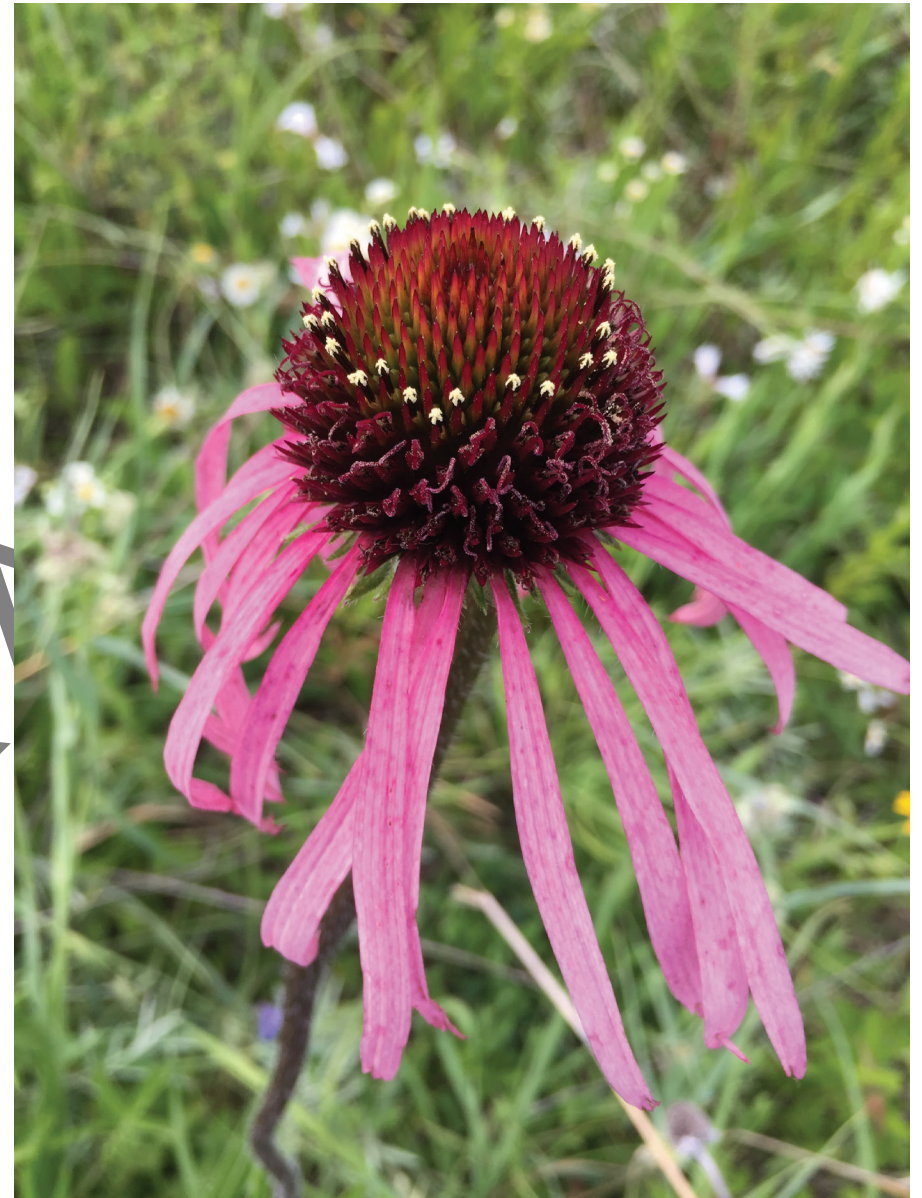


CONSERVANCY LANDS GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

DRAFT

Conservancy Lands goals and objectives were established in the 2011-2016 Conservancy Lands Update, and updated by the Conservancy Lands Committee and City staff in January, 2017.

A *goal* is a long term achievement and something to be worked on over a period of time. An *objective* states a component of a future desired condition and can serve as a milestone to measure whether or not the goal is being achieved. Objectives are the basis for *recommendations*; recommendations are suggested specific actions. Conservancy lands goals and objectives are nonhierarchical.



GOAL 1: PROTECT AND RESTORE NATIVE LANDSCAPES AND DESIGNATED CONSERVANCY LANDS TO MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE NATURAL HABITAT, SCENIC BEAUTY, PASSIVE RECREATION AND OUTDOOR EDUCATION FOR PERSONS OF ALL AGES AND ABILITIES.

