

PARKS + RECREATION

2024 GOALS

"To enhance the lives of residents by creating experiences for all"

Parks Director- Dominic Cornett Event Coordinator- Ana Gruber Event Coordinator- Samantha Baker

Event Coordinator- Bethany Hernandez

Maintenance Superintendent- Ben Campbell Parks Maintenance Tech- Kristian Leach Parks Maintenance Tech- Anthony Duckett Facility Maintenance- Logan Pollock



2024 Parks Departmental Goals

Parks, Trails & Facilities Action Plan

Work with the Town Planning Department to identify potential parcels of property to acquire for preservation and future parks in growth areas to keep park deserts from increasing.

Assess opportunities to add pocket parks to the community.

Develop a tree replacement program and identify locations where "next generation" trees should be planted, then apply for Tree City USA designation.

Master Plan for Giles Park.

Develop a Concept Plan for a Dog Park.

Develop a strategy to incorporate indoor recreation space into the system by partnering with organizations to develop programming.

Program and Events Action Plan

Survey the public for time of day and day of week most convenient for programming to be offered and develop programming to meet these needs.

Enhance quality of events and expand activities within the Independence Day Celebration and Farmers Market.

Research registration software to prepare for the development of programming and the means to process fees and registrations.

Develop a program plan that identifies park locations, target markets, financial commitments, and desired outcomes from programs and services developed.

Operations and Staffing Action Plan

Establish polices for revenue generation, program pricing, and partnerships.

Work with HR to build the necessary annual staff training calendar and onboarding checklist for new full time employees.

Develop a formal volunteer program policy and include opportunities in park beautification. Develop maintenance standards by level and assign levels and task to various locations

within the park system.

Develop a personnel plan to ensure staffing levels match the growth of the system.

Develop a lifecycle replacement schedule for all assets installed in the parks system, including infrastructure.

Develop a maintenance plan incorporating best practices in operations (CMMS guide, policies impacting park maintenance, maintenance standards, lifecycle replacement) Funding Action Plan

Identify and allocate funding for CIP Critical Projects- trail paving, infrastructure, etc. Identify funding sources to acquire land for creation of a new neighborhood park.

Use the sponsorship guide for opportunities to strengthen events and expand programming, including attendance figures in materials.

Develop a formalized volunteer program to maximize resources and contain costs.

1 MAIN STREET PARK



4286 S Main Street, Whitestown, IN 46075

Home of the Farmers Market, Easter Egg Hunt, Solar Jam, and Merry at Main

The Park:

- 6 Restrooms
- 50 Capacity Splashpad
- 2 Basketball Courts
- 2 Adult Tennis Courts
- 1 Youth Tennis Court
- Playground
- Turf Sensory Area
- 3 Lane Corn Hole court
- 1 Pickleball Court

- Shade structure added to Splash Pad.
- Identify space to add a rectangular field. (football, soccer, rugby, or volleyball)
- Add access control to restroom doors.

2 ANSON ACRES



4671 Anson Blvd, Whitestown, IN 46075

Home of Viking Fest and the Haunted Trick or Treat Trail.

The Park:

- 2 half basketball courts
- 4 turf corn hole lanes
- Shelter
 - o 3 restrooms
 - 4 picnic tables
- Inter- Park Trail loop

- Identify space to add a rectangular field (football, soccer, rugby, or volleyball).
- Possibly adding a corporate shelter that can hold 100+ people.
- Add access control to restroom doors.
- Adding electrical boxes around pond and trail to use for events.

3 PANTHER PARK



300 S. Buck St, Whitestown, IN 46075

Home of Hops & Hounds (Fall)

The Park:

- 3 Restrooms
- 1 Full Court Basketball
- Playground
- 1 Shelter
- Inter-Park Trail

- Identify space to add a rectangular field (football, soccer, rugby, or volleyball).
- New Benches around inter-park trail.
- Add access control to restroom doors.

4 GATEWAY PARK



6150 Gateway E. Dr, Whitestown, IN 46075

Home of Hops and Hounds (Spring)

The Park:

- Handicap accessible play structures
- Zip Line
- Swings
- Artificial Turf
- Solar Lighting

- Linear Dog Park
- Band Shelter
- Restrooms
- Tree planting
- Add Wi-Fi
- Seal Coat Trail

5 BIG 4 TRAIL



The Trail:

- 3.2 miles through the heart of downtown Whitestown.
- 3 Trailheads
- 3 Boardwalks

- Mile Markers going from Zionsville through Whitestown.
- Partnership with HMPPL to create story work along trail.
- Partner with Zionsville to activate the trail with recreational opportunities.
- Add exercise equipment along the trail.

6 GILES PROPERTY



4285 S. Main Street

The Park:

- 5 Acres of Land.
- Red Barn on property.
- Significant Trees (Planted by the Giles brothers)
- 2 Silos

- Have community engagement sessions to determine what amenities will go on this site. We will use the 2023 Park Master Plan, and information from the community engagement meetings.
- Develop a master plan for Giles Park to determine the potential future of the barn.
- Work with a design firm to produce images of what this site would look like.
- Identify funding to complete the park plan.

