



General

This section provides the basic information about the park or trail and the organizations responsible for it.

Last Update

17 Apr 2017 07:27:16

Park or Trail Name

Appleton OHV Park

District

3

Location Description

The Appleton OHV Park is located approximately mile northeast of the City of Appleton on US Highway 59. Address is 740 HWY 59 SW, Appleton, MN 56208

Park/Trail Address

City

Park/Trail State

Zip

Latitude

45.21700925

Longitude

-96.00299835

Map of Park/Trail

Description: OHV Master Plan map

[Appleton OHV masterplan Dec 58ddbc.pdf](#)

Facility Website

Organization

Swift County

Lead Contact Person

Mike Johnson

Title

Mailing Address

1635 Hoban Ave

City

Benson

State

Minnesota

Zip

56215

Phone

Email

320-314-8348

Mike.johnson@co.swift.mn.us

Joint Applicants

Joint Applicant #1

City of Appleton

Joint Applicant #2

Joint Applicant #3

Joint Applicant #4

Other project supporters

The park has support of the Appleton community including local residents and the business community.

Description

This section provides the basic information about the park or trail and the organizations responsible for it.

Regional Significance Statement

Classification

Regional Trail (Motorized)

Overview/Description of Park or Trail

Swift County continues to look for ways to expand the 325-acre OHV park. Since opening in November 2003, it has seen consistent use and numerous inquiries about its capacity have been fielded by Swift County.

The site offer approximately 257 acres for snowmobile, ATV and off-highway motorcycle use and another 68 acres for a 4x4 truck park. The site also offers beginner or training course and an area with more advanced level features. The truck park offers an amenity in a separate area specifically designed for truck use.

Currently the areas for OHV and 4x4 truck use throughout the state is extremely limited. Park users will benefit by having an area to ride designed specifically for them without the potential for other user group conflict or the degradation of environmentally and socially sensitive areas.

The local communities benefit economically by the increased travelers to the area using the park and the other amenities (restaurants, gas, lodging). It also makes use of land that has been previously disturbed by the mining of sand and gravel.

Total Acreage or Mileage

Acquisition and Development Status

Parts owned and parts leased

58

Development status

Facility Listing

This section provides an overview of existing and proposed site facilities and general site characteristics .

Existing Facilities

Proposed Facilities

Existing Facilities Other Information

10 Miles of Off Road Vehicle (ORV) Trails
15 Miles of All Terrane Vehicles (ATV)/ Off Highway Motorcycles (OHM) Trails
1.5 Miles of OHM Practice Track
3 Miles of Enduro Tracks
3 ORV Stair Steps
4 ORV Rock Crawls

Proposed Facilities Other Information

5 Miles of Off Road Vehicle (ORV) Trails
10 Miles of All Terrane Vehicles (ATV)/ Off Highway Motorcycles (OHM) Trails
Possible re-route of trails to better use land and incorporate additional land into the site.

General Site Characteristics

Site characteristics upload

Description: Trail and lake
[3-trail and lake 323c27.jpg](#)

Site characteristics upload

Description: Four wheelers on trail
[3-four wheelers on trail 62de56.jpg](#)

Site characteristics upload

Description: Jeep
[3-jeep 7dd9ec.jpg](#)

Site characteristics upload

Description: Four wheel rider
[3-boy on four wheeler ba50a0.jpg](#)

Site characteristics upload

Description: Dirt bike and four wheeler on trail
[3-dirt bike and four wheeler on trail f511fa.jpg](#)

Site characteristics upload

Description: Going through the mud
[3-going through mud e41aa1.jpg](#)

Site characteristics upload

Description: Shaded trail
[3-shaded trail 4fc84c.jpg](#)

Master Plan

Additional Supportive Information:

Classification Details

Regional Trail (Motorized) Classification

Provides a High-Quality "Destination" Trail Experience

The park is primary a previously mined gravel pits. Adjacent to the site is Pomme de Terre River a designated boating and canoeing river, native prairies of the Lac Qui Parle wildlife refuge, Marsh Lake and dam, and Big Stone National Wildlife Refuge and proposed Milan beach to Appleton bike trail. The site is totally self contained site with no crossing for the users providing a location free of regular traffic. A active railroad line runs adjacent to the site and it is unlikely that the line will be abandoned to provide future developed opportunities any time soon.

