES</b>							
Picnic Shelters	13	12	0.38	6.4	0.21	5.6	30
Playgrounds	19	3	0.10	12.6	0.40	-9.6	2
Interpretive Centers	3	3	0.10	0.3	0.01	2.7	29
<b>SPORTS COURTS AND FACILITIES</b>							
Tennis Courts	9	7	0.22	15.3	0.49	-8.3	3
Basketball Courts	15	9	0.29	7.8	0.25	1.2	26
Volleyball Courts	1	1	0.03	5.3	0.17	-4.3	6
Baseball Fields	13	5	0.16	8.1	0.26	-3.1	7
Softball Fields	0	0	0.00	4.4	0.14	-4.4	5
Football Fields	0	0	0.00	1.7	0.05	-1.7	9
Soccer Fields	7	7	0.22	5.6	0.18	1.4	27
Golf Course (18-Hole Course)	0	0	0.00	0.3	0.01	-0.3	16
Golf Course (9-Hole Course)	0	0	0.00	0.2	0.01	-0.2	18
Golf Driving Range	0	0	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0	19
Ice Rinks	3	3	0.10	1.3	0.04	1.7	28
Horseshoe Pits	3	3	0.00	7.5	0.24	-4.5	4
Bocce Court	0	0	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0	19
Shuffleboard courts	0	0	0.00	1.4	0.05	-1.4	11
Dog Parks	0	0	0.00	0.2	0.01	-0.2	17
Frisbee Golf Course	1	1	0.03	0.3	0.01	0.7	24
Skate Park	0	0	0.00	0.5	0.02	-0.5	14
Field Hockey	0	0	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0	19

Surplus Amenities

Deficit Amenities

## Peer Agency Comparison

Village Staff identified five local recreation providers with similar demographics and services to compare recreation amenities to.

The table below compares the total number of Village-owned and managed facilities for these agencies. Comparatively, the Village of Algonquin offer below the average number of the following amenities:

- Softball Fields (-11)
- Fishing Stations (-8)
- Football/Rugby Fields (-3)
- Indoor Program/Support Facilities (-3)
- Dog Parks (-2)
- Volleyball Courts (-2)
- Lacrosse Fields (-2)
- Soccer Fields (-1)
- Horseshoe Pits (-1)

## Park Metrics Comparison

In addition to the SCORP averages, the planning team referenced NRPA's Park Metrics to identify how Algonquin compares to other agencies in the Midwest states with populations between 25,000 and 35,000. Park Metrics provided information about the total population per amenity for 12 different recreation outdoor amenity types for the 14 agencies within this population range.

The table to the right compares the total number of Village-owned and managed facilities to agencies with similar populations.

Because Park Metrics are a collection of self-reported data rather than a recommendation of number of amenities, this benchmark compares the Village to averages without prioritizing specific amenities.

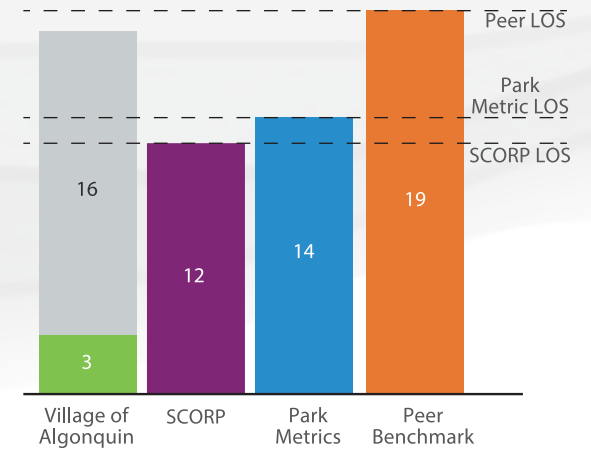
## Peer Agency Comparison

	Population	Number of Sites	ACREAGE  Acreage - Own	TRAILS  Park Paths	INDOOR FACILITIES  Indoor Program / Support Facility			DAY USE AMENITIES			SPORTS COURTS AND AMENITIES		
						Restrooms	Concessions	Dog Park	Picnic Shelter	Playground	Basketball	Baseball	Softball
<b>Peer Agencies</b>													
Village of Lake in the Hills Parks & Recreation Department	28,965	31	595.67	9	15	1		2	14	22	7	17	
City of McHenry Parks & Recreation Department	26,992	38	651.54	5	2	6	2	1	14	20	8	10	6
City of Woodstock Recreation Department	24,770	23	543.43	10	1	3			7	16	9	4	16
The Village of South Elgin Parks & Recreation Department	21,985	37	350.81	15		5			10	16	6	6	
Village of Lake Zurich Parks & Recreation Department	19,631	32	231.65	13					12	23	4	10	
<b>Average Number of Amenities</b>		<b>32</b>	<b>474.62</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Village of Algonquin</b>													
<b>Village of Algonquin Recreation Department</b>		<b>60</b>	<b>721.80</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>VOA Amenity Comparison to Average</b>		<b>29</b>	<b>247.18</b>	<b>20.60</b>	<b>-3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>-2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>-11</b>

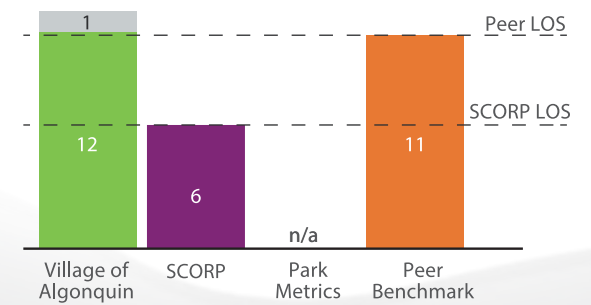
## Park Metrics Amenity Needs Analysis

	Name			Illinois Facility Average	Surplus / Deficit	Population per Facility
	Existing # of Facilities (total)	Existing # of Facilities at current standards	Existing # of Facilities per population	Total # of Facilities needed to meet Park Metrics median	Surplus / Deficit	Population Per Facility (per the NRPA Park Metric, 2018)
<b>DAY USE FACILITIES</b>						
Playgrounds	19	3	0.10	13.9	-10.9	2,253
Swimming Facility	1	1	0.03	1.1	-0.1	27,418
Skate Park	0	0	0.00	1.1	-1.1	27,418
Dog Park	0	0	0.00	1.1	-1.1	28,787
<b>SPORTS COURTS AND FACILITIES</b>						
Tennis Courts	9	7	0.22	9.2	-2.2	3,380
Basketball Courts	15	9	0.29	5.6	3.4	5,549
Baseball Fields (50-65 ft)	13	5	0.16	12.0	-7.0	2,600
Softball Fields (youth)	0	0	0.00	13.8	-13.8	2,270
Football Fields	0	0	0.00	2.1	-2.1	15,146
Soccer / Lacrosse / Rugby Fields (small size)	7	7	0.22	8.4	-1.4	3,706
18-Hole Golf Course	0	0	0.00	1.1	-1.1	28,787
Driving Range Station	0	0	0.00	32.1	-32.1	975

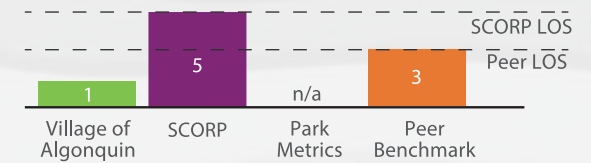
SPORTS COURTS AND AMENITIES								WATER-BASED AMENITIES				NATURAL FEATURES		
Disc Golf (holes)	Soccer	Football / Rugby	Horseshoe Pit	Lacrosse	Skate Park	Tennis Court	Volleyball Court	Swimming Pool	Ice Skating	Sled Hill	Boat Launch	Fishing	Creek / River / Open Water	Natural Area / Conservation Area
9	12	3	4		2	5	6				3		11	
	5				1	2	0	1	2		4	11	2	13
	12					9		1	1	2		2	2	6
	2	2		2	2	1	1					13		
	10					5	6					6	2	17
9	8	3	4	2	2	4	3	1	2	2	4	8	4	12
9	7	0	3	0	0	9	1	1	3	3	3	0	24	17
0	-1	-3	-1	-2	-2	5	-2	0	2	1	-1	-8	20	5



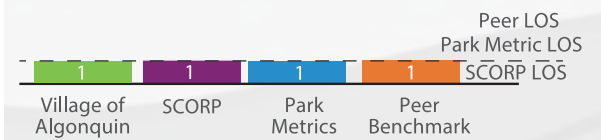
#### PLAYGROUNDS



#### SHELTERS

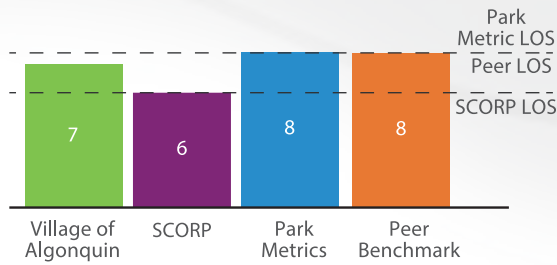


#### VOLLEYBALL COURTS

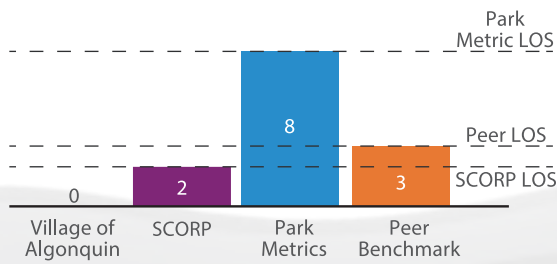


#### SWIMMING FACILITIES

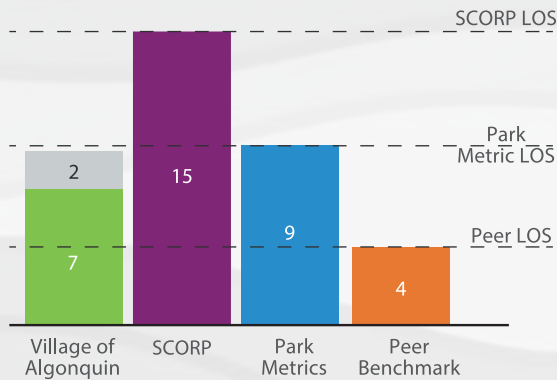




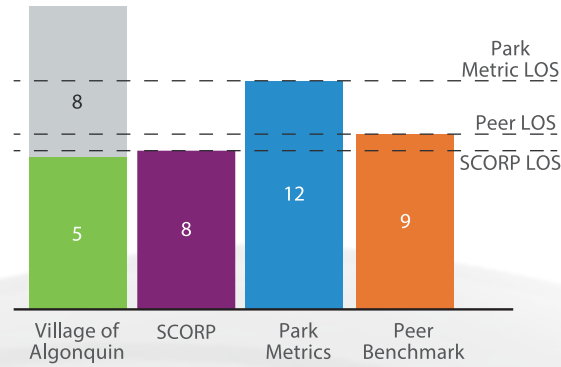
**SOCCER FIELDS**



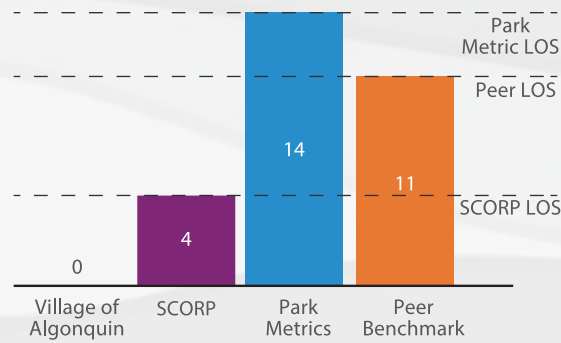
**FOOTBALL FIELDS**



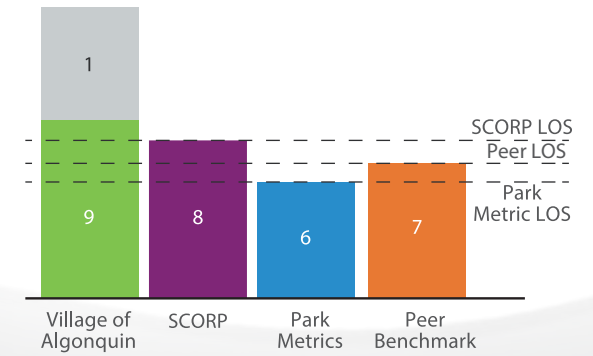
**TENNIS COURTS**



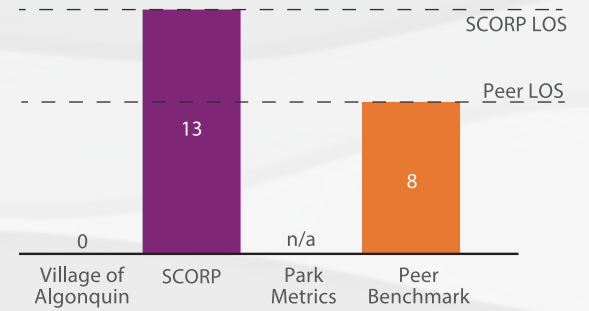
**BASEBALL FIELDS**



**SOFTBALL FIELDS**



**BASKETBALL COURTS**



**FISHING PIERS**

# FACILITY ANALYSIS

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This analysis offers a detailed review of the existing facilities maintained by the Village of Algonquin and recreation and the uses of its indoor recreation spaces.

## **Introduction**

This section includes a detailed inventory and analysis of the Village's two recreation facilities. The Project Team performed a site visit and evaluation for each building to determine the opportunities for potential recommendations for improvements and Village Staff provided information on how the facility is used and any known issues.

Each facility page includes general information about the facility's use and history, observations made by the Project Team and Village staff, overall quality of the facility, and specific areas of concern.

## **Utilization**

This information is documented to serve as a general facility reference guide. This not only allows for the Village to use these pages to reference the existing conditions of each facility at the time of the master plan but also document the ongoing changes and updates to each facility as improvements are implemented.

# Facility Inventory Matrix

	Facility Square Footage	RESTROOMS		ADMIN		ACTIVITY ROOMS							RECREATION AND FITNESS							OTHER		
		Restrooms	Locker Rooms	Reception Desk	Office	Kitchen	Concessions	Banquet / Community	Classroom / Multipurpose	Art Room	Senior Center	Teen Room	Auditorium	Gymnasium	Indoor Turf	Fitness / Weight Room	Aquatics	Indoor Activity Courts	Dance	Storage	Greenhouse	Maintenance
INDOOR FACILITIES																						
Historic Village Hall	5,464	4	0	0	3	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0
Lions Memorial Pool	2,488	2	2	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Recreation Holdings:</b>	<b>7,952</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

# Facility Square Footage

Square Footage Level of Service benchmarks are calculations of the minimum amount of indoor space recommended to provide all indoor recreation activities. It also includes considerations for specific facilities to support programs and activities.

Level of Service guidelines for indoor space are less established than the guidelines for parks and open spaces, but the project team uses a Chicagoland benchmark of two square feet per person with 1.5 square feet consisting of indoor classroom-based or active recreation space and 0.5 square feet consisting of indoor aquatics.

The Village of Algonquin has a total of 7,952 square feet of indoor recreation space and an indoor level of service of 0.25 square feet per person. Compared to the Chicagoland benchmark, this is a deficiency of 18,571 square feet. It is also a 1.25 square feet deficiency under the recommended 1.5 square feet per person.

In addition to having a deficit of indoor recreation space, the Village is deficient in indoor aquatics. Although it does provide indoor support space for its outdoor aquatic facility at Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool, it does not provide any indoor aquatic recreation space. According to this level of service gauge, the Village has a 24,339.5 square foot deficiency of indoor aquatic space and is 0.5 square feet below the recommended square feet per person.

When comparing all combined indoor recreation space, the Village has a deficiency of 42,910.5 square feet compared to the Chicagoland benchmark.

NRPA's Park Metrics also records data for interior space. The Village of Algonquin does not provide many of the common indoor recreation spaces. All of its indoor recreation space for public use (5,428) is classified as Recreation/Community Center. This space is largely multi-purpose and can be used for a variety of programming needs from education to recreation. The remaining 2,524 square feet are used as support space and not available to the public.

Compared to similarly-sized agencies, the Village of Algonquin is below the average recreation/community center space offered by 9,070.5 square feet. It is also below the average provided square feet of fitness centers, senior centers, ice skating rinks, gymnasiums, indoor tracks, nature/interpretive centers, and performing and/or visual arts centers since it does not provide these spaces. In total, the Village is deficient in 201,732 square feet of indoor recreation space.



## Park Metrics Benchmarks

25,000-35,000 population

14 agencies

Benchmark	Park Metrics Median	VoA
Number of Operated Buildings	10	2
Square Footage of Operated Buildings	135,487	3,976

### Level of Service Analysis: Chicagoland Benchmark

#### INDOOR RECREATION SPACE

Classification	VoA Square Feet (Total)	VoA Existing Level of Service (SF / population)	Park Metrics Recommended Square Footage (Median)	Park Metrics Recommended Level of Service (SF / population)	Square Footage deficiency / surplus (SF)
Indoor Recreational Space	7952.00	0.25	26,523.00	1.50	-18,571.00
Indoor Aquatics	0.00	0.00	24,339.50	0.50	-24,339.50
<b>Total Square Feet</b>	<b>7,952.00</b>	<b>0.25</b>	<b>50,862.50</b>	<b>2.00</b>	<b>-42,910.50</b>

Recommended acreage is based off the existing population of 31,264

### Level of Service Analysis: Park Metrics Benchmark

#### INDOOR RECREATION SPACE

Classification	VoA Square Feet (Total)	VoA Existing Level of Service (SF / 1,000 population)	Park Metrics Recommended Level of Service (SF / person)	Park Metrics Recommended Square Footage (Median)	Square Footage deficiency / surplus (SF)
Recreation / Community Center	5,428.00	0.17	2.2	14,498.50	-9,070.50
Fitness Center	0.00	0.00	1.0	31,779.00	-31,779.00
Pre-school / Before & After School	0.00	0.00	ISD	ISD	
Teen Center	0.00	0.00	ISD	ISD	
Senior Center	0.00	0.00	1.1	29,598.50	-29,598.50
Ice Skating Rink (indoor)	0.00	0.00	1.4	22,159.00	-22,159.00
Gymnasium	0.00	0.00	1.0	31,779.00	-31,779.00
Indoor Track	0.00	0.00	1.4	22,159.00	-22,159.00
Indoor Sports Fields / Turf	0.00	0.00	ISD	ISD	
Conference Center	0.00	0.00	ISD	ISD	
Nature / Interpretive Center	0.00	0.00	1.1	28,787.00	-28,787.00
Performing and / or Visual Arts Center	0.00	0.00	1.2	26,400.00	-26,400.00
<b>Total Square Feet</b>	<b>5,428.00</b>	<b>0.17</b>	<b>10.27</b>	<b>207,160.00</b>	<b>-201,732.00</b>

Recommended acreage is based off the existing population of 31,264

\*ISD = Insufficient Data (data was not available for these classifications)

# Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool

599 Longwood Drive, Algonquin, IL | 0.73 acres

Rating **B**

## General Information:

- 300 Bather Load
- All patrons visiting the pool and splash pad must have a valid season pass or pay the daily fee for admission.
- Children two years and under are admitted at no charge.
- Bath House/Concessions @ 1,968 SF | 24 x 82
- Filter House @ 520 SF | 20 x 26
- Splash Pad @ 4,800 SF | 60 x 80

## Parking Spaces:

- 176+/- owned by adjacent school district

## Built / Renovated:

- pool built in 1950s
- bath house + filter house 1997
- splash pad 2003
- fabric structures 2018

## Hours of Operation:

	Monday - Friday	Saturday & Sunday	Daily Fee
May 25- June 2	noon - 6 PM	noon - 6 PM	\$5
June 3 - Aug. 11	noon - 5 PM 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM	noon - 6 PM closed	\$5 \$3
Aug. 12 - Aug. 18	4 PM - 7 PM	closed noon - 6 PM	\$3 \$5
Aug. 19 - Sept. 1	closed	noon - 6 PM	\$5

## Users / Programs:

- Residents
- Private swim team
- Adult fitness
- Special events

## Notes/Observations:

### Bath House/Concessions

- Men's Lockers/Shower (2 toilets + 1 urinal + 3 lavs)
- Women's Lockers/Shower (3 toilets + 3 lavs)
- Concessions/cashier/first aid/staff office is undersized with no separation of concessions/cashier from first aid/staff.
- Concessions base cabinets need replacement.
- Mechanical/janitor closet/storage is small and undersized
- 1 meter board at 10'-8" water depth | 10' water depth minimum required by Illinois Bather & Swimming Code
- Lack family changing rooms
- Plywood placed over bathhouse windows during off-season

### Filter House

- Sand filters are being replaced in preparation for summer opening
- Storage Closet

## Facility Conditions:

	Considerations	A	B	C	D	F
1.	Interior / Furniture / Finishes		X			
2.	HVAC	X				
3.	Plumbing / Fire Alarm	X				
4.	Electrical	X				
5.	Roof	X				
6.	Building Exterior / Windows	X				
7.	Building Doors	X				
8.	Security	X	X			
9.	ADA Compliance		X			

*\*Facility floor plans can be found in the Appendix*



# Historic Village Hall

2 South Main Street, Algonquin, IL | 1/3 acre

Rating **C+**

## **Total Square Footage:**

- First Floor @ 3,036 SF
- Second Floor @ 2,428 SF

## **General Information:**

- Historical structure and integral part of the downtown/community center

## **Parking Spaces:**

- 35 +/-

## **Built / Renovated:**

- 1907
- 1996 renovation

## **Hours of Operation:**

Building is not staffed, access is by key fob obtained at the Village Hall or key code for regular users

## **Users / Programs:**

- tot programs
- babysitting
- Yoga
- dance
- adult fitness (Zumba, Pilates)
- rentals (maximum 50 people)
- voting location
- historic commission offices

## **Notes/Observations:**

### First Floor: 3,036 GSF

- Main public entrance
- Men's Toilet (2 toilets + 1 urinal + 3 lavs)
- Women's Toilet (3 toilets + 3 lavs)
- Multipurpose Room (50 person capacity) w/table/chair storage closet + sound system closets.
- Kitchenette – base cabinets with sink, microwave, and refrigerator - sink + paper towel dispenser not ADA compliant
- Remove stored chairs and display case in front of women's restroom to improve ADA access
- Janitor Closet / Mechanical Room / Water Service Room
- Provide and install ADA signage at elevator, equipment room, and storage areas
- Fire Stairs (2) – south stair has tables and chairs stored in the space creating a life-safety hazard and should be removed

### Second Floor: 2,428 GSF

- Single men + women toilet room
- Original exterior windows – consider replacement with custom windows to match appearance
- Multipurpose Room (30 person capacity) w/ sink and base cabinets – sink is not ADA compliant
- Archive Storage Rooms (2) one is a former office
- Historic Commission Offices (2)
- Install ADA signage at elevator, offices, and storage rooms
- Fire Stairs (2) –both stairs have chairs and or tables stored in the space creating a life-safety hazard and should be removed as per the IFC 2015, 315.3.2 Means of Egress. "Combustible materials shall not be stored in exits or enclosures for stairways and ramps."
- Stored chairs adjacent to north stair interferes with required ADA access requirement
- Replace multipurpose room carpeting
- TV on cart and stacked chairs present falling hazard to children



**Facility Conditions:**

	Considerations	A	B	C	D	F
1.	Interior / Furniture / Finishes			X		
2.	HVAC	X				
3.	Plumbing / Fire Alarm			X		
4.	Electrical	X				
5.	Roof			X		
6.	Building Exterior / Windows			X		
7.	Building Doors		X			
8.	Security	X				
9.	ADA Compliance		X			

*\*Facility floor plans can be found in the Appendix*



# PROGRAM & SERVICE ANALYSIS

Completed by Recreation Results, this analysis of Village of Algonquin's recreation services provides a detailed review of the organization's recreation portfolio to help staff better understand the current state of their recreation services, create a strategy, and make recommendations for future improvement.

This evaluation included research and analysis, including:

- Examination of recreation service customer and sales data and development of dashboards to examine and explore the results
- Staff completion of a Recreation Program Scope and Health Assessment to evaluate current programming from a qualitative standpoint
- Discussions with Village of Algonquin staff to review the results, discuss programming opportunities, challenges, and priorities, and share recommendations

## Customer, Program Participation, and Pool Pass Sales Analysis

In order to provide context in discussions and be able to include the customer voice through their actual participation and purchase behavior, a detailed analysis of customer transaction data from Village of Algonquin's RecPro software dating back from 2015 through mid-January 2020 was completed.

Detailed information from the Customer & Sales analysis was displayed and presented to the staff on a set of dashboards. Some highlights from this analysis are below.

### Customers

- An analysis of participants, passholders, and facility users since 2015 showed that 80% of users were Village of Algonquin residents.

### Recreation Program Registrations

- In 2019, program registrations totaled 1,725. Seventy-four percent of these registrations came from programs in the categories of Athletics, Health & Fitness, and Aquatics.

- Overall program registrations and total program revenue collected have declined by approximately 5-13% each year since hitting a peak in 2016, although this decrease has not been seen in all areas. The largest decline in registration has come from youth general recreation programs, while health and fitness classes have shown the largest increase.
- In 2019, 5% of Village of Algonquin households registered for at least one program through the Recreation Department. The largest age group served by recreation programs were 5–9-year-olds while the largest gap in total residents enrolled versus total residents living in Algonquin was in the 45–49 year old age group. However, as 45.6% of Village residents are served by another public recreation service provider, this does not necessarily mean that needs for recreation programs went unmet.

### Pool Memberships and Use

- Since 2015, pool membership sales have fluctuated slightly, but have remained relatively steady, with a peak of 1,225 members in 2018. In 2019, 77% of pool memberships sold were Early Bird Family Pool Memberships.
- While total pool memberships sold have been relatively steady over time, only 50% of memberships sold in 2019 were renewing (returning) pass holders. Member use of the pool has been declining by an average of 5% each year since 2016, although paid visits by non-members have remained relatively steady. Finding ways to increase the use of the pool by members should be a priority in order to improve retention rates.

# Assessment of Recreation Program Scope and Health

Staff completed an assessment of a random sample of 133 current recreation programs to further understand the scope and health of the organization's program offerings, identify program life cycle stages, and evaluate recreation programs for their alignment with the Recreation Department mission and staff programming priorities. This assessment is different from Customer, Program Participation, and Pool Membership analysis in that it is not based solely on quantitative data, but instead on staff's unique knowledge of and experience with their recreation programs. Information collected from discussions with staff was also used to add to the findings and recommendations included in this section.

## Program Offerings

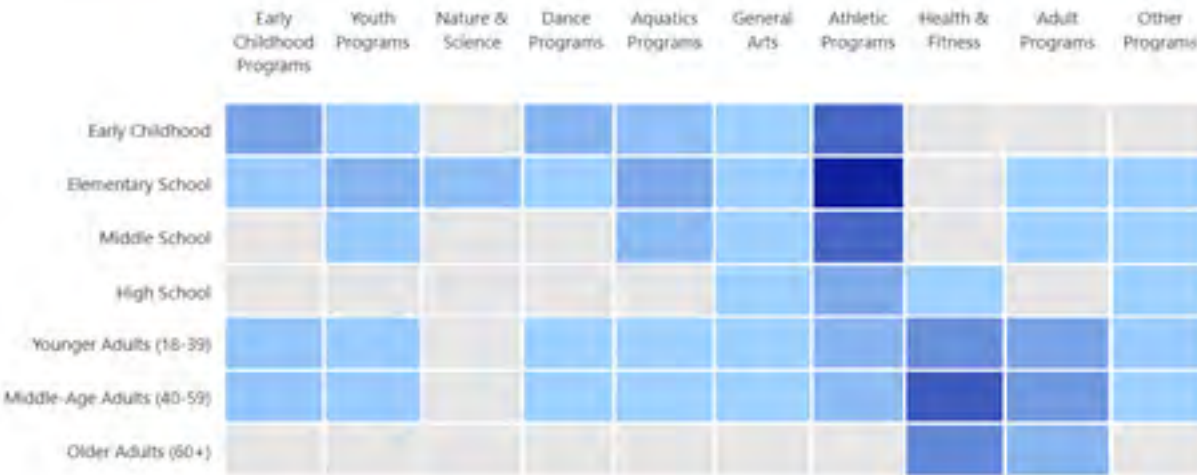
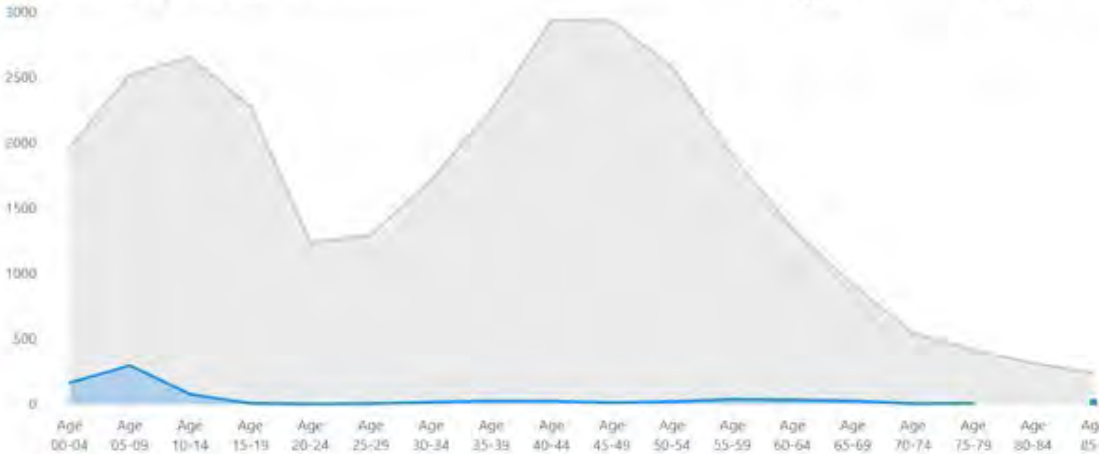
Staff categorized each recreation program by the program category it fell under and the age group(s) the program was designed to serve. Below is a matrix showing the breakdown of the program offerings by program type and age group(s).

% of Algonquin Residents Enrolled in a Program  
**2.5**

% of Algonquin Households Enrolled in a Program  
**5.1**

Program Participant Age Breakdown

■ Algonquin Participants ■ Algonquin Population



Overall, Village of Algonquin offers some recreation programs for all age categories as well as a relatively wide type of recreation programs, especially with few specialized facilities available to house the programs. As the chart demonstrates, there is currently a heavy emphasis on youth athletic programs and adult health and fitness classes, with youth aquatic programs, adult general interest programs, and an assortment of other youth classes also playing a larger role in program offerings. While it is not uncommon for park and recreation organizations to emphasize youth programming, some possible programming gaps become immediately visible, including:

- nature, science, and environmental programs for age groups other than youth
- program opportunities for high school students are fairly light

- program opportunities for older adults other than health and fitness and adult general interest classes

Diving deeper into the same data confirms that the programming gaps for high school students and older adults exist. In addition to that, when we compare program offerings to actual registration, we can also see that while there are quite a few program options for middle school and younger adults to participate in, this does not result in high levels of registration – or in other words, this leads us to believe that the programs that are offered for these age groups may not be what these audiences are interested in participating in.

During discussion with staff, it was noted that the Village of Algonquin does not have an agreement in place with a special recreation association to offer programs for participants with special needs. Instead, the organization reimburses residents for out-of-district fees incurred when registering for programs through Northern Illinois Special Recreation Association (NISRA).

### Program Instruction and Pricing

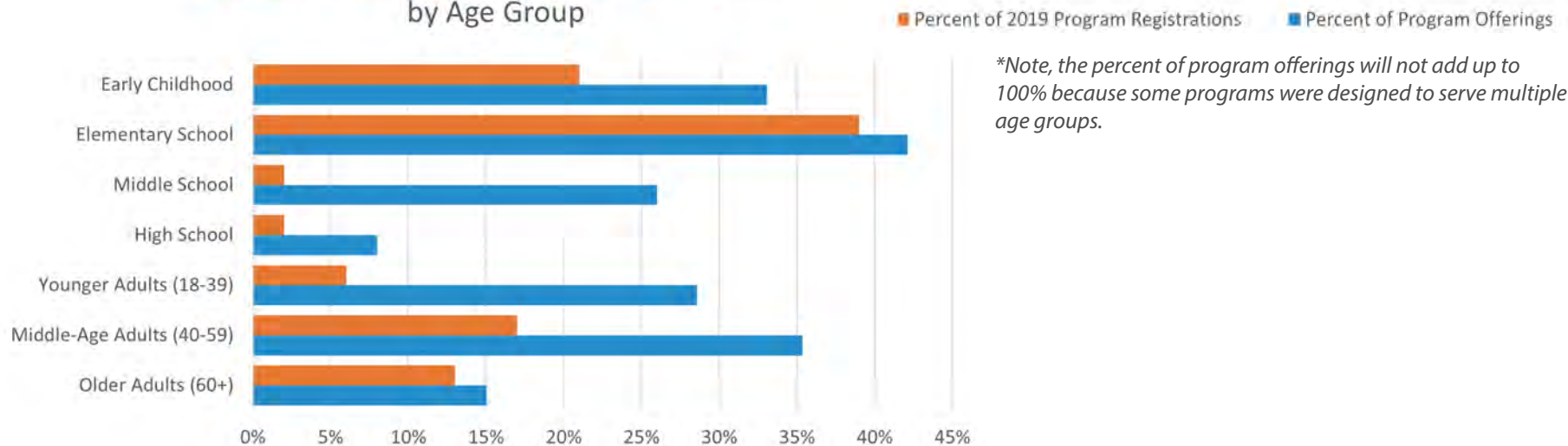
The Village of Algonquin Recreation Department currently employs 1 full-time and 1 part-time to administer its recreation programs. While some seasonal staff are hired to instruct a small portion of programs, such as swim lessons, the Recreation Department heavily utilizes independent contractors and partner organizations to supplement the rest of the program offerings to the communities. Based on results from the assessment, 83% of recreation programs are led by these outside instructors which allows the organization to expand its program offerings to the community without requiring additional staff to administer them.

This allows the organization to offer programs that it may not be able to offer otherwise, as it decreases the workload on staff and frees up space for them to offer recreation programs that they may not otherwise be able to. For example, according to NRPA's Park Metrics, only 37% of park and recreation organizations with less than 10 FTE offer aquatic recreation programs.

Another finding related to this matter is that staff indicated that total registration per class was slightly lower than desired but confirmed that this has not resulted in class cancellations or other negative impacts to customers because these independent contractors and partner organizations are able to recruit participants from other markets and communities in order to allow classes to run.

Traditionally agreements with these outside contractors and partners involve a revenue split for all participants that register through the Village of Algonquin. Because of this, the organization does not have cost recovery goals in place as they would be difficult to implement without full control of program pricing. However, given the varying nature of these programs, it may be worth developing a set of standards around these agreements that take into account the resources provided (such as by providing facility space) that may require some variance in that revenue split or investigating other options such as per participant flat rate that may allow staff more flexibility in setting pricing or covering expenses.

**Program Offerings and Program Participation by Age Group**



*\*Note, the percent of program offerings will not add up to 100% because some programs were designed to serve multiple age groups.*



## Program Lifecycle Stages

As staff completed their assessment, they submitted responses concerning program participation, effort, and resources needed to meet registration and financial goals, as well as other details regarding their programs. These answers were compiled and resulted in one of four Program Lifecycle Stages being assigned to each program. These four stages include:

- **Introduction:** New or somewhat new programs that are still working to gain a foothold. They require extra effort and attention to get off the ground and aren't quite meeting participation or financial goals yet but are showing enough promise in this early stage.
- **Gaining Traction:** Newer programs that have really picked up steam. They are the immediate successes or somewhat newer programs that are showing growth and may soon become a consistently well-performing program.

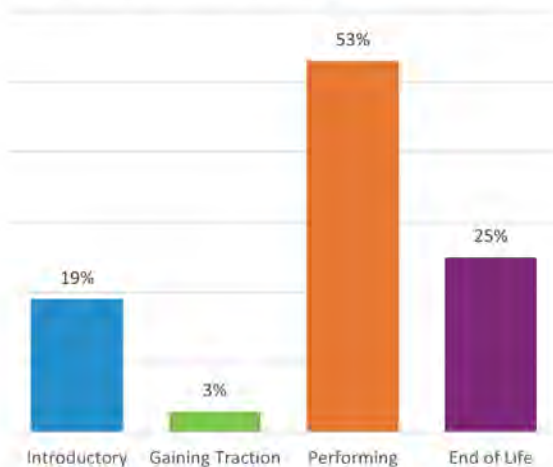
- **Performing:** Programs that have run long enough and successfully enough to be considered consistent performers. They no longer require the same amount of attention as they did to meet participation and financial goals as they did when they were initially offered.
- **End of Life:** Programs with declining participation, or ones that now need extra attention to get back to the participation and financial performance that they once had. They need to be renewed in some way to get them back on track or otherwise, they will eventually die out.

An analysis of program lifecycle stages reveals a mix of results. Over 50% of programs fell into the "Performing" stage, which indicates that the Village of Algonquin has a good base of consistently well-performing programs to help the organization weather any fluctuations with other programs. Programs with the highest percentage of "Performing" programs include health and fitness, athletic, and aquatic programs.

instructor's larger class offerings. If we did not take that factor into consideration, the percent of programs falling into the "End of Life" lifecycle stage would be even higher.

While the Village of Algonquin has a good balance of new(er) programs in the "Introductory" and "Gaining Traction" stages to replace those programs near the end of their life, extra effort should be made to help a higher percentage of new programs reach that "Gaining Traction" stage.

Program Lifecycle Stage Breakdown

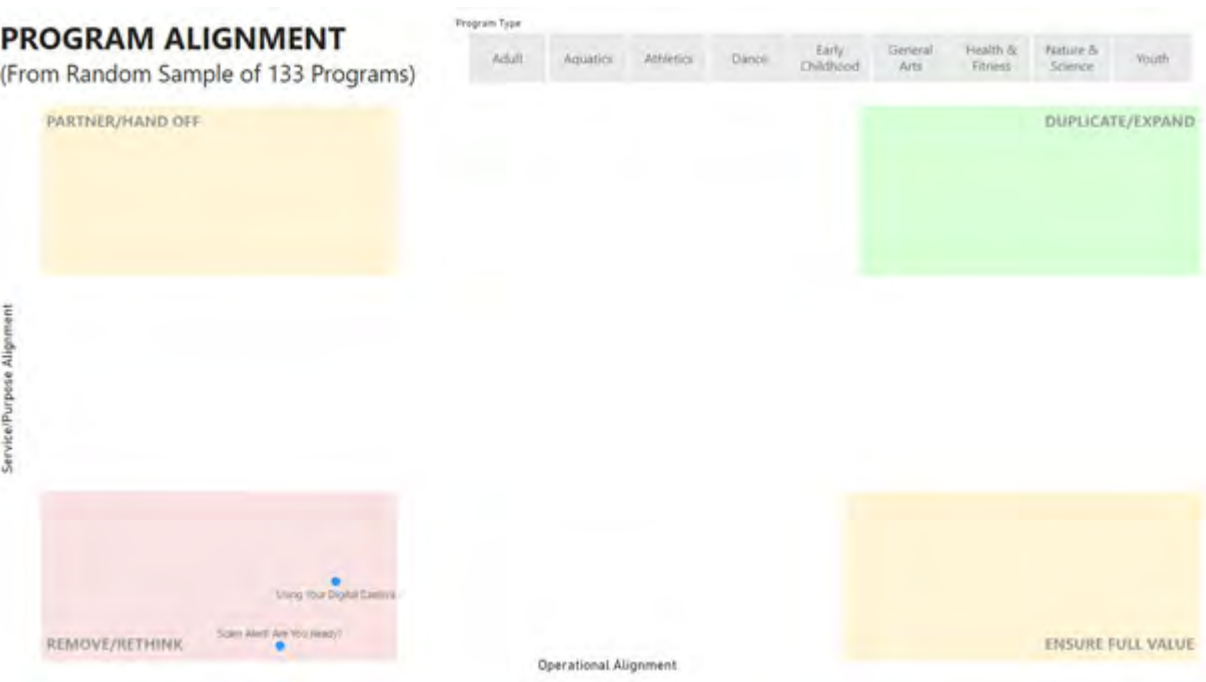
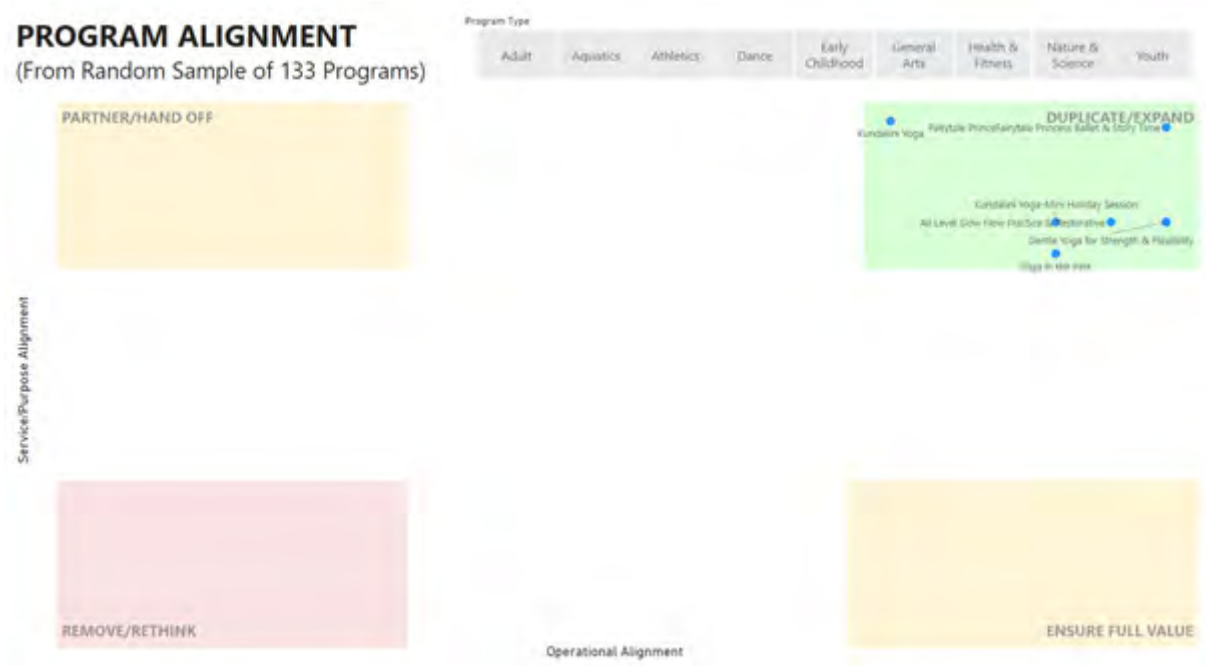


However, 25% of programs fell into the "End of Life" stage. Nature and science programs as well as youth general interest programs fall heavily in this area. When considering the entire list of programs that fell into this stage, some of these programs may have recently slipped from "Performing," so this should not be considered a directive to immediately stop offering programs that fell into this lifecycle stage, but they should be evaluated and retired if necessary. It is important to note that because of prevalent use of outside contractors to produce recreation programs, staff do not set traditional minimum enrollment or financial goals for some of these programs and instead consider programs successful when only a few registrations are received because those few customers are still able to be accommodated within the contract

**Program Operational and Service/Purpose Alignment**

Using staff assessment responses, it is also possible to evaluate programs from a service/purpose perspective as well as an operational perspective. Most programs rated satisfactorily on both scales, meaning that they were doing a good job of both meeting mission and operational expectations. These programs, if they do not fall into the “End of Life” lifecycle stage make sense to continue to offer. Some programs stood out, however, with high scores from both a service/purpose and operational perspective. These programs, which include several health and fitness programs, should be increased or expanded as they are clear “winners” for the Village of Algonquin.

Likewise, a few programs scored poorly from both a service and operational perspective. Staff should consider eliminating these programs from their program offerings if feasible.



## Marketing

The Village of Algonquin's website makes it difficult to locate park and recreation offerings. A quick link to the Recreation Department page takes you to a list of recent news and links and not a traditional parks-and-recreation-focused website or even webpage. Likewise, finding info locations and information about parks and facilities is also difficult with the majority of links falling under the "Visitors" menu item and simply taking website users to the main recreation page. It is also likely that many residents may not consider looking under the "Visitors" menu to find information about their own parks and programs.

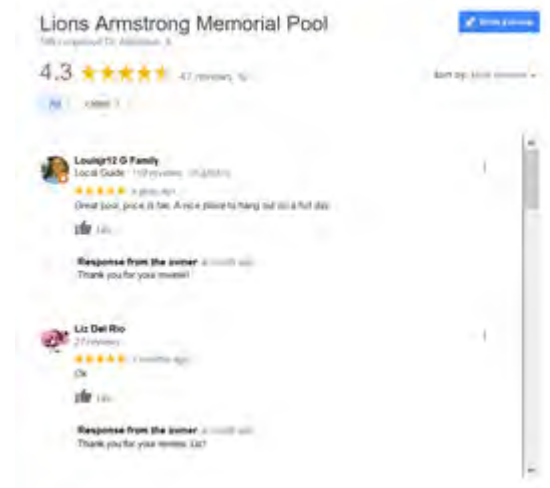
The Village of Algonquin produces a seasonal brochure to advertise its recreation programs and thank sponsors, but this may be an opportunity to also highlight parks, the availability of facility rentals, and outreach about other opportunities such as their resident reimbursement program for NISRA programs.



The Recreation Department has multiple Facebook pages dedicated to special facilities and events. However, both are actively used throughout the year for announcements and engagement around a variety of topics beyond the facility and special events they seem to be created for. If they are not truly producing value by being separate Facebook pages, it may make sense to focus on one general page for all recreation programs and facilities.

The Recreation Department's main facility, Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool, appears at the correct location on Google Maps and the Village of Algonquin is the listing owner to ensure the ability to provide accurate information. A

good amount of positive reviews (an average of 4.3 out of 5) will benefit the organization when residents and potential customers from outside of the community conduct an online search through Google for outdoor swimming pools. However, it was not listed among the options when conducting a similar search on Yelp.com.









# Chapter Four

# Connect



# Overview

The Connect: Community Engagement and Needs Assessment chapter documents trends in the recreation industry and specific input received from Village of Algonquin staff, board, and community members.

## Purpose

The purpose of this chapter is to understand how park and recreation trends determine probable demands for certain services and amenities. Recreation trend reports were compiled from nationally-recognized sources to explore spending, participation, and inactivity trends.

In order to increase participation, knowing the trends and interests of various user groups is crucial. Significant changes in specific activities (both increases and decreases) from national, state, and local trends are summarized. Summaries of all engagement sessions follow the national, state, and local trends report.

During the Connect phase of the master planning process, the planning team reviewed trends and conducted workshops with Village staff and the Village Board. Community outreach was conducted through multiple platforms. An online engagement platform, available 24/7, gathered input from residents about their thoughts on parks, programs, and facilities through two online surveys and a mail-out statistically valid survey was completed by

351 participants. Additionally, community members provided input at an in-person community meeting and through stakeholder interviews.

