



Park and Recreation Commission
Tuesday, August 18, 2026 - 5:30 PM

Regular Meeting
Weiser Memorial Park Pavilion
1817 County Rd 6, La Crescent, MN 55947

AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes

- 1.a Approval of April 6, 2026 Meeting Minutes

2. An update will be provided at the meeting on the following projects/items:

- 2.a E-Bike Ordinance
- 2.b Bluffland Property Purchase
- 2.c General City project updates

3. Additional Discussion Items

- 3.a Memorial Tree/Bench program
- 3.b Abnet Field shed proposal- Lancer Youth Ball
- 3.c Pickleball Signage
- 3.d ATV/UTV use discussion

4. Adjournment

TO: Park & Recreation Commission Members
FROM: Tyler Benish, Public Works Director
DATE: April 7, 2026
RE: Meeting Minutes
April 6, 2026



The La Crescent Park and Recreation Commission Met at 5:30 pm, on Monday, April 6, 2026, in the Wieser Park Pavillion at Wieser Memorial Park. The Following members were present: Marge Loch-Wouters, Diana Adamski, Sarah Wetterlin, Patti Martell, Diane Palm and Alyssa Sebo. Commission member Paul McLellan was not in attendance. Also in attendance were Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner and Tyler Benish.

1. It was the consensus of the Commission to approve the minutes of the February 2, 2026 Park and Recreation Commission meeting as presented.
2. It was the consensus of the Commission to approve the batting cage request at Veterans Park with safety modifications to protect pedestrians and property from balls escaping the batting cage.
3. It was the consensus to approve the request to use the green space and parking lot for the Library and La Crescent Live concert series.
4. The Commission reviewed an outdoor recreation project bid. The Commission has requested a change to the Pickleball court size and lay out.
5. It was the consensus of the Commission to approve the request from the ISD 300 Positive Impact Team to install decorated shields in 9 parks as part of a community wide scavenger hunt.
6. An update was provided at the meeting on the following projects/items:
 - a. Aquatic center programs and sign up
 - b. Walnut Street/ Veterans Park
 - c. Wieser Park Pavilion repairs.
 - d. On-line sign-up for Aquatic Center programming and reservations at park fields and shelters.
7. Additional discussion items included: E- bike use in parks, Old Hickory Park paving.
8. There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:23.



Item: 2.a

STAFF REPORT

To: Park and Recreation Commission Members
From: Cassie Hanan, City Administrator
Date: August 18, 2026
Re: E-Bike Ordinance

The City Council has been exploring an e-bike ordinance to help regulate e-bike usage within the City. Attached is the draft ordinance for your review.

ORDINANCE NO. 70.XX

AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE USE OF E-BICYCLES, ELECTRIC SCOOTERS, AND GAS-POWERED BICYCLES AND SCOOTERS WITHIN THE CITY OF LA CRESCENT, MINNESOTA

SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND PURPOSE. The City Council of the City of La Crescent finds as follows:

- (1) Electric-assisted bicycles (e-bikes) have increased in use within the City and provide important transportation, recreational, and mobility benefits to residents and visitors.
- (2) The operation of e-bikes at higher speeds and weights than traditional bicycles presents unique safety concerns, particularly on sidewalks, trails, and in areas with significant pedestrian traffic.
- (3) The City has authority under its police powers and pursuant to Minnesota Statute §169.222 and Minnesota Statute § 169.011 to regulate the operation of bicycles and electric-assisted bicycles on public rights-of-way, sidewalks, and trails.
- (4) Regulation of the time, place, and manner of e-bike operation is necessary to protect public health, safety, and welfare, while preserving access for lawful users.
- (5) The City Council intends by this Ordinance to:
 - (a) Promote safe coexistence between pedestrians, bicyclists, and e-bike users;
 - (b) Provide clear and enforceable operational rules;
 - (c) Avoid conflict with state law by adopting consistent definitions; and
 - (d) Address emerging safety concerns related to modified or improperly classified devices.

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS.

