

**CITY OF NEGAUNEE
FIVE-YEAR RECREATION PLAN**

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I. CHAPTER 1 - INTRODUCTION

The City of Negaunee is located 9 miles west of the City of Marquette, in Marquette County, and is part of the urban area, which includes the Cities of Marquette and Ishpeming. Negaunee comprises 9,586 acres of land or approximately 15 square miles. Negaunee is the 3rd largest local unit of government in the County in terms of population, behind the other two cities; a total of about 35,000 people live in the urban area, or about half of the county's 1990 population.

The first iron ore discovered in the Upper Peninsula was discovered in what is now the City of Negaunee in 1844. In 1845 the Jackson Iron Company was formed, and mining began in 1846. The settlement known as Negaunee was founded in 1846, although it would not incorporate as a village or city for several years. In 1858, Teal Lake Township was organized, and in 1865 the Village of Negaunee was established. In 1873 the first charter election for the City of Negaunee was held, and the community has been ever since.

Negaunee's growth and development have been closely tied to the iron mining industry. By the mid 1860's, surface ore deposits were becoming depleted, and underground mining began. Underground mines required a greater investment of capital, and as mines grew larger so did the companies that operated them. Several smaller companies were eventually consolidated into the Cleveland-Cliffs Iron Company, which today operates the two remaining active iron mines in the Upper Peninsula.

As a result of past and present mining operations, the availability of land has been and continues to be an issue of great concern to the residents of Negaunee. Many of the efforts to provide public facilities have been impeded by the lack of available land. Of the land comprising Negaunee, more than 75% of the land that comprises Negaunee are ore reserves or former mining sites (caving grounds) that are owned outright or with controlling mineral rights by several mining companies. The City is often provided the opportunity to acquire lands by lease from the mining companies, but leases are often subject to a year's notice to vacate should the land be required for mining. A good example of the impact mining has on recreation in Negaunee is Jackson Park. Earlier recreation inventories reported Jackson Park comprising approximately 11.8 acres. Today, due to the caving grounds from the Mather B mining activities, Jackson Park contains approximately 3 acres.

The general character of the City stems from its glacial origin. The City surrounds Teal Lake which provides recreational facilities for swimming, boating (No combustion engines permitted on the lake), and fishing. The shoreline north of Teal Lake is wooded and these woods are home to numerous species of waterfowl, songbirds. An American Bald Eagle has even been sighted there.

The topography of the area includes steep rocky outcrops north of Teal Lake. Most of the population is concentrated adjacent to the East End of Teal Lake, and around the downtown area. A new residential subdivision at the southwest portion of Teal Lake is under development and should be complete in late 1999. Much of the area around the City proper (especially the West End) is restricted access caving ground area. Mining activity undermine much of the City, thus restricting any form of development.

Soils found in the City of Negaunee consist mainly of Peshekee, Michigamme and Gogebic, with a significant amount of Pence Loam south of Teal Lake. All are sandy loam soils that range from

fine to very fine. North of Teal Lake the soil is excessively rocky and there are outcrops of igneous rocks. The potential for most engineering uses is poor because of the steep slopes and shallow soils. Low available water capacity and moderate permeability characterize the Peshekee soil. Pence Loam is a well drained soil and presents problems for septic tank absorption fields because of its rapid permeability; however, its potential for most engineering uses is good.

Negaunee and the Marquette County area experience long, cold, dry winters, making it very well suited for winter activities such as skiing, ice fishing, and snowmobiling. Annual snowfalls range between 63 inches to as high as 270 inches, with an average snowfall of 180 inches. Summers are mild, with an average high temperature in July of just over 76 degrees. The average monthly precipitation in the area is 2.88 inches; autumn is the wettest period.

II. CHAPTER 2 - PLANNING

This recreation plan is designed to provide a wide variety of recreational opportunities to the residents of Negaunee and to make maximum use of the recreational opportunities offered by the natural environment. The plan was developed in cooperation with the Recreation Commission, local citizens and City Staff to meet both long and short-range goals. This plan will determine: 1) the types of facilities needed (and projected as needed), 2) the quantity of facilities needed to meet these needs, and 3) the long-range projected needs will be addressed.

The Recreation Plan was updated to correspond with the changing recreation needs within the City. The Recreation Commission is the main body in identifying local recreation needs for Negaunee. During the drafting of this plan, the Recreation Commission held a public hearing to solicit public input and met with various people who had an interest in City Recreation Facilities. Time was spent with the local public school superintendent to solicit comments and to hear their needs. The comments and suggestions were given consideration and helped in the formation of this plan.

The draft plan was prepared by the City Recreation Director and Grants Planner, with direction from the Negaunee Recreation Commission. The Recreation Plan was adopted by the Negaunee City Council at their April 13, 2000 Regular City Council Meeting. The Plan is separated into nine sections. These sections are Community Data, City Government & Recreation Administration, City Recreation, Recreation Needs, Goals and Policies, Recreation Development Schedule and Basis for Action Program.

Periodic review and updates must be made to this Recreation Plan as the City's needs and interest change over time. When looking to make adjustments it is important to keep in mind the recreational facilities and programs in other communities so that there isn't a duplication of services unless the demand is great enough to sustain the program/facility over the long term. Communication with other agencies is critical to this success.

Copies of the Recreation Plan were provided to the Marquette County Planning Commission.

III. CHAPTER 3 - COMMUNITY DATA

3.1 POPULATION

For any planning endeavor, including recreational, careful attention must be given to the analysis of population trends and projections. Such an analysis is necessary to determine existing and future needs based on the characteristics of the areas population. Population analysis assists in determining the direction for local capital improvements, related expenditures, and establishing guidelines for the development of recreational facilities.

The population of the City of Negaunee has been declining over the past 50 years, as shown in Table 3-1 and figure 3-1. The Sharpest decline occurred between 1960 and 1970, when the City's population decreased by 14.3 percent. Between 1970 and 1980 Censuses, the decline was only 1.1 percent, followed in 1980 by a decline of 8.6 percent. Overall, since the 1940 Census, the City's population has declined by 30.4 percent, from 6,813 people in 1940 to 4741 in 1990.