## Chapter Outline

- Methodology
- Review of Trends
  - National
  - State
  - Local
- Online Engagement
- Resident Survey
- Community Input
- Stakeholder Input
- Staff Input
- Board Input



# METHODOLOGY

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## Review of Trends

National trends were derived from the 2020 Sports, Fitness and Recreational Activities Topline Participation Report that was facilitated by the Sports & Fitness Industry Association (a top national researcher in the sports and fitness industry) as well as the 2019 Outdoor Foundation's Outdoor Recreation Participation Topline Report. State trends were derived from the 2015 Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). ESRI's Business Analyst provided local recreation participation trends.

## Online Engagement

Village residents were invited to participate in two online surveys composed of multiple-choice and open-ended questions. The first survey asked about recreation amenities and participation, the second about the COVID-19 pandemic's effects on recreation needs. In total, 345 people completed the first survey, and 161 completed the second.

## Resident Survey

The Village of Algonquin completed a statistically valid survey to collect demographic information, determine user satisfaction with the recreation services, and determine how the Village's parks, facilities, and programs are used.

## Community Input

The Village of Algonquin hosted an in-person community meeting open to all Village residents and affiliations in which participants completed a prioritization workshop to determine the top needs for Village recreation over the next five to ten years.

## Stakeholder Input

Stakeholder input consisted of small-group interviews with specific interest groups relevant to the Village recreation services. These facilitated interviews presented a series of questions about goals, objectives, and desires of how groups might use Village recreation services in the future. Stakeholders were also asked for their opinions on the current state of Village recreation services.

## Staff Input

Village of Algonquin staff members from multiple departments provided input about their goals and objectives for the next five to ten years as well as their opinions on the current state of Village recreation services.

## Board Input

Village Board members participated in a workshop to generate and prioritize ideas for Village recreation services for the next five years.

# NATIONAL TRENDS

Derived from the statistically valid surveys facilitated by the Sports and Fitness Industry Association with the Physical Activity Council and The Outdoor Foundation, the following national recreation patterns are based on annual studies.

The Physical Activity Council (PAC) is a partnership of six major trade organizations in U.S. sports, fitness, and leisure activities. These organizations are the Sports & Fitness Industry Association (SFIA), the National Golf Foundation (NGF), Outdoor Industry Association (OIA), the International Health, Racquet, and Sports Club Association (IHRSA), the Tennis Industry Association (TIA), the United States Tennis Association (USTA), and Snowsports Industries America (SIA).

The PAC produces an annual Sport, Fitness & Recreational Activities Topline Participation Report providing information on participation, inactivity, spending, aspirational participation, and projections. The 2020 report compiled and analyzed 18,000 online responses collected in 2019. Gender, age, income, household size, region, population density, and panel join date were used to weighting variables to apply the responses to the total U.S. population. The total U.S. population age 6 or older used for this report was 320,756,603. Other research incorporated in this chapter references the Outdoor Recreation Participation Topline Report, created by the Outdoor Foundation, in association with the Outdoor Industry Association. This annual report tracks American outdoor recreation trends with a focus on youth, diversity, and the future of the outdoors.

## Sports and Fitness Participation

Overall, more people are becoming active but only around 40% of the population of any age group is meeting the recommended time and intensity of activities. Additionally, the percentage of the population who are active has risen slightly over the past two years after several years of decline.

The data collected suggests that Americans are continuing to add high-calorie burning exercise to their existing exercise routine. The most popular activities are Fitness Sports which has been growing annually since 2014. Following Fitness Sports, the most popular activity categories are Outdoor Sports, Individual Sports, Team Sports, Water Sports, Racquet Sports, and Winter Sports. Among these categories, only Fitness Sports, Outdoor Sports, and Team Sports had an increase in participation rates while all other categories decreased.

Activity participation is measured by core participation and growth. Core participants are defined as those who participate in a sport or activity on a regular basis. Based on core participation, the top ten activities in 2019 defined by the number of participants, were:

- Walking for Fitness (50+ times/year): 75.2M
- Hiking (Day) (1+ times/year): 49.7M
- Free Weights (Dumbbells/Hand Weights) (50+ times/year): 31.7M







- Treadmill (50+ times/year): 28.3M
- Camping within 1/4 mile of vehicle/home (1+ times/year): 28.2M
- Running/Jogging (50+ times/year): 25.1M
- Golf on a 9 or 18-hole golf course (1+ times/year): 24.3 M
- Weight/Resistance Machines (50+ times/year): 21.5M
- Wildlife Viewing more than 1/4 mile from Home/Vehicle (1+ times/year): 20.0M
- Bicycling (Road/Paved Surface) (26+ times/year): 18.6M

In addition to referencing the current most popular activities by measuring core participation, The Overview Report also lists the growth of activities over one-, three- and five-year periods. These predictions can be used to recognize ongoing recreation trends and predict future areas of growth. The top ten core growth activities over the past three years are:

- Trail Running (8.6%)
- Rugby (6.8%)
- Boxing for Competition (6.8%)
- Golf (off-course only) (6.7)
- Hiking (Day) (5.7%)
- Cardio Tennis (5.7%)
- Lacrosse (5.3)
- Pickleball (5.0%)
- Barre (4.8)
- Kettlebells (7.9)

As evidenced by the above lists of activities, fitness activities are currently a popular form of recreation with five of the ten activities falling into this category based on the number of participants and four falling under the category of outdoor sports. Growth trends, however, indicate a different, more diverse trend. Activities from fitness activities, outdoor sports, individual sports, racquet sports, and team sports are all represented in the top ten core growth activities.

These trends reveal that active people are increasingly looking for non-traditional health and recreation experiences that offer a fun physical, emotional, and mental experience. While the largest amount of growth is being seen in less traditional sectors, many class-based group fitness and exercise programs remain strong and are expected to grow in popularity, albeit at slower rates. Many solo aerobic, conditioning, and strength-based activities, including those that utilize machines, have also reported a small increase over the past three years.

For the first time since 2016 American participation in team sports for fitness needs has increased. Increases in basketball and outdoor soccer participation have been the biggest drivers of this trend and team sports remain most popular for youth participants. Despite an overall increase in team sport participation, not all activities are growing, touch and tackle football participation has been declining for several years and ultimate frisbee has also shown a significant decline. Declines in team swimming, baseball and softball, and sand volleyball, have also been observed.

Some past areas of growth, water sports, individual sports, and racquet sports have lost some participation and have been declining in the last two years. But while overall category participation is down, some activities remain popular including, kayaking, stand-up paddling, off-course golf, martial arts, skateboarding, pickleball, and cardio tennis.

The above findings are confirmed by the Worldwide Survey of Fitness Trends for 2021 which conducts an annual international survey among practitioners in the commercial, clinical, community, and corporate fitness industries. In their predictions for 2020, the majority of activities in the top ten and the top 20 could be described as fitness-related,

while other trends can be classified as outdoor sports or technology. 17 of the top 20 trends reported remained from the previous year but Circuit training, Worksite health promotion and workplace well-being programs, and Children and exercise all moved out of the top 20 trends over the last year. All three of these trends were replaced with online/virtual options which may have been an effect of the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic. Also, a potential effect of the pandemic, Outdoor activities experienced a large jump in popularity from rank 13 to four while Group Training dropped from rank 3 to 17. The top 10 trends for 2020 are:

- Online training (at home exercise experience using digital streaming to deliver programs online as live or pre-recorded experiences)
- Wearable technology (activity trackers, smart watches, heart rate monitors, GPS trackers, and smart eyeglasses)
- Bodyweight training (resistance training using minimal equipment and multiple planes of movement)
- Outdoor activities (any event taking place outside for recreation including short, day-long, or multi-day events)
- High-intensity interval training (HIIT uses short bursts of high-intensity exercise followed by short recoveries)
- Virtual Training (fusion of group exercise with technology where recorded workouts or played at a location for client reference)
- Exercise is Medicine® (physical activity assessment and exercise recommendations provided by health care providers)
- Group training (motivational, instructor lead classes of five or more people)
- Strength training with free weights (strength training using barbell, kettlebells, dumbbells, medicine balls, and other free weights)
- Fitness programs for older adults (safe, age-appropriate exercise for older, retired adults)
- Personal training (services provided by professionals with proper education, training,

and credentials)

## OUTDOOR SPORTS & PARTICIPATION

According to the most recent Outdoor Foundation Topline Report, published in 2019, about half the U.S. population (50.5%) participated in one or more outdoor sports or activities. These 151.8 million people went on a reported total of 10.2 billion outings over the course of the year. While these numbers reflect an overall increase in participation, the total number of outings declined as individuals went on fewer outings each.

Across all age groups, Running, jogging and trail running remained the top form of outdoor outings by both participation rates and frequency. Bicycling and fishing were also among the top five activities for all ages. The most popular activities for youth (age 6-17) determined by participation rates were:

- Bicycling (road, mountain, and BMX) (24.6% or 12.7M)
- Fishing (fresh, salt, and fly)(21.8% or 11.2M)
- Running, jogging, and trail running (21.5% or 11.1M)
- Camping (car, backyard, and RV) (20.5% or 10.6M)
- Hiking (16.1% or 8.3M)

The favorite activities for youth, based on the frequency of participation were bicycling, running, jogging and trail running, fishing, skateboarding, and camping.

For young adults (age 18-24), the most popular activities by participation rates were:

- Running, jogging, and trail running (31.0% or 6.2M)
- Hiking (19.5% or 3.9M)
- Camping (car, backyard, and RV) (15.2% or 3.1M)
- Bicycling (road, mountain, and BMX) (14.7% or 3.0M)
- Fishing (fresh, salt, and fly)(14.6% or 2.9M)

The top five favorite adult activities based on the frequency of participation were running, jogging, and trail running, bicycling, hiking, fishing, and camping.

Three-year growth trends indicated that the following ten activities saw steady or increasing participation from 2015 to 2018 and were likely to continue to provide opportunities to engage more people in the future:

- Hiking (day)
- Walking, Jogging, and Trail Running
- Fishing (fly/salt/fresh)
- Trail Running
- Kayaking (recreation)
- Camping (car, backyard, backpacking, and RV)
- Camping (RV)
- Skiing Cross-country
- Fishing (freshwater/other)
- Fishing (saltwater)

Three-year trends also identified ten activities with declining participation between 2014 and 2017. In order of largest to smallest decrease, they are:

- Birdwatching more than 1/4 mile from Home/Vehicle
- Snorkeling
- Camping within 1/4 mile from Vehicle/Home
- Adventure Racing
- Bicycling (BMX)
- Rafting
- Wakeboarding
- Sailing
- Snowboarding
- Wildlife viewing more than 1/4 mile from Home/Vehicle

## Engaging Inactives

An “inactive” person is defined by the Physical Activity Council as one who does not participate in any of the sports/activities covered in the PAC

Overview Report. In the past year, 81.2 million Americans, just over a quarter of the population, were inactive. This is an increase in activity from last year with an estimated 1.9 million people becoming active in 2019 and reflects the first time in six years the rate of inactivity has declined. By age group, 6-12 year-olds are the most active with activity among 13-17 year-olds recently rising to nearly the same levels. Of the eight age groups, only 45-54 year-olds, became less active from 2018 to 2019. While their overall activeness is increasing Americans over 65 have the largest rates of inactivity, reflecting the trend that people generally become less active as they age.

In order to understand how to engage inactives in sports and activities, the PAC survey lists “aspirational” activities that inactives are interested in participating in. Aspirational activities are becoming more varied between age groups but fishing, camping, and swimming for fitness made the top ten list for all age groups in 2019.

For younger inactives, there is a greater interest in team sports such as soccer, basketball, and volleyball. As Americans age, interest in outdoor sports such as hiking, fishing, and backpacking grows. Interest in individual activities such as working out with weights and machines and running/jogging also increases. Adults 65 and older list fishing as their number 1 aspirational activity and bird watching/wildlife viewing as their 3rd. Hiking and camping are also within the top ten activities for this age group resulting in four of the ten items focused on outdoor activities.

Americans are tending to remain involved in more strenuous activities later in life, such as swimming, working out with weights, and working out using machines. These activities were all listed as top ten aspirational activities for the 35-44 age group and all older groups.

Active adults, as well as inactives, are interested in social programs and sports leagues as well as active recreation. Active Network recommends the following activities for adult recreation programs:

- Sports - Broomball, Inner Tube Water Polo, Pickleball, Wallyball
- Exercise - Zumba Gold, Dance Buffet, Kettlebells, Outdoor FitnessTechnology - Beginner’s Guide to iPad, Social Media, Digital Photography
- Entertainment - Karaoke, Improv, Murder Mystery Dinners, Speed Dating, Wii for Seniors
- Art - Cooking, Drawing/Painting, Jewelry Making, Mixed Media Arts, Pottery, Quilting
- Professional/Other - Languages, Estate Planning, Self-Publishing, Brain Fitness, Voice-Overs, Memoirs

Many agencies are “branding” their active adult programs for younger populations than the traditional senior to encourage long-term participation. Two local examples include Schaumburg Park District’s *Club 55* and *50 Plus!* at the Champaign Park District.



# STATE TRENDS

Data from the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) is used to compare the Village of Algonquin amenities to other recreation providers in the state of Illinois.

The Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) is prepared as a five-year document by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to maintain Illinois' eligibility to participate in the Land Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) program). Its purpose is to "evaluate the outdoor recreation needs of Illinois citizens and determine how best to meet those needs". The state's natural resources, recreational lands, facilities, and socioeconomic factors are considered in this vision document.

A major finding in the 2015-2019 SCORP is the state's long-standing deficit of outdoor recreation lands and facilities. While Illinois has not been able to achieve the per capita equivalent of other states with more lands and fewer people, park and recreation agencies throughout Illinois consistently plan for and achieve a high level of excellence with the recreation opportunities they provide to their communities.

## **Recreation Facilities and Park Lands Inventory**

There are more than 1.5 million acres of outdoor recreation land in Illinois ranging from federal and state lands to schools and private commercial lands. Municipal agencies, which include park and recreation departments, park districts, forest preserve districts, conservation districts, and county-level park departments, provide a

total of 350,915 acres of park sites. They also own 195,753 acres of natural areas and lease/manage another 15,612 acres of open space.

The state itself offers 470,000 acres of open space throughout the state, primarily handled by the IDNR. State lands include parks, fish and wildlife areas, conservation areas, and recreation areas to name a few. Federal lands include the 280,000 acre Shawnee National Forest and seven National Wildlife Refuges sites throughout the state. Other recreation providers include schools, non-profits, and private entities that provide unique outdoor recreation opportunities for the people of Illinois. The lands managed by these providers were not included in the SCORP.

Based on the 2015 Illinois Community Recreation Facilities and Park Lands Inventory, there are approximately 347.08 acres and 17.9 park sites on average per community throughout the state. Typically, park districts provide more acreage and park sites than city/village recreation agencies.

Top trends across the state are pickleball, disc golf, and splash pads. The increasing popularity of pickleball is in response to aging populations found in all communities across the state, while the popularity of splash pads is in response to the financial constraints of outdoor swimming



pool renovations. The popularity of disc golf demonstrates a growing preference for alternative outdoor recreation activities. Footgolf is another example of an alternative outdoor recreation activity that has increased as golf course owners look for new uses for their assets.

## Top Activities

The top activities identified by the IDNR community-wide survey were pleasure walking and observing wildlife/bird watching. Picnicking, using a playground, on-road bicycling, and swimming at outdoor pools were also among the most prevalent activities for Illinois residents. Activities with lower participation numbers include lacrosse, pickleball, snowmobiling, trapping, in-line skating, sailing, and cross-country skiing. Reasons for some sports having lower participation rates may include smaller interest groups, no available facility, or that the trend is still growing, like pickleball.

According to the survey, municipal parks or county preserves are used most for visiting an amphitheater or bandshell, softball/baseball, lacrosse, soccer, and mountain biking. State parks are used most for tent camping, vehicle camping, hiking, motor boating, and water skiing. Federal lakes or forests are primarily used for sailing, water skiing, and motor boating. Hunting is the most prevalent reason residents visit private areas for recreation.

## Attitudes about Outdoor Recreation

Respondents were asked to rate the various factors they considered to be important when making decisions about engaging in outdoor recreation opportunities. Top contributing factors to respondent's decisions to participate in outdoor recreation activities include exercise/health, experience nature, have fun, and spend time with family and friends.

Survey respondents indicated that the primary role of parks and recreation facilities for Illinois communities should be to preserve open space. Other primary roles

include making the community more desirable, improving fitness, enhancing a sense of place, and increasing property values. Most (56.3%) respondents believe that local, state, and federal open space and recreation agencies are underfunded. The top two priorities for providers in the state are the operation and maintenance of existing park facilities and long-term planning and management. The most important items in terms of park and open space development are recreational facility variety, followed closely by camping, trails, fishing, and boating facilities. Regional and community trails are also important to approximately 80% of respondents.

## Outdoor Recreation Priorities

Priorities identified by the IDNR are listed in the 2015-2019 State of Illinois SCORP as:

- Healthy people and communities
- Access to outdoor recreation
- Natural resource stewardship
- Conservation education
- Cooperative partnerships

# LOCAL TRENDS

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Trend information was derived from the Environment Science Research Institute (ESRI) Sports and Leisure Market Potential Report.

This data is based on national inclination to use various products and services and has been applied to the local demographic composition of the Village of Algonquin boundary. Usage data was collected by Growth for Knowledge Mediamark Research and Intelligence, LLC. (GfK MRI) in a national survey that was representative of U.S. households. Market Potential Index (MPI) measures the relative likelihood of the adults in specific areas to exhibit certain consumer behaviors or purchasing patterns compared to the U.S. population as a whole. An MPI of 100 represents the U.S. average while numbers under 100 indicate a lower than average representation and numbers above 100 represent a higher than average representation.

Based on projected population, the top ten recreational activities Village of Algonquin residents will participate in are:

- Walking for exercise (6,705)
- Swimming (4,664)
- Hiking (3,807)
- Jogging/running (4,088)
- Hiking (3,826)
- Weight lifting (3,259)
- Fishing (freshwater) (2,844)
- Bicycling (road) (2,815)
- Golf (2,662)
- Yoga (2,612)

The number of MPIs over 100 for the Village of Algonquin is slightly higher than the planning team typically finds in the Chicagoland region. Having 31 activities that score over 100 speaks to an active community which bodes well for future program expansion. With activities split between indoor and outdoor recreation opportunities, there are several areas in which Village recreation services can grow.

## Sports and Leisure Market Potential

\*Participation in the last 12

months

Product/Consumer Behavior	Expected # of Adults/HHs	Percent	MPI
Participated in jogging/running	4,088	17.2%	141
Participated in golf	2,662	11.2%	141
Participated in volleyball in last 12 months	1,095	4.6%	137
Participated in weight lifting in last 12 months	3,289	13.9%	135
Participated in boating (power) in last 12 months	1,358	5.7%	135
Participated in yoga in last 12 months	2,612	11.0%	134
Participated in Pilates in last 12 months	796	3.4%	131
Participated in backpacking in last 12 months	1,051	4.4%	130
Participated in swimming in last 12 months	4,664	19.7%	129
Participated in canoeing/kayaking in last 12 months	1,936	8.2%	129
Participated in bicycling (mountain) in last 12 months	1,240	5.2%	129
Participated in bicycling (road) in last 12 months	2,816	11.9%	128
Participated in bowling in last 12 months	2,658	11.2%	128
Participated in fishing (salt water) in last 12 months	1,185	5.0%	127
Participated in aerobics in last 12 months	2,106	8.9%	126
Participated in tennis in last 12 months	1,073	4.5%	126
Participated in ping pong in last 12 months	1,020	4.3%	125
Participated in ice skating in last 12 months	828	3.5%	124
Went on overnight camping trip in last 12 months	3,433	14.5%	120
Attended adult education course in last 12 months	2,189	9.2%	120
Participated in soccer in last 12 months	1,195	5.0%	120
Participated in walking for exercise in last 12 months	6,705	28.3%	119
Participated in horseback riding in last 12 months	642	2.7%	118
Participated in basketball in last 12 months	2,136	9.0%	115
Participated in target shooting in last 12 months	1,207	5.1%	114
Participated in baseball in last 12 months	1,081	4.6%	114
Participated in fishing (fresh water) in last 12 months	2,844	12.0%	110
Participated in softball in last 12 months	741	3.1%	110
Participated in archery in last 12 months	675	2.8%	109
Participated in football in last 12 months	1,150	4.9%	104

# ONLINE ENGAGEMENT

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Over 300 Village of Algonquin residents and non-residents shared their ideas for Park and Recreation services for the next five to ten years via an online survey.

The online engagement platform consisted of a webpage and survey. Both were available 24/7 to provide information on the planning process and allow participants the opportunity to give input on programs, parks, and facilities at their leisure. The survey consisted of 15 multiple choice questions with opportunities for residents to add comments after several of the questions. One open response question was provided. The survey also included a final comment box for any additional feedback.

## **Participation and Traffic**

Launched on February 29, 2020, the online survey engaged department facility users about parks, programs, and facilities. The survey was scheduled to close after a four-week period but as a result of the 2020 COVID-19 Pandemic, the Village decided to pause the survey data collection. Although both the survey and project website remained active and available during this time, no new responses were solicited and traffic on both sites was minimal. This survey was paused in mid-March and re-launched on August 1, 2020. This survey was closed on September 7 and collected a total of 345 responses. In addition to links on the project website, the survey was shared on the Village's website and social media accounts. The Village also promoted

the survey via email blasts (e-blasts) at the initial launch, the re-launch, and one week before the survey closed.

## **Format**

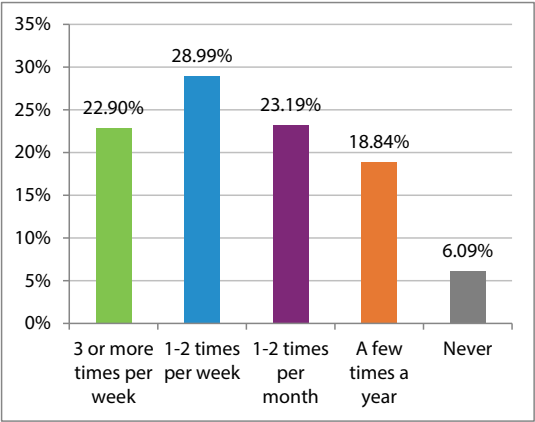
The survey questions were divided into four overarching question groups: Parks and Open Space, Facilities and Indoor Space, Programs and Events, and Future Priorities. Participants were also asked demographic questions about their household. All questions were optional and provided participants the opportunity to skip the question. The following results do not reflect the views of all respondents but are a summary of the multiple-choice and ranking questions and the most prevalent comments



Responses

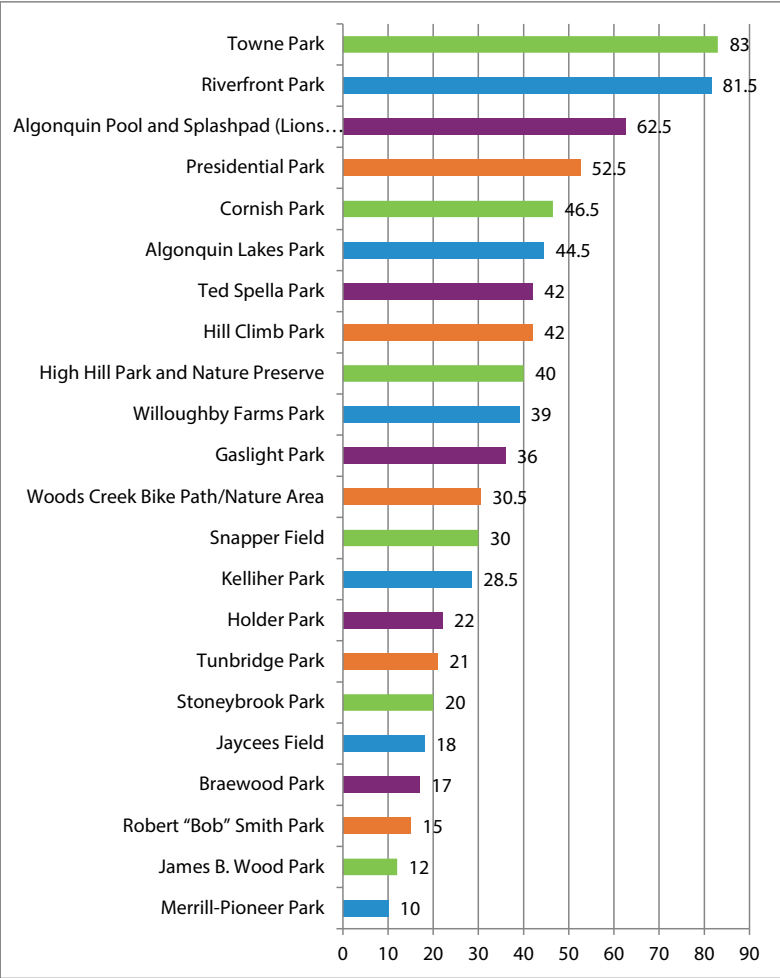
1. About how many times have you or members of your household visited Village of Algonquin park or facility within the past 12 months?

Answered: 345 Skipped: 0  
\*Participants who selected “Never” were directed to question 4. All other responses continued to the next question.



2. Of the Village of Algonquin parks that you or your family have visited in the last 12 months, how satisfied were you with each? (Please select N/A or skip the parks you and your family have not visited):

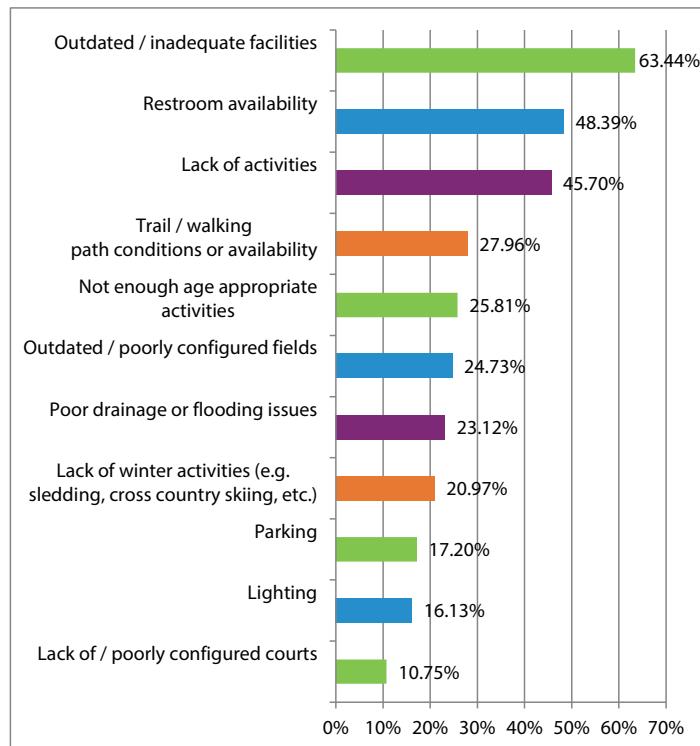
Answered: 244 Skipped: 101



\* Higher numbers indicate greater satisfaction.

### 3. If you selected “Unsatisfied” for one or more park you’ve visited, what do you feel needs improvement? (Select all that apply):

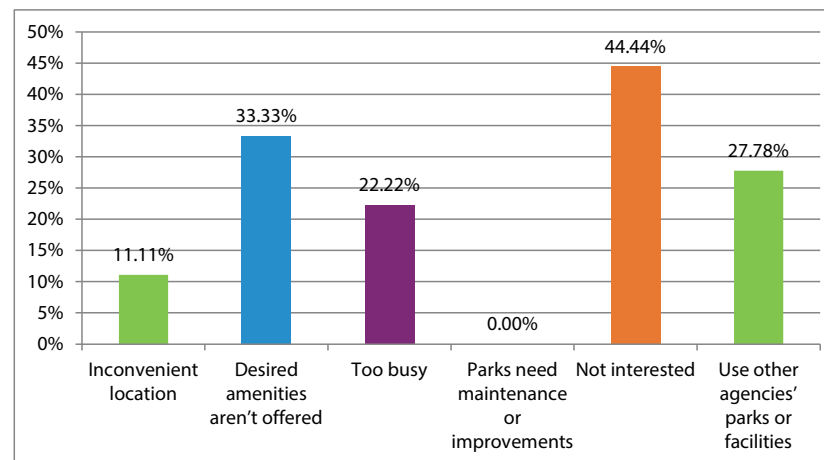
Answered: 186 Skipped: 159



Most dissatisfaction fell under the following categories: park maintenance (6), overall park facility improvements (5), additional picnic facilities (4), replacement of playground equipment (4), park improvements at Hill Climb Park (3), sport facility maintenance (3), pool locker room and restroom improvements (3), pool facility expansion (2), safety concerns at the basketball courts (2), specific amenities (6), and dissatisfaction with recent updates (2). Many people were dissatisfied with the overall condition of the facilities and amenities at different parks. Several others were dissatisfied with park maintenance. Some commenters wanted more native plantings made, and a few others were interested in the expansion of facilities for musical performance.

### 4. If you don’t visit any of the Village of Algonquin parks, why not? (Pick all that apply):

Answered: 18 Skipped: 327

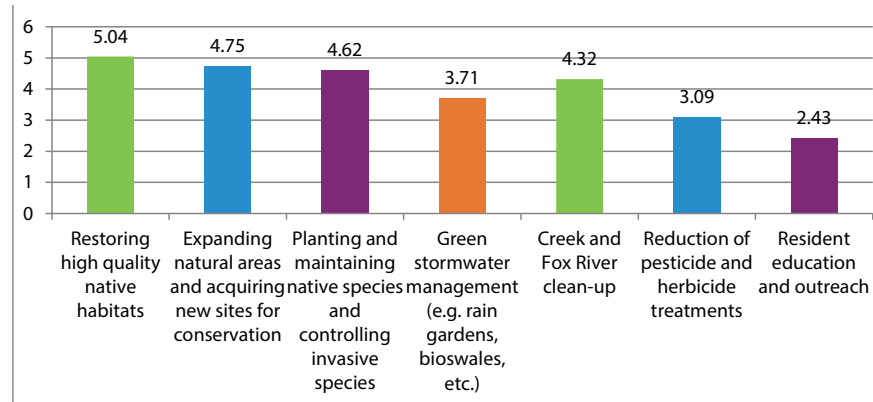


Only four responded as “other”, one indicating that they don’t use Randall Oaks Park, and another not visiting Marian Hills and The Hollows (none of these are Algonquin parks). One responded that they had just moved to Algonquin and were waiting for warmer weather, while another asked for more programs and facilities geared towards adults.

### 5. The Village of Algonquin is committed to ecological conservation and restoration. Please rank the following initiatives from most important (1) to least important (7) to you and your family.

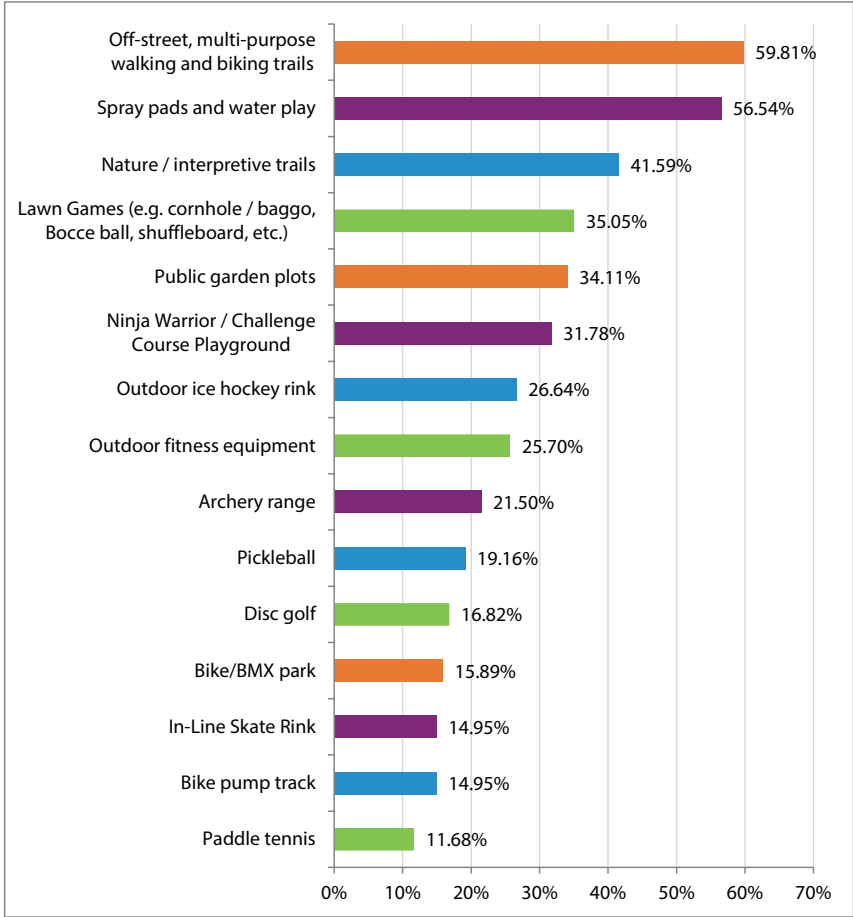
Answered: 224 Skipped: 121

\* Higher numbers indicate greater importance.



6. Are there OUTDOOR recreation opportunities not currently provided by the Village of Algonquin that you would like to see added or that you think we need more of in our park system? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 214 Skipped: 131

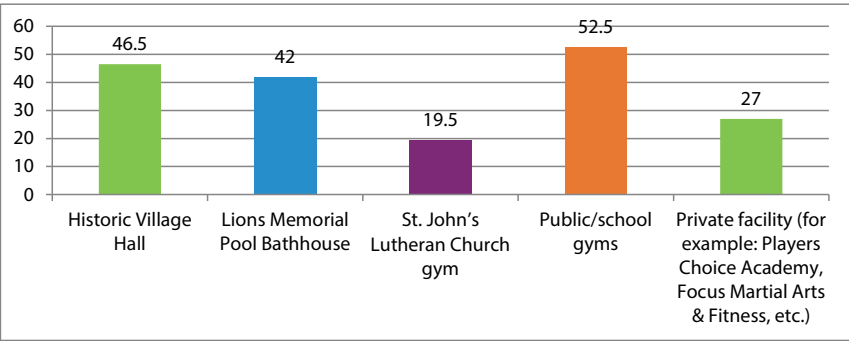


Respondents that indicated “other” asked for the following items to be added to the park system: dog park (6), pool facility improvements (4), a boat/kayak launch (3), tennis courts (3), a pool made available on the west side of the river (3), adult park amenities (3), beach space (2), golf (2), and specific amenities (9). One of the specific amenities asked for was archery, another was made for there to be a park that would be more for older kids. One respondent was interested in there being a trail near or along the Fox River, while a different resident was looking for there to be a space for large gatherings to occur. One respondent made a specific reference to Deicke Park in Huntley and wanted to see a similar

park with open space be created in Algonquin. One request was made for there to be a large park made available to host Founders’ Day, another request was to have Pollinator Gardens. Other respondents asked for Pickleball courts, and one for an indoor recreation center

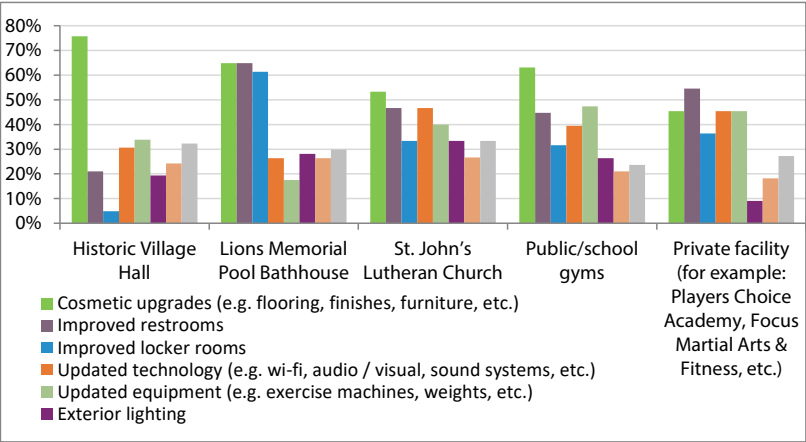
7. Of the Village of Algonquin recreation facilities that you or your family have visited in the last 12 months, how satisfied were you with each? (Please select N/A or skip the facilities you and your family have not visited):

Answered: 205 Skipped: 140



8. If you selected “Unsatisfied” with one or more of the facilities you visited, what do you feel needs improvement? (Select all that apply, please skip the facilities you and your family have not visited):

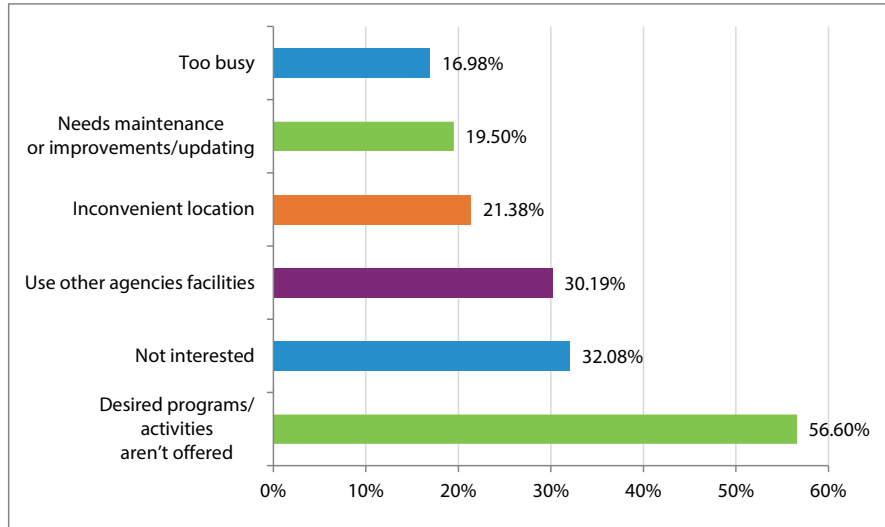
Answered: 100 Skipped: 245



Some respondents that chose “other” were dissatisfied with the condition of the splash pad, while a few others felt that admission prices at facilities were too high.

**9. If you don't visit some or any of the Village of Algonquin facilities, why not? (Pick all that apply):**

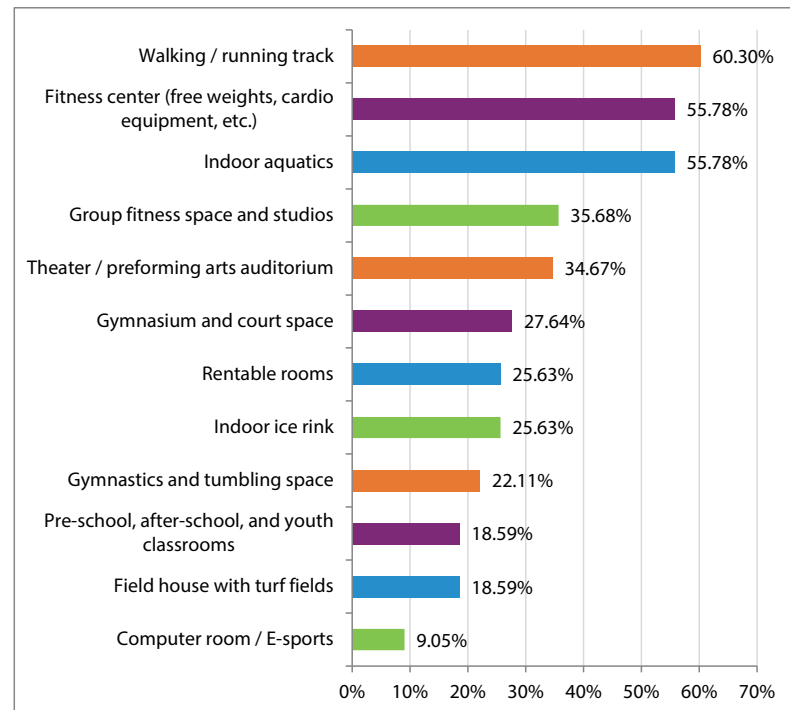
Answered: 159 Skipped: 186



Many respondent comments indicated that they are unaware of the different amenities the Village offers across Algonquin. Others said that the amenities they were looking for weren't available from the Village and went to other providers to use their facilities. A few also said that they were too far away from village amenities.

**10. Are there INDOOR recreation opportunities not currently provided by the Village of Algonquin that you would like to see added or that you think we need more? (Select all that apply):**

Answered: 199 Skipped: 146

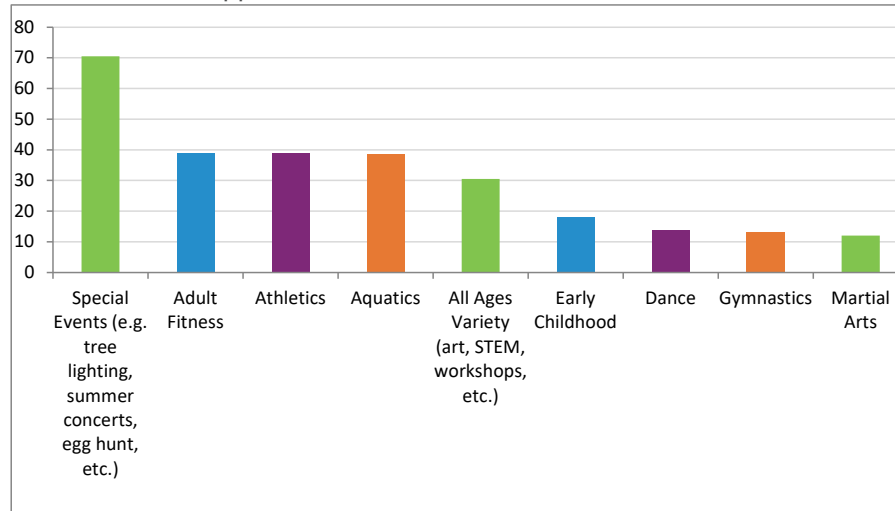


A few of those that chose "other" asked for added senior programs with a facility to specifically host them. Others wanted a devoted community center that could host art, community, and senior programs. One individual asked for a basketball program, another asked for basketball courts, while another wanted to have pickleball courts.



**11. Of the Village of Algonquin programs and events that you or your family have participated in the last 12 months, how satisfied were you with each? (Please select N/A or skip the programs and events you and your family did not participate in):**

Answered: 203 Skipped: 142



Several respondents wanted to see more activities be made available to adults and senior citizens. Several others wanted to see a youth program available for working families. There were some responses that indicated that several non-specified programs that they wanted are not offered by the district and they participated in activities offered by other providers as a result. Some expressed that they were very pleased with the summer concerts and wanted to see more of them in the future. A few were also interested in new festivals for Algonquin that could happen throughout the year.

**12. Are there programs or event opportunities not currently provided by the Village of Algonquin that you would like to see added or that you think we need more?**

Answered: 84 Skipped: 261. This question allowed respondents to answer with a written response.

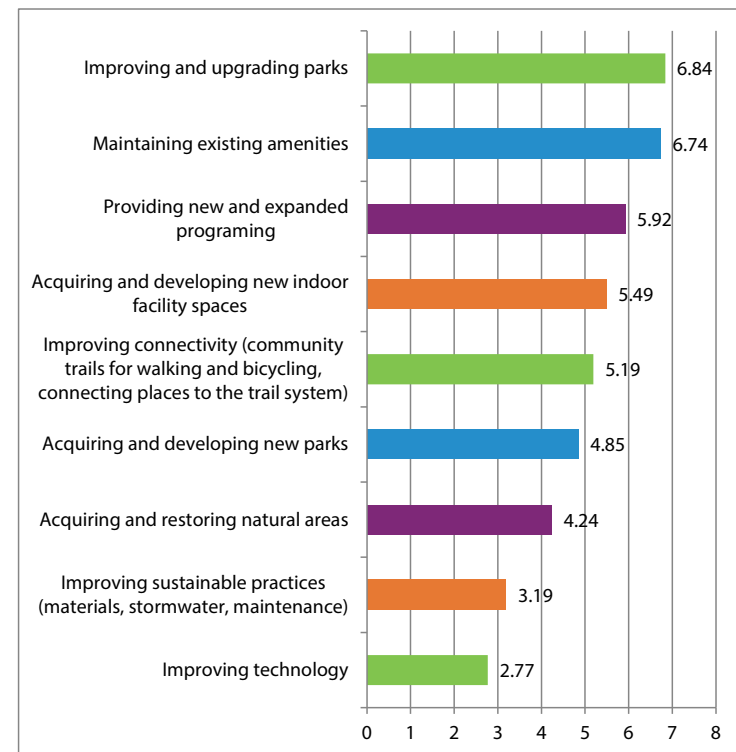
84 participants provided suggestions or programs and/or events that they would like the Village of Algonquin to offer. A large number of comments suggested new fitness program offerings with several ideas being mentioned by multiple participants including active senior programs (6), toddler and preschool programs (6), indoor aquatics and swimming lessons (5), festivals (4), theatre classes (4), youth/young adult sports programs (4), general adult-

oriented programs (3), a farmers market (3), yoga and pilates (3), summer day camp (3), crafts and woodworking (3), young parents classes (2), dance classes (2), and increased summer concerts (2). Some respondents asked for activities and programs such as an art class (1), parades (1), an educational nature program (1), fencing (1), and Spanish language library offerings. Those that asked for active senior programs were looking for activities like day trips, exercise classes, aquatics, and other, non-specific ideas that would encourage activity amongst Algonquin's elderly population. Others that wanted to have more festivals specified involving music and food and bringing more activity to Algonquin's downtown area.

**13. Which of the following objectives do you think the Village of Algonquin should focus on over the next ten years? (Please rank from most important (1) to least important (9) to you and your family):**

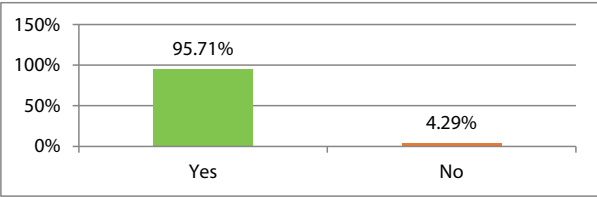
Answered: 206 Skipped: 139

\* Higher numbers indicate greater importance.



