



APPENDIX A: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

NIELSEN MEMORIAL PRESERVE MASTER PLAN ENGAGEMENT

Highlights from Community Engagement + Key Findings

Stakeholder Meeting / Open House (August 2016) Notes

Potential User Groups and General Public

Adjacent Landowner

Online Questionnaire (August 2016)

All Responses

Online Questionnaire (March-April 2017)

All Responses

Online Questionnaire (October 2017)

All Responses

MnDNR Comments

HIGHLIGHTS FROM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT + KEY FINDINGS

Goodhue County

Kenyon Park Master Plan

10.17.2016

Highlights from Community Engagement

Summary of: August 10th Stakeholder meetings, online questionnaire, staff input, Advisory Committee input

1. Natural resource preservation is a main priority with this park. It is important to keep in mind the intent of the former land owner (Harold Nielsen), who donated the land to the County and evidently wanted the natural landscape maintained to let people enjoy nature on the site, and wildlife to have someplace to live.
 - a. Harold and the surrounding landowners do not want the land logged, wanted it to be a wildlife refuge
 - b. Interest in Nature Conservancy type of management of the site
 - c. Maintain the high quality natural resources on the site.
 - d. Identify key trees and plant species to save and route the public access away from these locations.
 - e. Potentially call it a “preserve” or “park reserve” rather than a “park”
2. There is a desire from the public and surrounding land owners to develop the park minimally as an outdoor education and natural resource focused site.
 - a. Kenyon-Wanamingo Senior High School science teacher may be interested in pursuing a science program/class at the park.
 - b. Potentially build a small nature center/outdoor lab facility at the park.
 - c. Projects for Boy Scouts could be identified
 - d. Keep the trails non-motorized
 - e. Think about connections to Kenyon and other locations with trails
 - f. Potential outdoor classroom, small amphitheater for educational events
3. Basic facilities are desired for nature park functionality, but preserving the natural resources is a main priority, so it is important to work around existing landscape features, such as wet areas and native plants.
 - a. Keep facilities rustic and low impact
 - b. Small parking lot – don’t cut down too many trees.
 - c. Simple natural surface trail network – potential to pave trails in the future if high use occurs
 - d. Basic restroom facility – pit toilets
 - e. Water needed for day use / camping
 - f. Potential picnic shelter/tables; campfire spots/grills
 - g. Need signage with park rules posted clearly
 - h. Potential primitive camping in the future – possibly only group camping for educational groups
 - i. Consider ADA accessibility

4. Potential programming ideas could include individual natural resource and trail activities as well as events.
 - a. Snowshoeing and cross country skiing would work well in winter
 - b. Hiking, birding, mushroom hunting, berry picking
 - c. Mountain biking is an option, but may be too impactful for the site
 - d. Geocaching could attract educational groups
 - e. Kayaking/canoeing may be too difficult with water hazards, brush, and downed trees.
 - f. Events could include high school science class events, trail runs, Boy Scout programs, and group/community picnics
 - g. Engage with potential partnership groups, who could help program and maintain the site – Lions Club, Rotary, MN Conservation Corps, Tree Trust, Boy Scouts, etc.
5. There should not be hunting allowed on the site. A plan needs to be developed to manage hunters and keep them off the site.
 - a. Hunting is allowed on surrounding properties – consider closing the park during hunting season to avoid accidents with park visitors – 1st Saturday in November to early December.
 - b. High priority – post rules about no hunting.
6. There are concerns about park boundaries and access for the public. Some trespassing, dumping, and hunting occur on the site today without proper security.
 - a. All surrounding land to the park is privately owned wooded or agricultural land, concerns about trespassing onto private land.
 - b. The current access road is a minimum maintenance road on the Rice County/Goodhue County boundary line – road needs improvements for public access
 - c. Create clear trails, park boundary edges, and signage for the public.
 - d. Determine who will patrol the park – County government in Red Wing is on the opposite side of the County.
7. Interpretation of natural, historic, and cultural resources would greatly enhance park programming.
 - a. Potential to study the archaeological history by partnering with local colleges/universities
 - b. Existing history of Native Americans on the site could be explained through signage or landform
 - c. Access to an overlook of Zumbro River would be interesting for trail users and could interpret the regionalism/connectedness of the park
 - d. Interpret the high quality natural resources and rare native plants
 - e. Take advantage of the varied topography with trail layout
 - f. Stories about Monkey Valley

STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS/ OPEN HOUSE (AUGUST 2016) NOTES

Meeting #1 – Potential User Groups and General Public

Opportunities

- Like that no hunting on the property – concern about trespassing onto property; refuge
- Prevention of logging of the site
- Boy Scouts – used for eagle project (e.g. disc golf course in Kenyon, cemetery project) Manual labor – boys can't run chain saws
- Non-motorized – no four vehicles/motorcycles
- Camping – would like water – if do jamboree do 20 troops – need room for about 150 kids. Latrine. Gamehaven in Rochester a site currently use.
- Hiking and birding
- Mary Doer - saw signs of piliated woodpecker
- Nature Reserve – Mn Nature Conservancy – Dwarf/White (not sure which) Trout Lily Reserve. No hunting on that property
- If allow overnight camping then picnic areas

Favorite Part

- Geographic location in County – better to serve this area of the county
- Largest oak grove within 30 to 40 miles in all directions
- Zumbro River through the south part of it
- Varied terrain – level on north, drop to river on south, coulees on east side of property

Adjacent Land/Access Issues

- Security
- Enforcement – who is going to patrol – so far away from Red Wing
- Who owns what part of the road and how the road would it get extended
- Road impassable if rain
- South – would include crossing the river
- Private property on north and east

Facility/Amenity Needed

- Snowshoes
- Cross country skiing
- Hiking – mushroom hunters, berries, birders,
- Mountain biking – closest is Red Wing. Worth considering. More trail maintenance –erosion concerns
- Geocaching – boy scouts have been set up own course
- Zip line
- Kayak/canoe - have done it from Kenyon east – but need hand saw. Epsem bridge – 1 mile to east and then to Monkey Valley Road. Spring and after rains good time.
- Fishing – not much

Concerns

- Restrooms – should plan for some type of facility
- Parking – seems like wouldn't go much into the site. Maybe L shaped with angled parking
- Is kinda wet so may need to be paved/tiled out
- Concern about dust from road impact on neighboring property
- Road getting in one vehicle width
- Saving larger trees
- Unknown whether wetland on the site
- Well – Twp rep didn't think there would be issues with a well – no issues with groundwater. What aquifer need to hit determines the depth for the well
- Water and vault toilets basic amenity needed
- Shelter/Structure – may be good to do. Cannon Valley Trail example? More about getting out of the weather rather than as a meeting spot

Other Comments/Suggestions

- Maybe during the hunting season the park closes – not the bow hunters but shotgun/muzzle season – 1st Saturday in November to early December
- County planning on installing fence posts at regular intervals to mark the boundaries of the park. Clear cut a line to mark it. Reflective band on top to help navigate boundaries
- Need plan for what occurs if shoot deer on adjacent property and runs into the park. State law says that gun has to be left.
- Habitat – deer, woodchucks, squirrels, turkeys, grouse
- Bats to help with mosquitos
- Similar to feel of Nerstrand Big Woods
- Start with natural surface. If highly used then would look at paving
- Difference between Kenyon and Big Woods – is Kenyon just a smaller version? Mary – it does have some of the same features. Not the same access to the water (falls) – main draw for Big Woods. Kenyon is a green space. Did see some impressive oaks.
- Similar to the “Lost 40” – trails throughout with marked trees
- Potential for interpretation related to the woods?
- Brad – big difference between Kenyon and Big Woods is that this one is a lot more walkable. Big Woods more topography. Maybe could make this ADA accessible.
- Mountain biking is an activity that has been requested for Big Woods that is not going to be addressed
- Big Woods – security is really only an issue on weekends when campground is popular. During week coordinate with Rice County
- Low impact type facilities seem to make the most sense. Maintain the quality of the plant community
- Campfire areas or grills? May want to have set area so folks don't create their own place
- Focus on day use rather than overnight – maybe initial phase?
- Nerstrand – sell wood – allow if bring in certified
- Prevent scavenger of wood for campfires
- Education – signage needed about rules, wood

- West side of Kenyon there is a nature area – he takes classes to it. Should follow up with Rich Kincaid again
- Pierce County Education Forest – between Spring Valley and Ellsworth – could this be similar?
- Interpretation – Big Woods History
- Stories about Monkey Valley name – 1) circus went through and monkeys got lose 2) Place where Kenyon residents went to “monkey” around
- Bike Trail from Kenyon to here – easily done along old railroad track – property owners don’t approved. Just south of river at cross Monkey Valley Road. Go through the other reserve – way to connect together. Start at nature reserve in town. Grade still there