The population of the neighboring City of Ishpeming has followed a similar pattern, with a decline of 24.3 percent since 1940. Meanwhile, the surrounding townships have generally, shown population increases, particularly in Negaunee and Ishpeming townships. This trend is not uncommon in Michigan and the remainder of the country. In major metropolitan areas, this trend takes the form of migration from the city to its surrounding suburbs, while in more rural areas people are moving from cities into surrounding rural areas. The reasons for this migration are many, including lower taxes and user fees, lower development costs, a desire for a more rural lifestyle, desire for larger residential lots, etc. Many Cities in the Upper Peninsula have seen extensive residential subdivisions established in the surrounding townships over the past 10-20 years.

The population of Marquette County increased from 1940 to 1990 by 23,743 persons, or 50.4 percent. Of the Counties three cities, Marquette was the only one that increased, along with several townships. Countywide, a significant portion of the population growth is attributable to K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base, with large population increases in Forsyth, Sands and West Branch townships, which encompass the former base. Between 1950 and 1960, for example, Sands Township's population grew by over 800 percent.

The Michigan Department of Management and Budget assists the U.S. Bureau of the Census with development of population estimates for years between decennial censuses. These estimates are based on formulas that attempt to estimate migration, births and deaths in a community, and also respond to a certain extent to known local changes. Examples of change which were noted by the DMB in developing the most recent population estimates were the closure of K.I. Sawyer and the opening of the Eastwood Nursing Home.

The 30-year population forecast for Marquette County projects a downward population trend, with an overall 5.96 percent decrease from 1990 to 2020 (Tables 3-2, 3-3 and Figure 3-2). Though anticipated to grow from 1995 to 2000, the County is projected to experience a drop in the population in the ensuing years.

The racial make-up of the City of Negaunee, like the Upper Peninsula as a whole, is primarily persons who are white. In 1990, the other race categories accounted for a total of 63 residents, or 1.3 percent of the total population (Table 3-4). The largest minority group was the American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut, followed by Asian and Pacific Islander. In 1980, there were only 35 City residents, or 0.7 percent, who describe themselves as belonging to one of the non-white racial groups. This increase, which occurred primarily in the American Indian group, may have been due either to in-migration, or to a renewed sense of racial heritage.

3.2 ECONOMIC BASE

The City of Negaunee is situated within the Marquette-Negaunee-Ishpeming urban corridor. These three cities, along with the relatively urbanized areas within Negaunee, Marquette and Chocolay townships adjacent to the cities, form the trade and employment center for Marquette County and beyond. The City of Negaunee has historically been closely tied to the iron mining industry. Although there are currently no mines or processing facilities operating in the City, the Empire Mine is located directly south of the City near Palmer. The actual mining operations take place outside the City, but waste rock piles do extend into the City, and are being extended further north. The most recent Census figures indicate that the mining industry is still one of the largest employers of City residents although, the long-term future of the iron ore industry within Marquette County is uncertain.

The health care industry has grown tremendously, providing employment for thousands of county residents. Marquette General Health Systems based in Marquette, functions as a regional medical facility and is only nine miles from the City of Negaunee. Bell Memorial Hospital is located in the City of Ishpeming and there is a medical clinic and nursing home in Negaunee.

The City of Negaunee, along with the Cities of Ishpeming and Marquette, serve as the retail trade and service center for Marquette County and nearby communities outside of the County. The largest employer in the City of Negaunee is the Negaunee School District, which employed 236 people in 1997. This is part of the service sector.

The City of Negaunee incomes are generally relatively low when compared to state averages. The City's per capita income has dropped significantly after adjustment for inflation. The City's income level dropped by 6.5 percent during this ten-year period, while the County and the state showed a small increase in per capita incomes after inflation. (Table 3-5)

The Civilian labor force in Marquette County in 1996 was 31,300 persons, with 29,325 of the individuals employed and 1,975 unemployed. These figures gave the County and unemployment rate of 6.3 percent for 1996. This unemployment rate was 1.4 percentage points higher than the state. (Table 3-6)

3.3 LAND USE AND TRANSPORTATION

The transportation facilities and land use patterns are important considerations in planning recreational facilities for the community. Facilities should be accessible to city residents.

The current land use pattern for the City of Negaunee, based on the Michigan Resources Inventory System (MIRIS) Current Use Inventory, shows the majority of land is classified as forest (5,238 acres, or 55.8 percent). Nonforested and Urban & Built Up, which consume 1,489 and 1,172 acres, respectively. Table 3-7 shows the land use patterns in the City.

U.S. 41/M-28 is the major thoroughfare through the City of Negaunee. It links the City to the Cities of Ishpeming to the west and Marquette to the east. U.S. 41 is a north/south highway corridor in the central U.P. M-28 is a major east-west corridor through the northern half of the U.P. U.S.41/M-28 is the main route for City residents that work in Ishpeming and Marquette.

The City's road network is broken down into state trunk line, local, and major streets. There is a total of 9.95 mile of major streets and 27.55 miles of local streets in Negaunee. Map #1 shows the local road system within the City.

Commercial air passenger service is provided to residents at the Sawyer International Airport located at the former K.I. Sawyer Air force Base in Gwinn. This airport facility is owned and operated by Marquette County. The number of total scheduled passengers (both enplanements and deplanements) at the former Marquette County Airport increased steadily from the 1950's through the 1970's. Since 1980, the number of scheduled passengers at the Former Marquette County Airport has fluctuated, the overall trend was upward until 1993, when over 104,000 scheduled passengers passed through the airport. Since 1993, passenger volume dropped to near the 1990 level, but has begun to rise again.

The Wisconsin Central LTD (WC) and Lake Superior & Ishpeming (LS&I) provide rail service in the Negaunee area. An east-west rail line runs through the southeastern portion of the City, just south of U.S. 41/28. The portion of this line that runs from the City of Negaunee to Eagle Mills is Wisconsin Central owned but also used by LS&I. A fee is paid by LS&I each year to have the right to use this segment of track. Just east of Eagle Mills at Diamond Junction, the WC track continues to run east-west, while the LS&I separates from the jointly used track and runs north-south and then east west through the northeastern portion of the Township. Within Eagle Mills, LS&I operates a rail yard facility, which is used for switching cars and storing cars and locomotives. Another segment of the rail line runs southwest-northeast from Eagle Mills to the City of Negaunee, it connects with the heavily used iron ore pellet rail line that links the Tilden and Empire mines to the ore docks in Escanaba. From this interchange the iron ore line runs northwest-southwest right through where Negaunee Township, the City of Negaunee, and Richmond Township intersect.

