



Town Sports Complex – Frequently Asked Questions

Question: What is the Town Sports Complex?

Answer: It will be a new Town park featuring a wide-array of recreational opportunities for the entire family. Athletic fields for soccer, baseball, football, and other sports, such as archery, will be constructed. Playgrounds, trails, picnic and other natural areas will also be available for the benefit of all age groups. The park will be the ideal facility to host tournaments for Cedarburg area youth sport leagues.

Question: Why does the Town of Cedarburg want to create this park?

Answer: Our community desperately needs more athletic fields. Currently, we don't have enough fields to accommodate the demand and many children are not able to play the sports they love - this is unacceptable. This new Town park will address our current and future athletic field needs.

Question: How long will it take to develop the Town Sports Complex?

Answer: Unfortunately, the park will not be built overnight. However, the Town is committed to developing this park in an expeditious, cost-effective, and environmentally responsible manner. It is premature to assign a schedule to the development of the park at this time. Extensive planning, fundraising, and regulatory hurdles must first be addressed before construction can begin.

Question: What's the Prochnow landfill and why does the Town want to build a park there?

Answer: The proposed park will be located on property commonly referred to as the Prochnow landfill. This property is approximately 95 acres and is located south and west of the Five Corners intersection in the Town of Cedarburg. The area once actively used as a landfill is only about 7 of the 95 total acres. The property consists of open farmland, wetlands, and woodlands. Residential and commercial garbage was disposed of at the landfill between 1941 and 1972. This property is ideally located for town and city residents with easy access off of STH 60. Its size and natural features are ideal to meet the multi-sport and passive recreational needs of our community. Once constructed, this new Town park will be the second largest park of its kind in Ozaukee County and one of the ten largest of its kind in all of Southeastern Wisconsin.

Question: Does the landfill encompass the entire proposed park area?

Answer: No. The landfill area is only a small portion, approximately 7 acres, of the park property, which totals about 95 acres. Many parks across the country are built on

former landfills. Lime Kiln Park (Grafton) and Mee-Kwon golf course (Mequon) are two examples in Ozaukee County of landfills that were transformed into parks. The landfill area at the Town Sports Complex will likely be a natural area or perhaps a parking lot.

Question: Who owns/controls the Prochnow landfill property?

Answer: Title to the land is currently being held in the Estate of Marvin Prochnow. A special administrator for the Estate has been appointed by the court to complete a transfer of title. The powers of the special administrator provide that, “no transfer of title shall be effected without the unanimous written consent of the City of Cedarburg, Town of Cedarburg, Emerson Electric Corporation, and Brunswick Corporation (now Mercury Marine).” These four entities are part of a group of responsible parties. In the federal consent decree, Marvin Prochnow agreed to transfer title in the land to such party or parties as directed by said companies and municipalities. The Town is working to acquire the rights to the property.

Question: What do responsible parties mean?

Answer: It is a group of entities (City of Cedarburg, Town of Cedarburg, Emerson Electric Corporation, and Mercury Marine) tasked by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) to remediate or clean up the Prochnow landfill.

Question: What needs to be cleaned up?

Answer: In 1990, tests of the private wells in the Town along Wauwatosa Road revealed the presence of unsafe levels of vinyl chloride, a known carcinogen, and other volatile organic compounds. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) investigated and determined the source of the vinyl chloride was the garbage in the Prochnow landfill. The private wells were abandoned and the EPA ordered the City of Cedarburg to extend its water lines to properties in this area; the cost of extending the water lines was shared by the responsible parties. Monitoring wells around the landfill have since been installed and the responsible parties are working with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) to develop a plan to clean up the landfill portion of the property.

Question: What is the cost to clean up/remediate the landfill portion of the property and who will pay for it?

Answer: The cost to clean up the landfill portion of the property is not yet known. The responsible parties will submit a plan to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to review and approve. The approved plan will dictate the cost to clean it up. The responsible parties will determine how the clean up will be financed.

Question: Will this park be a safe place for me and my family to enjoy?

Answer: Yes. The Town and the WDNR will ensure that all appropriate measures are taken to protect the safety of visitors to the park. In addition to these measures, activities on the 7 acre landfill area will be restricted.

Question: Does the landfill area prevent the park from being built?

Answer: No. The Town and other responsible parties are working closely with the WDNR.

Question: Who is going to pay for the Town Sports Complex?

Answer: Since this will be a Town park, the Town will help finance the park. However, the Town will also vigorously pursue a variety of non-taxpayer funding options, such as grants, donations, in-kind contributions, and perhaps other means, such as the sale of land along the northern most portion of the property on STH 60.

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