Meeting #2 – Adjacent Landowner

Opportunities

- Nature park
- Boy Scout camp
- Not highly developed, not similar to an RV campground – no playground, no roads
- Leave it as least disturbed and low impact as possible, trails and primitive camping, don’t cut down a lot of trees
- Mountain bike trails might create too much of an impact to the landscape
- Keep in mind the draws and the wet areas – work around with trail layout
- The intent from the former land owner (Harold) was to maintain the natural landscape and let people enjoy the nature – this can be accomplished with primitive campsites and trails
- Maintain the boundary/edge of the park to keep people in the park
- Create thoughtful layout of trails and signage to direct people to stay within certain areas
- Display the park rules clearly in the parking lot – this is needed immediately! There are people who want to hunt in the park now.
- Close the park during rifle hunting season
- There was a road from the south at one time – but a bridge would be needed over the river
- How will the access expand the road from the north?
- The road / ROW needs to be surveyed
- Can it be assumed that the parking lot and access road will be on Goodhue County property?
- Porta-potties and water will be needed, trash collection, basic services are needed, minimal would be preferred
- There is a drain tile on the NW corner of the property – it outlets on the park property, there is easement
- There are Indian teepee mounds (15-20’ diam.) in the park, in the NW corner, more visible in the spring – these would prevent a parking lot from being constructed in this area
- River overlook would be nice
- Old trapper’s cabin was near the river on the north side below the cliff, you can still see the cans
- Dwarf trout lily area owned by the Nature Conservancy east of the park, 27 acres

Favorite Part

- It's never been logged, there are very few places that have never been logged – the trees are big and old
- The oaks have taken a beating from the storms this past year
- Harold's vision (former property owner) – Nature Conservancy preservation, but the worry is that they don't have personal history or attachment to the area, he didn't want it logged, he didn't want the wildlife killed, he wanted it to be a refuge
- At the time the elms started dying, Cliff ____ started logging all the elms off people's property, but left the oaks
- Talk to the high school science teacher

Adjacent Land/Access Issues

- Concerns about hunting and trespassing on the adjacent land owners' land
- Who is technically policing this area? >>County sheriff
- Have the DNR and local police been informed of the public land at the park? Local law enforcement should be informed of the existence and location of the park. The Kenyon Police Dept. was asked if they could do a run through the property every so often by the County commissioner. There needs to be a presence out there to prevent people from causing trouble.
- The hunting fine is only \$25 – there should be more of a disincentive to hunting on the property.
- What happens if you injure a deer and it enters the park? A game warden said that you can follow the animal without your weapon and retrieve the animal. Conservation officers should also be informed of the property and the issues with it.
- From Sept-June, the high school has a county sheriff liaison that could be utilized to police the property
- The existing access road is not plowed in the winter, it is a minimal maintenance road. If there are ski or snowshoe trails, then the road will need to be improved and maintained.
- The message from Richland Township is that they don't want to maintain the road or help out with the park. Kenyon Township could help out with the road maintenance for the park.

Facility/Amenity Needed

- Camping? Most of the site is wet, so that is an issue to consider when designating camp sites.
- The science teacher likes to take kids out in winter and build "quincies" – low impact igloo-like structures
- Educational facility for the schools – nature area
- There is a snowmobile trail through the fields, but the old RR bed is pretty much gone for use for a trail

Concerns

- How are you going to keep the people in the park?
- There are 30-year old four wheel tracks that still exist today – don't allow motorized uses in the park
- Erosion and landscape impacts from cow paths and people who don't stay in the designated areas
- There have been kids partying out on the site – they leave a mess on the property

Other Comments/Suggestions

- What are we going to call the park?
 - Monkey Valley Park
 - Monkey Valley Hollow
 - Harold Nielson's Park
 - Nature Preserve / Nature Reserve, not a "park"
- What makes this site different from Nerstrand Big Woods State Park?
- Educate kids and teach them to take care of it and respect it
- Keep a steady presence of users on the site to prevent trouble makers
- Figure out the ROW on the Rice County side

ONLINE QUESTIONNAIRE (AUGUST 2016)

All Responses

Q1 What do you think are the opportunities for Kenyon Park?

Answered: 6 Skipped: 0

#	Responses	Date
1	Educational, camping	8/26/2016 7:18 AM
2	I would prefer that it be a low impact park, more like a nature preserve than a park.	8/22/2016 12:48 PM
3	Hiking trails, a bluff viewing site, a larger parking/turn around area, an nature interpretive program, wood duck houses, property boundary markers, bat houses, Eagle Scout invasive species removal projects.	8/19/2016 6:34 PM
4	Recreation and hiking. Local school use for classes.	8/19/2016 1:03 PM
5	Recreation area and also possible school use for outdoor study	8/19/2016 11:52 AM
6	Education	8/16/2016 7:40 AM

Q2 Kenyon Park is located in Section 7 of Kenyon Township. What is your favorite part about this area of the County?

Answered: 6 Skipped: 0

#	Responses	Date
1	Near the river	8/26/2016 7:19 AM
2	The peace and tranquility. This is a beautiful area and this property could offer people a place to walk, read, have a picnic, etc in the quiet of the woods.	8/22/2016 12:50 PM
3	Remote and yet easily assessable.	8/19/2016 6:34 PM
4	The woods and river.	8/19/2016 1:03 PM
5	mature forest ecosystem	8/19/2016 11:53 AM
6	The ecological potential for education	8/16/2016 7:40 AM

Q3 If you know of any existing land issues or access issues that concern this future park property, please explain below.

Answered: 4 Skipped: 2

#	Responses	Date
1	The road access into the park will need to be addressed.	8/22/2016 12:50 PM
2	I get it that the adjoining landowners like this area as their own private hunting preserve, but this land should be available to ALL Goodhue County residents. Think of it like having a ball field area by my house that their (the Kenyon Park adjoining land owners) children couldn't play on because my children wanted it for themselves.	8/19/2016 6:40 PM
3	access roads	8/19/2016 11:53 AM
4	No	8/16/2016 7:41 AM

Q4 What park facility or amenity is needed in Goodhue County? Can Kenyon Park be a location for it?

Answered: 6 Skipped: 0

#	Responses	Date
1	Something similiar to shades of Sherwood ; camping, water features, recreational uses such as sand volleyball courts; something to attract guests and offer ammenities	8/26/2016 7:20 AM
2	Walking and hiking trails are very popular.	8/22/2016 12:51 PM
3	A kiosk at the parking area that gives park rules/hours and a little history of the park.	8/19/2016 6:41 PM
4	Hiking and biking trails. An amphitheater for outdoor concerts and events.	8/19/2016 1:04 PM
5	remote classroom site for area schools	8/19/2016 11:54 AM
6	No	8/16/2016 7:41 AM

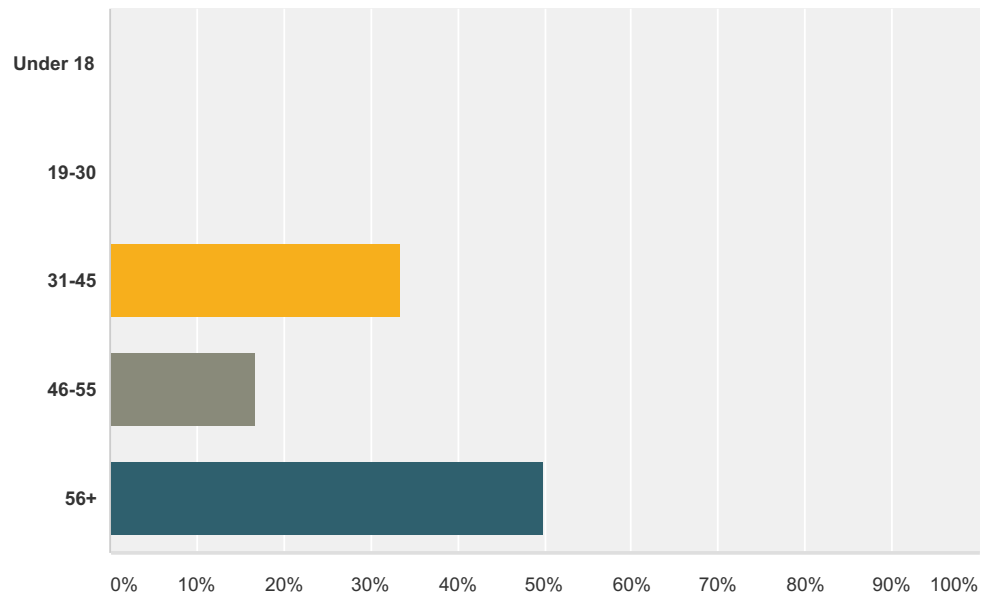
Q5 Do you have any concerns about the future development of Kenyon Park?

