

**TOWN OF NEW GLARUS**  
**PARK COMMISSION MEETING**  
**17 April 2024, 4:30 PM AGENDA**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town of New Glarus Park Commission, County of Green, will conduct a meeting for the transaction of business as is by law required permitted at such meeting as follows:

LOCATION: New Glarus Town Hall  
26 5th Avenue  
New Glarus, WI 53574

Zoom Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89726011115?pwd=JOyprkPntLfOOfp7fCVuHF5HMxDQMq.1>

Meeting ID: 897 2601 1115

Passcode: 543724

Dial by your location: 312 626 6799

1. Call to Order
2. Proof of Posting
3. Approve Minutes from March 20, 2024
4. Public Comments
5. Presentation by Vierbicher: Community Park Concept Plan #1
6. Discuss and Consider Posting Signs at Town Park, Prohibiting Hunting and Trapping
7. Discuss and Consider Posting Signs at Town Park, Prohibiting Pets on or off Leash
8. Update on Decision by Town Board re: Grant for Trail along Hwy 39 – Chris
9. Discuss and Consider Invasives Removal and Seeding at Bluebird Ridge
10. Discuss and Consider Applying for Grant from Southwest Badger Natural Resource Conservation Fund (Due Sept. 15, 2024)
11. Discuss Tree Availability and Delivery
12. Update on Scouts and High School Students Helping Sort Trees for Delivery – Chris and Kelly
13. Update on Outreach to 4-H Clubs – Harry
14. Discuss and Consider Possible Revisions to Ordinance 2023-01 Codifying the Town of New Glarus Park Commission
15. Discuss and Consider Offering Electronics Recycling Event
16. Schedule Next Meeting, May 15, 2024, at 6:00 PM
17. Adjourn

Posted: 04.11.2024

New Glarus Town Hall  
New Glarus Garage  
New Glarus Post Office

Harry Pulliam, Chair  
New Glarus Park Commission

<https://townofnewglarus.com/>

John Wright, Clerk-Treasurer

Pursuant to applicable law, notice is hereby given that a quorum or a majority of the New Glarus Town Board or Plan Commission Members may attend this meeting. Information presented at this meeting may help form the rationale behind future actions that may be taken by the Town of New Glarus Board. Persons requiring additional services to participate in a public meeting may contact the Town Clerk for assistance at 527-2390.

## PARK COMMISSION MEETING

March 20, 2024

### Minutes

Attending: Harry Pulliam, Mark Pernitz, Jason Neton, Mona Sue French, Rose Pertzborn, Kelly Ruschman, Chris Narveson

Absent: Dana Emmerton

Also attending: Nancy Streiff, Town Deputy Treasurer; Ashley Haffner, Frank Grenzow, Marianne Oemichen

- 1. Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by Chair Pulliam at 6:00 pm.
- 2. Proof of Posting.** Proof of posting was provided by Streiff.
- 3. Approve Minutes from February 21, 2024.** Motion to approve the minutes of February 21, 2024 by French, second by Pertzborn, motion approved.
- 4. Public Comments.** Narveson reported that the Town of Exeter donated 2 surplus porta potties which are now at the Park site.
- 5. Update on Community Input Night and Focus Group Meetings.** Pulliam reported that there was a good turnout at the Community Input night with over 40 in attendance. Approximately 10 people attended each of the 4 focus group meetings held on 2 consecutive nights. Vierbicher is now compiling the information and will provide a report at the April 17 Parks meeting. At subsequent meetings, we will discuss a preliminary park plan including what types of improvements will be included and where geographically they will be located. Completion will be done in phases with construction of the Town garage and restoration of the southern lowland being the first priority. Plans will be made to make the Park accessible. Pulliam will advise Cheryl Housley of the DNR that we are not far enough along in the planning stage to pursue any grants during this cycle but should be in a better position to do so next year. We will look for volunteer opportunities for high school students as we proceed to help them satisfy their volunteer requirements.
- 6. Report from Signage Study Committee.** Pernitz reported that he and French met and decided to wait until building was further along to determine the type and number of signs needed.
- 7. Update on Easements for Trail Along Hwy 39.** Narveson reported that he has had difficulty obtaining easements from the necessary property owners on both the north and south sides of Hwy. 39. The deadline to complete the trail is approaching so if we can't get the necessary easements we will have to reject the DNR grant and consider building the trail at a later time.
- 8. Discuss Outreach to 4-H Clubs per Ashley Haffner's Comments in Focus Group.** Haffner is involved in a 4-H Club based in Monticello. 4-H is no longer just farming activities; it also includes cake decorating, building bird houses, archery, air

guns, etc. There may be activities in developing the park property that we could solicit their help. There was discussion about also partnering with FFA, shop classes and the elderly for park projects.

**9. Discuss Asking Scouts to Help Sort Trees for Delivery.** Pulliam reported that we ordered trees from Sustainable Wildlife Habitat in Cambridge for the Town's annual tree sale. We haven't heard yet when they will be available for pick-up, but typically it's in April. Pulliam mentioned that we will need help sorting the trees and asked Narveson to contact the Boy Scouts to see if they would help. Ruschman reported that he knows some high school students who would make good volunteers and that he will contact them.

**10. Discuss and Possibly Approve Proposed Amendments to 2024 Park Commission Budget.** Pulliam reported that he and Town clerk Wright made some changes to the wording in the 2024 Parks Budget but that the numbers have remained the same. Motion to approve the revised budget by Narveson, second by Pernitz, motion approved.

**11. Discuss and Possibly Approve Proposed Changes to Chapter 204 Town Commissions and Boards.** Pernitz noted that there are a number of items in the current ordinance that are inconsistent with Town practice, worded poorly and/or are in need of change. He will prepare a revision for the April or May meeting.

**12. Discuss Potential Workshops for 2024.** A discussion took place that with the planning of the new park, we may not have time to offer workshops this year. An exception would be if we had a workshop on how to perform a task, and then coupled it with a workday for the new park; for example, how to pick prairie seeds.

Grenzow is a member of The Prairie Enthusiasts (TPE) and spoke to Tom Mitchell who is the site steward for most of their properties. Several properties have wet areas and we could pick seeds there under the supervision of TPE for use in the southern portion of the Park. Mitchell recommended that the Town purchase seeds for three short grasses: side oats gramma, prairie dropseed, and little blue stem. Then he recommended inter-seed with non-grass seeds collected from TPE's properties. There are always extra seeds from a few species at the end of the season, but the bulk of the seed would have to be collected by NG Park volunteers in conjunction with TPE's seed collecting work parties. Collecting seed outside of these work parties is strictly prohibited. Seed picking takes place between May–November, depending upon species.

Bluebird Ridge was burned this spring by TPE. The Bluebird Ridge burn was probably the most complete burn yet at this site. Unfortunately, the central oak savanna has been taken over by dogwood and will require a major cut-and-treat effort. Pulliam reported that we received a quote from Indigenous Restoration of \$3,000 to do this work.

**13. Schedule Next Meeting, April 17, 2024, at 4:30 PM (Town of New Glarus Annual Meeting is at 6 PM).**

Pulliam reported that Dana Emmerton has resigned because of time constraints.

Pulliam will recommend that the alternate, Pertzborn, be appointed to fill this position.

**14. Adjourn.** Motion to adjourn by Pernitz, second by Ruschman, motion approved.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Minutes prepared by Pernitz and Streiff

Approved:

DRAFT

# mission STATEMENT

Our mission is to transform agricultural land into a multi-faceted destination, and at the heart of it, our Community Park. Through our Community Park, we aspire to create a harmonious space that not only nurtures biodiversity but also fosters community well-being. Our commitment extends to the establishment of modern municipal facilities, enhancing the Town's infrastructure. We seek to integrate individual group passions ensuring diverse interests contribute to creating value by promoting environmental stewardship, connection, enrichment, and cultural engagement for generations to come.



## PROGRAMMING

The community input night and community online survey resulted in an environmental theme of park uses including restoration areas, walking/hiking trails, mature woodlands, picnic areas and interpretive signage. Park uses with lesser mentions include a dog park, an orchard, a playground and sport courts.

With this information, the Town will decide what park uses will suit the 84 acres of land and what will be feasible regarding infrastructure, construction costs and maintenance.

**TRAILS**  
4 MILES

**RESTORATION**  
84 ACRES

**PICNIC**  
4 AREAS

**DOG PARK**  
1 AREA

**1**  
ORCHARD

**3**  
PLAY  
AREAS

## PHASING

Five zones have been identified and separated into manageable phases of park infrastructure, restoration and program development. Stages with each zone consist of 2-5 acres of restoration and/or development. A preliminary financial cost analysis of each stage can be found on the page entitled "Concept Plan #1 - Preliminary Cost Schedule". Phasing and stages were determined by Town goals, implementation of programming (i.e. trail systems & feature areas) and a logical phase-out of agricultural activity.