14. Are you a Village of Algonquin resident?

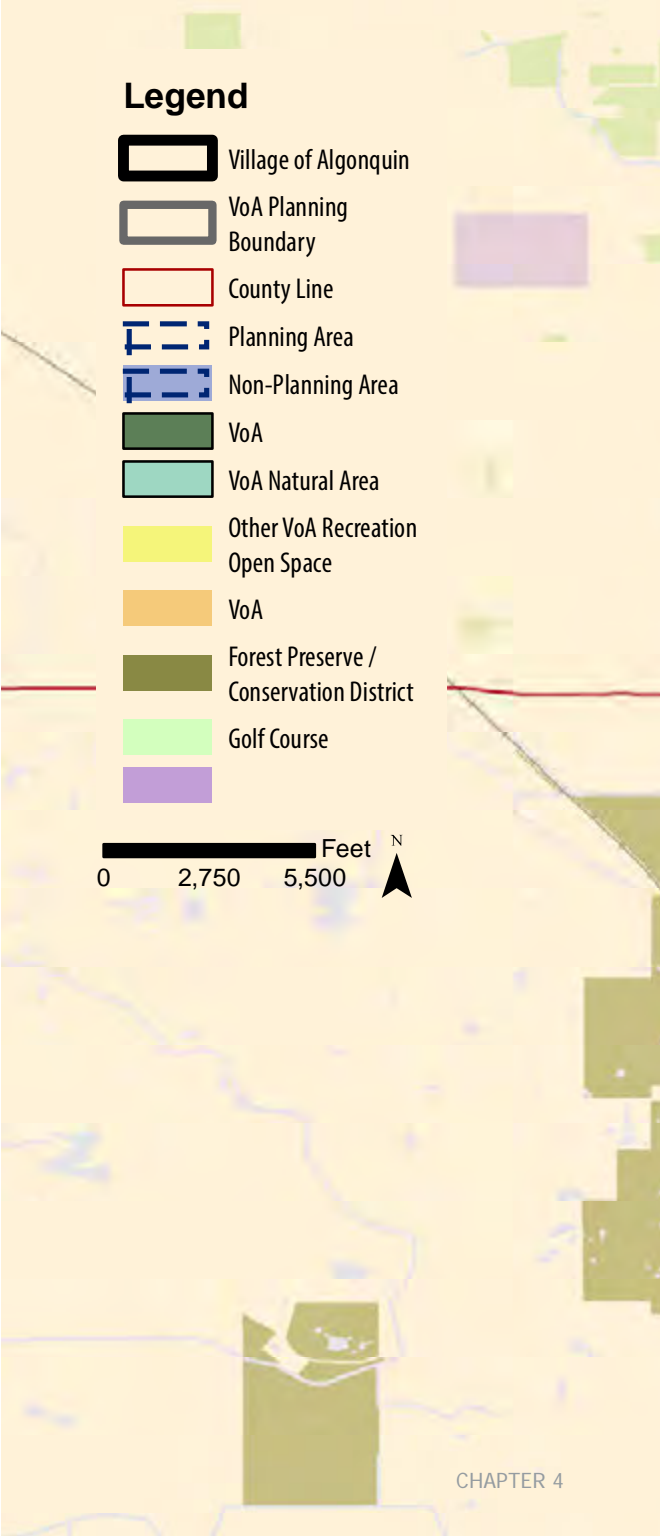
Answered: 210 Skipped: 135



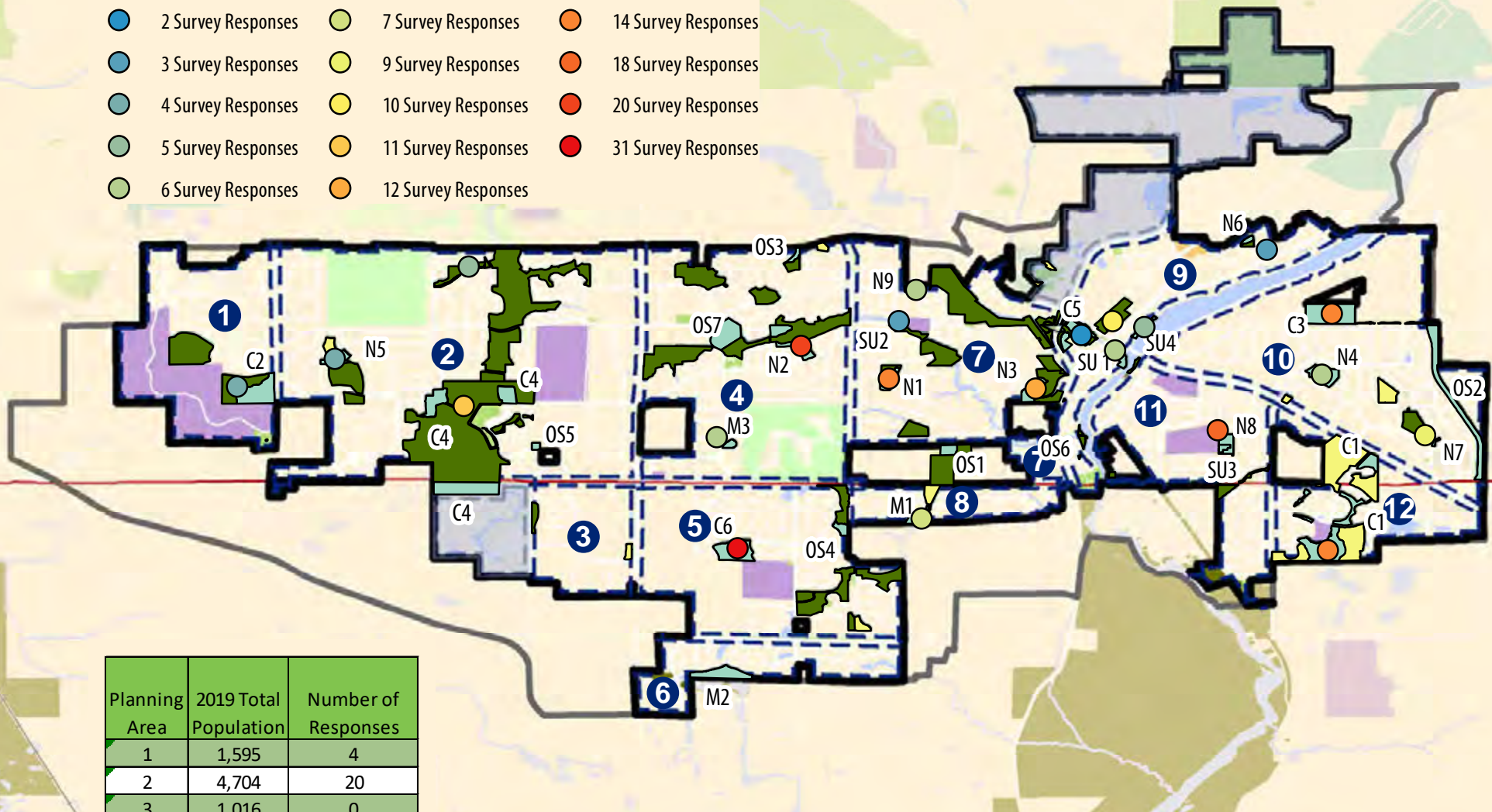
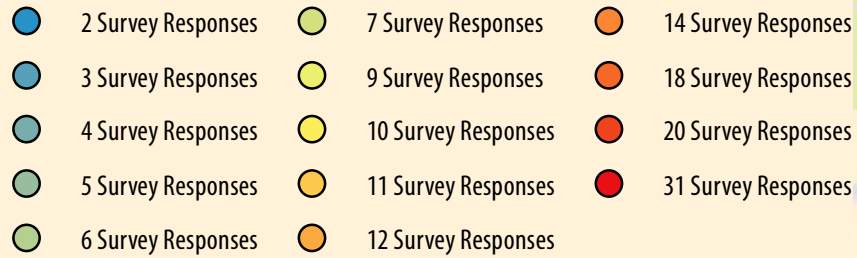
15. Which Algonquin park do you live the closest to?

Answered: 224 Skipped: 121

See Map to the right.



## Survey Participant Locations



Planning Area	2019 Total Population	Number of Responses
1	1,595	4
2	4,704	20
3	1,016	0
4	4,500	26
5	3,162	31
6	1,608	0
7	3,172	35
8	750	7
9	1,690	26
10	4,324	29
11	2,963	18
12	1,659	14

## Park Key

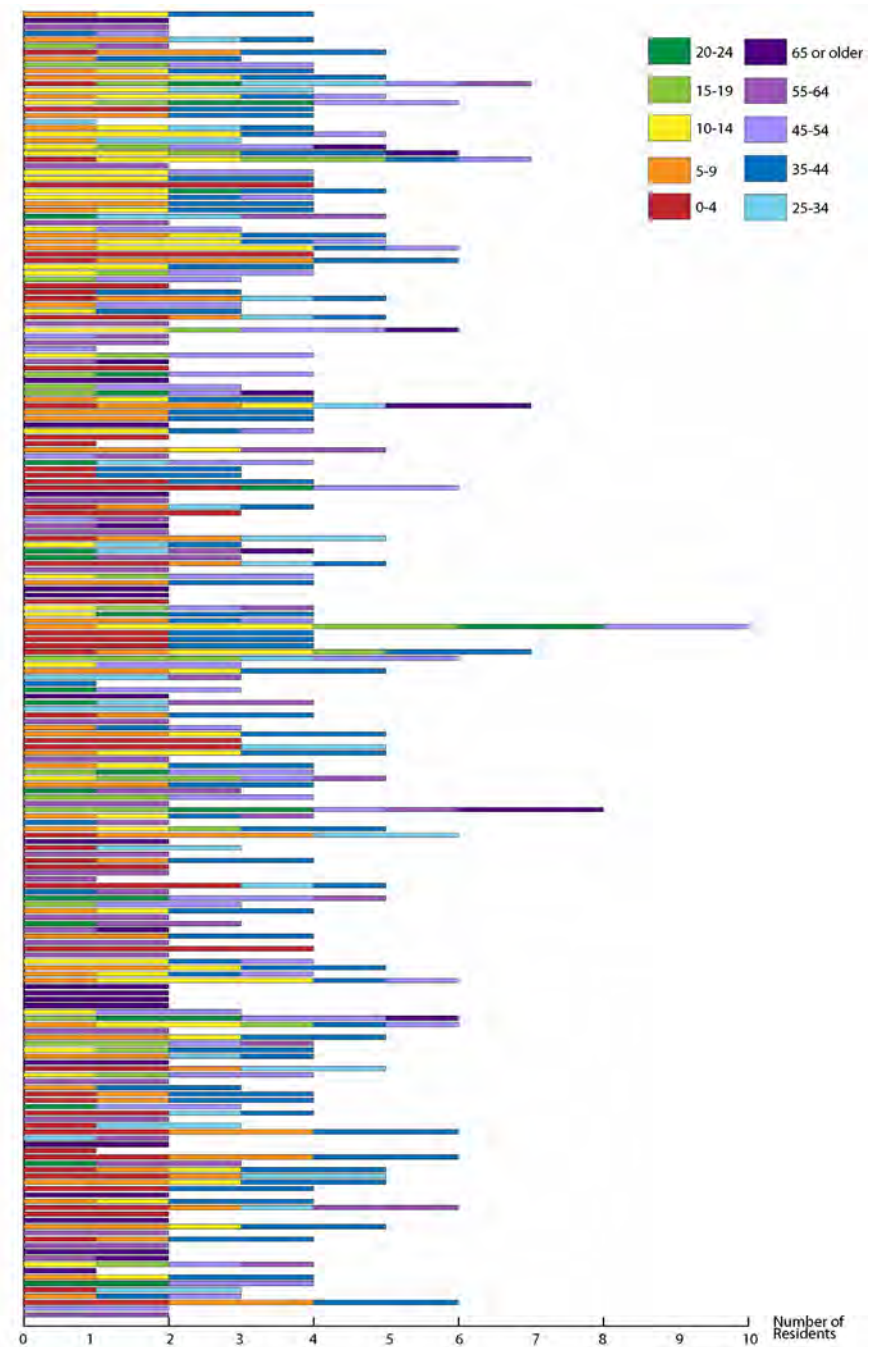
M1. Braewood Park	N5. James B. Wood Park	C3. Presidential Park	SU4. Riverfront Park
M2. Broadsmore Park	N6. Merrill Pioneer Park	C4. Ted Spella Community Park	OS1. Fields Property
M3. Tunbridge Park	N7. Robert "Bob" Smith Park	C5. Towne Park	OS2. Haeger's Bend Open Space
N1. Gaslight Park	N8. Snapper's Field	C6. Willoughby Farms Park	OS3. Lake Drive South Park
N2. High Hill Park	N9. Stoneybrook Park	SU 1. Cornish Park	OS4. Lawndale Park
N3. Hill Climb Park	C1. Algonquin Lakes Park	SU2. Jayces Field	OS5. Pond View Park
N4. Holder Park	C2. Kelliher Park	SU3. Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool	OS6. Ratray Triangle

## 16. How many people of each age group, including yourself, reside in your household?

Answered: 207 Skipped: 138

The following graphic illustrates the age breakdown with one horizontal bar per household that answered this survey question. Age ranges are shown as different colors to show the age makeup of each household, the number of people in each age range is reflected by the length of each color. Based on this analysis there are a few general categories of households represented in this survey. The first category consists of young families which contain one or more dependent children (0-4 - pre-school to 10-14 - middle school) and at least one adult typically between 25-34 or 35-44. The second category consists of older families with dependent children (15-19 - high school to 20-24 - college) and adults typically in an older range of ages between 35-44 and 45-54. The third category consists of adult-only households with residents falling between the ages of 35-44 and 45-54. Some of these households also include at least one active adult (55-64) or senior (65+). The final category consists solely of active adults and seniors, those aged 55 or older. The majority of households appear to contain two-generations and there were very few responses that reported children, adults, and active adults / seniors (three-generations) within the same household. Most responses reflecting one-generation households represented an older population of 45-54 and above, rather than younger adults without children.

Additionally, there were a few responses that only listed children as residents. It can be inferred that these were a misunderstanding by the survey taker who did not include themselves in the count. It is likely that each of these responses was provided by an adult of at least 20 years or older, but there is no way to determine the actual ages of these participants.





**17. Thank you for your participation! Please provide any additional comments here:**

Answered: 56 Skipped: 289

56 survey participants provided additional comments at the end of the survey. The topic of these comments varied greatly with very few having more than one or two comments relating to a common theme.

Many of the comments related to the outdoor park amenities asked for the Village to focus on improving existing parks in Algonquin before working on introducing new parks. Parks that were mentioned included Willoughby Park and Hill Climb Park. Several also called for improvements at the existing pool on the East side of the river and to not have it removed, and several others wanted to have a new pool built on the opposite side of the river to provide equal pool access to residents. One person who responded said that the Village had enough pools. A few respondents were excited to see the efforts made to plant native plants but wanted to see more done to focus on nature preserves and undisturbed areas for wildlife. One respondent also asked for there to be boat piers specifically at Riverfront Park. Another was interested in seeing sand volleyball courts being made available. A few wanted to see if it were possible for there to be a beach area on the Fox River that all of the Village could go to use. There were two respondents that talked about Terrace Hill Golf Course. One is a resident who wanted to see it be changed from a golf course into a large open park that could attract future generations of people. The other respondent wanted to see it stay a golf course. A few mentioned again that they would be excited to see dog parks be added. A few comments were made again on the need for maintenance to improve at the parks.

There were also a number of comments relating to indoor facility needs. Many asked for a facility that could host an indoor pool for aquatics, fitness equipment and programs, and a general space for families to go in the colder winter months to be active.

Regarding programs, seven comments expressed concerns that the Village is losing participants from Algonquin to other neighboring agencies and needs to do more to maintain and grow programs. One comment wanted Algonquin to be solely in charge of youth sports programs and not let the only options be from private organizations. Another respondent was interested in seeing if the Village could organize a composting or a leaf litter collection program. One respondent noticed the number of young families in Algonquin and asked for there to be more classes and programs be available for young families. Two

respondents also asked for there to be more amenities or programs that provide for older children and young adults to give activities to do and places to go.

Several comments discussed Village park policy and operations. Participants expressed a need for better communication between the Village of Algonquin on programs and amenities that are available to residents. One comment also expressed concerns that the Village Board is out of touch and could do a better job meeting resident needs. One participant stated that the Village of Algonquin Park and Recreation offerings are not to the same standard as other local agencies, citing Dundee as an example.

In addition to these items, six comments also praised the Village of Algonquin Parks and Recreation offerings.

# POST-PANDEMIC SURVEY

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An additional 161 participants completed a second, supplemental survey to share how the 2020 COVID-19 Pandemic impacted their recreation needs.

The online engagement platform consisted of a webpage and survey but was interrupted as a result of the 2020 COVID-19 Pandemic. In response to changes caused by the pandemic, the Village decided to issue a second, supplemental survey focused on how recreation and health and safety needs have changed in the spring and summer of 2020. Both surveys and the project website were available 24/7 to provide information on the planning process and allow participants the opportunity to give input at their leisure. The survey consisted of 14 multiple choice questions with opportunities for residents to add comments after several of the questions. One open response question was provided. The survey also included a final comment box for any additional feedback.

## **Participation and Traffic**

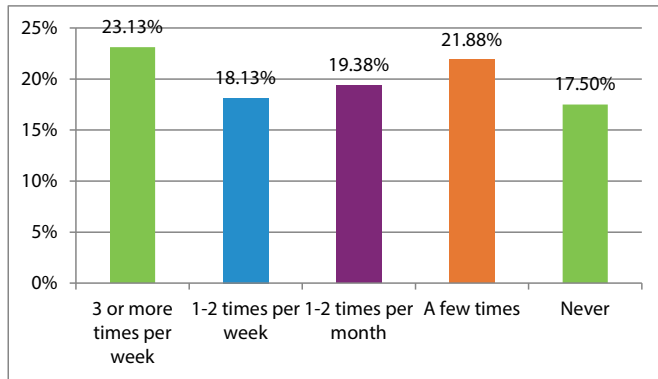
Launched on August 1, 2020, the post-pandemic survey engaged Park and Recreation users about how the pandemic has affected their recreation activities and needs. The survey was closed on September 1, 2020, and 161 people completed all or part of the survey. In addition to links on the project website, the survey was shared on the Village's website and social media accounts and through emails (e-blasts) when it was launched and one week before closing.

## **Format**

The survey questions were focused on parks and outdoor spaces, facilities and indoor spaces, and programs and events, as related to the 2020 pandemic. Participants were also asked demographic questions about their household. All questions were optional and provided participants the opportunity to skip the question. The following results do not reflect the views of all respondents but are a summary of the multiple-choice and ranking questions and the most prevalent comments.

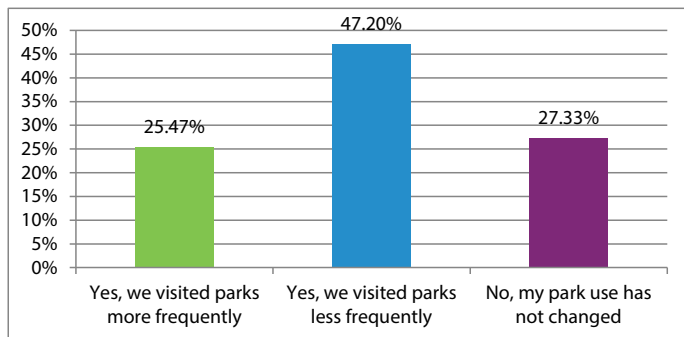
**1. About how many times have you or members of your household visited a Village of Algonquin park or facility within the past 6 months? (Pick one):**

Answered: 160 Skipped: 1



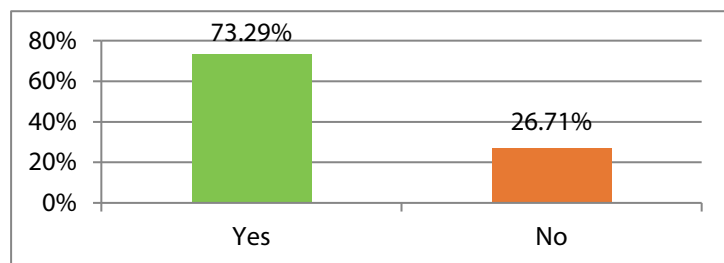
**2. Has your and members of your household's use of OUTDOOR parks and recreation changed due to the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic?**

Answered: 161 Skipped: 0



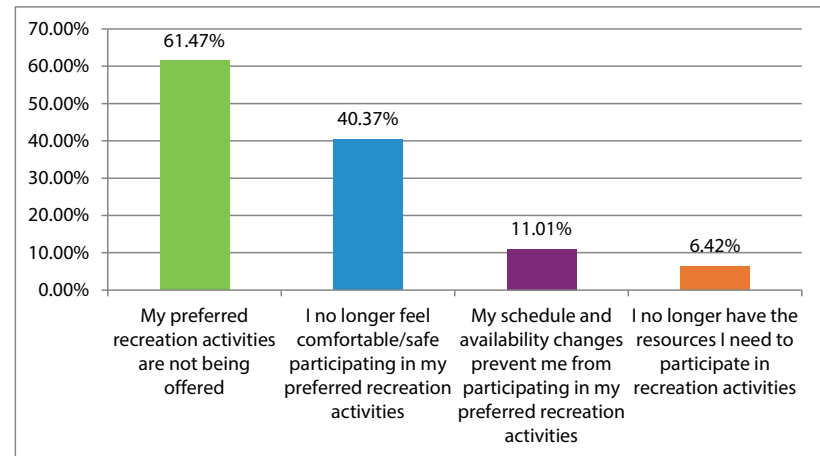
**3. Have the recreation needs of you and your household changed due to the COVID-19 pandemic?**

Answered: 118 Skipped: 43



**4. How have the recreation needs of you and your household changed? (select all that apply):**

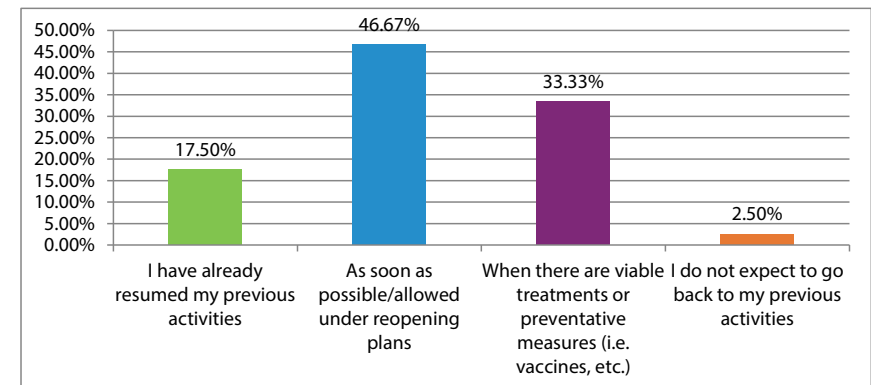
Answered: 109 Skipped: 52



Those that chose to answer with "other" had some different responses to this question. Five respondents said that they missed the use of the pool after it was closed down for the summer. Some responded that they have instead stayed at home doing more indoor activities such as yoga and crafts. A few are glad that the parks are open and said that they are more active outdoors than before. One respondent said that nothing had changed for their recreation needs and they still attend the recreation center 4-5 times a week.

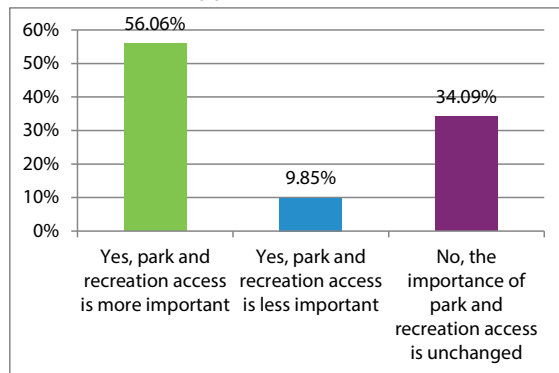
**5. When do you expect your previous, pre-pandemic level of parks and recreation activity to resume**

Answered: 120 Skipped: 41



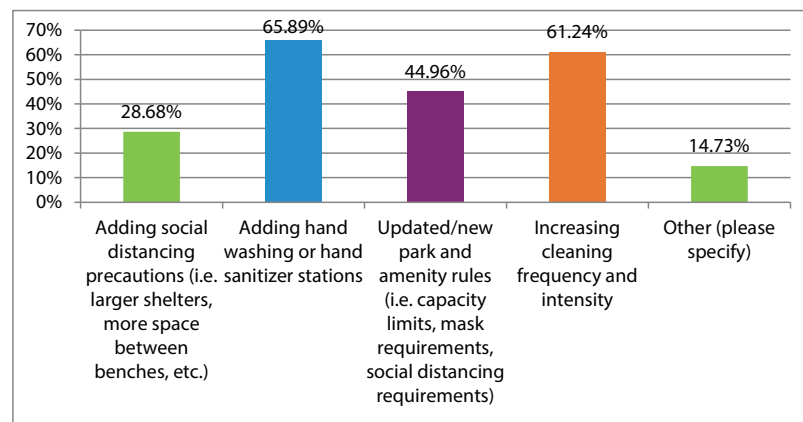
**6. Has the importance of access to parks and recreation offerings for you and members of your household changed since the start of the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic?**

Answered: 132 Skipped: 29



**7. Are there any OUTDOOR recreation improvements needed to improve your comfort level when using parks? (Select all that apply):**

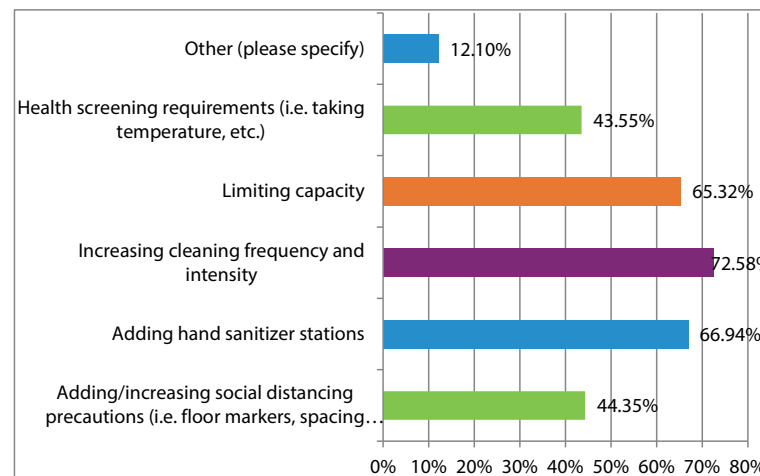
Answered: 129 Skipped: 32



Eight different respondents who answered “Other” said that they were content with the current measures the Village of Algonquin has taken so far. Three people responded by saying that people should be made more aware of proper social distancing guidelines when using the parks, and another responded that people should also be responsible for their own sanitation. One respondent asked that there be more trash receptacles available to help prevent mask and glove litter.

**8. Are there any INDOOR recreation improvements needed to improve your comfort level when visiting recreation facilities? (Select all that apply):**

Answered: 124 Skipped: 37



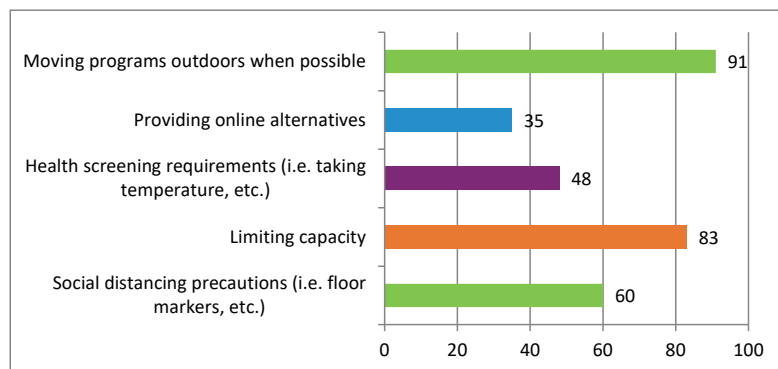
5 respondents that chose “other” said that they were content with the current procedures at Village of Algonquin indoor recreation facilities. 4 other respondents said that they were just uncomfortable with using indoor facilities at all at the moment. Two people who answered said that they would like there to be mask requirements before entry into an indoor facility, and one other individual suggested regular cleaning. One respondent in particular was worried that their yoga class would be cancelled with cold weather, they said with smaller class sizes and social distancing they should be able to continue classes as usual.



**9. Are there any recreation PROGRAM and EVENT improvements needed to improve your comfort level when participating? (Select all that apply):**

Answered: 115 Skipped: 46

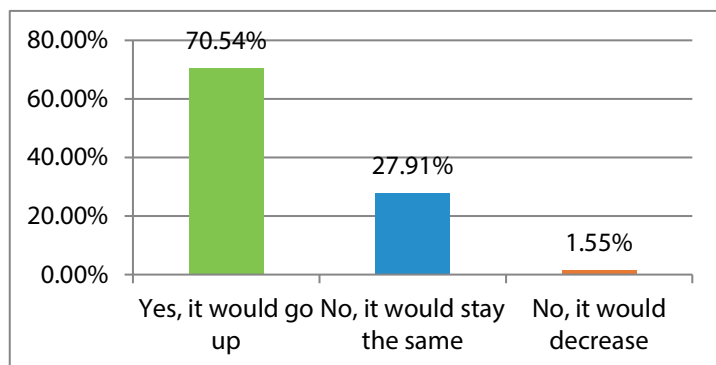
8 of the respondents who answered "other" said that there was no change



necessary in programs and events to make them feel more comfortable. One respondent says they feel masks should be required while programs or events are being held, both indoors and outdoors. Another suggested it would be very convenient and safer if there were online video meeting exercise classes made available to residents.

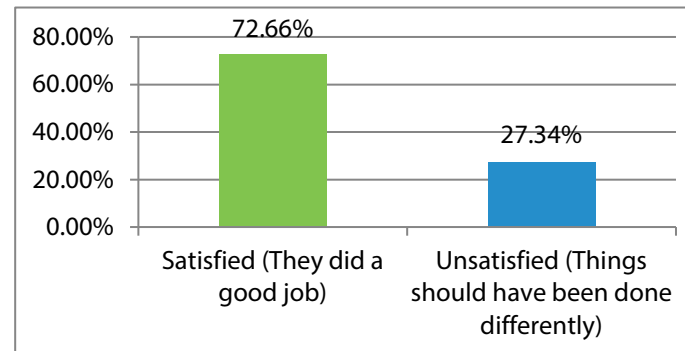
**10. If the above measures were met, would your demand for and participation in parks and recreation activities and programs increase?**

Answered: 129 Skipped: 32



**11. How satisfied are you with the Village of Algonquin Park and Recreation Department's response to the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic?**

Answered: 128 Skipped: 33



**12. What could the Village of Algonquin Park and Recreation Department have done better in their response to the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic?**

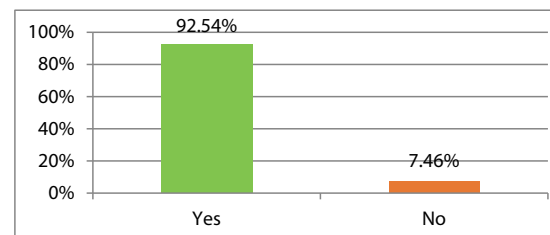
Answered: 28 Skipped: 133

This question allowed respondents to answer with a written response.

28 participants provided suggestions as to what could have been done better by the Village of Algonquin Parks and Recreation Department. A large number of comments ask why the playground and parks were closed and why they weren't opened at a sooner time. Several others say they wish more was done to keep the pool open, and two referenced other pools in nearby districts that were able to reopen their pools with proper safety precautions. A few responded by saying that masks being made mandatory would have helped, along with making more hand sanitizing stations available in outdoor settings at parks and playgrounds. Two others responded by suggesting limiting the number of users allowed into a playground area and another respondent suggested cleaning equipment and parks.

**13. Are you a Village of Algonquin resident?**

Answered: 206 Skipped: 139

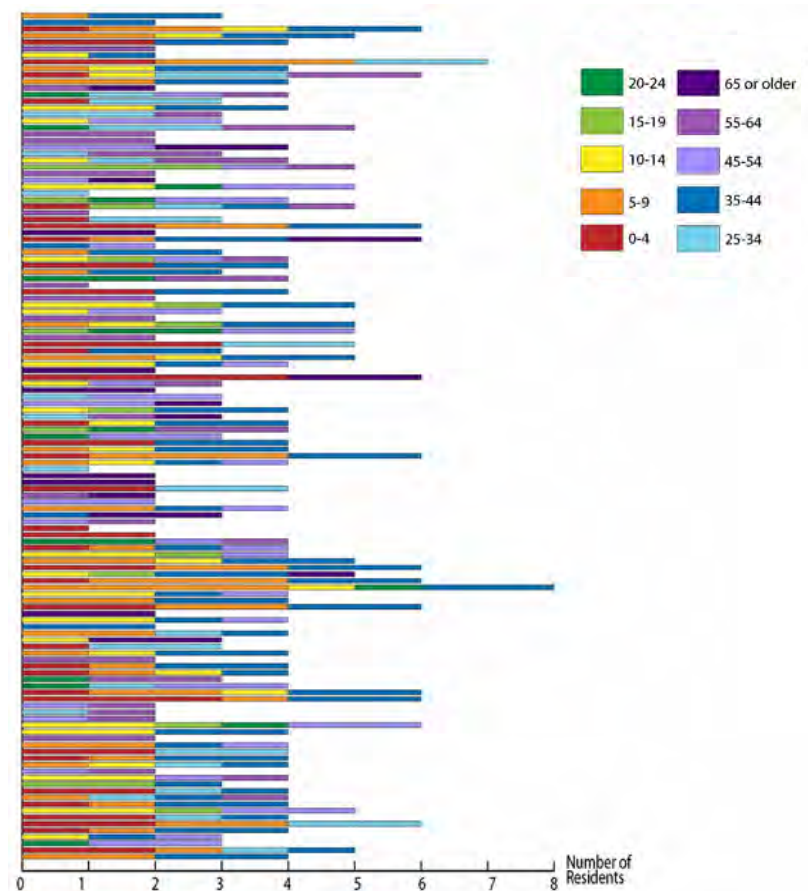


#### 14. How many people of each age group, including yourself, reside in your household?

Answered: 207 Skipped: 138

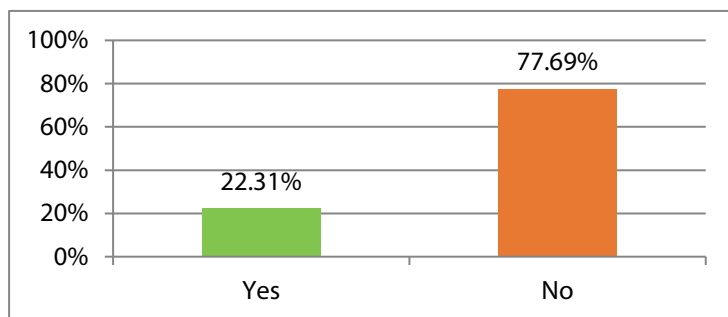
The following graphic illustrates the age breakdown with one horizontal bar per household that answered this survey question. Age ranges are shown as different colors to show the age makeup of each household, the number of people in each age range is reflected by the length of each color.

Based on this analysis there are a few general categories of households represented in this survey. The first category consists of young families which contain one or more dependent children (0-4 - pre-school to 10-14 - middle school) and at least one adult typically between 25-34 or 35-44. The second category consists of older families with dependent children (15-19 - high school to 20-24 - college) and adults typically in an older range of ages between 35-44 and 45-54. The third category consists of adult only households with residents falling between the ages of 35-44 and 45-54. Some of these households also include at least one active adult (55-64) or senior (65+). The final category consists solely of active adults and seniors, those aged 55 or older. The majority of households appear to contain two-generations and there were very few responses that reported children, adults, and active adults / seniors (three-generations) within the same household.



### 15. Are you considered at high medical risk?

Answered: 130 Skipped: 31



### 16. Thank you for your participation! Please provide any additional comments here:

Answered: 27 Skipped: 134

27 survey participants provided additional comments at the end of the survey. The topic of these comments varied, and several did not pertain to the survey. One wanted to ask the Village of Algonquin to open the pool once it is safe again, while another was disappointed that it was closed. One resident is very concerned with the amount of people that walk through their neighborhood and overflow from the Prairie Trail path while not following social distancing guidelines. Another respondent wanted to know why Question #15 did not ask how many people in their household were not also at risk as well. One other person was very excited that exercise zoom classes were kept up and that it was helping residents of Algonquin stay active.

In addition to these items, four comments also thanked the Village of Algonquin Parks and Recreation Staff for efforts and believed that it was doing an excellent job. One resident asked that the Village of Algonquin take whatever steps possible to allow people to begin participating in recreation more and more over time as they feel comfortable.

# RESIDENT SURVEY

ETC Institute administered a community survey for the Village park and recreation services as part of the Connect Phase in the summer of 2020. The following executive summary is from the survey findings report.

## Overview

ETC Institute administered a parks and recreation needs assessment in the Summer of 2020 for the Village of Algonquin. This assessment was administered as part of the Village's efforts to develop area parks, facilities, and programs. Information compiled from the assessment will provide key data to set a clear vision for the future. This survey will determine priorities for parks, recreation facilities, program offerings, and special event offerings in the Village.

## Methodology

ETC Institute mailed a survey packet to a random sample of households in Algonquin, IL. Each survey packet contained a cover letter, a copy of the survey, and a postage-paid return envelope. Residents who received the survey were given the option of returning the survey by mail or completing it online at [www.AlgonquinSurvey.org](http://www.AlgonquinSurvey.org).

Ten days after the surveys were mailed, ETC Institute sent emails to the households that received the survey to encourage participation. The emails contained a link to the online version of the survey to make it easy for residents to complete the survey. To prevent people who were not residents of the Village from participating, everyone who

completed the survey online was required to enter their home address prior to submitting the survey. ETC Institute then matched the addresses that were entered online with the addresses that were originally selected for the random sample. If the address from a survey completed online did not match one of the addresses selected for the sample, the online survey was not counted.

The goal was to obtain completed surveys from at least 300 residents. The goal was accomplished with a total of 351 residents completing the survey. The overall results for the sample of 351 households have a precision of at least +/-5.1% at the 95% level of confidence. The major findings of the survey are summarized as follows:

## Satisfaction with and Levels of Support for Village Services

Over half (51%) of responding households are either very satisfied (17%) or somewhat satisfied (34%) with the overall value they/their household received from the Village Parks and Recreation services. Thirty-three percent (33%) are neutral, 10% are somewhat dissatisfied, and 6% are very dissatisfied with the overall value they receive from the Parks and Recreation services.

The highest levels of satisfaction with Village services, based on the sum of "very satisfied" and "somewhat satisfied" responses among residents who had an opinion, were: cleanliness of facilities (70%), maintenance of parks (69%), availability of information about programs and facilities (60%), and ease of finding information online (59%). The services that respondents indicated they think the Village should make a priority, based on the sum of respondents' top two choices, were: maintenance of parks (29%), cleanliness of facilities (17%), and availability of information about programs and facilities (16%).

The highest levels of support for actions the Village could take to improve the community, based on the sum of "very supportive" and "supportive" responses among residents who had an opinion, were: develop new walking/biking trails/connect existing trails (74%), maintain infrastructure of current facilities (70%), and upgrade existing neighborhood and community parks (68%). The actions that respondents indicated were most important to their respective household, based on the sum of respondents' top four choices, were: develop new walking/biking trails/connect existing trails (50%), upgrade existing neighborhood and community parks (39%), and maintain infrastructure of current facilities (38%).



## Village of Algonquin Parks and Facilities

### Use:

Respondents were asked which Village parks they (or other members of their household) had used in the past year. The top five responses were: Towne Park (43%), Riverfront Park (40%), Ted Spella Park (28%), Presidential Park (25%), and Woods Creek Bike Path/Nature Area (24%). The parks that responding households visited most, based on the sum of respondents' top three choices, were: Riverfront Park (29%), Towne Park (27%), Ted Spella Park (19%), Presidential Park (17%), and Willoughby Farms Park (16%).

### Ratings:

Of the respondents that visited Village parks and who had an opinion of the physical condition of the respective facilities;

- 32% rated the physical condition of facilities visited as "excellent,"
- 54% rated the physical condition of facilities visited as "good,"
- 12% rated the physical condition of facilities visited as "fair," and
- 1% rated the physical condition of facilities visited as "poor."

### Potential Barriers:

Responding households were given a list of eighteen (18) potential reasons why they or households do not visit Village parks and facilities more often. The top responses were: not interested (27%), too busy (25%), use other park districts (21%), facility not offered (10%), and participate with friends elsewhere (10%).

### Organizations Used:

The organizations used most for programs, activities, and/or facilities, by responding households, during the past 12 months were: neighboring park districts (32%), private clubs (27%), churches (17%), and school-sponsored activities (15%). When respondents were asked why they use neighboring park districts for indoor and/or outdoor recreation activities, the top responses were; Algonquin does not offer class/program/sport/service (54%) and

the neighboring park district is a more convenient location (23%).

## Facility Needs and Priorities

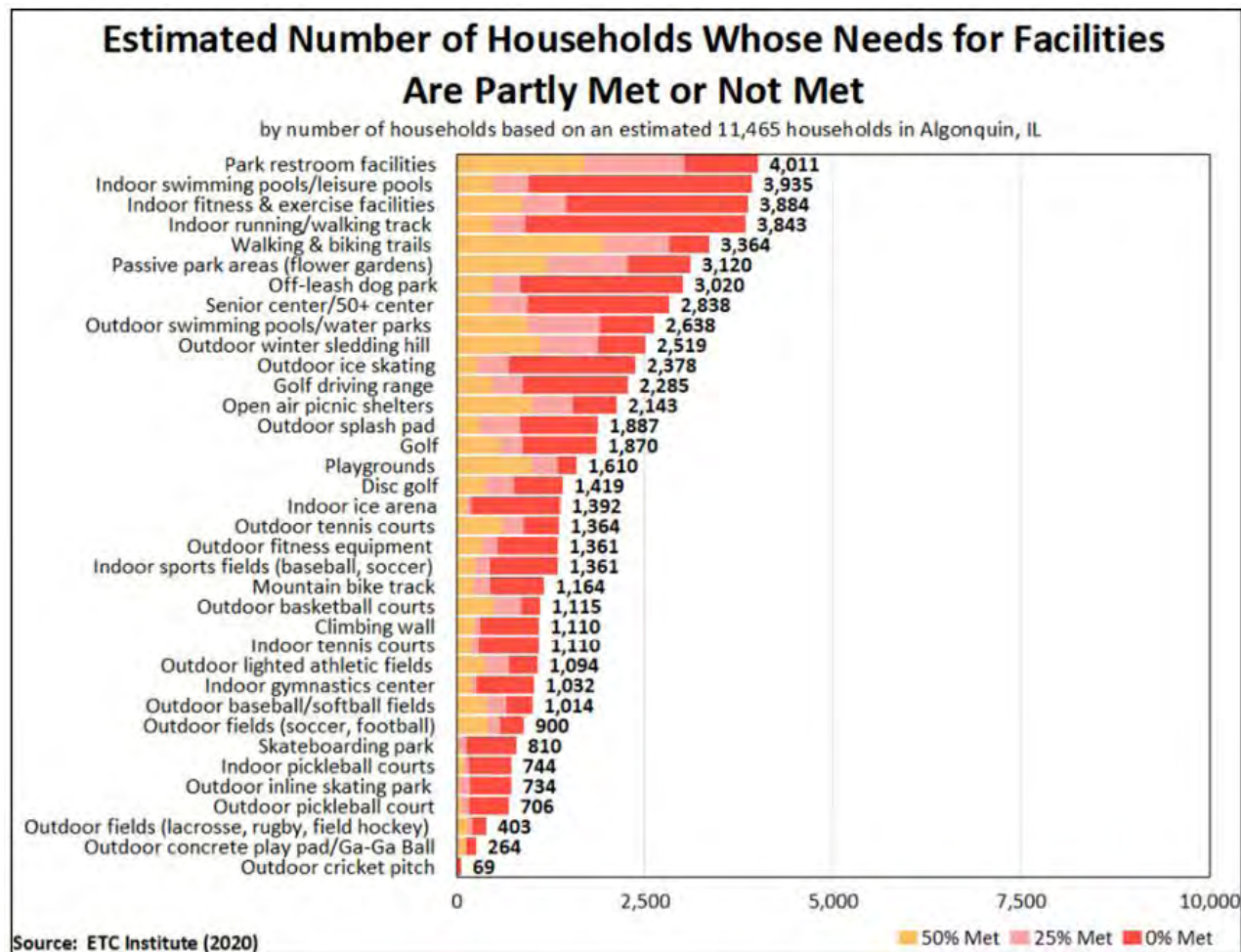
### Facility Needs:

Respondents were asked to identify if their household had a need for 36 facilities and rate how well their needs for each were currently being met. Based on this analysis, ETC Institute was able to estimate the number of households in the community that had the greatest “unmet” need for various facilities. The four facilities with the highest

percentage of households that have an unmet need were:

- park restroom facilities – 4,011 households (or 35%),
- indoor swimming pools/leisure pools – 3,935 households (or 34%),
- indoor fitness and exercise facilities – 3,884 households (or 34%), and
- indoor running/walking track – 3,843 households (or 34%).

The estimated number of households that have

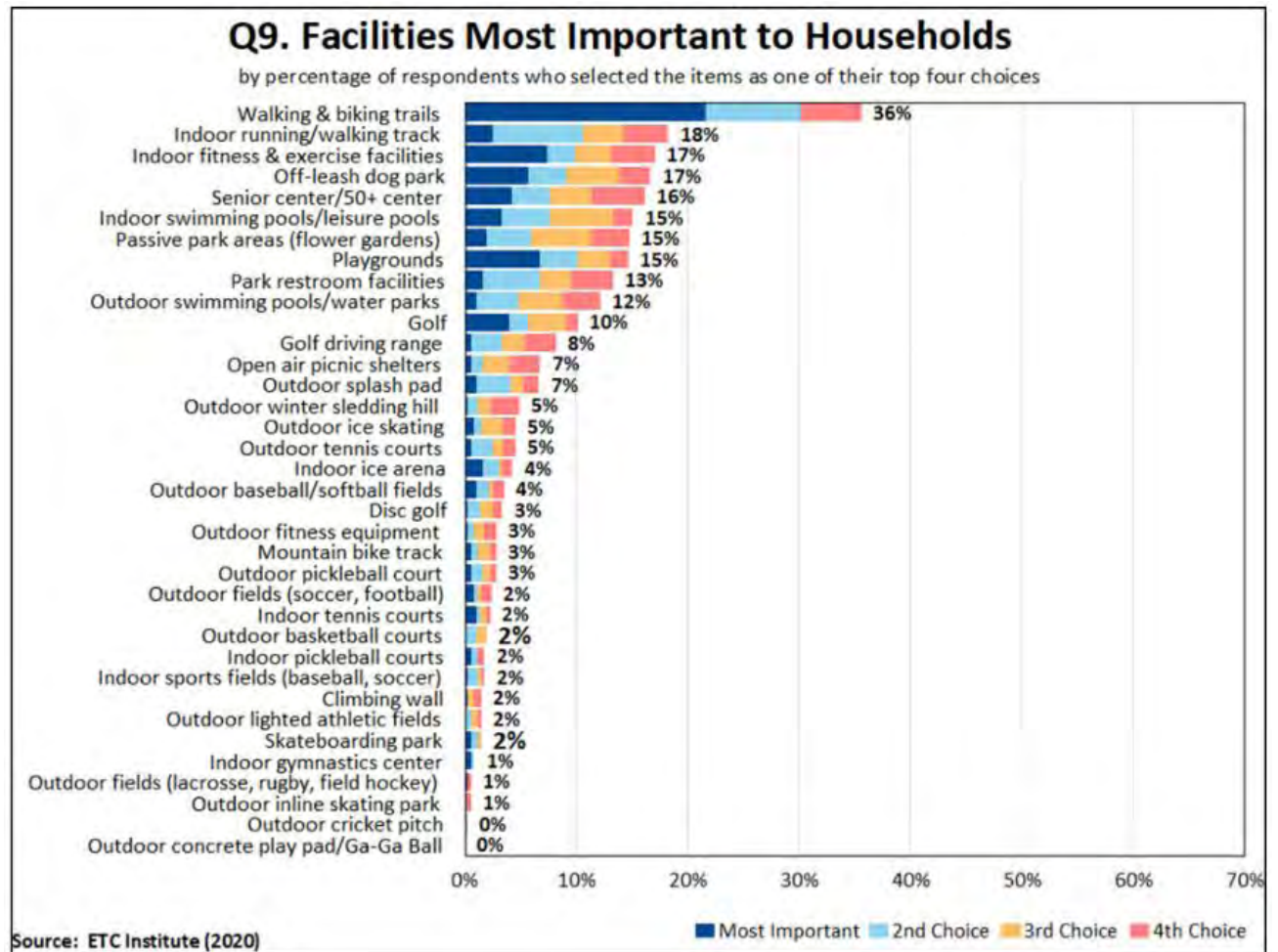


### Facility Importance:

In addition to assessing the needs for each facility, ETC Institute also assessed the importance that residents placed on each facility. Based on the sum of respondents' top four choices, the four most important facilities to residents were:

- walking and biking trail (36%),
- indoor running/walking track (18%),
- indoor fitness and exercise facilities (17%), and
- off-leash dog park (17%).