Answered: 5 Skipped: 1

#	Responses	Date
1	I would like the County to preserve this land so it doesn't get clear cut.	8/22/2016 12:53 PM
2	It should be kept as a passive recreation park. No play structures, ball fields, lights or buildings other than restrooms and picnic shelter.	8/19/2016 6:43 PM
3	I welcome a park that emphasizes low impact activities. Not snowmobiling. Cross country skiing would be great.	8/19/2016 1:06 PM
4	it should stay a forest ecosystem	8/19/2016 11:55 AM
5	Keep it natural	8/16/2016 7:41 AM

Q6 How old are you? (optional)

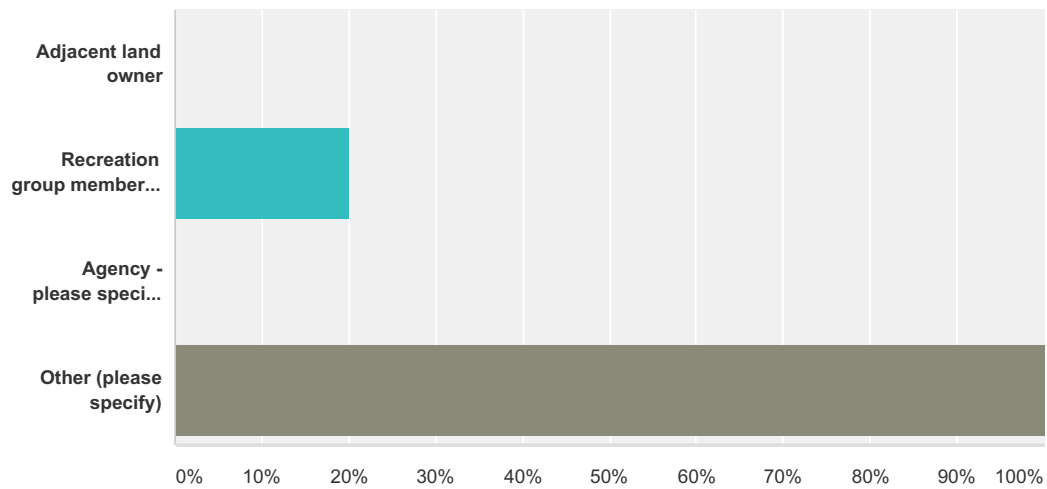
Answered: 6 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
Under 18	0.00%
19-30	0.00%
31-45	33.33%
46-55	16.67%
56+	50.00%
Total	

Q7 What is your interest in Kenyon Park?

Answered: 5 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses
Adjacent land owner	0.00%
Recreation group member - please specify which group in the Other field below	20.00%
Agency - please specify which agency in the Other field below	0.00%
Other (please specify)	100.00%
Total Respondents: 5	

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	Resident	8/26/2016 7:21 AM
2	Kenyon resident	8/22/2016 12:54 PM
3	Goodhue County taxpayer	8/19/2016 6:44 PM
4	Local citizen who enjoys the outdoors.	8/19/2016 1:06 PM
5	school teacher	8/19/2016 11:57 AM

Q8 What city or township do you live in? (optional)

Answered: 5 Skipped: 1

#	Responses	Date
1	Cherry Grove	8/26/2016 7:21 AM
2	Kenyon city	8/22/2016 12:54 PM
3	Stanton Township	8/19/2016 6:44 PM
4	Cherry Grove.	8/19/2016 1:06 PM
5	cherry grove	8/19/2016 11:57 AM

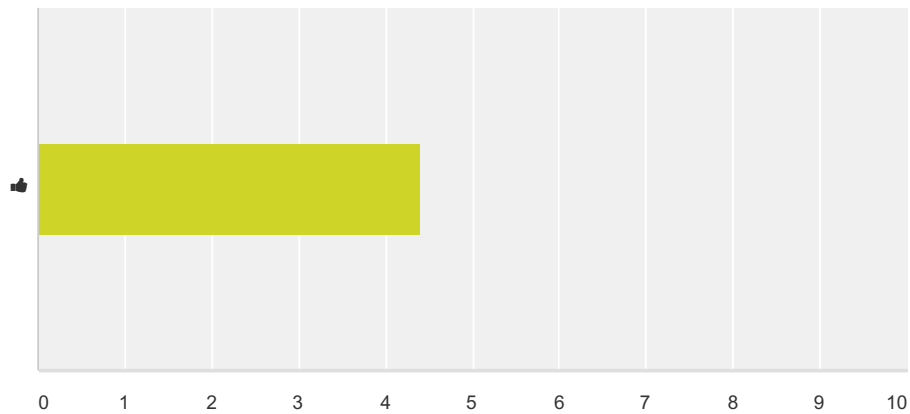
ONLINE QUESTIONNAIRE (MARCH-APRIL 2017)

All Responses

Goodhue County Park-Kenyon Concept Review

Q1 Goodhue County Park- Kenyon is envisioned as a natural resource-based regional park along the North Fork of the Zumbro River where woodlands are preserved, wildlife can find a haven, and visitors can explore and learn about nature through trails and natural-resource based educational opportunities. How well does this vision statement represent what you think the park should be?

Answered: 71 Skipped: 1

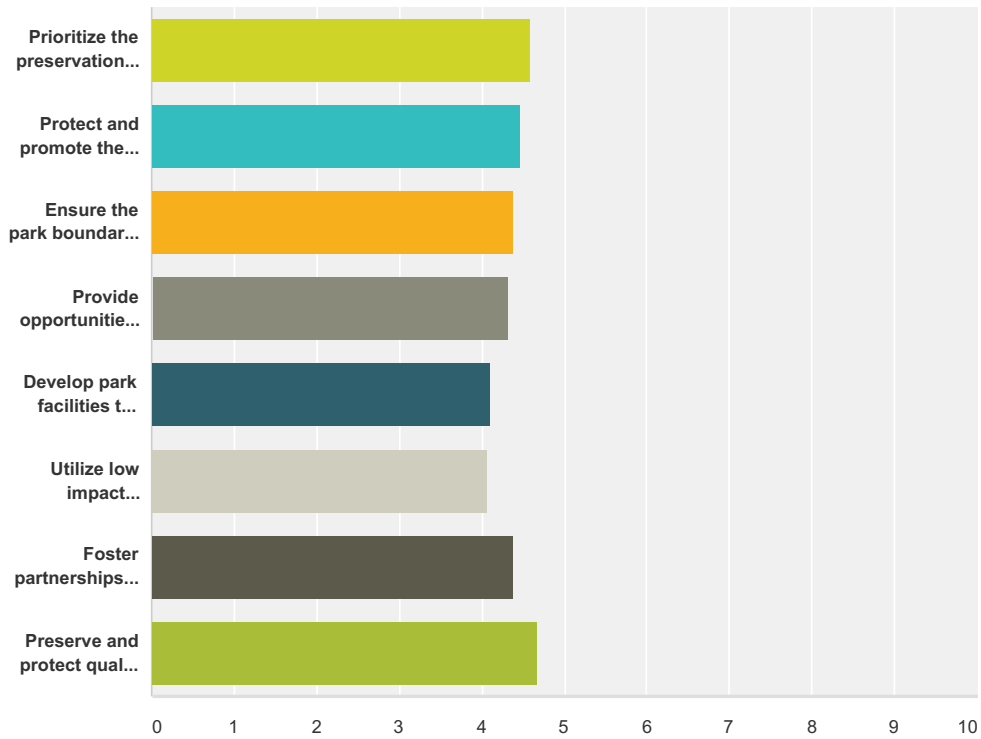


	Not Well	(no label)	(no label)	(no label)	Very Well	Total	Weighted Average
👍	0.00% 0	2.82% 2	9.86% 7	30.99% 22	56.34% 40	71	4.41

Goodhue County Park-Kenyon Concept Review

Q2 The following Guiding Principles have been drafted to support the vision for the park. Please identify how important you think each guiding principle should be in the development of the park.

Answered: 72 Skipped: 0



	Not Important	(no label)	(no label)	(no label)	Very Important	Total	Weighted Average
Prioritize the preservation and maintenance of the site's high quality natural resources.	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	1.39% 1	37.50% 27	61.11% 44	72	4.60
Protect and promote the site for wildlife habitat.	0.00% 0	1.39% 1	5.56% 4	37.50% 27	55.56% 40	72	4.47
Ensure the park boundaries and rules prohibiting hunting are respected.	2.82% 2	0.00% 0	7.04% 5	35.21% 25	54.93% 39	71	4.39
Provide opportunities for nature-based recreation and events.	1.39% 1	1.39% 1	12.50% 9	31.94% 23	52.78% 38	72	4.33
Develop park facilities to support outdoor education and natural resource interpretation.	0.00% 0	4.17% 3	19.44% 14	37.50% 27	38.89% 28	72	4.11
Utilize low impact development.	1.39% 1	2.78% 2	22.22% 16	34.72% 25	38.89% 28	72	4.07
Foster partnerships to build, operate, and maintain the park.	0.00% 0	2.78% 2	8.33% 6	37.50% 27	51.39% 37	72	4.38
Preserve and protect quality natural resources for future generations.	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	1.39% 1	30.56% 22	68.06% 49	72	4.67