IV. CHAPTER 4 – CITY GOVERNMENT AND RECREATION ADMINISTRATION

The City of Negaunee operates within the framework of a home rule City Charter. The government provided by this charter is known as the “Council-Manager Government”. All powers of the City are vested in an elective Council referred to as a “City Council”, which enacts local legislation, adopts local budgets, determines policies, and appoints the City Manager, who then executes the laws and administers the government of the City.

In 1999 the City of Negaunee had an annual General Fund operating budget of \$3,169,141. Other funds include a water and sewer fund, electric fund, and cable TV fund. Nine departments operate under the direction of the City Manager. The City currently employs 52 persons. A Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, Recreation Commission, Library & Cable Board, Housing Commission, Act 345 Board, Water Authority and Personnel Board, exist as appointive bodies to advise and recommend to the City Council, City Manager, and Recreation Director. A non-profit Housing Commission has been incorporated for the City of Negaunee, but is independent of the City Council. A senior Center operates with City and Federal funding. The Senior Center Director is provided direction and guidance from the local Commission on Aging.

The Parks and Recreation Director is hired by the City Manager and meets with the Recreation Commission on a regular basis. The Recreation Director oversees activities and maintenance in the public playgrounds, parks, athletic fields, recreation centers, and other recreational facilities. The Recreation Director is responsible for overseeing the maintenance of 60 acres of land. The Parks and Recreation department will utilize upwards to seven part-time staff throughout the year. The staff duties include grounds maintenance, ice arena monitors, and instructors for various recreational activities.

The Recreation Commission is strictly an advisory commission to the City Council, City Manager, and Recreation Director. The Commission is compiled of seven members, including five voting members who are residents of the City of Negaunee. The two non-voting members are comprised of a resident from Negaunee Township and a resident from Richmond Township. The Commission reviews and prioritizes recreation needs for the five year recreation plan.

In 1999, the City budgeted \$205,320 for parks and recreation maintenance/programming. This included money set aside for the Negaunee City Band, Special Events, Park Maintenance, Luge, Ice Area, and General Recreation. The City primarily uses general funds, ice arena revenues, and periodic donations to operate the recreation department. In 1998 the City approved a one mill increase to the overall millage to help fund the recreation department. The City also contributed and additional \$75,000 as their share of a grant match with the nearby City of Ishpeming to purchase over 300 acres of recreation land and \$25,000 to help pay for a ski trail groomer.

Prior to 1999, the City of Negaunee and the Negaunee Public Schools contributed funds for the operation of the Cities recreation programs. As a result of financial constraints, the Public School System was unable to provide their half of the funding, thus the City of Negaunee took over complete financial responsibility for recreation and formally established a Recreation Department. 1999 is the first year of the City taking entire control of the recreation programming and maintenance.

V. CHAPTER 5 – CITY RECREATION

The City of Negaunee Parks and Recreation Department provides recreational programs. The department is comprised of a director and three part-time personnel. During the winter and summer programs, some additional assistance is provided for ice maintenance and park maintenance, respectively. The fall and winter activities include flag football, Saturday night youth basketball, hockey, open public skating, figure skating and wrestling. Spring and summer activities include Legion Babe Ruth and Little League baseball, slow and fast pitch softball, tennis, volleyball, basketball, t-ball, indoor games and arts and crafts.

Community Education Division: Provides programs in the winter and summer which include enrichment classes, swimming, tot-lot area, basketball, aerobics, golf, hunting/boating safety, outdoor camping, archery and computer programs.

Negaunee Public Schools: Provides interscholastic athletics, clubs and intramural activities.

Liberty Children's Art Project: Provides art education to the community.

Negaunee Senior Citizens Center: Provides senior residents recreation activities, health screening, informational services and socials.

The following inventories of existing recreational sites is provided to acquaint the reader with the size and type of recreational facilities and opportunities that are available in the City of Negaunee and nearby communities. When the inventory of what exists is combined with locally perceived needs, the real picture of Negaunee's recreation needs will emerge and a final mode of implementation will emerge.

City of Negaunee Inventory of Existing Facilities (see Map #2)

5.1 EXISTING RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

It is important that the City continues to support a broad range of recreational opportunities for its local citizens, as well as tourists. When identifying existing facilities, it helps to understand the types of facilities present. For convenience sake, the different types of facilities, in general are explained below.

Mini-park: A park of specialized facilities that serve a concentration or limited population or specific group such as tots or the elderly.

Neighborhood Park/Playground: An active recreation site incorporating one or more open space areas designed for field sports and providing play apparatus. The open space areas should be able to serve the needs of both youth and adult.

Community Park: A recreational area with diverse environmental quality. May include areas suited for intense recreational facilities such as athletic complexes and large

swimming pools. May be an area of natural quality for outdoor recreation such as walking, viewing sitting and picnicking.

Regional Park: An area with natural or ornamental quality for outdoor recreation, such as picnicking, boating, fishing, swimming, camping and trail use. The park may include play areas. They tend to attract individuals from outside of the community.

Map # 2

- 1) Negaunee Ice Arena
(City Owned) On 3.5 acres, fully sized arena, rest rooms, lobby, four locker rooms, kitchen, concession area, two offices, large community meeting room, shower and toilet facilities in locker rooms, surfaced parking lot.
- 2) Community play field,
CCI Owned
(leased to school) 5 ½ acres. Playground/athletic field, running track, five tennis courts (three illuminated), one outdoor basketball court, open field area, volleyball court, playground equipment, tot lot, 1800 person capacity stadium, lavatory facilities and concession building.
- 3) Miners Dry Adjacent to the above. It contains wrestling and weight lifting room, lavatory facilities and locker room.
- 4) LaCombe Field
CCI Owned
(leased to City) 3.3 acres, one illuminated softball field, lavatory and storage facility, open field used for football practice and soccer.
- 5) Rivers Field
CCI Owned
(leased to City) 2.1 acres. One baseball field, six-illuminated horseshoe courts, one basketball court, playground equipment, lavatory, concession and a storage building.
- 6) Iron Town Field
CCI Owned
(leased to City) 5 acres. One baseball field, concession stand, lavatory and storage building.
- 7) Jackson Park
CCI owned
(leased to City) 5 acres. Picnic area with 12 tables, playground equipment, two tennis courts, and four horseshoe courts.
- 8) Miners Park
City Owned 5 acres. Picnic area with eight picnic tables, two illuminated basketball courts, playground equipment, two horseshoe courts, green open area, historical markers and volleyball court.
- 9) Teal Lake Park
City Owned 21 acres. Picnic area. Picnic area with eight picnic tables and four benches along with waterfront, 1,000 feet of water frontage, swimming, boating with electric motors or oars (no gasoline engines), boat launch area, handicap accessible fishing dock.
- 10) City Park I 1.0 acre. Band shell for summer concerts.