- (1) **ELECTRIC-ASSISTED BICYCLE** has the meaning provided in Minn. Stat. §169.011, subd. 27, and shall be classified as follows:
 - (a) **Class 1 Electric-Assisted Bicycle** – A bicycle equipped with an electric motor of 750 watts or less that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches a speed of 20 miles per hour.
 - (b) **Class 2 Electric-Assisted Bicycle** – A bicycle equipped with an electric motor of 750 watts or less that may be used to propel the bicycle without pedaling but ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches a speed of 20 miles per hour.
 - (c) **Class 3 Electric-Assisted Bicycle** – A bicycle equipped with an electric motor of 750 watts or less that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches a speed of 28 miles per hour.

- (d) Multiple mode electric-assisted bicycle means an electric assisted bicycle equipped with switchable or programmable modes that provide for operation as two or more of a class 1, class 2, or class 3 electric-assisted bicycle in conformance with the definition and requirements for each respective class pursuant to Minn. Stat. §169.011, subd. 45a.
- (2) ELECTRIC SCOOTER means a device weighing less than one hundred (100) pounds that has handlebars, an electric motor, and is designed to transport one person and is capable of speeds not exceeding 20 miles per hour, consistent with Minn. Stat. §169.011, subd. 87.
- (3) GAS-POWERED BICYCLE OR SCOOTER refers to a bicycle or scooter that has been modified with a non-integral gasoline or other fuel-powered motor that enables speeds beyond those originally intended for the device.

SECTION 3. APPLICABILITY. This Ordinance applies to the operation of electric-assisted bicycles, electric scooters, and gas-powered bicycles and scooters on all public streets, sidewalks, trails, parks, and other public property within the City.

SECTION 4. GENERAL OPERATION.

- (1) Electric-assisted bicycles, electric scooters, and gas-powered bicycles and scooters may be operated on roadways and bicycle lanes where bicycles are permitted.
- (2) Operators of electric-assisted bicycles, electric scooters, and gas-powered bicycles and scooters shall comply with all traffic laws applicable to bicycles under Minnesota law, including Minnesota Statute §169.222.
- (3) No person shall operate an electric-assisted bicycle, electric scooter, or gas-powered bicycle or scooter in a careless, reckless, or negligent manner so as to endanger the safety of any person or property.
- (4) No electric scooter may be operated at speeds exceeding 20 miles per hour within the City limits.

SECTION 5. AGE AND HELMET REQUIREMENTS.

- (1) No person under the age of fifteen (15) may operate a Class 1, 2, or 3 electric-assisted bicycle, electric scooter, or gas-powered bicycle or scooter within the City.
- (2) Any person under the age of eighteen (18) years operating or riding upon an electric-assisted bicycle, electric scooter, or gas-powered bicycle or scooter shall wear a properly fitted and fastened bicycle helmet.

SECTION 6. SIDEWALK OPERATION.

- (1) No person shall operate an electric-assisted bicycle, electric scooter, or gas-powered bicycle or scooter upon a sidewalk within the City except:
 - (a) To enter or leave adjacent property; or

- (b) Where specifically authorized by posted signage.
- (2) Where operation is permitted, the operator must:
 - (a) Yield the right-of way to pedestrians; and
 - (b) Operate at such a speed no greater than is reasonable for pedestrian conditions.

SECTION 7. TRAILS, PARKS, AND RECREATIONAL AREAS.

- (1) Operation of e-bikes, electric scooters and gas-powered bicycles and scooters on City trails, bicycle paths, and park facilities is permitted subject to the following conditions:
 - (a) Maximum speed on trails and within parks shall be 10 miles per hour.
 - (b) When approaching a pedestrian from the opposite direction, the operator must yield the right-of-way.
 - (c) When overtaking a pedestrian traveling in the same direction, the operator must provide an audible signal (bell, horn, or verbal warning) prior to passing and pass in a safe manner.
- (2) Use of electric bicycles, electric scooters, or gas-powered bicycles and scooters on City green spaces, parkland, or property not designated for vehicle travel is prohibited unless specifically permitted.
- (3) Class 1 and Class 2 electric-assisted bicycles may be operated on multi-use trails unless otherwise prohibited by posted signage.
- (4) Class 3 electric-assisted bicycles are prohibited on multi-use trails and park paths unless expressly authorized.
- (5) The City may, by resolution or posted signage, restrict or prohibit e-bike use in specific locations where necessary for safety or resource protection.

SECTION 8. EQUIPMENT AND CLASSIFICATION.