The percentage of residents who selected each facility as one of their top four choices is shown in the graph below.



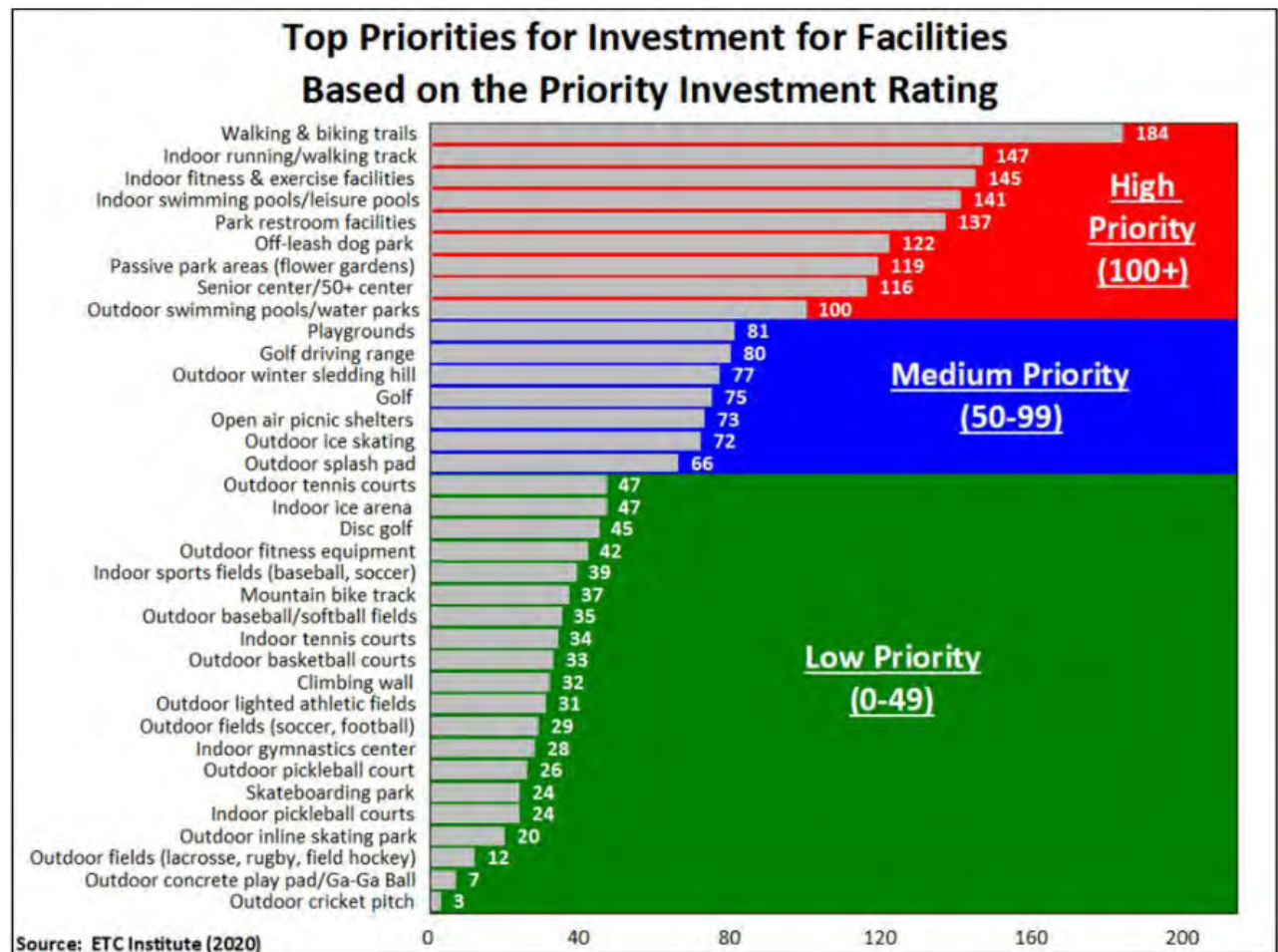
### Priorities for Facility Investments:

The Priority Investment Rating (PIR) was developed by ETC Institute to provide organizations with an objective tool for evaluating the priority that should be placed on Parks and Recreation investments. The Priority Investment Rating (PIR) equally weighs (1) the importance that residents place on amenity/program and (2) how many residents have unmet needs for the facility/program. [ Details regarding the methodology for this analysis are provided in Section 3 of this report.]

Based on the Priority Investment Rating (PIR), the following nine facilities were rated as high priorities for investment:

- Walking and biking trails (PIR=184)
- Indoor running/walking track (PIR=147)
- Indoor fitness and exercise facilities (PIR=145)
- Indoor swimming pools/leisure pools (PIR=141)
- Park restroom facilities (PIR=137)
- Off-leash dog park (PIR=122)
- Passive park areas (flower gardens) (PIR=119)
- Senior center/50+ center (PIR=116)
- Outdoor swimming pools/water parks (PIR=100)

The graph to the right shows the Priority Investment Rating for each of the 36 facilities that were rated.





## **Village Recreation Programs, Activities, and Facilities**

Participation. Fifteen percent (15%) of respondents indicated their household has participated in or used Village recreation programs, activities, or facilities during the past 12 months. Of those responding households; Village of Algonquin Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment: Final Findings (2020)

- 47% participated in 1 program/activity,
- 43% participated in 2 to 3 programs/activities, and
- 10% participated in 4 to 6 programs/activities.

Respondents were asked what were the primary reasons their household had chosen to participate in Village recreation programs/activities and the top responses were: location of the program facility (69%), fees charged for class (41%), and times program is offered (35%).

### **Ratings:**

Of the respondents that participated in Village programs/activities (15%) and who had an opinion of the quality of programs participated in;

- 33% rated the quality of programs participated in as "excellent,"
- 53% rated the quality of programs participated in as "good,"
- 12% rated the quality of programs participated in as "fair," and
- 2% rated the quality of programs participated in as "poor."

Method of Learning. The top methods that responding households indicated they have learned about programs and activities, offered by the Village, during the past 12 months, were: Village parks brochure (66%), direct mailings (39%), Village website (35%), and social media (19%). Most respondents (75%) indicated they learned about Village recreation programs and activities from Facebook.

## Program Needs and Priorities

### Program Needs:

Respondents were also asked to identify if their household had a need for 31 programs and rate how well their needs for each program were currently being met. Based on this analysis, ETC Institute was able to estimate the number of households in the community that had “unmet” needs for each program.

The four recreation programs with the highest percentage of households that have an unmet need were:

- adult fitness and wellness programs – 3,946 households (or 34%),
- outdoor fitness (running, walking) – 3,225 households (or 28%),
- senior programs (60+) – 2,976 households (or 26%), and
- community special events – 2,703 households (or 24%).

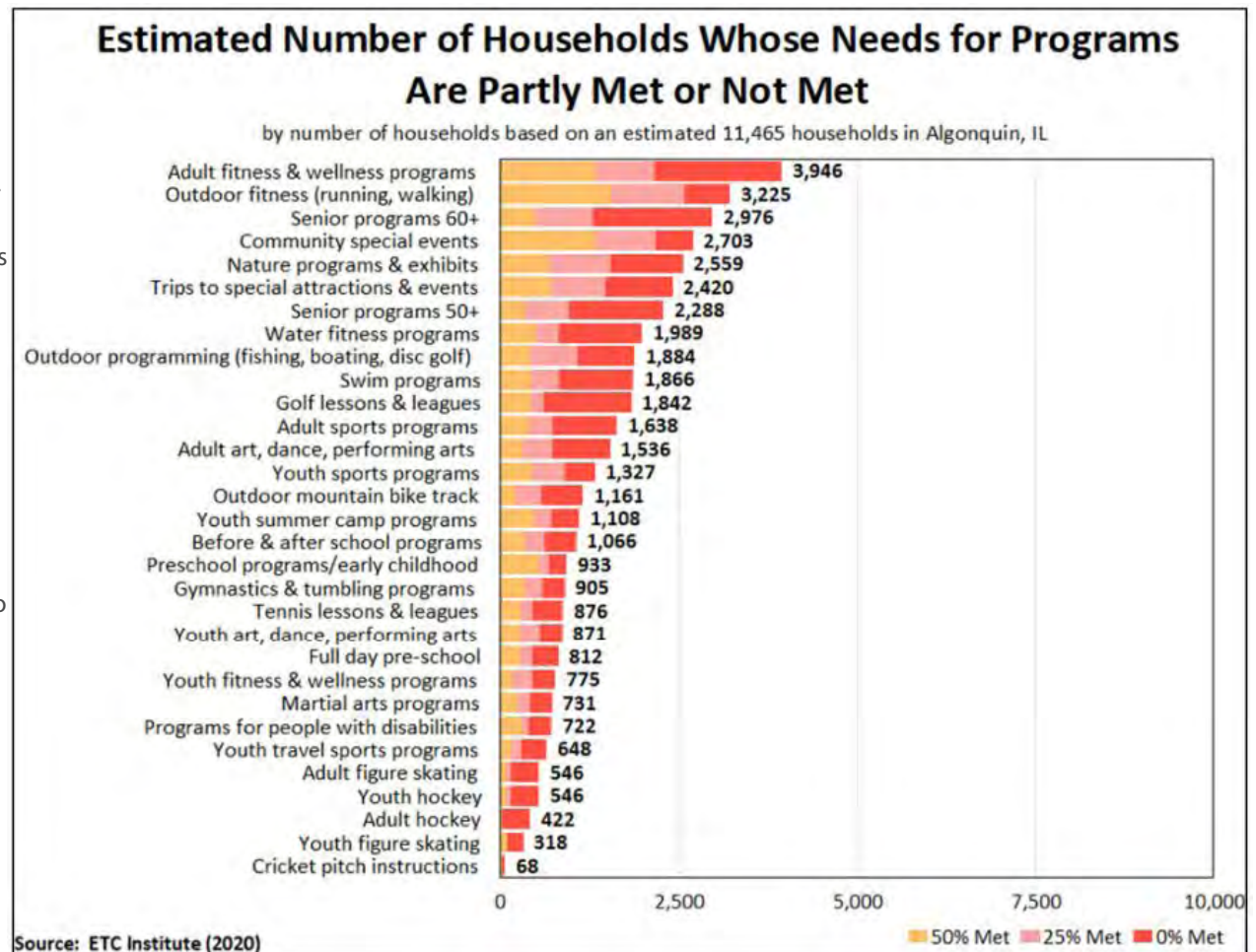
The estimated number of households that have unmet needs for each of the 31 programs that were assessed is shown in the chart on the right.

### Program Importance:

In addition to assessing the needs for each program, ETC Institute also assessed the importance that residents placed on each program. Based on the sum of respondents’ top four choices, the four most important programs to residents were:

- adult fitness and wellness programs (27%),
- outdoor fitness (25%),
- senior programs 60+ (19%), and
- community special events (15%).

The percentage of residents who selected each program as one of their top four choices is shown in the graph on the top of the next page.

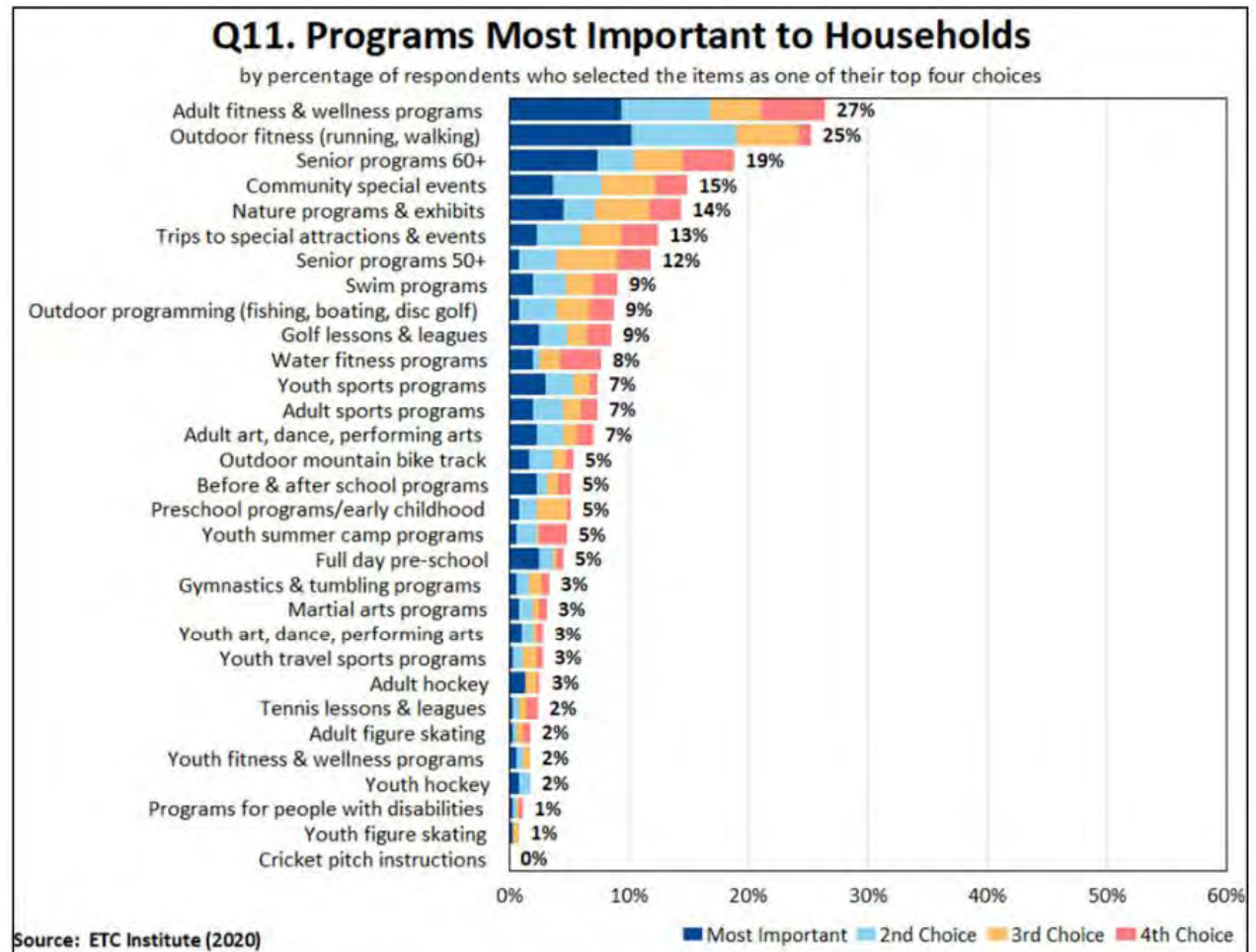


### Program Importance:

In addition to assessing the needs for each program, ETC Institute also assessed the importance that residents placed on each program. Based on the sum of respondents' top four choices, the four most important programs to residents were:

- adult fitness and wellness programs (27%),
- outdoor fitness (25%),
- senior programs 60+ (19%), and
- community special events (15%).

The percentage of residents who selected each program as one of their top four choices is shown in the graph below.

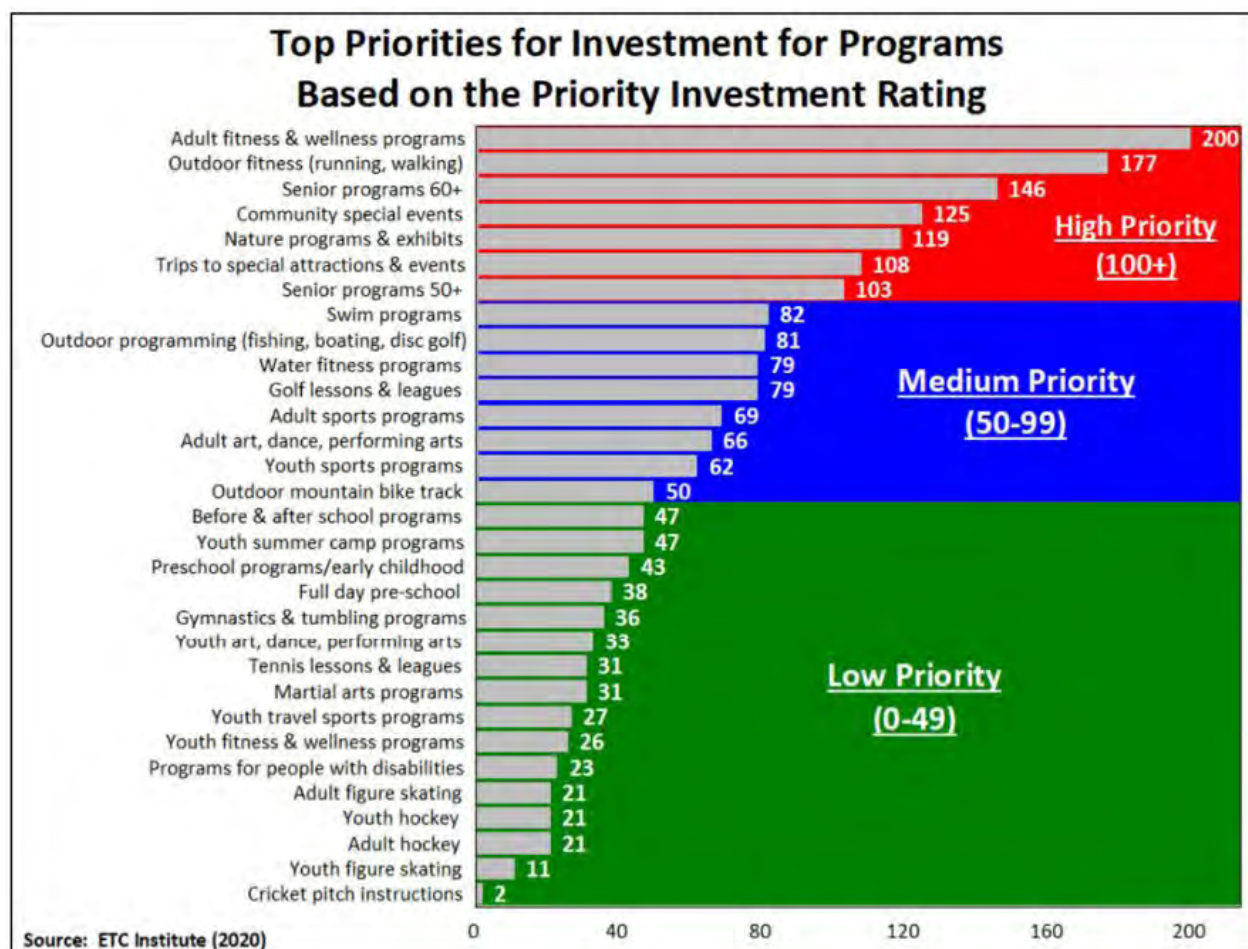


### Priorities for Program Investments:

Based on the priority investment rating (PIR), which was described briefly on Page iv of this Executive Summary and is described in more detail in Section 3 of this report, the following seven programs were rated as “high priorities” for investment:

- Adult fitness and wellness programs (PIR=200)
- Outdoor fitness (PIR=177)
- Senior programs 60+ (PIR=146)
- Community special events (PIR=125)
- Nature programs and exhibits (PIR=119)
- Trips to special attractions and events (PIR=108)
- Senior programs 50+ (PIR=103)

The chart to the right shows the Priority Investment Rating for each of the 31 programs that were rated.





## Additional Finding

**Improvements.** Respondents were asked how they would prioritize spending \$100 on potential Parks and Recreation improvements in the Village. Responding households indicated they would spend,

- \$20 on improvements/maintenance of existing parks and recreation facilities,
- \$20 on the development of walking and biking trails,
- \$17 on the development of new indoor programming spaces,
- \$10 on improvements and construction of new sports fields, and
- \$23 on other improvements.

## Conclusions

To ensure that the Village continues to meet the needs and expectations of the community, ETC Institute recommends that the Village of Algonquin sustain and/or improve the performance in areas that were identified as “high priorities” by the Priority Investment Rating (PIR). The facilities and programs with the highest PIR ratings are listed below.

### Facility Priorities:

- Walking and biking trails (PIR=184)
- Indoor running/walking track (PIR=147)
- Indoor fitness and exercise facilities (PIR=145)
- Indoor swimming pools/leisure pools (PIR=141)
- Park restroom facilities (PIR=137)
- Off-leash dog park (PIR=122)
- Passive park areas (PIR=119)
- Senior center/50+ center (PIR=116)
- Outdoor swimming pools/water parks (PIR=100)

### Program Priorities

- Adult fitness and wellness programs (PIR=200)
- Outdoor fitness (PIR=177)
- Senior programs 60+ (PIR=146)
- Community special events (PIR=125)
- Nature programs and exhibits (PIR=119)
- Trips to special attractions and events (PIR=108)
- Senior programs 50+ (PIR=103)

# COMMUNITY INPUT

The following summary is an overview of input received from the workshop completed by Village of Algonquin community members.

Twenty-three community members from the Village participated in the workshop held on March 4th, 2020. Participants were asked for suggestions for the parks and recreation direction over the next five years.

Participants were given a notecard and asked to write down all their comments and suggestions for the Village's future relating to parks, facilities, programs, and services. They then selected the four items most important to them and the HDG staff organized the responses into the following categories:

## Indoor Pool

- Need indoor pool (2)

## New Rec Center

- Real exercise facility
- Rec center (for classes)
- Recreation building
- Sports dome
- Build an indoor sports recreation center

## Update Parks and Pool

- Update pool
- Maintain existing parks / update
- Community input when re-doing parks
- More funding to fix park properties
- Make Towne park available by fixing flooding

## Expand / Improve Natural Areas

- More habitat restoration
- More natural areas
- Natural habitat
- Natural habitat restoration (natives)
- Habitat restoration
- Restore natural landscapes

## New Outdoor Opportunities

- Bandshell amphitheater
- Add an Algonquin version of Crystal Lake's
- Three Oaks Center
- Pond for fishing

## Create Dog Park

- Create a dog park
- Want dog park with multiple fenced areas
- Create a free dog park

## More & improved Trails

- More hiking trails
- Easier access to parks / trails
- Walking trails
- More passive bike trails
- Mountain bike trails (single track)

## Use the River / Boating

- Make use of river (Kayaking)
- River / lake access / Kayak / SUP (stand-up paddle boarding)

## Improve & Expand Programs

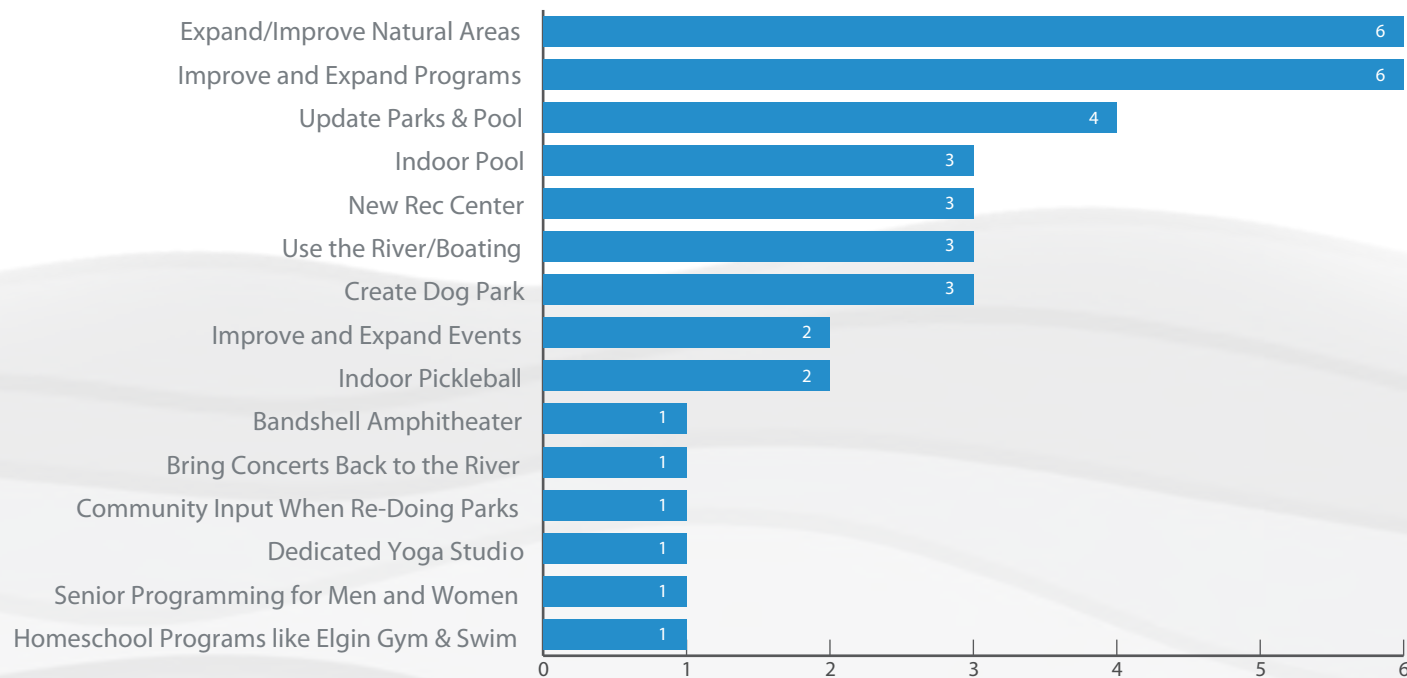
- Yoga classes
- Dedicated yoga studio
- Better coaches & instructors for children's camps
- indoor pickleball
- Active senior programs
- Senior programming for men and women
- Cooking classes
- Home school programs like Elgin Gym & Swim

## Improve & Expand Events

- Upgrade of bands at Founders' Day
- Founders' Day needs to be downtown
- Fun street festivals in downtown, live music
- More community events
- Bring concerts back to the river

After the categories were established, attendees were given four stickers to vote on the items most important to them. They could vote on a category or an item within it and could vote for the same thing multiple times

## Workshop Results



# STAKEHOLDER INPUT

The following summary is an overview of input received from the workshop completed by Village of Algonquin community members.

17 community members from 16 stakeholder groups participated in the stakeholder interviews held on August 19, 2020. The Planning Team conducted these interviews via online video conference with participants divided into four groups plus two make-up calls. Through facilitated conversation, the participants were asked the following questions:

Participants were asked for suggestions for the parks and recreation services direction over the next five years.

Participants were given a notecard and asked to write down all their comments and suggestions for the Village's future relating to parks, facilities, programs, and services. They then selected the four items most important to them and the HDG staff organized the responses into the following categories:

- Are you an Algonquin resident, how long have you lived in Algonquin or the surrounding area?
- How long have you visited and/or how often do you visit the Village Park and Recreation parks and facilities? What activities have you participated in?
- Which programs and events are you affiliated with or have you participated in?

- In comparing other recreation providers, what do you prefer about the VoA Park and Recreation services and what have you preferred at the other locations?
- In your experience working with the Parks and Recreation Departments, what has worked well? What are some areas that could be improved?
- If there is one thing that would make the VoA Parks and Recreation Departments better, what would it be?
- What resources are available to you and your organization? What else could be provided to improve the experience?
- What service facility or amenity gaps exist in the region?
- Based on today's discussion, what do you think are the top 1-3 priorities for the next five years?

Some questions were skipped or were not asked as participants provided answers earlier in the conversation or if they did not apply to the participants. The following results are a summary of all of the groups' responses, organized by category.



## Facilities

In general, stakeholders agreed that the Village's facilities are limited. Several stakeholders, including those who don't regularly use either location, commented that compared to other local agencies the Village does not have much space. The instructors who participated specifically commented that the lack of permanent space and equipment are reducing the programs' ability to attract younger participants and their ability as instructors to offer more classes.

## Pool Facility

Nearly every stakeholder group discussed the pool and its limitations commenting that it is small and doesn't offer the number of activities that other aquatic facilities have. The swimming affiliate specifically explained the challenges the facility presents for competition use. However, despite these issues, most of the stakeholders commented on how much they and other community members love the pool.

## Parks and Open Spaces

Several stakeholders commented that the Village does a good job taking care of its parks and open spaces with a few small exceptions but they are outdated and in need of modernization. Many stakeholders cited the general importance of maintaining outdoor areas, in part due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

A few stakeholders suggested specific improvements that could be added with trails being the most frequently mentioned. Stakeholders from different groups also mentioned some challenges with flooding at Riverfront and Towne parks. A few stakeholders also commented that adding power and water service to key parks like Spella, Towne, and Algonquin Lakes would help with special events and programming needs.

Regarding sports fields, the lack of football fields was noted by the affiliate football provider, noting that they have not played in Algonquin in several years. Other stakeholders observed that lacrosse seems to be growing in popularity and may need to be accommodated. Representatives from the swimming, soccer, and football groups all expressed interest in provided better sports fields and liked the idea of a sports complex with different types of fields and possible aquatics. Some of the representatives from the other local recreation providers also mentioned a sports complex, observing that it may be a gap in area services. A few stakeholders noted that in general, Algonquin does not have a big regional draw for recreation.

## Programs

While most of the interviews focused on the Village's physical offerings, a few comments were made regarding programming and events. One stakeholder suggested the Village look at fitness beyond physical health considering offering resources and tips for wellness and good health.

The Founders' Day event was mentioned by most of the stakeholders as something they participate in as individuals or with their organizations. There was some interest among stakeholders as to how this event will be restarted after the pandemic and if there might be opportunities to do more with this event.

## Algonquin Community

When discussing programs and user groups two categories came up among multiple groups: 55+ and senior programming, and activities for teens. One stakeholder specifically cited the increase of senior living in the Village but noted that there is not a senior center at this time.

Among the group of stakeholders from adjacent and overlapping communities, there was general agreement that residents living in the overlapping zones tend to disregard where they live and use both agencies' services interchangeably. The representative from NISRA noted that special recreation is the exception as the Village is not currently a member agency.

A few stakeholders commented on their observations that family and multi-general recreation have been on the rise. While some attribute this increase to the COVID-19 Pandemic, others observed that Algonquin has always been a good community for families and that historically, the most popular events have been for whole family participation.

## Operations

Participants in every user group stated that they are happy with their relationship with the Village and are highly satisfied with communication. In general, stakeholders acknowledged that as a recreation department, the Village operates differently than a park district.

A few stakeholders mentioned the perception in the community of recreation inequality on the east and west sides of the Fox River. This was brought up by other public service providers, but not by any other groups.

## Changing Trends

Because these interviews took place during the COVID-19 pandemic, stakeholders had a number of observations on how Algonquin residents are using recreation differently in-general and in regards to their specific organizations. Two common threads emerged from these discussions. First, nearly all participants commented that is that there is an increased need for flexibility. For facilities, stakeholders suggested strategies to partner with businesses and other private commercial locations to quickly add and divest indoor space to meet demand. Others suggested moving as many activities outside as possible. The second common observation was that outdoor space, in general, was noted to be in very high demand. Nearly every stakeholder agreed that the parks are busier than ever, especially the walking trails. A few also noted that in addition to whole families, children and teens are also choosing to be outside rather than looking at screens. Many stakeholders expect that some level of increased interest in the parks and outdoor spaces will remain after the pandemic passes.

A final factor of the pandemic observed was the shift to virtual programming. Most stakeholders noted that it was not as popular as expected and many users were uncomfortable with participating virtually. Some small success was seen with the most-at-risk populations who were unable or unwilling to participate in other ways, but not to the extent expected.







# STAFF INPUT

The following summary is an overview of input received from the workshop completed by Village of Algonquin staff members.

Sixteen staff members from the Village participated in the workshop held on August 19th, 2020. Participants were asked for suggestions for the parks and recreation direction over the next five years considering their professional roles in the Village as well as personal use of the Park amenities.

Participants were asked to write down all their comments and suggestions for the Park and Recreation team's future relating to parks, facilities, programs, and services. They then selected the two items most important to them and the HDG staff organized the responses into the following categories:

## Aquatics

- Splash pad at Towne Park
- Upgrade splash pad
- Water park with more attractions for guests
- Continue upgrades at pool

## Add Dog Park

- Dog park (3)
- Dog park not appropriate

## Upgrade Outdoor Space

- Modernize park and facilities
- Update Towne Park
- Update Towne Park
- Upgrade playground equipment

## Environmental Education

- Paths of discovery - info plaques along walking trails, river, wetlands, prairie, etc.
- More trail markers on our trails
- Wildlife viewing tower in conservation area
- Increased utilization of passive recreation opportunities

## Winter Activities

- Winter outdoor ice rink
- Sledding hill

## New Park Amenities

- Concrete ping pong tables
- Batting cages
- Built in cornhole boards
- Skate park for teens
- Bandshell
- Outdoor movie area

## Fishing

- Fishing ponds / docks
- Stocked fishing areas

## New Programs / Activities

- Painting in the park
- Fun science or craft "how-to" videos
- Creative ideas for teens / young adults
- Video game competitions

## New Indoor Spaces

- Shared indoor space (partners)

- Community center with preschool / senior-specific rooms
- Indoor sports / gym complex
- Recreation building with indoor track over gymnasium

## Funding Prioritization

- Funding for parks maintenance - improvements and safety

## Public Safety

- At least one light pole in larger parks
- Emergency call button in larger parks

## Food Trucks

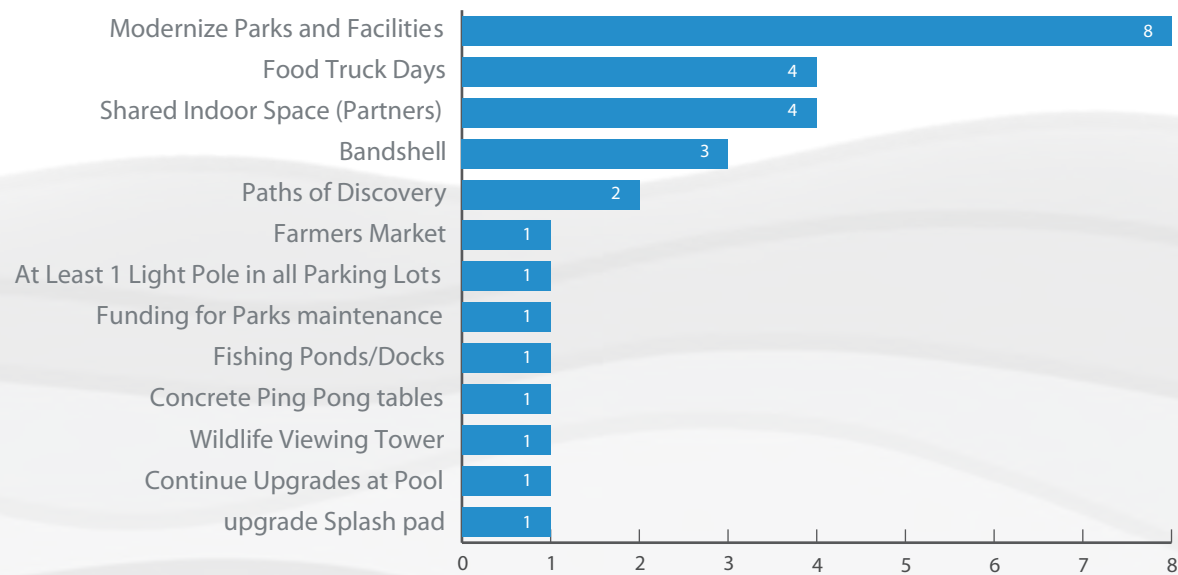
- Food truck days
- Food truck area
- Food trucks during town events or concessions at parks like Cornish Park on busy weekends

## New Events

- Farmers Market on certain weekends
- After the categories were established, attendees were given 2 dots to vote on the items most important to them. They could vote on a category or an item within it and could vote for the same thing multiple times. Items that did not receive any votes are not included below.



## Workshop Results



# BOARD INPUT

The following summary is an overview of input received from the workshop completed by the Village of Algonquin Board

The Acting Village President as well as five Trustees attended a meeting on October 6th, 2020 to provide suggestions for the Village's direction over the next ten years. Participants were asked to approach the question from their perspectives as residents and users of the parks and recreation amenities and as elected officials or volunteers.

Board members were asked what the Village of Algonquin Park and Recreation Departments should focus on for the next 5-10 years and to write down all of their ideas. The participants participated in a brainstorming exercise where they were asked different questions to help generate ideas. They then selected the two ideas most important to them and the HDG staff organized the responses into the following categories. At the end of the categorization exercise, the participants were given to opportunity to add ideas that had not been represented.

## Expand Programming

- More Programs for Seniors (2)
- Increase the number of community events
- Senior programming
- Programming for all ages
- Develop more outdoor programs (fewer rentals)

## Communications

- Improve communications amongst the different Village Departments / Partner Agencies
- Improve awareness of offerings
- Maximize relationships with outside groups

## Park Improvements

- Upgrading and modernizing park equipment and facilities
- Upgrading / modernizing park equipment and facilities
- Upgrade park equipment
- Bandshell for concerts
- Consider dog park
- Make parks more ADA capable
- Minimize vandalization
- Vandalism issue

## Lions Memorial Pool

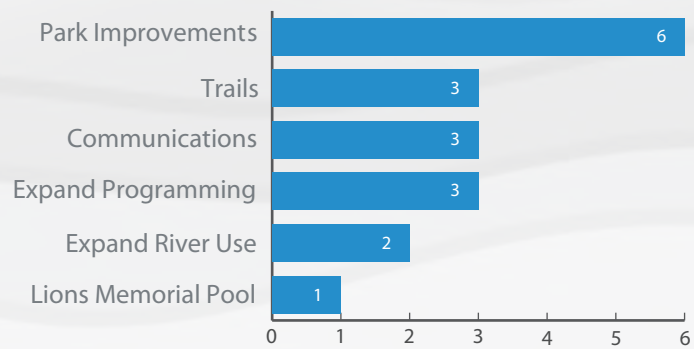
- Evaluate pool's long-term potential

## Expand River Use

- Focus on recreational / natural opportunities for river (programming)
- More programming / facilities on the river
- River as a resource (use of kayaks)

After the categories were established, attendees were given 2 dots to vote on the items most important to them. They could vote on a category or an item within it and could vote for the same thing multiple times. Attendees were then given one additional dot and asked to vote on one more category or item that they had not previously voted for. Items that did not receive any votes are not included below.

## Workshop Results

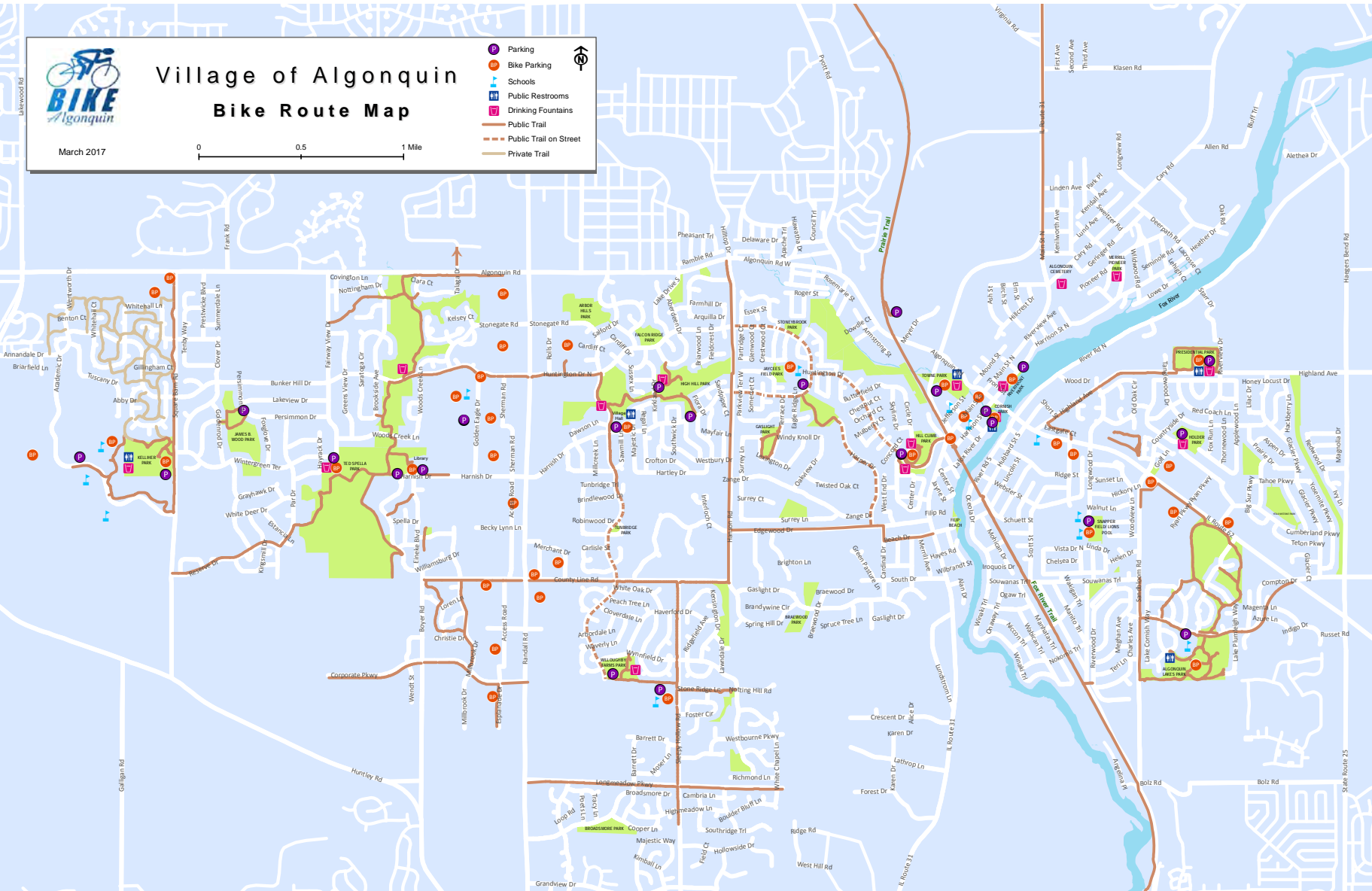


The background of the slide is a photograph of a park. A paved path leads from the bottom left towards the center. On the left, there is a black lamppost with a warm light. In the background, a gazebo with a blue roof is visible. The scene is surrounded by green trees and grass. Overlaid on this image are several semi-transparent blue circles of varying sizes.