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| 11) Lincoln St. Park | 1.0 acre. Basketball court, picnic area/table. |
| 12) Copper St. Park | 1.0 acre. Basketball court, picnic area/table. |
| 13) Sunset Park | 1.0 acre. Basketball court, playground equipment, picnic area/table. |
| 14) Buffalo Hills Park
CCI Owned
(leased to City) | 1.0 acre. Basketball court, swing sets and picnic area/table. |
| 15) Ann Street Park | 1.0 acre. Basketball court, playground equipment, open space/picnic table. |
| 16) City Senior Center Park | 1.0 acre. Playground equipment, picnic table. |
| 17) St. Paul's playground
Church owned | 1.0 acre. Basketball court, hard surface play area. |
| 18) Negaunee Middle School
Owned by School | 1.4 acres. Gym, outdoor basketball court, outdoor play area (hard surface). |
| 19) Negaunee High School
Owned by School | 17.4 acres. 50'x75' indoor pool, auditorium, 75'x42' gym (capacity 295). |
| 20) Lakeview Elementary
Owned by School | 5.8 acres. Playground equipment, tot lot, two tennis courts, one basketball court, open field, one multi-purpose room and gym (capacity 2,800). |
| 21) Senior Citizen's Center | 15,000 sq. ft. building. |
| 22) Negaunee City Library | Story hour, Michigan room, occasional speakers and arts and crafts demonstrations. |
| 23) Negaunee Luge
CCI Owned
(Leased by City) | Sanctioned by the International Association. Includes: warming shacks, maintenance building, starting house, equipment rental, parking lot. |
| 24) The Depot Art Gallery
Privately owned | Corner of Rail and Gold Street. Gallery, artist in residence, specialty shows, local artist featured monthly and workshops from May to October. |
| 25) Michigan Mining Museum
73 Forge Rd., Negaunee
open May 1 st -October
31 st . Seven days/week
9:30a.m. -4:30p.m.
No admission fee
State Owned | 30 acre museum with 96 seat auditorium, program includes: 20 min. slide presentation every hour. Iron Heritage Day in August. Sponsors: concerts, lectures, program for the gifted and talented, Jr. Historians, on-going research projects into local history. Available for club meetings, special events, church groups. |

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| 26) Rod & Gun Club
341 North Road | The Club offers skeet shooting, rifle range, trap shooting, pistol range, muzzle loading range, rim fire target range, handgun shooting, Indian archery range, horseshoe and basketball courts. |
| 27) Vista Theater
Peninsula Arts
Appreciation Council
(PAAC) | Provides Youth Theater in the summer. |
| 28) Knights of Columbus | Three horseshoe courts. |
| 29) Veterans of Foreign Wars | Three horseshoe courts |
| 30) Suicide Ski Center
County Road-Negaunee
CCI Owned
(leased to Ishpeming Ski
Club) | Cross-country ski trails.
Olympic level ski flying. |

City of Ishpeming – Al Quaal

This regional recreation site is a 200-acre parcel of land located in the northern portion of the City, along Poplar Street. This is the largest recreation area within the City Corporate limit, containing approximately 193 acres of recently purchased property, with the possible acquisition of 334 acres in 1998 (most of the acquisition land is within the City of Negaunee). Most of the land that currently makes up the recreation area was leased by the City since 1939. The site is utilized year round, with tennis, basketball, baseball, horseshoes, volleyball, mountain biking, hiking, swimming, picnicking, boating and fishing, occurring in the summer months and skiing, sledding, tobogganing, ice fishing, and snowmobiling occurring in winter months. Facilities at this site include:

City Playgrounds:

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|--|-----------------------------|
| * Ball Diamond | * Pavilion |
| * Restroom Building | * Ski Warming Shelter |
| * Ski Ticket & Patrol Shelter | * Three Ski Tow Buildings |
| * Two Basketball Courts | * Two Tennis Courts |
| * Picnic Area | * 40-Picnic Tables |
| * 12-Picnic Grills | * Seven Swing Sets |
| * Two Maypoles | * Two Merry-go-Rounds |
| * Gym Set | * Two Slides |
| * Backstop | * Flagpole |
| * 16-Horseshoe Courts | * Three Downhill Ski Slopes |
| * Three Cross-country Trails | * Snowmobile Trail & Tubing |
| * Lighted Sledding Area | |
| * Mountain Bike Trail System (Includes Section of CC Ski Trails) | |
| * Toboggan House & Slide (1,500' Toboggan Run with Water Lines & Lighting) | |
| * Clubhouse (Restrooms, Concession Area and Kitchen Facilities) | |
| <u>Teal Beach (New Beach Area)</u> | |

- * Portable Docks
- * New Log Cabin/Change House Area
- * Set Boundary Buoys
- * Two Lifeguard Stands
- * Lifeguard Boat

Superior Nordic Training Recreation Complex (SUNTRAC):

A 260-acre regional park (formally called Suicide Bowl) that is located in the eastern portion of the City and western portion of the City of Negaunee, just south of Business M-28. This joint community recreation area is operated and maintained by the Ishpeming Ski Club. The site is currently being used for cross-country skiing, ski jumping, mountain biking and hiking. In 1994, a development committee was established to formulate a comprehensive plan for this recreation area that would promote the development of the area into a year-round recreational and elite skiing complex. A development plan was completed and adopted by the committee for the proposed complex in 1996. A copy of the entire plan is located at the end of the Recreation Plan in Appendix B. Facilities at the park include:

