

**VILLAGE OF WINDSOR
VILLAGE BOARD RESOLUTION 2024-17**

ADOPTION OF TOKEN CREEK CONSERVANCY MASTER PLAN

WHEREAS, the Village of Windsor adopted the original Token Creek Master Plan on January 26, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the original Token Creek Master Plan was meant to guide the Token Creek Conservancy Committee for 5 to 10 years; and

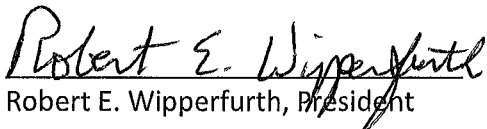
WHEREAS, the Token Creek Conservancy Committee provided input and direction for updates during regularly scheduled Token Creek Conservancy Committee Meetings open to the public; and

WHEREAS, the Token Creek Conservancy Committee has recommended approval of the 2024-2028 Master Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Village Board of the Village of Windsor that it hereby adopts the 2024-2028 Token Creek Conservancy Master Plan.

The above and foregoing resolution was duly adopted at a regular meeting of the Village Board of the Village of Windsor, Dane County, Wisconsin, held on the 1st day of February 2024, by a vote of 5 in favor and 0 opposed.

VILLAGE OF WINDSOR


Robert E. Wipperfurth, President

Attested by:


Christine Capstran, Clerk

Attachments:

Exhibit A: Summary Sheet

Exhibit B: 2024-2028 Token Creek Conservancy Master Plan



SUMMARY SHEET

Meeting Date:	February 01, 2024
Presenter & Contact Information:	Robert Wipperfurth President rwipperfurth@windsorwi.gov 608-846-2703
Title:	#8.b. Resolution 2024-17 Adoption of Token Creek Conservancy Master Plan
Previous Action:	Original Master Plan adopted January 26, 2012.
Issue Summary:	<p>The original Token Creek Conservancy Master Plan was intended to guide the Token Creek Conservancy Committee (TCCC) for 5 to 10 years. It was beyond the intended timeframe. Over the course of 2023, during regularly scheduled TCCC meetings, open to the public, the TCCC worked to update the Master Plan.</p> <p>On January 2, 2024, the TCCC unanimously recommended approval of the Master Plan to the Village Board with certain amendments. Staff completed those amendments. In addition, staff made a correction on the cover page to reflect the Master Plan years as 2024-2028 versus 2024 -2029, and on page 25, under Big Hill, the dollar amount for expanding the trail system where appropriate was increased due to new information about costs of boardwalk.</p>
Staff Recommendation:	Adoption of the Token Creek Conservancy Master Plan
Sample Affirmative Motion:	Motion to approve Resolution 2024-17
Attachments:	2024 – 2028 Token Creek Conservancy Master Plan



Windsor
Growing Forward

TOKEN CREEK CONSERVANCY MASTER PLAN 2024 - 2028

Photo Credit:
Rich Armstrong 2012

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Windsor Board of Trustees

Bob Wipperfurth, President

Bruce Stravinski

Monica Smith

Kristine Schmidt

Ed Wall

Token Creek Conservancy Committee

Bob Wipperfurth, Chairperson

Bruce Stravinski, Vice Chairperson

Barb Bauer

Holly Anderson

Paula Brandmeier

Peggy McCallen

Zachary Antonio

Windsor Staff

Kadie Jo Butteris, Deputy Clerk | Deputy Treasurer

Chad Courtier, Parks & Conservancy Manager

Adopted: XX, 2024

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OVERVIEW

The Token Creek Conservancy (TCC) is roughly 190 acres of publicly owned land located in the Village of Windsor along the Token Creek. The Token Creek is the primary contributor of water to the Yahara River, which is consequentially the largest contributor to the water of Madison's Lake Mendota. In 1999, there was over a million dollars raised to remove an old dam and millpond to free up the stream and springs of the Token Creek. The environmental benefits of this project were tremendous. The TCC is managed by the Village of Windsor's Token Creek Conservancy Committee, under the direction of the Village of Windsor Board.

