

Project Overview

Overview:

From our Purdue Extension staff in Gibson County Indiana, the CCED was asked to provide design support for the counties first park. The Hopkin family has a long history of farming in Gibson County and after retiring their family farm, they are donating the land to the county to be designed into a park

What Has Been Done so Far:







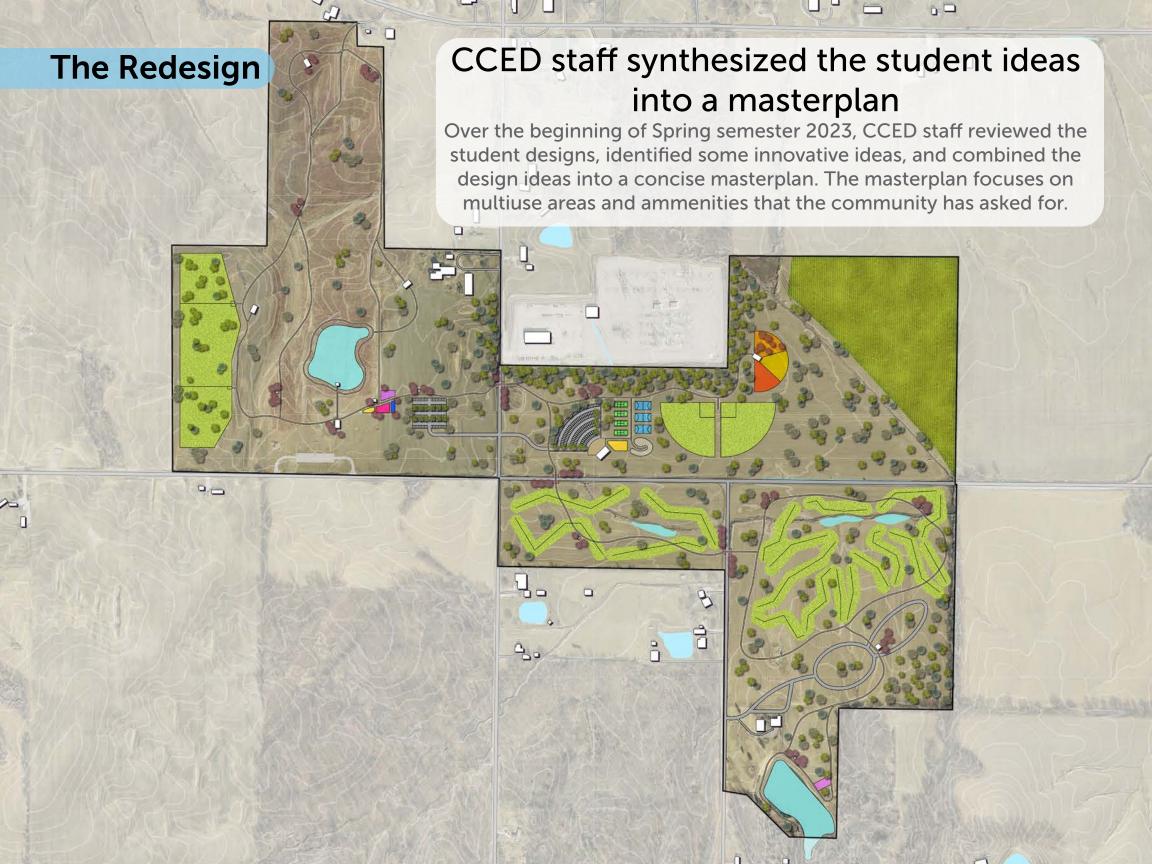


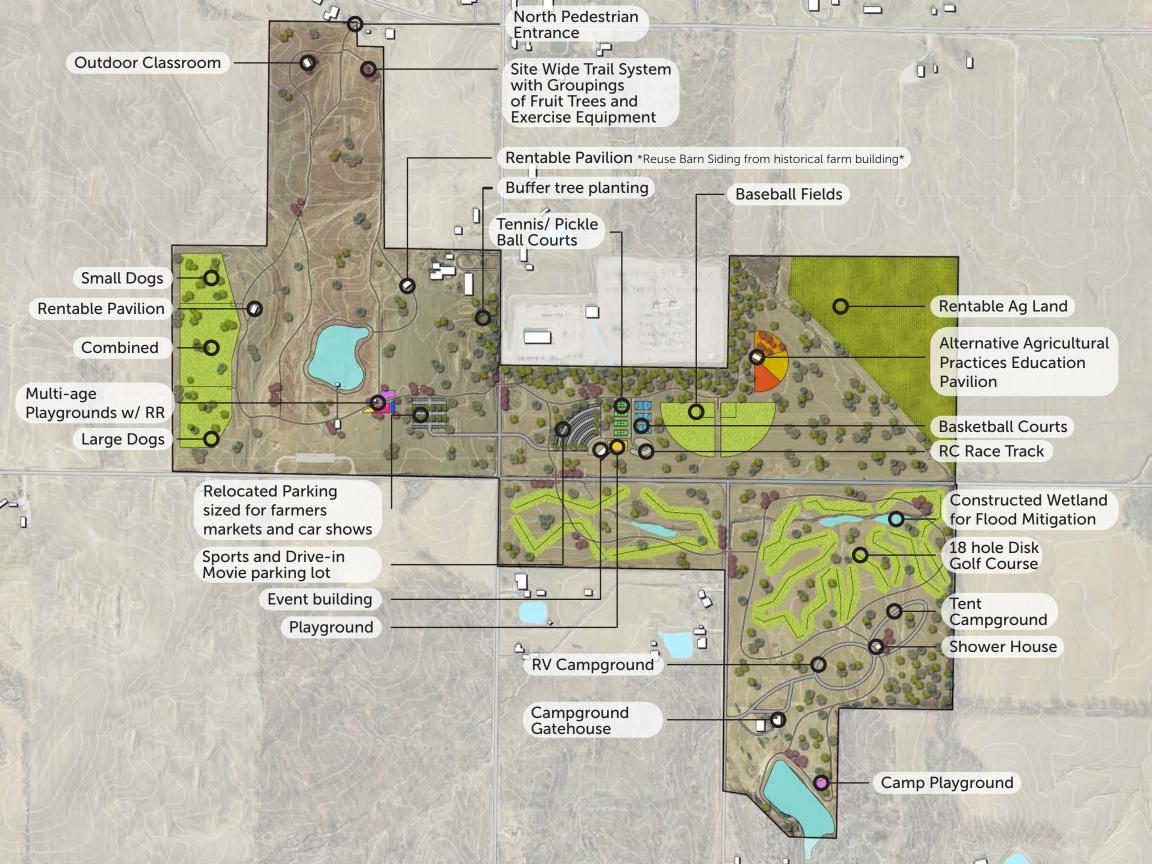


In the past, student engineers from the University of Evansville and from Purdue University developed two seperate designs for the park. The work that these two groups of students have done has already been built as the first phase of the park. Purdue's Landscape Architecture department is now being brought in to help vision the future phases of the park's development. As part of a semester long projects, a group of juniors in landscape architecture spent the Fall semester of 2022 designing new and innovative solutions for the future of the park. After the students finished there desings, staff at Purdue's CCED reviewed the student designs and combined them into one final masterplan to share back to the community.

