

# Trails



*Lois Jensen Nature Preserve is a 30 acre parcel on the north end of the city. It provides unspoiled wooded paths.*

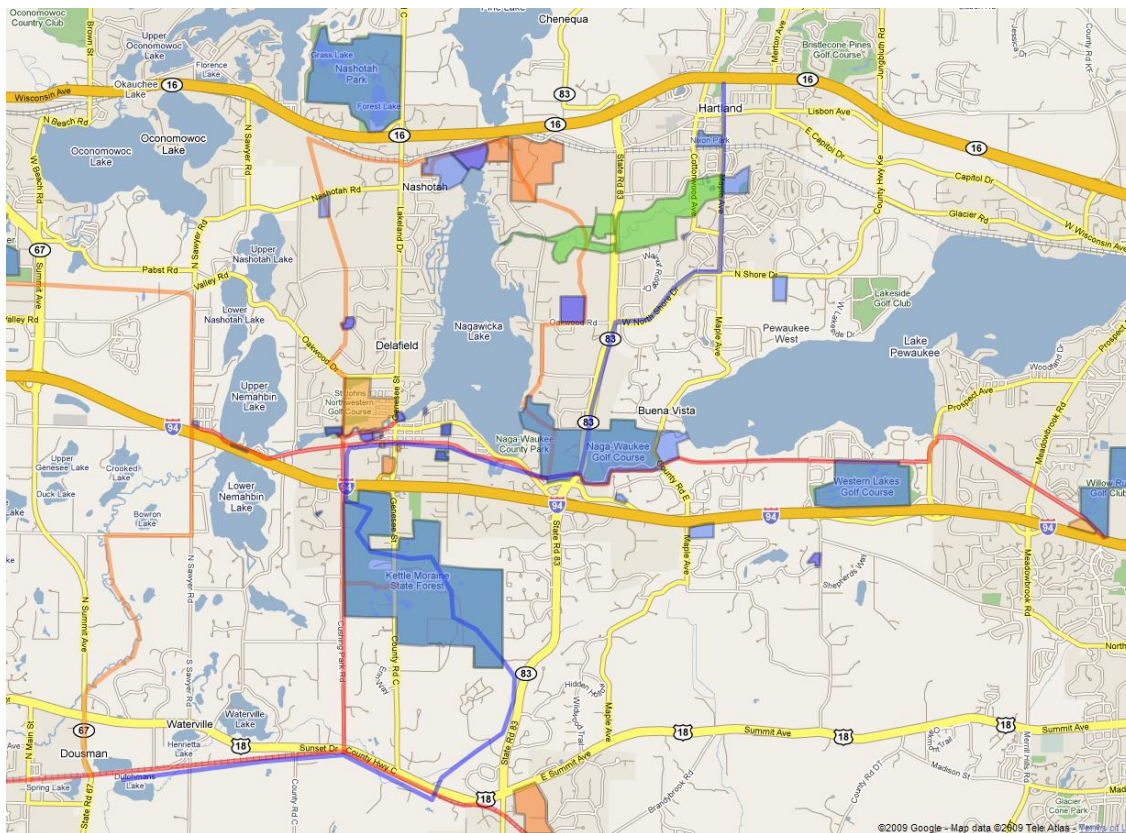
## TRAIL S, PATHS, ROUTES AND CONNECTORS

Citizen input pointed to trails, paths, bike routes, and other non-motorized paths as the most appreciated and most desired amenities in the city. This strategic plan recommends a steady improvement and expansion of the trail system for the City.

The City of Delafield has a good base of existing trails, and is near a much larger network of inter-urban, county, and state trails. This section will outline the current trails that are available, current plans for expanding trails, and outline efforts that should be made in the next planning period.

## TRAIL PLANNING CONCEPTS

The master plan for trails, paths, routes and connections has multiple purposes. The individual areas of planning combine to form the overall master trail plan for the city of Delafield. This map is a generalized outline of the location of trails. It is not an official planning map, and is provided for illustration purposes only. The orange and red lines are existing and proposed trails. The blue line is the approximate path of the ice age hiking trail.



### *INTER-URBAN CONNECTIONS*

Inter-urban connectors are the points where the trails of the City of Delafield connect to neighboring communities or county and state facilities. Often these connections are made by connecting to trails or routes that have already been established in the neighboring communities.