K:\NewGlarus\2024\CommunityPark\Development\LandscapeArchitecture\ConceptDesign\ConceptPlan#1

**84  
ACRES**



**WALK**  
:  
**HIKE**  
:  
**RUN**  
:  
**PLAY**  
:  
**SEE**  
:  
**LISTEN**  
:  
**HEAR**

**3 VISTAS**  
:  
:  
**14 TRAIL  
LOOPS**  
:  
:  
**1 CREEK**

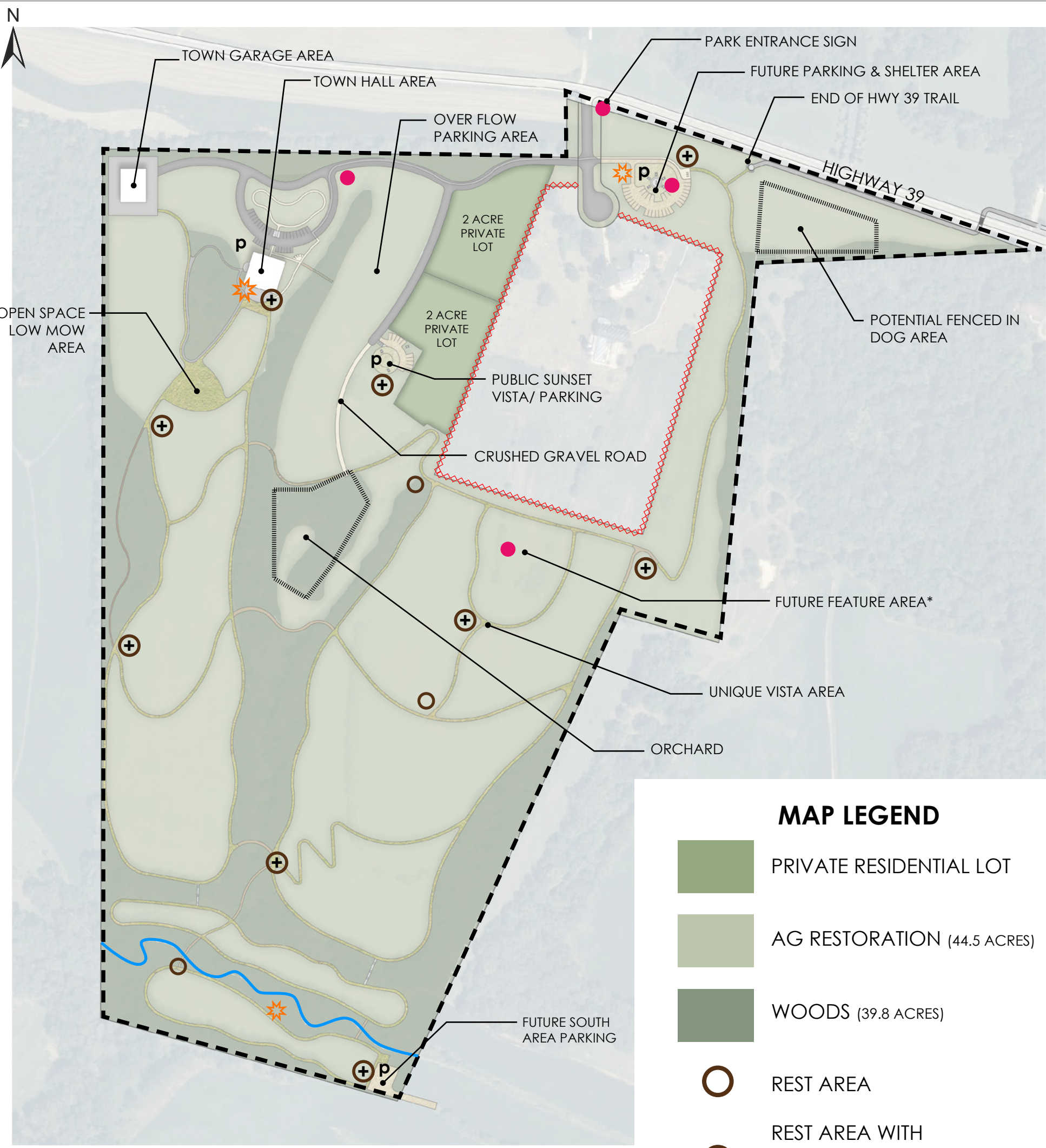


**Concept Plan #1 - Vision Palette**

Town of New Glarus, WI  
April 17th, 2024

**vierbicher**  
planners | engineers | advisors

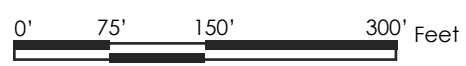




**MAP LEGEND**

-  PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL LOT
-  AG RESTORATION (44.5 ACRES)
-  WOODS (39.8 ACRES)
-  REST AREA
-  REST AREA WITH EDUCATIONAL & WAY FINDING SIGNAGE
-  FENCE
-  ARTISTIC SCULPTURE AREA
-  PICNIC AREA
-  STRONG PHYSICAL BOUNDARY
-  LEGLER SCHOOL BRANCH
-  PLAYGROUND AREA

\*SEE PAGE "CONCEPT PLAN #1 - FUTURE FEATURE AREA" FOR DESIGN INTENT



**Concept Plan #1 - Overall Plan**

Town of New Glarus, WI  
April 17th, 2024



M:\NewGlarus\2024\CommunityParticipation\DesignDevelopment\LandscapeArchitecture\ConceptDesign\ConceptPlan#1

# future FEATURE AREAS

The park use ideas that did not fall into the general environmental theme which shaped the park programming could be useful as a feature or highlight throughout the park instead. The following are a summary of the most feasible park features for future implementation (these could be implemented in more than one location).

## wildlife housing



Bird House



Rock Pile



Bee Box

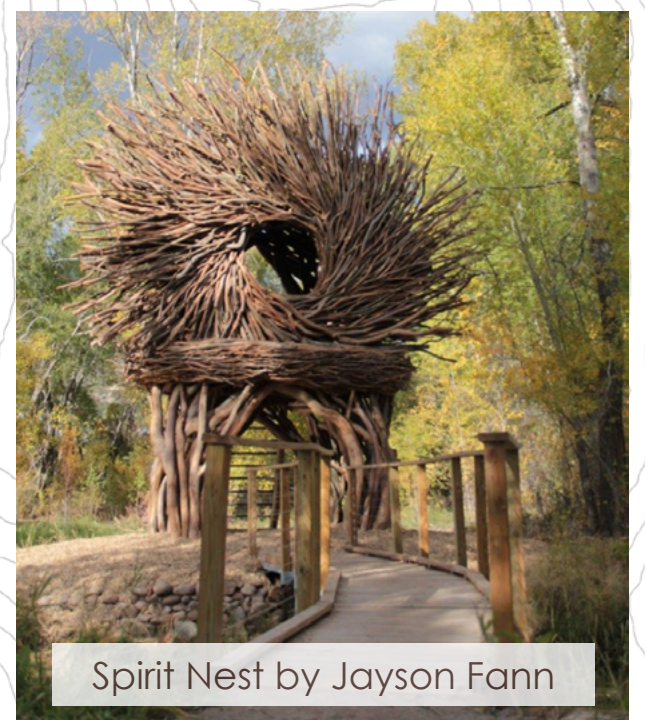
## artistic creations



Updraft by Mike Burns



Prairie Labyrinth by Toby Evans



Spirit Nest by Jayson Fann

## memorial trees



Young Oak Tree



New Glarus Arbor Day 2021



Young Apple Tree

### Concept Plan #1 - Future Feature Area

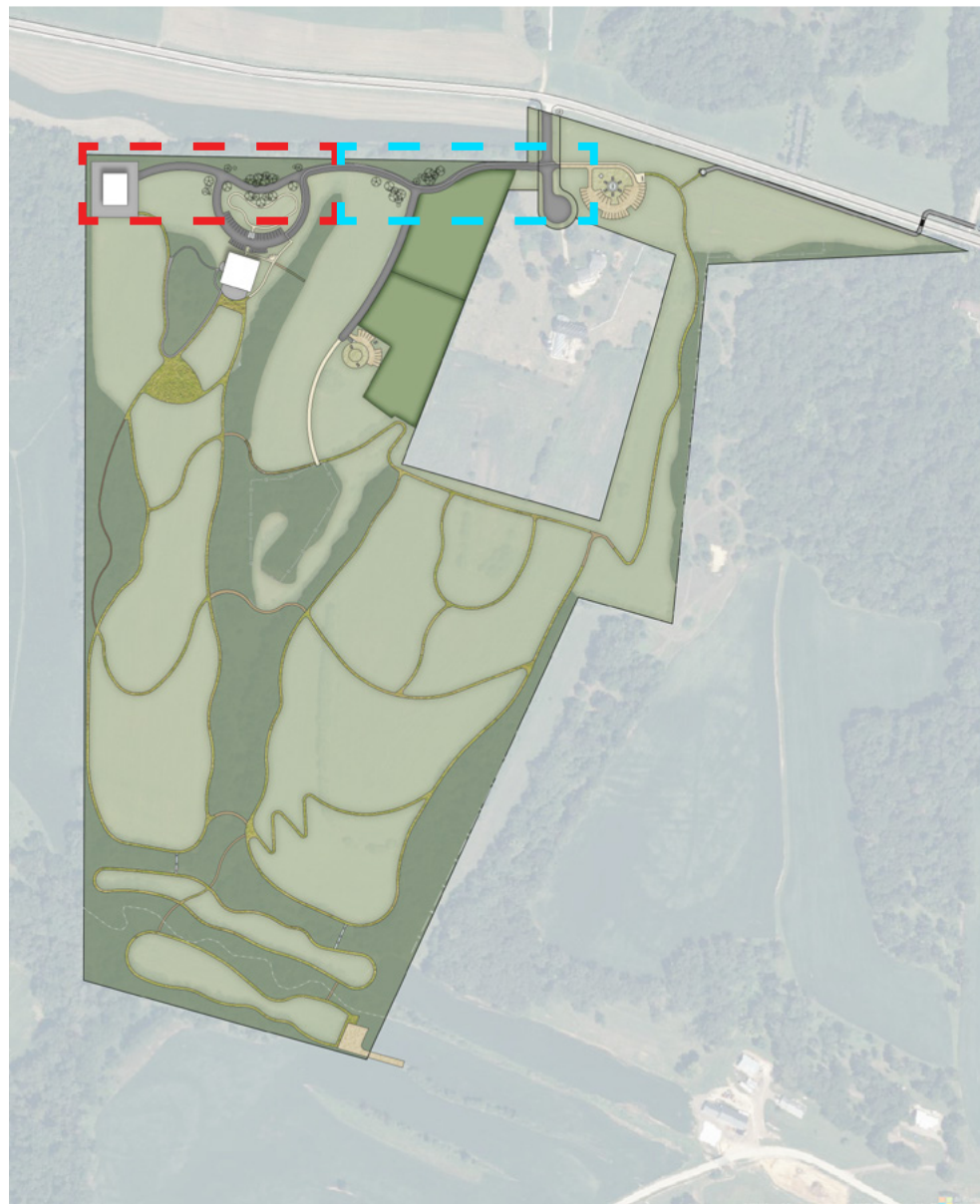
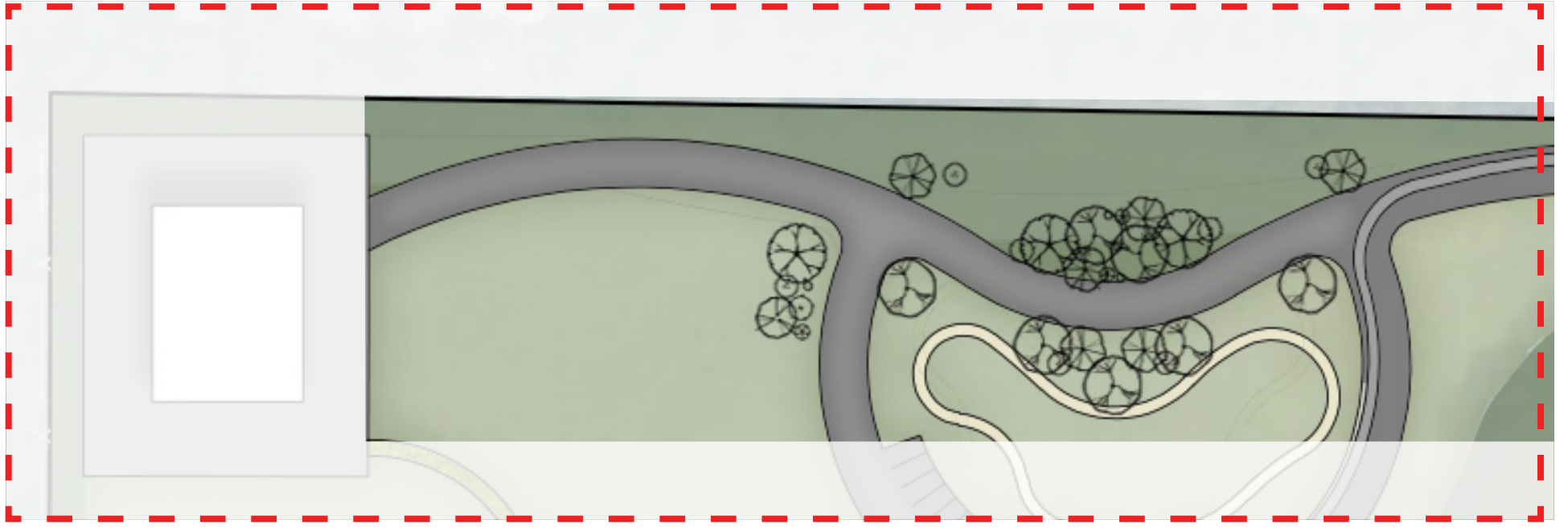
Town of New Glarus, WI  
April 17th, 2024