Master Plan

The 2024 Master Plan serves as an update to the original TCC Master Plan adopted on January 26, 2012, which was intended to guide the Token Creek Conservancy Committee (Committee) for 5-10 years. The original Master Plan will forever serve as a reference to future updates with its extensive appendix on the history of the Token Creek Conservancy Natural Resources and for its acknowledgment to the key people that developed the original Master Plan.

The original Master Plan was adopted to allow the public to understand the vision and goals of the Committee. The Master Plan was used to guide Committee decision making, project the budget needs and provide a level of transparency. With the dedication of the Committee, Village Board and Public, the goals of the original Master Plan were largely achieved. The 2024 Master Plan will once again help the Public understand the goals of the Committee.

Plan Purpose

The 2024 Master Plan is designed to guide the Committee over the next approximately 5 years by identifying recommended improvements and a possible implementation schedule. The 2024 Master Plan acts as a guide for current and future Committee members to help address the needs of the TCC to better serve the Community.

Plan Development Process

1. Summer 2023: Staff review current Master Plan and update for Committee discussion.
2. September to November 2023: Committee Review of Master Plan during regularly scheduled meetings open to the Public.
3. January 2024: Committee approval of Master Plan.
4. February 2024: Village Board adoption of Master Plan.

TOKEN CREEK CONSERVANCY MISSION STATEMENT

- To conserve, preserve, protect and restore the lands and water, the natural and diverse habitats and the wildlife of the Token Creek Conservancy and Watershed.
- To manage the site to provide respite, enjoyment, low impact recreation and educational activities for our community.
- To advocate the expansion of the Token Creek Conservancy in environmentally sensitive areas, and to support conservation easements to protect environmentally sensitive resources outside of the Conservancy area.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

In order to conduct a thorough and accurate planning process it is important to establish a set of goals and objectives that will serve as the basis for the recommendations in this Plan.

- Goals are broad statements that express general public priorities. Goals are formulated based on the identification of key issues, opportunities and problems that affect the Token Creek Conservancy.
- Objectives are more specific than goals and are usually attainable through strategic planning and implementation activities. Implementation of an objective contributes to the fulfillment of a goal.

The goals and objectives outlined in this Plan further expand upon the mission statement and are intended to guide the maintenance, improvement and development of the entire Token Creek Conservancy. The Plan is further broken down by Management Areas to allow for more specific implementation of the objectives.

Goal: Increase Public Awareness of the Conservancy and Volunteer Involvement

Objectives:

- Develop a new TCC Informational map. The map can serve to promote recreational opportunities, highlight trails and provide general information.
- Consistent use of TCC logo in promotional materials (flyers, signs, website, etc.)
- During the year, host events to highlight the TCC. Ideas include, but are not limited to, naturalist lead walks, concerts in the TCC and outdoor recreation teaching lessons (fly fishing, snowshoeing, birding, geocaching, etc.)
- Support, grow and advise the Friends of the Token Creek Watershed (Friends Group). Support will be offered by allowing for an update of the Friends Group to occur during regularly scheduled Committee meetings, providing suggestions for volunteer workday projects and financial and grant assistance, and recognizing volunteer efforts.
- Connect with local groups and organizations to host volunteer workdays at the TCC.

Goal: Promote Ecological and Sustainable Stewardship of Resources

Objectives:

- Committee annually approves a Management Plan/Work Proposal for the TCC from an ecological services provider. The Management Plan/Work Proposal should address invasive species control, increase biodiversity with native species (to minimize the impact of disease), enhance food sources and habitat and include a timeline and cost. The use of chemical herbicide and pesticide should be minimized.

- Continue stream monitoring and testing and look at ways to improve stream quality and enhance the health of the watershed.
- Utilize professionals that specialize in identified management area concerns.
- Create passive low impact recreational opportunities throughout the TCC. Trails should be designed to minimize maintenance costs and protect and preserve sensitive areas. Horses, bicycles and motorized vehicles (except maintenance vehicles) are prohibited.

