

VILLAGE OF DEFOREST PARK & TRAIL FACILITIES GUIDE



NATURAL COMMUNITY POINTS OF INTEREST

Marvin & Marie Schweers Natural Area

Donated by the Marvin & Marie Schweers family, this former cropland is restored to wetland and prairie creating a favorable habitat for waterfowl, songbirds, mammals and amphibians. The Parks Department is planning for a trail network throughout the natural area.

Western Green Park Prairie

The largest prairie restoration in DeForest is here in Western Green Park. With help from Madison Audubon Society this prairie was planted in the 1990s with about 50 species including blazing star, compass plant and prairie dock. The prairie is home to numerous beautiful birds and butterflies.

Yahara River Trail

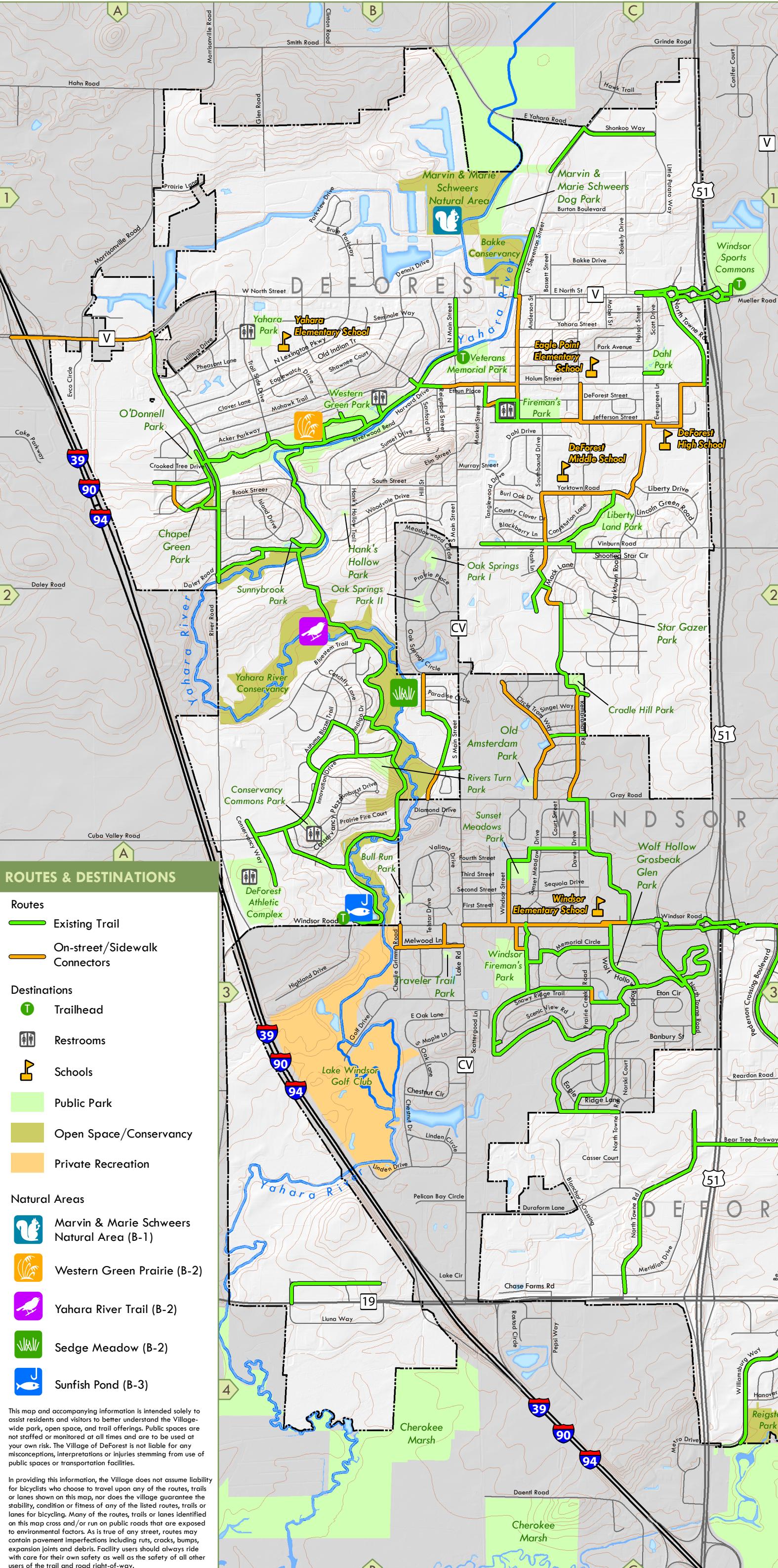
During spring and summer, watch and listen for Belted Kingfisher (rattling), Gray Catbird (meow) and House Wren (bubbly loud song) all along the Yahara River Trail.

