

Kosciusko County Park System: Bridging the Gaps and Connecting Communities

A Kosciusko County Leadership Academy Whitepaper Project
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Kosciusko County Park System

- Background
- Current Status
- Comparisons
- Benefits
- Formation and Funding
- Possible Locations
- Next Steps
- Questions

Kosciusko County Parks Background

- Lakes as suitable recreation for the county?
- KLA Whitepaper “Establishing a Kosciusko County Park System” in 1991
- KLA Whitepaper “Funding For a County Park” in 2001

Kosciusko County Current Status



County Park Comparison

Allen County Parks

- Established in 1965
- Supported by county council and city of Fort Wayne
- First land acquisition in 1970's
- Grown to 5 properties and 1100 acres of land
- Funding from all sources including tax dollars.
- Many diverse recreational and educational opportunities.

Fulton County Parks

- Established around 2000
- Grass roots approach supported by citizens
- First land acquired 2005
- Includes 4 properties and about 25 acres.
- Funding from donations, grants, and partnership with IDNR.
- Recreation includes river access, fishing, picnicking, and nature preserve.

Benefits of a Kosciusko County Park System

- Natural and Historical Preservation
- Education
- Recreation
- Connecting Communities

Kosciusko County Park System Formation and Funding

- Park Board
- National and State Grants
- Land Trusts
- Charitable Organizations
- Business and Corporation Sponsorship
- Legislative Funding

Kosciusko County Park Possible Locations

Leesburg Gravel Pit



Kosciusko County Park Possible Locations

City County Athletic Complex



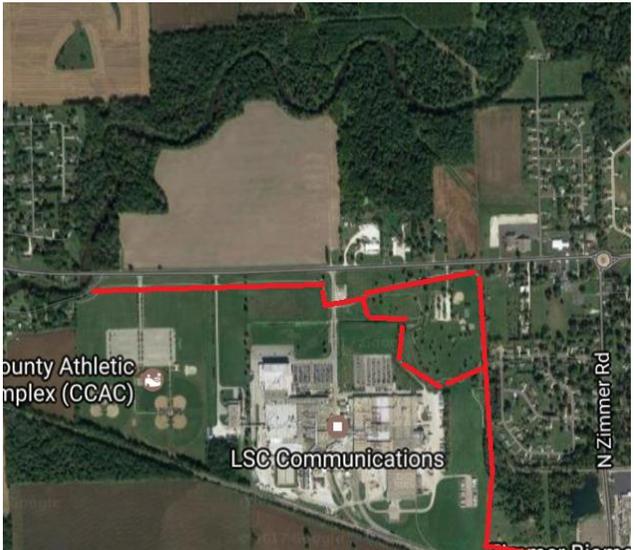
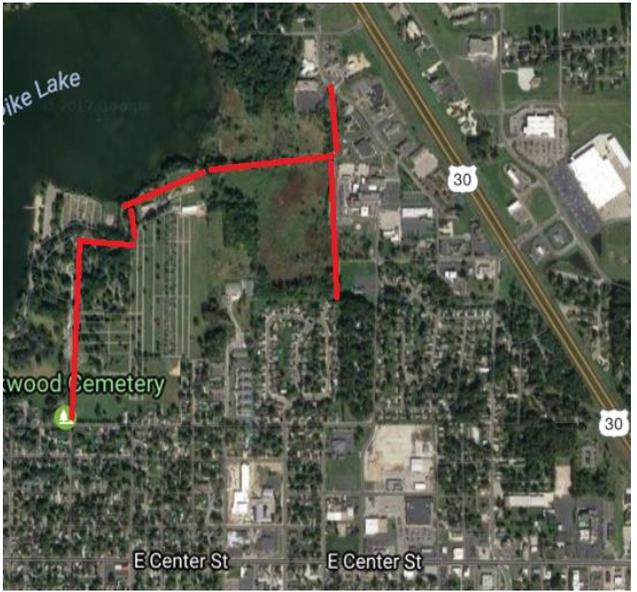
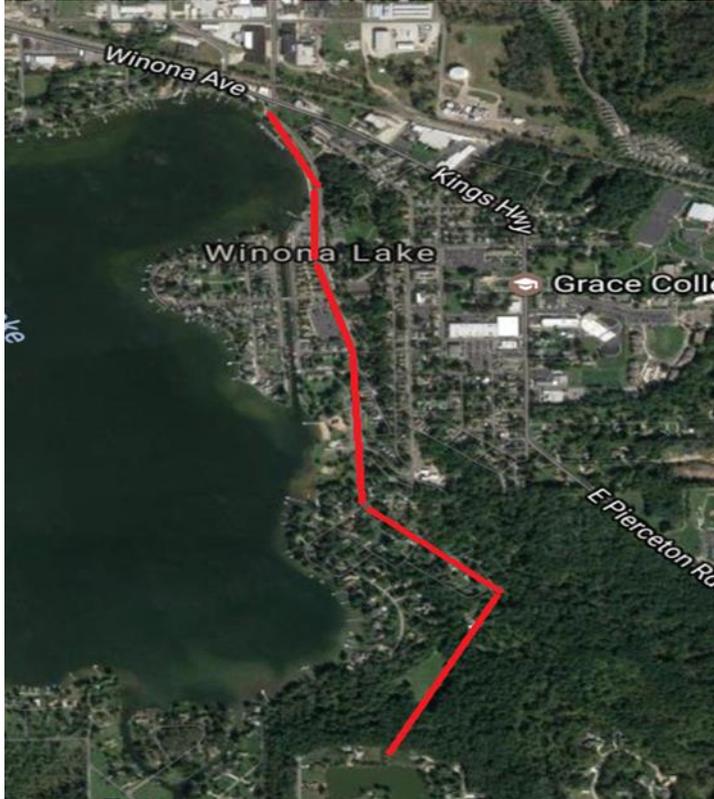
Kosciusko County Park Possible Locations