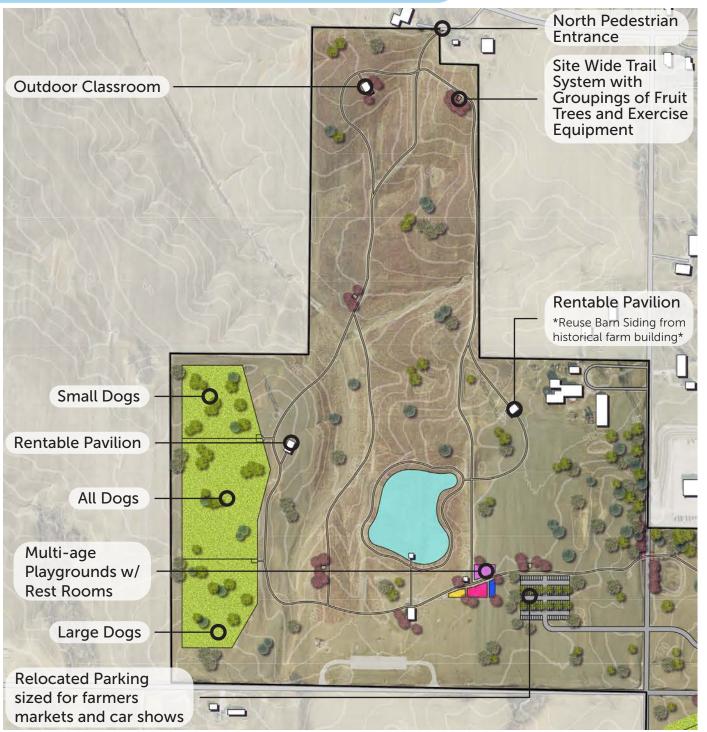
Redesign

Student Ideas combined into a masterplan





Existing Park Improvements



Precedence



Divided Dog Parks



Rentable Shelters Outdoor Classroom



Multi-age Playground



Workout Equipment

Sports + Agriculture Complex



Precedence



Sports Complex



Agricultural Education Plots



Drive-in Movie/ Event Parking



Flexible Event Space

Disc Golf + Campround



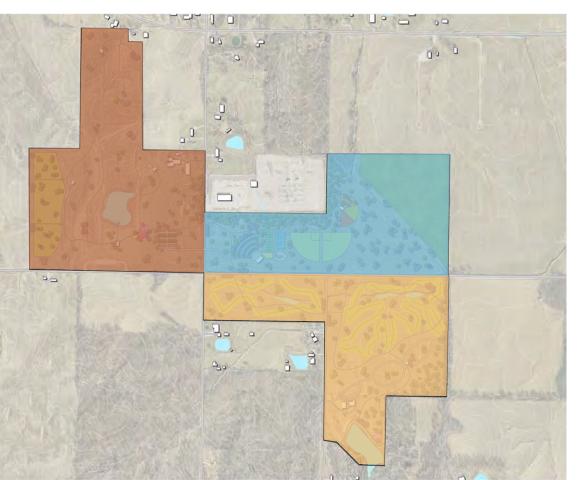
Program Descriptions

Outdoor Classroom- Located at the north end of the site near the pedestrian entrance this shelter can be rented by the community or used by school groups. Other pavilion shelters are located across the site that are meant to be used by the public and rented for events.

Divided Dog Park- Located at the western most part of the park, up on the hill, this 3 dog park is divided to provide a safe space for large dogs, small dogs, and friendly dogs to run.

Multi Aged Playground- Locating the playgrounds closer to the restrooms, we suggest relocating the play area away from the lake and building off of the existing equiptment to provide fun ways to play for multiple age groups.

Relocated Parking- Due to safety concerns with the current parking off of the main road (Co. Rd. 250 S), we suggest that the new parking for the west and east side of the park stem from the less trafficed Co. Rd. 750 E.



Event/ Drive-in Movie Lot- This large parking lot has concentric rows of parking that all focus towards a event patio and building. This lot could be used for sports event parking and a screen could be set up on the facad of the event building and the lot could be used for drive-in movies.

Sports Fields- Located in proximity to the event parking the sports fields inclide, 2 baseball fields, 3 basketball courts, and 4 tennis/ pickleball courts. The sports complex also includes a playgrounds and an RC car track.

Rentable Ag Field- At the north eastern corner of the site, this 17.5 acre portion of the park could remain agricultural land and be rented out to farmers to provide a consistant income for the park. Alternative Agriculture Practices Education Pavilion - As the park transforms from agriculture land to public park space, this part of the park looks towards the future and explores alternative ways of growing food. This space could be used for community plots and public harvest events.

Safe Road Crossings- At each road crossing we suggest installing road crossings with trees close to the road, vertical crossings lights, and painting the road surface to make the road crossing safer.

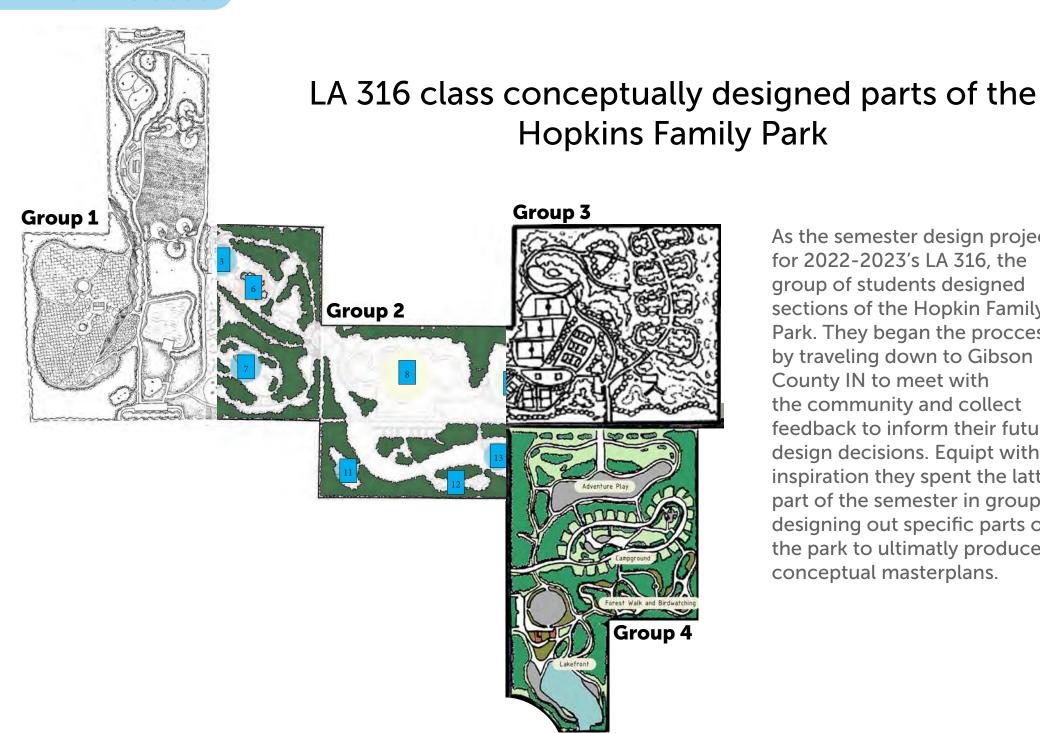
18 Hole Disc Golf Course- Across this southern section of the park, we suggest a 18 hole disc golf course that could serve as a regional draw to the site.

Constructed Wetland- The disc golf course is located around an area that can flood during heavy rains. Constructed wetlands could be designed to mitigate the flood waters and provide a unique wildlife habitat on the site.

RV/ Tent Campground- Located in between the disc golf course and the southern lake, we suggest adding a campground where people could rent a spot for RV or tent camping. In conjunction with the campground, we suggest converting the barn into a campground gatehouse where visitors could check in and a playground near the southern pond.