#### Uses for trails

Trails can be used in many ways. Trails may be single or multiple uses.

- Hiking
- Walking / running
- Biking
- Cross Country Skiing
- Snowmobiling
- Transportation between destination

#### Existing neighboring trails or routes

Delafield has many existing trails and routes to build on.

- Lake Country Trail
- Glacial Drumlin State Trail
- Ice Age Trail
- Town of Delafield bike routes
- Cushing Road – off road – trail
- Lapham Peak State Park
- Naga-Wauke County Park
- Nashotah County Park

#### Destinations

Trails can be beautiful and enjoyable on their own, but provide extra value to the community if they lead to a destination. Destinations can be commercial, public, or other trails.

- Communities
  - North to Neshotah, Hartland, and Chenequa
  - West to Town of Delafield, Pewaukee, and Oconomowoc lake
  - South to Wales, Genesee Depot, and Dousman
  - East to Town of Summit, and Oconomowoc
- Destinations
  - North to Neshotah County Park, Pine, Okauchee and Beaver lake access
  - West to Pabst Farms (shopping and YMCA), Upper & Lower Nemaubin lakes, downtown Oconomowoc
  - South the Lapham Peak State park, Glacial Drumlin Trail, Wales Community Park
  - East to Hwy-83 Shopping area, Country Inn Water park, Naga-Wauke county park and boat launch

## PLANNED OR PROPOSED TRAILS AND ROUTES

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- Bark River corridor northeast of the city to Hartland
  - With potential new path for Ice Age trail
- Cushing road bike trail south from Cushing memorial park to the Glacial Drumlin Trail
- West end of Lake Country Trail connection to Town of Summit trail at Nemaubin boat launch
- North and west from Northwest quadrant of the city to Oconomowoc lake and Sawyer road
- Connect Northeast and northwest sides of the city to/through the Village of Nashotah
  - On the north east side from Naga-Waukee park to Oakwood community park, then north to Lois Jensen nature preserve
  - On the northwest side from Cushing park to Bostrom park, then north to the proposed parks near Nashotah road.

CENTRAL CITY

Multiple destinations, attractions, and trail segments already exist in the center of Delafield. The key focus in this area is the creation of off road and on road routes for citizens to safely follow between destinations. The focus of activity will be to document these segments, and provide connections that don't yet exist.

- Central Business District
- Route 83 Business district
- Veterans Memorial River Walk (VMR)
- Lake Country Trail
- Bark River to the Mill Road (the Dam)
- St. John's Northwestern Military Academy
- Bleeker Street
- St. John's Park