- (1) No person shall operate an electric-assisted bicycle, electric scooter, or gas-powered bicycle or scooter that:
 - (a) Has been modified to exceed the speed or power limitations of its designated class; or
 - (b) Does not meet the definition of an electric-assisted bicycle under Minnesota Law.
- (2) Any device that exceeds statutory limits shall be treated as a motor vehicle or motorized device subject to applicable laws.

SECTION 9. PROHIBITED CONDUCT. No Person shall:

- (1) Operate an electric-assisted bicycle, electric scooter, or gas-powered bicycle or scooter at a speed greater than reasonable and prudent under the conditions;
- (2) Fail to yield to pedestrians when required;
- (3) Operate on restricted sidewalks, trails, or park areas;
- (4) Operate a modified or unlawfully classified device.

SECTION 10. ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES. A violation of this Ordinance shall constitute a petty misdemeanor. The City may utilize administrative citations or warning notices, particularly for first-time or juvenile offenders. Each separate act of violation shall constitute a separate offense.

SECTION 11. SEVERABILITY. Should any section, subdivision, clause or other provision of this Ordinance be held to be invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of this Ordinance as a whole, or of any part thereof, other than the part held to be invalid.

SECTION 12. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Ordinance shall take effect and be enforced from and after its passage and publication.

PASSED AND ENACTED THIS ____ day of _____, 2026.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Administrator



Item: 2.b

STAFF REPORT

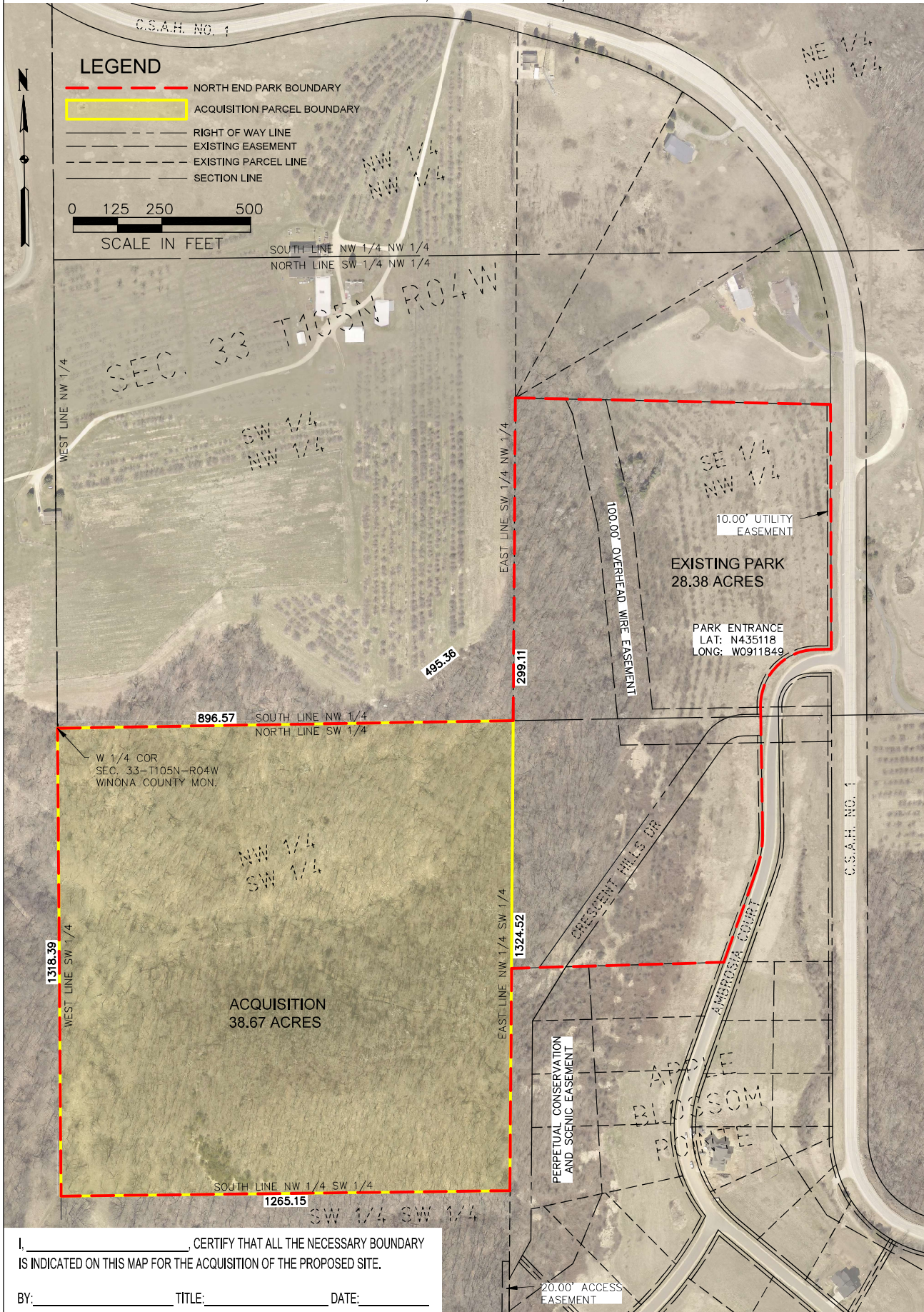
To: Park and Recreation Commission Members
From: Cassie Hanan, City Administrator
Date: August 18, 2026
Re: Bluffland Property Purchase