Well-located (i.e., Convenience of Access/Adequate Length) to Serve Regional Population and/or Tourist Destination

Due to the nature of the use, travel to OHV parks is expected by the user. The site is located near Willmar, Alexandria, and Montevideo and the surrounding region. Since OHV and 4x4 truck use throughout the state is extremely limited, users travel to the site throughout the state and South Dakota and Iowa. The University of Minnesota Morris completed a Recreation Park Visitor Survey in 2012 for this park, a copy of which is attached. Surveys of the users were completed nine dates in June and July of 2013 during which time 140 user groups were surveyed with users from four states (Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Indiana). This report showed that users have come from throughout the state including Saint Cloud, South Saint Paul, Albert Lea, Crystal, Monticello, Brooklyn Center, Alexandria, and Willmar to name a few.

Overall users of the park have been very positive about their experience at the park with comments like: ??Trails!?, ??All the different terrain and trails.?, ??The trail variety and access to multi vehicle types.?, and other positive comments.

Enhances Connectivity to Other Regional and State Level Trails within the Region, and Connects to Regional Destinations

While the site does not connect to other similar parks, Swift County has been working to increase awareness in the park with area Counties and is encouraging other Counties to develop similar parks so connections can be made to them.

Fills a Gap in Recreational Opportunity within a Region

We are unique in that we were the first and about only OHV park in South ?? South West MN. The closest to AARP is a 40 acre park in Meeker Co. While several are proposed for the area, they are not under construction and due to local opposition they may never be built. Currently the areas for OHV and 4x4 truck use throughout the state is extremely limited. Park users will benefit by having an area to ride designed specifically for them without the potential for other user group conflict or the degradation of environmentally and socially sensitive areas.

Attachments

| Doc Name | Description | Url |
|-----------------------------|--|--|
| Location Map | Location map added from general tab | 1434742589151-Appleton OHV Park Location Map.pdf |
| Resolution | Joint Applicant #1 Organization added from general tab | 1434742873201-ATV Park Resolution 6-17-15.pdf |
| Resolution | Lead Applicant Resolution | 1434743944044-Appleton OHV Park Res.pdf |
| Other | Park Layout Map | 1434749247415-Appleton OHV Park Map.pdf |
| Other | 2012 Appleton Area Recreation Park Visitor Survey | 1435695502912-Appleton Area Recreation Park Visitor Survey.pdf |
| Site Map Upload | Site Map | 2-site_map_uploads_a1c3ba.jpg |
| Regional Map Uploads | Regional Map-Appleton | 2-regional_map1_753c57.jpg |
| Regional Map Uploads | Regional Map-surrounding communities | 2-regional_map2_8db0cd.jpg |
| Site Characteristics Upload | Trail and lake | 3-trail_and_lake_323c27.jpg |
| Site Characteristics Upload | Four wheelers on trail | 3-four_wheelers_on_trail_62de56.jpg |
| Site Characteristics Upload | Jeep | 3-jeep_7dd9ec.jpg |
| Site Characteristics Upload | Four wheel rider | 3-boy_on_four_wheeler_ba50a0.jpg |