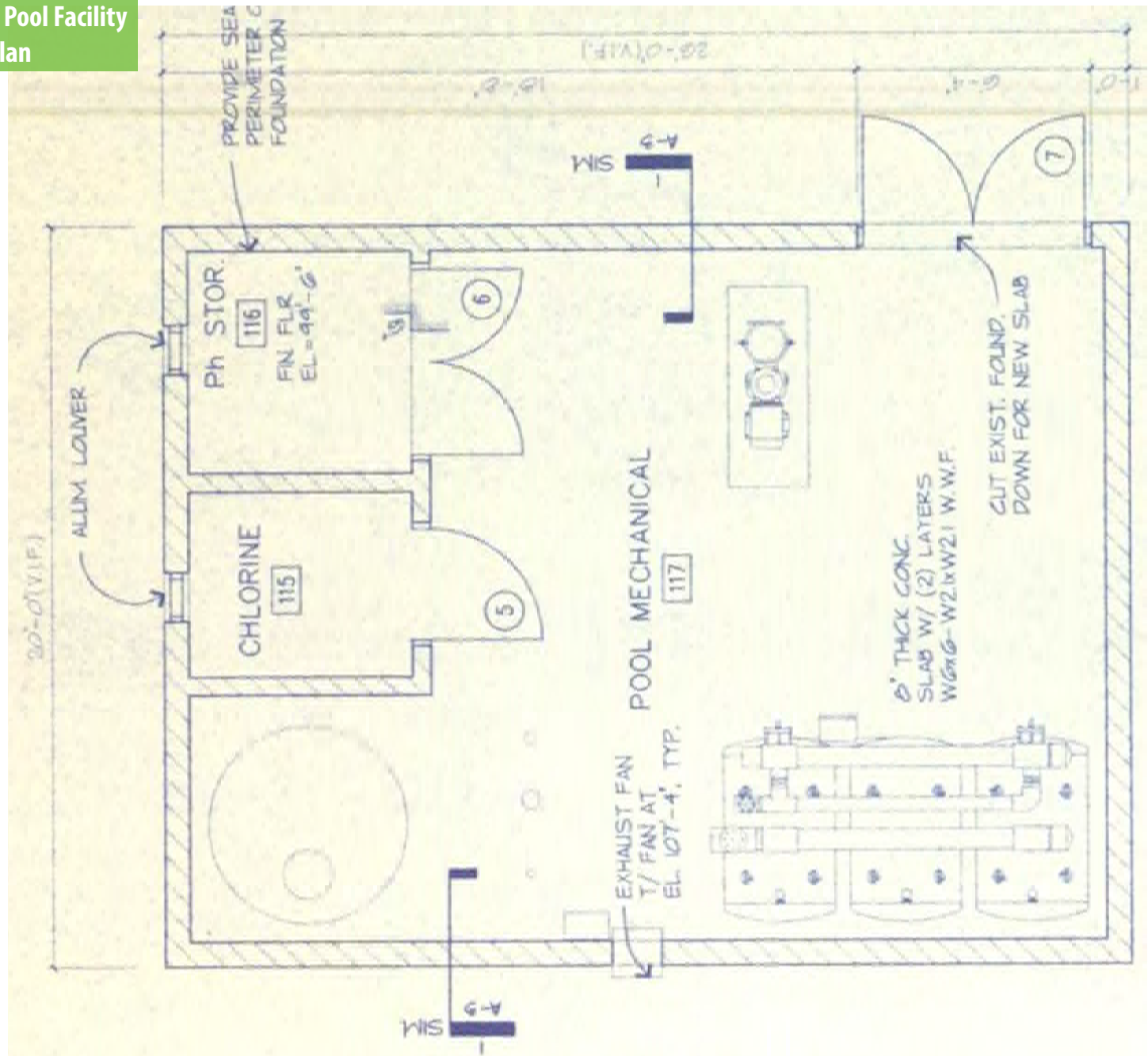
## Chapter Five

# Appendix



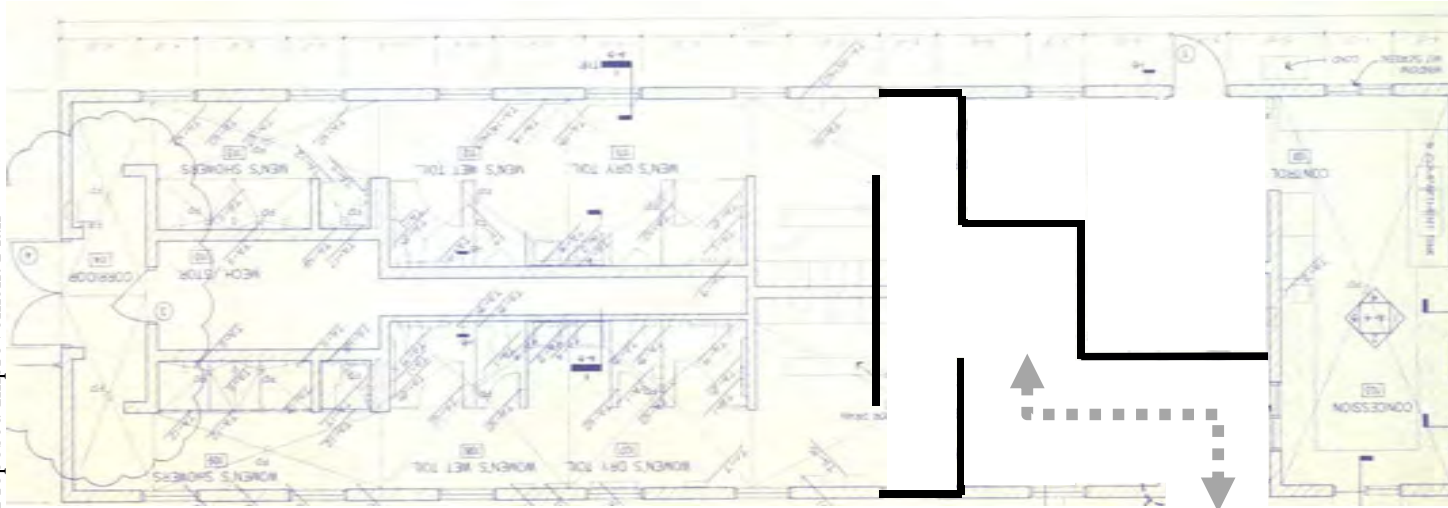


# Lions Armstrong Memorial Pool Facility Plans - Filter House Floor Plan

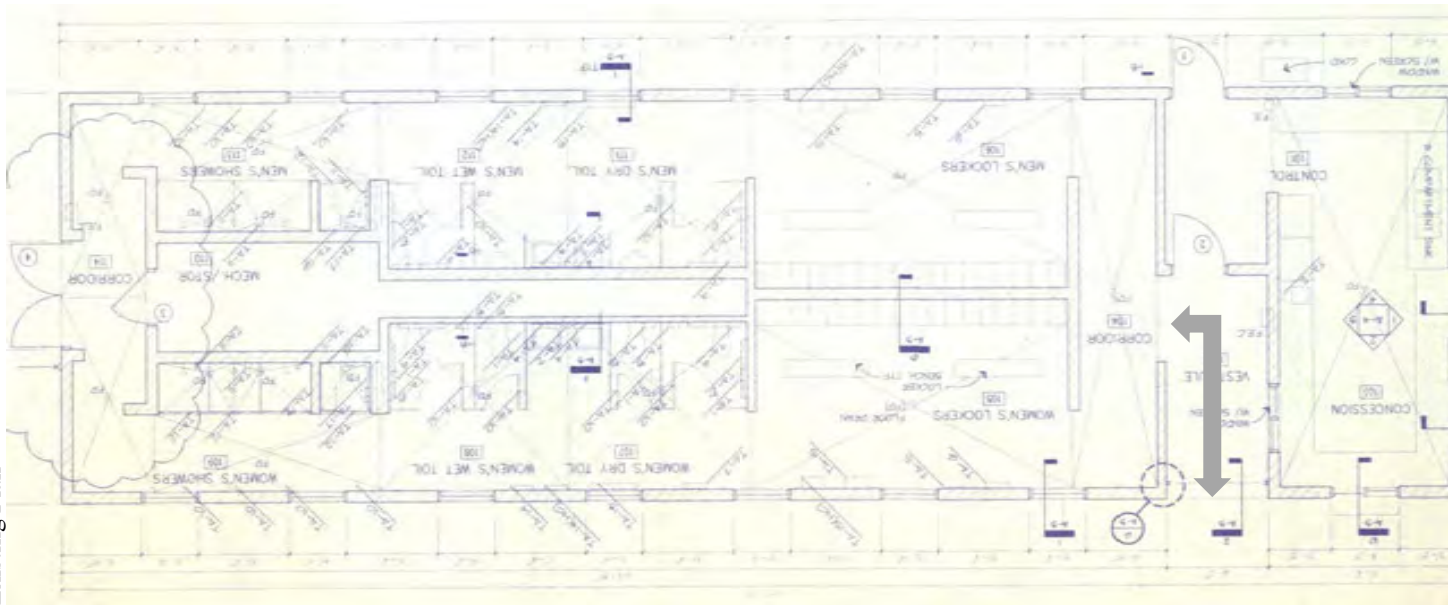


**Bath House/Concessions/Guard Office /First Aid Floor Plan**  
Men: 4 showers | 2 lavs | 2 toilets + Women: 4 showers | 2 lavs | 4 toilets

Proposed Improvement Plan

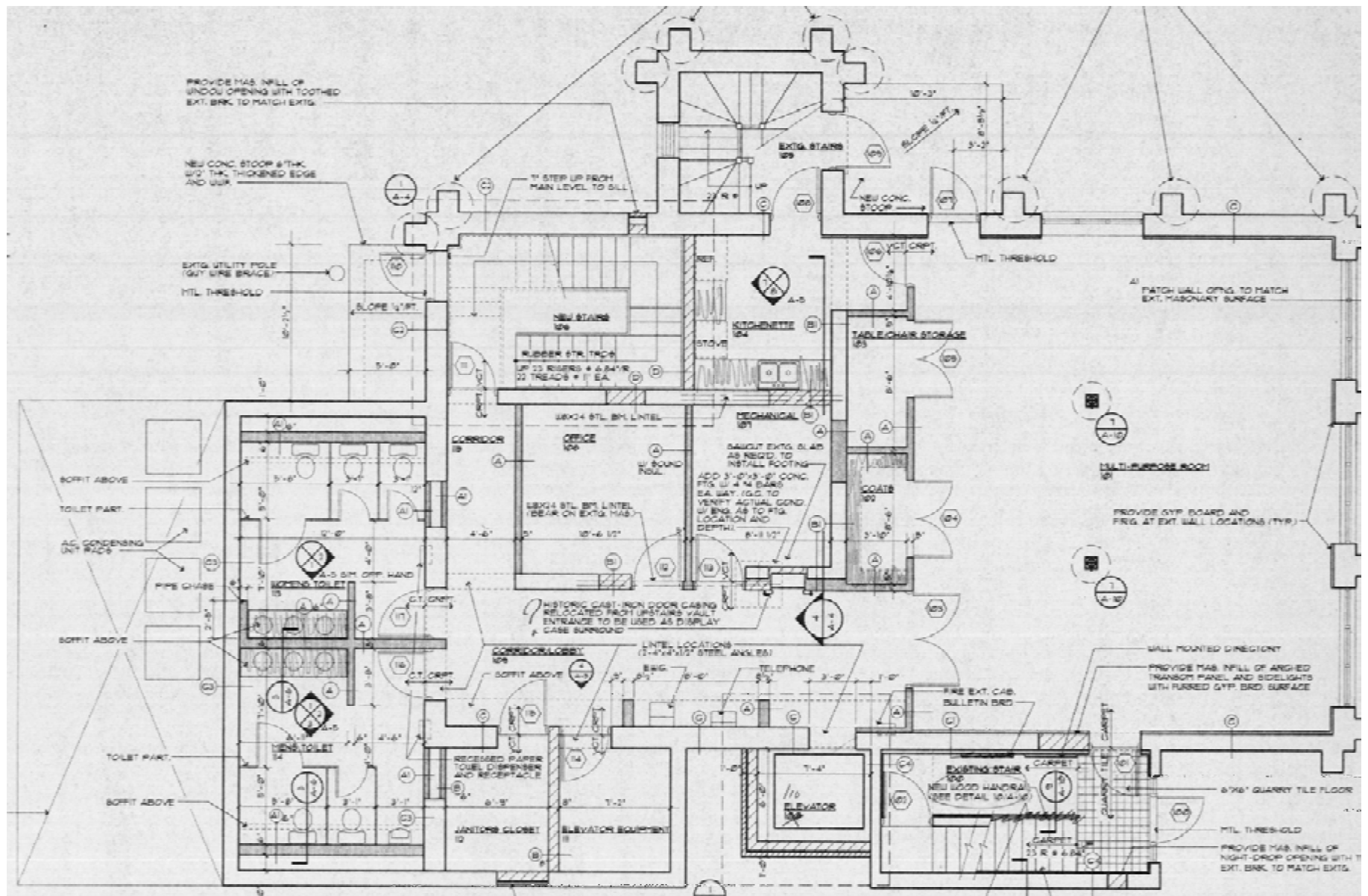


Existing Plan



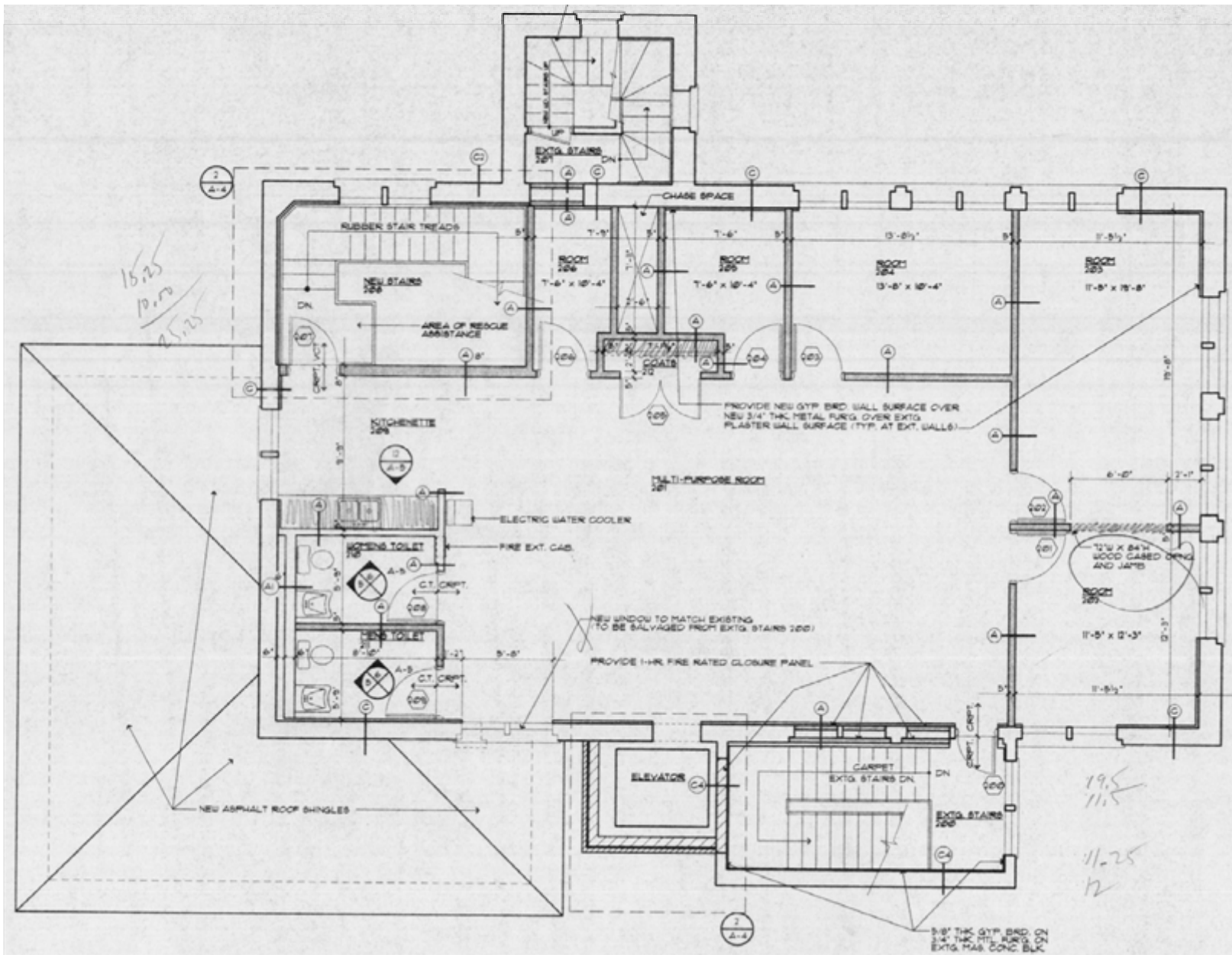


## Historic Village Hall Facility Plans - First Floor Plan

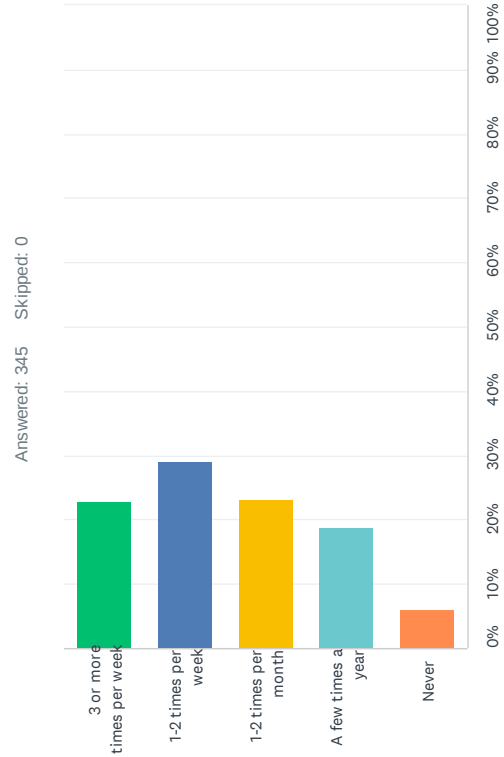




# Historic Village Hall Facility Plans - Second Floor Plan

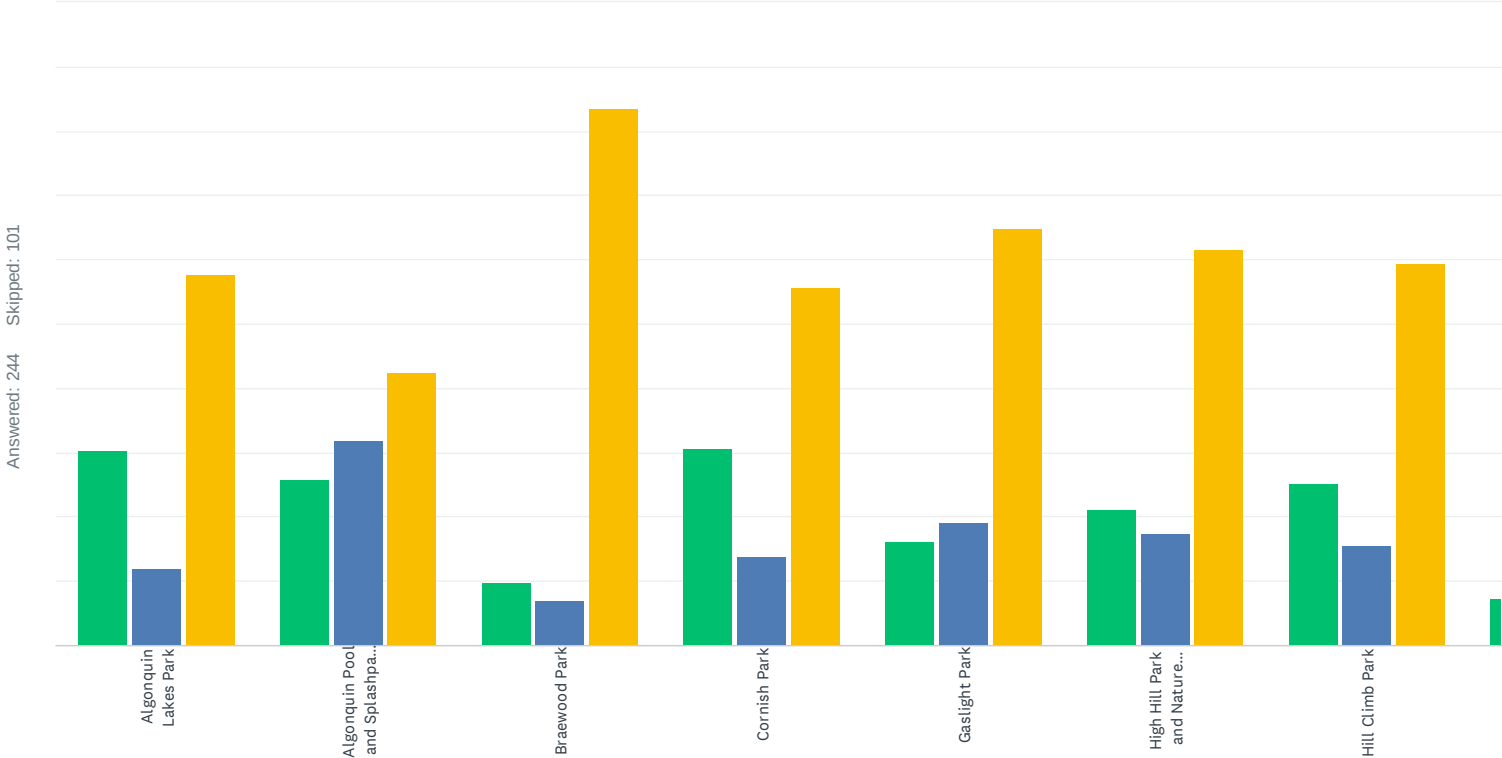


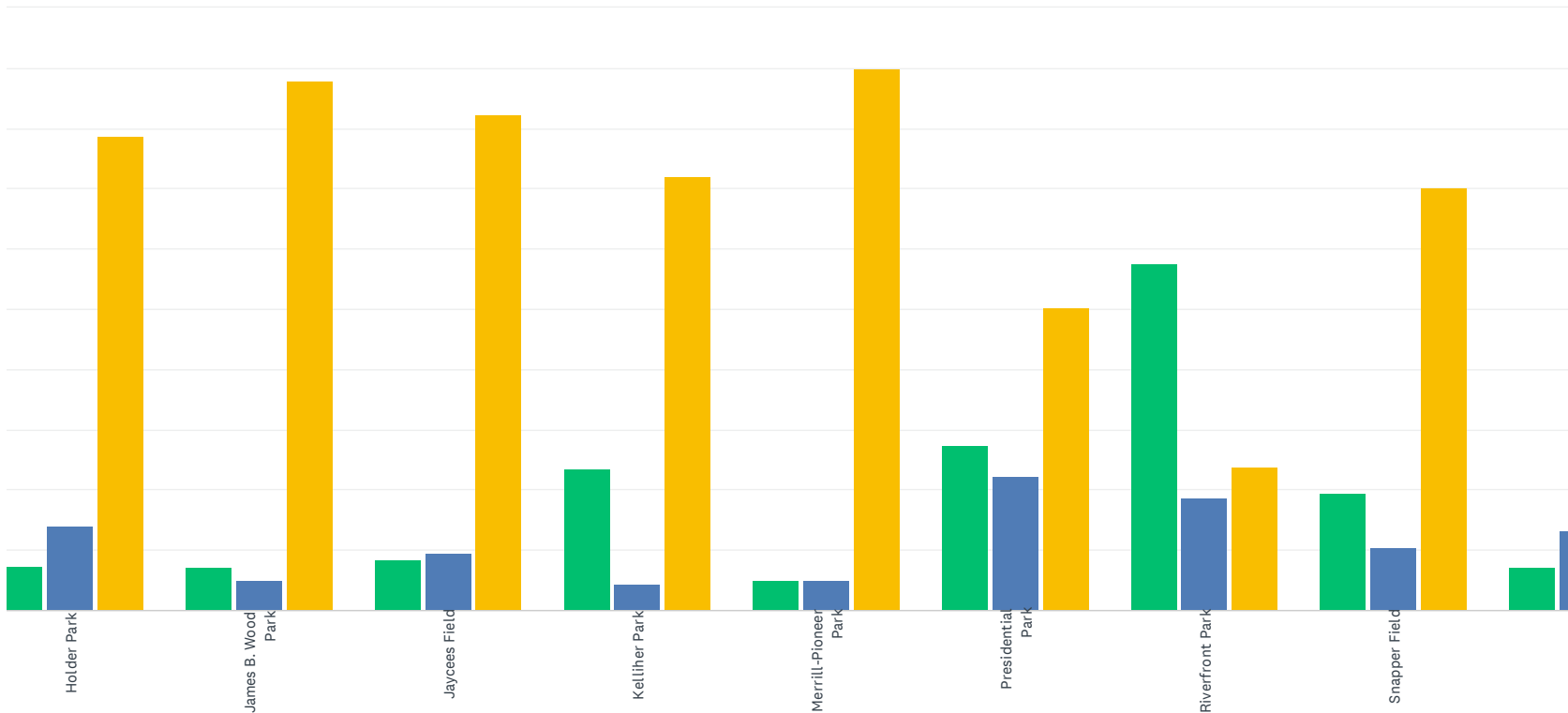
Q1 About how many times have you or members of your household visited Village of Algonquin park or facility within the past 12 months? (Pick one)



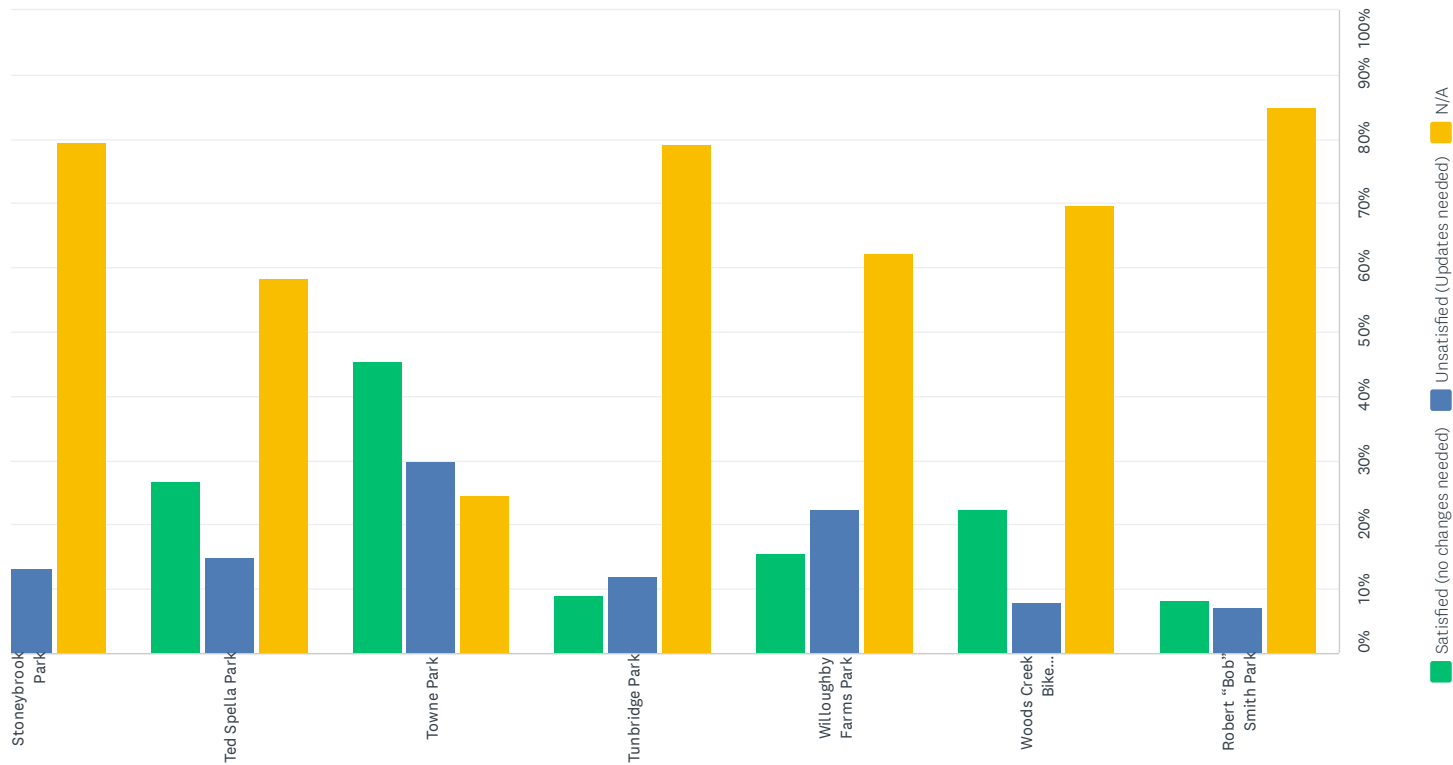
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
3 or more times per week	79
1-2 times per week	100
1-2 times per month	80
A few times a year	65
Never	21
TOTAL	345

Q2 Of the Village of Algonquin parks that you or your family have visited in the last 12 months, how satisfied were you with each? Please select N/A or skip the parks you and your family have not visited



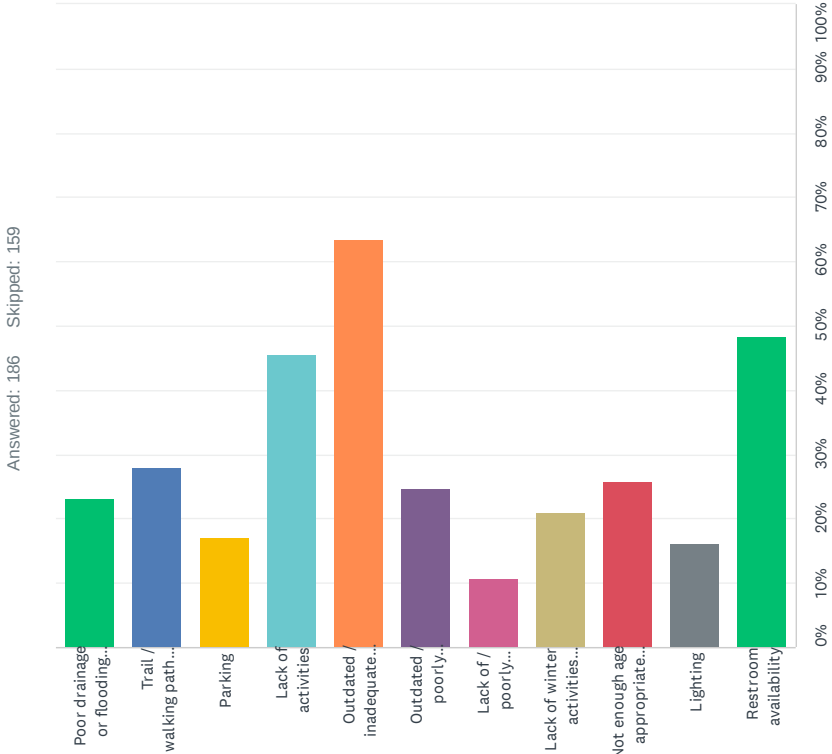






	SATISFIED (NO CHANGES NEEDED)	UNSATISFIED (UPDATES NEEDED)	N/A	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Algonquin Lakes Park	30.33% 64	11.85% 25	57.82% 122	211	1.28
Algonquin Pool and Splashpad (Lions Memorial Pool)	25.81% 56	31.80% 69	42.40% 92	217	1.55
Braewood Park	9.76% 20	6.83% 14	83.41% 171	205	1.41
Comish Park	30.48% 64	13.81% 29	55.71% 117	210	1.31
Gaslight Park	16.10% 33	19.02% 39	64.88% 133	205	1.54
High Hill Park and Nature Preserve	21.15% 44	17.31% 36	61.54% 128	208	1.45
Hill Climb Park	25.12% 52	15.46% 32	59.42% 123	207	1.38
Holder Park	7.25% 15	14.01% 29	78.74% 163	207	1.66
James B. Wood Park	7.04% 14	5.03% 10	87.94% 175	199	1.42
Jaycees Field	8.42% 17	9.41% 19	82.18% 166	202	1.53
Kelliher Park	23.53% 48	4.41% 9	72.06% 147	204	1.16
Merrill-Pioneer Park	5.03% 10	5.03% 10	89.95% 179	199	1.50
Presidential Park	27.49% 58	22.27% 47	50.24% 106	211	1.45
Riverfront Park	57.48% 123	18.69% 40	23.83% 51	214	1.25
Snapper Field	19.40% 39	10.45% 21	70.15% 141	201	1.35
Stoneybrook Park	7.14% 14	13.27% 26	79.59% 156	196	1.65
Ted Spella Park	26.73% 54	14.85% 30	58.42% 118	202	1.36
Towne Park	45.45% 100	30.00% 66	24.55% 54	220	1.40
Tunbridge Park	9.00% 18	12.00% 24	79.00% 158	200	1.57
Willoughby Farms Park	15.53% 32	22.33% 46	62.14% 128	206	1.59
Woods Creek Bike Path/Nature Area	22.39% 45	7.96% 16	69.65% 140	201	1.26
Robert "Bob" Smith Park	8.08% 16	7.07% 14	84.85% 168	198	1.47

Q3 If you selected “Unsatisfied” for one or more park you’ve visited, what do you feel needs improvement? (Select all that apply.)



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Poor drainage or flooding issues	23.12% 43
Trail / walking path conditions or availability	27.96% 52
Parking	17.20% 32
Lack of activities	45.70% 85
Outdated / inadequate facilities	63.44% 118
Outdated / poorly configured fields	24.73% 46
Lack of / poorly configured courts	10.75% 20
Lack of winter activities (e.g. sledding, cross country skiing, etc.)	20.97% 39
Not enough age appropriate activities	25.81% 48
Lighting	16.13% 30
Restroom availability	48.39% 90
Total Respondents: 186	

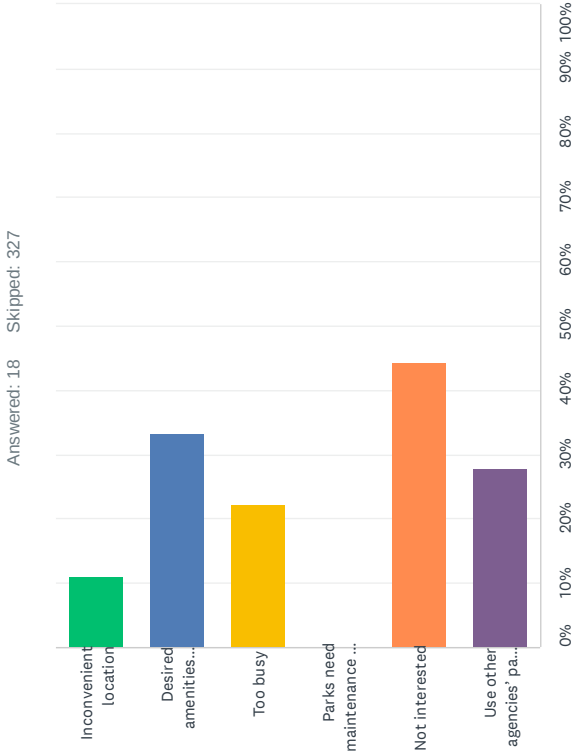
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Landscaping needs improvement	9/5/2020 11:16 AM
2	Broken/run-down/rusted equipment. Playgrounds are too small	9/1/2020 12:38 PM
3	Once the construction is completed we need to bring the Thursday night bands Back	9/1/2020 12:32 PM
4	baseball field could use a little upkeep. We would love to see the tennis courts open again after the pandemic. We would love to see some sort of restroom, especially if local baseball teams will be practicing there.	9/1/2020 11:42 AM
5	More swings for elementary kids!	8/28/2020 12:07 AM
6	Less slides n swings for kids. Gets crowded	8/26/2020 6:04 PM
7	When Spelia park had a concept map drawn up years ago, we have not gotten what it showed we would have, and that is 25 years ago. How about adding a stage for music performances, picnic facilities, and more.	8/26/2020 4:48 PM
8	The parking lot and entrance need to be properly paved, not just gravel.	8/26/2020 4:06 PM
9	The pool could use updated locker rooms. I don't see many people use the lockers at all. My kids swim for Trails so I am walking through the locker room all the time. My recommendation would be to take out some of the lockers and put in some changing rooms. That way people will stop using the bathroom stalls to change if they need privacy.	8/19/2020 5:47 PM
10	It would be nice if the swimming pool was bigger and it had a water slide.	8/17/2020 12:29 AM
11	Too much and for too long construction equipment remains, the park has sadly become a storage site that has been left unkempt far too long, very poor planning use of this site.	8/10/2020 6:53 PM
12	There are wasps everywhere! Kids keep getting stung playing on the equipment. The wood chips are also pretty old and there is no sand left in the toy excavator pit. You have one BIG fan of excavators who really wishes he could dig there. :)	8/9/2020 11:32 AM
13	Maintenance at Willoughby park needs improvement.. Too many weeds. Basketball court is a hang out for questionable folks...	8/3/2020 9:32 AM
14	I would love to see these parks used more. But I know for a fact that teams move out of the Algonquin recreation sports facilities because the fields are in such bad shape at some of these parks. My daughter's team moved to Carrie simply becausee presidential field was inadequate and had better facilities.	8/3/2020 7:55 AM
15	Playground equipment needs repairs/Updating/replacing	8/2/2020 9:08 PM
16	Install a public pool on this side of river. This is a real lack over here.	8/2/2020 4:10 PM
17	Picnic tables are needed. Want to get back to the days when you pack a lunch and play at the park. Bolt the tables down and let people enjoy!	8/2/2020 7:09 AM
18	Trees!! At some parks.	8/1/2020 5:24 PM
19	To many tall weeds and grass and bugs.	8/1/2020 3:12 PM
20	Unkept grounds with lots of weeds	7/31/2020 10:53 PM
21	The sand box area had a LOT of flying insects hovering over. Not familiar with the type but maybe some type of bee or wasp?	7/31/2020 9:59 PM
22	Lions pool is especially outdated. Why don't you look at the Huntley parks and get a clue..	7/31/2020 5:11 PM
23	Too far from town	7/31/2020 4:57 PM
24	We LOVE the park in West Dundee especially now with our toddler. They have an awesome splash pad, the park and equipment is well maintained, great tennis courts and soccer fields. Willoughby Farms park is in desperate need of an update. We were very appreciative they finally cut the weeds (they were left all over the park but they were at least cut). The tennis courts have also been closed for several weeks with no reasoning posted.	7/31/2020 3:48 PM
25	Need some ice skating rinks	7/31/2020 3:40 PM
26	faded or scratched out signage	7/31/2020 3:07 PM
27	Very unsafe access from Tunbridge Tril/Robinwood- cars go Very Fast on Stonegate and it's hard to see them! There should be speed bumps or lights for pedestrians!	7/31/2020 2:27 PM
28	regular maintenance	7/31/2020 9:52 AM
29	The park by Neubert Elementary is in bad shape. The PTO is looking into funding a new playground. However many people in the community use this park. The village should help in funding this	5/6/2020 11:29 AM
30	Also, The pool needs to be on social media communicating closings and possible closings ( due to weather and or low bathwater turn out) Loading your little kids up into the car with their pool stuff to drive to the pool and find out it was closed....Is frigg'n maddening.	4/22/2020 5:16 PM



31	Hill Climb Park - While my kids have thoroughly enjoyed the playground equipment and different stations (the fire truck, train, etc.) they are getting a bit dated. Suggest a larger, more "thorough" playground equipment. Replan the space to include a splash pad and some type of restroom, whether permanent or temporary (seasonal porta-pottie). Lighting all around the path for those early morning or night dog walks, especially during winter. Refurbishment of the placards that tell the story of the Algonquin Hill Climb races, not sure what the gazebo here is used for other than a place to stand while waiting for the rain to stop, but maybe make it more functional with a picnic table or something. The seating area at the far end of the park (by the train) that my guess was supposed to look over the downtown area and the Fox River is way overgrown and neither are visible except when all the leaves are off the trees. Suggest clearing the area out and put some type of raised seating platform to enjoy this really beautiful but sorely underutilized vantage point of the village/river. Look to Kaper Park in Cary as an example of what could be. For the park on the west side of Huntington, I rarely see it being used. Maybe instead of the playground equipment put in fitness stations, a dog play area, or maybe a couple of tennis courts?	4/22/2020 4:45 PM
32	Playground update for High Hill Park, please!!!	4/22/2020 3:55 PM
33	Locker and bathroom facility at the pool	3/30/2020 6:19 PM
34	Litter, dog poop, muddy parking (I know this is supposed to be fixed at Spella), photos on the monuments at Hill Climb need to be refurbished (I'm told this will be done). It would be nice if the two paths at Spella could be connected to create one full loop.	3/17/2020 9:10 PM
35	Village Made the Park smaller with all the natural grasses. Natural grasses need to be removed and then replanted in a smaller configuration	3/10/2020 5:23 PM
36	More plantings - especially natives	3/9/2020 6:06 PM
37	Dog poop problem at all parks	3/9/2020 1:34 PM
38	Algonquin Lakes could use more picnic shade area, Cornish could use more shade areas, riverfront could use the concert area turned to one side so such a small area for people to view concert, town park needs updated playground-I know this is a favorite but also other options.	3/9/2020 8:26 AM
39	Need more native plantings	3/7/2020 4:33 PM
40	The base anchors are sticking out of the ground, home plate isn't buried and the bleachers are terrible.	3/7/2020 11:12 AM
41	The pool could be expanded to include water slides and a play structure in the water. Parking has obviously been a problem forever, with summer school coinciding with swimming lessons and the safety of the swimmers being compromised- having to cross into the parking lot at arms because of buses at eastview. Regular cleaning and maintenance is lacking at pool and music would be a great and simple addition.	3/7/2020 8:55 AM
42	More Swings at Spella Park. More parking at Spella Park. Cornish Park needs shade. The slides bounce the kids around. No bathrooms at Spella Park.	3/5/2020 10:05 PM
43	You took away the beautiful walkway around the pond at the James B. woods park by my house. It cut the park in half and took away from the beauty of it. We built our house and have lived her almost 23 years. Also the walkway around the park and field is in disrepair and areas flood all the time. This was never fixed correctly. Also woods creek walkways are in disrepair and are not kept up. Please fix these. Replace the walkway. Has I known this wS in the works, I would have been first at board meetings. Very disappointing. Also, why have you wasted our taxpayer funds on those stupid bricks at fairway and bunker hill. They have to be constantly fixed. They should be removed and replaced with concrete.	3/5/2020 9:26 PM
44	Needs more space and seating during summer	3/5/2020 8:51 PM
45	Willoughby Farms Park is by far the most outdated park within 10miles. It is a swing set at best and with the land available could be amazing	3/5/2020 4:55 PM
46	Garbage cans	3/5/2020 4:36 PM
47	We need piers to park boats so boaters can enjoy the parks and downtown area.	3/5/2020 12:51 PM
48	Needs more Shade/Picnic Shelters/ Garbage Cans/ Water Fountains	3/5/2020 11:19 AM
49	Pool needs to be heated especially for children's lesson in early summer.	3/5/2020 11:14 AM
50	too expensive and on the East side	3/5/2020 9:59 AM
51	The one in tin ridge is just an open space who wants that	3/3/2020 7:58 PM
52	Cars park near the basketball court after dark and there may be related suspicious activity.	3/3/2020 12:44 PM
53	Add mileage stakes on walking paths	3/3/2020 7:50 AM
54	Founders day needs to be in an appropriate location for fireworks and all events. No one can see the fireworks on the river with all the trees. The park west of Randall rd by the library is not a park. It's a vacant lot and not appealing for founders day event. one nice location for all events would be ideal.	3/2/2020 10:13 PM

55	More seating in appropriate areas of parks	3/2/2020 7:06 PM
56	Pool - no family restrooms.	3/2/2020 5:28 PM
57	Buildings are rotting and need to be replaced at many locations. Some facilities need updating/redo; old and tired.	3/2/2020 5:23 PM
58	Flooding issues should be fixed so Towns Park can be used more i.e. Founders	2/29/2020 5:58 PM

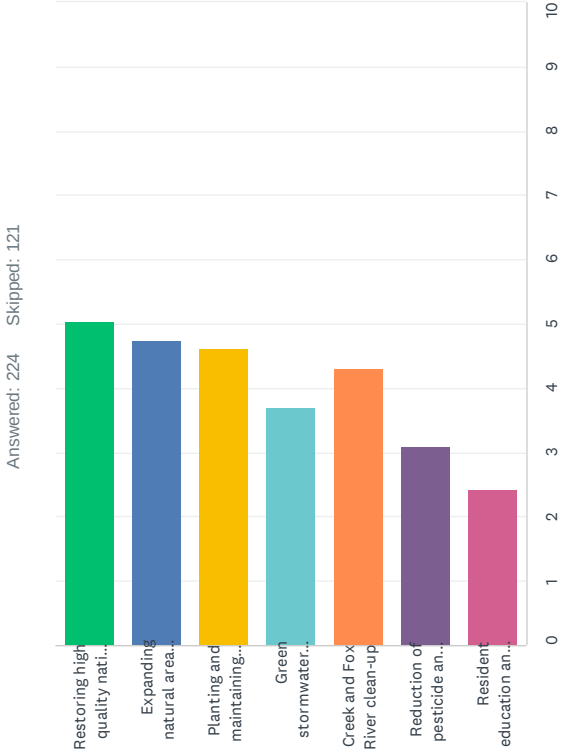
Q4 If you don't visit any of the Department parks, why not? (Pick all that apply.)



ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES
Inconvenient location		2
Desired amenities aren't offered		6
Too busy		4
Parks need maintenance or improvements		0
Not interested		8
Use other agencies' parks or facilities		5
Total Respondents: 18		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Randall Oaks	8/26/2020 4:16 PM
2	Kids are grown. Needed something for them 10-30 years ago. Nothing for adults.	3/19/2020 6:27 AM
3	Just moved here over winter, waiting for spring	3/16/2020 10:12 AM
4	Marian Hills. The Hollows	3/10/2020 12:16 PM

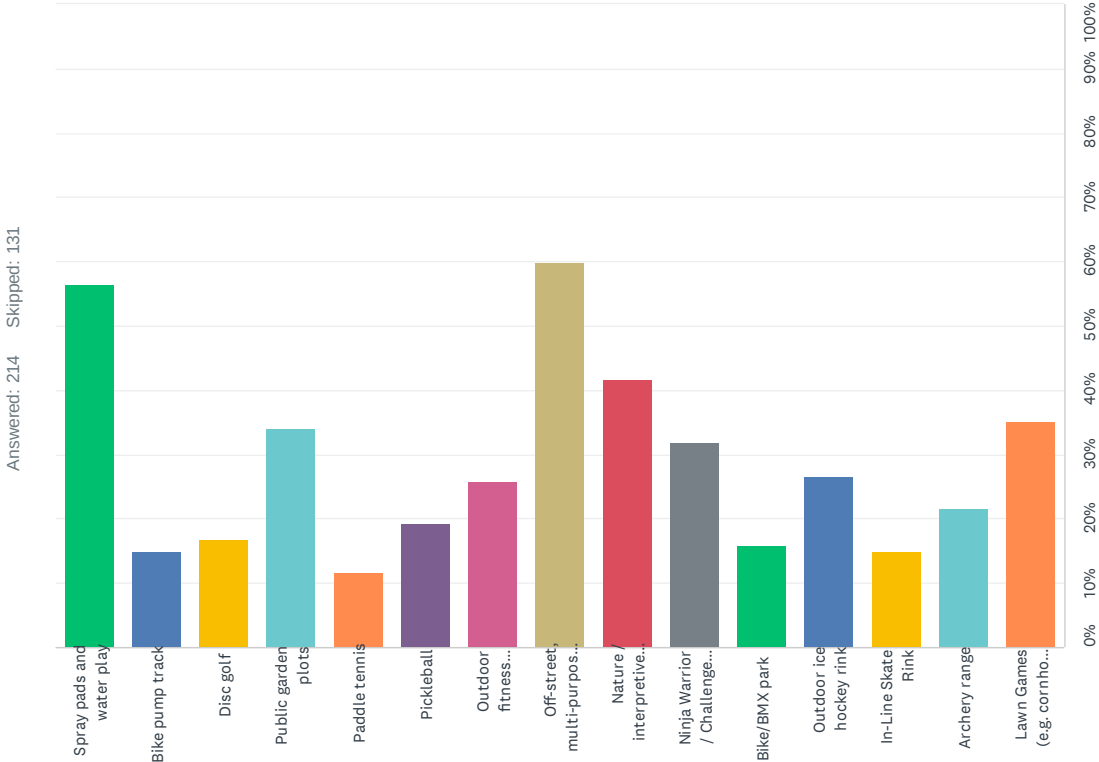
Q5 The Village of Algonquin is committed to ecological conservation and restoration. Please rank the following initiatives from most important (1) to least important (7) to you and your family.



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	TOTAL	SCORE
Restoring high quality native habitats	26.61% 58	25.23% 55	11.01% 24	15.14% 33	11.01% 24	6.88% 15	4.13% 9	218	5.04
Expanding natural areas and acquiring new sites for conservation	18.14% 39	21.40% 46	23.72% 51	14.42% 31	6.98% 15	7.44% 16	7.91% 17	215	4.75
Planting and maintaining native species and controlling invasive species	11.63% 25	18.14% 39	30.23% 65	15.35% 33	13.49% 29	7.44% 16	3.72% 8	215	4.62
Green stormwater management (e.g. rain gardens, bioswales, etc.)	7.83% 17	10.14% 22	8.29% 18	26.73% 58	21.20% 46	17.97% 39	7.83% 17	217	3.71
Creek and Fox River clean-up	20.00% 44	14.55% 32	9.09% 20	13.18% 29	25.00% 55	13.18% 29	5.00% 11	220	4.32
Reduction of pesticide and herbicide treatments	7.80% 17	6.42% 14	8.72% 19	10.55% 23	14.68% 32	34.40% 75	17.43% 38	218	3.09
Resident education and outreach	8.11% 18	3.60% 8	8.11% 18	4.95% 11	8.11% 18	13.06% 29	54.05% 120	222	2.43



Q6 Are there OUTDOOR recreation opportunities not currently provided by the Village of Algonquin that you would like to see added or that you think we need more of in our park system? Select all that apply.