Glenwood Nature Preserve



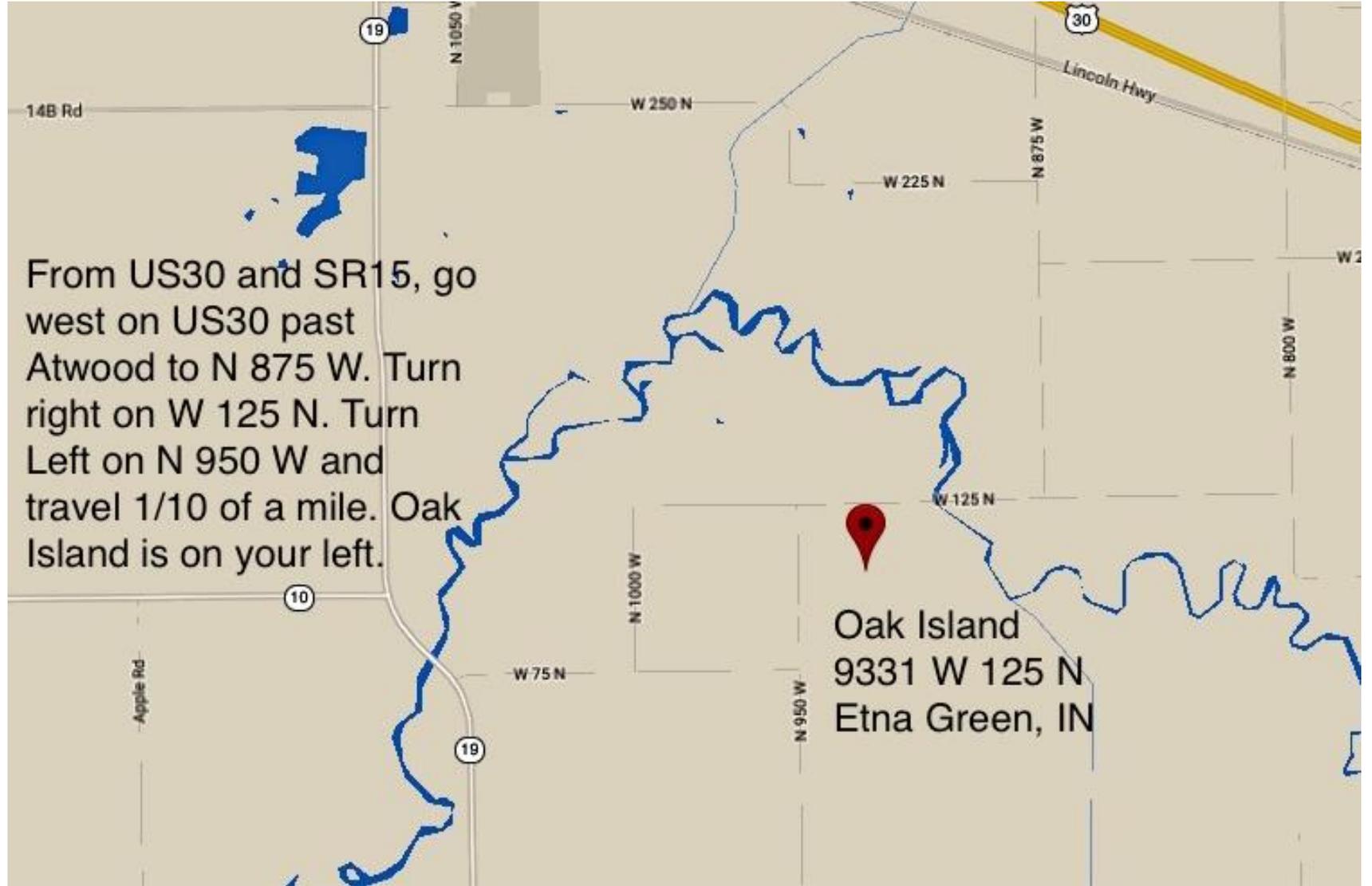
Kosciusko County Park Possible Locations