vierbicher  
planners | engineers | advisors





# WEST



## a new approach **SENSE OF PLACE**

A path of navigation.

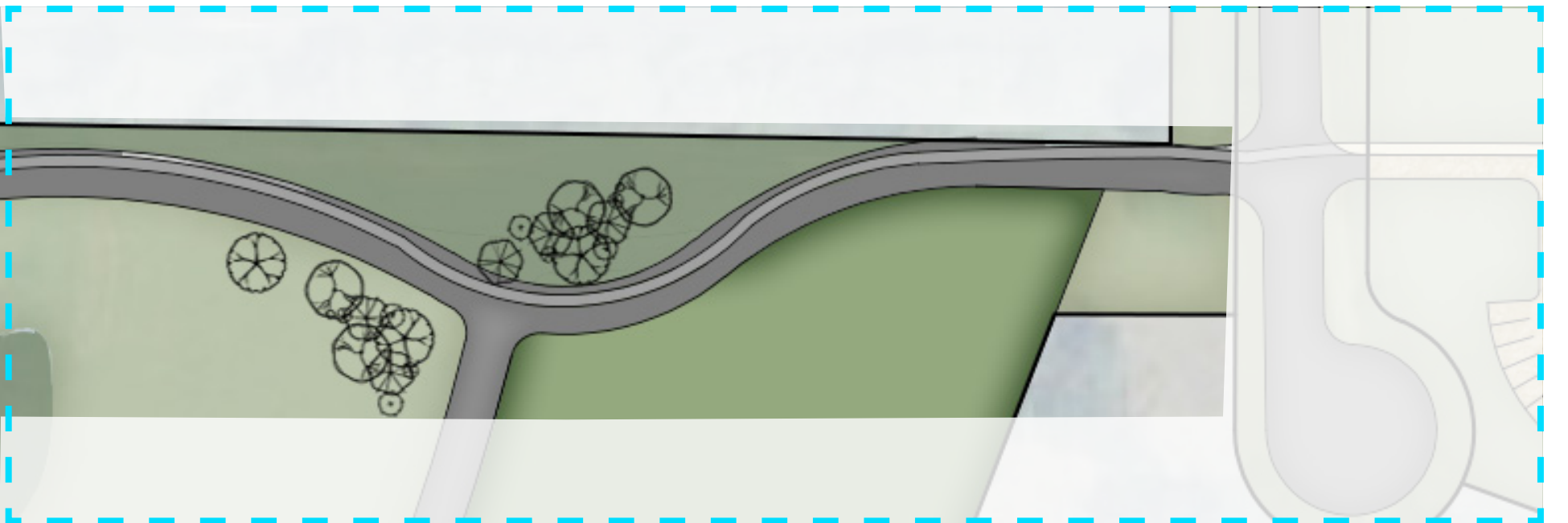
An experience across landform.

The identity of a place.

The driftless landform demands to be experienced. This experience starts with the road to the Town Garage and future Town Hall. A path of navigation that curves with the land allows visitors to slow down and signals their arrival in a unique place; one that is rooted in local identity and respects the sensuous nature of the landform.

The new road shall be designed to maneuver visitors along the curvature of each ridge it traverses. Future plantings along the road shall integrate with the environmental restoration theme of the Community Park, highlighting heritage to trees, plants and local materials while camouflaging the Town Garage area.

# EAST



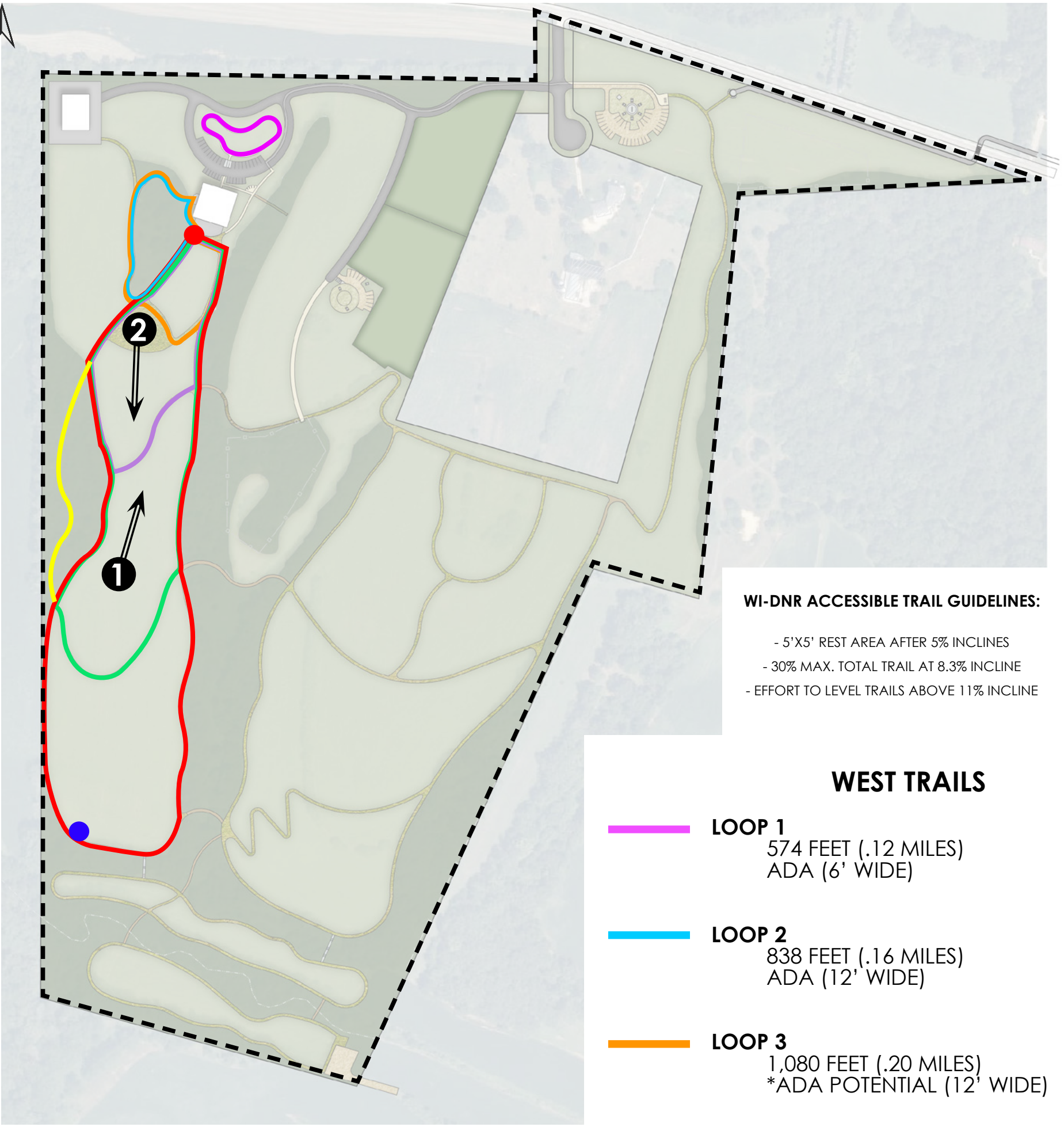
## Concept Plan #1 - Road Infrastructure & Seeding Plan