Goodhue County Park-Kenyon Concept Review

#	If you have suggestions for new guiding principles, please include below.	Date
1	Difinitely have a small campground with water, electric and sewer available.	4/6/2017 9:45 AM
2	Trails should be as scenic as possible to give people a chance to "get away" and be surrounded by nature.	4/6/2017 7:53 AM
3	Some place where families can gather for a picnic, reunion, event.	4/4/2017 2:59 PM
4	Minimize development such as buildings, etc. Focus on access through trails and try to preserve the park in its natural state.	4/2/2017 2:21 PM
5	It is possible to respect nature and love animals while being a hunter. I feel a partnership the KW Boy Scouts is one of the best ways to balance Natural Education, Primitive Camping, and Public Recreation Facilities for a ground breaking opportunity like this one.	3/27/2017 8:04 PM
6	I believe that all these goals are very important - in addition I would like to see a trail to Kenyon that could be utilized by families for walking & biking, perhaps have a playground for a respite when families arrive, and then also some additional hiking paths. Maybe tie into Trondheim so that an access path can be established for them to link to town? I believe a walking/biking path is sorely needed for our town.	3/27/2017 11:25 AM
7	Develop and post rules for dog owners. Possibly provide cleanup tools for dog owners.	3/27/2017 11:10 AM
8	Make sure there are activities for families and people of all ages (early childhood too)	3/27/2017 10:43 AM
9	I would like to see a part of the park in my community open or have other land set aside for hunting. It is a great opportunity for people who do not have land to experience the hunting experience.	3/27/2017 10:01 AM
10	A hiking/biking/running path to be utilized year-round would be a welcome asset in this area.	3/24/2017 11:33 PM
11	Enforce park borders to respect local landowners' property from trespassers outside the park.	3/24/2017 12:00 PM
12	Camp grounds would be nice.	3/24/2017 11:23 AM
13	When will groups (ie. Boy Scouts) be contacted on interests to partner and develop this park? Remember this is to be a county/ regional park.	3/15/2017 5:03 PM

Goodhue County Park-Kenyon Concept Review

Q3 What aspects of the trail circulation would you like to keep?

Answered: 30 Skipped: 42

#	Responses	Date
1	All because I enjoy trail running as well as biking	4/5/2017 8:15 PM
2	I like that it is in a loop. This would be very easy to navigate. I also like that there is access to the river.	4/4/2017 3:12 PM
3	None	4/4/2017 5:32 AM
4	?	4/4/2017 2:28 AM
5	They all seem good.	4/4/2017 12:07 AM
6	I like the combination of paved & natural trails.	4/3/2017 10:10 PM
7	parking and campgrounds and the 2-3 miles of hiking trails	4/3/2017 8:16 PM
8	All of it.	4/3/2017 3:21 PM
9	I like the trail system, both paved and gravel to allow for different types of biking and hiking.	4/2/2017 2:25 PM
10	all	3/29/2017 6:26 AM
11	Both the paved and natural surfaces trails have good potential in their inclusion of natural terrain features. I like the mountain bike idea and hope that there are minimal conflicts with walkers. The bus turnaround is a good idea.	3/27/2017 8:25 PM
12	Looks good - don't have enough knowledge of the area to have opinion of trails and access.	3/27/2017 11:28 AM
13	I wish the proposed area would have been closer to Kenyon so that area residents could walk or bike to the park.	3/27/2017 11:17 AM
14	All aspects	3/27/2017 11:10 AM
15	I like all aspects.	3/27/2017 10:47 AM
16	I like all of the proposed options listed would especially like to keep the paved trails for handicap accessibility.	3/27/2017 10:41 AM
17	Access to river.	3/27/2017 10:24 AM
18	picnic table locations	3/27/2017 7:43 AM
19	The picnic shelters and bathrooms	3/27/2017 7:10 AM
20	Like it they way I see it here	3/26/2017 5:26 PM
21	The mix of biking and hiking paths.	3/26/2017 11:31 AM
22	No initial concerns about the trail circulation	3/26/2017 10:36 AM
23	The paved trail, although the south side could be the access to the group camp and perhaps have the middle piece a little further north to provide more separation between hikers and group camp operations.	3/25/2017 2:13 PM
24	Good trail maintenance is critical to consider. Paved paths are excellent for bikers and runners.	3/24/2017 11:40 PM
25	I like the mix between paved and natural surface trails	3/24/2017 10:40 AM
26	The perimeter trail.	3/23/2017 2:49 PM
27	Everything except the northern loop - just have parking on either side of the entry road unless there ends up being a need to develop more as time goes on (if the park increases greatly in popularity)	3/22/2017 2:41 PM
28	Trails	3/18/2017 3:43 PM
29	group camp, river access	3/18/2017 3:34 PM
30	Both paved and unpaved access to edge of river.	3/15/2017 5:03 PM

Goodhue County Park-Kenyon Concept Review

Q4 What concerns do you have about trail circulation in this concept?

Answered: 29 Skipped: 43

#	Responses	Date
1	None the more trails the better	4/5/2017 8:15 PM
2	I think too many trails are paved. I would like to see mostly natural surface trails.	4/4/2017 3:12 PM
3	bikes and pedestrians on the same trail. It would not be a peaceful walk if you are constantly having to move over for bikes to get past.	4/4/2017 3:02 PM
4	None	4/4/2017 5:32 AM
5	?	4/4/2017 2:28 AM
6	Security and police presence. That's a big area for bad things to happen at night and the gate won't stop it.	4/4/2017 12:07 AM
7	None	4/3/2017 10:10 PM
8	None	4/3/2017 5:20 PM
9	None	4/3/2017 3:21 PM
10	Not too much of concerns. Looks like a well thought through plan.	4/2/2017 2:25 PM
11	walking only	3/29/2017 6:26 AM
12	Just that there are three bridge crossing to consider.	3/27/2017 8:25 PM
13	Same as above.	3/27/2017 11:28 AM
14	I wish the proposed area would have been closer to Kenyon so that area residents could walk or bike to the park.	3/27/2017 11:17 AM
15	None.	3/27/2017 10:47 AM
16	a smaller paved trail for handicap accessibility - proposed paved trails look a bit long if pushing a wheelchair.	3/27/2017 10:41 AM
17	Sewage from camp ground	3/27/2017 7:43 AM
18	Na	3/27/2017 7:10 AM
19	Looks good to me	3/26/2017 5:26 PM
20	To much overlap with trails,could be confusing.	3/26/2017 11:31 AM
21	Toilets are far apart. Potable water/fountain near the lab?	3/26/2017 10:36 AM
22	Would like to see the group camp more separate from the natural surface trails.	3/25/2017 2:13 PM
23	Love the paved trail concept. How many miles will it encompass? What hours will the park be accessible to the public? Any scenic overlooks?	3/24/2017 11:40 PM
24	I don't think the paved trails will be as useful that far away from the main drop off area. I would focus the paved trail on the immediate area by the drop off rather than around the perimeter. Also, with my experiences with bikers they prefer to be further from the rest of the visitors so making their main usage trails in the center seems counter productive.	3/24/2017 10:40 AM
25	Unless you have full width trails, they should be one directional.	3/23/2017 2:49 PM
26	Feasibility and cost of accessible river access.	3/22/2017 2:41 PM
27	None	3/18/2017 3:43 PM
28	more natural surface trails, less paved	3/18/2017 3:34 PM
29	Distance from toilets for group camping and group recreation areas. 1000 ft seems a long ways for a high- activity area.	3/15/2017 5:03 PM

Goodhue County Park-Kenyon Concept Review

Q5 Do you have any concerns about the entry road, parking lot, or drop off?

Answered: 31 Skipped: 41

#	Responses	Date
1	Have a small campground with water, electric and sewer to be available for a few RV's for overnight stays or weekly stays at the entrance area.	4/6/2017 9:47 AM
2	No I like it	4/5/2017 8:15 PM
3	No.	4/4/2017 3:12 PM
4	With only one way in and out - won't it get congested - or do you not foresee that many people using it at one time?	4/4/2017 3:02 PM
5	No	4/4/2017 5:32 AM
6	no	4/4/2017 2:28 AM
7	No.	4/4/2017 12:07 AM
8	No	4/3/2017 10:10 PM
9	I'm unclear of the location off of Gate Ave Way. Is this 2-3 miles out of town or on the edge of the city limits?	4/3/2017 8:16 PM
10	No	4/3/2017 5:20 PM
11	No	4/3/2017 3:21 PM
12	Probably not enough parking. If parking becomes an issue, less people will use the park.	4/2/2017 2:25 PM
13	no	3/29/2017 6:26 AM
14	Looks Good!	3/27/2017 8:25 PM
15	Looks reasonable as long as it has room for future expansion if needed.	3/27/2017 11:28 AM
16	I wish the proposed area would have been closer to Kenyon so that area residents could walk or bike to the park.	3/27/2017 11:17 AM
17	None	3/27/2017 10:47 AM
18	none	3/27/2017 10:41 AM
19	no	3/27/2017 7:43 AM
20	No	3/27/2017 7:10 AM
21	Well thought out	3/26/2017 5:26 PM
22	No	3/26/2017 11:31 AM
23	No initial concerns about these features	3/26/2017 10:36 AM
24	No. I like having picnic shelters and toilets close to the parking area for people who come for a picnic. BTW, what facilities will be provided in the group camp?	3/25/2017 2:13 PM
25	Are parking passes required?	3/24/2017 11:40 PM
26	I think the parking lot is way too big. I would like spots for 12-15 and more natural area rather than the possibility to expand to 40. I like the idea of a bus turn around but it's not very likely that you'll get bus loads of people. Most educational groups that are visiting will be much less than a bus full unless you have an entire grade of educators that are comfortable teaching outdoors which in my experiences is extremely unlikely.	3/24/2017 10:40 AM
27	There should be a path extension at the turn-around for small buses and elderly persons drop off.	3/23/2017 2:49 PM
28	Seems over-developed, but could be done in phases as the need arises.	3/22/2017 2:41 PM
29	No	3/18/2017 3:43 PM
30	no	3/18/2017 3:34 PM
31	Where does the entry road meet the public road. Boy Scout troops would need adequate road and parking to accomodate vehicles with troop trailers. To accomodate future growth of the north parking lot, I would suggest moving the south entrance of that lot to the south end of the expansion area, so it would not be a bottleneck area if expanded.	3/15/2017 5:03 PM

Goodhue County Park-Kenyon Concept Review

Q6 Do you have any concerns about the programming shown? Are there other types of recreation you would like to see at the park?

