



**Parks & Natural Resources
2016
Citizens Academy Presentation
Thursday, April 28th**

Public Parkland...More Than Just Picnics



PARKS and RECREATION

BE HAPPIER • *Build Family Unity* • **Feel Great**
take care of latch key children • **reduce unemployment**
INCREASE COMMUNICATION SKILLS • *Expand knowledge*
Lose weight • **diminish chance of disease** • **build self-esteem**
reduce stress • *promote sensitivity to cultural diversity*
eliminate loneliness • **INCREASE COMMUNITY PRIDE** • *Reduce Crime*
provide safe places to play • *generate revenue* • **lower health care costs**
MEET FRIENDS • *educate children and adults* • **RELAX**
KEEP BUSINESS FROM LEAVING • **Elevate Personal Growth**
strengthen neighborhood involvement • *conquer boredom* • **provide child care**
BOOST ECONOMY • *cut employee absenteeism* • *increase tourism*
build strong bodies • *increase property value* • **attract new business**
Preserve plant and animal wildlife • *instill teamwork*
live longer • **create memories** • **PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT**
CLEAN AIR AND WATER • *boost employee productivity* • *look better*
enhance relationship skills • *decrease insurance premiums* • **CONTROL WEIGHT**
OFFER PLACE FOR SOCIAL INTERACTION • *diminish gang violence*
TEACH VITAL LIFE SKILLS • *Provide space to enjoy nature...*

THE BENEFITS ARE ENDLESS...®

How Can Residents Get Involved ?

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

7 Citizens

1 City School Representative, 1 OWU
Representative, 1 Student
Representative & 1 Council
Representative.

Shade Tree Commission

8 Citizens

1 Council Representative, 1 Student
Representative

Overview of Delaware Parks



24 Parks
368 Acres of Parkland
4 Community Parks
20 Neighborhood Parks
21 Miles of Bikeways
9 Hole Hidden Valley Golf Course
72 Acres Oak Grove Cemetery

Parks Overview Cont....

Maintenance system to promote ownership, accountability and improved appearance.

Urban Forest

Right-of-Way Mowing

Community Gardens

Blue Limestone 1940-1950's



Blue Limestone-2016



West William Street

16 Acres

Lake, shelter houses, community gardens, pickle ball courts and playground.

Lake is stocked annually by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR).



Community Gardens



Nine Community Garden
Plots located at Blue
Limestone Park available
for rent

Mingo Park



50 Acres

Accessible to OWU by trail system.

Home of Jack Florance Pool, 3 Season & Rotary Shelters, newly paved walking trail, skate park, soccer, ball fields, tennis courts, indoor gym, meeting rooms and various new park amenities.

Mingo Park Improvements

Walking Trail Paved
New Restroom/Concession/Storage Facility
3 Existing Ball fields Renovated
Re-graded 14 Acres of Park
Added 3 New Ball fields
Added New Parking Lot
ADA Accommodations Added
New Stone Trail Added
Added dugouts to 3 existing fields
New Shade structure between ball fields
Main Parking lot was repaved



Smith Park



Community Park, 50 acres.

Newly paved walking trail and parking lot, 2 restrooms, 2 concession stands and 2 playground.

Adult ball fields, competitive soccer, and football fields.

Fishing and 2 shelter houses.

Smith Park Improvements

- 3 Softball Fields Re-graded and Drainage Improved
- New Dugouts Built for 3 Fields (some funding was a donation)
- Raised Outfield of Field #3
- 2 New Restrooms/Concession/Storage Facilities
- Paved existing Trail
- New Parking Lot
- New Landscaping
- New Play Toys
- New Lights on 2 Softball Fields
- 2 Existing lots re-paved



Neighborhood Parks

20 neighborhood parks
Passive in design/nature.
Provide park access within
walking distance of major
residential areas.
Playgrounds, trails, shelter
houses, picnic tables.



Kensington & Stratford Parks

New Paved Trails

Re-seeding of Parkland

Half Court Basketball Courts

Over 100 New Trees added at each Park.

New Benches and trash receptacles

Bio- swales added to assist with water runoff



Hidden Valley Golf Course

580 West William Street

Executive 9- Hole Par 28 Course Layout , nestled in Delaware's Hidden Valley on 50 acres

Designed for both beginners and advanced golfers

Memberships and Weekly Specials Available



Bikeways



Currently have approximately 21 miles of trails.

Major challenges are linkages and maintenance.

The vision is that, by 2025, Delaware will be a bike-friendly city, with a complete bike network which allows bicyclists of varying age, skill, and ability to safely travel across the city and beyond (Bike Plan 2025 Draft).

Urban Forest

Contains 14,000 + Trees

Estimated Asset Cost of \$14,000,000

Cost Share Tree Program

Tree City USA for 35 years



Veterans Park Design

Dinosaur Themed Splash Pad
Shelters
Concession Stand
Play Toys
Amphitheater Area



Delaware YMCA/Community Center And National Guard
Training Center

City/ YMCA Relationship

Opened Fall 2011

National Guard Center-
Opened 2015

Park Adoption Program



Three part program

1. Adopt a Park
2. Adopt a Trail
3. Adopt a Flower Bed

Seeking donations for plant materials and add'l flowers.

Top 10 Reasons for Parks....

- # 1 Physical Activity
- # 2 Economic Benefits
- # 3 Provide Vital Greenspace
- # 4 Wildlife Preservation
- # 5 Social Interactions
- # 6 Wellness Impacts
- # 7 Provide Activities
- # 8 Alternate Activities
- # 9 Therapeutic Recreation
- # 10 Preserve Public Lands

Upcoming Special Events

Arbor Day Tree Planting and Healthy Kids Day-Saturday, April 30th
8:30 am-11:30 am at YMCA (1121 S. Houk Rd); Tree Planting at 10:00 am

Dog Park Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening-Saturday, May 7th 8:30 am-
Noon

Veterans Plaza Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening-Monday, May 30th at
Noon at YMCA (1121 S. Houk Rd)

Veterans Park Spray and Play Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening (1121 S.
Houk Rd)-Saturday, June 4th-10:00 am-Noon