

City of Middleton Conservancy Lands Inventory

Conservancy Land	Location	Acres	Management Plan	Facilities	Habitat	Habitat Quality	Current Management Efforts
Pheasant Branch Conservancy	From Highway 12, east on Century Avenue,north on Old Creek Road	353 (City owned) DNR owns 100 acres and Dane County Parks owns 61 acres on the north end.	Y (AES Vegetation Management Plan, 1998; SAA North Lake Mendota Plan, 1999)	ADA accessible shared use bike/ped trail system with 1 shared use bridge and boardwalk, wildlife viewing platform, parking lots, interpretive signage and kiosks. Passive hiking trails and 40 foot bridge. South part has east and west shared use accessible trail system with 90 foot bridge and 200 foot boardwalk. Also has a 700 foot boardwalk and linear trail for hiking.	Wetlands, wooded lowlands, sedge meadow, prairie, oak savanna/oak woodlands, open marsh, fen, natural springs, seeps	Average to Good	Pheasant Branch Conservancy North is owned and managed by Dane County Parks and the DNR; Pheasant Branch Conservancy South is owned and managed by the City of Middleton. Management includes removal of non-native species and opening view corridors; trail linkages; prairie restoration and deer management. The Public Lands Department manages this area.
Pheasant Branch Creek Corridor	South of Century Avenue to east of Highway 12	62.8	Y (Clark Forestry Vegetation Management Plan; Foth and VanDyke and other water resource management committee studies; reports from the North Lake Mendota Plan also)	Shared use crushed limestone bike/ped trail and interpretive signage	Stream corridor, wetlands, wooded lowlands, oak savanna	Average to Poor	DNR Urban Rivers Grants secured in 2003/2004 and 2004/2005 to improve fish habitat, shoreline, and streambank stabilization. Invasive species and streambank instability are management concerns.
Pheasant Branch Creek Corridor South Fork	Market Street to North Fork/ Confluence Pond	58.7	Y (2004 Vegetation Management Plan, Dave Eagan)	Asphalt shared use bike/ped trail and interpretive signage	Stream corridor, wetlands, prairie	Good	Rip rap installed in 2000 and 2001 as part of a FEMA mitigation plan to stabilize the streambank. Prairie restoration efforts conducted between 1995 and 2003 to improve water infiltration.
Pheasant Branch Creek Corridor North Fork and Confluence Pond	Airport Road to North Fork Confluence Pond	10 (creek corridor) 10.8 (Confluence Pond)	Y (2004 Vegetation Management Plan, Biologic Environmental Consulting)	Asphalt shared use bike/ped trails and interpretive signage	Stream corridor, wetlands, prairie	Good	Conducted mesic prairie plantings in 2002 and restored wetlands in 2004-2005.