Answered: 39 Skipped: 33

#	Responses	Date
1	RV campground at entrance area.	4/6/2017 9:48 AM
2	No I like it all...add dirt horse riding trails?	4/5/2017 8:18 PM
3	I think it could be a real asset and addition to recreation/nature opportunities in the area.	4/5/2017 8:23 AM
4	This looks great! The outdoor lab and amphitheater would be great for elementary-high school age classes/educational opportunities.	4/4/2017 3:13 PM
5	More picnic areas - a pavilion in case it rains. More playground stuff for kids. Educational stops on the walking path.	4/4/2017 3:06 PM
6	High rope, or zip line	4/4/2017 7:54 AM
7	No	4/4/2017 5:33 AM
8	looks good	4/4/2017 2:28 AM
9	There is substantial legal liability with the ropes course and archery ideas. The other ideas look good.	4/4/2017 12:11 AM
10	All sound very appropriate	4/3/2017 10:11 PM
11	I love the idea of a low ropes course, archery and the amphitheatre. Wide natural paths would be nice noting that walkers and mountain bikes are sharing the trail. A natural play area would be a nice option for children. Open ended play with movable sticks, small stumps etc.	4/3/2017 5:26 PM
12	All programming should be educational and related to outdoor recreation or natural sciences.	4/3/2017 3:28 PM
13	I think we should minimize the large playground structures. Like the structure in Zumbrota Park gets just limited use. Spend the limited resources on good trails, bathrooms, picnic shelter. The trail quality is key. Make sure there are a lot of water stations.	4/2/2017 2:28 PM
14	walking trails for walking only	3/29/2017 7:30 PM
15	I think the amphitheater would be a better fit 150-200 feet south of its current location facing roughly 195 degrees southwards. This would place the presenter closer to the hill's cusp in order to place the benches into a potentially better angle with minimal ground work.	3/27/2017 8:33 PM
16	Frisbee golf would be a fun activity that would possibly draw youths away from their video games!	3/27/2017 1:08 PM
17	My main concern would be staffing - you would need pretty extensive staff to run and monitor for safety. I would like to see a playground for children and maybe some other fun activities that would not require staff to supervise.	3/27/2017 11:31 AM
18	make sure it is handicapped accessible	3/27/2017 11:10 AM
19	No. They look great!	3/27/2017 10:47 AM
20	Looks great! Just want to see activities suited for toddlers as well	3/27/2017 10:44 AM
21	none	3/27/2017 10:42 AM
22	Canoe/kayak launch.	3/27/2017 10:25 AM
23	no	3/27/2017 7:43 AM
24	Different ways to help preserve nature... keeping places clean	3/27/2017 7:12 AM
25	Not in favor of archery range. Too dangerous.	3/26/2017 5:27 PM
26	Would love to make a partnership to get some geocaches in the park once trails are established. It's a great way for families to have fun outside together.	3/26/2017 4:42 PM
27	I want to be sure that aspects of the trail are natural and will not cause pollution to the animals.	3/26/2017 11:33 AM

Goodhue County Park-Kenyon Concept Review

28	Not sure if need for amphitheater	3/26/2017 11:08 AM
29	Horse trails would likely be popular, too.	3/26/2017 11:02 AM
30	Playground for young children. The rest looks great!	3/26/2017 10:53 AM
31	I like the ropes course. How will the park ensure that mountain biking does not lead to deterioration of landscape? Will the biking trail be maintained and closed temporarily due to an potential serious erosion concerns? Contact Rich Kincaid, high school Ecology and Biology teacher at Kenyon-Wanamingo high school, if you have not done so; he lead many outdoor excursion for his class, both locally and on extended trips to BWCA and would likely have suggestions/input.	3/26/2017 10:40 AM
32	Don't see the need for both an outdoor lab and an amphitheater. Maybe combine the two and place them in the group camp.	3/25/2017 2:17 PM
33	Access for cross country skiing in the winter would be wonderful.	3/24/2017 11:42 PM
34	There is way too much going on for the small area and the lack of a permanent staff person there. We have 8 staff at my park and security systems and still see a lot of vandalism. I think a nature play area would be great, simple, and less likely to be destroyed. Oxbow park (Olmsted co) just added one of these and it's a really great addition. The things that you're proposing require someone that knows how to run them and properly lead the activities. Without that they will turn into a target spot for vandals and I don't believe the funding will be there to constantly repair them. I would really look into a nature play area and scratch the archery, low ropes, and horseshoes. A fire pit near a picnic area or at the amphitheater would be a nice addition as well.	3/24/2017 10:46 AM
35	Love the idea of the archery course/target practice, and the ropes course. Fun stuff for the kids to do. My other concern is how far is the bathrooms from the camping area?	3/24/2017 10:40 AM
36	Anything that would fit with the mission statement would be fine.	3/23/2017 2:50 PM
37	I am concerned about listing mountain biking as an activity with the very small amount of natural surface trails shown on the map.	3/22/2017 2:42 PM
38	Play area, plant and flowER identification	3/18/2017 3:44 PM
39	A ropes course, while a great idea, requires staffing and monitoring for safety and liability. Archery would also require staffing, and a proper safety backdrop from other activities and pedestrian movement. Current site if amphitheater is great, close to outdoor lab and parking, but offers little natural sloping for the purpose. Potential firepit near the amphitheater would be a bonus.	3/15/2017 5:03 PM

Goodhue County Park-Kenyon Concept Review

Q7 Do you have any concerns or recommendations about accommodations in this concept?

Answered: 34 Skipped: 38

#	Responses	Date
1	You must include an RV campground at entrance area for a few rigs with water, electric and sewer.	4/6/2017 9:49 AM
2	No it's fine	4/5/2017 8:19 PM
3	I am concerned that it won't be as cool as it sounds.	4/4/2017 3:14 PM
4	Is there electricity in the campsite? Are there lights to the bathrooms? Is the campground in a place that won't flood?	4/4/2017 3:07 PM
5	Running water , possibly a shower house in this bathroom facility.	4/4/2017 7:55 AM
6	No	4/4/2017 5:33 AM
7	no	4/4/2017 2:29 AM
8	No.	4/4/2017 12:12 AM
9	That is agile for some to get to a toilet.	4/3/2017 10:12 PM
10	None	4/3/2017 8:17 PM
11	No	4/3/2017 5:26 PM
12	toilets seem a bit far from the camping area...	4/3/2017 4:59 PM
13	I like the idea that only tent camping would be allowed.	4/3/2017 3:29 PM
14	I would move all picnic shelters to the parking lot area. People are not going to carry their coolers to the other end of the park. I would not build the outdoor lab right away, since the park is basically a lab. A shelter with some benches is all that's needed to hold a great class about natures biology. I would like to see drinking water available at a few locations around the trail.	4/2/2017 2:32 PM
15	The South recreation area might be limited for its use being placed in too steep of ground. Perhaps placing it opposite to the trail west of its current position. If the amphitheater is moved further South the recreation space will be less of a distraction to presentations.	3/27/2017 8:39 PM
16	Is there potential of toilets closer to campers? Will there be staff for camp sites or are campers on their own? What do pit toilets include? Are they basically an outhouse ? Will there be any plumbing or showers? Or is that a security risk?	3/27/2017 11:34 AM
17	no	3/27/2017 11:11 AM
18	None	3/27/2017 10:47 AM
19	Couldn't the toilets be closer to the camping?	3/27/2017 10:43 AM
20	none	3/27/2017 10:42 AM
21	no	3/27/2017 7:44 AM
22	Toilets should be closer to camp with showers included.	3/27/2017 7:13 AM
23	No	3/26/2017 5:27 PM
24	Restroom available closer to the group areas.	3/26/2017 11:34 AM
25	Toilets closer to group camping area. Access to drinkable water in areas closer to this camping area and amphitheater area where groups would rest need to stay hydrated.	3/26/2017 10:42 AM
26	Could there be a rustic trail between the river accesses? More natural surface trail along the river would be nice. What's the difference between a picnic shelter and a rustic picnic shelter? Also, will water be available in the park other than in the river? I can see campers needing a source of drinking water.	3/25/2017 2:22 PM
27	Would it be possible to host 5k walk/run events?	3/24/2017 11:43 PM
28	Drinking water would be a nice amenity.	3/24/2017 2:45 PM