7 JACKSON RUN PARK



2816 Grassy Branch Drive (Rendering of Possibilities)

The Park:

- 42 Acres of undeveloped green space.
- Future connections to Prairie Chase, Prairie Chase 2, and to Main Street.

- Install a new park sign to identify the land as a Whitestown recreational space.
- Purchase and install "Nature" themed playground at this site.
- Work with DNR and the planning department to add trails and bridges that will connect the Prairie Chase neighborhoods to Jackson Run Park.
- Install a Disc Golf Course.

8 EVENTS













9 INVOLVEMENT

IPRA:

- Dominic Cornett is currently the President of the Indiana Parks Foundation Board of Directors through 2025.
- Samantha Baker is currently serving on the Indiana Parks Foundation Board of Directors.

National Conference (Atlanta, GA in 2024):

- The conference is geared towards improving the health of communities for all people through parks recreation and conservation.
- Benefits for the staff include further education and training necessary to better themselves professionally and in their roles with Whitestown.

Other Certifications/ Professional Development:

- Dominic Cornett will begin the Certified Public Manager Course through Ball State University in March of 2024.
- Samantha Baker and Ana Gruber will attend Indiana University's Executive Development Program in April 2024.
- Kristian Leach will obtain his CPSI (Certified Playground Safety Inspector) Certification.
- Logan Pollock and Anthony Duckett will obtain their AFO (Aquatic Facility Operators) Certification.

Goal:

- Get Whitestown more Involved with parks at the State and National Level.
- Have staff attend the National Conference (Atlanta, GA in 2024).
- To have well trained and certified Park professionals that will continue to be assets for the Town of Whitestown.







10 PARK MAINTENANCE



2024 Mowing Goals:

Weekly:

- Panther, Anson, Gateway, Giles Property, and Main Street parks are mowed and trimmed by a contractor.
- Parks Department Crew mow the trail and trail heads.
- Weed trimming at all trail heads/crossings.
- The Parks Department Crew will mow the Parks Maintenance shop area.
- The open field just north of the houses on Pierce and west of Walnut St.

As Needed:

- Bush hog the fields East of Lions Park, North of Pierce St., and West of Jackson Run.
- Bush hog/trim West ditch of Anson Park as needed. For events like Viking Fest.

2024 Horticulture/Landscaping Goals:

Weekly:

- Pull/spray weeds at all flower and sign beds. Larger weeds will be pulled and then sprayed. Smaller less noticeable weeds will just be sprayed.
- Water all existing flower beds at least twice per week to ensure growth stays healthy.

• Water any new flowers or plantings 3-5 days per week. Heavier watering in hot/dry conditions.

As Needed:

• Trees/bushes trimmed as needed if overhanging into parking lot/sidewalks or low hanging causing an impedance or hazard.

Seasonal:

- Rose bushes at main street trimmed back after end of season to allow new growth next season.
- Tall grasses trimmed at end of season at Gateway, Anson, and Trail head on Main St.
- Spray weed and feed fertilizer at Gateway, Main, and Panther parks. Two treatments per year in spring and fall.

2024 Trail Maintenance Goals:

Daily:

• Inspect the trails throughout the day. Looking for any hazards or debris that need removal.

Weekly:

- Drive the trail with the Polaris Ranger to look for any repairs needed, trash removal, or any additional problems.
- Inspect all signs, bollards, fencing, and bike repair stations.
- Change dog waste stations and ensure waste bags are restocked.
- Check for overgrowth of trees and bushes to ensure it is not encroaching on the trail and make sure it is safe.

As Needed:

• During the fall, we blow leaves off certain sections of the trail that get littered heavily with leaves and could cause traction issues for bikers and joggers.

2024 Park Maintenance Goals:

Daily:

- Inspect each park to ensure everything is operational and free of clutter and debris.
- Check the bathrooms to make sure they are working properly, cleaned up, not vandalized, and stocked up on supplies.
- During season, check splash pad daily at Main St. Park to make sure its operating smoothly and testing the water twice per day.
- Empty all trash cans throughout parks.
- Walk the grounds and pick up trash.

Weekly:

- Check and change out dog waste stations.
- Deep clean the bathrooms and make sure all necessary items are stocked.
- Check all playground components to make sure nothing is out of place, missing anything, or needing repaired.

As Needed:

- CPSI low frequency inspections. Deep dive into all playground pieces and equipment to ensure safety and proper use. These are typically done every 3-4 months as an in depth inspection.
- Remove any fallen trees.
- Power Brush all parks with artificial turf as a surface (Gateway and Main Street Park).

Snow Removal:

As Needed:

- When we receive over 2" of snow, the trails and parking lots of parks will need plowed.
- After plowing, salt may be applied if temperatures are expected to be below freezing or if more weather is to be expected.
- Parking lots on either side of Main Street trail head will also need salted/plowed.
- Salt all park parking lots before incoming weather and after plowing snow.
- Ensure bathroom walkways are cleared off to allow access to the public.
- Big 4 Trail is the only trail we will consider salting if needed, but all trails will be left to thaw and de-ice on their own.
- We will plow all park loop trails, sledding hill at Main St. Park, the Big 4 Trail, Indianapolis Rd. trail, Veterans Dr. trail continuing to Stone Gate, and trail from Old Town to Whitestown Pkwy.
- Will help the street department with plowing as needed for major snow events.