Town of New Glarus, WI  
April 17th, 2024

**vierbicher**  
planners | engineers | advisors
















**WI-DNR ACCESSIBLE TRAIL GUIDELINES:**

- 5'X5' REST AREA AFTER 5% INCLINES
- 30% MAX. TOTAL TRAIL AT 8.3% INCLINE
- EFFORT TO LEVEL TRAILS ABOVE 11% INCLINE

**WEST TRAILS**

-  **LOOP 1**  
574 FEET (.12 MILES)  
ADA (6' WIDE)
-  **LOOP 2**  
838 FEET (.16 MILES)  
ADA (12' WIDE)
-  **LOOP 3**  
1,080 FEET (.20 MILES)  
\*ADA POTENTIAL (12' WIDE)
-  **LOOP 4**  
1,540 FEET (.29 MILES)  
(8' WIDE)
-  **LOOP 5**  
2,740 FEET (.52 MILES)  
(6' WIDE)
-  **LOOP 6**  
3,787 FEET (.72 MILES)  
(6' WIDE)
-  **WOODS SEGMENT**  
690 FEET (.13 MILES)  
(2'-4' WIDE)

-  HIGH: 1,100 FT
-  LOW: 998 FT

\*NOT INCLUDED IN TOTAL ADA ACCESSIBLE TRAIL MILES



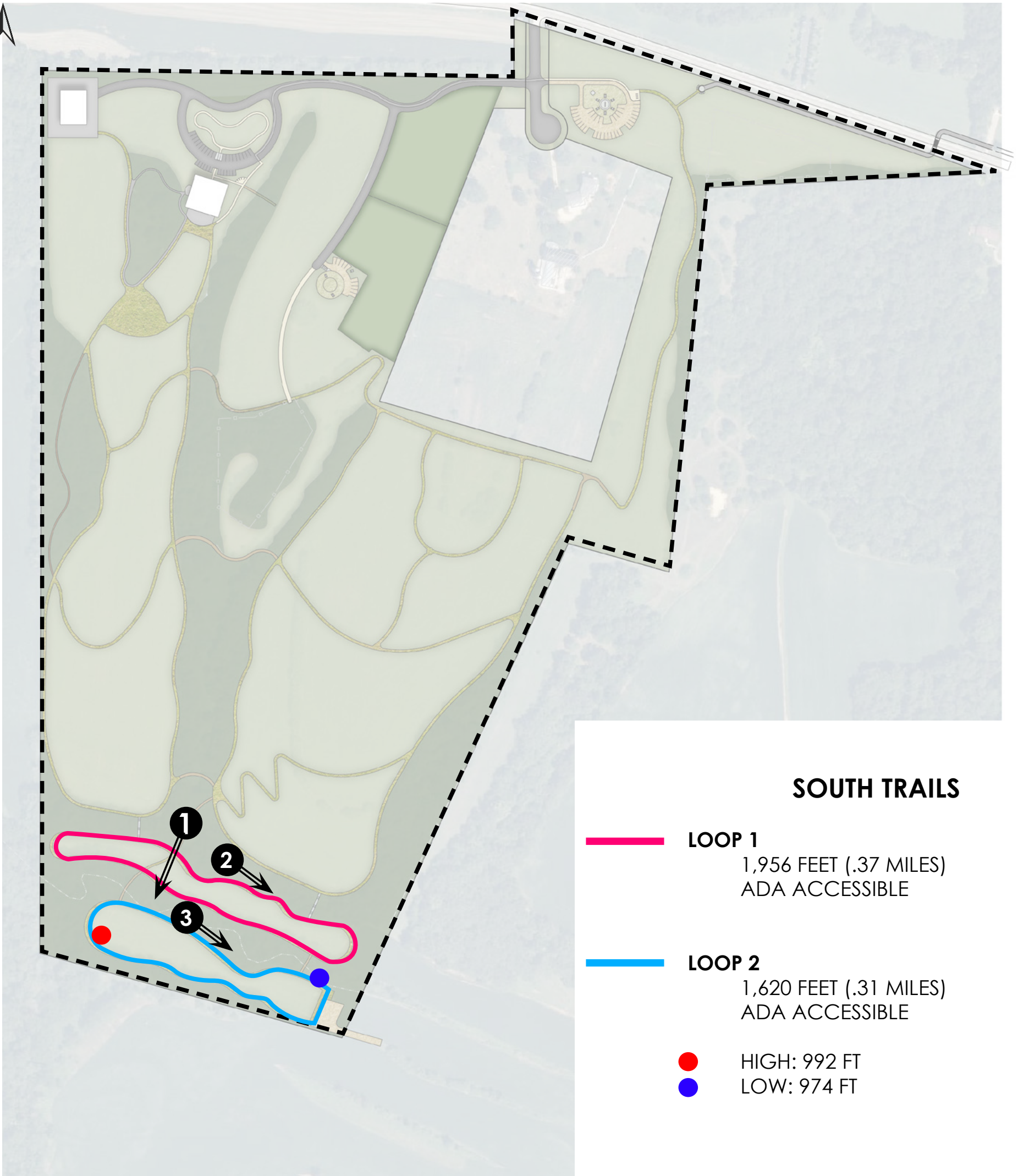
0' 75' 150' 300' Feet

**Concept Plan #1 - West Trails**

Town of New Glarus, WI  
April 17th, 2024







### SOUTH TRAILS

- **LOOP 1**  
1,956 FEET (.37 MILES)  
ADA ACCESSIBLE
- **LOOP 2**  
1,620 FEET (.31 MILES)  
ADA ACCESSIBLE
- HIGH: 992 FT
- LOW: 974 FT