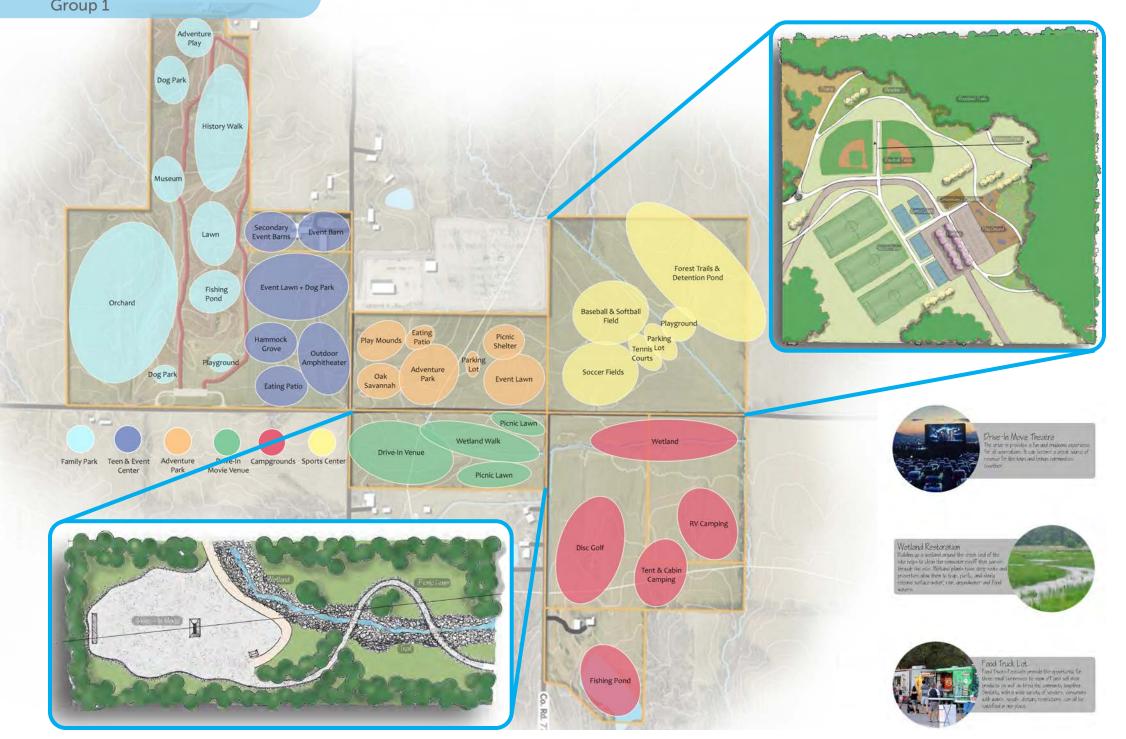
Site Wide Trail with Groupings of Fruit Trees and Exercise Equiptment- This trail would provide a way for visitors of the park to walk the full park, work out and eat healthy fruits and nuts along the way.

The Process

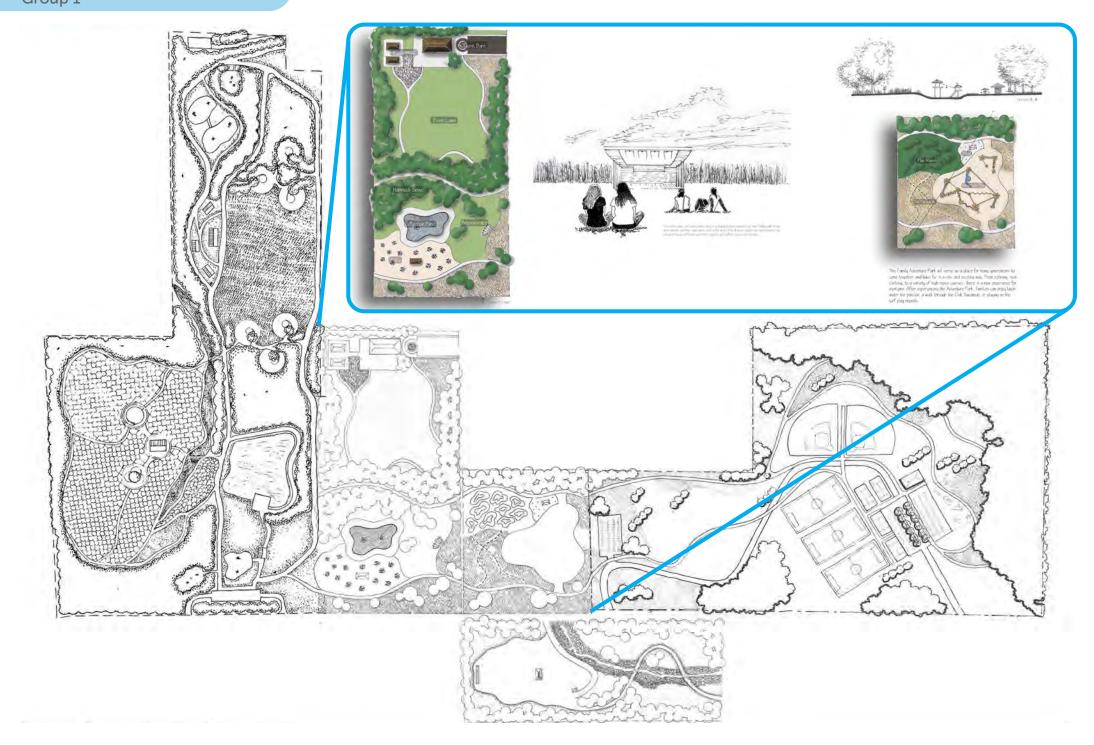


As the semester design project for 2022-2023's LA 316, the group of students designed sections of the Hopkin Family Park. They began the proccess by traveling down to Gibson County IN to meet with the community and collect feedback to inform their future design decisions. Equipt with inspiration they spent the latter part of the semester in groups designing out specific parts of the park to ultimatly produce 4 conceptual masterplans.

Sports Complex and Drive-In Movie Theatre



Event Lawn and Playground



Overall Design



Opportunities

- 1 Aditional Access
- 2 Added Sports Facilities
- 3 Amphitheater
- 4 Pond
- 5 Skate Park
- 6 Plaza
- 7 Dog Park
- 8 Go Cart Track
- 9 Mini Golf
- 10 Camping
- 11 RC Track
- Native Tree Walk
- 13 Cross-Country
- 14 Disc Golf
- Lake Access