Sedge Meadow

A true biologic jewel, this sedge meadow is dominated by asters, goldenrod, spotted-joe-pye weed, and cat tails. Watch for birds including Indigo Bunting and the Willow Flycatcher.

Sunfish Pond

Sunfish Pond is a perfect opportunity to give area youth their first fishing experience. If you are not a fisher keep your eye on the pond for ducks, Pied-billed Grebe and swallows.



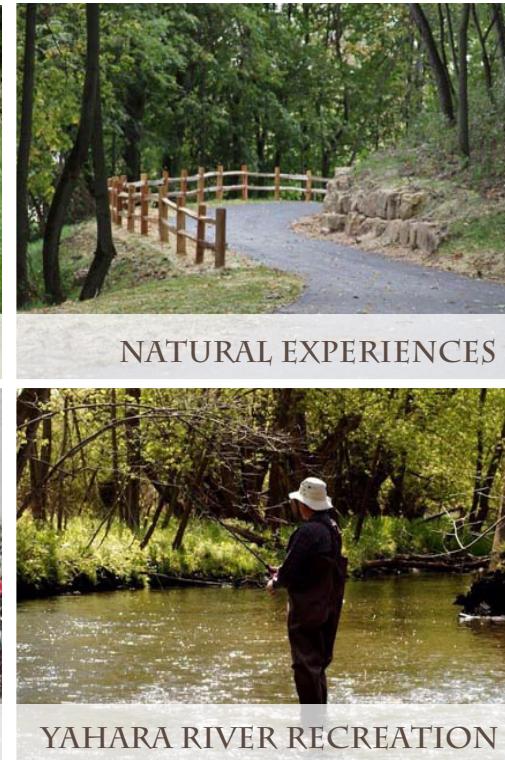
Map produced by Ayres Associates.
Updated October 2019.



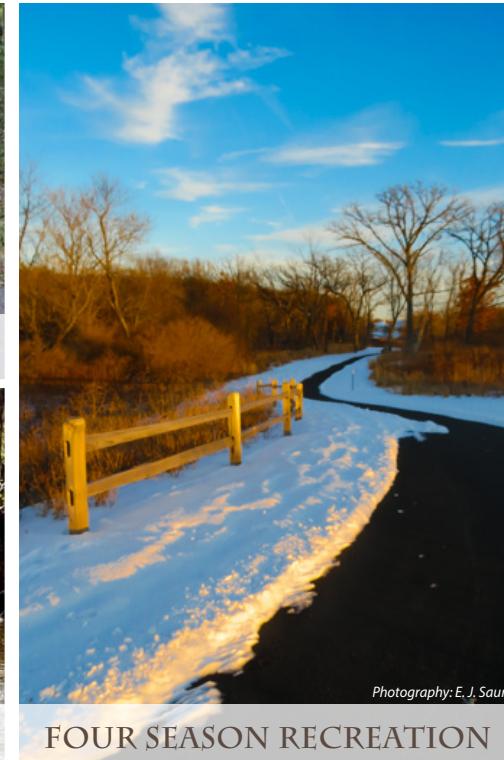
TRAILS



FISHING



NATURAL EXPERIENCES



FOUR SEASON RECREATION

Photography: E.J. Saur

Be our Guest!