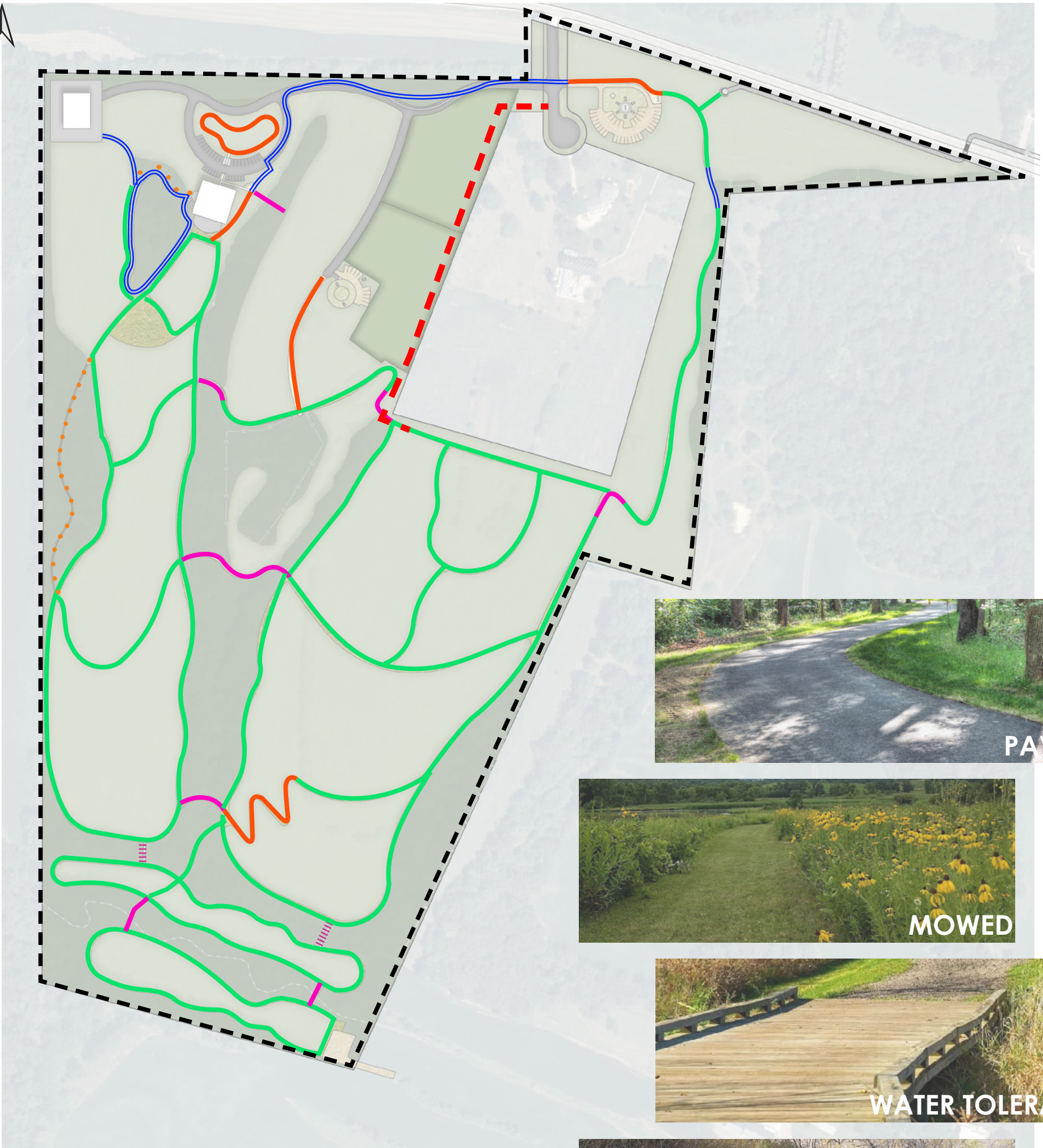


0' 75' 150' 300' Feet

**Concept Plan #1 - South Trails**  
Town of New Glarus, WI  
April 17th, 2024

**vierbicher**  
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### TRAIL TYPES

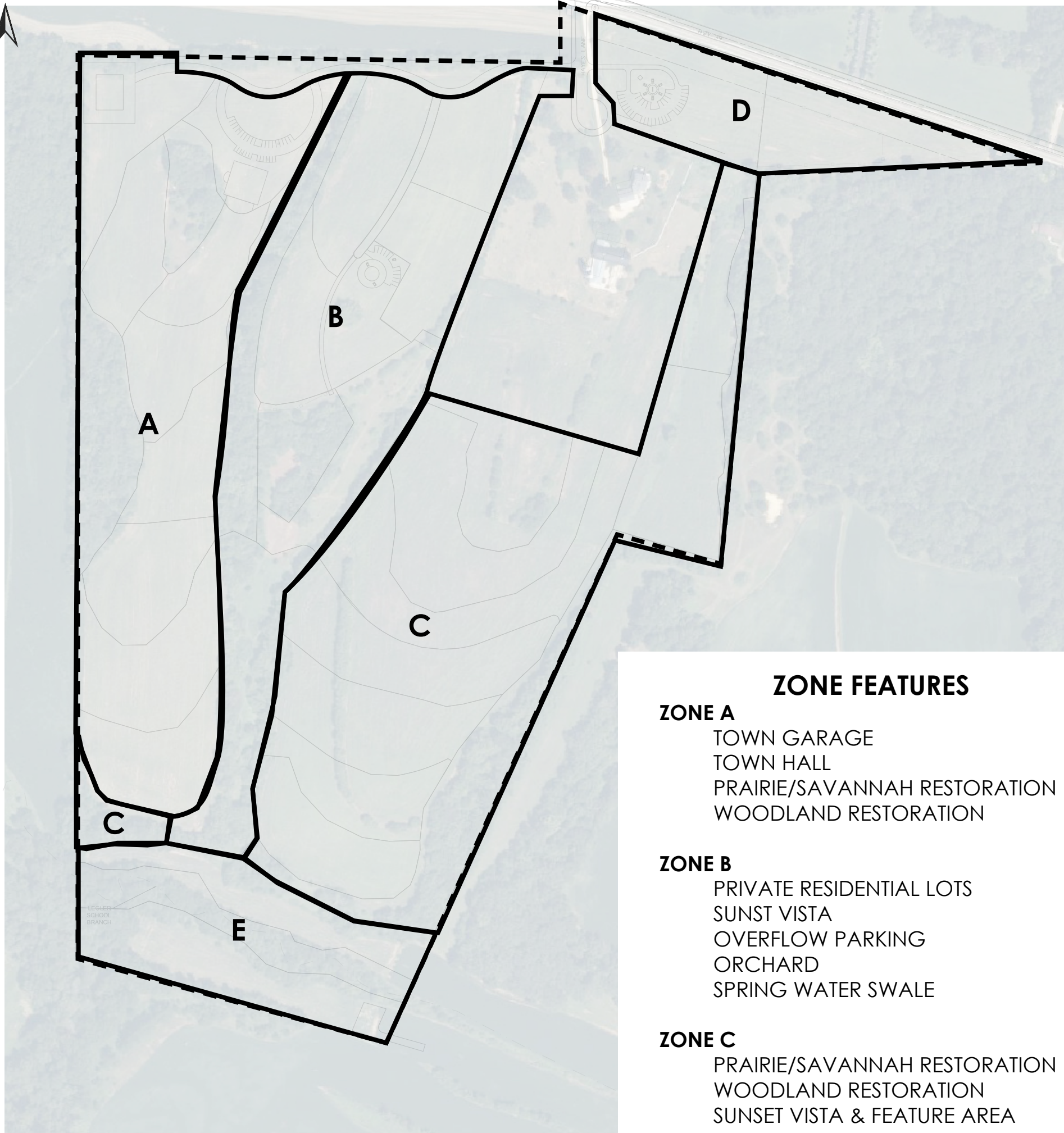
-  PAVED
-  MOWED
-  WATER TOLERANT
-  NATURAL STAIRWAY
-  CRUSHED LIMESTONE
-  WOODLAND
-  AG EASEMENT

0' 75' 150' 300' Feet

### Concept Plan #1 - Trail Types

Town of New Glarus, WI  
April 17th, 2024





### ZONE FEATURES

#### ZONE A

- TOWN GARAGE
- TOWN HALL
- PRAIRIE/SAVANNAH RESTORATION
- WOODLAND RESTORATION

#### ZONE B

- PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL LOTS
- SUNST VISTA
- OVERFLOW PARKING
- ORCHARD
- SPRING WATER SWALE

#### ZONE C

- PRAIRIE/SAVANNAH RESTORATION
- WOODLAND RESTORATION
- SUNSET VISTA & FEATURE AREA

#### ZONE D

- PARK ENTRANCE
- HWY 39 TRAIL EXPANSION
- PARKING
- PRAIRIE/SAVANNAH RESTORATION
- WOODLAND RESTORATION
- PICNIC/PLAY AREA
- POSSIBLE DOG AREA

#### ZONE E

- LEGLER SCHOOL BRANCH
- RIPARIAN AREA
- PARKING
- PICNIC/PLAY AREA

ZONES CAN BE IMPLEMENTED IN ANY ORDER. HOWEVER, CONCEPT PLAN #1 ENCOURAGES ZONE A TO BE EXECUTED FIRST.

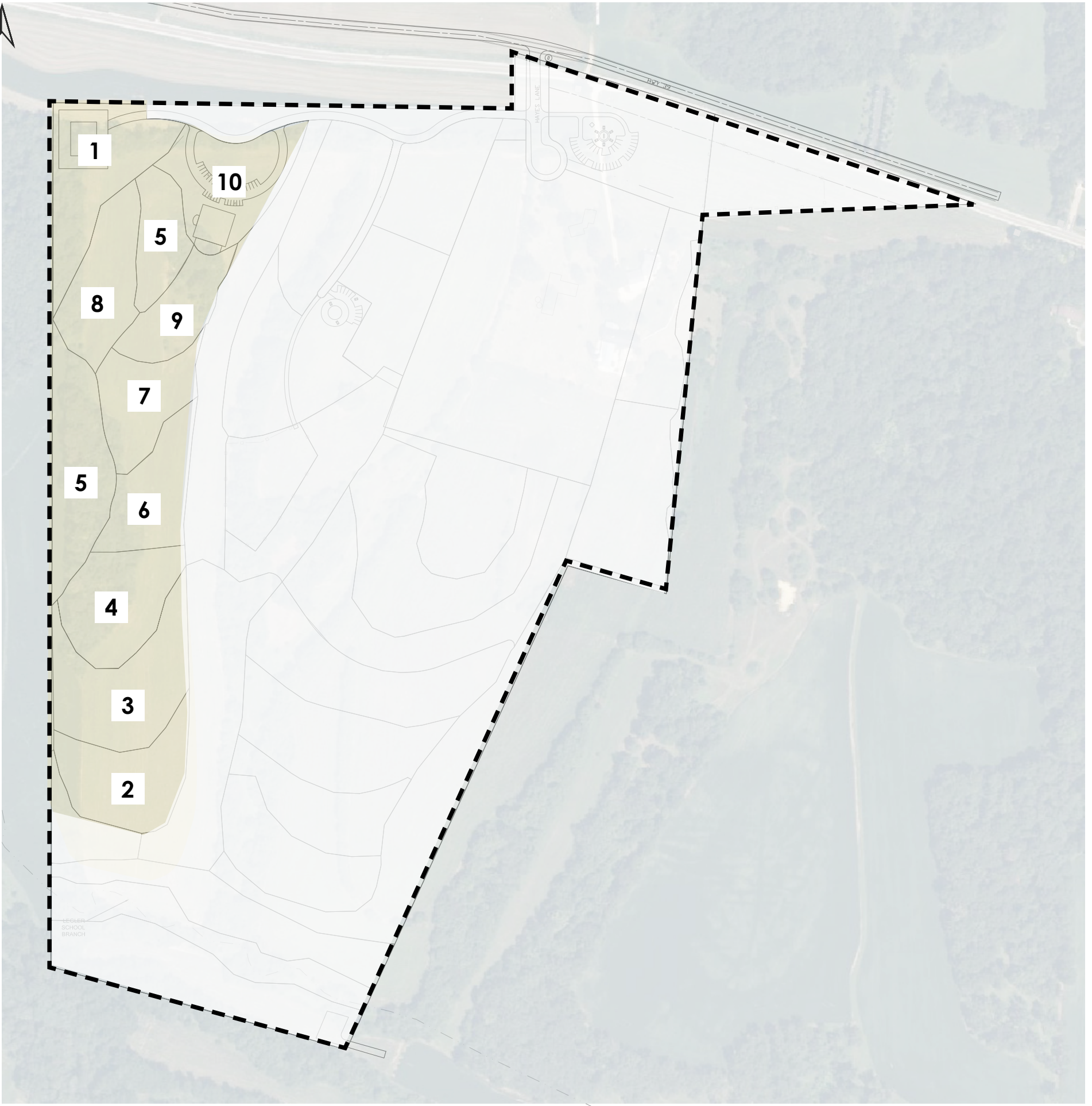
HAYES LANE EXTENSION IS OMITTED FROM ANY ZONE AS IT WILL BE THE FIRST INFRASTRUCTURE REQUIREMENT FOR THE SITE OVERALL.