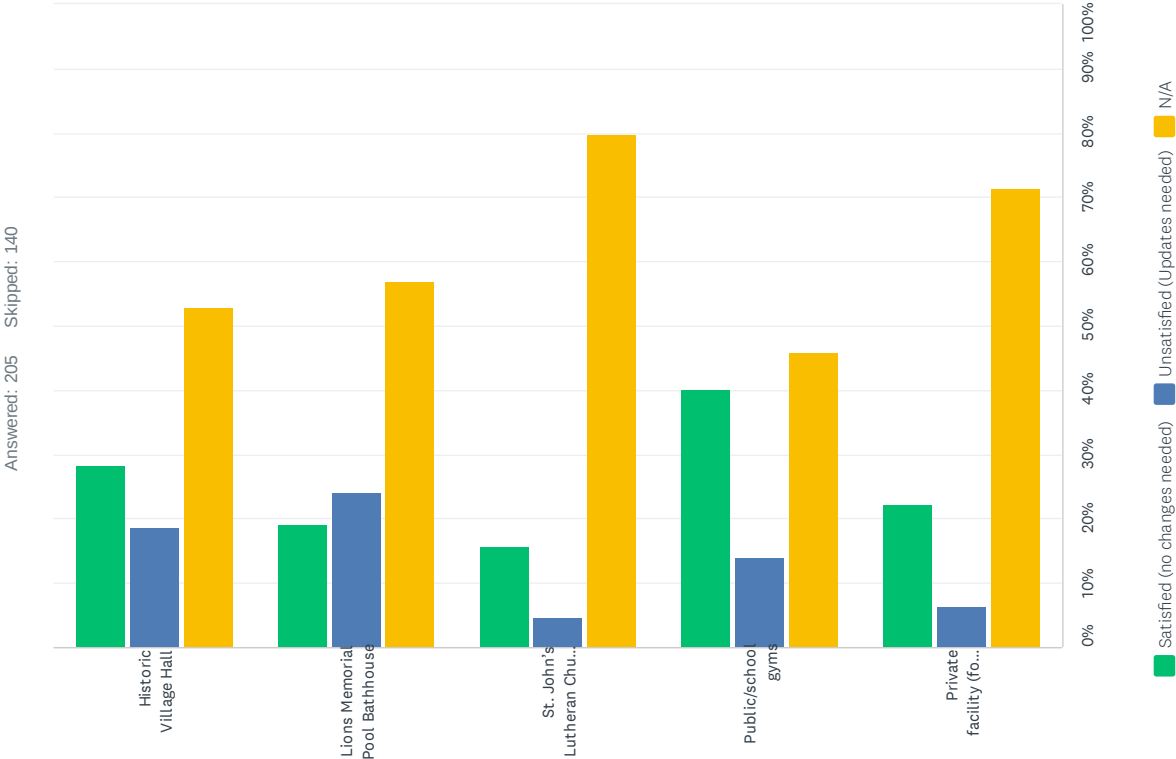
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Spray pads and water play	56.54% 121
Bike pump track	14.95% 32
Disc golf	16.82% 36
Public garden plots	34.11% 73
Paddle tennis	11.68% 25
Pickleball	19.16% 41
Outdoor fitness equipment	25.70% 55
Off-street, multi-purpose walking and biking trails	59.81% 128
Nature / interpretive trails	41.59% 89
Ninja Warrior / Challenge Course Playground	31.78% 68
Bike/BMX park	15.89% 34
Outdoor ice hockey rink	26.64% 57
In-Line Skate Rink	14.95% 32
Archery range	21.50% 46
Lawn Games (e.g. cornhole / baggo, Bocce ball, shuffleboard, etc.)	35.05% 75
Total Respondents: 214	

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Beach	8/26/2020 4:09 PM
2	improved pool! We love swimming!	8/19/2020 7:12 PM
3	Archery range please	8/5/2020 10:39 AM
4	There are plenty of opportunities.	8/3/2020 7:57 AM
5	Swimming pool!	8/2/2020 4:11 PM
6	Parks for our older kids. They have nothing of interest in our town. I would suggest talking with them for park ideas.	8/1/2020 3:18 PM
7	Dog park	8/1/2020 1:12 PM
8	Would love a trail NEAR OR ALONG the river	8/1/2020 9:26 AM
9	Another public pool west of the River	7/31/2020 3:17 PM
10	Golf	7/31/2020 3:14 PM
11	Some place to host a gathering (large picnic, family reunion, HS reunion).....allow beer/wine with a permit that isn't a pain in the butt to get. Bathrooms, drinking fountains,and electrical outlets too	7/31/2020 3:12 PM
12	Anything is better than nothing. We currently have nothing.	7/31/2020 1:45 PM
13	Beachway	7/31/2020 11:26 AM
14	We have no tennis courts or pickle ball courts. Activities are lacking for anyone over the age of 10.	7/31/2020 11:14 AM
15	Take care of what we have first	7/31/2020 9:55 AM
16	Batting cages! practice areas: driving range, chipping range, putting green. More attractions along river and creeks and springs	4/22/2020 5:19 PM
17	Community facilities with pools similar to our neighbors in Dundee	3/19/2020 6:29 AM
18	Better quality pool, look to Huntley stingray bsy and Barrington park district pools as examples	3/15/2020 11:42 PM
19	Dog park!	3/13/2020 10:20 AM
20	Boat/kayak launch area	3/11/2020 5:59 AM
21	fix/update or replace completely the horribly outdated pool on the east side	3/9/2020 3:06 PM
22	Dog park	3/9/2020 2:35 PM
23	Dog park	3/9/2020 1:39 PM
24	dog park	3/9/2020 1:07 PM
25	The biggest thing that we noticed for our family is that once the kids were about 6 they had outgrown many of the Algonquin Parks equipment. We would love to see more play structures geared toward older kids mixed in with the current offerings.	3/9/2020 11:10 AM
26	Basic dog park	3/8/2020 10:52 PM
27	Tennis court at algonquin lakes park, sledding hill with stairs at same location	3/7/2020 9:00 AM
28	skate park	3/5/2020 10:06 PM
29	We need pedestrian friendly crossing for 31 and a path along 31 to the existing prairie trail from the West side/Edgewood.	3/5/2020 8:36 PM
30	Tennis courts	3/5/2020 6:41 PM
31	Would LOVE to see a Rec Center like Dundees.	3/5/2020 11:22 AM
32	Spit to launch kayaks or SUP	3/5/2020 11:14 AM
33	Hill Climb Park has the space (either side) for a great splash pad.	3/5/2020 10:24 AM
34	Kyacking canoe rental to draw people to down town area Out door restaurent with music in undeveloped lot downtown	3/5/2020 9:46 AM
35	Update parks with modern more efficient equipment and options	3/4/2020 7:36 PM
36	Just open space like dickie park in Huntley to do what families want to do	3/3/2020 8:01 PM
37	Golf have never understood and still don't why we cannot share with Dundee Park District instead of creating a duplicate system	3/3/2020 7:12 PM
38	Pollinator gardens with interpretive signage, connected bike trails	3/3/2020 12:47 PM
39	Tennis courts at Holder Park. Another basketball court at Holder Park as well.	3/3/2020 7:53 AM

40	An attractive park that will be large enough for founders day events and fireworks that also has parking availability.	3/2/2020 10:20 PM
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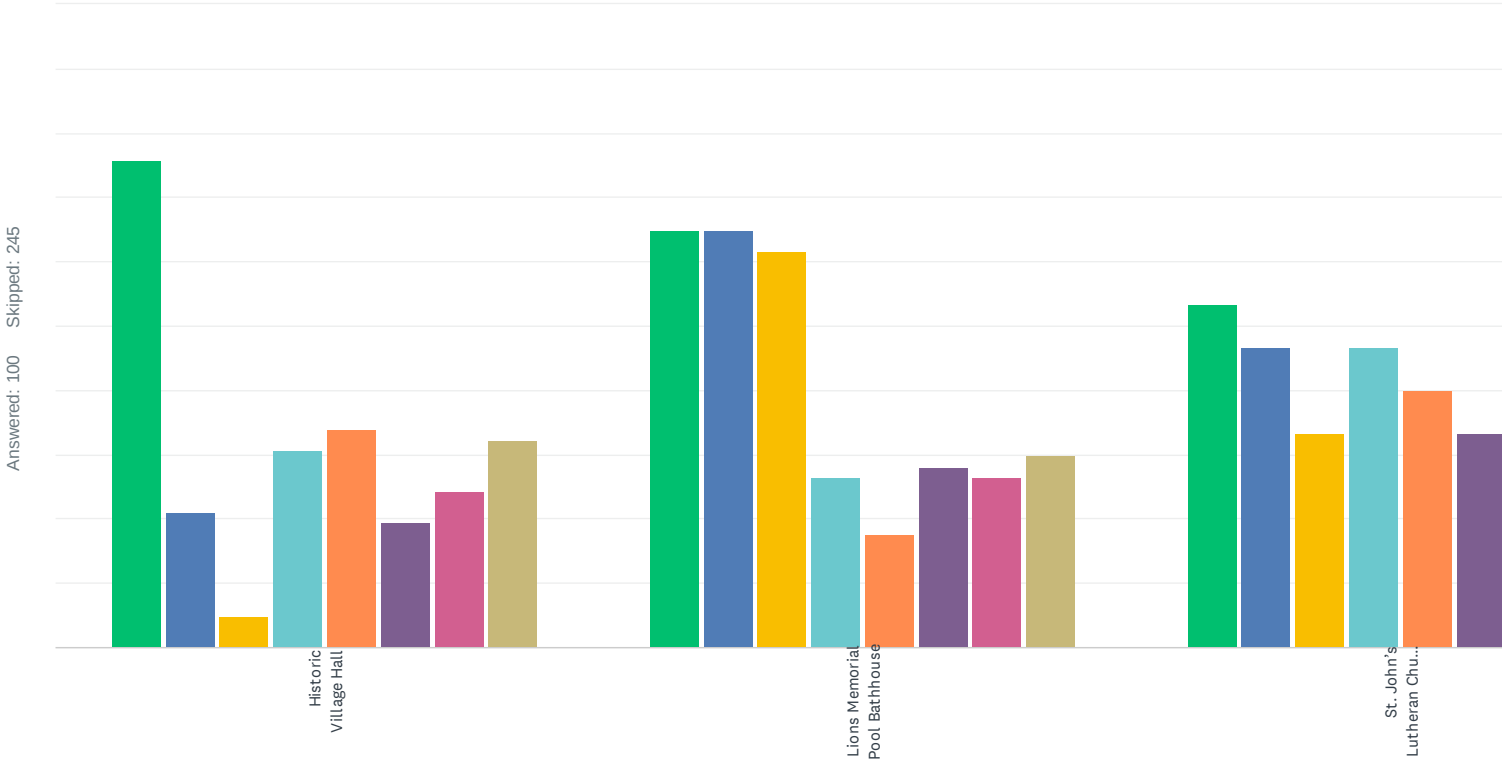


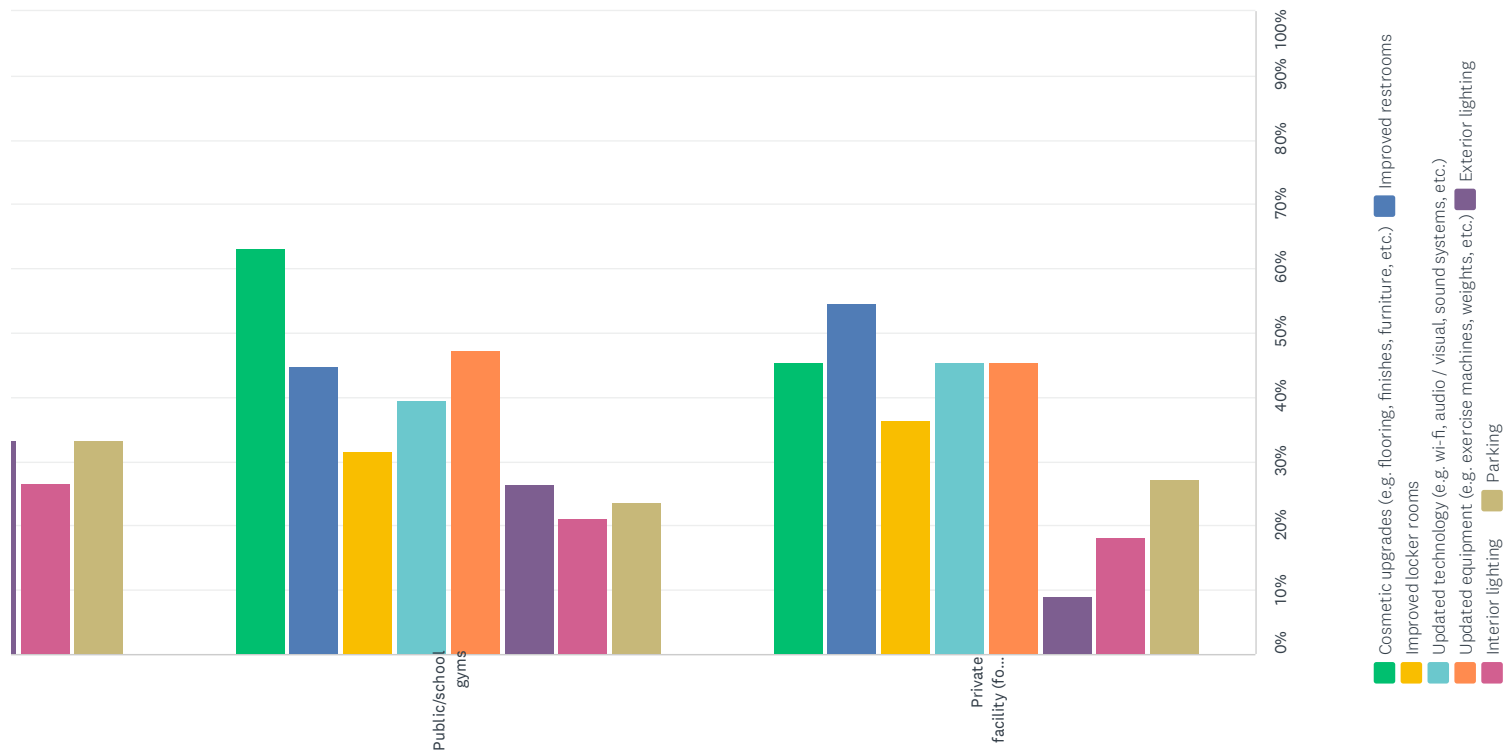
Q7 Of the Village of Algonquin recreation facilities that you or your family have visited in the last 12 months, how satisfied were you with each? Please select NA or skip the facilities you and your family have not visited.



	SATISFIED (NO CHANGES NEEDED)	UNSATISFIED (UPDATES NEEDED)	N/A	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Historic Village Hall	28.28% 56	18.69% 37	53.03% 105	198	1.40
Lions Memorial Pool Bathhouse	18.97% 37	24.10% 47	56.92% 111	195	1.56
St. John's Lutheran Church gym	15.63% 30	4.69% 9	79.69% 153	192	1.23
Public/school gyms	40.21% 78	13.92% 27	45.88% 89	194	1.26
Private facility (for example: Players Choice Academy, Focus Martial Arts & Fitness, etc.)	22.22% 42	6.35% 12	71.43% 135	189	1.22

Q8 If you selected “Unsatisfied with one or more of the facilities you visited, what do you feel needs improvement? (Select all that apply, please skip the facilities you and your family have not visited.)



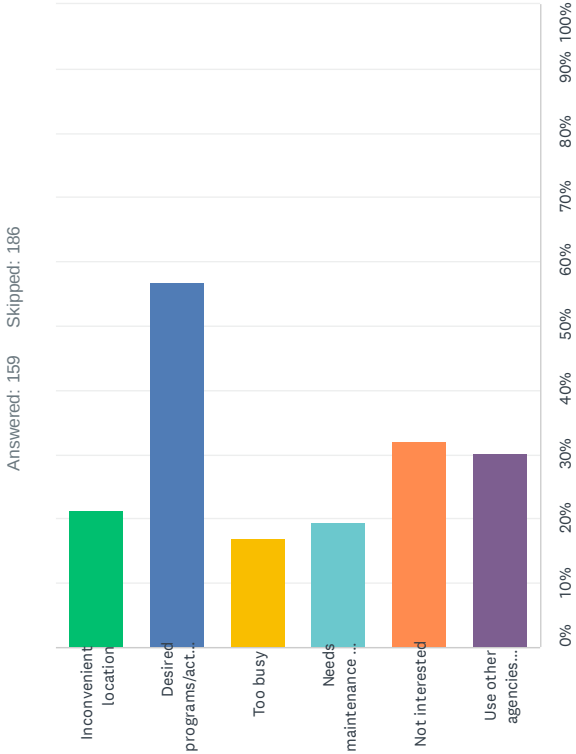




	COSMETIC UPGRADES (E.G. FLOORING, FINISHES, FURNITURE, ETC.)	IMPROVED RESTROOMS	IMPROVED LOCKER ROOMS	UPDATED TECHNOLOGY (E.G. WI-FI, AUDIO / VISUAL, SOUND SYSTEMS, ETC.)	UPDATED EQUIPMENT (E.G. EXERCISE MACHINES, WEIGHTS, ETC.)	EXTERIOR LIGHTING	INTERIOR LIGHTING	PARKING	TOT/ RESI
Historic Village Hall	75.81% 47	20.97% 13	4.84% 3	30.65% 19	33.87% 21	19.35% 12	24.19% 15	32.26% 20	
Lions Memorial Pool	64.91% 37	64.91% 37	61.40% 35	26.32% 15	17.54% 10	28.07% 16	26.32% 15	29.82% 17	
Bathhouse									
St. John's Lutheran Church gym	53.33% 8	46.67% 7	33.33% 5	46.67% 7	40.00% 6	33.33% 5	26.67% 4	33.33% 5	
Public/school gyms	63.16% 24	44.74% 17	31.58% 12	39.47% 15	47.37% 18	26.32% 10	21.05% 8	23.68% 9	
Private facility (for example: Players Choice Academy, Focus Martial Arts & Fitness, etc.)	45.45% 5	54.55% 6	36.36% 4	45.45% 5	45.45% 5	9.09% 1	18.18% 2	27.27% 3	

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Nice to have one field house for everything rather than using businesses in town. I don't need a park district to go to them. They were already there.	8/26/2020 5:26 PM
2	Please add a public pool for this side of river.	8/2/2020 4:14 PM
3	High school track should be open to walkers/runners	8/1/2020 6:51 PM
4	the pool needs to fix some of the splash pad... The Roman irrigation toy is stupid and doesn't work...Also, there needs to be more deck chairs. And, the pool needs to communicate pool closings on FB in real time! Packing up my kids and driving them to the pool to find out it's closed due to low bather turnout is terrible! And, several of those times, we have phoned ahead to check, but they're closed when we get there?	7/31/2020 3:25 PM
5	Price	7/31/2020 3:03 PM
6	have not visited	7/31/2020 12:10 PM
7	Why are there no garbage cans on the pool deck? The pool needs more chairs AND I think the Roman irrigation thing on the splash pad was pit together wrong....that thing sucks	4/22/2020 5:23 PM
8	So very expressive!	3/15/2020 9:25 PM
9	in the pool bathhouse we need a few changing rooms. My kids are on the swim team and there really isn't a good place for private changing if people need that. Changing in the bathroom stalls isn't ideal.	3/6/2020 1:09 PM
10	facility is not always clean;	3/6/2020 4:37 AM
11	Village hall floors are not even which makes for unsafe surface for exercise classes.	3/5/2020 11:14 AM
12	I don't think at Johns should be a public facility.	3/3/2020 8:03 PM
13	Would like an indoor basketball court	3/3/2020 12:49 PM
14	Old town hall seems under utilized. Is the cost of maintenance worth what it's being used for right now?	3/2/2020 10:26 PM

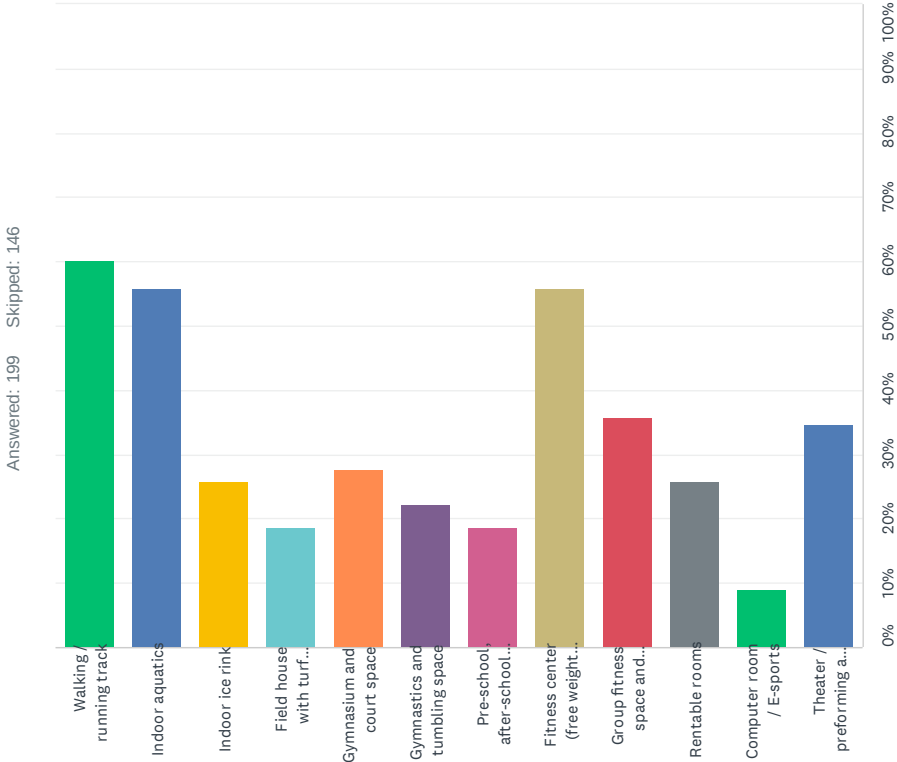
Q9 If you don't visit some or any of the Department facilities, why not?  
(Pick all that apply.)



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Inconvenient location	34 21.38%
Desired programs/activities aren't offered	90 56.60%
Too busy	27 16.98%
Needs maintenance or improvements/updating	31 19.50%
Not interested	51 32.08%
Use other agencies facilities	48 30.19%
Total Respondents: 159	

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	In comparison to surrounding park districts, Algonquin offers hardly anything.	8/26/2020 4:35 PM
2	Nothing for our age group	8/21/2020 1:48 PM
3	Live too far	8/19/2020 11:54 AM
4	This survey has the disadvantage of the COVID issue causing limited use of many park and recreation facilities under utilized	8/10/2020 7:02 PM
5	not familiar with some of the facilities	8/3/2020 12:46 PM
6	I live east of the river and because of the disaster that has been made with all the construction of downtown I don't even bother going anywhere near the river or going west. Having construction at every point to cross the river was an absolute horrible decision and it is affecting both sides of the river.	8/3/2020 8:00 AM
7	We have no idea where most of these facilities are nor what the offer!	8/2/2020 7:16 AM
8	Not aware of their location and/or programs offered there	7/31/2020 11:09 PM
9	Use dundee park district	7/31/2020 6:06 PM
10	Again: hire someone from Huntley recreation who knows what they are doing	7/31/2020 5:20 PM
11	COVID shut down many of these facilities and our daughter is now old enough to enjoy the programs that would have been ordered. Hopefully soon, once it's safe to do so!	7/31/2020 3:53 PM
12	There needs to be attractions for adults too. Incorporate the hills and the river; they are our unique natural resources. Adults and kids need bathrooms! Porto pottys behind wood lattice structures are OK.	7/31/2020 3:25 PM
13	Just moved here and haven't been able to get around too much	7/31/2020 3:01 PM
14	I'd like to know more about the facilities.	7/31/2020 11:30 AM
15	How about a map of all the parks with a lost of amenities???? I think most Algonquin residents are unaware of the parks and rec that does exist	4/22/2020 5:23 PM
16	Use indoor gym not part of village	3/17/2020 4:40 PM
17	not aware of them	3/9/2020 6:09 PM
18	We end up doing a lot of programs through either Crystal Lake or Lake in the Hills because they have more to offer for older kids. In all honesty, I have stopped even looking at Algonquin because there are so few things offered that they often don't fit our schedule. The kids do play sports on private teams since there really is no park district recreational league for their ages.	3/9/2020 11:14 AM
19	We go to Dundee Township for indoor pool & children's program offerings	3/8/2020 9:55 PM
20	Would love if fitness classes for adults, (strength training, yoga, tone and tighten) could be regularly scheduled at the local school gyms in the evenings (ales please!) D300 has begun offering yoga for staff in the media center at ams and it is highly popular!	3/7/2020 9:07 AM
21	Algonquin has very little to offer, have to travel to other cities and use their facilities	3/6/2020 5:25 PM
22	I was not aware of the various facilities.	3/6/2020 12:43 PM
23	Moved here only 2 years ago and not sure of location and perks of all parks/areas	3/5/2020 6:44 PM
24	the pool is too expensive	3/5/2020 10:05 AM
25	Owners need to pickup after their pets	3/3/2020 7:57 AM

Q10 Are there INDOOR recreation opportunities not currently provided by the Village of Algonquin that you would like to see added or that you think we need more? Select all that apply.

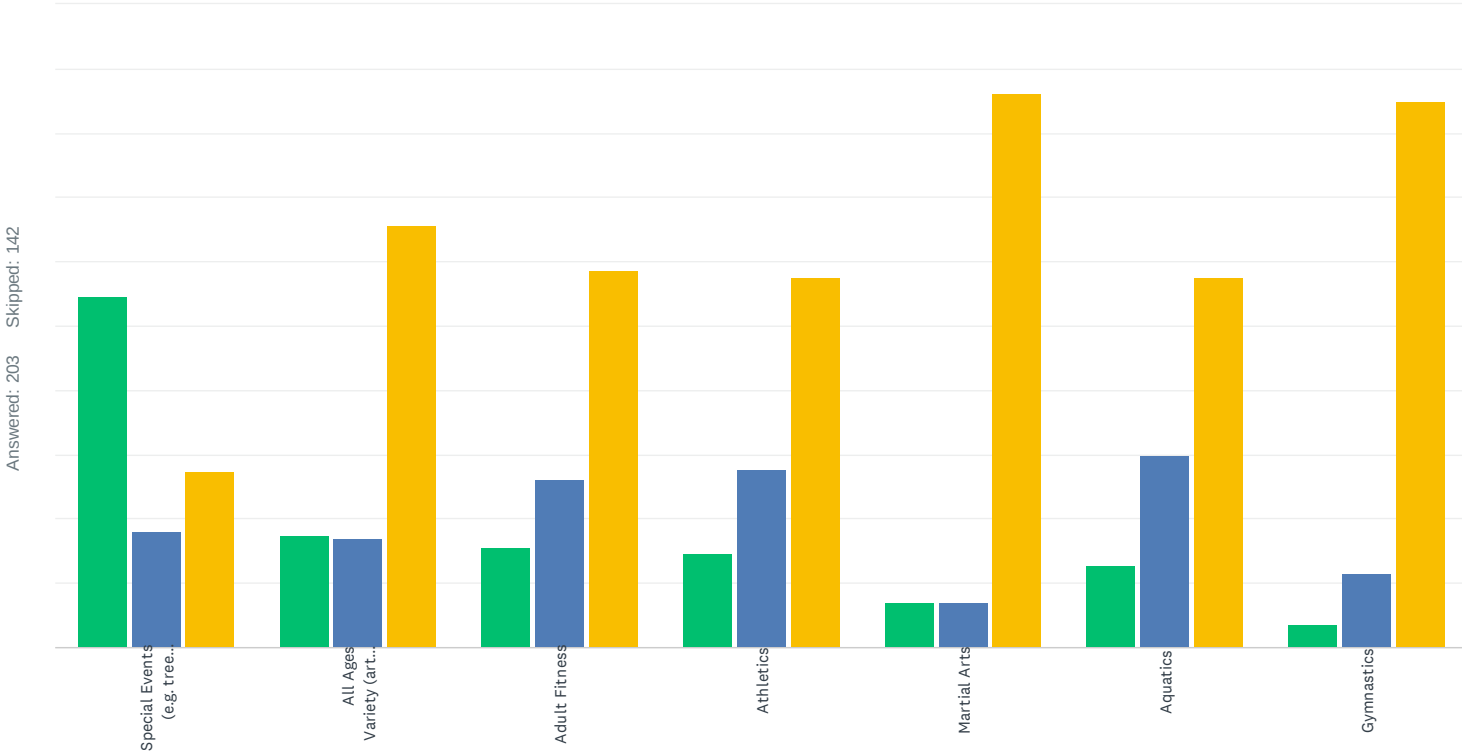


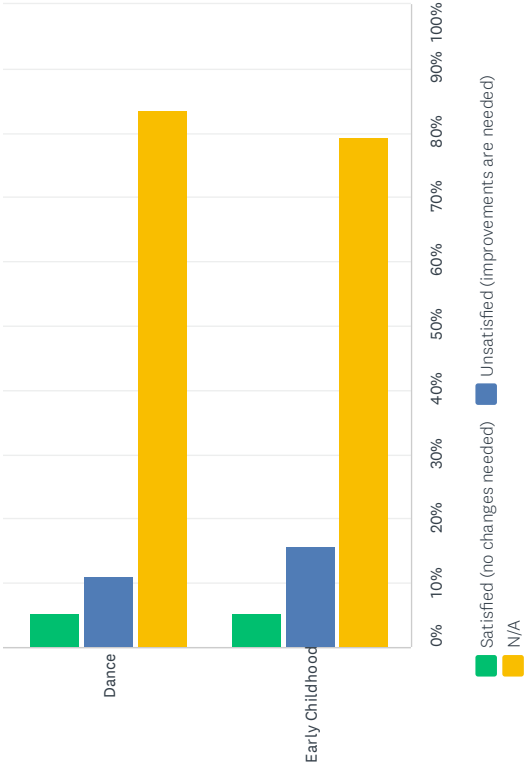


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Walking / running track	60.30% 120
Indoor aquatics	55.78% 111
Indoor ice rink	25.63% 51
Field house with turf fields	18.59% 37
Gymnasium and court space	27.64% 55
Gymnastics and tumbling space	22.11% 44
Pre-school, after-school, and youth classrooms	18.59% 37
Fitness center (free weights, cardio equipment, etc.)	55.78% 111
Group fitness space and studios	35.68% 71
Rentable rooms	25.63% 51
Computer room / E-sports	9.05% 18
Theater / performing arts auditorium	34.67% 69
Total Respondents: 199	

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Community art center.	8/26/2020 5:07 PM
2	Museum	8/16/2020 12:01 AM
3	need rec ctr	8/1/2020 6:51 PM
4	unpaved hiking trail? Mt. bike trail? Trail with interval stations ( pull up bar, sit up bench, cargo net, over under logs)	7/31/2020 3:25 PM
5	Senior center, Water aerobics, walking and running clubs.	7/31/2020 11:30 AM
6	Pickleball courts	7/31/2020 11:25 AM
7	A Park District would be amazing but that's a totally different subject I underatand	4/22/2020 4:52 PM
8	Indoor dog park	3/13/2020 10:23 AM
9	More senior programs. ie: bunch, bingo, dance	3/9/2020 8:12 PM
10	We would love love love to have a community center with gym available!	3/9/2020 11:14 AM
11	Fitness offerings on the east side of algonquin are lacking. West side has the beautiful new dundee Rec center on Randall, would love something on east side (rackow center is small, out dated and a bit far.)	3/7/2020 9:07 AM
12	Yes please!	3/5/2020 8:40 PM
13	A summer youth program that's open all day for working parents.	3/5/2020 8:25 PM
14	My residence is part of a park district. No additional indoor recreation opportunity is needed.	3/5/2020 6:10 PM
15	Algonquin needs a true basketball program. Kids travel to other towns we need our own.	3/5/2020 9:37 AM
16	Basketball courts	3/3/2020 12:49 PM
17	SENIOR CENTER	2/29/2020 5:22 PM

Q11 Of the Village of Algonquin programs and events that you or your family have participated in the last 12 months, how satisfied were you with each? Please select NA or skip the programs and events you and your family did not participate in.





	SATISFIED (NO CHANGES NEEDED)	UNSATISFIED (IMPROVEMENTS ARE NEEDED)	N/A	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Special Events (e.g. tree lighting, summer concerts, egg hunt, etc.)	54.64% 106	18.04% 35	27.32% 53	194	1.25
All Ages Variety (art, STEM, workshops, etc.)	17.42% 31	16.85% 30	65.73% 117	178	1.49
Adult Fitness	15.43% 29	26.06% 49	58.51% 110	188	1.63
Athletics	14.67% 27	27.72% 51	57.61% 106	184	1.65
Marital Arts	6.86% 12	6.86% 12	86.29% 151	175	1.50
Aquatics	12.71% 23	29.83% 54	57.46% 104	181	1.70
Gymnastics	3.47% 6	11.56% 20	84.97% 147	173	1.77
Dance	5.29% 9	11.18% 19	83.53% 142	170	1.68
Early Childhood	5.20% 9	15.61% 27	79.19% 137	173	1.75

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Activities are located on the east side of the river which is not very convenient for me especially in light of traffic	8/7/2020 10:46 AM
2	No idea most of these activities are being offered or where to view a calendar of events offered. As I'm taking this survey, I'm realizing there's a lot in this village that my family is not aware of or even know where to go to takes advantage of	8/2/2020 7:19 AM
3	Armstrong pool is to crowded	8/1/2020 6:53 PM
4	Youth activities are hard for working parents to bring their children to bc of the times programs are being offered	7/31/2020 11:11 PM
5	Love the summer concerts!	7/31/2020 5:00 PM
6	There needs to be more activities for young kids. We need free splash pads on both sides of town. Turn gravel pit into a beach!	7/31/2020 3:29 PM
7	participated in Rotary Harvest Fest	7/31/2020 12:11 PM
8	There needs to be more community activities. I hate having to go to other towns for fall fests, parades etc. Algonquin is a big enough town to have their own events and not having to go to neighboring towns for these events	5/6/2020 11:35 AM
9	1. Who cares about Karate? 2. A lot of the events are poorly communicated .3. Residents should be able to host gatherings in public spaces that provide seating, electricity, and public grilling areas!...and for a fee....allow alcohol	4/22/2020 5:27 PM
10	I really think we should look at an Algonquin Park district other than Huntley and Dundee	4/22/2020 4:50 PM
11	more activities geared towards Sr Citizens	3/9/2020 9:54 PM
12	Need more activities for adults/seniors like field trips, day activities	3/8/2020 10:56 PM
13	More concerts during the summer	3/7/2020 10:20 AM
14	We participate through dundee park district because algonquin offerings do not meet the needs of our middle school children.	3/7/2020 9:09 AM
15	I would like to see Algonquin get a Park District. I haven't participated in village organized activities in a while but I never liked the third party organizations that ran the youth sports programs. If we had a park district like Crystal Lake has I think we would have higher quality programming.	3/6/2020 1:12 PM
16	Compared to Dundee, the program are sub par at best	3/5/2020 4:58 PM
17	Wish there was more offerings for early childhood on weekends and "after hours" for working moms.	3/5/2020 11:26 AM
18	More adult and senior classes need to be offered especially during the day would be great!	3/5/2020 11:14 AM
19	I live in the portion of Algonquin that is not covered by Huntley or Dundee park districts. Working with remote townships to have coverage would be great.	3/5/2020 10:28 AM
20	More activities needed! More availability.	3/2/2020 5:11 PM



Q12 Are there program or event opportunities not currently provided by the Village of Algonquin that you would like to see added or that you think we need more?

Answered: 84   Skipped: 261

## Plug into Algonquin Recreation

SurveyMonkey

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I would love to see Algonquin add a Parks and Rec board comprised of citizens within Algonquin that can provide feedback, provide ideas based on community insight and review parks and programs to give a greater voice to the community.	9/7/2020 3:08 PM
2	Dog Park	9/1/2020 12:38 PM
3	I would love to see a youth baseball recreation league that is run by the city and not through a private organization, like AAYO.	9/1/2020 12:12 PM
4	Indoor space to bring family during colder months.	9/1/2020 11:57 AM
5	The Algonquin lakes park was promised a sand volley ball court and beach, am I ever going to get that?	8/27/2020 10:05 AM
6	Indoor pool/swim lesson	8/26/2020 10:52 PM
7	I honestly have stopped looking because there never seemed to be anything my family was interested in that fit our schedule. Things may have changed, but we usually default to looking at other park districts at this point.	8/26/2020 6:23 PM
8	Don't let an outside organization control use of fields.	8/26/2020 5:27 PM
9	Art classes	8/26/2020 5:09 PM
10	I would like to see more summer concerts offered, and offer some of them at Spella park.	8/26/2020 4:53 PM
11	Theater	8/26/2020 4:07 PM
12	Inside events year round that would be assisted by an indoor facility	8/19/2020 1:15 PM
13	Parades	8/16/2020 12:02 AM
14	Get the work done! I have seen entire communities built from scratch take less time to complete than it has taken the village to finish its construction projects. It has taken far too long for the Village to complete current projects as compared to other city and community projects around Chicagoland I personally have seen started and completed in other suburbs around Chicagoland.	8/10/2020 7:10 PM
15	A farmers market More festivals like a rib fest wine fest etc	8/5/2020 10:34 AM
16	More programs for seniors. ie: bunco, bridge, exercise classes, trips to shows/theatre	8/2/2020 9:14 PM
17	I wish every tennis court had a practice wall to enable solo practice	8/2/2020 8:53 PM
18	rec ctr	8/1/2020 6:53 PM
19	Boys hip hop dance	7/31/2020 11:11 PM
20	A health club so i don't have to give my money to another town	7/31/2020 6:07 PM
21	Something is better than nothing	7/31/2020 5:21 PM
22	Water exercise classes, Pilates, yoga offered at convenient times/locations to accommodate those of us that work during the day.	7/31/2020 4:35 PM
23	Food truck festival....or a weeklyfood truck night at a park. We need a beach	7/31/2020 3:29 PM
24	Indoor Pool west of the river, and indoor ice-skating facility in the village	7/31/2020 3:21 PM
25	No	7/31/2020 3:02 PM
26	Senior get togethers.	7/31/2020 2:49 PM
27	More classes for toddlers, preschool programs	7/31/2020 2:31 PM
28	craft fairs/farmers markets all summer weekends	7/31/2020 12:11 PM
29	Outdoor concerts	7/31/2020 11:59 AM
30	Use of school gyms for pickle ball courts. More concerts in the park Return fireworks to the river Return farmers market to historic downtown Algonquin area	7/31/2020 11:34 AM
31	Aquatics	7/31/2020 11:17 AM
32	Public grill spaces Jujitsu instead of karate Educational nature programs for Kids Use the space to build community and bring people together.	4/22/2020 5:27 PM
33	No	4/22/2020 3:57 PM
34	Fitness center/recreation center	3/30/2020 6:28 PM
35	Adult class offerings.	3/19/2020 6:31 AM
36	Would love to have indoor and/or outdoor archery available; interested in fencing; would like various sports oriented to ACTIVE seniors; would love to see bus trips and other tours / activities (see Crystal Lake park programs for ideas)	3/17/2020 9:17 PM

## Plug into Algonquin Recreation

SurveyMonkey

37	Better adult fitness facility, Offer punch card so that you can go to fitness classes when you are available-one or more per week	3/17/2020 4:43 PM
38	Preschool	3/16/2020 10:24 AM
39	I honestly think there are too many programs	3/15/2020 11:45 PM
40	Sport leagues Camps	3/15/2020 10:25 PM
41	A field house. Woodshop, sewing, gym, basketball, dance gymnastics. Adult fitness All in a building would be awesome	3/15/2020 9:28 PM
42	Women's self defense	3/15/2020 7:43 PM
43	More adult-oriented activities. More activities for teenagers to meet other teens.	3/15/2020 6:57 PM
44	We need a dog park, a public beach and would like a better aquatic option	3/12/2020 2:39 PM
45	Senior citizen activities	3/11/2020 4:20 AM
46	More overall classes in general	3/10/2020 5:51 PM
47	One day trips for Sr Citizens	3/9/2020 9:54 PM
48	Some more activities for kids under two would be awesome!	3/9/2020 9:35 PM
49	community theatre	3/9/2020 3:09 PM
50	Crafts - sewing, quilting	3/9/2020 1:41 PM
51	would like to see things targeted towards 50+ age group	3/9/2020 1:10 PM
52	A high-quality day camp for kids. We currently go to Crystal Lake Park District for day camp because we were unsatisfied with the program run by Lake in the Hills and Crystal Lake is the next closest option available for working parents looking for summer opportunities for our kids.	3/9/2020 11:16 AM
53	Senior activities	3/8/2020 10:56 PM
54	When we moved here 26 years ago, there was only an outdoor pool and Towne Park which residents helped build. Dundee park district and private clubs like Lifetime filled the gap. The village didn't prioritize parks at all. Now there is finally an interest? We asked for playground equipment for kids in a park near our home, only to be told it was kept open for a nature area. Years went by and then the village wanted to add a playground and bocce ball. By then all the neighborhood kids were grown and there were a handful of kids to use a playground. Wish they would have listened years ago!	3/8/2020 4:46 PM
55	Yes, variety of choices for young children. Indoor swimming.	3/7/2020 11:22 AM
56	Add a fitness center on the east side of algonquin please	3/7/2020 9:09 AM
57	Recreation facility. Indoor pool, no high schools around even have pools. Have to use Dundee township facilities for gyms courts and pools	3/6/2020 5:27 PM
58	More sports programs for older children, ages 7-14. Possible additions to the pool. Continued growth of events like the lighting ceremony, music in the park (loved new location), other downtown events, is a farmers market part of the park and recreation department?	3/6/2020 2:55 PM
59	Dog Park	3/5/2020 10:29 PM
60	Keep Terrace Hill a golf course.	3/5/2020 10:09 PM
61	Adult dance classes. Adult acting classes.	3/5/2020 9:31 PM
62	Summer Youth program for working families	3/5/2020 8:26 PM
63	More infant and young children classes/programs, family yoga outside, farmers market weekly in the summer, more community helper accessibility getting police and fire more involved with the kids	3/5/2020 6:47 PM
64	none	3/5/2020 6:14 PM
65	Parent child classes	3/5/2020 4:40 PM
66	Main Street fests and concerts, need more music. Music always brings people together and builds community.	3/5/2020 3:51 PM
67	A fitness center with walking track, so I don't have to pay for membership at Life Time.	3/5/2020 1:02 PM
68	Many of the children's sports activities I've signed up for are cancelled due to low enrollment.	3/5/2020 11:19 AM
69	Pickle ball courts (indoor and out door). Also Aqua Zumba to be offered year round!	3/5/2020 11:14 AM
70	community garden, community chickens or allowing backyard hens	3/5/2020 10:08 AM
71	Athletics for older children	3/5/2020 10:06 AM
72	Locally run gym classes for toddlers.	3/5/2020 9:57 AM

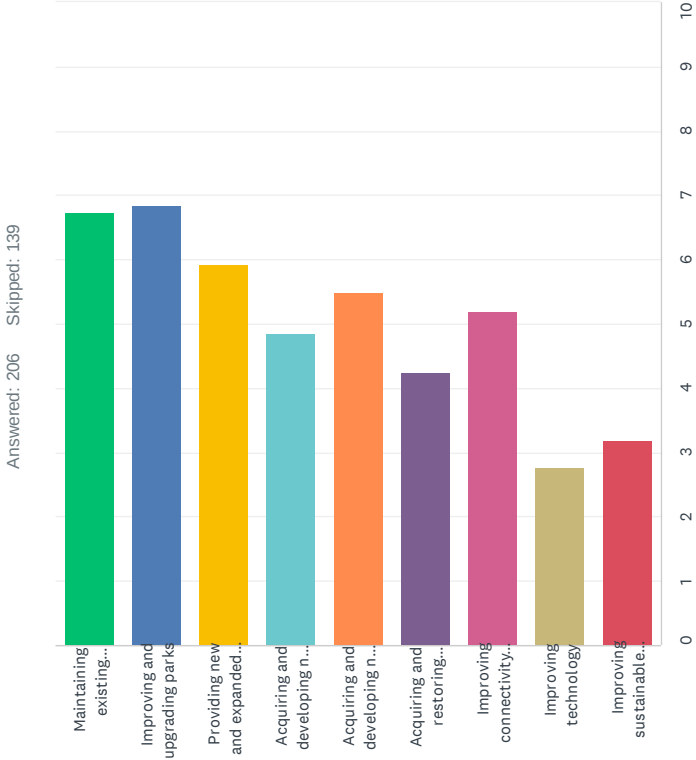
## Plug into Algonquin Recreation

SurveyMonkey

73	We need a rec center. Need basketball, if you build a good program people will participate. So many classes get canceled because of the quality of programs offered.	3/5/2020 9:39 AM
74	Pre school	3/5/2020 9:33 AM
75	Kid activities like nature hikes	3/3/2020 8:29 PM
76	Golf	3/3/2020 7:14 PM
77	Cultural arts programs like theater, instrumental music, children's chorus, etc... Things for children to do during inclement weather, such as a children's museum or indoor playground.	3/3/2020 11:16 AM
78	It would be great to have an affordable facility (Not Lifetime fitness) that provides indoor swimming and track as well as other fitness classes. Historic Village Hall is awful to get in and out of.	3/3/2020 10:06 AM
79	Algonquin needs to create a better atmosphere at Armstrong pool to attract people.	3/3/2020 7:59 AM
80	Better location for Founders day that includes fireworks and all events.	3/2/2020 10:29 PM
81	Spanish Library offerings - story times, classes, etc.	3/2/2020 5:33 PM
82	Events, festivals. Music in the new downtown.	3/2/2020 5:30 PM
83	Year round activities age appropriate for little ones (under 10) to be able to explore, run around freely and to maximize energy expenditure in manner that is free play rather than constant organized play	3/2/2020 3:21 PM
84	SENIOR CENTER DAY TRIPS WITH CHARTER BUS	2/29/2020 5:23 PM

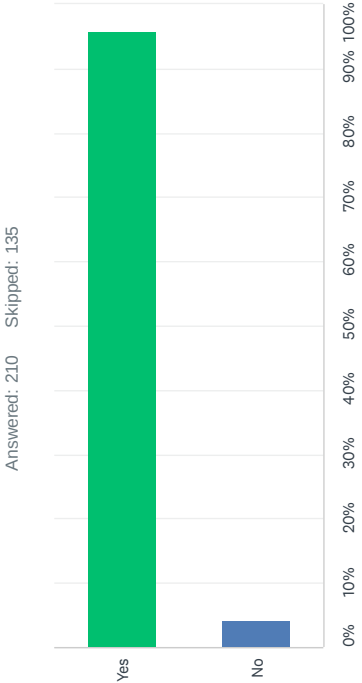


Q13 Which of the following objectives do you think the Village of Algonquin should focus on over the next ten years? Please rank from most important (1) to least important (9) to you and your family.



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	TOTAL	SCORE
Maintaining existing amenities	23.98% 47	18.88% 37	19.39% 38	13.78% 27	9.69% 19	5.10% 10	3.57% 7	3.57% 7	2.04% 4	196	6.74
Improving and upgrading parks	18.50% 37	29.00% 58	18.50% 37	11.00% 22	9.50% 19	6.50% 13	4.00% 8	1.50% 3	1.50% 3	200	6.84
Providing new and expanded programming	12.38% 25	10.89% 22	21.29% 43	19.80% 40	8.91% 18	12.38% 25	6.44% 13	4.46% 9	3.47% 7	202	5.92
Acquiring and developing new parks	6.47% 13	8.96% 18	5.97% 12	19.40% 39	17.41% 35	12.44% 25	10.95% 22	8.96% 18	9.45% 19	201	4.85
Acquiring and developing new indoor facility spaces	17.82% 36	12.38% 25	9.90% 20	8.91% 18	13.86% 28	10.89% 22	8.91% 18	9.90% 20	7.43% 15	202	5.49
Acquiring and restoring natural areas	6.03% 12	4.02% 8	6.53% 13	5.03% 10	14.57% 29	23.12% 46	21.61% 43	12.06% 24	7.04% 14	199	4.24
Improving connectivity (community trails for walking and bicycling, connecting places to the trail system)	12.25% 25	10.29% 21	9.31% 19	13.24% 27	10.78% 22	12.25% 25	19.12% 39	8.33% 17	4.41% 9	204	5.19
Improving technology	1.50% 3	2.50% 5	4.00% 8	3.00% 6	5.00% 10	8.00% 16	15.00% 30	34.00% 68	27.00% 54	200	2.77
Improving sustainable practices (materials, stormwater, maintenance)	3.50% 7	4.50% 9	6.00% 12	6.00% 12	8.50% 17	8.50% 17	9.00% 18	16.00% 32	38.00% 76	200	3.19

Q14 Are you a Village of Algonquin resident?