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|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| Site Characteristics Upload | Dirt bike and four wheeler on trail | 3-dirt_bike_and_four_wheeler_on_trail_f511fa.jpg |
| Site Characteristics Upload | Going through the mud | 3-going_through_mud_e41aa1.jpg |
| Site Characteristics Upload | Shaded trail | 3-shaded_trail_4fc84c.jpg |
| Public Involvement Summ Upload | Flyer for survey-design 1 | 4-survey_flyer1_2dd677.jpg |
| Public Involvement Summ Upload | Flyer for survey-design 2 | 4-survey_flyer2_812e71.jpg |
| Public Involvement Summ Upload | OHV Park info and surveys public display | 4-display_board_54ef63.jpg |
| Public Involvement Summ Upload | Survey info and survey displayed at the OHV park | 4-posters_hanging_at_park_0e47f5.jpg |
| Regional Demographic Upload | Demographics of the area | 4-demographic_support_357be9.png |
| Public Health Values Upload | Riders helping each other pull ATV out of water | 4-public_health_values_791f37.png |
| Public Health Values Upload | Four wheeler riding class | 4-talking_to_riders_5f34d4.jpg |
| Economic Development Tourism Upload | Total Expenditures | 4-total_expenditures_746714.jpg |
| Economic Development Tourism Upload | Screenshot of the City of Appleton website displaying Appleton Municipal Campground Info | 4-appleton_campground_46709b.jpg |
| Economic Development Tourism Upload | Map of the OHV park | 4-appleton_area_rec_park_map_00a5d5.jpg |
| Recreational Trends Upload | survey results | 4-survey_reults1_a9a56a.jpg |
| Recreational Trends Upload | survey results | 4-survey_results2_38b9bc.jpg |
| Recreational Trends Upload | survey results | 4-survey_results3_7890d1.jpg |
| Recreational Trends Upload | survey results | 4-survey_results_e8b5ab.png |
| Spcl Recreational Ftr1 Upload | Rock pile and jeep | 5-rock_pile_and_jeep_6d9f41.jpg |
| Spcl Recreational Ftr1 Upload | Winter riding at the OHV park | 5-winter_a9c534.JPG |
| Spcl Recreational Ftr1 Upload | Driving over rocks | 5-driving_over_big_rocks_aaa9c8.jpg |
| Spcl Recreational Ftr1 Upload | Welcome to Park | 5-welcome_to_park_flyer_6608b4.jpg |
| Spcl Recreational Ftr1 Upload | Two different terrain trails | 5-two_trails_9aabb9.JPG |
| Spcl Recreational Ftr1 Upload | Dirt bikes | 5-dirt_bikes_0c9aea.jpg |
| Spcl Recreational Ftr1 Upload | Red jeep | 5-red_jeep_43b21f.jpg |
| Spcl Recreational Ftr2 Upload | Beautiful water area | 5-lake_aba3f3.jpg |
| Spcl Recreational Ftr3 Upload | Major roads map - 100 miles with population | 5-major_road_map_862b8c.jpg |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| Spcl Recreational Ftr3 Upload | Rock pile and jeep | 5-rock_pile_and_jeep_cropped_31f7cc.jpg |
| Spcl Recreational Ftr4 Upload | MN DNR OHV classifications | 5-mn_dnr_ohv_classifications_e5d08d.jpg |
| Spcl Recreational Ftr4 Upload | Map of Minnesota OHV destinations | 5-state_of_mn_map_28df4a.jpg |
| Development Feature Upload | | 6-proposed_park_features_41f146.jpg |
| Ad Phasing Plan Upload | Refer to Cost Estimate Plan. Phasing is outlined in this document. | Appleton_OHV_Park_CE_Nov_21_b37444.xlsx |
| Ecological Land ResPlan Upload | Map of Conceptual Changes to Appleton OHV Park Pond | 8-conceptural_changes_to_applet_on_park_pond_map_3695a0.jpg |
| Programming Plan Upload | Event at the OHV Park | 9-event_0d33f5.jpg |
| Programming Plan Upload | Prairie Thunder Off Road Rally flyer - annual event help at the OHV Park | 9-prairie_thunder_off_road_ralley_flyer_44d37f.jpg |
| Programming Plan Upload | Western Minnesota Prairie Waters Annual Gathering flyer | 9-prairie_waters_annual_gatherin_g_flyer_76b9fc.jpg |
| Outreach Marketing Plan Upload | Screenshot of the City of Appleton website with OHV Park info | 9-appleton_website_9a5824.jpg |
| Outreach Marketing Plan Upload | Prairie Waters website promoting the OHV Park | 9-prairie_waters_website_1bd3e1.jpg |
| Outreach Marketing Plan Upload | Trail from OHV park to campground | 9-red_orange_map_6faca7.jpg |
| Acquisition Plan Overview Upload | Park Acquisition Map | Aquistion_Map_9e9976.pdf |
| Development Feature Upload | | Appleton_OHV_masterplan_Dec_Page_2_521a44.jpg |
| AcqDev Cost Projections Upload | OHV Plan Cost Estimates | Appleton_OHV_Park_CE_Nov_21_7b2203.xlsx |
| Development Feature Upload | | Aquistion_Map_-_Dec_9d09a6.pdf |
| Development Acquisition Plan Upload | OHV Master Plan map | Appleton_OHV_masterplan_Dec_8eb15f.pdf |
| Park Trail Map | OHV Master Plan map | Appleton_OHV_masterplan_Dec_58ddbc.pdf |
| Ad Phasing Plan Upload | Refer to Cost Estimate Plan. Phasing is outlined in this document. | Appleton_OHV_Park_CE_Nov_21_dc5b90.pdf |