Heritage Trails



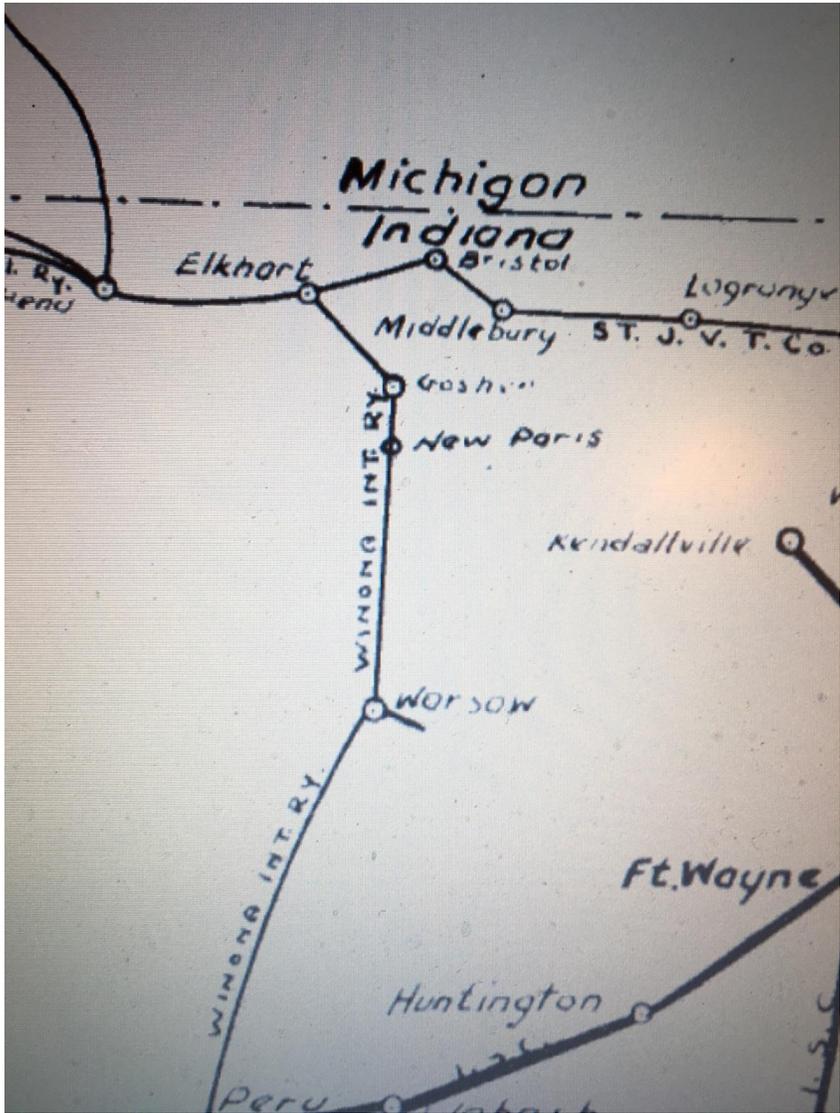
Kosciusko County Park Possible Locations

Oak Island



Kosciusko County Park Possible Locations

Winona Railroad



Kosciusko County Parks Next Steps

- Form Park Board
- Develop Master Plan
- Secure Funding
- Acquire Property
- Build Parks

Questions

Kosciusko
County Parks
System