BIKE our community through our expanding TRAIL system.

Give your family a try at FISHING at Sunfish Pond.

COOL OFF at Conservancy Commons Park Splash Pad.

MOVE your body at our outdoor fitness facility at River's Turn Park.

Contact Us!

[f](#) 120 South Stevenson Street
DeForest, Wisconsin 53532
608-846-6751

For a full list of park facilities & amenities visit:
www.vi.deforest.wi.us
bialkowskik@vi.deforest.wi.us

For De Forest area tourism information please visit: www.visitdeforestwindsor.com



SUNFISH POND

Community Garden

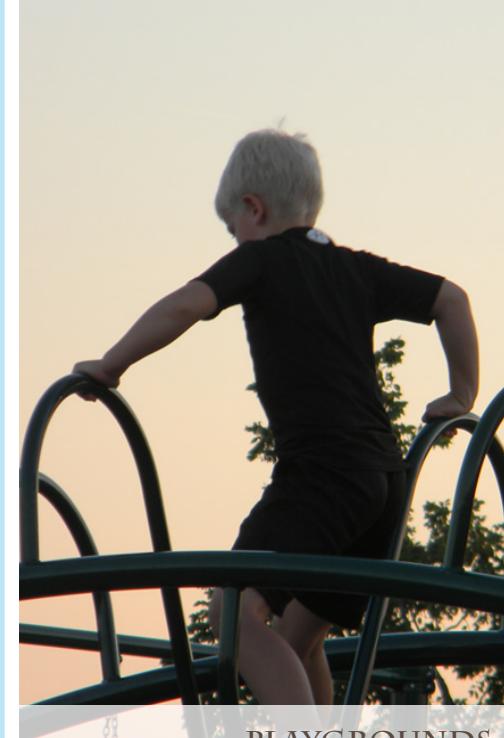
Community gardens are a great opportunity for families and individuals to produce food and provide a place for gardeners to share knowledge and skills.

Not interested in gardening? The community gardens are a beautiful sight to see and visit. Enjoy looking, but please refrain from touching and picking garden fruits/produce.

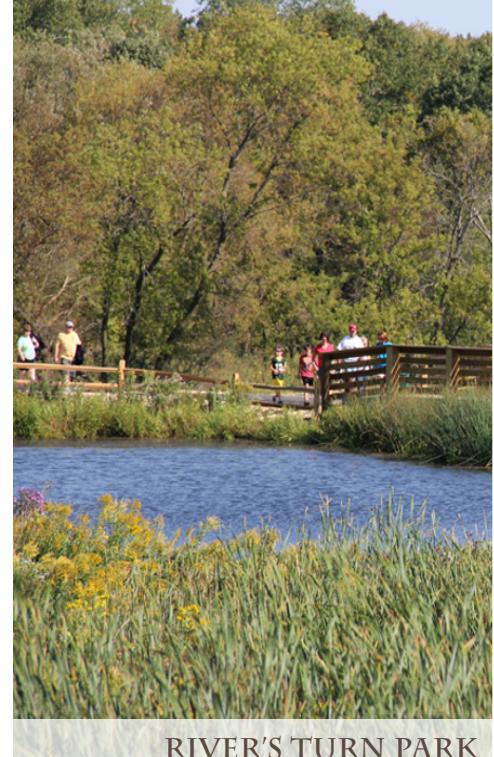
Marvin & Marie Schweers Dog Park

Bring your paw pal for some exercise and socialization! The park includes 5 acres of general dog exercise area and a one acre timid dog area.

The dog park is free for residents by permit. For more information on permitting for residents and non-residents, please visit our website.



PLAYGROUNDS



RIVER'S TURN PARK

Trails

DeForest maintains over 10 miles of trails, featuring the impressive Upper Yahara River Trail. Whether you are a resident looking for a local respite, or a visitor to the area, plenty of recreational opportunity awaits. Our trails connect neighborhoods to parks, schools, downtown and other destinations. Plan time for walking, hiking, nature observing, biking, fishing, geocaching or picnicking.