- * Five Jumping Hills (10, 20, 40, 60 & 90 meters)
- * Five-kilometer Lighted Cross-country Ski Trail
- * 25-kilometer Unlighted Cross-country Ski Trails
- * Concession and Storage Area – New Heated Pole Building
- * Mountain Bike Trail System (Includes sections of CC ski trails)
- * Parking Area
- * Kids Area/Ski Skills Hill

Lake Bancroft Park:

This three-acre parcel is a community park located between Cliff Street and the west shore of Lake Bancroft. The City was granted a non-termination 25-year lease for this property. This property was originally developed by a local Jaycee group. The setting of the park makes it one of the most attractive areas in the City. Facilities at the recreational site include:

- * 16-Picnic Tables
- * Five Dusk-to-Dawn Lights
- * Flagpole and Marker
- * Paved Walking Path
- * Paved Parking Area
- * New Brick Path Memorial
- * Eight Picnic Grills
- * Shelter
- * State Historical Marker
- * Rustic Sign
- * New Gazebo
- * Restrooms/Storage Area

Marquette Street Play lot:

A one-acre neighborhood recreation site that is located in the east central portion of the City, just south of Business M-28. Facilities at this site include:

- * Three Swing Sets
- * Basketball Standard
- * Slide

Nebraska Play lot:

This neighborhood park is a one-acre parcel of land in the central portion of the City, along Division Street in the west central portion of the City. Facilities at the site include:

- * Three Swing Sets
- * Merry-go-Round
- * Picnic Table
- * Slide
- * Two Basketball Standards

Barnum (Seventh Addition) Play lot:

This 11-acre neighborhood park is located off of Carp Street in the west central portion of the City. Facilities at the site include:

- * Three Swing Sets
- * Merry-go-Round
- * Basketball Standard
- * Picnic Table
- * Slide
- * Backstop
- * Picnic Grill

Lake Angeline Play lot:

This neighborhood park is located on a one-acre parcel of land along Lower Pine Street, just west of Lake Angeline. The boulevard at the site was formerly an old trolley route. The park has the following facilities:

- * Three Swing Sets
- * Merry-go-Round
- * Picnic Table
- * Slide
- * Three Molded Animals

Wabash Heights Play lot:

This one-acre neighborhood recreation site is located along Wabash Street, just south of Mather "A" Ballfield. Facilities at the site include:

- * Buck-a-Bout
- * 10' Whirl Merry-go-Round
- * Two Paved Basketball Courts
- * Tree House Slide
- * Four Saddle Mates
- * Three Swings

Salisbury Play lot:

This neighborhood park is a one-acre parcel of land located in the southern portion of the City, east of South Pine Street. Facilities at this site include:

- * Picnic Grill
- * Slide
- * Backstop
- * Climbing Arch
- * Two Molded Animals
- * Three Swing Sets
- * Merry-go-Round
- * Picnic Table
- * Three Nursery Swing Sets

Palms Area Play lot:

A one-acre neighborhood recreation area located in the northern portion of the City, along Juniper Street. Facilities at this park include:

- * Three Swing Sets
- * Merry-go-Rounds
- * Slide
- * Basketball Standard

Mather “A” Ballfield:

A one-acre community recreation site located at the inactive Mather “A” mine site in the northwestern portion of the City. The site was acquired in 1984 by the City as an additional auxiliary ballfield to compliment expansion of recreation leagues. It was originally built by the Cleveland Cliffs Iron Company (CCI) to service their own employee softball league. Because of scheduling and maintenance problems, CCI requested the City to take over this area. This ballfield is now used on a daily basis during the summer months because of the current demand for ballfield facilities. Facilities at the site include:

- * Backstop
- * Two Benches
- * Two Bleachers
- * Five Bases
- * Port-a-John

Holmes Play lot:

This recently established one-acre neighborhood park is located in the western portion of the City between D Street and E Street, off of Washington Street. The play lot has a new play center.

5.2 SELECTED RECREATIONAL SITES

Table 5-2 is an inventory of nearby public facilities which is available to the residents of the City of Negaunee.

TABLE 5-2
SELECTED RECREATIONAL SITES IN NEARBY AREAS

Site	Description	Acreage
MARQUETTE TOWNSHIP		
Forestville Dead River Public Access Site	Boat Launch on Dead River Dead River	5.0
Little Garlic River Public Access	Fishing Access Site	
ISHPEMING TOWNSHIP		
Ishpeming Township	Softball diamond, Little League Diamond, Tennis Courts, Pavilion, Tot Lot, Restrooms, Concession Stands, Playground, Horseshoe Court, Shuffleboard, Volleyball Court, Basketball Court, Picnic Table & Grills.	7.0
NEGAUNEE TOWNSHIP		
Negaunee Township Park	Basketball Court, Pavilion, Warming/Building Concession, Playground Area, Little League Baseball Field, Babe Ruth Baseball Field, Softball Field, Tennis Court, Cross-country Ski Trail, Picnic Tables & Snowmobile Trail Access.	71.0
Michigan Mining Museum	Exhibits of Early Iron Ore Mining Artifacts, Audio-visual Programs & Outdoor Interpretive Paths.	30.0
McClure Storage Basin Access Site	Hard-surface Launch ramp, Toilets & Parking Area.	1.03
Hoist Basin Access Site	Hard-surface Launch ramp, Toilets & Parking Area	1.82

