



Oak Park

A Master Plan



Purpose

- To help guide the Town through the process of restoring the Park
- To provide a blueprint for the future use of the Park

Vision

Oak Park will be the center of both individual and communal recreational activity for the Town of Greenfield.



Overview

We all know that Oak Park is a fantastic asset to the Town. It's big enough to host large events and provides plenty of opportunities for recreation, like the soccer field, baseball field, playground, and a smooth walking path. This plan is meant to guide us in maintaining and enhancing these opportunities.

Although Oak Park is amazing, we do see some room for improvement. For example, the horseshoe pits are tucked away, so not many people know they're there. And the tennis courts and volleyball area are located at the back of the walking loop, which is not as inviting as having them near the parking area.

On the following pages we will discuss these, and other, problems and propose some possible solutions!



Current Strengths of Oak Park

- Athletic fields for youth sports
- Plenty of space for large events
- Easy parking
- Kitchen and pavilion are available for events
- Well groomed walking track
- Sunny areas combined with ample shade



General Weaknesses

- Poor placement of some activity areas such as horseshoe pits, tennis courts, and volleyball
- Poor condition of some facilities such as the tennis courts
- Lack of signage to locate less obvious features and activities



Regular Maintenance Needs

- Ongoing grading and annually adding material to the walking track to keep it in good shape
- Tree pruning and the removal of deadwood
- Regular watering and aerating of the soccer and baseball fields



Immediate Needs

- Signage
- Soccer / Football Field
- Playground Equipment



Signage

- The park is in desperate need of signage. A simple map with the location of each activity would go a long way towards helping people to find and make proper use of the park's facilities



Soccer / Football Field

- As our soccer & football field rental customers have indicated, the soccer field is in need of revitalization. The soil needs improvement, re-seeding, and regular aeration



Playground Equipment

- The playground equipment is limited and in bad shape, what exists needs refreshing. Some ideas:



Potential Future Projects

- Planting some Oak Trees
- Moving and rehabilitating the tennis courts
- Volleyball
- Dog park
- Downtown sidewalk connection
- Cross-park paths
- Pavilion solar array
- Soil improvement in the events area
- Wifi in the kitchen / pavilion / bandstand area



Planting some Oak Trees

- If we would like the park to live up to its name, many more oak trees need to be planted



Tennis Courts

- The tennis courts are no longer in usable condition
- Their location at the far end of the park does not welcome their use
- Rather than trying to bring them back to life, it would be better to simply build a new tennis court
- Relocating the tennis courts to the area between the soccer field and the baseball field would move it closer to the parking area and fill in an underutilized area



Volleyball

- Volleyball courts would be a great addition to the park



Dog Park

- Having a designated dog park area could eliminate much of the dog waste left around the park and reduce stress



Downtown Sidewalk Connection

- Connecting Oak park to the current sidewalk that stops at the elementary school would promote more pedestrian traffic and better tie “downtown” to the park



Odds and Ends

- Cross-park paths to guide foot traffic to event areas and perhaps provide a shorter loop walk
- With ample sunshine, a solar array on the pavilion or in other areas could provide some energy cost relief
- Soil improvement to the central area, which is sandy and easily disturbed, is badly needed
- Future events and park rentals are likely to want (controlled) WiFi availability and accommodation for that need, perhaps via infrastructure in the concession stand, should be considered



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Greenfield, NH