GOAL 1: OBJECTIVES

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| 1.1 | Natural vegetative communities within the City are identified and protected. These include uplands, lowland forests, wetlands, sedge meadow and oak savanna areas. |
| 1.2 | Invest in and develop facilities that will maximize the health and appreciation of conservancy lands. |
| 1.3 | Preserve the role of wetlands, prairies, savannas and woodland as essential components of the hydrologic system and valuable wildlife habitat. Protect shoreland and floodplain areas accordingly. |
| 1.4 | Reduce abundance and spread of exotic and invasive species while promoting native vegetative communities. |
| 1.5 | Establish development policies and standards related to trails, kiosks, shelters, benches and diverse uses of conservancy land areas, including such uses as canoe access, sediment basins, and others. |
| 1.6 | Use a scientific and data-driven approach to management. Establish data collection and monitoring systems to inform management. |

GOAL 2: EXPAND PARTNERSHIPS FOR MAINTENANCE OF CONSERVANCY LANDS AND HANDS-ON RESTORATION AND LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE RESIDENTS OF MIDDLETON.

GOAL 2: OBJECTIVES

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| 2.1 | Promote conservancy lands through multimedia campaigns. |
| 2.2 | Support conservation programming, like ecological tours, sensory walks, or birding events that draw public interest and enthusiasm. Maintain and update interpretive media in conservancies. |
| 2.3 | Collaborate and coordinate with friends groups and local, county, regional and state entities. |
| 2.4 | Provide opportunities for citizen involvement such as citizen monitoring, educational programs for youth and adults, and facilitated volunteering. |

GOAL 3: IMPROVE WATER QUALITY WITHIN THE CONSERVANCY LANDS PROPERTIES.

GOAL 3: OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 Improve water quality of all lakes, creeks and kettle ponds within Middleton’s conservancy lands system by providing a shoreland buffer zone of diverse native vegetation 100-300ft in width along the edges of streams, wetlands and ponds.
- 3.2 Consider impacts to the greater Yahara watershed.
- 3.3 Coordinate with Water Resource Management Commission regarding management of stormwater features.

GOAL 4: INCREASE CONNECTIONS BETWEEN MIDDLETON’S CONSERVANCY LANDS AND OTHER ADJACENT AND REGIONAL CONSERVATION AREAS INCLUDING CORRIDORS AND LINKAGES WITH OTHER GOVERNMENT/ MUNICIPAL LANDS OF SIMILAR MANAGEMENT.

GOAL 4: OBJECTIVES

- 4.1 Increase connections to regional trails and greenways.
- 4.2 Provide barrier-free access to trail facilities.
- 4.3 Consult with similar agencies from neighboring cities, towns and counties to develop a regional response to issues concerning land conservation.
- 4.4 Maintain “green space” corridors between the communities of Middleton, Westport/Waunakee and Madison.
- 4.5 Mark conservation boundaries to inform the public, to delineate management responsibilities, and to prevent unintended encroachment.
- 4.6 Consider strategic acquisition of new lands.



GOAL 5: PROVIDE ADEQUATE FUNDING, MANAGEMENT AND STAFFING TO OVERSEE THE MAINTENANCE OF CONSERVANCY LANDS.

GOAL 5: OBJECTIVES

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| 5.1 | Sufficient staff and funding to execute plan objectives and respond to conservation priorities. |
| 5.2 | Expenditures commensurate with expected levels of maintenance. |
| 5.3 | Equitable distribution of funding relative to the scale and importance of conservation lands to quality of life, stormwater management and property values. |
| 5.4 | Pursue state, federal and private funding. |

GOAL 6: PROMOTE CONSERVATION OF WILDLIFE AND WILDLIFE HABITAT IN MIDDLETON'S CONSERVANCY LANDS.

GOAL 6: OBJECTIVES

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| 6.1 | Maintain and enhance habitat for resident and migratory wildlife. |
| 6.2 | Establish data collection and monitoring systems to inform wildlife management. |
| 6.3 | Protect rare and threatened species and communities. |
| 6.4 | Consider wildlife impacts when developing trails and trail use policies. |