

Natural Resources Goals

Goal 1: Expand the duties and responsibilities of the City's Citizen's Environmental Quality Board and Recreational Waterways Committee(?) to advise the City's Parks and Recreation Department on environmental issues and sustainability best practices for the development, management, and operations of the City of Winona Park System.

Goal 2: Engage the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to further investigate occurrences and suitable habitat for rare, threatened, and endangered state and federally listed plant and animal species within the parks.

Goal 3: Conduct City led natural resource inventories and habitat assessments to further discover the biological significance, natural resource attributes, and potential natural resource opportunities of each park.

Goal 4: Document the historical and cultural resource significance of the parks system. Coordinate future records review and investigative studies with the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office and other agencies.

Goal 5: Enhance and/or expand the natural resources within each park, such as greater vegetative diversity, quantity and quality of native plant communities and natural resources corridors, preservation of geological formations/bluffs, water resource features (quantity and quality of springs, seeps, trout streams), surface and groundwater quality, wildlife diversity and individual species populations that do not cause public health or safety issues.

Goal 6: Improve the water quality of Lake Winona by implementing stormwater management best practices to reduce nutrient loading where prudent and feasible. Identify and incorporate non-structural BMPs into park maintenance and management activities.

Goal 7: Expand the public park user's physical accessibility to observe and experience the unique natural resources of each park, while maintaining the quality and preservation of individual natural resource attributes.

Goal 8: Expand and/or enhance the aesthetic values of the park's natural resources while maintaining all-season recreational opportunities.

Goal 9: Develop public educational opportunities for each park's natural resources through off-site social media platforms (city website) and on-site programs (signage, augmented reality, special event programming).

Goal 10: Identify park development limitations due to existing Local, State, and Federal regulations and management plans. Most notably the City of Winona Wellhead Protection Plan, City of Winona, State of Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act, Endangered Species Act, Clean Water Act, Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service management activities of Aghaming Park.

Goal 11: Investigate Non-Profit, Regional, State, and Federal funding sources for natural resource grant and/or cost-share programs to financially assist the City of Winona in initiating natural resource based park projects or park acquisitions.