TABLE 5-2

SELECTED RECREATIONAL SITES IN NEARBY AREA

Site	Description	Acreage
CITY OF MARQUETTE		
Presque Isle Marina	Boat launching and docking Facilities on Lake Superior	40.0
Marquette Mountain	Downhill skiing, Lodge & Picnic Area	
Lakeview Arena	Recreation and convention facility used for hockey, skating, concerts, shows, exhibits, etc.	
Superior Dome	World's largest wooden dome containing football field, also used for trade shows, concerts, etc.	
Mount Marquette Lookout	Lookout view of the City of Marquette and Lake Superior, snowmobile trail and hiking trail	
TILDEN TOWNSHIP		
Tilden Township Recreation Complex	Tennis Courts, Baseball Field, Horseshoe Courts, Basketball Court, Playground Area, Pit Toilets, Parking & Picnic Area	6.0
National Mine Trails	Ski Trails & Snowshoeing	
SANDS TOWNSHIP		
Blueberry Ridge Pathway	Trail System (Cross-country Skiing, Mountain Biking & Hiking).	
Marquette County Fairgrounds	Exhibition Building, American Legion Building, 4H Building, Horse Show Arena, 2 Cattle Show Rings, Horse Barn, Poultry & Small Animal Building, Large Live Stock Building, Office Building, Barrier-Free Restroom/Utility Building, 2-Storage Structures, Power Outlets, 2-Wells, Large Lighted Parking Area, Outside Speaker System, ½ mile Oval Race Track, Mud Drag Strip, Paved Go-Cart Track, Large Carnival Area, Outside Horse Stall, 2-Outdoor Pavilions & Portable Bleachers	60.0

TABLE 5-2

SELECTED RECREATIONAL SITES IN NEARBY AREA

Site	Description	Acreage
CITY OF ISHPEMING		
Superior Nordic Training Recreation Complex (SUNTRAC)	Formally called Suicide Bowl. Operated and maintained by the Ishpeming Ski Club. Cross-country skiing, ski jumping, mountain biking and hiking. In 1994, a development committee was established to formulate a comprehensive plan for this recreation area that would promote the development of the area into a year-round recreational and elite skiing complex. A development plat was completed and adopted by the committee for the proposed complex in 1996. A copy of the entire plan is located at the end of the Recreation Plan in Appendix B. Facilities at the park include: Five jumping hills (10, 20, 40, 60 & 90 meters), five-kilometer lighted cross-country ski trail, 25-kilometer unlighted cross-country ski trail, concession & storage area, new heated pole building, mountain bike trail system (includes sections of CC ski trails), parking area and kids area/ski skills hill.	260
National Ski Hall of Fame	Constructed in 1992. Museum with historical displays and artifacts of skiing from all countries.	1.0
National Guard Armory	Gymnasium and pistol & rifle range	
Al-Quaal	Utilized year round, with tennis, basketball, baseball, horseshoes, volleyball, mountain biking, hiking, swimming, picnicking, boating & fishing, occurring in the summer months and skiing, sledding, tobogganing, ice fishing and snowmobiling occurring in winter months. Facilities include: ball diamond, restroom building, ski ticket & patrol shelter, two basketball courts, picnic area, two maypoles, gym set, backstop, 16-horseshoe courts, three cross-country trails, lighted sledding area, mountain bike trail system (includes section of CC ski trails), toboggan house & slide (1500' toboggan run w/water lines & lighting, clubhouse (restrooms, concession area & kitchen facilities), pavilion,	200

TABLE 5-2

SELECTED RECREATIONAL SITES SITES IN NEARBY AREAS

Site	Description	Acreage
CITY OF ISHPEMING		
Al Quaal (continued)	ski warming shelter, three ski tow buildings, two tennis courts, 40-picnic tables, seven swing sets, two merry-go-rounds, two slides. flagpole, three downhill ski slopes & snow-mobile trail & tubing.	
Leased from CCI	Lighted ball diamonds, basketball courts, football area, unlighted ball diamonds & basketball courts, picnic areas, horseshoe courts, concession areas, stadium & track area, restrooms & lockerrooms, natural ice rink and playground areas.	56

5.3 PUBLIC OWNED RECREATION FACILITY

Ishpeming Senior Citizen Center:

The Senior Citizen Center is a community recreation facility located along South Pine Street in the central portion of the City. The facility offers the following recreation opportunities to seniors: bingo, crafts, cards, movies, exercise, hiking club, shuffleboard, chorus, trips, oil painting class, dances and day excursions.

Senior Citizen Park:

This 5.0 acre mini park is located within the senior Citizen housing complex area, along Bluff Street in the Central portion of the City. The site has the following facilities:

- * Two Picnic Tables
- * Flower Garden
- * Flagpole
- * Patio Area

National Ski Hall of Fame:

The Hall of Fame structure is located on about a one-acre parcel of land, along U.S. 41/M28, in the northern portion of the City. The one and a half-million dollar structure was constructed in 1992. It is a museum with historical displays and artifacts of skiing from all countries.

National Guard Armory:

The armory facility is located along U.S. 41/M-28 in the northern portion of the City. It provides the following recreational facilities:

- * Gymnasium
- * Pistol & Rifle Range

5.4 PRIVATE OWNED RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

The following recreation facilities are privately owned facilities in the City of Ishpeming or in close vicinity of the City that are for use by the general public.

TABLE 5-1 PRIVATE OWNED/PUBLIC USED RECREATION FACILITIES CITY OF ISHPEMING		
Facility	Location	Description
Country Lanes & Billiards	1011 North Road	Ten Lanes, 12 Billiard Tables and Dart Board
St. Johns Church	South Pine Street	Gymnasium
Kountry Kids Child Development Center	1025 Country Lane	Day Care

TABLE 5-1 PRIVATE OWNED/PUBLIC USED RECREATION FACILITIES CITY OF ISHPEMING		
Story Hour		Local Church Groups
Delta Trail System		Snowmobile Club, Cross-country Skiing & Biathlon
Ishpeming Trail Riders		Horse Shows
Ishpeming Beagle Club	4-miles West of City	
Under the Rainbow Day Care Center	Greenwood Street	Day Care Center
Strength & Fitness	115 S. Main Street	Health & Fitness Club
Ishpeming Ski Club & City of Ishpeming	Suicide Bowl Road	Cross Country Skiing and Jumping Club

6.1 SPECIFIC RECREATION FACILITY NEEDS

Recreational need were identified through the interaction described under 6.0-Recreation Needs, and follow-up the ongoing infrastructure improvements. This section identifies those improvements made over the past three years and identifies additional areas of need.

NEGAUNEE ICE ARENA

Installed a new ice compressor outside of the arena building, thus providing additional seating capacity as well as a more efficient ice-making unit.

Installed showers and heating in the four locker rooms thus complying with MHSAA regulation. Also accomplished were centralizing the hot water system and remodeling the mechanical room.

Completed renovations to the mezzanine area, which now provides additional heated viewing as well as additional seating for birthday parties, showers, etc.