Urban Forestry

DeForest cares for over 4,000 publicly owned trees valued at nearly \$2 million dollars! We are proud to be a Tree City USA and celebrate the value of trees through annual Arbor Day events.

Our services include public tree planting, pruning, removing, and management to mitigate disease, such as Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). Do you have an ash tree? Do you know what EAB is? For more information on ash identification please visit our website.



COMMUNITY GARDEN

Recreational Programming

We look forward to keeping our community active and healthy year round. For a variety of affordable programming, leagues, and events, please find our quarterly program announcements on our website or get them in your inbox by subscribing to De-News.

Sunfish Pond

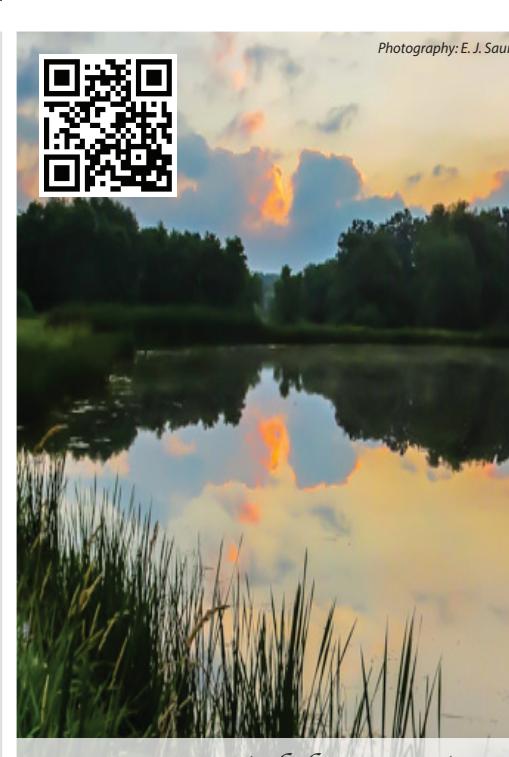
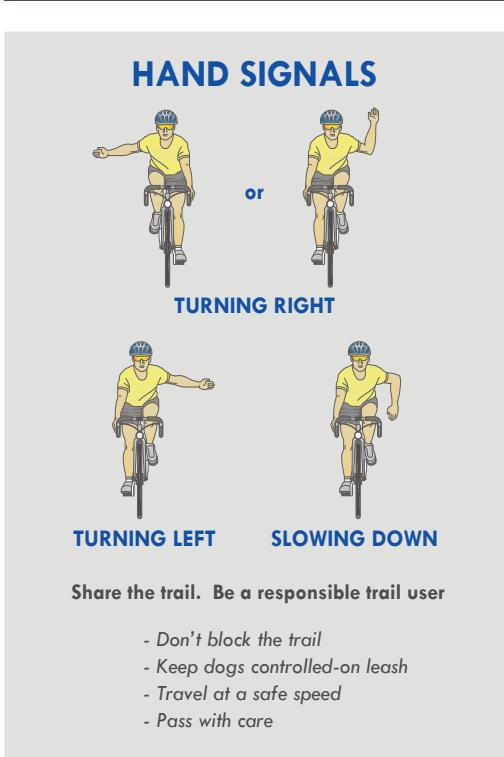
A great opportunity for youth to learn to fish! Outfitted with an ADA fishing dock, the parks department stocks Sunfish Pond full of hopes and dreams to reel in the big one!

Winter Recreation

Winter offers a great variety of recreational opportunity. The parks department removes snow from the paved route of the Upper Yahara River Trail and Western Green Park creating access for winter walks, runs or nature observation. Sunfish Pond invites both ice skating and ice fishing.

**Bird City, USA**

With over 200 acres of conservancy parkland, we are well suited for bird watching. Stay informed on free bird watching events for all levels. Visit our website to learn more than 100 different bird species that have been observed in our park system. Ask about our birding backpack available for you to try birding on your time.

www.vi.deforest.wi.uswww.vi.deforest.wi.us