0' 75' 150' 300' Feet

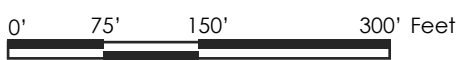
### Concept Plan #1 - Phasing Zones

Town of New Glarus, WI  
April 17th, 2024





Restoration Areas	Area Acres	Year	Constructed Features per Year per Area														
			Trail Construction (Feet)						Restoration (Acres)			Picnic Areas	Dog Park	Orchard	Play Area	General Amenity	
			Paved	Mowed	Limestone	Woodland (Dir)	Boardwalk	Timber Stairs	Amenity	Cover Crop Seed	Rest. Seed	Woodland	(Each)	(Sq. Ft.)	(Acres)	(Each)	(Each)
<b>Zone A</b>	21.03		1067	5349	776	690	0	0	3	15.24	21.03	3.35	1	0	0.01	1	0
Area 1	2.44	Year 1									2.44						
Area 2	2.01	Year 1		914						2.01	2.01						
Area 3	2.63	Year 2		768						2.63	2.63						
Area 4	2.05	Year 3		864					1	2.05	2.05						
Area 5	3.35	Year 4	191			690					3.35	3.35					
Area 6	1.63	Year 4		1032						1.63	1.63						
Area 7	1.59	Year 5		833						1.59	1.59						
Area 8	1.82	Year 6	490	310						1.82	1.82						
Area 9	1.29	Year 7	232	628						1.29	1.29						
Area 10	2.22	Year 8	154		776					2.22	2.22		1		0.01	1	Feature/Patio

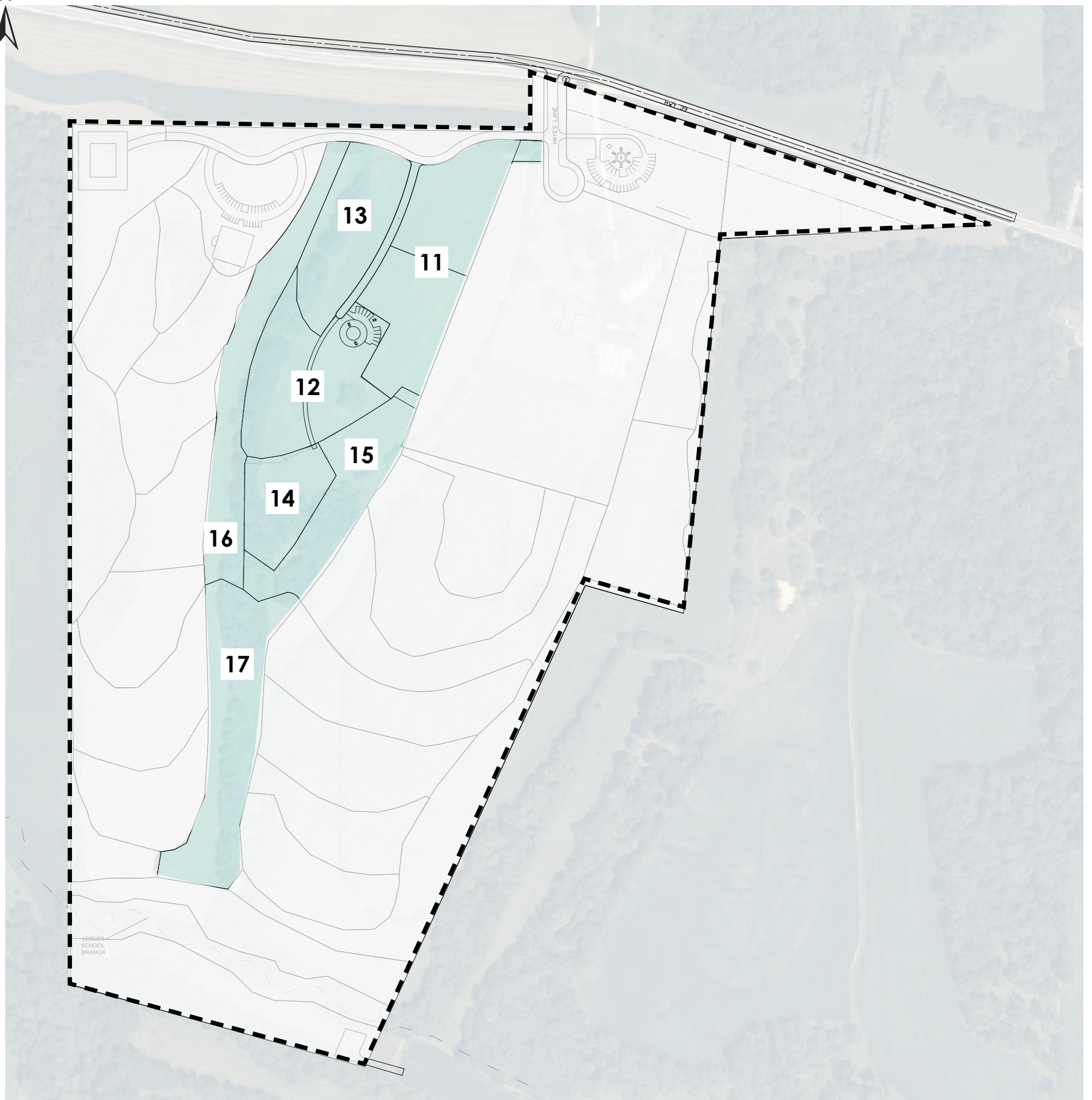


### Concept Plan #1 - Zone A

Town of New Glarus, WI  
April 17th, 2024







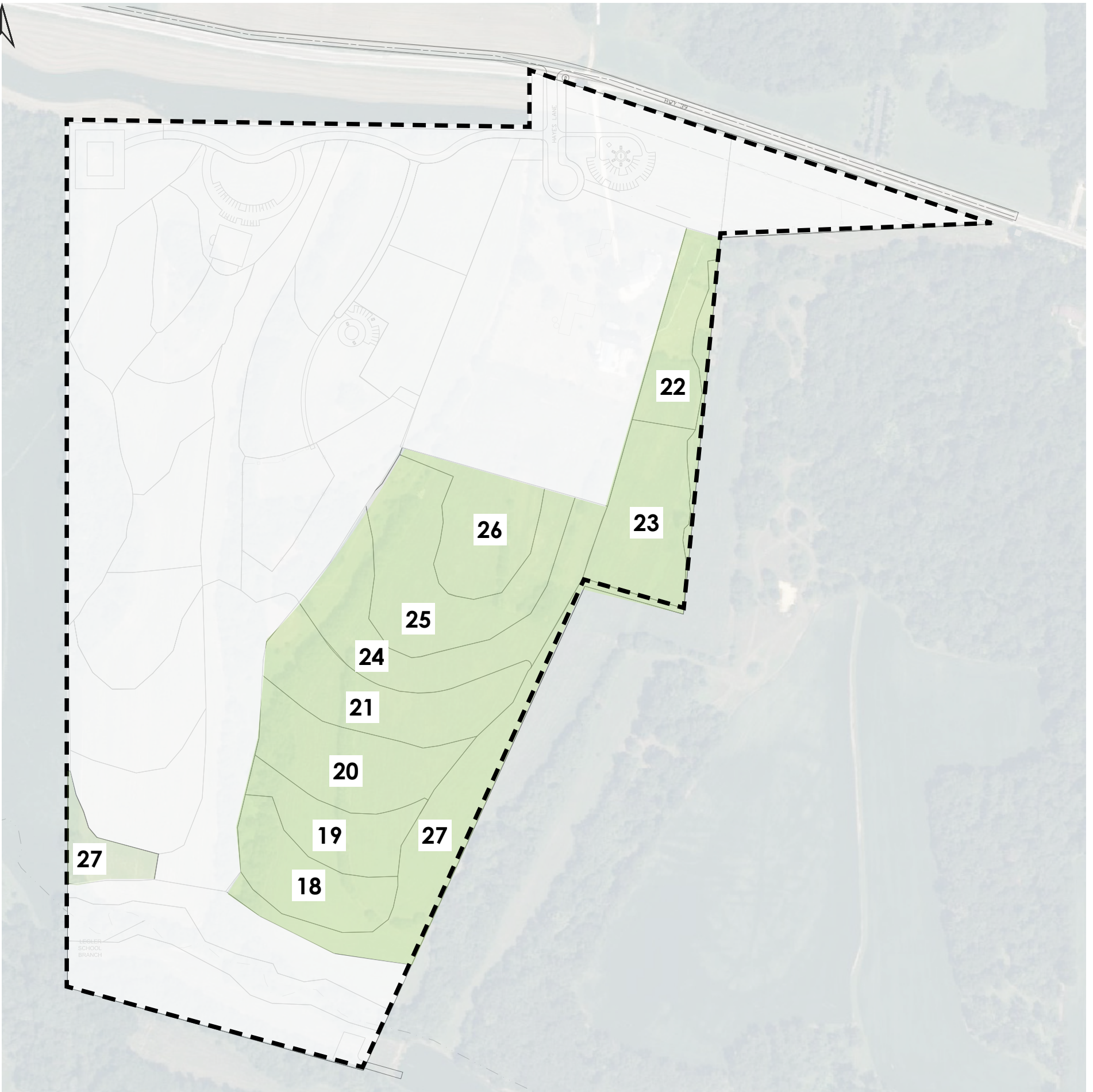
Restoration Areas	Area Acres	Year	Constructed Features per Year per Area														
			Trail Construction (Feet)							Restoration (Acres)			Picnic Areas	Dog Park	Orchard	Play Area	General Amenity
			Paved	Mowed	Limestone	Woodland (Dirt)	Boardwalk	Timber Stairs	Amenity	Cover Crop Seed	Rest. Seed	Woodland	(Each)	(Sq. Ft.)	(Acres)	(Each)	(Each)
<b>Zone B</b>	21.09		0	859	405	0	550	1	0	5.47	16.77	8.98	1	0	1.47	0	1
Area 11	4.32	Year 1															Road
Area 12	3.21	Year 1		281	405					3.21	3.21		1				Sunset Vista
Area 13	2.26	Year 2								2.26	2.26						Extra Parking
Area 14	1.47	Year 1								1.47	1.47				1.47		Fencing
Area 15	2.32	Year 5		382			80				2.32						1
Area 16	4.08	Year 6								4.08	4.08						
Area 17	3.43	Year 7		196			470	1		3.43	3.43						