Goal: Expand Conservancy Development

Objectives:

- Trail plans should be made to encourage trail development and use for multiple seasonal activities (such as hiking/cross country ski trails). Trail plans should also consider areas of interest with educational signs.
- Establish and strengthen collaborative efforts with the School District, DNR, Friends of the Token Creek Watershed and other environmental/civic groups.
- Link the trail system throughout all TCC property where possible.
- Add/acquire additional lands to the TCC.

MANAGEMENT AREAS

The TCC is divided into six (6) management areas. The management areas are primarily based on the entrance that services the area, which is how the Committee/Public discuss the TCC. There is an additional area for the actual Token Creek, which runs through all other management areas.

Entrances/sites:

1. Elmer and Edna Culver Site
2. Raintree
3. Old Mill Site
4. DNR Ponds
5. Big Hill
6. Token Creek (waterbody)

Note: The site summaries in the below management areas are meant to provide a general overview of what is at the site and are not intended to be exhaustive.

MANAGEMENT AREAS MAP



1. Elmer and Edna Culver Site Management Area (Blue)

- Parcels: 091035287010, 091035292910, 091034298806, 091034298600

2. Raintree Management Area (Purple)

- Parcel: 091034450015

3. Old Mill Site Management Area (Orange)

- Parcels: 091034485014, 091034487209, 091034395013, 091034487810

4. DNR Ponds Management Area (Green)

- Parcels: 091034491909, 091034492506, 081003122993

5. Big Hill Management Area (Red)

- Parcels: 091034399402, 091034398001, 091034395800, 091034390036, 091034388003, 091034385319, 091033495030, 091033198450

ELMER AND EDNA CULVER SITE MANAGEMENT AREA

Entrance Location: 3667 Egge Road, DeForest WI 53532 in the Village of Windsor

History

The Elmer and Edna Culver Site consists of approximately 60 acres purchased in 1999 as an addition to the TCC. The property is named after Elmer and Edna Culver, who owned a farm and ponds at this location and were early advocates of the stewardship movement.

<p>Site Summary (Note: The site summary is intended to provide a general overview of what is at the site. It is not intended to be an exhaustive list of everything within the management area.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upper, gravel parking lot area off of Egge Rd. with private drive, Mill Road, leading to lower, gravel parking lot area • Large prairie in northwest section (seed purchased by Token Creek Watershed Association) • Forested Areas • Trails • Two Kiosks • Trail Map Holder • Large Informational Map • Springs Area • Blue Bird Houses • Kestrel Houses • Benches • Boundary Signs • Emergency Trail Markers • Split Rail Fence • Entrance Sign
<p>Site Maintenance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain posted signage with rules and regulations, Village contact information, boundary signs and no hunting signs • Provide trail maps in trail map holders • Update information in kiosks • Annual placement of portable toilet from approximately April through October • Ecological Services Provider Annual Management Plan including prairie maintenance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Burn prairie annually, or as needed, based on recommendation from ecological services provider ○ Monitor and treat for invasive species ○ Re-seed when necessary to keep diversity of prairie plants • Forested area maintenance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Clear brush/remove invasive species (focus around Culver springs and barn foundation area) • Maintain barn foundation to preserve history of land

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly mowing of picnic area (grass) • Removal of trash • Maintain dog waste station bags • Mowing of trails • Parking lot regrading
Site Events and Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Workdays • UW-Madison research site
Site Issues and Challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Security/Vandalism • Visitors in the water despite signs with no water access posted • Dogs off leash • Invasive species control
Recommended Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replace entrance sign • Culver springs area improvements with a mixture of natural (rock/plantings) and boardwalk/viewing platforms • Repair, replace or remove existing bridge over springs area • Expand trail network system where appropriate • Install interpretive and educational materials • Install split rail fence on north border of prairie to maintain property boundary from future home sites* • If additional land acquired, consider a shelter or visitor center with restroom facilities

***Note:** Directly north of the prairie is a preliminary 5 lot subdivision, Mayr Parkview Estates.

RAINTREE MANAGEMENT AREA

Entrance Location: 6377 Grossepark Road, Sun Prairie, WI 53590 in the Village of Windsor

History

Raintree is approximately 4 acres in size and includes the Raintree ponds and their culverts as well as the area that is currently mowed around the ponds and conservancy entrance. This area was acquired in two phases. A portion was originally dedicated to the then Town of Windsor as parkland as part of the Raintree Subdivision. Later, Wilfred and Verena Grosse donated the ponds with the condition that they are maintained in as open space. Therefore, this area is managed as part of the Conservancy system and not like other recreational parks in Windsor.