Installed a new engine in the zamboni to extend the use of this equipment with less maintenance cost.

Upgraded the electrical systems throughout to reduce fire hazards.

Continued improvements to the infrastructure .

RIVERS LITTLE LEAGUE FIELD

Installed an automated sprinkler system to improve maintenance and reduce labor costs.

Installed new sod in the outfield and infield areas.

Installed water and sewer drops for future concession and restroom facilities.

Added improvements to the sprinkler system.

IRONTOWN FIELD

Rebuilding of the field was started in 1998 and will be completed in the year 2000. When complete, the field dimensions will qualify for American Legion Playoffs thereby allowing tournaments to be held at this field.

Additional areas of need are improved irrigation, seating and restroom facilities.

LACOMBE FIELD

Improved the concession facilities and restroom areas at the field.

Resodded the infield and outfield areas of the field.

Upgraded the public address system and improved the lighting.

Improvements needed for the concession area, walkways and a broadcast booth to be used during tournament play.

TEAL LAKE PARK

Developed a boat launch and board walk area.

Expanded and graded the beach areas at the park.

Provided additional picnic tables in the park areas.

Teal Lake Park Master Plan (Appendix __)

COMMUNITY PARK AREAS

Upgraded playground equipment in the parks, added picnic tables to all sites, graded and expanded numerous sites for added recreation space.

Repaired all equipment in the parks and removed all obsolete and unsafe equipment.

Installed a new play area at the Miner Park for youth, which is in compliance with all ADA standards.

Continued upgrading required for the park system includes additional game areas, providing overnight camping sites with electricity hookups and continued upgrading to ADA standards.

VII. CHAPTER 7 – GOALS AND POLICIES

Policies are guides for recreation related decision-making. Consideration of the recreation policies should lead toward the attainment of its goals. Specific development projects and programs should be evaluated, with respect to the recreation goals and policies and recreation programs in the City of Negaunee.

To develop the goals and policies, meetings and work sessions were held and contacts were made with various special interest groups and individuals to acquire ideas on recreational needs in Negaunee. All meetings were open to the public. The May 26, 1999, meeting was pre-advertised in the local newspaper to seek input from citizens on the plan and perceived recreational needs. The 5-year plan drafted in 1994 was available for review at this meeting. As a result of these meetings, the ground work was established for revisions to the 5-Year Recreation Plan and the Goals and Policies were updated.

Goals and Policies

Goal I:

Provide the broadest variety of recreational opportunities to the residents of the Negaunee area.

Related Policies:

Existing and proposed facilities and programs should be designed for multiple and/or year-round use to ensure they will be utilized to the maximum extent possible.

User fees should be established where feasible to help defray maintenance costs in specific areas or facilities.

Proposed projects should eliminate identified recreation deficiencies as set forth in this plan.

Use State and Federal assistance programs to (acquire or) develop or rehabilitate recreational areas and facilities.

Goal II:

Make maximum use of the recreational opportunities offered in our natural environment.

Related Policies:

Existing and proposed facilities should be designed to complement and preserve the surrounding natural characteristics.

The Parks and Recreation Department should coordinate the development of recreational facilities and programs with the Recreation Advisory Board.

Evaluations should be completed prior to constructing new recreational facilities when comparable facilities currently exist.

Continuous and proper maintenance should be assured for all recreational facilities.

Recreation Plan

Updated

February 2011

<u>FACILITY</u>	<u>EST. COST</u>
1. Negaunee Ice Arena	
a. Mezzanine – Flooring and Bleachers	\$10,000
b. Repair Ice Arena Floor	\$20,000
Two New Lockerooms	\$100,000
New Storage Facility	\$15,000
Pave Gravel Parking Lot	\$16,000
Equipment Storage Building	\$70,000
2. LaCombe Field	
a. Reconstruct Field	\$100,000
b. Install Irrigation System	\$15,000
Add Storage Building	\$25,000
Replace Backstop	\$15,000
3. Rivers Field Area	
a. Build New Softball Field	\$100,000
Install Irrigation System	\$15,000
Scoreboards	\$30,000
b. Replace Bleachers	\$10,000
c. Permanent Restroom Facility	\$100,000
Construct Bathroom Screen	\$7,500
New Field Signage	\$7,500
Reconstruct Horseshoe Courts	\$15,000
Replace Irrigation	\$10,000
Replace Playground Equipment	\$100,000
Infield Upgrading/Maintenance	\$5,000
Trees/Landscaping	\$10,000
Replace Backstop	\$15,000
Obtain Property Extension	\$1,000
4. Iron Town Field	
a. Landscaping of Lot along 1 st Base	\$5,000
b. Replace Irrigation	\$10,000
Replace Bleachers	\$10,000
New Field Signage	\$7,500
Upgrade Scoreboard	\$20,000
Replace Backstop	\$15,000
5. Miners Park	
a. Repaving of south basketball Court	\$8,000
b. New Bleachers	\$10,000
Replace/Upgrade Historical Signage	\$25,000
Replace Picnic Tables	\$5,000

6. Veteran's Park

Plant Trees	\$5,000
Upgrade Electric/Lighting	\$5,000
Install Irrigation	\$7,500
Install Benches/Sitting Area	\$5,000
Signage/Landscaping	\$5,000

7. Teal Lake Beach Area

Improve Beach Area	\$20,000
Construct Changing/Bathroom Facility	\$100,000
Replace Beach Sand	\$50,000
Install Benches/Sitting Area Beach	\$10,000
Install Benches/Sitting Area Waterworks	\$5,000
New Park Signage/Landscaping	\$20,000
Plant Trees	\$10,000

8. Old Town/New Jackson Park

Install Playground Equipment	\$100,000
Build Pavilion/Picnic Area	\$50,000
Build Restroom Facility	\$100,000
New Park Signage	\$5,000
Landscaping	\$10,000
Upgrade Trail Signs	\$5,000
Install Irrigation	\$10,000
Construct New Trails	\$10,000
Develop New Informational Areas	\$50,000
Develop Walking/Biking Tour (Maps/Pamphlet)	\$10,000

9. Band Shell

Install Irrigation	\$10,000
Replace Trees	\$5,000

10. Lincoln St. Park

Resurface Basketball Court	\$10,000
Replace Picnic Tables	\$1,000

11. Chiri Park

Install Benches/Sitting Area	\$10,000
New Park Sign/Landscaping	\$5,000
Electric/ Plant City Christmas Tree	\$5,000