Frisbee Golf Course







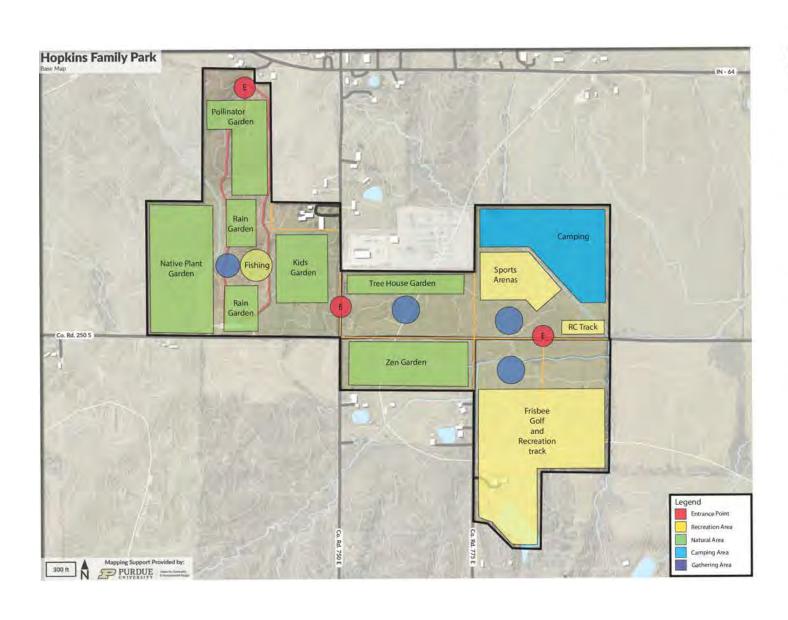




Event Plaza



Overall Design



Programs

Amphitheater

Native Garden

Rain Gardens

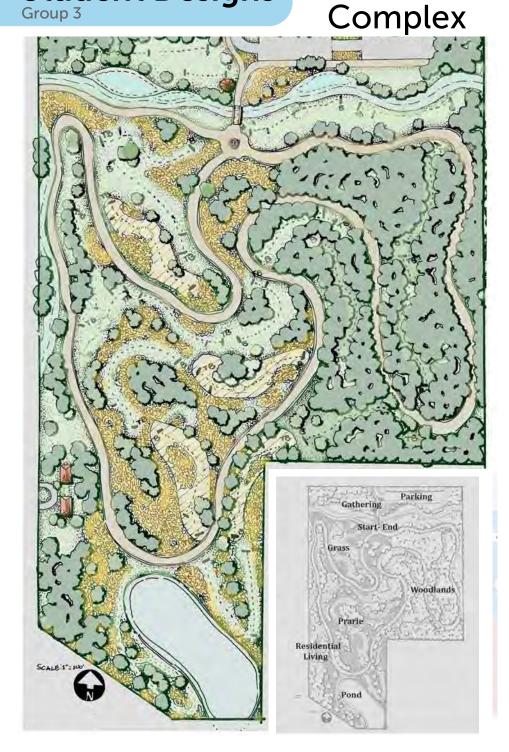
Welcome Center

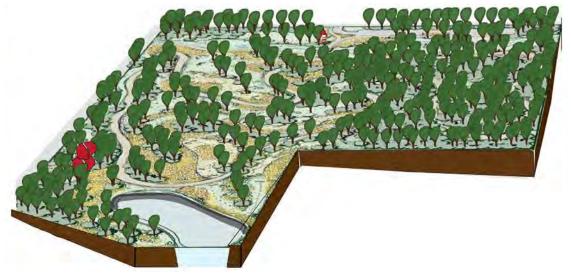
Sports

Camping

RC Track

Frisbee Golf Course, Camping and Sports







Community Gardens, Trails, and Sports

Student Designs
Group 3

Goals of this site

Provide a northern access point to let in nearby residents into the park

Restore the site to its natural habitat

Effectively deal with stormwater managment

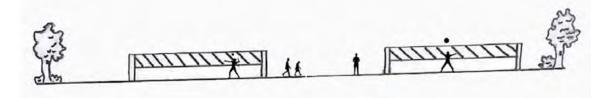
Provide spaces that allow people to emersive themselves into nature as well as providing space that allows for public gatherings