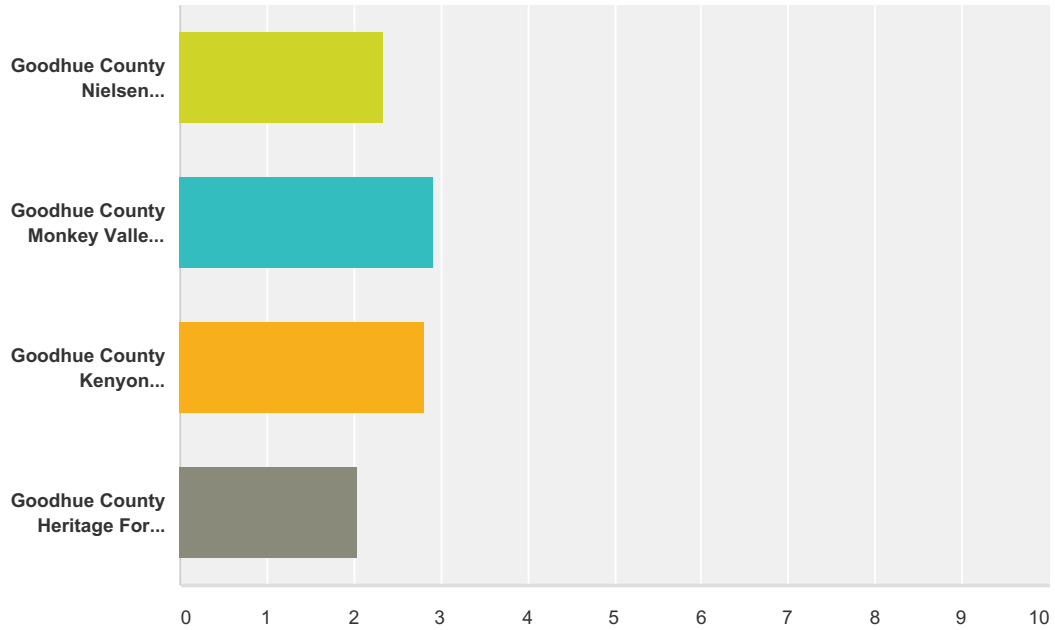
Goodhue County Park-Kenyon Concept Review

29	I think it would rarely be used. Our site has a camp site open to the public. It's a DNR rustic managed site so we don't spend any of our resources maintaining it and it's hardly used. Plus we have 743 acres and are in a town with 15 times the population of Kenyon. I would rather see the site be left wild or much smaller (12 people max). Also, the more things you put off trail the more susceptible to the spread of invasive species. The area right now is pretty clear of invasives but once you attract more people that is going to majorly change and someone will have to actively manage the area so we don't compromise the purpose of the park (natural area, wildlife sanctuary)	3/24/2017 10:51 AM
30	Possibly have toilets closer to the camping grounds	3/24/2017 10:40 AM
31	No	3/23/2017 2:50 PM
32	No.	3/22/2017 2:43 PM
33	would families be able to reserve this space- or only community groups?	3/18/2017 3:38 PM
34	There needs to be closer toilet accommodations for these areas, especially group camp! Will small fire rings be allowed in group camp area? Will there be any accommodations for hauling gear to and from group site, other than by foot? Depending on the grade and vegetation, I would recommend that most of the group camp area, especially the perimeters, be kept divided into alcoves and nooks by vegetation and trees.	3/15/2017 5:04 PM

Goodhue County Park-Kenyon Concept Review

Q8 A name for the park has not yet been chosen. Please rank the following list of potential names identified to date.

Answered: 57 Skipped: 15



	1	2	3	4	Total	Score
Goodhue County Nielsen Memorial Preserve	25.00% 13	19.23% 10	19.23% 10	36.54% 19	52	2.33
Goodhue County Monkey Valley Preserve	40.74% 22	31.48% 17	7.41% 4	20.37% 11	54	2.93
Goodhue County Kenyon Woodlands Preserve	29.09% 16	34.55% 19	25.45% 14	10.91% 6	55	2.82
Goodhue County Heritage Forest Preserve	10.00% 5	14.00% 7	46.00% 23	30.00% 15	50	2.04

Goodhue County Park-Kenyon Concept Review

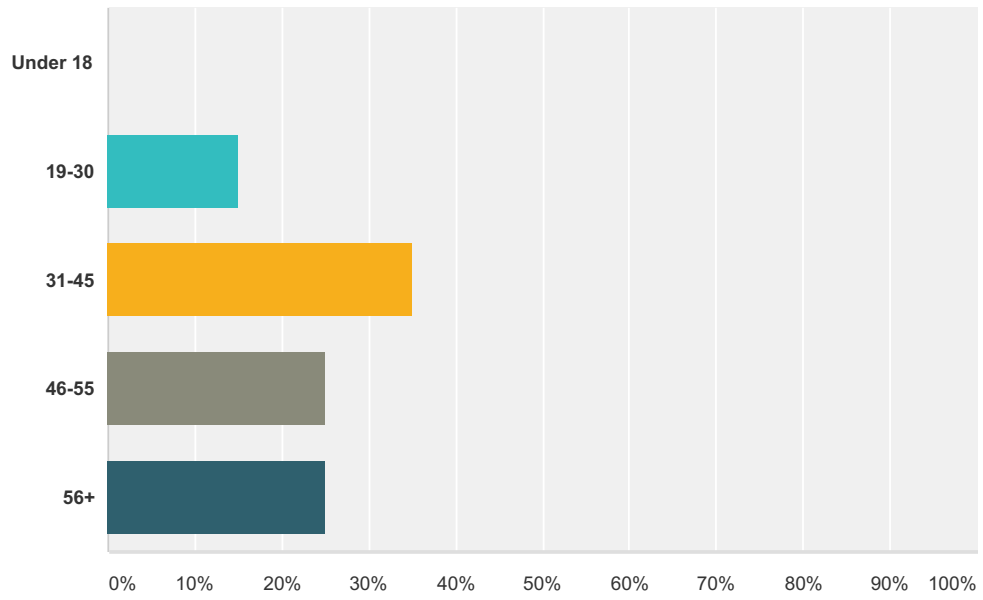
Q9 Do you have another idea for a name? If so, please list below.

Answered: 10 Skipped: 62

#	Responses	Date
1	Replace "preserve" with "Park"	4/4/2017 3:15 PM
2	Like Kenyon Woodlands Preserve - wouldn't let me rank	4/3/2017 10:14 PM
3	N/A	4/3/2017 3:30 PM
4	Goodhue County Nielsen Woodland Preserve	3/27/2017 11:36 AM
5	GC Heritage Woodlands Preserve	3/27/2017 10:47 AM
6	none	3/27/2017 10:43 AM
7	Kenyon Area County Park	3/27/2017 7:45 AM
8	No	3/26/2017 5:28 PM
9	How about changing the last one to Goodhue County Nielson Heritage Preserve	3/25/2017 2:25 PM
10	Love the idea of it being named Monkey Valley Preserve!!	3/24/2017 10:41 AM

Q10 How old are you? (optional)

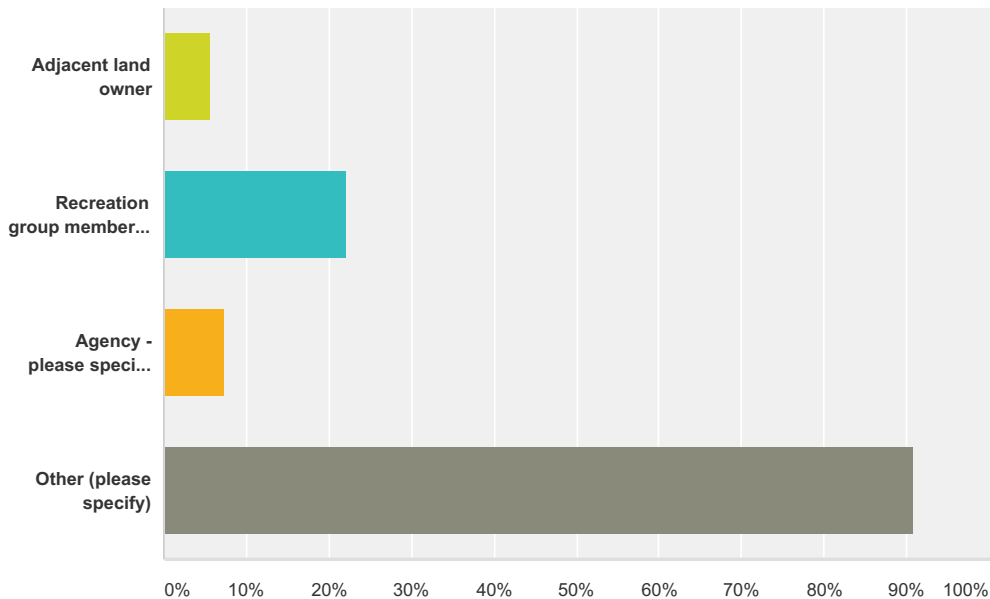
Answered: 60 Skipped: 12



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Under 18	0.00%	0
19-30	15.00%	9
31-45	35.00%	21
46-55	25.00%	15
56+	25.00%	15
Total		60

Q11 What is your interest in Kenyon Park?