The City of La Crescent is considering an offer to purchase property described as the NW-SW 40 acres of Parcel 01-000-0990. This property is located in a Bluffland Conservation Area as identified in the City's Comprehensive Plan. The purchase would expand the existing North End Park from 28.38 acres of protected bluffland to 67.05 acres of protected bluffland.

The City is receiving grant funding of \$160,000 from the FY27 Natural and Scenic Area Grant Program and has also received donations for the purchase totaling \$100,000. This purchase would serve to protect bluffland in perpetuity. The Planning Commission reviewed the purchase option and made a recommendation to the City Council to approve the purchase. This item will be on a future City Council agenda once the grant agreement is finalized.

NORTH END PARK BOUNDARY

C.S.A.H. NO. 1, WINONA COUNTY, MN



I, _____, CERTIFY THAT ALL THE NECESSARY BOUNDARY IS INDICATED ON THIS MAP FOR THE ACQUISITION OF THE PROPOSED SITE.

BY: _____ TITLE: _____ DATE: _____

SCALE:	1" = 250'
DRAWN BY:	ADM
DATE:	2/24/2026
PROJECT NO.	7319.26
CADD NO.:	7319.26_FRUIT ACRES BOUNDARY

FOR:

NORTH END PARK
CITY OF LA CRESCENT
SEC. 33 T105N R04W
WINONA COUNTY, MINNESOTA





Item: 3.a

STAFF REPORT

To: Park and Recreation Commission Members
From: Cassie Hanan, City Administrator
Date: August 18, 2026
Re: Memorial Tree/Bench program

We would like the Park & Recreation Commission's feedback on establishing a memorial tree and bench program within the City. This would allow residents to honor their loved ones throughout parks in the City. The program would create consistency between the parks as to what benches and trees would be allowed. I've attached information from the City of La Crosse that could be used as a template for the program.

Request Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please select the memorial items you wish to purchase below:

- ☐ Tree (\$425)
- ☐ Tree Plaque (\$425)
- ☐ Bench (\$5,000)* *Plaque Included*
- ☐ Cement Pad (\$1,000)*

**Prices may vary dependent on market and shipping costs.*

Plaque Wording:

Park Preference:

Specific Location:

Tree Preference:

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ Autumn Brilliance Service Berry | ☐ Ivory Silk Japanese Lilac |
| ☐ Northern Catalpa | ☐ Kentucky Coffee |
| ☐ Hybrid Elm | ☐ Swamp White Oak (Spring Only) |

Mail or deliver check & order form to:

La Crosse Parks, Recreation & Forestry
400 La Crosse Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Check Payable: City of La Crosse Treasurer

Questions?



City of LaCrosse
Parks, Recreation & Forestry
400 La Crosse Street
La Crosse, WI
608.789-7533
cityoflacrosse.org/parks





Install a Bench

1. Select a Bench Location

Indicate the park and location where you would prefer the bench to be installed. We will work with you to honor your request and our department may offer additional site recommendations. Locations that do not have cement to fasten to will require a cement pad to be purchased.