<p>Site Summary (Note: The site summary is intended to provide a general overview of what is at the site. It is not intended to be an exhaustive list of everything within the management area.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two wildlife viewing ponds • Large open grassy area • Mature shade trees • Trails • Emergency Trail Markers • Split Rail Fence • Entrance Sign
<p>Site Maintenance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mow entire site twice a year at 4" and mow the loops throughout weekly at 3" • Maintain split rail fence as a boundary between TCC and private property • Pond maintenance
<p>Site Events and Programs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None
<p>Site Issues and Challenges</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pond Maintenance • Wet area
<p>Recommended Improvements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research and implement options to convert from lawn/grass to a low prairie with mowed trails

OLD MILL SITE MANAGEMENT AREA

Entrance Location: 6394 Portage Road, DeForest, WI 53532 in the Village of Windsor

History

Old Mill Site once contained the last functioning mill in Token Creek. The management of this area should focus on uses such as fishing, education, picnicking and maintaining the Veterans Memorial and Token Creek Cemetery. The site also contains a rare, intact sedge meadow plant community of significant scale (6.6 acres), as identified in the 2017 Token Creek Assessment completed by Good Oak.

<p>Site Summary (Note: The site summary is intended to provide a general overview of what is at the site. It is not intended to be an exhaustive list of everything within the management area.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shelter • Large grassy, mowed area near old spillway • Veterans Memorial and Token Creek Cemetery • Bridge connecting to Raintree • Boardwalk with sedge meadow viewing platform • Gravel parking lot • Intact sedge meadow • Trail • Kiosk • Trail map holder • Boot brush cleaning station • Emergency Trail Markers • Entrance Sign
<p>Site Maintenance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly Mowing • Parking lot regrading • Maintain posted signage with rules and regulations and Village contact information • Provide trail maps in trail map holder • Update information in kiosks • Removal of trash • Annual placement of accessible portable toilet from approximately April through October • Clear brush/remove invasive species with particular focus on the sedge meadow
<p>Site Events and Programs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Cops-N-Bobbers event lunch is hosted under shelter
<p>Site Issues and Challenges</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invasive species control • Site of old dump
<p>Recommended Improvements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pave parking lot approach and expand lot (gravel) • Provide safe crossing from Old Mill Site to DNR Ponds (pedestrian bridge or expand existing bridge to allow for a walking path)

DNR PONDS MANAGEMENT AREA

Entrance Location: 6356 Portage Road, DeForest, WI 53532 in the Village of Windsor

History

This area is owned by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and managed by the Village of Windsor, as part of the TCC, with an intergovernmental land use agreement that expires March 31, 2027. Originally, the DNR used the ponds for rearing fish. These rearing ponds were eventually abandoned for alternative sites more suitable to the DNR. The management of this area should focus on providing opportunities to fish for youth and certain anglers with disabilities. The ponds have an Urban Fishery designation.

The Village and DNR should discuss a contingency plan for the DNR ponds in the event that they are no longer used by the DNR. Windsor should be involved with the future use of this site, and be offered an opportunity to reclaim the property as part of the Token Creek Conservancy.