Answered: 54 Skipped: 18



Answer Choices	Responses
Adjacent land owner	5.56% 3
Recreation group member - please specify which group in the Other field below	22.22% 12
Agency - please specify which agency in the Other field below	7.41% 4
Other (please specify)	90.74% 49
Total Respondents: 54	

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	Land owner NE of Kenyon but now spend most of my time in northern Minnesota.	4/6/2017 9:52 AM
2	Runner	4/5/2017 8:22 PM
3	none	4/5/2017 1:38 PM
4	KW graduate, live in Kenyon	4/4/2017 3:16 PM
5	community member	4/4/2017 3:09 PM
6	Work in Kenyon, children in Kenyon school	4/4/2017 7:58 AM
7	Kenyon resident	4/4/2017 5:35 AM
8	visitor	4/4/2017 2:31 AM
9	Taxpayer and local resident	4/4/2017 12:14 AM
10	Community member	4/3/2017 10:15 PM
11	Kenyon community member	4/3/2017 8:18 PM
12	Naturalist	4/3/2017 7:34 PM
13	Local parent/teacher	4/3/2017 5:29 PM

Goodhue County Park-Kenyon Concept Review

14	hiking and biking	4/3/2017 5:01 PM
15	Resident of Nerstrand, employed in Kenyon. I am very excited for this opportunity for these communities.	4/3/2017 3:31 PM
16	I' looking for a trail to ride road bike and mountain bike, as well as running and cross country skiing. If we can get a great managed groomed cross country ski trail in this area it would be a great asset to the surrounding communities as well as high school sports.	4/2/2017 2:35 PM
17	Kenyon resident	3/29/2017 7:32 PM
18	NWTF, BSA	3/27/2017 8:48 PM
19	Resident	3/27/2017 11:37 AM
20	resident of Kenyon	3/27/2017 11:19 AM
21	user	3/27/2017 11:13 AM
22	Educator for KW	3/27/2017 10:49 AM
23	close neighbor to the park	3/27/2017 10:48 AM
24	School district employee	3/27/2017 10:46 AM
25	resident of Goodhue County	3/27/2017 10:44 AM
26	Work in Kenyon and live nearby.	3/27/2017 10:26 AM
27	Area resident	3/27/2017 7:45 AM
28	Went to school in kenyon and as the science class does a big boundary waters trip every year it would be nice to have something local for kids to do too	3/27/2017 7:14 AM
29	Average Joe	3/27/2017 7:01 AM
30	County resident, potential user	3/26/2017 5:29 PM
31	Teacher and a member of the Minnesota Geocaching Association	3/26/2017 4:44 PM
32	Boy Scouts	3/26/2017 11:59 AM
33	Local Citizen	3/26/2017 11:35 AM
34	citizen of Kenyon; employer/employee in Kenyon	3/26/2017 11:10 AM
35	Community member, environmentalist, and outdoor recreation enthusiast.	3/26/2017 11:04 AM
36	Town resident	3/26/2017 10:54 AM
37	area resident, reporter for the News-Record paper	3/26/2017 10:45 AM
38	Kenyon	3/25/2017 2:27 PM
39	Kenyon resident	3/24/2017 11:47 PM
40	Family members are adjacent landowners	3/24/2017 12:05 PM
41	Geocaching	3/24/2017 11:27 AM
42	Frequent user of nearby natural, environmental educator	3/24/2017 10:54 AM
43	kenyon resident	3/24/2017 10:41 AM
44	Goodhue County park user	3/23/2017 2:53 PM
45	Goodhue County Public Works employee	3/22/2017 2:44 PM
46	Kenton garden committee	3/18/2017 3:46 PM
47	boy scouts; also family hiking/skiing/camping interests	3/18/2017 3:40 PM
48	Teacher	3/15/2017 5:59 PM
49	Boy Scout adult leader- Wanamingo troop & Gamehaven Council; Cherry Grove Township Supervisor	3/15/2017 5:05 PM

Goodhue County Park-Kenyon Concept Review

Q12 What city or township do you live in? (optional)

Answered: 50 Skipped: 22

#	Responses	Date
1	Itasca	4/6/2017 9:52 AM
2	Holden township	4/5/2017 8:22 PM
3	Kenyon	4/4/2017 3:16 PM
4	Holden Township	4/4/2017 3:09 PM
5	Cherry grove Township	4/4/2017 7:58 AM
6	Kenyon	4/4/2017 5:35 AM
7	Kenyon	4/4/2017 2:31 AM
8	Kenyon	4/4/2017 12:14 AM
9	Holden	4/3/2017 10:15 PM
10	kenyon	4/3/2017 8:39 PM
11	Holden Township	4/3/2017 8:18 PM
12	city of Kenyon	4/3/2017 5:01 PM
13	Nerstrand, MN	4/3/2017 3:31 PM
14	Wanamingo	4/2/2017 2:35 PM
15	Holden	3/29/2017 7:32 PM
16	kenyon	3/29/2017 6:28 AM
17	holden	3/28/2017 9:09 AM
18	Wanamingo	3/27/2017 8:48 PM
19	Wanamingo	3/27/2017 1:09 PM
20	Kenyon Township	3/27/2017 11:37 AM
21	Kenyon	3/27/2017 11:19 AM
22	Kenyon	3/27/2017 10:49 AM
23	Kenyon township	3/27/2017 10:48 AM
24	City of Zumbrota	3/27/2017 10:44 AM
25	Northfield	3/27/2017 10:26 AM
26	Kenyon	3/27/2017 10:03 AM
27	Wanamingo (City)	3/27/2017 7:45 AM
28	Roscoe township	3/27/2017 7:14 AM
29	Kenyon	3/27/2017 7:01 AM
30	Zumbrota	3/26/2017 5:29 PM
31	Concord	3/26/2017 4:44 PM
32	Wanamingo Mn.	3/26/2017 11:59 AM
33	Aspelund Township	3/26/2017 11:35 AM
34	Kenyon	3/26/2017 11:10 AM

Goodhue County Park-Kenyon Concept Review

35	Cherry Grove	3/26/2017 11:04 AM
36	Kenyon	3/26/2017 10:54 AM
37	City of Wanamingo	3/26/2017 10:45 AM
38	Kenyon Township	3/25/2017 2:27 PM
39	Kenyon	3/24/2017 11:47 PM
40	Cannon Falls	3/24/2017 2:50 PM
41	Kenyon	3/24/2017 12:33 PM
42	Nerstrand	3/24/2017 12:29 PM
43	Kenyon	3/24/2017 10:54 AM
44	kenyon	3/24/2017 10:41 AM
45	Stanton Township	3/23/2017 2:53 PM
46	City of Red Wing	3/22/2017 2:44 PM
47	City of kenyon	3/18/2017 3:46 PM
48	West Concord, Dodge County	3/18/2017 3:40 PM
49	Kenyon township	3/15/2017 5:59 PM
50	Cherry Grove	3/15/2017 5:05 PM

ONLINE QUESTIONNAIRE (OCTOBER 2017)

All Responses

Comments on the Goodhue County Nielsen Memorial Preserve Draft Master Plan

#1

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Sunday, October 08, 2017 8:22:45 PM
Last Modified: Sunday, October 08, 2017 8:30:23 PM
Time Spent: 00:07:37
IP Address: 24.197.177.27

Page 1: Leave Your Feedback

Q1 Please share any comments you may have on Goodhue County's Nielsen Memorial Preserve Draft Master Plan.

I knew Harold and Louise, worked for them as personal assistant for the last 7 years of their lives, Harold would be very happy with your plan. He wanted the land to be enjoyed for its beauty. Thank you for your care in design and plan.

Comments on the Goodhue County Nielsen Memorial Preserve Draft Master Plan

#2

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, October 13, 2017 10:21:22 AM
Last Modified: Friday, October 13, 2017 10:31:43 AM
Time Spent: 00:10:21
IP Address: 108.178.200.254

Page 1: Leave Your Feedback

Q1 Please share any comments you may have on Goodhue County's Nielsen Memorial Preserve Draft Master Plan.

I favor the idea of a paved bike trail in the park, as well as developing a safe connecting path from the city of Kenyon out to the Nielsen Memorial Preserve.

The master plan looks to be very thorough and includes multiple uses from many groups. It will be nice to have this close by!

MNDNR COMMENTS

Dear Goodhue County,

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Nielsen Preserve Master Plan. We appreciate the extended comment deadline. Please let us know if you have any questions or comments regarding our comments below.

