



**2005 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE OZAUKEE COUNTY PARKS
SUBMITTED TO**

**THE HONORABLE OZAUKEE COUNTY BOARD OF
SUPERVISORS**



GOLF COURSES

The County's courses hosted 76,373 golfers this year. This is an increase of 2,597 golfers from the 2004 season. The total revenue for both courses was \$1,742,190.44, an increase of \$157,037.34 compared to the 2004 season. The courses opened April 1 this season. Hawthorne Hills stayed open till November 14 with Mee-Kwon staying open until November 21, 2005.

The following illustrates the revenue and golfers from 1995 to 2005:

(separate page showing chart)



Herbert H. Peters Youth Camp

Ozaukee County youth groups reserved 28 weekends and 2 weekdays during the year. Revenue for 2005 equals \$2,250.00.

Virmond Park

Virmond Park had a total of 32 reservations and revenue of \$2,265.00. Reservations were up 12, the revenue increase of \$865.00 from 2004.

Waubedonia Park

Reservations for the park totaled 35 with revenue of \$1,830.00. Camping permits brought in revenue of \$2,365.00 and the sell of firewood brought in \$580.00. Total revenue for Waubedonia was \$4,775.00.

Tendick Park

Tendick Park Shelter was dedicated on August 13, 2005. \$50 revenue was submitted for its 1st year.

Interurban Bike Trail

In 2005, the PRLM Department, in conjunction with the Parks Department, Highway Department and Ozaukee Interurban Trail Advisory Council, continued work on the grant from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation – Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program for \$991,600.00, which comprises 80% of the total project cost of \$1,239,500.00, for the Trail Improvement Project - a significant safety, transportation, recreation, and aesthetic improvement along a section of the Ozaukee Interurban Trail. The PRLM Department, in conjunction with the Parks Department, Highway Department and Ozaukee Interurban Trail Advisory Council, also coordinated and received a \$50,000.00 Phase I and a \$75,000 Phase II WDNR Stewardship Grant, a \$5,000 Port Washington Tourism Council Grant, a \$10,000.00 nationally competitive Bikes Belong Coalition Grant, and assisted the additional private fundraising effort of the Ozaukee Interurban Trail Advisory Council. In addition, the PRLM Department continued to coordinate the Ozaukee Interurban Trail Advisory Council and four associated committees, namely the Sustainability Committee, Rules and Ordinance Committee, Trail Promotions Committee and Trailside Facilities Committee. The PRLM Department has also worked to establish a formal partnership between the Ozaukee Interurban Trail Advisory Council and the Ozaukee County Historical Society, Inc. (a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization). In early 2005, the County Board approved acceptance of the above-mentioned grants and approved the Ozaukee Interurban Trail - Trail Improvement Project in the Town of Grafton. As part of implementing the design and engineering for the Trail Improvement Project the PRLM Department coordinated two public informational meetings in coordination with the consultant, Bloom Consultants

Also, the PRLM Department assisted the City of Port Washington in applying for a highly competitive statewide Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) Multi-modal Transportation Enhancement Grant for the Ozaukee Interurban Trail. The City of Port Washington, in conjunction with Ozaukee County, was approved for a \$150,000.00 Ozaukee Interurban Trail Improvement Project for the City of Port Washington, which will include a railroad underpass in downtown Port Washington and a significant off-road trail extension on both the south and north sides of the City. The WisDOT grant will pay for 80% (\$120,000.00) of the total project costs with the City of Port Washington providing the local 20% matching funds.

Finally, the PRLM Department, in conjunction with the Trail Advisory Council, has completed numerous other projects including: 1) the development and financing of an Ozaukee Interurban Trail map and brochures, 2) the funding and construction of two trailside kiosks and mile markers at every half mile along the Trail (Eagle Scout projects), 3) enhancement and maintenance of the Ozaukee Interurban Trail website, 4) group use permitting for events along the Trail, 5) coordination with Milwaukee and Sheboygan counties along the Interurban Trail, and 5) several other signage and safety improvements including educational outreach. Please also visit the Ozaukee Interurban Trail website at: <http://www.interurbantrail.us>

Lion's Den Gorge Nature Preserve

In 2005, the PRLM Department, in conjunction with the Parks Department, successfully completed 90% of four significant grants for the passive-use park development, public access development and wetland restoration at the Lion's Den Gorge Nature Preserve with a total project cost of \$266,000.00. Specifically, the competitive grant awards included: \$7,500.00 from the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program (WCMP) for an approximately 3-acre wetland restoration, \$100,000.00 from the WCMP for public access development to include several wetland boardwalks, an access road and parking lot, a staircase down through the gorge for access to Lake Michigan, a passive-use trail system, and park signage, \$133,000.00 from the WDNR – Stewardship program for public access development and \$2,500.00 commitment from the US Fish and Wildlife Service for wetland restoration activities. In addition, the PRLM Department negotiated a \$2,000.00 donation from Whitetails Unlimited for park boundary and hunting signage. The PRLM Department also worked with the Parks Department in establishing revised rules for deer hunting to occur at the Lion's Den Gorge Nature Preserve during a portion of the 2005 hunting season.

In 2005, the PRLM Department was very busy with a revised park design and successfully obtaining all the necessary permits from the US Army Corps of Engineers, WDNR, Town of Grafton and Ozaukee County to implement each of these grant projects. The PRLM Department successfully took the lead in coordinating a multi-department implementation of these grant projects, which includes the Highway Department and Parks Department. Most of the park implementation plan was completed in 2005 including the following: 1) construction of the access road and parking areas (including grubbing, grading, graveling, and paving), 2) construction of over 1,000 feet of boardwalk, 3) over 0.5 miles of gravel trail and a handicapped accessible Lake Michigan bluff overlook with fencing, 4) the wetland restoration project including the removal of approximately 0.5 acres of old road bed and a 0.5 acre wetland scrape, 5) construction and placement of the entrance and partner signage for the Lion's Den Gorge Nature Preserve, 6) property and wetland surveying, 7) placement of boundary and hunting signage along the entire property every 200 feet, 8) the permitting and construction of a staircase and bridge through the Lion's Den Gorge to the Lake Michigan shoreline, 9) finish grading and water control structure improvements on the USFWS property to complete the wetland restoration, 10) completion of a USFWS wetland boardwalk and deck overlook on the USFWS property, 11) construction of the permeable grassed parking area, 12) completion of the passive-use recreational trail network, 13) placement of an entrance gate and park hour signage, 14) placement of rule signage including bluff erosion signage, and 15) on-going maintenance of the trash receptacles, walking paths, and signage.

In 2006, the following activities will be completed: 1) the passive-use recreational trail network will be finished with woodchips, 2) a trail signage package and trailside benches will be constructed, and 3) an informational kiosk will be constructed and trail maps posted

Respectfully submitted,

William T. Knight, Park Commissioner
Andrew Struck, Interurban Trail/Lions Den Gorge