2. Determine Plaque Wording

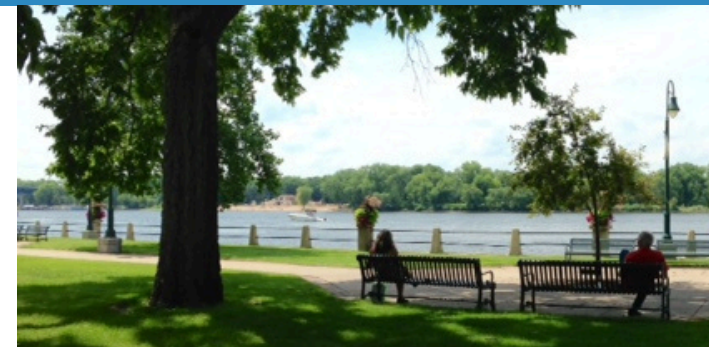
An engraved plaque is included with the purchase of your bench. Your approval is required prior to etching. No logos.

3. Complete the Application.

Submit an application with payment to the Parks, Recreation & Forestry Department. Payment includes the bench, delivery, plaque, and installation.

4. Bench Installation

Memorial benches are one of a kind and can take up to six months to order and install.



The La Crosse Parks, Recreation and Forestry's Memorial Bench Program allows individuals, families, organizations, or businesses to commemorate special events, honor individuals or as memorials to loved ones.

Benches are made of durable cast steel providing a lasting tribute to be enjoyed by the community for years to come.

For Riverside Park bench requests please contact Friends of Riverside Park Foundation - 608-397-3336

Plant a Tree

The La Crosse Parks, Recreation and Forestry's Memorial Tree Program offers an opportunity for individuals, families, or businesses to honor friends, relatives or milestones. In addition to commemorating your loved one, the purchase of a memorial tree offers a valuable contribution to the community's green spaces.



1.) Select a Tree and Location

Trees are purchased between 1.5" and 3" in diameter. Tree selections are listed to the right. Trees can be planted in most irrigated parks.*

2.) Determine Plaque Wording

A commemorative engraved plaque can be added for an additional \$425. The department will review and help determine the appropriate wording for the plaque. Your approval is required prior to etching. No logos.

3. Complete the Application

Submit an application with payment to the Parks, Recreation & Forestry Department. Tree payment includes the tree, delivery, and installation. Memorial tree applications can be accepted at any time however, tree plantings occur only in the Spring and Fall of each year. Submit your form early to ensure tree availability.

4.) Tree & Plaque Installation

Trees are not guaranteed beyond the first year and plaques are not replaced if damaged or stolen. Trees and plaques are only installed in the Spring and Fall. Scheduling is dependent on contractor availability.

**We are not accepting additional trees for Riverside Park at this time.*



Autumn Brilliance
Service Berry



Ivory Silk
Japanese Lilac



Hybrid Elm



Kentucky Coffee



Northern Catalpa



Swamp White Oak

**Spring Planting Only*

The City of La Crosse's Memorial Tree and Bench Program offers residents a heartfelt way to honor and remember loved ones by contributing to the community's natural and recreational spaces. Participants can donate a tree or bench to be placed in one of the city's beautiful parks or along scenic trails. Each tree or bench is accompanied by a personalized plaque, creating a lasting tribute that also enhances the environment and public enjoyment. This program not only commemorates individuals but also fosters a sense of community and continuity, enriching La Crosse's green spaces for future generations.



Item: 3.b

STAFF REPORT

To: Park and Recreation Commission Members
From: Cassie Hanan, City Administrator
Date: August 18, 2026
Re: Abnet Field shed proposal- Lancer Youth Ball

The City has been approached by Lancer Youth Ball seeking to add a shed to the Abnet Field property. The shed would be purchased by Lancer Youth Ball. This shed would be placed on an existing concrete slab and be used for concessions during Applesmash weekends and for storage.



From: [Patti Martell](#)
To: [Cassandra Hanan](#)
Cc: [Tyler Benish](#); [Christina Fortsch](#)
Subject: Fwd: Request for pickleball court signage
Date: Wednesday, July 29, 2026 11:36:57 AM
Attachments: [image0.png](#)
[image1.png](#)

Cassie

Here is a copy of my suggestions for signage at the pickleball courts. Can we please add this to the Park Board for further discussion?

