

Capital Springs State Recreation Area – Capital Springs State Park Unit (356 acres)

Future Recreation Facility Development and Management

The primary facility development will center on day use activities. Location of these recreation facilities and support developments are shown on Map 2.16 and summarized in Table 2.12

Table 2-12: Summary of Future Recreation Facilities and Support Developments, Capital Springs State Park Unit

FACILITY	TOTAL
Amphitheater	1
Trail Miles	
Hike/Cross-country Ski	2.50
10' Paved Bike/Pedestrian Trail	0.75
Nature	0.90
Total	4.15
Observation Deck	2
Parking Lot	1
Road Miles	0.30 miles
Shop Building	1
Rustic Campground	1

Day Use

Outdoor Amphitheater

An outdoor amphitheater will be developed near the mounds area near Lake Farms Archaeological District. This outdoor amphitheater will have electrical power with minimal lighting and vault toilets. Approximate seating size will be up to 60 persons constructed with native materials. A parking lot will be constructed for up to 45 vehicles. This amphitheater can serve as a trail head that will also allow foot travel access to Lake Waubesa.

Vista/Observation Deck and Tower

An observation deck is proposed to be developed on the western edge of the property near Lake Farm Road. This deck will be 20' x 20' in size, wooden, and will provide interpretive plaques for display. In addition, an observation tower will be developed along the eastern edge of the property that will provide vistas of Lake Waubesa and the recreation area.

Additional Parking

It is proposed that up to a 15-car overflow parking lot be built on State Park lands across from the existing boat ramp parking lot located on county lands. This overflow parking lot will be used for nonmotorized water access activities. This parking lot will be used during seasonal peak times and will be gated closed during non-peak hours.

Camping

Up to a 30-unit rustic campground is proposed to be developed along the southern boundary of the Park. This campground will be developed as an NR 44 Type IV rustic camping facility. Development will be limited to fire rings, picnic tables, one set of vault toilets, a hand water pump and 10 sites with boat trailer parking. One site will be electrified for a campground host.

Trails

Hiking/Cross-country Skiing

New hiking/cross-country skiing trails are proposed to be developed with the Park Unit. A trailhead will be established at the outdoor amphitheater. Approximately 2.5 miles of trail will be established in the park that will traverse a variety of landscapes and vegetative communities. Through these trails, visitors will be able to access Lake Waubesa, Hog Island, the drumlin near Hog Island, overlooks south of Libby Road, wetlands, woodlands, and prairie restorations. A county or state trail pass will be required for cross-country skiing. When possible, the trails to the vista points will be ADA accessible.

Bike

A new bike/pedestrian trail will be developed from the Waucheeta Trail neighborhood to provide access to the Capital Springs State Recreation Area. This trail will be approximately 0.75 miles in length and may share the road that will also be used by the outdoor amphitheater and will also connect into other trails within the Lake Farm County Park Unit.

Nature/Interpretive

Native American Culture – An interpretive trail of 0.9 miles will be developed within the archeologically important mound area. This trail will tie into the future extension of the Lake Farms Archaeological District. Interpretive displays will be developed for this area, and a vista point will be established on top of the mound. There will also be a spur trail leading the hog island area for fishing access.

Other Trail Considerations

Because of the small footprint of this unit, it is recommended that no motorized trails be allowed within this unit. In addition, all pets outside of the pet exercise area will be required to be on a leash per NR 45 requirements.