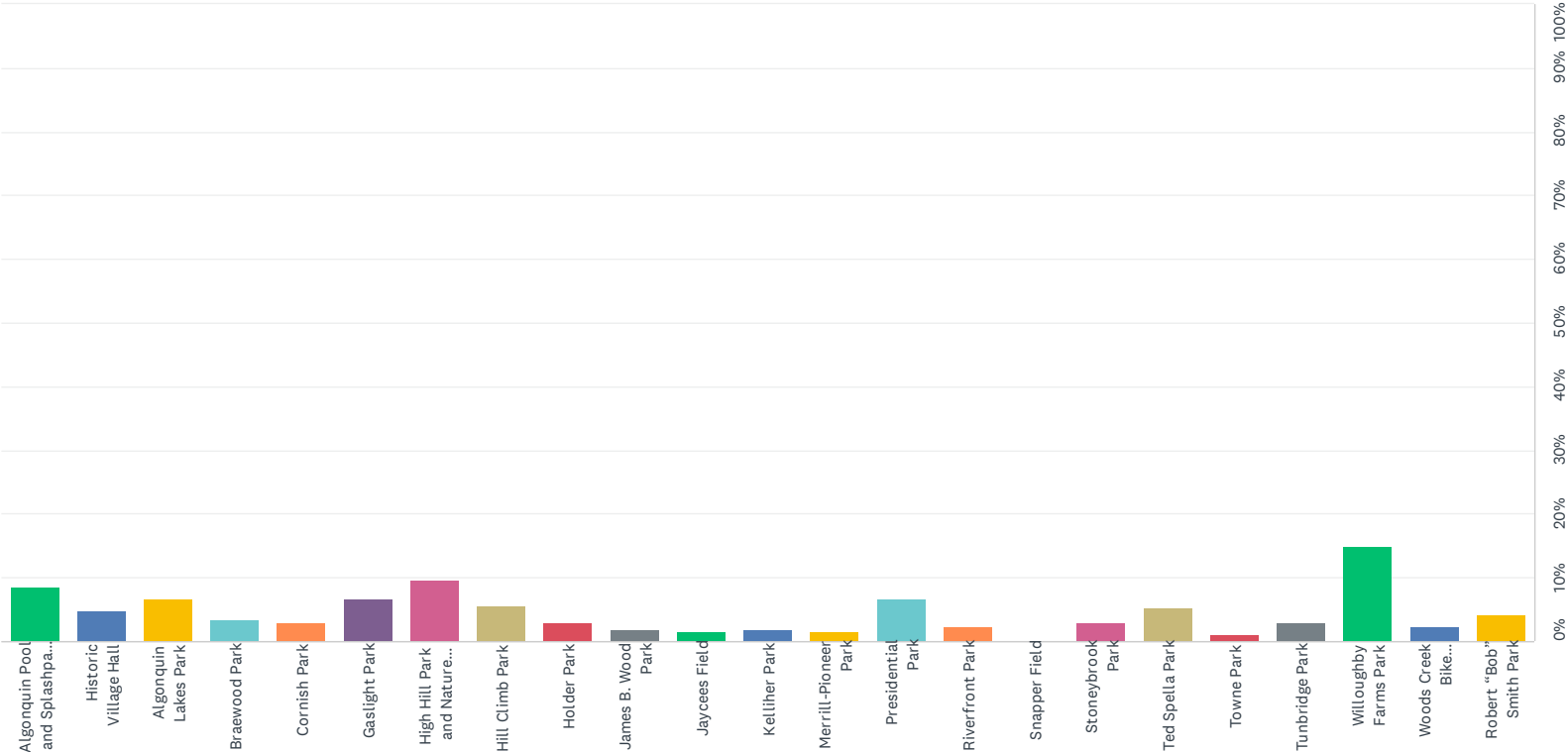
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	201 95.71%
No	9 4.29%
TOTAL	210

Q15 Which Village of Algonquin location do you live the closest to?

Answered: 210   Skipped: 135



Plug into Algonquin Recreation



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Algonquin Pool and Splashpad (Lions Memorial Pool)	8.57% 18
Historic Village Hall	4.76% 10
Algonquin Lakes Park	6.67% 14
Braewood Park	3.33% 7
Cornish Park	2.86% 6
Gaslight Park	6.67% 14
High Hill Park and Nature Preserve	9.52% 20
Hill Climb Park	5.71% 12
Holder Park	2.86% 6
James B. Wood Park	1.90% 4
Jaycees Field	1.43% 3
Kelliher Park	1.90% 4
Merrill-Pioneer Park	1.43% 3
Presidential Park	6.67% 14
Riverfront Park	2.38% 5
Snapper Field	0.00% 0
Stoneybrook Park	2.86% 6
Ted Spella Park	5.24% 11
Towne Park	0.95% 2
Tunbridge Park	2.86% 6
Willoughby Farms Park	14.76% 31
Woods Creek Bike Path/Nature Area	2.38% 5
Robert "Bob" Smith Park	4.29% 9
TOTAL	210

Q16 How many people of each age group, including yourself, reside in your household?

Answered: 207    Skipped: 138

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
0-4	28.50%	59
5-9	33.33%	69
10-14	29.47%	61
15-19	16.91%	35
20-24	13.04%	27
25-34	16.91%	35
35-44	42.03%	87
45-54	27.54%	57
55-64	26.09%	54
65 or older	16.43%	34

#	0-4	DATE
1	1	9/1/2020 12:14 PM
2	1	8/27/2020 10:06 AM
3	2	8/26/2020 9:20 PM
4	1	8/26/2020 5:12 PM
5	4	8/26/2020 4:17 PM
6	0	8/20/2020 5:59 PM
7	0	8/19/2020 8:40 PM
8	4	8/19/2020 1:18 PM
9	1	8/18/2020 2:50 PM
10	2	8/10/2020 7:11 PM
11	1	8/9/2020 11:42 AM
12	1	8/7/2020 10:47 AM
13	2	8/4/2020 1:24 PM
14	2	8/1/2020 8:46 PM
15	1	8/1/2020 8:27 AM
16	2	7/31/2020 6:10 PM
17	1	7/31/2020 5:56 PM
18	0	7/31/2020 5:03 PM
19	1	7/31/2020 4:28 PM
20	1	7/31/2020 3:55 PM
21	2	7/31/2020 3:31 PM
22	3	7/31/2020 3:24 PM
23	1	7/31/2020 3:04 PM
24	3	7/31/2020 2:56 PM
25	1	7/31/2020 2:32 PM
26	2	7/31/2020 1:17 PM
27	0	7/31/2020 11:55 AM
28	2	7/31/2020 11:10 AM
29	0	4/25/2020 4:36 AM
30	2	4/22/2020 5:29 PM
31	2	4/22/2020 4:56 PM
32	2	4/22/2020 4:51 PM
33	1	4/22/2020 3:59 PM
34	1	3/16/2020 10:26 AM
35	3	3/15/2020 11:46 PM
36	3	3/15/2020 10:35 PM
37	1	3/9/2020 10:14 PM
38	1	3/9/2020 9:36 PM
39	1	3/9/2020 7:16 PM
40	2	3/9/2020 6:12 PM
41	3	3/9/2020 1:57 PM
42	4	3/7/2020 11:26 AM
43	2	3/5/2020 6:49 PM
44	1	3/5/2020 4:59 PM
45	1	3/5/2020 4:42 PM



Plug into Algonquin Recreation

SurveyMonkey

46	2	3/5/2020 3:52 PM
47	1	3/5/2020 11:28 AM
48	2	3/5/2020 11:21 AM
49	0	3/5/2020 11:15 AM
50	1	3/5/2020 10:29 AM
51	2	3/5/2020 10:27 AM
52	1	3/5/2020 10:08 AM
53	2	3/5/2020 9:59 AM
54	2	3/5/2020 9:34 AM
55	2	3/3/2020 8:31 PM
56	2	3/3/2020 8:05 PM
57	1	3/3/2020 11:17 AM
58	1	3/2/2020 5:13 PM
59	2	3/2/2020 10:14 AM

#	5-9	DATE
1	1	9/7/2020 3:10 PM
2	2	9/1/2020 12:44 PM
3	2	9/1/2020 12:14 PM
4	1	9/1/2020 11:59 AM
5	1	8/27/2020 10:01 PM
6	2	8/27/2020 10:11 AM
7	1	8/26/2020 10:54 PM
8	2	8/26/2020 9:13 PM
9	1	8/26/2020 6:25 PM
10	1	8/26/2020 6:01 PM
11	2	8/26/2020 4:12 PM
12	1	8/26/2020 4:08 PM
13	0	8/20/2020 5:59 PM
14	2	8/19/2020 8:40 PM
15	1	8/19/2020 6:07 PM
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# Plug into Algonquin Recreation

SurveyMonkey

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## SurveyMonkey

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Plug into Algonquin Recreation

SurveyMonkey

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Q17 Thank you for your participation! Please provide any additional comments here:

Answered: 56   Skipped: 289

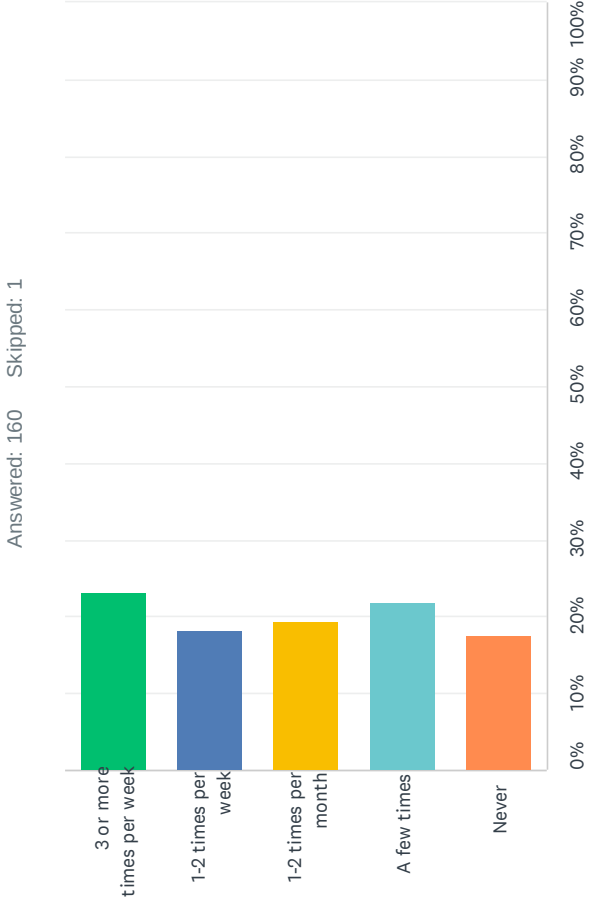
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Riverfront Park needs Piers for boats, thank you.	9/1/2020 1:31 PM
2	I would love to see the Village of Algonquin work with independent organizations directly to acquire outdoor field rentals. I have not had a great experience going through the Independent Private organizations the Village has contracted to administer the field upkeep and rentals, specifically AAYO.	9/1/2020 12:17 PM
3	My kids need updated parks/playgrounds that are well maintained.	8/27/2020 10:12 AM
4	I would like a sand valley ball court.	8/27/2020 10:06 AM
5	Tried to contact AAYO for use of one field for baseball team use. Village directed me to contact them. After 4 emails with no response. We are now paying another town to use their facilities. Lost money for Algonquin.	8/26/2020 5:32 PM
6	Would like to see more development on the East side Of Algonquin!!!	8/26/2020 4:14 PM
7	We are in Dundee Township Park District so don't want overlapping programs to pay for.	8/21/2020 1:54 PM
8	Thank you for making Algonquin the choice town to be a resident. Love the people; community	8/17/2020 12:43 AM
9	Please get the parking lots at Towne park cleaned up, too much a mess for far too long. Also police need better patrol and more timely clean up and daily watch of graffiti that appears in the same locations I've ran over. The recent graffiti on Algonquin road did not happen in a matter of minutes it took time for this to happen... where were the patrol cars at night. They can't be everywhere at once however they should be moving and not parked in a lot somewhere at night.	8/10/2020 7:16 PM
10	We need more sidewalk accessibility further down main street from the bike trail to places like Algonquin sub shop Dairy Queen and organic roots to make it safer for kids and those on bikes.	8/5/2020 10:42 AM
11	The Willoughby Farms neighborhoods only has one park in our area (Willoughby Park). It's the only park in between County Line Road and Longmeadow Parkway in this Kane County section. The park is in run-down and undersized for the amount of households it serves (understatement). This park should be a priority for the village asap. Additional parks in Willoughby would be beneficial as well.	8/4/2020 1:28 PM
12	West side of Algonquin needs a public pool. Please stop allowing more empty real estate to be built. We already have loads sitting empty	8/2/2020 4:20 PM
13	Based on this survey, Algonquin is doing a very poor job of communicating to the residents what all is offered and available. Lived here for over 20 years and have no idea where most of these parks are nor what's available. That's a complete waste of tax dollars. Also if you want to attract people to this area, exploit what you have to offer!	8/2/2020 7:27 AM
14	We watch our grandkids, most parks are geared for toddlers to 10 year olds. We need something for the older kids.	8/1/2020 3:29 PM
15	Parks waste taxpayer money.	7/31/2020 8:02 PM
16	Need a park district	7/31/2020 6:10 PM
17	It's about time you asked citizens for their input!!	7/31/2020 5:27 PM
18	We feel there are a lot of opportunities to get involved and do things in our community, unfortunately this is just an "odd" year. We appreciate the precautions the village has taken to keep our community safe and we're looking forward to creative solutions as the pandemic continues. Of course as indicated on the survey we'd love an improvement at Willoughby Farms park. Thank you for asking for our feedback.	7/31/2020 3:59 PM
19	Time to modernize our park system and bike trails. Keep on developing nature spaces and incorporate the hills and river into the plan.....Parks need bathrooms	7/31/2020 3:33 PM
20	Would really like to see an indoor pool Aquatic center aquatic center near Randall Road and an indoor ice-skating facility in the village	7/31/2020 3:25 PM
21	Seems silly to create another series of programs when working out a deal with Dundee Park District would be much more cost effective. You would have everything people want.	7/31/2020 3:19 PM
22	Please update pedestrian crossing on Stonegate Rd, so that children can cross safely to Turnbridge Park. The park needs clean up after all the trees were cut down. There is space to add more amenities there. In the past 4 years dozens of families with young children moved to the area and there is no adequate park...	7/31/2020 2:34 PM
23	Willoughby Park is in horrible condition and the village should be ashamed that they have neglected it to this point.	7/31/2020 1:18 PM
24	Pickleball courts please! I will help to organize, build etc. Doug, 815-329-3412	7/31/2020 11:29 AM
25	Maintain what you have first before acquiring more that is not going to be maintained	7/31/2020 10:00 AM
26	Algonquin Rocks!!!! We have a lot of fabulous public spaces, but we need to get with the times	4/22/2020 5:31 PM

and design those spaces for all age groups. What are the more affluent burbs doing that is cool? Naperville, Downers Grove, Park Ridge, etc? We want to grill and have some beers too and socialize

27	Was on the FB post and appreciate the link to the survey. We enjoy Algonquin and all the parks and are fortunate to have many parks nearby. We live 2 blocks from Hill Climb Park. Its a great space but sorely needs an update. The equipment needs updating, their is space for a splash pad, the gazebo needs a makeover with the historic newspaper articles are completely ruined. And lastly, the lookout has so much potential and is wasted with overgrown trees. Across the street, we have the half court basketball which is great but the other equipment there is absolutely never used. Could be a full court basketball or a tennis court added to the space. Overall I think there we initially good ideas but they need a makeover and maybe a few additions will all that space while still keeping the nature around! Thanks for reading! Overall we love the parks so don't want to sound too much like a complainer : )	4/22/2020 5:02 PM
28	Thanks for reaching out!	4/22/2020 4:51 PM
29	Please improve High Hill playground with new equipment. There are so many families in the neighborhood and there are no other parks in walking distance. The playground is very dated and small. Please consider!!	4/22/2020 4:00 PM
30	Recreation center would be a great addition to the village as well as a public golf course. This would give opportunities for jobs and increase availability for residents to stay in town for their extra curricular activities.	3/30/2020 6:38 PM
31	Thank you for providing the services to the community & the opportunity to provide feedback for future planning.	3/19/2020 1:31 PM
32	We moved here in 97 with our young and expanding waiting for Algonquin to offer more for our family. Always felt that we should have moved on the other side of County line Rd.. Where Dundee had so much to offer with facilities.	3/19/2020 6:35 AM
33	Consider having one or more Park and neighborhood cleanup days to clean up the litter and other trash. Promote it in a fun way and provide bags and the like to facilitate the cleanup.	3/17/2020 9:21 PM
34	Need more adult places and activities. Outdoor fitness equipment would be nice. A dog park would be great.	3/13/2020 10:27 AM
35	Thanks for asking residents for our input. Parks are great. I'd like to see new or different location for exercise classes like Zumba. The historic village hall is horrible!	3/11/2020 6:08 AM
36	It would be nice to have more indoor facilities, a recreation building with an indoor pool and workout areas. Algonquin doesn't come close to surrounding areas in what they offer.	3/10/2020 5:55 PM
37	Really could use an indoor pool/aquatic center	3/9/2020 1:57 PM
38	We are in the portion of Algonquin that belongs to Dundee Township so we do not want a recreation center that we are taxed on since we are already taxed on Dundee Township and use that fitness center. Also there are many fitness options within Algonquin area such as Fitness 19, Lifetime Fitness, etc. I do think that a swimming pool on the West side of town would be beneficial since the one by snapper field is far for lots of residents. But this needs to be weighed with helping keep Northwestern Fitness and Pool and Lifetime Pool and fitness open.	3/9/2020 8:39 AM
39	Really disappointed in this town with what is offered. Have not seen any other town with so few facilities offered. Love living here, but a almost non existent recreation department is pathetic. Shouldn't have to use other private facilities for the Rec department offerings. One place we use often is the pool but that is dated and not offering near what other cities have.	3/6/2020 5:34 PM
40	We love Algonquin and each year we see improvements, so thank you. I think less events but higher stakes events might be attractive. The truth is, we take swimming lessons at the Algonquin pool, but have passes in another community for pool usage. Offerings for children 7-14 seem lacking and sports aren't hosted by the village, which makes it hard for children to try something out without the high pressure of a private team.	3/6/2020 3:01 PM
41	You need to provide information about all the parks and facilities that are available in Algonquin	3/6/2020 12:49 PM
42	Dog park would be number one priority. next updated modern aquatics center, community fitness center and indoor aquatics.	3/5/2020 10:33 PM
43	I have lived in Algonquin nearly my entire life. Keep the pool. Mow the sports fields more. Keep Terrace Hill a golf course.	3/5/2020 10:13 PM
44	We love living here in Algonquin, but our only issue is we are paying so much in taxes and not getting much in return. No indoor pool, our outdoor pool is small and outdated, the splash pads are small and other towns have somewhat of a water park. I would love to see the outdoor pool get a makeover along with the possibility of adding an indoor pool for swim teams other aquatic sports.	3/5/2020 9:17 PM
45	My 3 grandsons visit at least once a week and more often during summer We are at the pool always and they take the swimming lessons and we all love them.	3/5/2020 7:04 PM
46	Hill Climb Park has a beautiful overview of the river and downtown area, however this area is	3/5/2020 10:30 AM

	over grown from trees over the year - cleaning it out would make it a much more desirable place to visit.	
47	Algonquin is gaining a lot of Young residents with children. There are not enough programs, fitness for moms with childcare, not to mention that Algonquin is the only town WITHOUT A PARK DISTRICT building. Also, village should add a pedestrian crossing on Randall/Hamish intersection. There is a library down the street but walking there is impossible!	3/5/2020 10:01 AM
48	Algonquin has a great community, but it needs a place to gather.	3/5/2020 9:41 AM
49	Update the parks	3/4/2020 7:44 PM
50	Terrace Hill Golf course should be made into a large space like dickie park in Huntley to attract younger generations the way the high line did in New York City. The commercial spaces are becoming vacant and malls are closing let's plan for future not just more tax revenue	3/3/2020 8:07 PM
51	Glad to see the focus on native plant area restoration	3/3/2020 12:52 PM
52	Having indoor places for parents to take their kids (whether for classes or to spend time as a family) would be so nice to have. When our kids get antsy during the winter months we often go to bouncy house places. It'd be nice if there was a childrens museum of sorts in Algonquin. Maybe even one that educates about the history of Algonquin or Illinois.	3/3/2020 11:23 AM
53	I would like to see an endeavour at offering composting as well as curbside leaf pick up.	3/3/2020 10:08 AM
54	Take care of the existing parks with updating equipment lions park especially and add more seating in play area like original park plan.	3/2/2020 7:20 PM
55	Please invest in care and updating of existing facilities before spending elsewhere.	3/2/2020 5:34 PM
56	Summarize - keep the focus on upgrading and maintaining existing parks. Based on our changing demographics, it doesn't seem like we need new parks. Would like to see a strong focus on nature preserves and undisturbed areas for wildlife/nature.	3/2/2020 10:16 AM

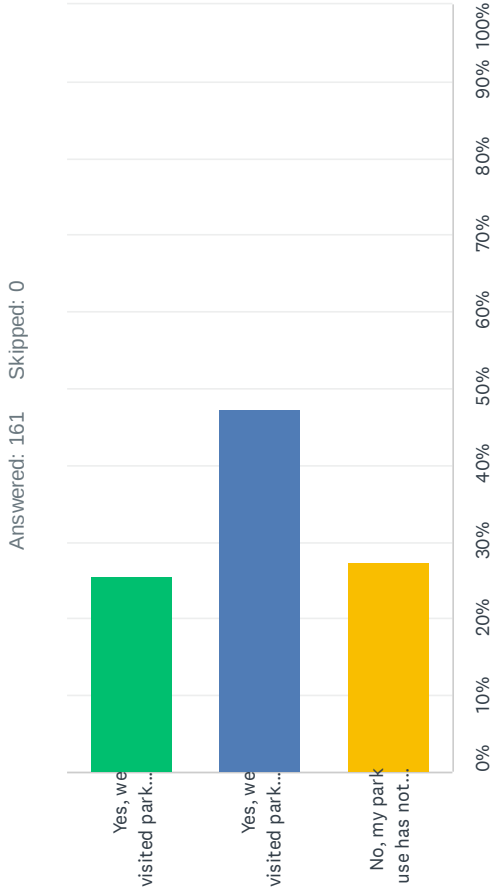
Q1 About how many times have you or members of your household visited a Village of Algonquin park or facility within the past 6 months? (Pick one)



NSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
or more times per week	37
-2 times per week	29
-2 times per month	31
few times	35
ever	28
OTAL	160

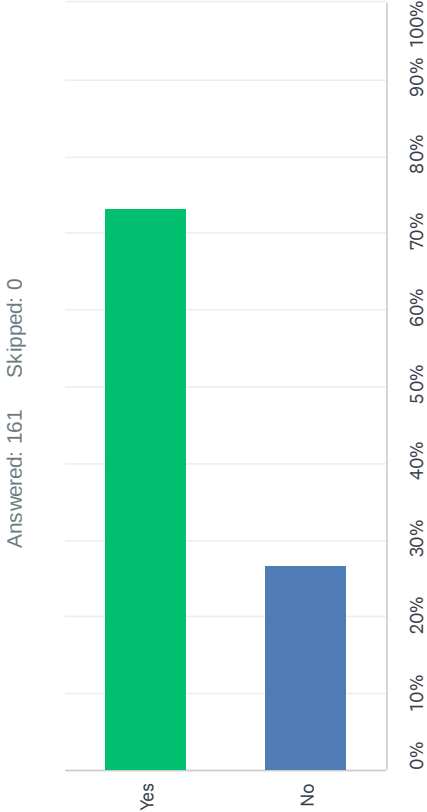


Q2 Has your and members of your household's use of OUTDOOR parks and recreation changed due to the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic?



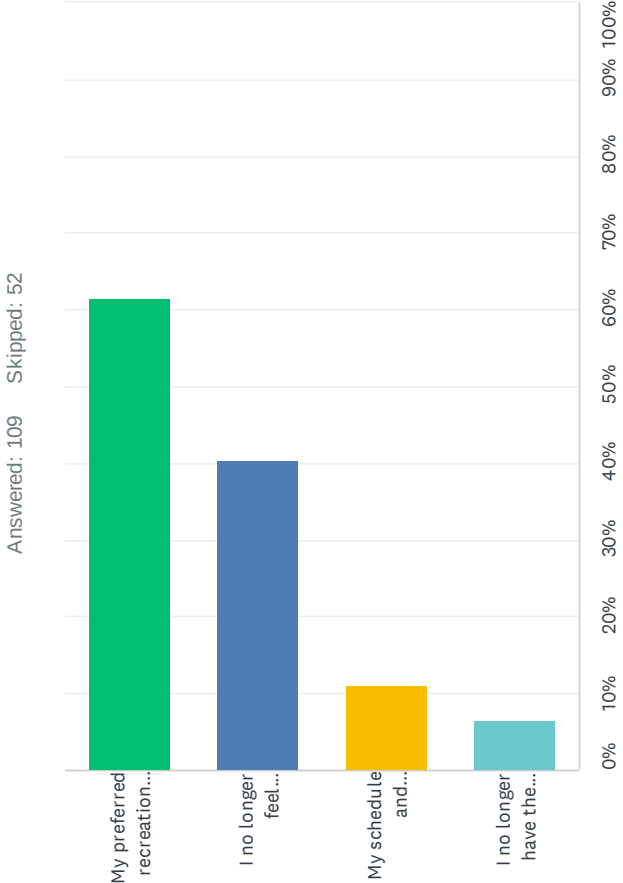
NSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
es, we visited parks more frequently	4125.47%
es, we visited parks less frequently	7647.20%
o, my park use has not changed	4427.33%
OTAL	161

Q3 Have the recreation needs of you and your household changed due to the COVID-19 pandemic?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
es	118
o	43
OTAL	161

Q4 How have the recreation needs of you and your household changed?  
(select all that apply)



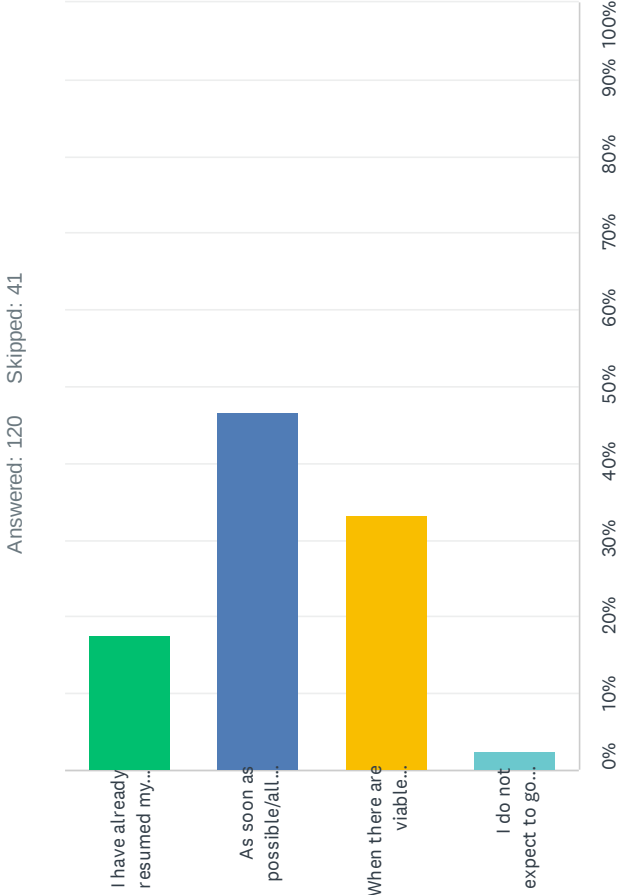
NSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
ly preferred recreation activities are not being offered	6761.47%
no longer feel comfortable/safe participating in my preferred recreation activities	4440.37%
ly schedule and availability changes prevent me from participating in my preferred recreation activities	1211.01%
no longer have the resources I need to participate in recreation activities	76.42%
otal Respondents: 109	

## Plug into Algonquin Recreation - Post-Pandemic Survey

SurveyMonkey

OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)		DATE
I still work out everyday and attend the rec center fitness center 4-5 times a week. COVID has not scared me. Been working everyday since the 5 month flattening of the curve began		8/26/2020 8:20 PM
The parks and pool were closed for the summer. Parks opened up so we did visit them then		8/23/2020 7:05 PM
Family members are working at home and we have more time to recreate together		8/21/2020 5:37 PM
I'd love to see more events allowing local artists and crafters the opportunity to sell their works. More time at home allows for more product creations.		8/21/2020 12:02 PM
I use the Park more often than ever		8/20/2020 8:55 PM
Recreational needs met elsewhere		8/20/2020 8:25 PM
Doing a lot more exercise outdoors because indoor classes, etc., cancelled		8/20/2020 8:02 PM
Can't use pool		8/20/2020 5:06 PM
We have lived in a historic home in Old Town residential area on La Fox since 1996. Due to massive construction and the intolerable amount of dust in the air -- plus hundreds upon hundreds of users of the Prairie Trail coming onto our sidewalks and streets every day of the week and 99.999 percent do not wear masks or social distance-- we are not comfortable doing our preferred activities.		8/19/2020 9:57 AM
0	Our kids have been part of the trails swim team for the past couple of years and due to the closing of the pool we could not have a team this year. which was sad in many ways! It would have been the 50th anniversary of the team!	8/10/2020 12:23 AM
1	Indoor yoga	8/9/2020 7:20 AM
2	We need more outdoor recreation space. Would love to see the parks updated.	8/7/2020 7:24 PM
3	We can not go to the pool in the summer.	7/31/2020 4:39 PM
4	We miss the pool so much.	7/31/2020 10:32 AM

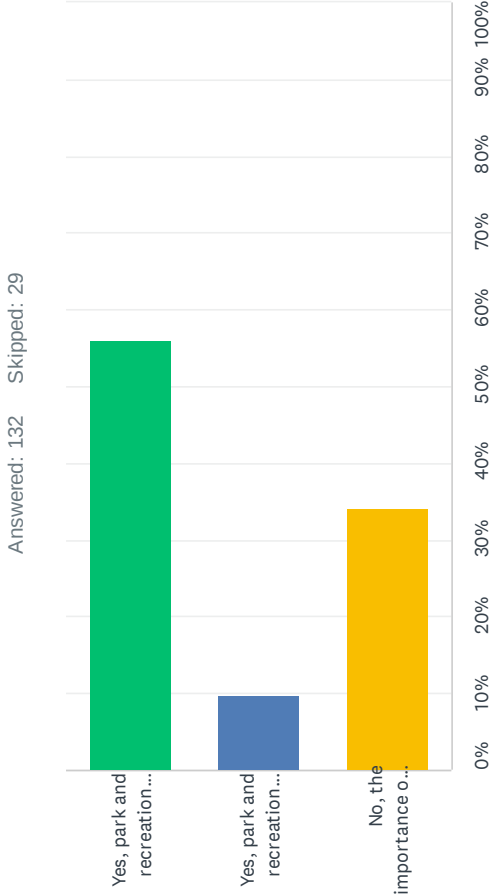
Q5 When do you expect your previous, pre-pandemic level of parks and recreation activity to resume?



NSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
have already resumed my previous activities	21
s soon as possible/allowed under reopening plans	56
hen there are viable treatments or preventative measures (i.e. vaccines, etc.)	40
do not expect to go back to my previous activities	3
OTAL	120

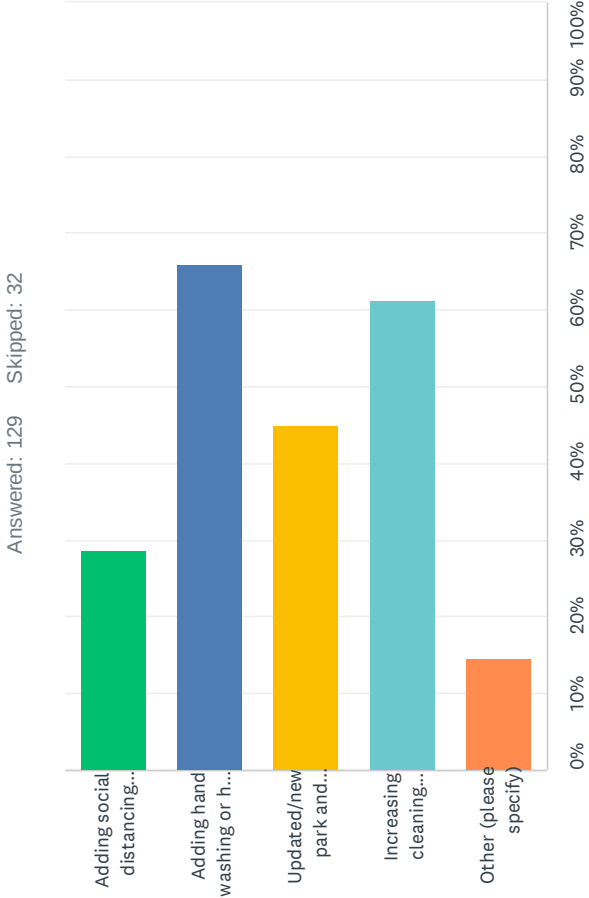


Q6 Has the importance of access to parks and recreation offerings for you and members of your household changed since the start of the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic?



NSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
es, park and recreation access is more important	74
es, park and recreation access is less important	13
o, the importance of park and recreation access is unchanged	45
OTAL	132

Q7 Are there any OUTDOOR recreation improvements needed to improve your comfort level when using parks? Select all that apply.



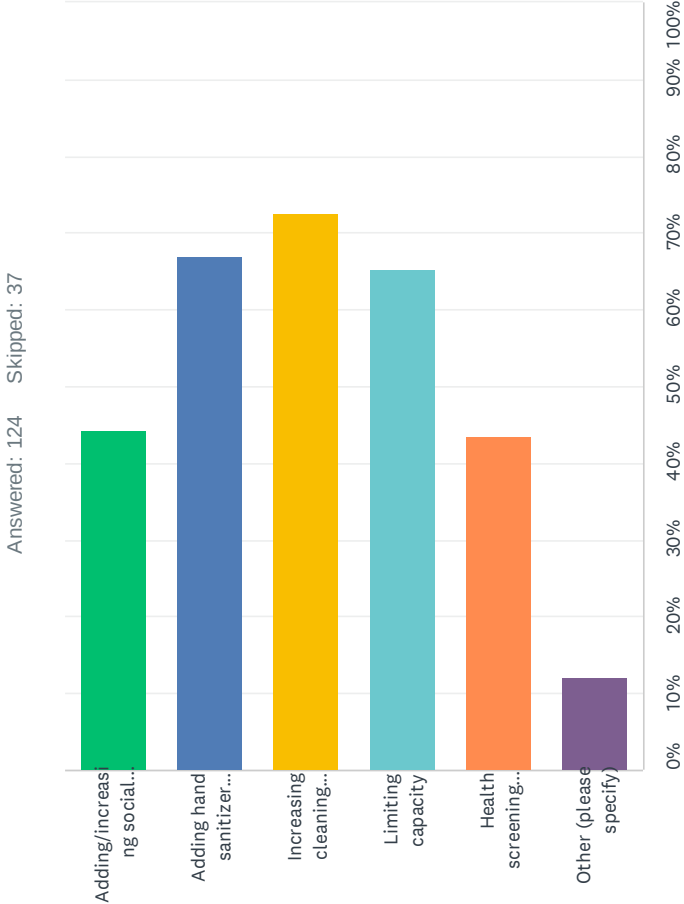
NSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
adding social distancing precautions (i.e. larger shelters, more space between benches, etc.)	37
adding hand washing or hand sanitizer stations	85
updated/new park and amenity rules (i.e. capacity limits, mask requirements, social distancing requirements)	58
increasing cleaning frequency and intensity	79
other (please specify)	19
Total Respondents: 129	

# Plug into Algonquin Recreation - Post-Pandemic Survey

SurveyMonkey

	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
	None apply to how I feel	8/26/2020 8:22 PM
	Nope. Everyone is fine. Just use your common sense and enjoy your life!!	8/25/2020 9:57 AM
	No one wears masks or stays 6 feet away. I don't feel safe.	8/22/2020 9:30 AM
	no	8/21/2020 5:38 PM
	Return the signs to Cornish park for the conservation area it should not be mowed !	8/21/2020 2:31 PM
	More trash receptacles so that we don't end up with masks and gloves littering our surroundings	8/21/2020 12:14 PM
	None	8/20/2020 10:19 PM
	People should be responsible for their own sanitation	8/20/2020 8:59 PM
	Please require masks	8/19/2020 9:59 AM
0	None needed. I'm comfortable	8/9/2020 2:04 PM
1	More shelters	8/8/2020 9:06 AM
2	The pool should have been opened.	8/7/2020 5:21 PM
3	No changes	8/2/2020 9:18 PM
4	Everyone should practice common sense according to health recommendations. Wear a mask when social distance not possible, etc.	8/2/2020 4:09 PM
5	No, we just want the Park District to do whatever possible to get the pool reopened.	8/1/2020 10:41 AM
6	I'm fine with Algonquin the way it is. There has been so much development in the last 15 years it's unrecognizable!	7/31/2020 11:02 PM
7	I think nothing should be concerning about outdoor activities.	7/31/2020 4:46 PM
8	Parks need to stay open.!	7/31/2020 4:45 PM
9	Needs more awareness so people should avoid if park is already occupied and people who are already in park should be more courteous	7/31/2020 9:24 AM

Q8 Are there any INDOOR recreation improvements needed to improve your comfort level when visiting recreation facilities? Select all that apply.



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Adding/increasing social distancing precautions (i.e. floor markers, spacing out or removing seating, adding fields/barriers, etc.)	44.35% 55
Adding hand sanitizer stations	66.94% 83
Increasing cleaning frequency and intensity	72.58% 90
Limiting capacity	65.32% 81
Health screening requirements (i.e. taking temperature, etc.)	43.55% 54
Other (please specify)	12.10% 15
Total Respondents: 124	

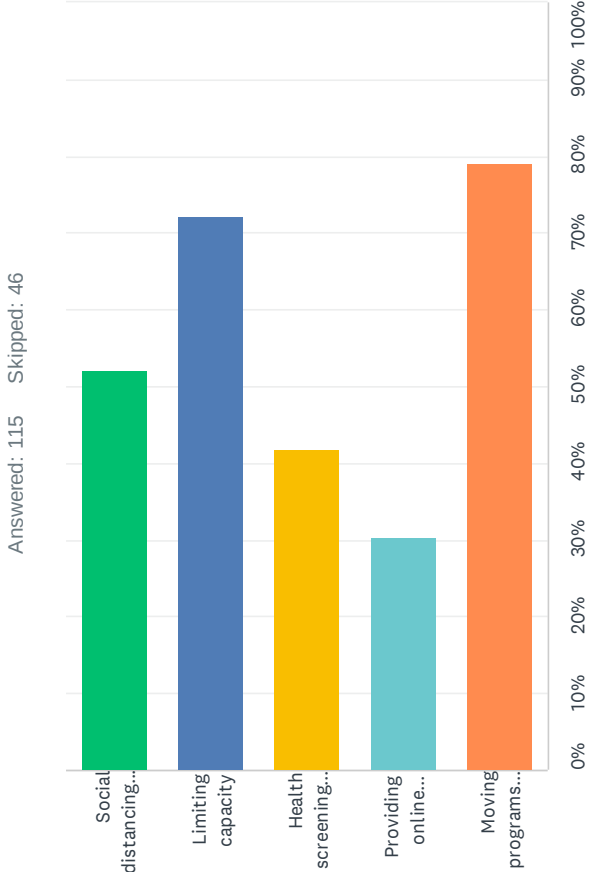
# Plug into Algonquin Recreation - Post-Pandemic Survey

SurveyMonkey

	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
	All is good at the rec center	8/26/2020 8:22 PM
	Nope! Open the businesses and let people live their lives. Enough already!!!!!!	8/25/2020 9:57 AM
	I won't be involved in indoor activities until there is a vaccine	8/21/2020 9:42 AM
	none	8/20/2020 10:19 PM
	Would not be comfortable indoors	8/20/2020 10:03 PM
	I stay away from indoors	8/20/2020 8:28 PM
	I take yoga on Tuesday nights and would like to be able to go to class in the winter inside. I fear that when the weather changes the classes will be cancelled. Summer weather has allowed us to practice outside and socially distant. Limiting class size and providing social distance measures for indoor practice might help. Thank you	8/20/2020 5:42 PM
	Require masks for entry	8/19/2020 9:59 AM
	None needed. I'm comfortable.	8/9/2020 2:04 PM
0	No, not ready for indoor close proximity yet.	8/7/2020 5:22 PM
1	normal cleaning	8/2/2020 9:18 PM
2	I don't want my tax dollars going towards anything else.	7/31/2020 11:02 PM
3	I do not sign up for indoor activities.	7/31/2020 4:46 PM
4	No improvements needed	7/31/2020 4:45 PM
5	Mask  requirement	7/31/2020 9:24 AM



Q9 Are there any recreation PROGRAM and EVENT improvements needed to improve your comfort level when participating? Select all that apply.



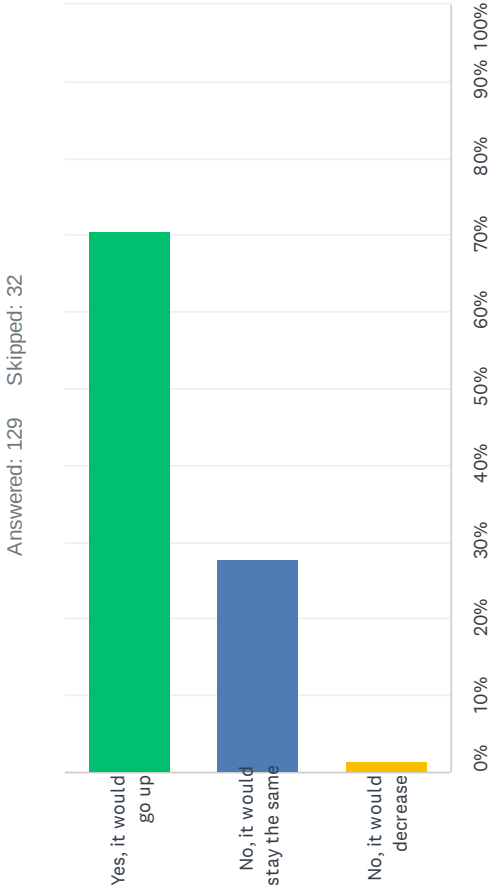
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
ocial distancing precautions (i.e. floor markers, etc.)	60
imiting capacity	83
health screening requirements (i.e. taking temperature, etc.)	48
roviding online alternatives	35
oving programs outdoors when possible	91
otal Respondents: 115	

# Plug into Algonquin Recreation - Post-Pandemic Survey

SurveyMonkey

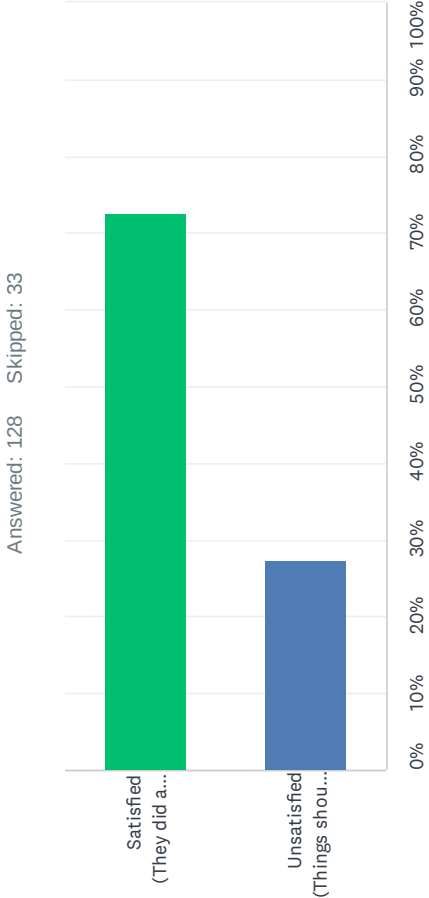
	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
	No	8/26/2020 8:22 PM
	Nope. Let people live their lives!!	8/25/2020 9:57 AM
	Would love to see Algonquin offer more recreational events catering to fine arts. Music events/concerts, art/craft fairs, ethnicity celebrations (such as Irish St Pats events, Italian festivals, Oktoberfests, etc)	8/21/2020 12:14 PM
	none	8/20/2020 10:19 PM
	See other comment	8/20/2020 5:42 PM
	Require masks indoors and outdoors	8/19/2020 9:59 AM
	None	8/9/2020 2:04 PM
	No, not ready for indoor close proximity yet	8/7/2020 5:22 PM
	None	8/7/2020 5:21 PM
0	No changes keep normal	8/2/2020 9:18 PM
1	No, we like the idea of reopening and giving people a choice whether to attend/participate or not.	8/1/2020 10:41 AM
2	People are responsible for themselves.	7/31/2020 11:02 PM
3	Swimming pool needed to be open. My young children miss is a lot.	7/31/2020 4:45 PM
4	Online video or zoom/google meets for zumba or other exercise classes would be wonderful, not just during the pandemic but always having that option would be so convenient.	7/31/2020 9:45 AM

Q10 If the above measures were met, would your demand for and participation in parks and recreation activities and programs increase?



NSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
es, it would go up	9170.54%
o, it would stay the same	3627.91%
o, it would decrease	21.55%
OTAL	129

Q11 How satisfied are you with the Village of Algonquin Park and Recreation Department's response to the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
atisfied (They did a good job)	93
nsatisfied (Things should have been done differently)	35
OTAL	128

**Q12 What could the Village of Algonquin Park and Recreation Department have been done better in their response to the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic?**

Answered: 28   Skipped: 133



## Plug into Algonquin Recreation - Post-Pandemic Survey

SurveyMonkey

RESPONSES		DATE
	Kept the parks and playgrounds open for children. Including school playgrounds.	8/27/2020 10:15 AM
	The parks need hand sanitizer stations at the very least.	8/26/2020 9:27 PM
	Let people decide for themselves what they want to do or not do.	8/25/2020 9:58 AM
	Make masks mandatory. Add hand sanitizer stations. I noticed nothing new on the bike paths.	8/22/2020 9:31 AM
	Not cancel everything	8/22/2020 8:00 AM
	Open parks. They are never overcrowded.	8/21/2020 8:41 AM
	Kept parks open. Give people an outlet for normalcy and a place to destress and kids to be kids	8/21/2020 2:27 AM
	What did you do as the Park and Rec Dept?	8/20/2020 9:00 PM
	Parks Playgrounds open earlier With increased daily cleaning. Focus all outdoor locations	8/20/2020 8:29 PM
0	No reason parks and basketball courts needed to close.	8/20/2020 5:51 PM
1	Require masks even for outdoor activities.	8/19/2020 10:00 AM
2	Maintain the parks better	8/10/2020 10:34 PM
3	They should have done whatever possible to open the swimming pool, even on a delayed timeline. Swim lessons, rentals, swim team and even open swim could have been utilized. The pool is an important community space for the eastside, the swim team is an important community for so many youth, and the job opportunities the pool provides for our teenagers are invaluable. It's so much more than just a pool. It's good for the mind, body and soul.	8/9/2020 2:07 PM
4	Allow but limit users for children's parks	8/8/2020 2:27 PM
5	Keep outdoor concerts and other outdoor activities going.	8/8/2020 8:07 AM
5	Opening the pool would have been great. We could have figured it out, the pool is chlorinated and feel it was closed preemptively.	8/7/2020 5:22 PM
7	rather than canceling so many things, work around the virus issues, e.g. limit the number of people, do some activities outside, mandate social distancing and mask wearing, etc.	8/5/2020 11:07 PM
3	Not closed the playgrounds	8/4/2020 10:23 AM
9	Don't shut down. Keep normal! Let people make have there freedom to choose to access or participate.	8/2/2020 9:20 PM
0	Offer outdoor activities much sooner. Other communities have done outdoor classes for some time. Outdoor activities while practicing social distancing important at this time.	8/2/2020 4:11 PM
1	We feel the decision to close the pool was done too quickly. Several area pools are now open and accommodating recreational swimming, swim teams and lessons. We think the pool could have opened with certain precautions. This would have provided jobs, revenue, community camaraderie and a lot of happy children/families.	8/1/2020 10:46 AM
2	We can spend tax dollars more wisely.	7/31/2020 11:02 PM
3	As a 20 year resident homeowner, I have always been disappointed by how few programs the dept offers. Most are contracted out. The program brochure is really just a marketing medium that for-profit businesses take advantage of.	7/31/2020 10:11 PM
4	I feel like everything was cancelled - would have appreciated more summer camp options for kids	7/31/2020 5:32 PM
5	Playgrounds should of open earlier, not in mid June 2020. Being outdoor is good for your health and boosts your immunity. People should not be limited that much when we talk about outdoor activities, because this is against their health. This applies for pool, beaches, playgrounds ....	7/31/2020 4:50 PM
5	Keep the parks open. Swimming pool should have been opened.	7/31/2020 4:45 PM
7	Waited longer on closing pools. Many towns opened with precautions in place	7/31/2020 3:54 PM

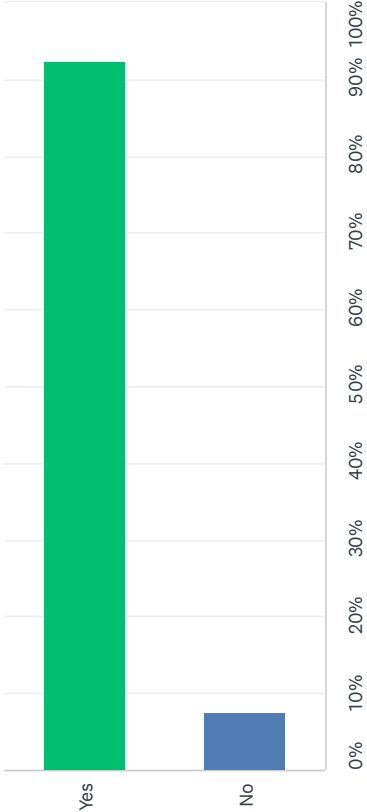
## Plug into Algonquin Recreation - Post-Pandemic Survey

SurveyMonkey

3      having playgrounds open after the first month of shut down being outdoors is the best place for kids      7/31/2020 11:24 AM

Q13 Are you a Village of Algonquin resident?