<p>Site Summary (Note: The site summary is intended to provide a general overview of what is at the site. It is not intended to be an exhaustive list of everything within the management area.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two ponds • Accessible Dock/Pier • Small gravel parking lot • Shed (Windsor does not have access to shed) • Aeration system for ponds • Historical Marker • Signage for Urban Fishery Designation • Entrance Sign
<p>Site Maintenance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly Mowing • Professional Ponds Management • Algae skimming off ponds • Maintain posted signage with rules and regulations and Village contact information • Annual fish stocking
<p>Site Events and Programs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Cops-N-Bobbers event • Workdays performing algae skimming off ponds
<p>Site Issues and Challenges</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Algae of ponds • Land not owned by Windsor
<p>Recommended Improvements (All improvements are subject to approval by the DNR)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional algae control

BIG HILL MANAGEMENT AREA

Entrance Location: 6424 Forest Park Drive, DeForest WI 53532 in the Village of Windsor

History

Big Hill was a gift to Windsor and the DeForest Area School District from Cecil and Bernadine Smith and an additional generous donation by the Fred and Helen Chase family. Part of this management area is the former Yngsdahl property purchased by Windsor. The area is primarily managed to provide an outdoor classroom for students and has a strong educational focus. The area was previously a gravel pit with the ponds created when the gravel pit was operational.

BIG HILL MISSION STATEMENT FOR THE DEFOREST AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

The mission of the Big Hill Environmental Center is to engage, challenge, and inspire students; bringing awareness, knowledge, and appreciation of nature leads to sound stewardship of the earth. The Big Hill Environmental Center is the School Forest of the DeForest Area School District (DASD) and the Village of Windsor. Big Hill is an integral part of the Token Creek Watershed that feeds into the Yahara River Water System. It is an exceptional opportunity to enhance education for students and teachers by learning in a natural setting. Integrating curricular content areas with environmental education is an effective way to increase student awareness and to help them become better stewards of the earth.

<p>Site Summary (Note: The site summary is intended to provide a general overview of what is at the site. It is not intended to be an exhaustive list of everything within the management area.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ponds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Large pond has a floating dock ● Restored prairie ● Small farming plot ● Forested area roughly 30 acres in size with small pine tree plantation ● Wetlands ● Bridge from Revere Trails subdivision into Big Hill ● Shelter ● Trails ● Emergency Trail Markers ● Entrance Sign
<p>Site Maintenance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Trail Maintenance ● Educational markers ● Signage ● Prairie maintenance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Burn prairie as needed, based on recommendation from ecological services provider ○ Monitor and treat for invasive species

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Re-seed when necessary to keep diversity of prairie plants ● Forested area maintenance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Clear brush/remove invasive species ● Maintain ponds and floating dock
Site Events and Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Serve as living classroom for students of DeForest Area School District
Site Issues and Challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Invasive species control especially poison ivy
Recommended Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Design a prairie flower guide for public and educational use ● Expand trail network system where appropriate. Possibilities include connecting to Kimberly Way Park and Old Mill Site and other connections as to be determined.

Note: The multi-use, paved path that borders Big Hill is managed by the Public Works Department under the direction of the Public Works Committee. It is not part of the Token Creek Conservancy.

CREEK MANAGEMENT AREA

History

Site Summary	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Token Creek
Site Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Testing
Site Events and Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• None
Site Issues and Challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Invasive species control especially reed canary grass
Recommended Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Removal of algae• Reach out to experts, DNR, on recommended improvements• Look at erosion control• Look at partnering with Trout Unlimited for fly fishing classes

MAINTENANCE & STANDARDS

Maintenance Plan

1. Goal: maintain/improve all sites of the Token Creek Conservancy
2. Maintenance Plan:
 - a. Mow grass weekly during growing season
 - b. Trail maintenance and cleanup weekly
 - c. DNR Pond valves and aeration system adjusted weekly
 - d. Collect refuse/recycling bi-weekly
 - e. Brush clearing and burning and invasive species removal as schedule allows
 - f. Parking lot maintenance annually
3. Budget: review and recommend for approval annual budget

Standards

Ecological Services

- Annual management plan, from a qualified ecological services provider, is reviewed and approved, every year by the Committee.

Trails

- Trails are limited to low impact recreation (walking/hiking, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing).
- Mowed trails and footpaths are the preferred trail option with boardwalk in the wetland areas, sensitive areas and in areas to increase accessibility.
- Interconnected trails throughout the TCC is a priority.

