

# History of Friends of Dodge County Parks, Inc.

The Friends of Dodge County Parks, Inc. originally incorporated in 1987 as Friends of the Recreational Trail, Inc. The group was formed specifically to raise funds and support the development of the Wild Goose State Trail in Dodge County.

The group was charged with raising 100% of the trail development costs through donations and grants.

After successfully accomplishing this task, the group expanded its scope to encompass fundraising and support for all the Dodge County Parks in 2001.

In an effort to provide a means of perpetual park funding, an Endowment Fund was created in 2010 through the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin.

Half of the original fund was made possible through the estate of Frank Dumann, owner of The Bike Shop in Mayville in the 1990s, who supported biking and the Wild Goose Trail.

Annually up to 5% of the fund value maybe available for projects as directed by the Board of Directors.

www.DodgeParks.com

Friends of Dodge County Parks, Inc PO Box 72 Juneau, WI 53039





Astico
Derge
Ledge
Harnischfeger
Nitschke Mounds

Wild Goose State Trail Glacial River Trail Gold Star Memorial Trail

# Membership & Donations

Dodge County Parks Office Phone: 920-386-3700 x1

Email: parks@co.dodge.wi.us

www.DodgeParks.com

## Friends of **Dodge County Parks**













### Mission Statement

The Friends of Dodge County Parks, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit for the purpose of enhancing the quality of life in Dodge County by increasing opportunities for active and passive recreation and by preserving, protecting, restoring, and promoting natural resources, parks, trails, and recreation areas owned and/or maintained by Dodge County.

Friends of Dodge County Parks is a volunteer organization that relies on memberships, donations, and events to raise money for the County Parks.

The Board of Directors meet monthly to conduct the business of the organization. Meetings are typically held the first Thursday of each month at 5pm at the Dodge County Administration building in Juneau, Wisconsin.

Meetings are open to members and the general public. The Annual Meeting is held the first Thursday in May for election of the Board of Directors. The Board then elects the officers of the corporation.

Typical projects supported by the Friends group include: trail developments and improvements, building and facility renovations and improvements, barn preservation, tree planting and landscaping, interpretive signs, information kiosks, memorial benches, parkland acquisition and more.

#### **About Our Parks...**

**Astico Park** ~ Located 3 miles east of Columbus, this 100-acre park is on the Crawfish River and features campsites, hiking trails, canoe/kayak rentals, fishing access, and picnic shelters.

Derge Park ~ Located northwest of Beaver Dam, this 13-acre park provides access to the 6,600 acre Beaver Dam Lake and features campsites, a boat launch, fishing access, and picnic shelters.

**Harnischfeger Park** ~ Located along the Rock River and 8 miles east of Watertown, this 132-acre park contains a campground, river access, and facilities for multiple recreation opportunities and hosts Winterfest and Fallfest.

**Ledge Park** ~ Located near the Horicon Marsh, this 83-acre park lies along the Niagara Escarpment provides a breathtaking over-look of the Horicon Marsh. The park features campsites, hiking trails, picnic shelters, playgrounds, and scenic overlooks.

Nitschke Mounds Park ~ Located 4 miles north of Juneau and adjacent to the Wild Goose Trail, this 54-acre park features 39 pre-historic effigy, conical, and linear mounds with signed trail.

Wild Goose State Trail ~ This trail links the city of Juneau to the city of Fond du Lac. It is a 34-mile limestone trail on an abandoned railroad grade. Bicycling, walking, hiking, jogging, snowmobile, ATV and cross-country skiing are permitted. Horseback riding is allowed on 14-miles of trail.

Glacial River Trail ~ This 3.5-mile hike/bike trail is an asphalt paved path along the east side of Hwy 26, from Hwy CJ near Clyman, to Second Street, north of Watertown. This trail is part of the multi-county trail that also runs through Jefferson and Rock Counties. Road routes connect this trail to the Wild Goose Trail and the City of Watertown.

Proposed: Gold Star Memorial Trail ~ The newest proposed East-West trail system will link Mayville, Horicon, and Beaver Dam to the Wild Goose State Trail. Funding Campaigns are underway to build this trail.

Series Citizen on Child (\$10)
Senior Citizen or Child (\$10)
☐ Individual, School, or Class (\$20)
☐ <b>Family</b> (\$25)
Club, Agency, Organization or Not-for-Profit (\$50)
Municipality (\$75)
Corporation or Business (\$100)
Membership Total = \$ General Donation = \$ Fund Designation: Endowment Fund = \$
TOTAL = \$
Name:
Organization:
Address:
City:
Zip:
Phone:
E-mail:
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Friends of Dodge County Parks, Inc. P. O. Box 72, Juneau, WI 53039