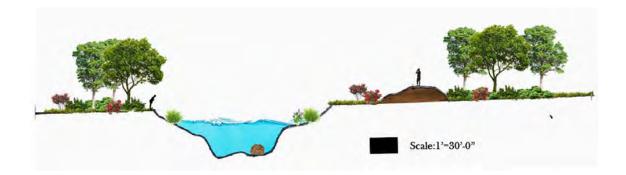


Sports and Tournament gathering Area Birds-eye



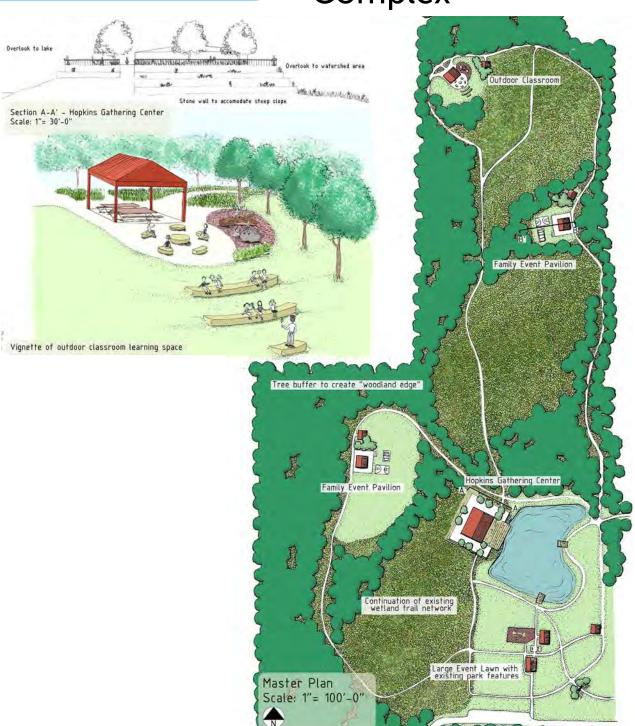


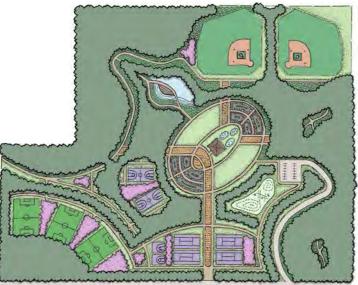


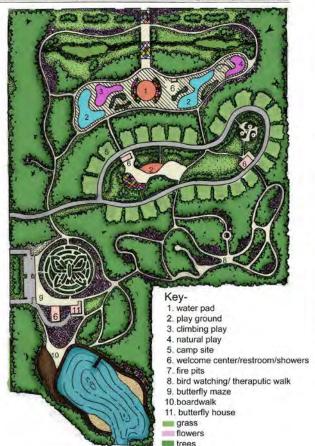


Camping, Outdoor Classrooms, and Sports

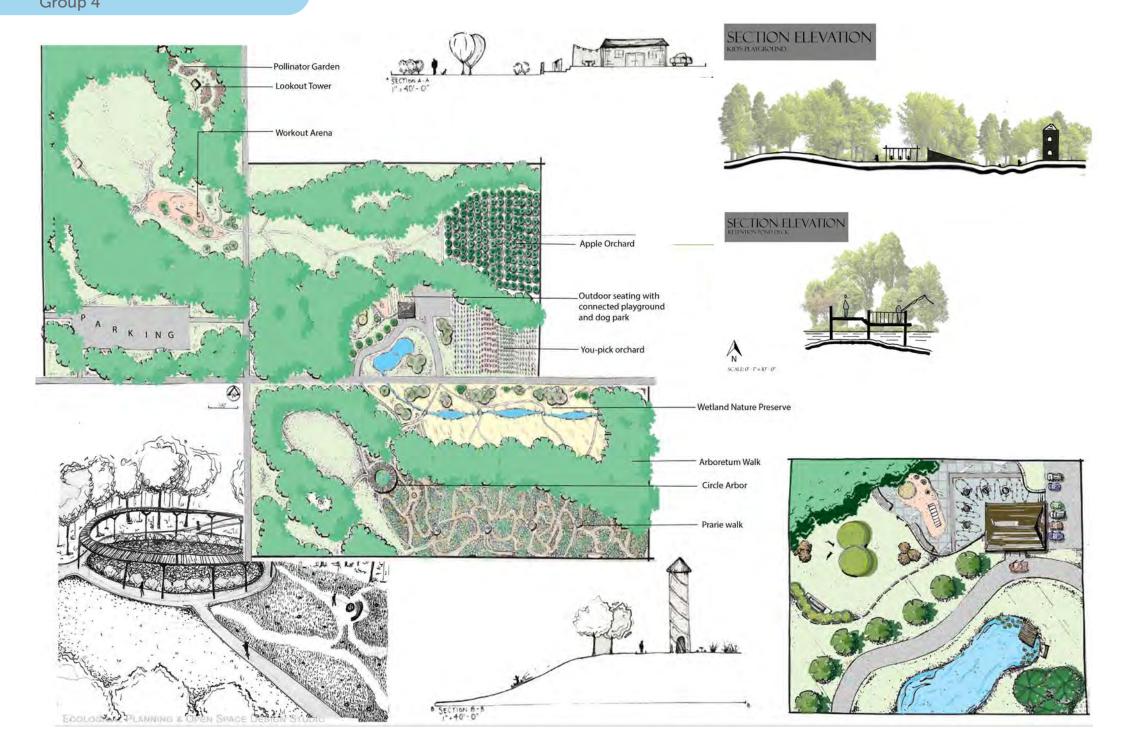
Complex





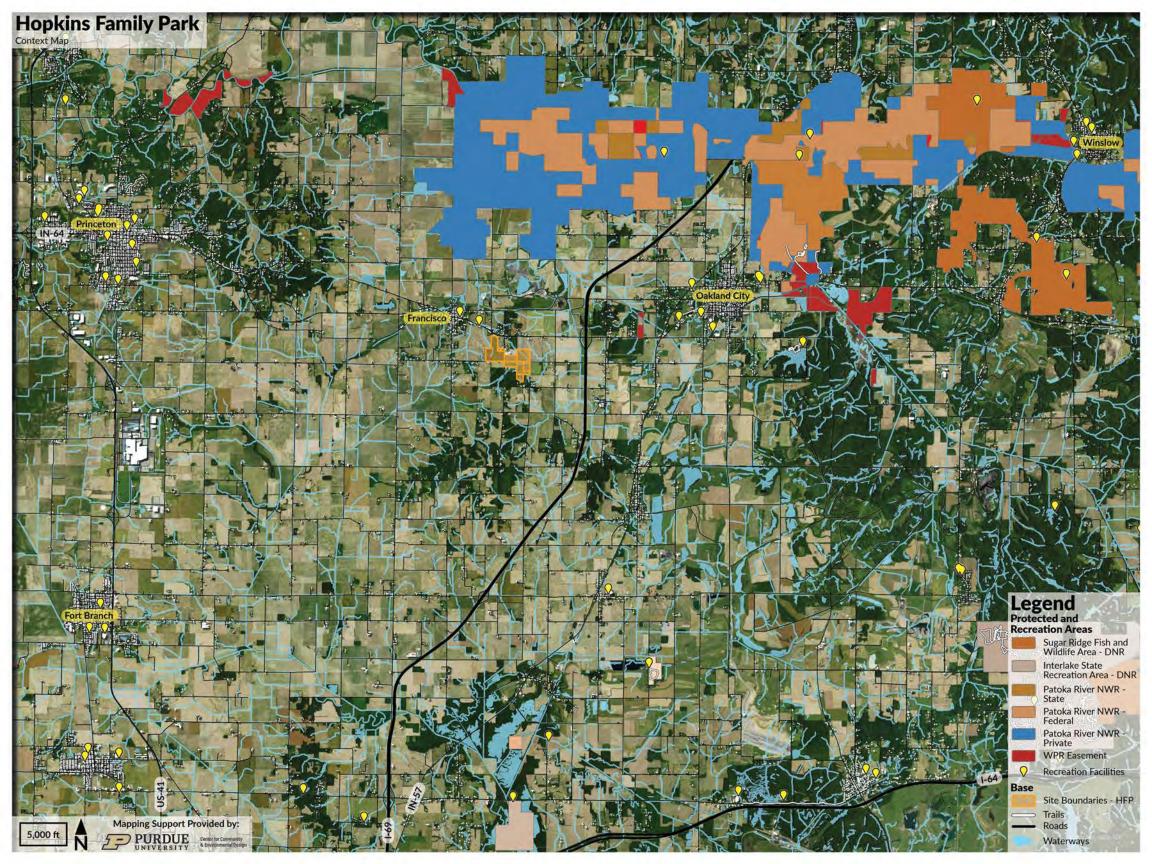


Orchards, Lookout Towers and Fishing Ponds



Site Analysis

Environmental



Near by Recreation

Sugar Ridge Fish and Wildlife Area

Sugar Ridge Fish & Wildlife Area (FWA) is unique in that much of the land has been strip-mined. Sugar Ridge FWA is made up of six separate areas, totaling approximately 8,500 acres. The strip-mined land now features about 100 pits and lakes, along with rows of overburden from the mining operation. The land that has not been mined is mostly rough and rolling.

A large part of the land which is now Sugar Ridge FWA (Areas I, II and III) was once leased from Amax Coal Company. The leasing began in 1964 and continued until 1980 when most of the land was donated to the Division of Fish & Wildlife. Currently, only Area VI is still leased through Gray Farms, Inc. Most revenues used in land acquisition, development, operation, and maintenance of Sugar Ridge FWA are derived from the sale of hunting, fishing and trapping licenses. Funds are also received from the federal Pittman-Robertson and Dingell-Johnson programs to aid fish and wildlife restoration. These funds are derived from taxes levied on sport hunting, shooting, and fishing equipment. Indiana hunters and anglers are proud to provide this property for the enjoyment of all people.

Interlake State Recreation Area

Interlake State Recreation Area (ISRA), former coal mine land straddling Pike and Warrick counties, is a multi-use recreational facility focusing on off-road vehicle (ORV) recreation. Interlake is approximately 3,550 acres with nearly 100 miles of trails and 17 lakes (many of which can be accessed for fishing). The three areas of mining and reclamation create a variety of trail experiences for ORV enthusiasts, horse riders, hikers and mountain bikers. From steep spoil banks to rolling grasslands, man-made lakes and strip pits, Interlake offers a diverse array of topography and scenic views.

Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge

The Patoka River in Southwest Indiana had long been recognized for its wetland and wildlife values on a local, statewide and regional basis. Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge and Management Area was established in 1994 under the authority of the Emergency Wetlands Resource Act to protect one of the few remaining expanses of bottomland forested wetlands in the midwestern United States and one of two intact floodplain forest systems within Indiana. The authorized boundary (also known as the "acquisition boundary") – which delineates where the Service can acquire property from willing sellers – encompasses 23,743 acres of wetlands, floodplain forest and upland buffer along 30 miles of the Patoka River corridor.







Near by Cities

Francisco

Population: 541

Francisco is the fifth largest town and seventh largest community in Gibson County, Indiana. The town was platted and laid out on the east side of the Wabash and Erie Canal by John Perkins in 1851. Its heydey was in the mid-1850s during use of the ill-fated canal to ship goods and produce south to Evansville. Mills, grain warehouses and packing establishments thrived during the decade.

Princeton

Population: 8,716

Princeton is the largest city in and the county seat of Patoka Township, Gibson County, Indiana. The Wabash and Erie Canal ran through the nearby towns of Francisco and Port Gibson, providing a means of reaching distant markets with goods from Princeton

Oakland City

Population: 2,570

Oakland City is the third-largest city in Gibson County, Indiana. It is the site of Oakland City University. Oakland City was laid out and platted in 1856. It was probably named for the presence of oak trees. The Oakland City post office was established in 1860. The William M. Cockrum House was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1978.

Vincennes

Population: 17,091

The city of Vincennes is rich in history. As the oldest city in Indiana, previously a French fur trading post, Vincennes has been at the forefront of the development of Indiana and the Midwest. The city is one of only 3 communities in the entire state of Indiana with a National Park within our city limits.

Evansville

Population: 118,414

Evansville is a city on the Ohio River in Indiana. Angel Mounds State Historic Site was home to prehistoric Native Americans, and has 12 earthen mounds, a museum and trails. Mesker Park Zoo and Botanic Garden houses jaguars and tropical plants. Evansville Museum of Arts, History and Science displays thousands of objects and has a planetarium.