- This piece of land seems like a rare gem in the landscape. We encourage the County to retain its natural features as much as possible given your need for recreational opportunities and infrastructure for the park. We recommend that you concentrate the recreation facilities with the heaviest use into one area of the park with the lowest ecological value rather than scattered throughout the park.
- Consider consulting with DNR Regional Plant Ecologists for questions regarding native plant communities, rare species habitat, and placement of infrastructure projects. The listing of contacts for ecological assistance is found [here](#).
- Protect the cultural features on site (as noted in the master plan: trapper's cabin and teepee mounds, the latter can be seen on LiDAR hillshade image below); for guidance, contact State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) or the Office of the State Archaeologist (OSA).
- Consider finding funds to purchase a portion of the adjacent field (either in NW of the park in Rice Co. or the NE corner of the park) for an entrance and parking lot to eliminate the need to impact the intact forest.
- Consider the MNDNR's School Forest Program to link your park with local schools for outdoor and environmental education opportunities. Information about this program can be found [here](#).
- Consider consulting with your local DNR stewardship forester on vegetation management projects. Contact information for these foresters are found [here](#).
- We suggest that the County consider applying for a NHIS data license. As a County, you would receive the license for free. The license is provided on a two year basis. Under a license agreement, you would have access to rare features (plant, animal, native plant community) data for the County. Information on the DNR Rare Features data license can be found [here](#). Questions regarding the NHIS should be directed to Lisa Joyal, Endangered Species Review Coordinator (lisa.joyal@state.mn.us; 651-259-5109).
- We appreciate the County's dedication to monitoring the site for invasive species. Please consider adding a boot brush with interpretive signage with information about preventing the spread of invasive species by humans (cars, shoes, gear etc.) Examples of signage can be found [here](#).

Thanks again for your time and consideration. The Nielsen Preserve will be a wonderful park!

Kit Elstad-Haveles & Michelle Martin

Kit Elstad-Haveles

Regional Plant Ecologist | Ecological and Water Resources

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

1200 Warner Road

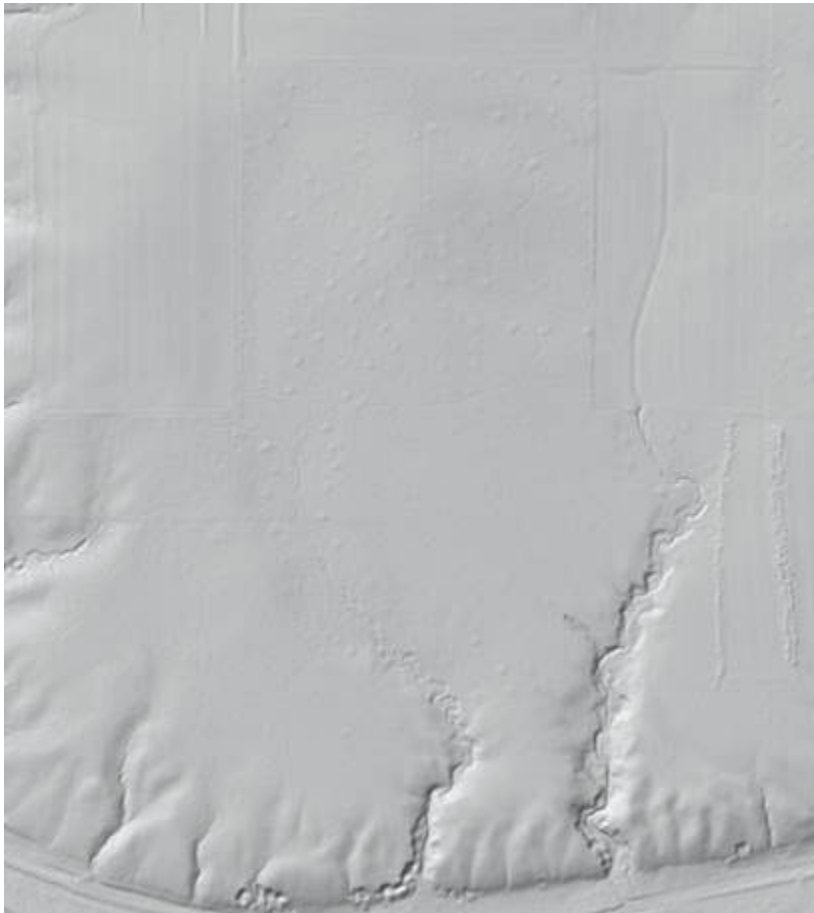
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Figure of LiDAR Hillshade of general area, as referenced above (perhaps bumps are the teepee mounds).



MNDNR COMMENTS

From: Froyum, Jacob (DNR) [mailto:jacob.froyum@state.mn.us]
Sent: Monday, November 6, 2017 11:21 AM
To: Ziemer, Jennifer
Subject: RE: Files to download

Thank you, the Nielsen Preserve looks like a really cool park. I will try to make a visit sometime soon.

A wrote a couple things below that I noticed when looking through the plan. Don't consider this as the DNR's official stance or anything close; just a few thoughts from me as a land manager.

On p. 14 it says that there is shagbark hickory in the understory. I'd be stunned if it were there since the closest native shagbarks that I know of are probably 50+ miles away. Their native range isn't quite this far west and north. Maybe it is supposed to be bitternut hickory since that is common in the big woods.

P. 23 states a "lack of invasives". I have not been there so I don't know but that is very unlikely. Maybe it is just the wording that caught me as being bold. Maybe "a general lack of invasive plants" or something else that doesn't seem so certain.

It also says "illegal hunting" is a concern but it doesn't say anywhere if there is or will be an opportunity for legal hunting of some sort. Hunting, especially deer, should be left as an option to be regulated by the park. From my experience with similar parks in the Twin Cities and the surrounding area it is occasionally necessary to have a hunt to control deer and there are ways to make that compatible with public access.

Thank you,
Jake Froyum
Program Forester | Cooperative Forest Management | Division of Forestry

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
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MNDNR COMMENTS



MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
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500 LAFAYETTE ROAD
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September 1, 2016

Goodhue County Public Works
2140 Pioneer Rd
Red Wing, MN 55066

To Whom It May Concern:

The following information is being submitted for consideration for Kenyon Park, located in western Goodhue County, west of Kenyon, Minnesota.

The Minnesota Biological Survey (MBS), a work unit within the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), ranked the area that encompasses the boundary of Kenyon Park as a site of Outstanding Biodiversity Significance. This ranking is given to sites that contain the best occurrences of the rarest species, the most outstanding examples of the rarest native plant communities, and/or the largest, most ecologically intact or functional landscapes.

Additionally, there is the potential for a number of listed species within the boundary of the park. More information is available in the Minnesota Rare Species Guide online:
<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/rsg/index.html>

- **Minnesota Dwarf Trout Lily (*Erythronium propullans*):** This species is listed as Federally Endangered and State Endangered. It is a rare ephemeral, endemic forest wildflower found in only three counties of Minnesota (Goodhue, Rice and Steele). This species has been found in the surrounding area along the North Fork Zumbro River.
- **Snow Trillium (*Trillium nivale*):** This species is listed as State Special Concern. This is an ephemeral forest wildflower found in scattered localities of southern Minnesota, including the surrounding area along the North Fork Zumbro River.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the area of the park be surveyed during the peak blooming period for the species in the spring of 2017 (late-April to early-May). Only a small portion in the lowlands near the river was surveyed for Dwarf Trout Lily in 1990. This survey should be carried out by people familiar with the species. Minnesota Department of Natural Resource Botanist, Derek Anderson, and a team of trained volunteers could conduct this survey in the spring of 2017.

If any rare species are found within the park, they should be taken into account when planning for trails or any other infrastructure. The simplest measure would be avoidance of these sensitive areas.

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MNDNR COMMENTS



Thu 4/27/2017 10:09 AM

Anderson, Derek (DNR) <derek.anderson@state.mn.us>

New Goodhue Co Park

To Rita Trapp; Ziemer, Jennifer; Isakson, Greg

Message New Goodhue Co Park.jpg (140 KB)

Hi All,

Attached is a LiDAR image of the new Goodhue County Park located west of Kenyon on the Rice/Goodhue Border. I along with 5 volunteers surveyed a good portion of the property for dwarf trout lilies on April 23rd over the course of a couple of hours (we also were on the lookout for snow trilliums as they are known to occur in the valley). We did not find any dwarf trout lilies or snow trilliums. The forest generally has a southern exposure, and as a result, we focused our survey efforts on the ravine and floodplain.

Below are some comments on specific sections of the park (as indicated on the attached map).

1) This area of the forest was oddly very wet. There was standing water in some areas and the ground was very muddy and soft. There was a fair amount of exposed soil, and diversity was low.

2) This area of the forest was of higher quality, and the abundance and diversity of spring ephemerals increased as we headed south (*Erythronium albidum*, *Dicentra cucullaria*, *Cardamine concatenata*, *Trillium cf. cernuum*, *Podophyllum pedatum*, *Anemone spp.*, *Isopyrum biternatum*, *Allium tricoccum*, etc.). The northern half of the ravine in this section was beautiful. The stream gracefully snaked its way through the forest. As you head south down the ravine, more rock is exposed, and it appears that some areas have been impacted by flooding.

3) We spent the most time surveying for dwarf trout lilies in this area, and while a bit degraded, the habitat looked most similar to the known site of dwarf trout lilies to the east. There was some disturbance in the area from flooding.

4) We did not survey this area adjacent to the river and south of the old railroad grade. It is mostly dominated by reed canary grass.

We were not able to get into the northeast corner of the site during this visit, but I do not think there are any dwarf trout lilies in this area of the site based on what we've seen in the rest of the property. I am hoping to get back out here with our regional plant ecologist (Kit Elstad-Haveles) and our regional forestry specialist (Michelle Martin) in a few weeks to further assess the higher quality areas of the property.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any additional questions,

Derek