Thanks,
Patti Martell

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Patti Martell <jimpattimartell@gmail.com>
Date: June 23, 2026 at 2:26:02 PM CDT
To: Tyler Benish <tbenish@cityoflacrescent-mn.gov>
Cc: Diana Adamski <diana.adamski@gmail.com>, Christina Fortsch <cfortsch@cityoflacrescent-mn.gov>
Subject: Request for pickleball court signage

Hi Tyler,

I'm not sure if anyone has contacted you but I have received a number of requests for signage at the Wieser Pickleball court while I've been playing there. The people who approached me said that they've had problems with unattended kids running through the courts while they are at the park and the pavilion. They also stated that they have come in the morning and found that people who attend functions at the pavilion have left food and drinks on the court which they've had to clean up. They complained about food trucks that were at events at the pavilion who parked in the lot instead of the street and then blasted music so loud that you couldn't hear anything on the courts.

I checked online and at some other courts in the area and found that many of them post signs about court usage and playing etiquette and rules so was wondering if we might want to consider that in La Crescent too?

Some things we could list on our sign for court usage might be:
No children on the courts unless accompanied by an adult
No pets on the court
No food, glass or beverages on the court
No roller blading, roller skates, bikes or scooters on the court
Proper footwear required .. no bare feet

Court rules/ etiquette could include:

This pickleball court is owned by the City of La Crescent. No lessons, leagues or tournaments are allowed without approval from the Park Department.

Use pickleball courts at your own risk

Courts are open from 7am - 9pm or dawn to dusk

Courts are first come, first serve

If others are waiting, please limit games to either 8 or 11 points (if there are more than 12 players in the morning, they've been playing to 8 and subbing in and out).

Many courts also install designated racks for paddles and then have a rule to place paddles in the designated rack to determines who goes next on the court.

We might also want to change the pavilion rental agreement to let people know to clean and pick up inside and outside the building. We could also have them ask food trucks to park in the street inside of right near the pickleball court.

Let me know what you think. Here are a couple examples of signage I found online in case we want to consider something.

Thanks,
Patti Martell



Sent from Patti's iPad



Salt Lake City Parks Division

PICKLEBALL ETIQUETTE & RULES

Court Usage



- Courts are free and open to the public
- All Park rules and regulations apply
- Courts are non-reservable
- No tournaments unless approved by the SLC Parks Division
- Courts are for pickleball only - no soccer, futsal, bike riding, roller skating, roller blades, skateboarding or scooters are allowed
- Keep courts clean and uncluttered
- No food or glass allowed
- Pets are prohibited

Playing Etiquette

- Show common courtesy and respect for all players and spectators
- Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated
- Profane language is prohibited
- Shoes with non-marking soles only
- Limit noise from music - no loudspeaker, amplifiers, or public address systems are allowed
- Wait for play to stop before asking permission to pass through a court in use

Open Play Rules

When players are waiting to play, and courts are full:

1. Play will be limited to groups of four. No singles, individual practice, or lessons when players are waiting.
2. All players waiting should be ready to enter courts as a group.
3. Waiting players should use a system such as stacked paddles to establish an orderly waiting line for the next open court.
4. Players will play a single game to 11 points and then yield the court to waiting players.
5. Have fun and enjoy the game!

-If the court is painted for both tennis and pickleball, please use tennis open play rules-



Scan for updates

For more information on
Salt Lake City Public Lands,
visit www.slcpubliclands.com
or call 801-972-7800



Public Lands
Parks | Trails & Natural Lands | Urban Forestry



Andy Foster

September 6, 2024 · 🌐



Lesa - most courts around here (Northern Indy area) use signs similar to this one. Outlines the basic behavior rules and then emphasizes rotation play if courts are full. Play to 11 and all 4 leave and stack up paddles on a rack etc.

5

👍 Like

💬 Comment

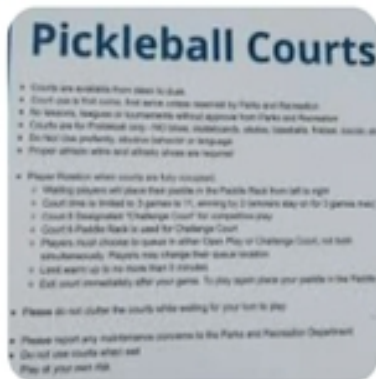
Q Signs posted at pickleball courts florida

, Games & Groups

Search over 25000 places to play pickleball, find



s for Wilson Park...



Seeking recommendations on...



Reddit

re images



Pickleball court at Florida park now

Visit