Signs

- Entrance signs should be consistent. The Token Creek Conservancy shall be the prominent feature of the sign with the entrance below it.
- Boundary markers are utilized to distinguish the TCC from private property.
- Interpretive and educational signs are permitted in the TCC; however, should be minimized as to not disrupt the natural aesthetics of the TCC. If possible, information should be placed in the entrance kiosks.

Volunteers

Volunteers are essential to the success of the TCC. It is because of volunteers that so much has been achieved. The following are minimum standards for volunteers.

- Volunteers must have a signed Volunteer Registration & Release Form on file with the Village of Windsor.
- The Village of Windsor Parks & Conservancy Manager, or designee, must authorize volunteer work. Work within the Conservancy shall follow what is in the Master Plan.
- It is preferred that Village of Windsor Staff, or contracted ecological services staff, supervise volunteers, especially during group workdays.
- Volunteers may be able to conduct volunteer work within the TCC, without supervision, if trained. Village of Windsor Staff, contracted ecological services staff or Friends of the Token Creek Watershed may provide such trainings.

COMMITTEE MEMBER EXPECTATIONS

The duties of the Committee are outlined in the Village of Windsor's Code of Ordinances, Sec. 2-260. Under the general direction of the Village Board, the Token Creek Conservancy Committee shall have the following duties:

- To advise the Village Board on the management, operations, restoration, conservation and infrastructure work, and improvements, within the lands of the Token Creek Conservancy (sites include Culver, Old Mill, Token Creek DNR Ponds, Raintree and Big Hill).
- To develop long-range plans for the enhancement, maintenance and protection of the resources of the Token Creek Conservancy.
- To prepare and make recommendations of an annual budget to the Village Board reflecting needed expenditures and anticipated revenues. Such recommendation shall be made prior to September 1 of each year.
- To administer grants as they pertain to the Conservancy, in conjunction with the Village Board and administrative staff.
- To provide an educational role communicating to the public the importance of the Conservancy.
- All rules and regulations of the Committee are subject to Village Board review and approval.

PARTNERSHIPS

Windsor Board

The Committee serves as an advisory body to the Village of Windsor Board.

Windsor Police Department

The Windsor Police Department plays an instrumental role in helping to monitor the TCC as part of their normal patrols.

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

The Village of Windsor has had a successful relationship with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and for many years jointly managed the DNR Trout Ponds. In addition, the DNR has lead efforts to stabilize the stream bank and restore wetlands within the Conservancy. The Committee should help facilitate continued collaborative agreements and projects with the DNR.

Friends of the Token Creek Watershed Association

The Committee should work closely with the Friends of the Token Creek Watershed Association. In the past, the Token Creek Watershed Association has provided valuable citizen and neighborhood support for the Token Creek Conservancy, helped to build community and governmental collaboration, and engaged in fundraising efforts for the Conservancy. One member of the Committee, per ordinance, is required to be a member of the Friends of the Token Creek Watershed Association. This individual shall function as a liaison between the groups and foster cooperation on projects and goals that benefit the Conservancy and Watershed.

Windsor Parks Committee

The Committee and Windsor Parks Committee should jointly manage the Windsor “Comprehensive Outdoor, Recreation and Open Space Plan”.

DeForest Area School District

The DeForest Area School District manages the Big Hill Learning Center which comprises a large portion of the Big Hill Management Area. One member of the Committee , per Windsor ordinance, is required to be a member of the DeForest Area School District (and a member of the Big Hill Committee). This individual shall function as a liaison between the groups and foster cooperation on projects and goals that benefit the Conservancy and School District. Educational outreach and planning efforts could be expanded to other parts of the Conservancy to enhance the outdoor learning environment vision of the School District as well as provide educational opportunities for visitors to the Conservancy.

Other Partnerships

Potential partnership and collaboration opportunities should be encouraged and explored with other citizen groups and service/civic organizations which should be further explored (i.e. Lions Club; Scouts; Rotary Club; Chambers of Commerce; sportsmen and environmental groups; bicycle federations; 4-H clubs; county and state officials; churches; senior citizen facilities in DeForest, Windsor and Sun Prairie; veterans groups; Badgerland Bird Alliance; Trout Unlimited, Dane County Conservation League, River Alliance; Sierra Club, etc.).