Site History



Grand Opening with Picnic Shelter and Play Set and Swings



Accessible path was poured to access Picnic Shelter



Hopkins Family Park Peceives \$200,000 Grant 44News | Evansville IN Hopkins Family Park earns \$200,000 INDNR Grant



USFW installed informational signage



Toyota donated 77 trees



Master Gardeners installed flower beds



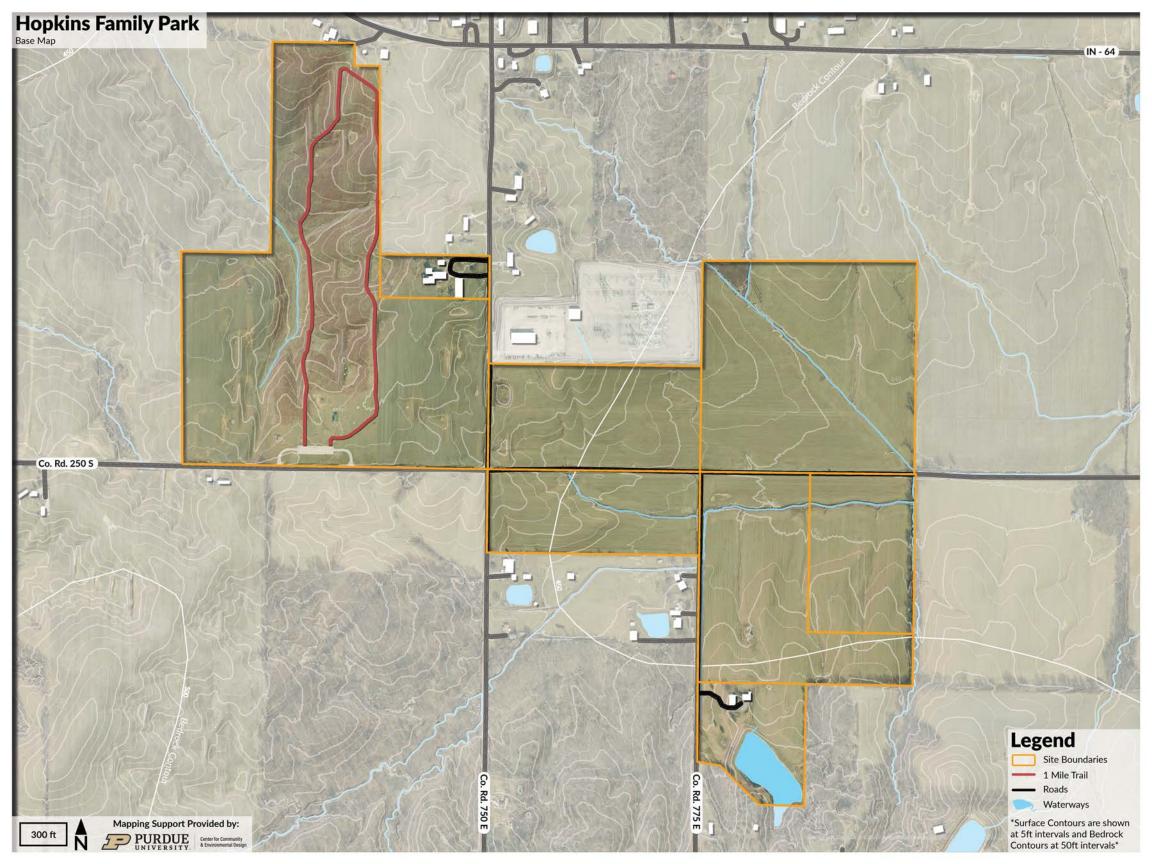
Restrooms were installed

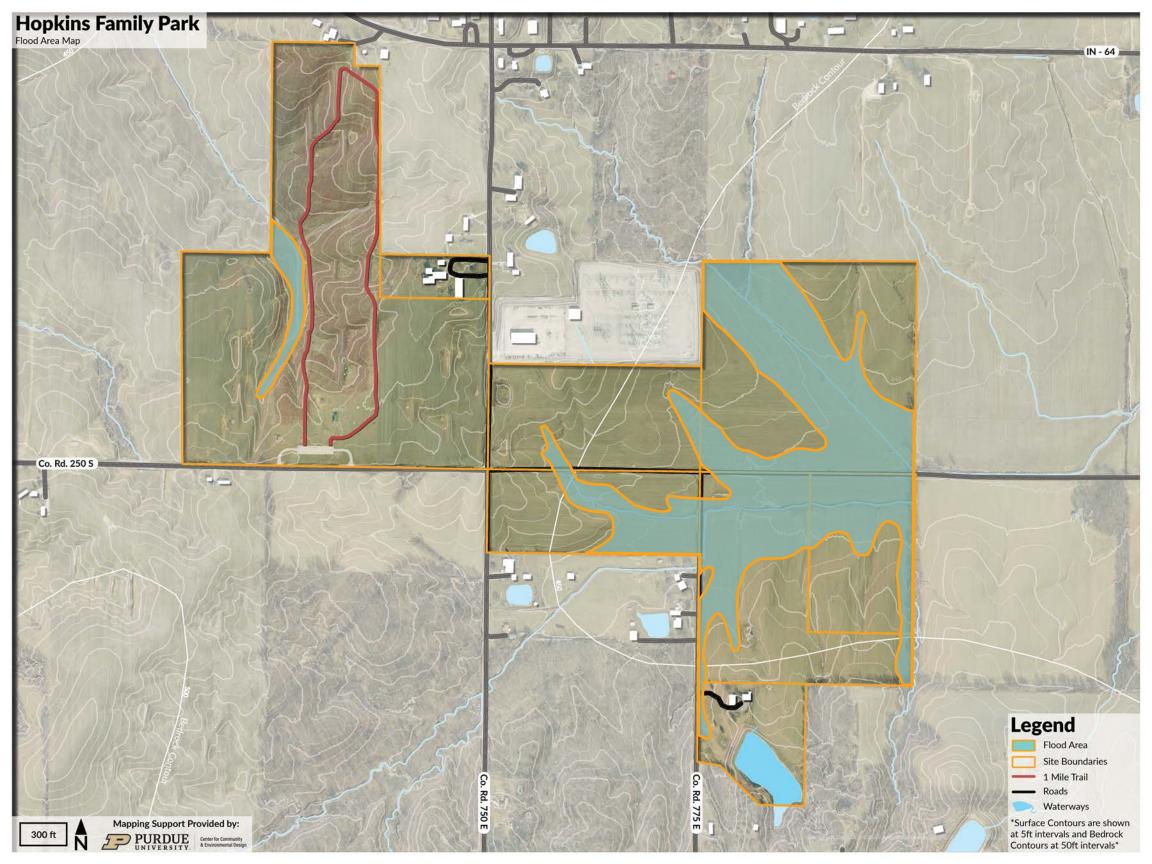


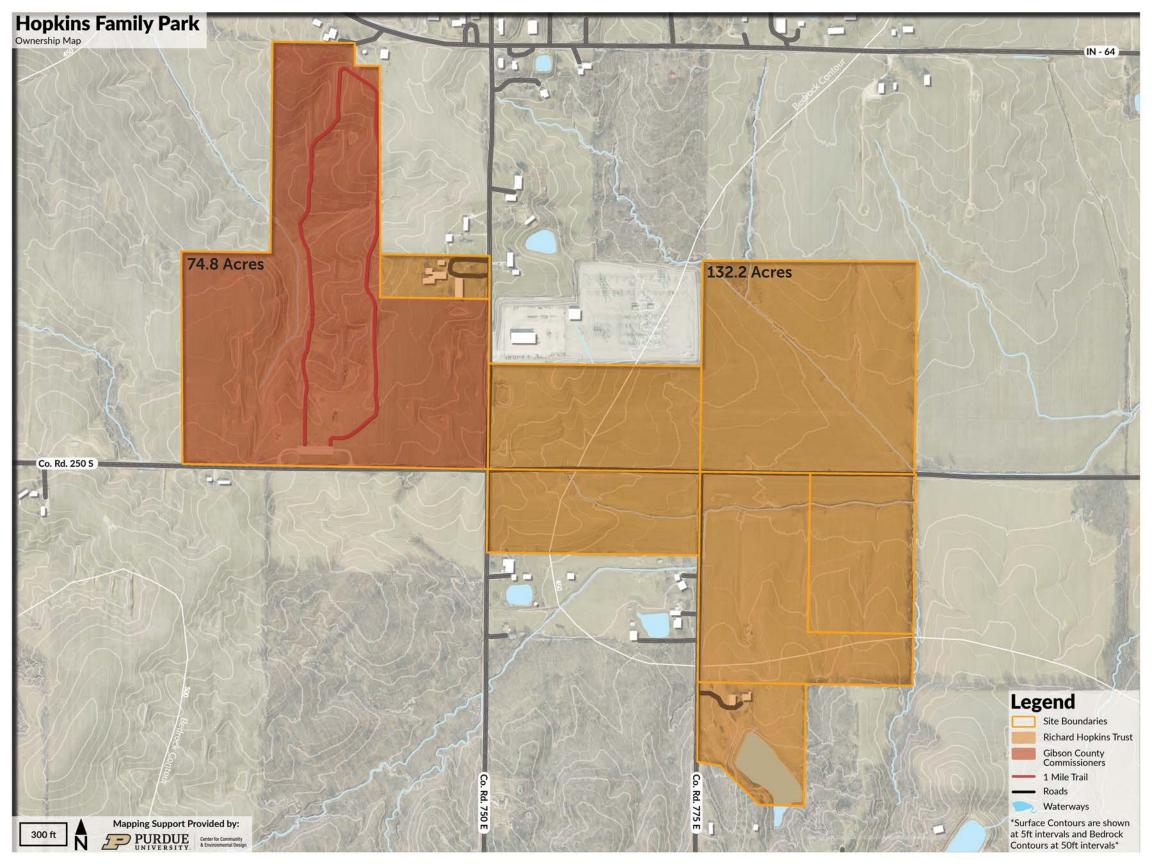