### Concept Plan #1 - Zone B

Town of New Glarus, WI  
April 17th, 2024





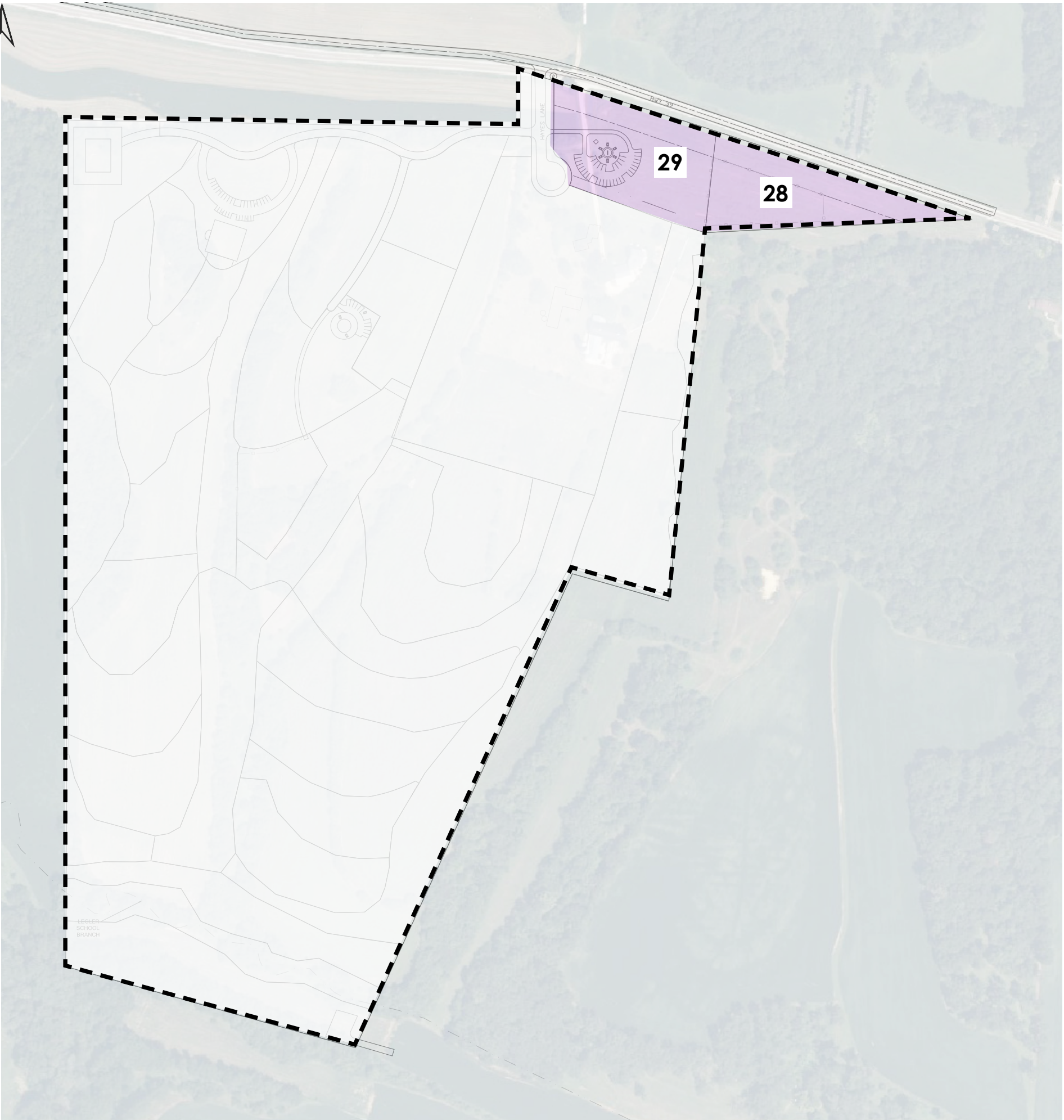
Restoration Areas	Area Acres	Year	Constructed Features per Year per Area													
			Trail Construction (Feet)						Restoration (Acres)			Picnic Areas	Dog Park	Orchard	Play Area	General Amenity
			Paved	Mowed	Limestone	Woodland (Dirt)	Boardwalk	Timber Stairs	Amenity	Cover Crop Seed	Rest. Seed	Woodland	(Each)	(Sq. Ft.)	(Acres)	(Each)
<b>Zone C</b>	28.23		116	6520	493	0	196	0	1	23.37	28.23	4.86	0	0	0	0
Area 18	2.10	Year 1		820	270					2.10						
		Year 2							1	2.10	2.10					
Area 19	1.75	Year 2		750	223					1.75						
		Year 3								1.75	1.75					
Area 20	2.74	Year 3		439						2.74						
		Year 4								2.74	2.74					
Area 21	2.98	Year 4		1377						2.98						
		Year 5								2.98	2.98					
Area 22	1.67	Year 5	116	462						1.67						
		Year 6								1.67	1.67					
Area 23	2.68	Year 6		449						2.68						
		Year 7					196			2.68	2.68					
Area 24	3.45	Year 7		766						3.45						
		Year 8								3.45	3.45					
Area 25	3.81	Year 8		1024						3.81						
		Year 9								3.81	3.81					Sunset Vista
Area 26	2.19	Year 9		433						2.19						
		Year 10								2.19	2.19					Unique Feature
Area 27	4.86	Year 10								4.86	4.86					



**Concept Plan #1 - Zone C**  
 Town of New Glarus, WI  
 April 17th, 2024



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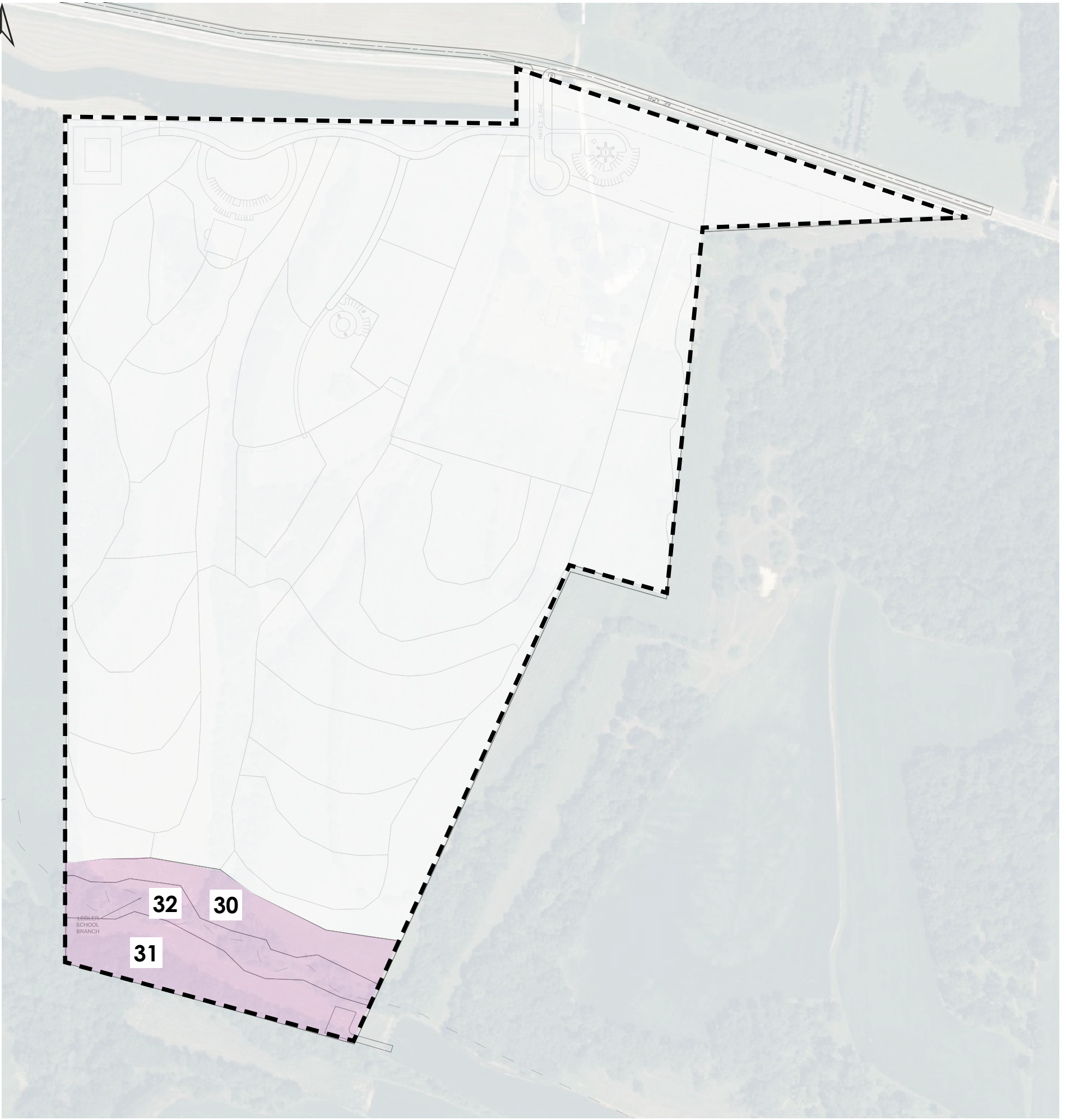
Restoration Areas	Area Acres	Year	Constructed Features per Year per Area														
			Trail Construction (Feet)						Restoration (Acres)			Picnic Areas	Dog Park	Orchard	Play Area	General Amenity	
			Paved	Mowed	Limestone	Woodland (Dirt)	Boardwalk	Timber Stairs	Amenity	Cover Crop Seed	Rest. Seed	Woodland	(Each)	(Sq. Ft.)	(Acres)	(Each)	(Each)
<b>Zone D</b>	5.95		0	421	268	0	0	0	0	5.95	5.95	0	1	43560	0	1	0
Area 28	3.18																
		Year 1								3.18							
		Year 2									3.18			43560			
Area 29	2.77																
		Year 1								2.77							
		Year 2		421	268						2.77						Entrance Sign
		Year 3											1				1



**Concept Plan #1 - Zone D**

Town of New Glarus, WI  
April 17th, 2024





Restoration Areas	Area Acres	Year	Constructed Features per Year per Area														
			Trail Construction (Feet)						Restoration (Acres)			Picnic Areas	Dog Park	Orchard	Play Area	General Amenity	
			Paved	Mowed	Limestone	Woodland (Dirt)	Boardwalk	Timber Stairs	Amenity	Cover Crop Seed	Rest. Seed	Woodland	(Each)	(Sq. Ft.)	(Acres)	(Each)	(Each)
<b>Zone E</b>	7.57		0	3576	0	0	106	0	0	0	7.57	3.19	1	0	0	1	0
Area 30	2.31	Year 1		1956							2.31						
Area 31	3.25	Year 2		1620							2.07						
		Year 3						Lot		1.18	1.18		1				
Area 32	2.01	Year 4					106				2.01	2.01				1	



**Concept Plan #1 - Zone E**

Town of New Glarus, WI  
April 17th, 2024







## Clerk Treasurer

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**From:** Harry Pulliam <hfpulliam@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 20, 2024 10:18 AM  
**To:** Grenzow, Frank  
**Cc:** Chris Narveson; Jason Neton; Mark Pernitz; Kelly Ruschman; Jasmine Wyant; Todd Argall; mike davis; Clerk Treasurer  
**Subject:** Re: Westport Prairie, seed sources

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Thanks, Frank. Great info. I'd like to discuss it at tonight's Park Commission meeting, but it's too late to get it on the agenda. Hopefully, you'll be able to be there to provide additional explanation.