RULES & REGULATIONS

- Due to the sensitive nature and environment of the TCC, waterborne recreational activities such as canoeing, kayaking and floatation rafts are discouraged throughout the TCC. At Elmer and Edna Culver Site, water access, including swimming, is prohibited due to the sensitive nature of the area and dangerous sinkholes.
- Hunting and trapping are prohibited within the TCC as the area is meant to provide habitat and refuge for wildlife. Exceptions may be made by permit only and will be an option of last resort to control a species for health, safety concerns or population control.
- To maintain the pristine character of the TCC, and minimize potential safety hazards, camping and fire are prohibited in the TCC. Exceptions may be granted by the Committee as part of an organized event.
- There shall be no unauthorized motor vehicles, all terrain vehicles or bicycles on any trail in the TCC. Vehicles may only park in designated parking areas.
- Livestock and pets, including dogs, are prohibited from the TCC. With the exception of leashed dogs allowed at Elmer and Edna Culver Site. This is to protect the ground nesting wildlife and environmentally sensitive areas.

RECOMMENDATIONS SUMMARIZED

Within the Plan, under Management Areas, there are recommended improvements for each site. The below provides a summary of those recommended improvements along with a cost estimate, if there is one. The recommendations, and timeline for implementation, are fluid. Recommendations and implementation may change based on funds available and changing priorities. Most of the recommendations will require funding outside of the annual budget. The Future column signifies that the recommendation will likely occur in five plus years.

Site & Improvement	Total Cost	2024	2025	2026	2027	Future
Elmer & Edna Culver Site						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replace Entrance Sign 	\$850	\$850				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Culver springs area improvements with a mixture of natural (rock/plantings) and boardwalk/viewing platforms (design/engineer and construct) 	\$200,000	\$200,000				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand trail network system where appropriate (connecting Elmer & Edna Culver Site with Old Mill Site) 	\$375,000					\$375,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install interpretive and educational materials 	\$1,000			\$1,000		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install split rail fence on north border of prairie to maintain property boundary from future home sites 	\$3,700		\$3,700			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If additional land acquired, consider a shelter or visitor center with restroom facilities 	\$500,000					\$500,000
Raintree						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research and implement options to convert from lawn/grass to a low prairie with mowed trails 	\$14,000					\$8,600 first year + \$1,800 a year for three years

Site & Improvement	Total Cost	2024	2025	2026	2027	Future
Old Mill Site						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pave parking lot approach plus expand parking lot, gravel, for additional stalls 	\$10,000		\$10,000			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide safe crossing from Old Mill Site to DNR Ponds (pedestrian bridge or expand existing bridge to allow for a walking path) 	\$150,000					\$150,000
DNR Ponds						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional algae control 	\$0 – Volunteer Pond Skimming					
Big Hill						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design a prairie flower guide for public and educational use 	\$4,000		\$4,000			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand trail network system where appropriate. Possibilities include connecting to Kimberly Way Park and Old Mill Site and other connections as to be determined. (Land acquisition would be necessary to connect to Kimberly Way Park) 	\$1,000,000 +					\$1,000,000 + (for Big Hill to Old Mill Site)
Token Creek						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removal of algae 	\$0 – Volunteer Algae Removal					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reach out to experts, DNR, on recommended improvements 	\$0					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look at erosion control (Engineer) 	\$5,000				\$5,000	

Site & Improvement	Total Cost	2024	2025	2026	2027	Future
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look at partnering with Trout Unlimited for fly fishing classes 	\$500	\$500				
Other						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create new trail maps for all sites 	\$2,000	\$2,000				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acquire additional lands where appropriate 	\$1,000,000					\$1,000,000
Total	\$3,266,050	\$203,350	\$17,700	\$1,000	\$5,000	\$3,039,000

Long-term goal: It is the desire of the Committee to establish an appendix to this Master Plan that covers the expansive history of the Token Creek Conservancy.