12. Partridge Creek Park

Resurface Basketball Court	\$15,000
Replace Picnic Tables	\$1,000
New Park Sign/Landscaping	\$5,000
Redevelop walking trail	\$5,000

13. Sunset Drive Park

Replace Playground Equipment	\$50,000
Resurface Basketball Court	\$10,000
New Park Sign/Landscaping	\$5,000
Replace Picnic Tables	\$1,000

14. Ann St. Park

Replace Playground Equipment	\$50,000
Resurface Basketball Court	\$10,000
New Park Sign/Landscaping	\$5,000
Replace Picnic Tables	\$1,000

15. Buffalo Road Park (This may be eliminated and combined w/Ann St. Park)

Replace Playground Equipment	\$25,000
Resurface Basketball Court	\$10,000
New Park Sign/Landscaping	\$5,000
Replace Picnic Tables	\$1,000

16. Pocket Park

Install Benches/Sitting Area	\$5,000
New Park Sign/Landscaping	\$5,000
Install Irrigation	\$5,000

17. Senior Citizen Center Park (This may be eliminated if a New Jackson Park is constructed)

Replace Playground Equipment	\$50,000
New Park Sign/Landscaping	\$5,000
Replace Picnic Tables	\$1,000
Install Irrigation	\$10,000
Install Benches/Sitting Area	\$5,000

18. Football Field Park (Property Owned by Negaunee Public Schools)

Replace Playground Equipment	\$50,000
New Park Sign/Landscaping	\$5,000
Replace Picnic Tables	\$1,000
Expand Play Area (New Fence/Property)	\$15,000

19. Jackson Park (Property may be sold)

Resurface Tennis Courts	\$10,000
Replace Playground Equipment	\$100,000
Reconstruct Horseshoe Courts	\$15,000
Construct Bathroom Screen	\$7,500
New Park Sign/Landscaping	\$5,000
Replace Picnic Tables	\$5,000
Replace Cooking Grills	\$5,000
Replace Fence	\$25,000

20. Develop North of Teal Lake/Al Quaal Park Extension

Develop Beach Area	\$50,000
Construct Changing/Bathroom Facility	\$100,000
Install Benches/Sitting Area	\$10,000
Construct Pavilion/Picnic Area	\$20,000
New Park Sign/Landscaping	\$5,000
Develop trails to Al Quaal	\$50,000
Develop X/C Ski trails	\$50,000
Develop Informational Area	\$75,000
Develop for Snowmobiles	\$30,000
Develop Roads to Property	\$100,000

21. Non-Motorized Pathways

Signage/Landscaping	\$10,000
Install Benches/Sitting Areas	\$10,000
Maintenance Equipment	\$15,000

IX. CHAPTER 9 – BASIS FOR ACTION PROGRAM

Ice Arena

The Negaunee Ice Arena provides a four season multi-use facility for the City of Negaunee and the surrounding communities. It receives heavy use during the winter months by the Iron Range Hockey Association, Senior Men's Hockey League, Marquette Figure Skating Club, the Negaunee Public Schools, church groups and the general public. Revenues generated from these activities support the year-around use.

The facility is utilized during the summer months for wedding receptions, bridal and baby showers and various sporting activities.

Completion of the improvements are planned with the bathrooms, lobby and kitchen areas upgraded as needed to improve the sanitation maintenance in these areas. The kitchen improvements will also be in accordance with the recommendations from the Marquette County Health Department.

Relocation of the main entry is required to eliminate the safety hazard associated with snow sliding from the roof over the rink area.

Lack of sufficient parking has and continues to be a problem, especially during hockey tournaments and large receptions and community activities at the arena.

Additional improvements; construction of new locker rooms, installation of a well, relocation and construction of a new zamboni room on the west end of the arena, installation of radiant heaters above the bleachers and installation of a second ice making compressor all are needed to reduce operating costs, make the facility more user friendly and thereby increase rental capability and having a standby compressor in the event of a breakdown of the primary unit.

Parks

Construction of a pavilion at the Breitung Park will replace the one lost at Jackson Park and complete the area as a community park. The addition of a raised viewing platform for the physically impaired will add to the facility being used during the summer when parades are passing in front of the park. This is a prime area for viewing all of the special parade events held in the City.

Expansion of the basketball court at Miners Park will enable summer basketball tournaments to be held in one location rather than be extended to other courts in town.

Jackson Park, once the premiere park for the City of Negaunee, requires upgrading of the tennis courts, horseshoe courts and picnic areas. Installation of bocce courts will expand the use to family activities, which may also extend to the outside communities. All playground equipment will be upgraded to ADA Standards, increased lighting and establishment of overnight campsites.

All of the community parks will require upgrading equipment to ADA Standards and will also include picnic sites to expand the use for family activity. Additional options are now

available for consideration on the north side of the Teal Lake Park, which will include nature trails, fitness jogging paths and camping areas.

The Suicide Bowl Recreational Facility, an international ski flying complex, and a surrounding cross country ski trail is now being relocated to a different area within the Ishpeming and Negaunee area. It is the intent of the Recreation Department to work in conjunction with the City of Ishpeming to support the relocation and upgrading of these facilities, which serve the entire region.

Ball Fields

Because of the large number of tournaments held at LaCombe field, many requests have been received to improve the lighting, provide a press box for league officials and the press, improve the grounds by installing paved walk areas and an upgrade of the concession facilities.

The Irontown baseball field is used by the Senior Little League and Legion ballplayers and needs to be upgraded to meet league standards. The improvements will also allow better maintenance of the grounds.

Men and women's softball leagues within the City of Negaunee continue to grow and the need for additional ball fields are in demand. The development of a recreational complex will satisfy this need and also provide an area for family entertainment and recreation for the City of Negaunee and the surrounding communities.

Pavilion

Construction of a bandshell and pavilion at Breitung Park will allow for the continued community gathering for families to enjoy the City band concerts and other family entertainment. This is a prime area in the City and has been the mid point for all parades and other community functions. The viewing platform will be used during the parades. The pavilion will provide an area where community history can be displayed.