BTW I'm sharing your email with our Town Clerk. Perhaps he'll have time today to make a few copies of it, so that the other members of the Park Commission have access to the info.

Best,

Harry

On Wed, Mar 20, 2024, 1:51 AM [deerhollow@tds.net](mailto:deerhollow@tds.net) <[deerhollow@tds.net](mailto:deerhollow@tds.net)> wrote:

Below is a forwarded message from Groundswell Conservancy illustrating their ongoing restoration process which is similar to that proposed for NG Parkland. I have contacted BJ Byers at Groundswell to get details on their farmland prep prior to prairie planting. Note, they are receiving some seeds from the DNR, Southern Wisconsin Bird Alliance, and now also self sourcing. I will check with the DNR SNA Volunteer Coordinators in our area, who request assistance from The Prairie Enthusiasts (TPE); at Yellowstone Lake State Park, York/Marbleseed SNA (6 miles west of NG Parkland), and Gap Church SNA; with seed collecting and spreading. Southern Wisconsin Bird Alliance (formerly Madison Audubon) donated the Common Milkweed seeds to Jason, that were offered up in one of their newsletters.

TPE burned at Bluebird Ridge last week Wednesday. The attached photo was taken from Todd Argall's back porch. This was probably the most complete burn yet at this site. Unfortunately, the central oak savanna has been taken over by dogwood and will require a major cut-and-treat effort.

Following the burn, I spoke with Tom Mitchell, the site steward for the majority of our TPE Chapter's properties. He recommended that the Town purchase seeds for three short grasses (side oats gramma, prairie dropseed, and little bluestem), and then inter-seed with non grass seeds collected from TPE's properties. He indicated there is always extra seed of a few species at the end of the season, with the species varying each season. However, the bulk of seed would have to be collected by NG Parkland volunteers, and only in conjunction with TPE's seed collecting work parties. Collecting seed outside these work parties is strictly prohibited.

Jasmine, will need to get your seed recommendations for the two low lying parcels, since I believe all but one of the TPE properties are dryer landscapes? But still may be able to locate seed sources on TPE property?

Frank Grenzow

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----- Forwarded message -----

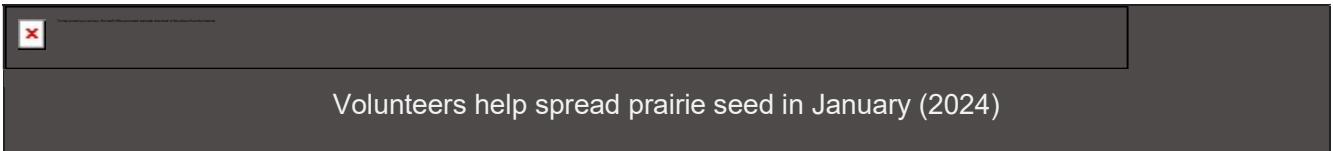
From: **Groundswell Conservancy** <[bj@groundswellconservancy.org](mailto:bj@groundswellconservancy.org)>

Date: Tue, Mar 12, 2024 at 2:12 PM

Subject: Historic planting at Westport Prairie

To: Frank <[frank.c.grenzow@gmail.com](mailto:frank.c.grenzow@gmail.com)>

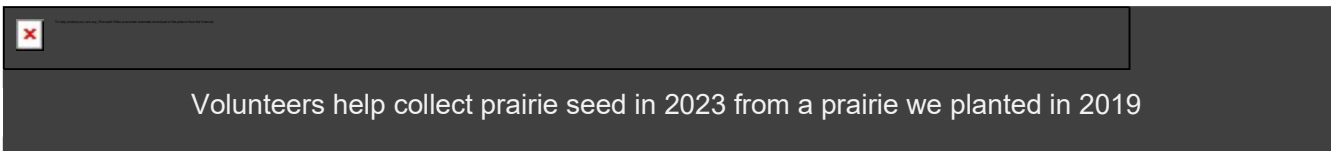
[View this email in your browser](#)



## Frank, we planted more prairie!

Groundswell's Westport Prairie is a 227-acre wildlife area east of Waunakee that is open to the public. In the middle of it, Wisconsin DNR owns the 14-acre glacial drumlin as a State Natural Area. The drumlin is home to over 100 plant species and is a prime example of a healthy shortgrass prairie. This prairie is only a small part of what used to be the Empire Prairie, that covered up to 150,000 acres in Dane and Columbia Counties.

When Groundswell first purchased the land surrounding the State Natural Area, most of the land was farmed. Scattered around were a few small remnant prairies just a couple of acres in size. These prairies are steep, rocky, and impossible to farm. That's why they remain today.





Groundswell has a goal of turning all of the farmland (over 200 acres) into native prairie, and we're doing well! Every year, we take more than 5 acres of farmland out of use and plant it to native flowers and grasses. We use seed collected on-site and from other remnant prairies in the area. This type of prairie planting is called "local genotype restoration" because we use seeds from the local area.

From May to November of each year, we collect prairie seeds with the help of volunteers, interns, conservation crews, and a part-time seed collector that we hire in the fall. We also get seeds donated from the Wisconsin DNR as well as from Southern Wisconsin Bird Alliance.

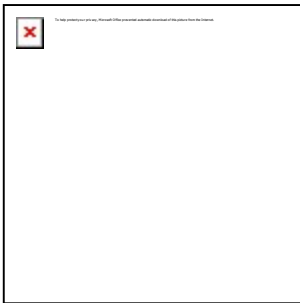
In winter, when it's snowy, we sow all the seeds collected during the year and start planning for the next year's planting.



Our most recent planting from this winter (listed as '2023' on the map) was a historic planting. It was the largest yet at Westport Prairie, covering 6.5 acres. Also, it connects two remnant prairies that used to be one but were separated over time due to farming (the pink remnant prairie to the south with the DNR-owned area in blue to the north).

With each prairie that we plant our seed source grows. This means the size of our plantings will also grow. Next year, we plan to plant 7.5 acres, and 9.5 acres the year after that. Piece by piece, our goal is to bring back a lost landscape by creating habitat that will live on the landscape forever.

See you out on the prairie,



BJ Byers  
Land Management Director

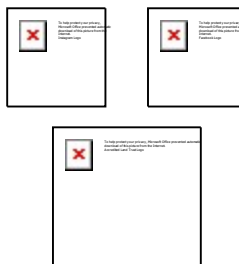


**Groundswell Conservancy**  
**Protect special places, forever.**



Groundswell Conservancy [211 S Paterson St Suite 250 Madison, WI 53703 USA](#)  
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You are receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in Groundswell Conservancy.



Harry Pulliam &lt;hfpulliam@gmail.com&gt;

---

**Blue Bird Ridge Estimates**

1 message

---

**Stephen Fabos** <indigenous@tds.net>  
To: hfpulliam@gmail.com  
Cc: Steve Fabos <indigenous@tds.net>

Wed, Oct 18, 2023 at 3:00 PM

Hi Harry

It was really nice walking and talking with you at Blue Bird Ridge.

Here are some estimates for invasive brush and tree removal :

- For removal of all woody invasives It would be \$5400  
This includes cut, treat each stump, pile and burn.  
Fall/Winter 2023/24
- Foliar spray sumac and areas of grey dogwood \$1200  
Summer 2024
- Removal of woody invasives on Clark's property \$1900  
Fall/Winter 2023/24

Thanks

Stephen Fabos  
Indigenous Restorations,LLC  
W8707 Sawmill Rd.  
Blanchardville, WI  
53516  
608-513-9638  
[www.indigenousrestorations.com](http://www.indigenousrestorations.com)

# Southwest Badger Natural Resource Conservation Fund

Home - Southwest Badger Natural Resource Conservation Fund

## About The Fund

### Our Mission

To support projects, programs and services that protect, conserve, restore and improve land, water and related resources to ensure the quality of the natural resource base for future generations. Grant applications should include one, or more, of the following southern Wisconsin counties: Crawford, Grant, Green, Iowa, Lafayette, La Crosse, Richland, Sauk and Vernon.

### How does the fund work?

The Southwest Badger Natural Resource Conservation Fund is a component of the Community Foundation. The Advisory Board is comprised of community volunteers that assist the Foundation in the review of grant applications to the Southwest Badger Natural Resource Conservation Fund.

It is recommended that applications not exceed \$3,500 per request.

## About Our Awards

### 2024 Grant Applications

Seeking proposals from 501(c)(3) charitable organizations and municipalities offering projects or programs that serve the needs of the Southwest Badger Natural Resource Conservation Fund. Requests from individuals are not eligible. Grant applications are available [here](#) and must be submitted no later than 11:59 PM September 15.

## TO APPLY

Annual grant application deadline: September 15

[APPLY](#)

## INVEST IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Donations to the Southwest Badger Natural Resource Conservation Fund are welcome at any time of the year. All gifts are tax deductible. Mail a check to this address, or click the button to donate online.

Southwest Badger Natural Resource Conservation Fund  
c/o The Community Foundation of Southern Wisconsin  
P.O. Box 4925  
Janesville, WI 53507-4925

[\\$ DONATE NOW](#)

## CFSW CONTACT



Wyatt Jackson

Phone: (608) 758-0883

Email: [wyatt@cfsw.org](mailto:wyatt@cfsw.org)

## ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

The Fund is advised by a committee of community volunteers who initiate fundraising activities and determine grant awards.

Phone: (608) 758-0883  
Email: [info@cfsw.org](mailto:info@cfsw.org)

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The National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations Accreditation Program certifies U.S. community foundations that meet and exceed federal and state law requirements in practice and by policy. The accreditation process is rigorous, and understanding it demonstrates a community foundation's commitment to accountability and excellence to its donors, its community, policymakers, and the public.