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Stricker Pond Conservancy Area	From University Avenue, south on Gammon Road, west on Fortune Drive, north on Sweeney Drive, west on Voss Parkway to Stricker Park	30	Y (1982 master plan needs to be updated; Jim Zimmerman report; LJ Reas Consulting Report 2003/2004)	Ice skating, bike/ped shared use trail system, interpretive signage	Glacial kettle pond, wetlands, aquatic, mesic prairie	Good	Most of the pond's herbaceous shoreline vegetation is dominated by reed canary grass, which is being restored to wet prairie areas. The oak savanna, wetland, prairie and aquatic vegetation is also being restored. Friends of the Kettle Ponds also provides volunteer assistance on management and restoration efforts. The City of Middleton initiated a floodwater control system in 2001 whereby stormwater is piped from Stricker Pond to Tiedeman Pond and eventually to Lake Mendota via gravity flow. From 2003 - 2006 Middleton received three DNR lake protection grants and wetland incentive \$10,000 grants for wetland and shoreline restorations. The area is maintained for passive recreation and there are future plans for an accessible viewing platform and a cooperative trail system.
Tiedeman Pond Conservancy Area	From University Avenue, south on Gammon Road, west on Fortune Drive, north on Sweeney Drive, west on Voss Parkway to Woodside Heights Park	25	Y (1972 master plan needs to be revised; LJ Reas environmental restoration projects between 2003 and 2006)	Ice skating, ADA accessible boardwalk, loop hiking trail system, wildlife viewing platform and interpretive signage	Glacial kettle pond, wet prairie, aquatic, wet prairie, oak savanna	Good	Restoration activities include eradication of invasive species, native plantings, water edge plantings, shoreland buffers and other vegetative management efforts. The Friends of Kettle Ponds, which formed in 2003, also participates in these restoration efforts. Since 2001, water has been pumped from the pond to Lake Mendota to manage water levels in the pond. The City of Middleton initiated a flood control mitigation project and installed a submersible pump in 2001 to control stormwater runoff and flooding of private lands. The City helped launch a "Friends" group known as Friends of Kettle Ponds. This group is dedicated to the preservation, enhancement and educational pursuits of the kettle ponds. Between 2003 and 2005, the City of Middleton received 2 \$10,000 DNR lake management grants for wetland restoration.
Graber Pond Conservancy Area (includes sewer easement to the northeast)	From Highway 12, east on Graber Road	27	Y (Late 1980s Master plan needs to be updated)	Linear, not accessible hiking trail to the pond	Glacial kettle pond, wetlands, wooded upland, viewsheds	Poor	Rip rap installed for stormwater runoff control on the south side of the pond in 2004. Reed canary grass dominates and the site currently lacks plant diversity. Invasive species control and restoration is needed in 2005 and beyond. Future plans exist to install a loop trail and ADA accessible viewing platform.

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Esser Pond Conservancy Area	From Highway 12, west on Greenway Boulevard, north on Deming Way	15	Y (2003-2004 vegetation management plan, Biologic Environmental Consulting)	Ashpalt bicycle and pedestrian path, interpretive signage	Glacial kettle pond, prairie wetland, aquatic	Good	Restoration efforts have been completed on the north, west, and east sides of the pond; need to continue these efforts on the south side and monitor area development and stormwater impacts on the pond's ecosystem. The City received two \$10,000 Lake Protection incentive grants in 2004/2005.
Middleton Hills Pond and Conservancy Area (outlot 10)	From Century Avenue, north on Old Creek Road, pond is just west of Pheasant Branch Road/Old Creek Road intersection and the outlot follows the west side of Pheasant Branch Road to Diversity Road	3.2	N	Hiking trail, links to Pheasant Branch Conservancy West Trail and Middleton Hills oak savanna	Believed to have been a glacial kettle pond originally, now used for stormwater management, prairie	Poor to Average	Extensive restoration was done on this pond during 2003 and 2004 with the help of a \$10,000 DNR Lake Protection/Wetland Incentive grant. The uplands were brushed (large oak and hickory were retained) and planted to prairie and savanna. The pond, pond shoreline and pond banks were cleared of invasive species and planted with aquatic, shoreline and prairie species. All work was done by Biologic Environmental Consulting. This conservancy area does not have a management plan. Old oaks exist at this site, and a management plan is needed to restore the vegetation to oak savanna.
Middleton Hills Wetland Conservancy Area	From Century Avenue, north on High Point Road, conservancy area located between Frank Lloyd Wright Avenue and High Point Road	12	Y (1998 AES Report)	700 foot ADA accessible boardwalk, interpretive signage, loop hiking trail	Wetland, open marsh	Good	AES provided wetland management plan and conducted wetland plantings in 2001; City of Middleton work conducted between 2003 and 2004.
Stonefield Conservancy Area (east and west)	Along Stonefield Road, between railroad tracks and Old Middleton Road	5.3	N (1995 Memo, Dave Eagan)	Six (6) foot paved, accessible walkway between Walnut Circle and Cypress Trail, accessible hiking trail, interpretive signage	Detention pond, prairie, wet prairie	Good	City of Middleton contracted with UW-Arboreteum restoration specialist, Dave Eagan, to create a memo for the water resource drainageway. The area has been seeded with prairie vegetation and there is now a diverse community of restored native plants. The storm sewers will be graded and cleaned out and by Public Works in 2005.