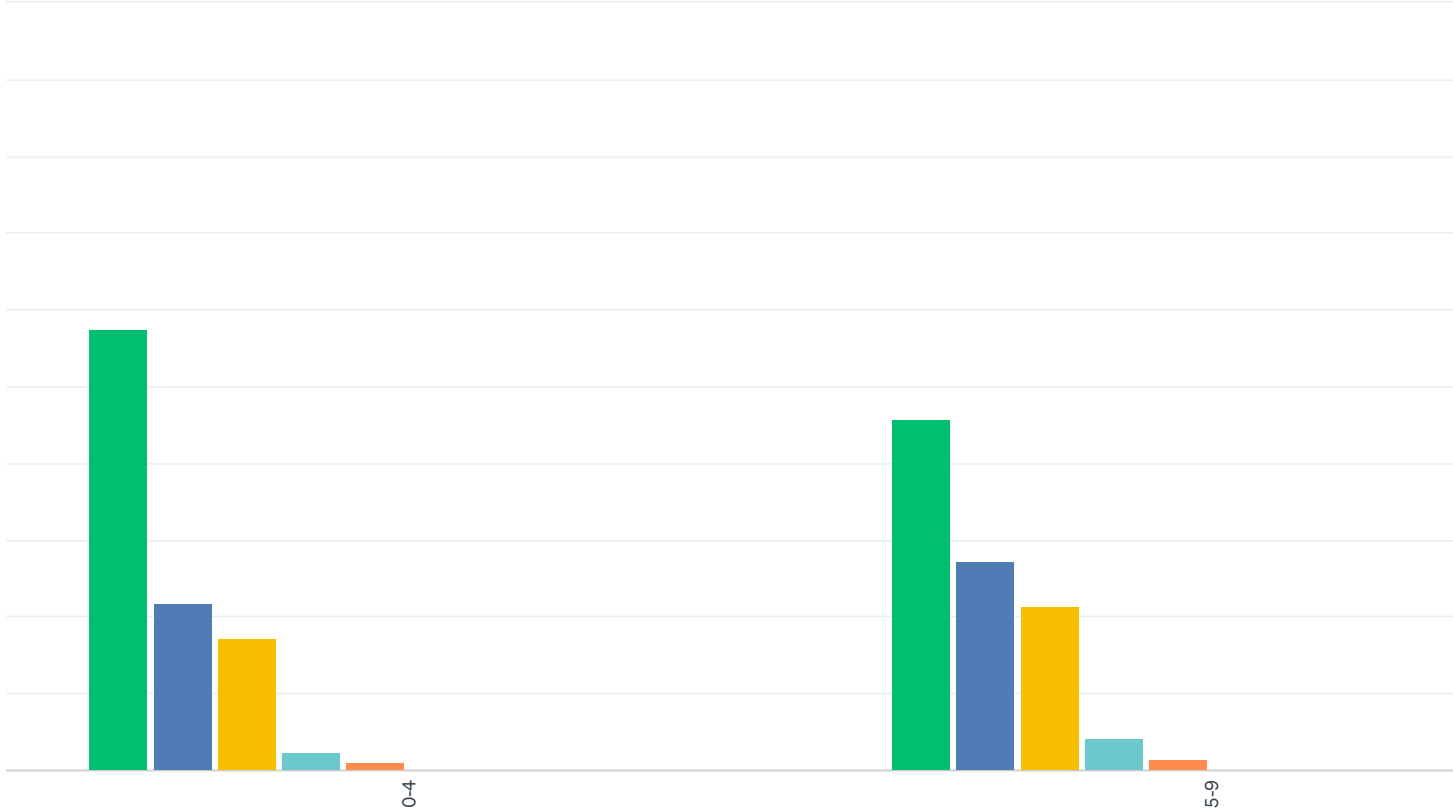
Answered: 134 Skipped: 27

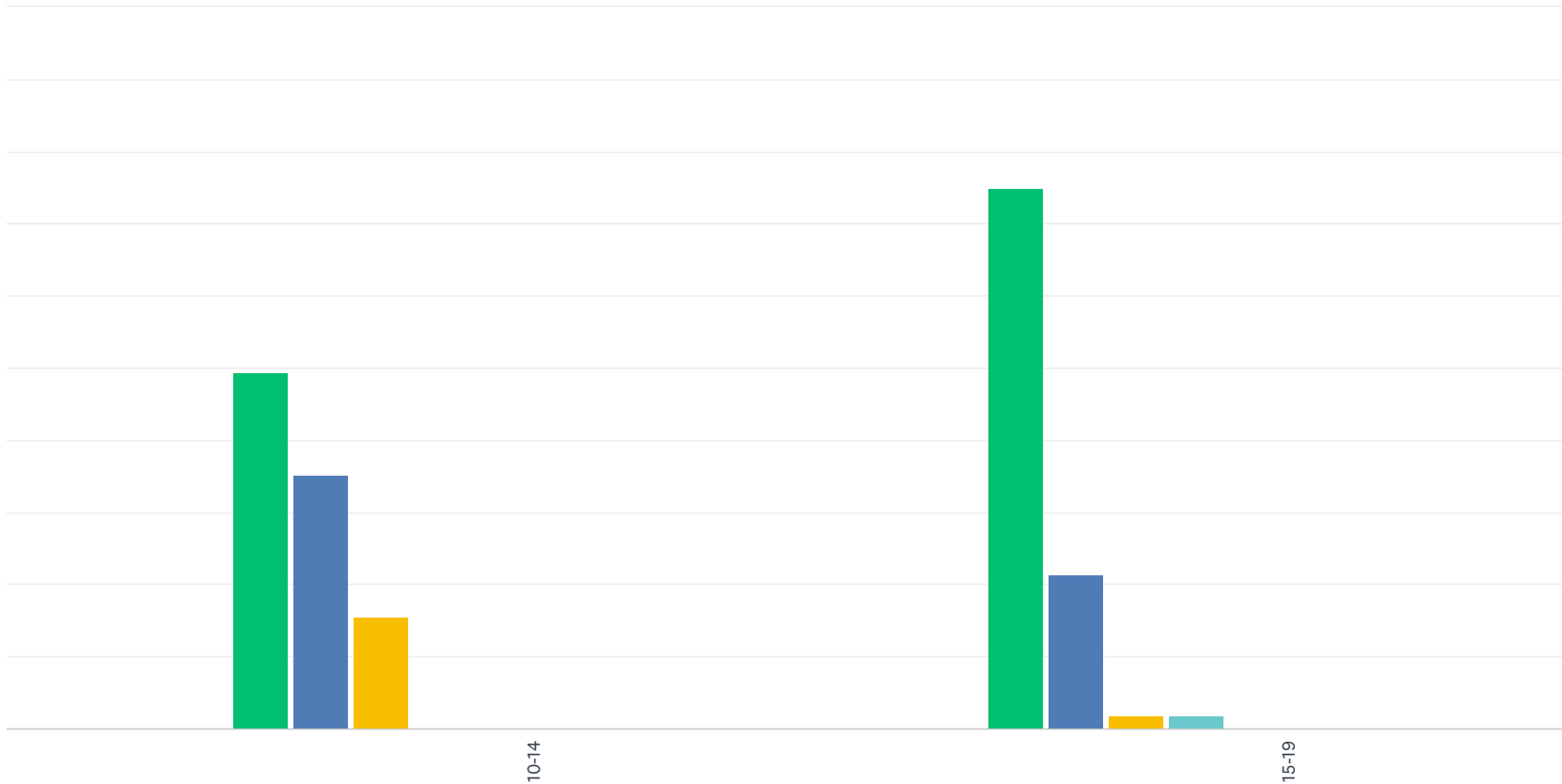


NSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
es	12492.54%
o	107.46%
OTAL	134

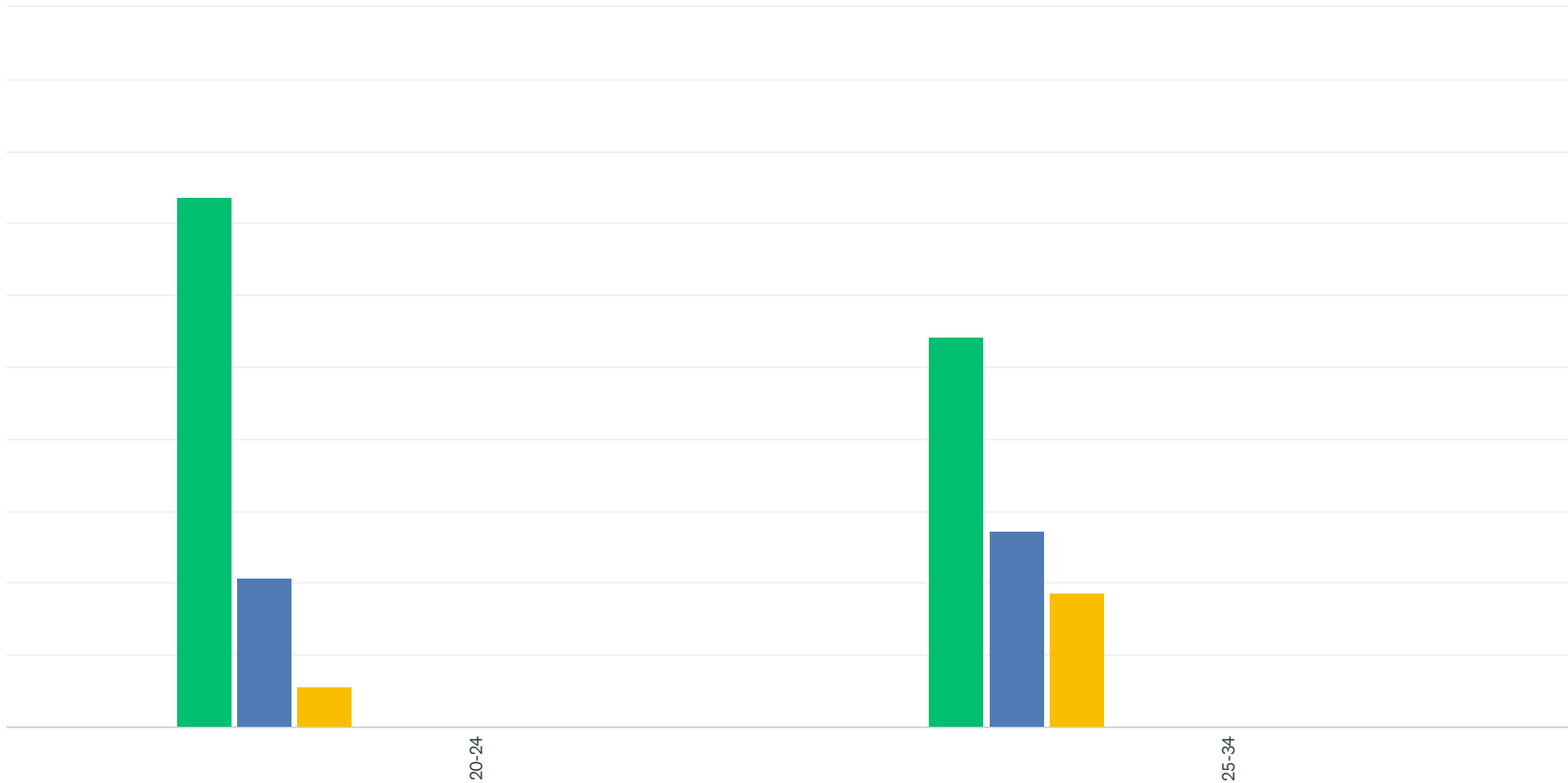
Q14 How many people of each age group, including yourself, reside in your household?

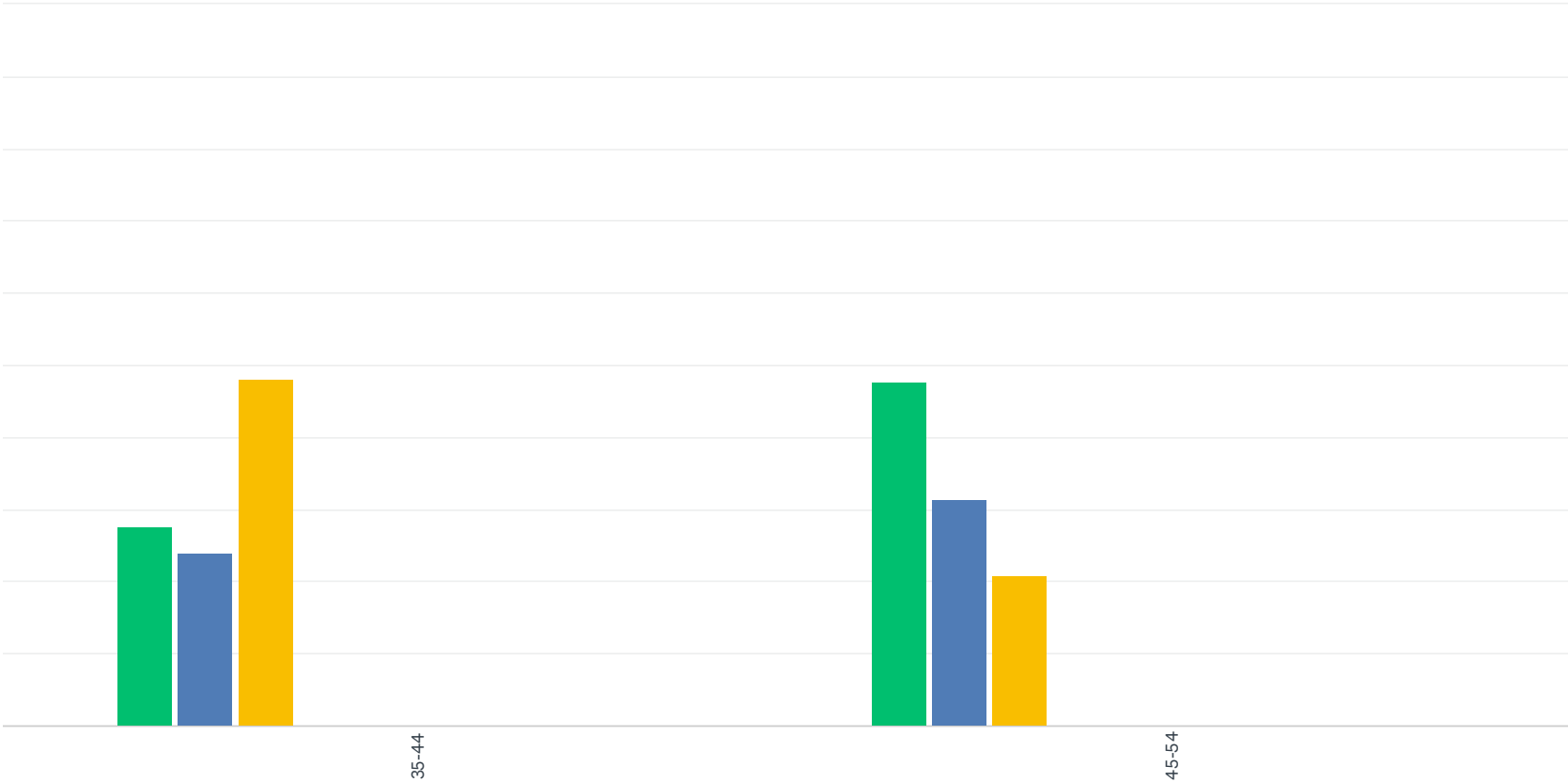
Answered: 131 Skipped: 30

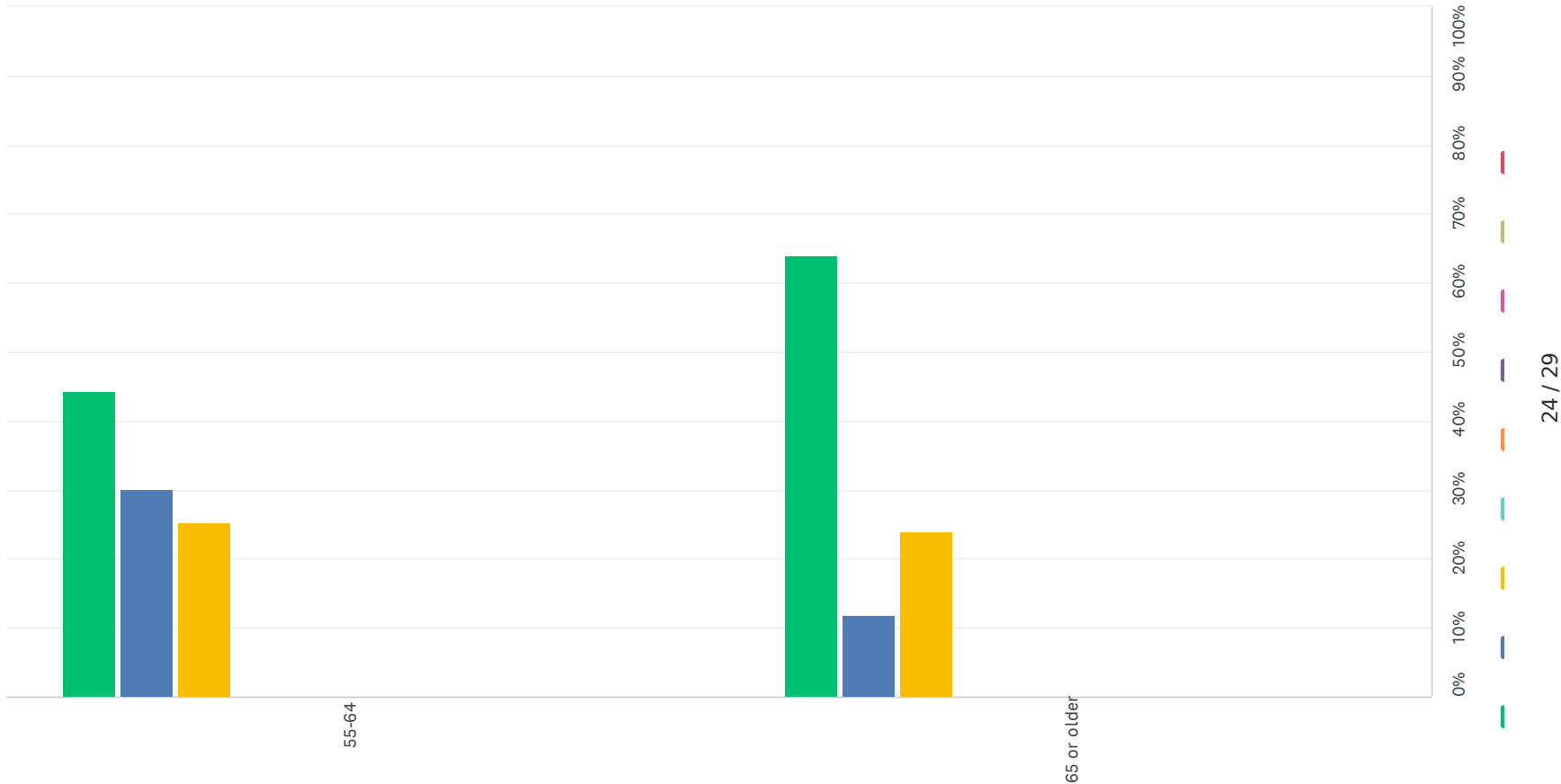


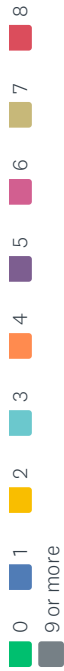






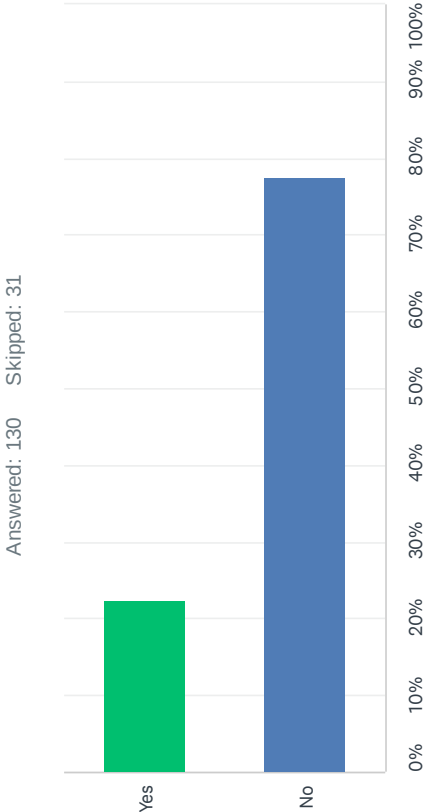






	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9 OR MORE	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
-4	57.47% 50	21.84% 19	17.24% 15	2.30% 2	1.15% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00%	87	1.68
-9	45.71% 32	27.14% 19	21.43% 15	4.29% 3	1.43% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00%	70	1.89
0-14	49.30% 35	35.21% 25	15.49% 11	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00%	71	1.66
5-19	75.00% 42	21.43% 12	1.79% 1	1.79% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00%	56	1.30
0-24	73.58% 39	20.75% 11	5.66% 3	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00%	53	1.32
5-34	54.24% 32	27.12% 16	18.64% 11	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00%	59	1.64
5-44	27.71% 23	24.10% 20	48.19% 40	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00%	83	2.20
5-54	47.76% 32	31.34% 21	20.90% 14	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00%	67	1.73
5-64	44.44% 28	30.16% 19	25.40% 16	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00%	63	1.81
5 or der	64.00% 32	12.00% 6	24.00% 12	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00%	50	1.60

Q15 Are you considered at high medical risk?



NSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
es	29
o	101
OTAL	130



Q16 Thank you for your participation! Please provide any additional comments here:

Answered: 27   Skipped: 134

	RESPONSES	DATE
	East side residents need a sidewalk on Sandbloom that goes all the way from Bolz to the Jewel. Many walkers and bikers - Very dangerous	8/29/2020 6:56 AM
	We were extremely disappointed with everything that had to be cancelled this year but we understand and support the village decisions. Hope for better days ahead!	8/23/2020 7:10 PM
	I don't have any!	8/23/2020 7:24 AM
	Don't cancel festivals etc anymore	8/22/2020 8:01 AM
	would like to see the tennis courts at Gaslight Park reopened. Would like to see 4 wall, environmentally controlled racquetball courts available for use.	8/21/2020 5:48 PM
	We played racketball regularly at Lifetime and don't feel comfortable going back to a large facility now. I would like access to racketball courts at a smaller facility.	8/21/2020 5:40 PM
	We love dogs. It would be great to see fun fundraising events for our local shelters, pet parades, more dog friendly establishments. Thank you Algonquin!!	8/21/2020 12:17 PM
	Thank you to all of the Village staff, you are all amazing.	8/21/2020 11:58 AM
	We need a new pool and a park district	8/21/2020 8:42 AM
0	please bring back pre pandemic days. There gave been more serious pandemics in the past such as H1N1, to which nothing changed. Put an end to this bs	8/20/2020 10:21 PM
1	Algonquins problem and this is from a 65 year resident is that EVERY road is torn up.It is so difficult to get around town. If we go west we cant get back home. Has anyone who in authority actually tried to take the river road detour?? The first detour sent you down Highland,cant turn left at Haegers Bend Rd so how were you supposed to get to your house on River Rd? Your answer is to go down Hubbard to South River and then attempt to cross Route 62 with construction traffic and parking obstructing your crossing view. It would help if the police department would enforce not blocking the intersection but they are too busy on the other side of town. Cary,Barrington and Fox River Grove have everything we need with no hassle	8/20/2020 9:57 PM
2	Thank you	8/20/2020 9:01 PM
3	Relatively well job, but would like to see more focus on parks and playgrounds. Also pool once it is safe to do so!	8/20/2020 8:33 PM
4	Could we possibly get some additional playground equipment for high hill park playground?	8/20/2020 8:23 PM
5	Would like more sports and activities for age 5 preferably afternoon times	8/20/2020 8:08 PM
6	Please connect new Longmeadow Parkway to the bicycle trail	8/20/2020 8:04 PM
7	We're very upset with MCCD and the Prairie Trail path for steaming people into are very small neighborhood during massive construction and an unprecedented pandemic. Completely irresponsible. On any given day there are more than 600 people on our sidewalks and streets and they have absolutely no respect for the people who live here.	8/19/2020 10:04 AM
8	At one point this Spring/Summer it was frustrating as the bike path and sidewalks in our subdivision were both under construction, at the same time the parks were closed.	8/8/2020 11:16 AM
9	Entire family was disappointed the pool didn't open.	8/7/2020 11:24 PM
0	Would love to see the parks updated to what you might find in like St. Charles or Naperville (zip lining, mini golf, a MUCH better Algonquin pool and water park, include a lazy river, etc.)	8/7/2020 7:28 PM
1	Algonquin really needs to increase availability and number of pools possibly add a golf course, connected cycling paths etc.	8/3/2020 11:10 AM
2	Freedom!	8/2/2020 9:22 PM
3	I realize this is an unprecedented time. I hope the Park District will take whatever steps possible to open up and allow citizens to make a choice about what they are comfortable participating in. Thank you for serving us and for doing your best to make Algonquin a great place to live.	8/1/2020 10:49 AM
4	I recently visited Gaslight Park and it was a disaster. Litter, the ballpark is weeded over and full	8/1/2020 9:53 AM

## Plug into Algonquin Recreation - Post-Pandemic Survey

SurveyMonkey

of grass. It would be nice if the existing outdoor recreation areas could be cleaned up and made more pleasant for use, especially since our family is focused on keeping our activities outdoor for now.

5	Why is this titled "post" pandemic survey? We are still experiencing community spread with little to no way to mitigate the dangers of the virus. There is nothing to indicate that the risk to community members is in the past. You ask if I am at risk but you should have asked about family members as well. Two in my household are high risk and under a doctor's care.	7/31/2020 10:17 PM
5	It was wonderful that Jo continued on with her class through Zoom! It was so fun to see and work out with other people! Very appreciative of her taking the time I do that!	7/31/2020 12:26 PM
7	Thank you for doing this survey!	7/31/2020 9:46 AM

## Meeting Summaries

**Date:** March 4, 2020  
**Time:** 6:30 PM  
**Location:** Algonquin Village Hall, 2200 Harnish Drive, Algonquin, Illinois  
**Attendees:** April Williams  
 Debby Sosine  
 Camm Hendricks  
 Don Purn  
 Jeanine Soldner  
 Chuck Burgess  
 Ninetta Keenan  
 Margaaret-Ann Haas  
 Lisa Davis  
 Neil Davis  
 Mary Ryan  
 Carole Zui  
 Bob Smith  
 Ed Mudra  
 Michelle Schay  
 Steve Schay  
 Erika Walker  
 Wes Walker  
 Julie Kohl  
 Lisa Montognese  
 Barb Read  
 Laura Brehmer  
 John Spella  
 Steve Konters, HDG  
 Jack McGee, HDG

**RE:** Algonquin Park and recreation Master Plan

**Purpose of Meeting:**  
 Community Meeting

### Items Discussed:

Participants were given a notecard and asked to write down all their comments and suggestions for the Park District's future relating to parks, facilities, programs, and services. They then selected the four items most important to them and the HDG staff organized the responses into the following categories:

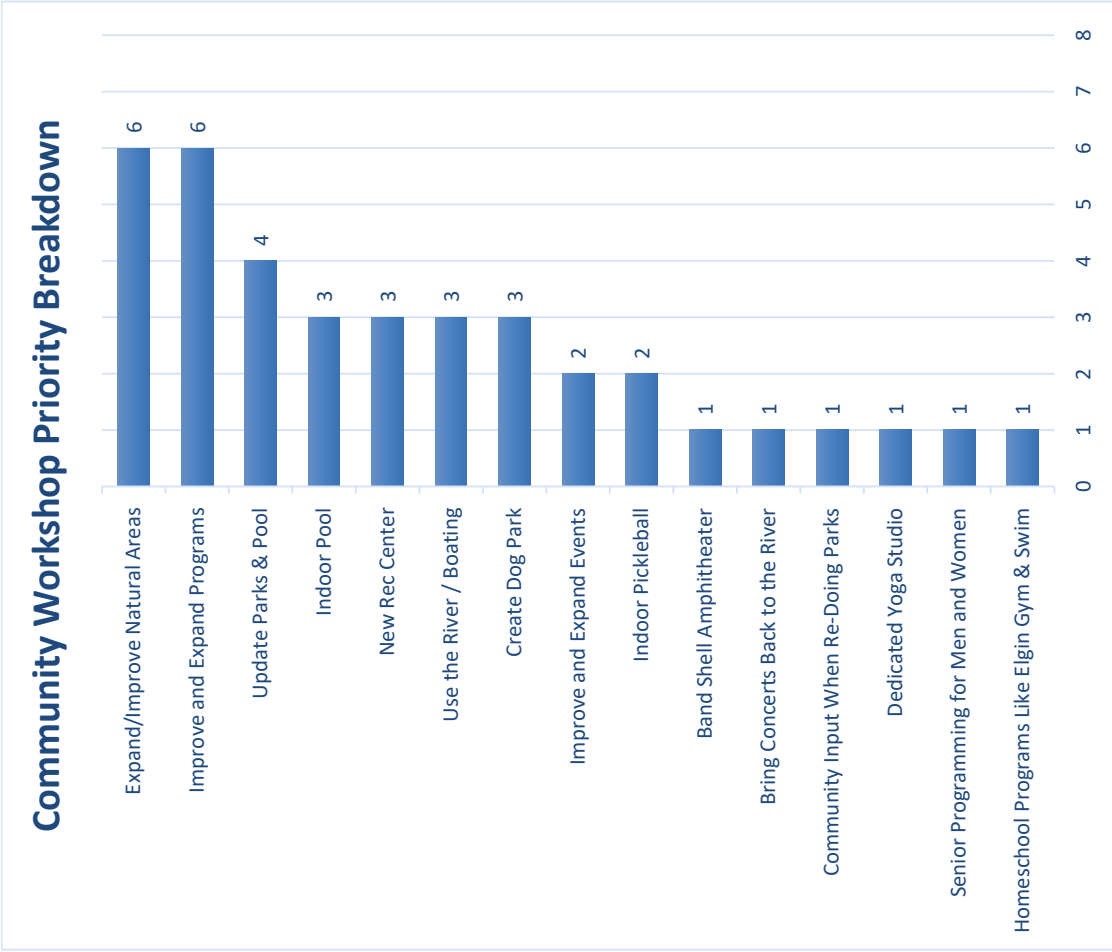
1. Indoor Pool
  - a. Need Indoor Pool
  - b. Indoor Pool
2. New Rec Ct.
  - a. Real Exercise Facility
  - b. Rec Center (for classes)
  - c. Recreation Building



- d. Sports Dome
    - e. Build an Indoor Sports Recreation Center
  3. Update Parks & Pool
    - a. Update Pool
    - b. Maintain Existing Parks / Update Community Input When Re-Doing Parks
    - c. More Funding to Fix Park Properties
    - d. Make Town Park Available by Fixing Flooding
  4. Expand / Improve Natural Areas
    - a. More Habitat Restoration
    - b. More Natural Areas
    - c. Natural Habitat
    - d. Natural Habitat Restoration (Natives)
    - e. Habitat Restoration
    - f. Restore Natural Landscapes
  5. New Outdoor Opportunities
    - a. Band Shell Amphitheater
    - b. Add an Algonquin Version of Crystal Lakes Three Oaks Center
    - c. Pond for Fishing
  6. Create Dog Park
    - a. Create Dog Park
    - b. Want Dog Park with Multiple Fenced Areas
    - c. Create a Free Dog Park
  7. More & Improved Trails
    - a. More Hiking Trails
    - b. Easier Access to Parks/Trail
    - c. Walking Trails
    - d. More Passive Bike Trails
    - e. Mountain Bike Trails (Single Track)
  8. Use the River / Boating
    - a. Make Use of River (Kayaking)
    - b. River / Lake Access / Kayak / SUP
  9. Improve & Expand Programs
    - a. Yoga Classes
    - b. Dedicated Yoga Studio
    - c. Better Coaches & Instructors for Children's Camps
    - d. Indoor Pickleball
    - e. Indoor Racket Ball
    - f. Active Senior Programs
    - g. Senior Programming for Men and Women
    - h. Cooking Class
    - i. Homeschool Programs like Elgin Gym & Swim
  10. Improve & Expand Events
    - a. Upgrade of Bands at Founders' Days
    - b. Founder's Day needs to be Downtown
    - c. Fun Street Festivals in Downtown, Live Music
    - d. More Community Events
    - e. Bring Concerts Back to the River



After the categories were established, attendees were given four stickers to vote on the items most important to them. They could vote on a category or an item within it and could vote for the same thing multiple times.



### Meeting Summaries

Date: August 19, 2020  
 Time: 10:00 AM  
 Location: Online Conference Call  
 Attendees: Amanda Lichtenberger  
 Mathew Bajor  
 Michael Kumbara  
 Tim Schoneger  
 Kevin Crook  
 Brian Parker  
 Katie Gock  
 Stacey VanEnkevort  
 Andrew Pieri  
 Dennis Walker  
 Mitch Slabinski  
 Russ Farnum  
 Amanda Buchanun  
 Nick Tepper  
 J. Diamond  
 M. Huff  
 Bridget Deatrick, Hitchcock Design Group (HDG)  
 Steve Konters, HDG

**RE: Algonquin Park and Recreation Master Plan**

**Purpose of Meeting:**  
 Staff Workshop

**Items Discussed:**

Participants were asked to write down all their comments and suggestions for the Park and Recreation District’s future relating to parks, facilities, programs, and services. They then selected the two items most important to them and the HDG staff organized the responses into the following categories:

- 1. Aquatics
  - A. Splash pad at Towne Park
  - B. Upgrade splash pad
  - C. Water park with more attractions for guests
  - D. Continue upgrades at pool
- 2. Add Dog Park
  - A. Dog park
  - B. Dog Park (2)
  - C. Dog park not appropriate

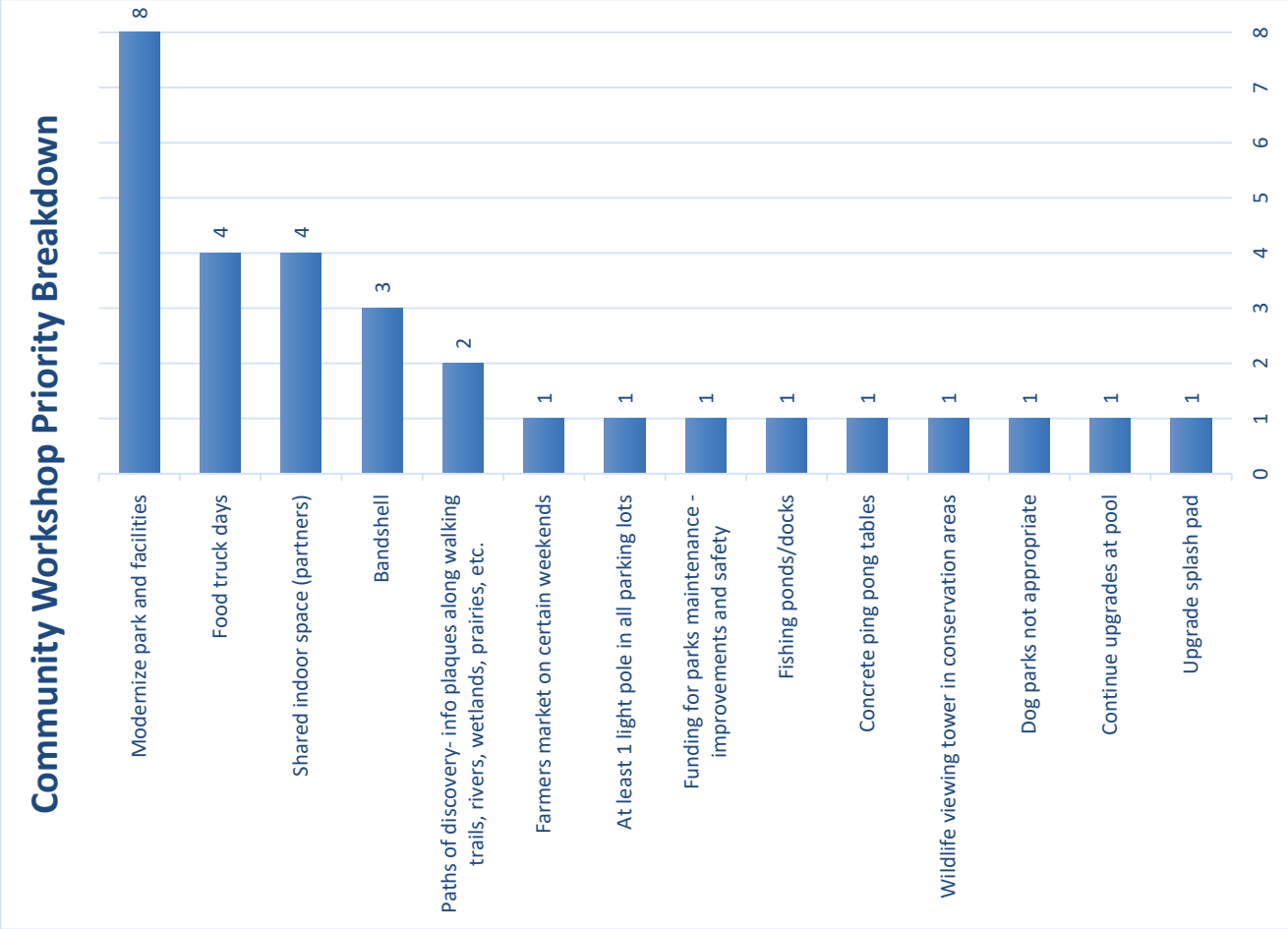
### Staff Workshop Summary



3. Upgrade Outdoor Space
  - A. Modernize park and facilities
  - B. Update Towne Park
  - C. Upgrade playground equipment
4. Environmental Education
  - A. Paths of discovery – info plaques along walking trails, river, wetlands, prairie, etc.
  - B. More trail markers on our trails
  - C. Wildlife viewing tower in conservation areas
  - D. Increased utilization of passive recreation opportunities
5. Winter Activities
  - A. Winter outdoor ice rink
  - B. Sledding hill
6. New Park Amenities
  - A. Concrete ping pong tables
  - B. Batting cages
  - C. Built in cornhole games
  - D. Skate park for teens
  - E. Bandshell
  - F. Outdoor movie area
7. Fishing
  - A. Fishing ponds/docks
  - B. Stocked fishing areas
8. New Programs/Activities
  - A. Painting in the park
  - B. Fun science or craft “how to” videos
  - C. Creative ideas for teens/young adults
  - D. Video game competitions
9. New Indoor Spaces
  - A. Shared indoor space (partners)
  - B. Community center with preschool/senior specific rooms
  - C. Indoor sports/gym complex
  - D. Recreation building with indoor track over gymnasium
10. Funding Prioritization
  - A. Funding for parks maintenance – improvements and safety
11. Public Safety
  - A. At least 1 light pole in all parking lots
  - B. Emergency call button in larger parks
12. Food Trucks
  - A. Food truck days
  - B. Food truck area
  - C. Food trucks during town events or concessions at parks like Cornish Park on busy weekends
13. New Events
  - A. Farmers market on certain weekends



After the categories were established, attendees were given 2 dots to vote on the items most important to them. They could vote on a category or an item within it and could vote for the same thing multiple times. Items that did not receive any votes are not included below.



## Meeting Summaries

Date: October 6th, 2020  
Time: 7:30 PM  
Location: Online Conference Call  
Attendees: Debby Sosine, Acting Village President  
Laura Brehmer, Trustee  
Jerry Glogowski, Trustee  
Janis Jasper, Trustee  
John Spella, Trustee  
Jim Steigert, Trustee  
Bridget Deatrick, HDG  
Christian Sanford, HDG  
Steve Konters, HDG

**RE: Algonquin Park and Recreation Master Plan**

**Purpose of Meeting:**  
Village of Algonquin Board Workshop

### Items Discussed:

Board members were asked what the Village of Algonquin Park and Recreation Department should focus on for the next 5-10 years and to write down all of their ideas. The participants participated in a brainstorming exercise where they were asked different questions help generate ideas. They then selected the two ideas most important to them and the HDG staff organized the responses into the following categories. At the end of the categorization exercise, the participants were given to opportunity to add ideas that had not been represented:

1. Expand Programming
  - A. More programs for seniors
  - B. More programs for seniors
  - C. Increase the amount of community events
  - D. Senior programming
  - E. Programming for all ages
  - F. Develop more outdoor programs (less rentals)
2. Communications
  - A. Improve communications amongst the different Village Departments/Partner Agencies
  - B. Improve awareness of offerings
  - C. Maximize relationships with outside groups
3. Park Improvements
  - A. Upgrading and modernizing park equipment and facilities
  - B. Upgrading/modernizing park equipment
  - C. Upgrade play equipment and ADA (not full park redo)
  - D. Upgrading park equipment
  - E. Bandshell for concerts

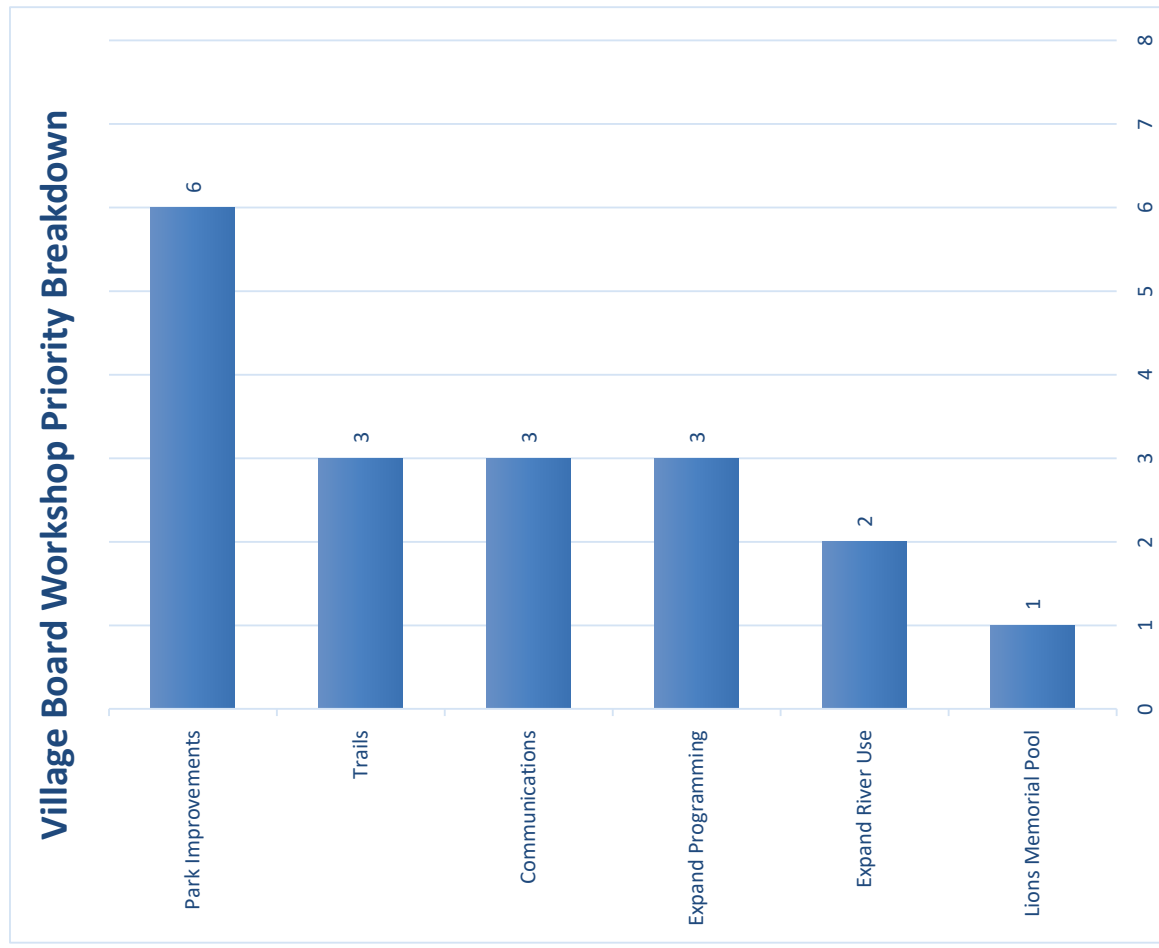




- F. Consider dog park
  - G. Make parks more ADA capable
  - H. Minimize vandalism
  - I. Vandalism issue
- 4. Lions Memorial Pool
    - A. Evaluate pool's long-term potential
  - 5. Trails
    - A. Continue trails and open space
  - 6. Expand River Use
    - A. Focus on recreational/natural opportunities for river (programming)
    - B. More programming/facilities on the river
    - C. River as resource (use of kayaks)



After the categories were established, attendees were given 2 dots to vote on the items most important to them. They could vote on a category or an item within it and could vote for the same thing multiple times. Attendees were then given one additional dot and asked to vote on one more category or item that they had not previously voted for. Items that did not receive any votes are not included below.



Park Name	Year Built
Kelliher Park	2003
Spella Park	2008
Willoughby Farms Park	1996
Hill Climb Park	2003
High Hill Park	1995
Cornish Park	2006
Riverfront Park	2000
Merrill Pioneer Park	1999
Algonquin Lakes Park	2003
Presidential Park	1980