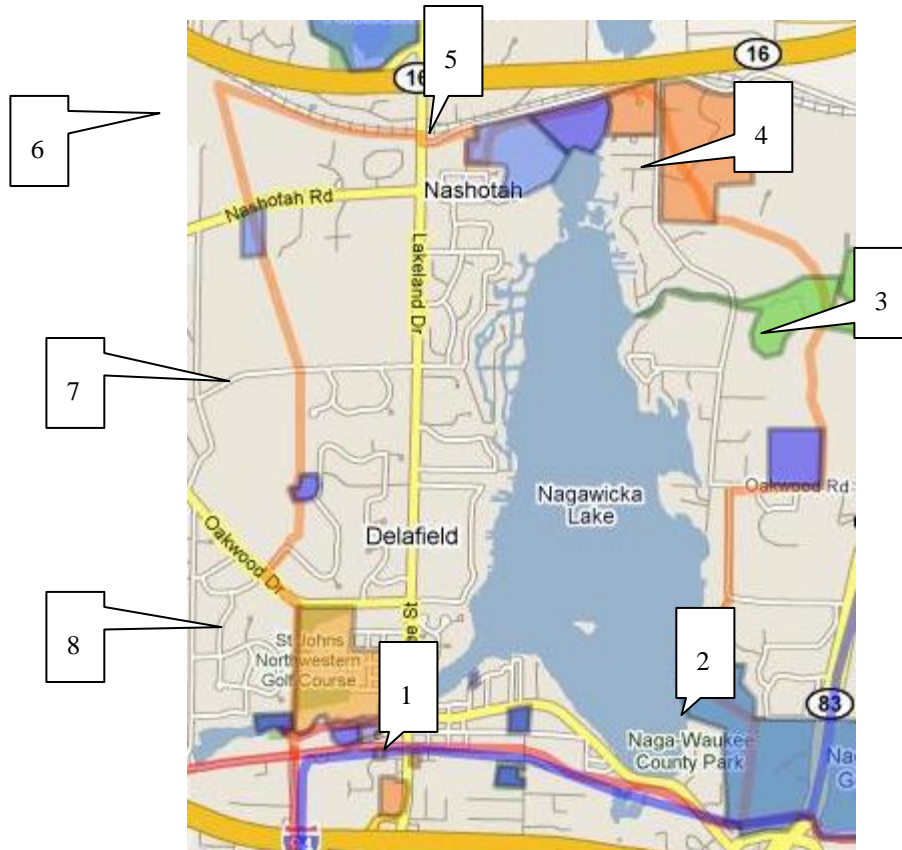
GOALS

Connect each destination or attraction by off road trail. Trails will be used for walking, running, hiking, and biking.

- Complete the Cushing Park off road bike trail from Cushing Park, through Lapham Peak State Park, to the Glacial Drumlin trail at Highway 18.
- Provide a path / sidewalk along the length of Main Street east from Genesee to Milwaukee Street. Many citizens use this street, and safety is an issue.
- Provide a path / sidewalk from Milwaukee street downtown north, through St. John's Park to Carriage hills drive to provide safe travel along Genesee Street, especially at the hill across from St. John's Northwestern Military Academy, and to connect the Carriage Hills and Copperfield Subdivisions to downtown.
- Widen and improve signage of the lake country trail through downtown making it safer, more accessible, and easier to navigate.
- Identify a bike route to Bleeker Street Boat launch. Add a wider shoulder on the road as needed.
- Extent VMR to Mill Road along the Bark River. Incorporate a connection to the public safety building.
- Allow ice age to take advantage of any new routes created.

*LAKE CIRCLE ROUTE*

The lake circle route is a continuous path designed to completely circle Lake Nagawicka. The continuous path is made up of trail segments that have value and purpose in their own right. Individual segments will be developed at different times, but should always be viewed as part of the whole. The lack of a complete vision in the past has led some to believe that individual segments were “trails to nowhere”. Nothing could be farther from the truth. The picture below is a very rough approximation, and is not intended to show the exact route of the trail. The orange line approximates the route.



**GOALS**

The plan for this route is beyond the scope of the strategic plan, but should be a high priority for detailed planning in the next year. Below is a list of the trail segments, attributes and issues related to each:

- Starting in the historic downtown headed east toward Highway 83 and Naga-Waukee Park, the trail makes use of the lake country trail. This section is complete, with the exception of improvements discussed in the central city section.
- Naga-Waukee Park north to the new Oakwood Road Community Park. While a path through Naga-Waukee Park would be easy to develop, the path of a connecting segment to Oakwood Community Park is not clear at this point. On road routes should be established until an off road path can be determined.
- The current land use for the section of the path between Oakwood Community Park and University Lake School is mostly agricultural. It must be made clear to any developer that an off road path must be included in any development of the area. The conservancy area along the Bark River provides an opportunity to link the lake circle trail to trail systems already established in the village of Hartland
- The section of the trail that crosses University Lake School must be negotiated with the school and Lake Country School.

## City of Delafield

- A trail through Louis Jensen nature preserve is already under development, and should be completed. Cooperation with the Village of Nashotah should be pursued to continue the path through their jurisdiction.
- A new subdivision will ultimately go into the northwest corner of the city, and will include a 4 acre park on site, and an 8 acre park just south of Nashotah road. All of these should be linked by off road trails.
- The trail heads south and should be connected to Bostrom park
- The route from Bostrom Park to Cushing Park is mostly through already developed neighborhoods, and may have to be on road trails.

### *SHORT BUT SWEET*

Individual trails or paths that provide excellent recreational resources for the citizens of the city. Each of these has important attributes, and should not be left out of consideration when reviewing the overall trail plan.

- Delafield Equestrian Trails
- Lois Jensen Nature Preserve
- St. John's Park
- Bostrom Park
- Oakwood Road Community Park
- Naga-Wauke County Park

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## PRIORITIES

Given the goals, ideas and priorities listed above for trails, the commission should undertake a formal comprehensive trail planning process. Trails and paths were rated very highly as a priority by the citizen of Delafield.