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Pheasant Branch Ridge Drainageway	From Century Avenue, north on Pheasant Branch Road, conservancy area on west side north of Whittlesey Road to Graber Pond	98	N	No	Detention pond, wet prairie	Average	City of Middleton uses prescribed burns, herbicides, and mowing in this area to control invasive species. The City has received two small grants via the Dane County Land Conservation Grant in 2001/2002 for segments south of Whittlesey Road.
Gaylord Nelson Road Detention Pond	Gaylord Nelson Road	3	N	No	Detention pond, wet prairie	Good	A memo guides management efforts here and recommends burning and weed control. New in 2004, a management plan is needed and funds should be budgeted to maintain this area.
Shorecrest Detention Pond Conservancy Area	Shorecrest Drive	1.2	N	No	Detention pond, wet prairie	Average	Public Lands Department conducted restoration efforts between 2001 and 2004 with local volunteer efforts. This area needs a management plan.
Spring Hill Detention Pond Conservancy Area	Spring Hill Drive	2.3	N	No	Detention pond, wet prairie	Good	Under Public Lands Department management activities for prairie/wet prairie habitat.
Elm Lawn School/Tiedeman Pond Conservancy Area	From University Avenue, south on Park Street (Gammon Road), conservancy area east of Gammon Road across from Tiedeman Pond	5	Y	Trail, interpretive signage, nature study area, benches	Oak savanna, prairie	Good	The City of Middleton initiated a grant project with Elm Lawn Elementary School and Biologic Environmental Consulting. This prairie and oak savanna restoration project occurred in 2004 as part of a Federal NACO grant project. The project restored prairie and oak savanna habitat adjacent to Tiedeman Pond.
Boundary Road Park Conservancy Area	Boundary Road	2.7	N	No	Oak savanna	Poor	Needs a management plan and restoration work.
Lakeview Park Conservancy Area - Areas A, B, C, D, E, F, G	Lakeview Park - West (A, B, C) Lakeview Park - East (D, E, F, G)	12	Y (Robert Wernerehl Native Thumb Consulting)	Asphalt bike/ped trails, on-shore ADA accessible fishing pier	Lowland woods, wet prairie, pond	Average	See Native Thumb and Clark Forestry Management Plan for recommendations to restore areas A - E. The City of Middleton completed restoration of area E with the DNR lake proection grant in 2003-2004.

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Middleton Hills Oak Savanna Conservancy Area	From Century Avenue, northeast on Frank Lloyd Wright Avenue, north on Glacier Ridge Road, conservancy area located east and west of the road just north of Black Cherry Lane	5	Y (2004 Bioogic Environmental Consulting management plan)	Hiking trails, interpretive signage, benches	Oak savanna	Good	This area has old oaks and is being restored to oak savanna. Management activities include removing hazard trees, dead elm, buckthorn and honeysuckle. Also, control weeds through herbicides, burning and planting native vegetation. The City received a DNR Urban Forestry grant in 2003/2004 to restore the oak savanna area.
Quarry Hill Conservancy Area	North of Hillcrest Avenue in Quarry Park	2.5	N	No	Historically oak savanna	Poor	Needs a management plan.
Orchid Heights Prairie Conservancy Area	Valley Ridge Road (south of Orchid Heights Park)	14	Y	ADA shared-use crushed limestone trails	Prairie	Good	Public Lands Department management. Area was restored in 2002 - 2003. Detention pond maintained by WRMC.
Henry Street to High Point Road Railroad Corridor Conservancy Area	Failroad corridor	4	Y (Dave Eagan)	No	Prairie	Poor to Average	Managed by Public Lands since 2002, some burning is conducted. Funds need to be allocated for management work to continue in this railroad corridor area.
Pleasant View Golf Course Conservancy Area	Pleasant View Golf Course	32	Y (created by USFWS)	Cross country ski trails in winter	Prairie	Good	The City received a USFWS grant to restore high quality grassland prairie areas between 2002 and 2004.
Capital Ice Arena Wetland Conservancy Area	West of ice arena	5	Y (City of Middleton management plan for weed control and seed propogation source)	10 foot wide asphalt bicycle and pedestrian trail	Wet Prairie	Average	City of Middleton 2001 - 2002 restoration efforts with the Town of Middleton.