Lake and pier renovation is completed

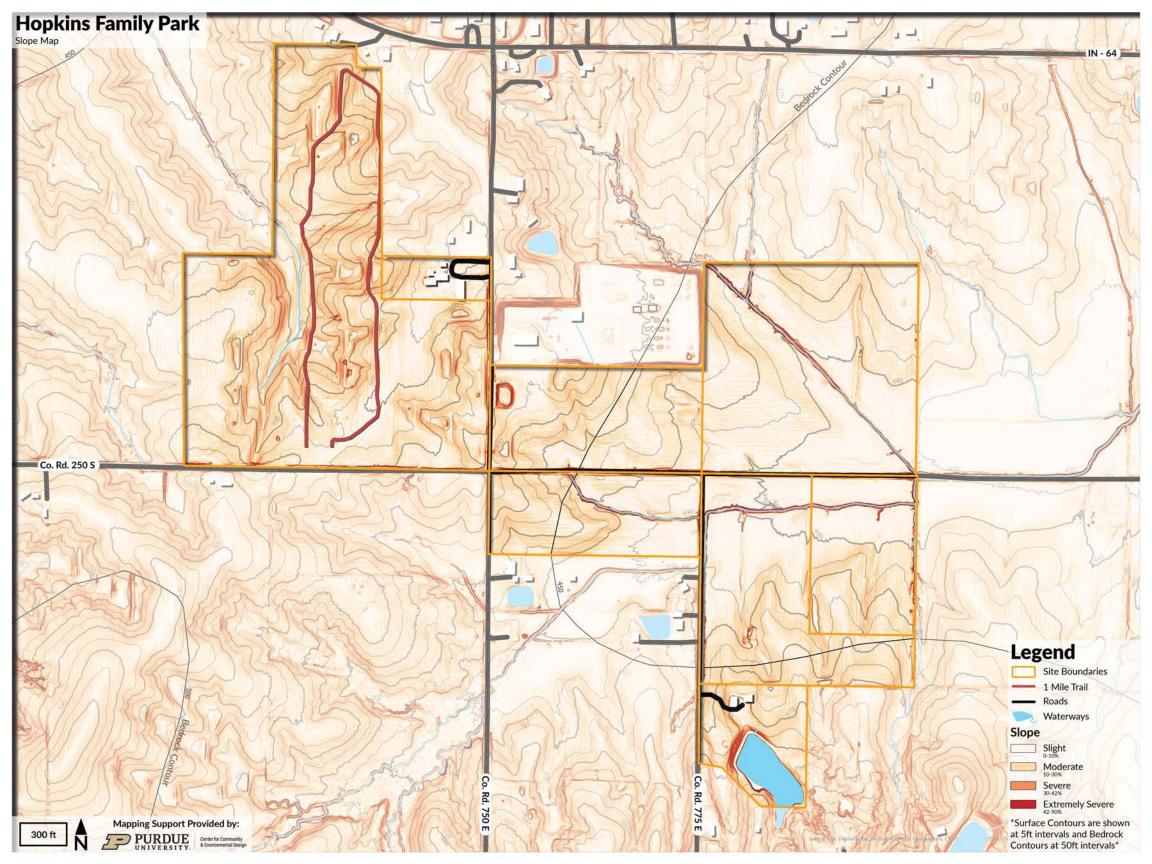


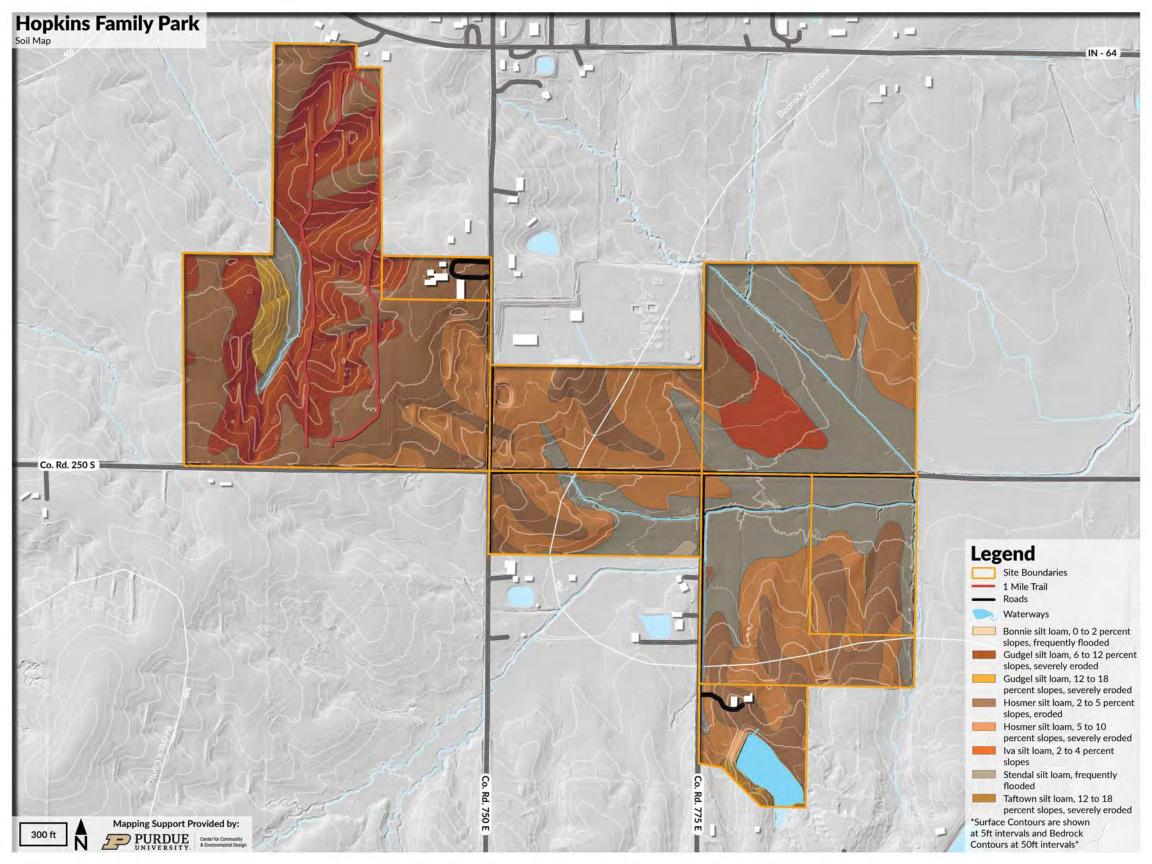
Graveled the mile long walkway

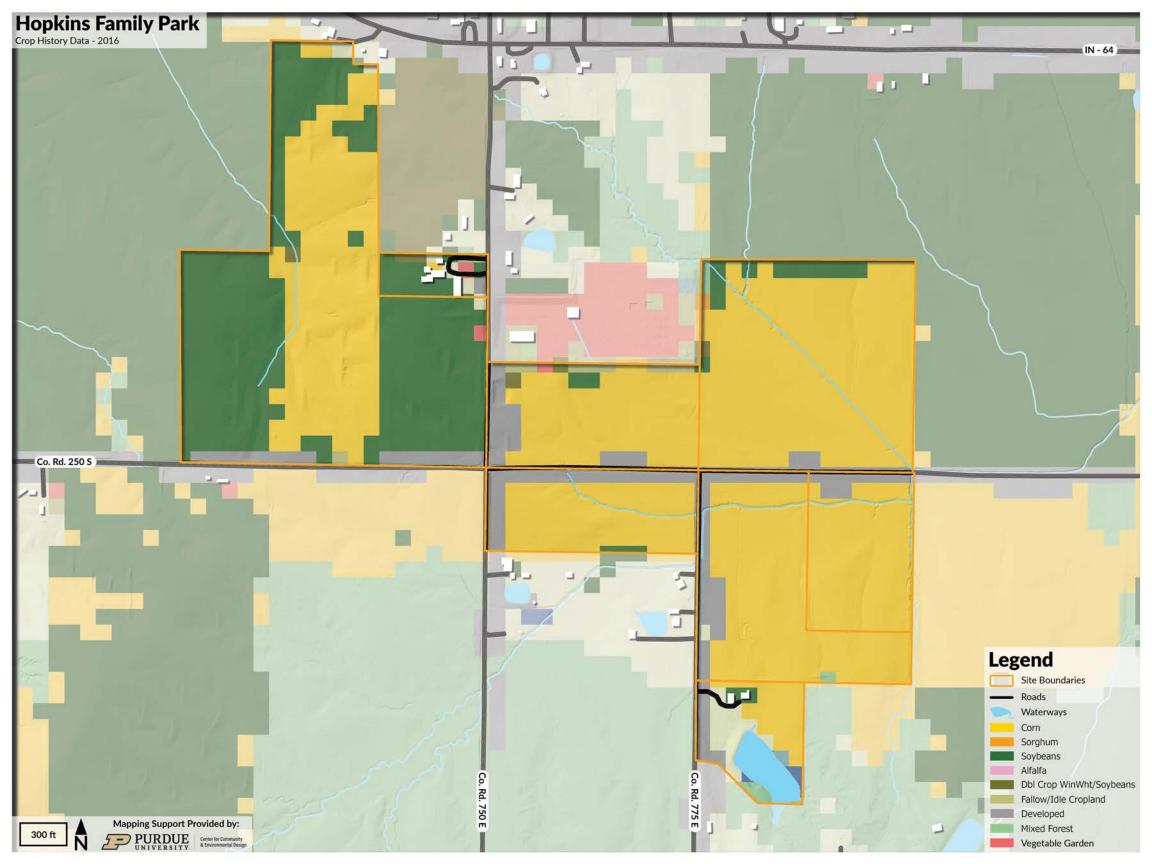


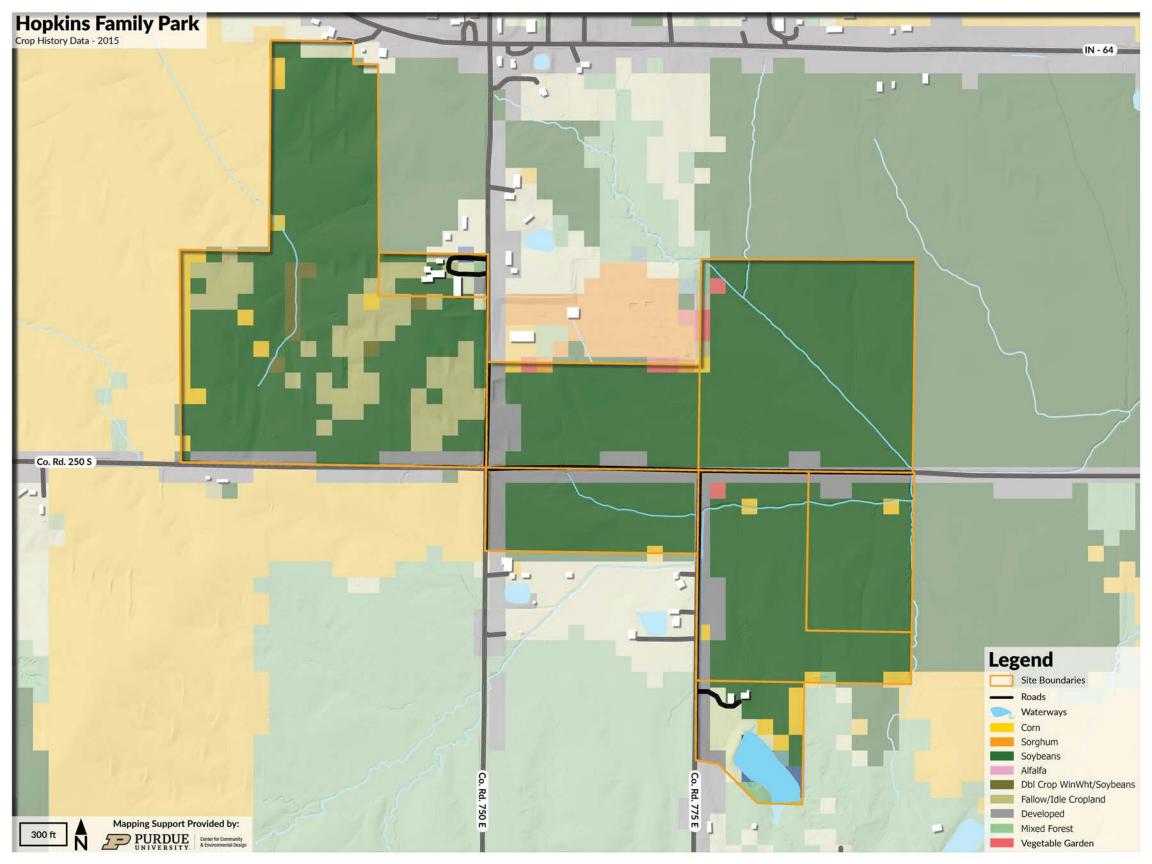


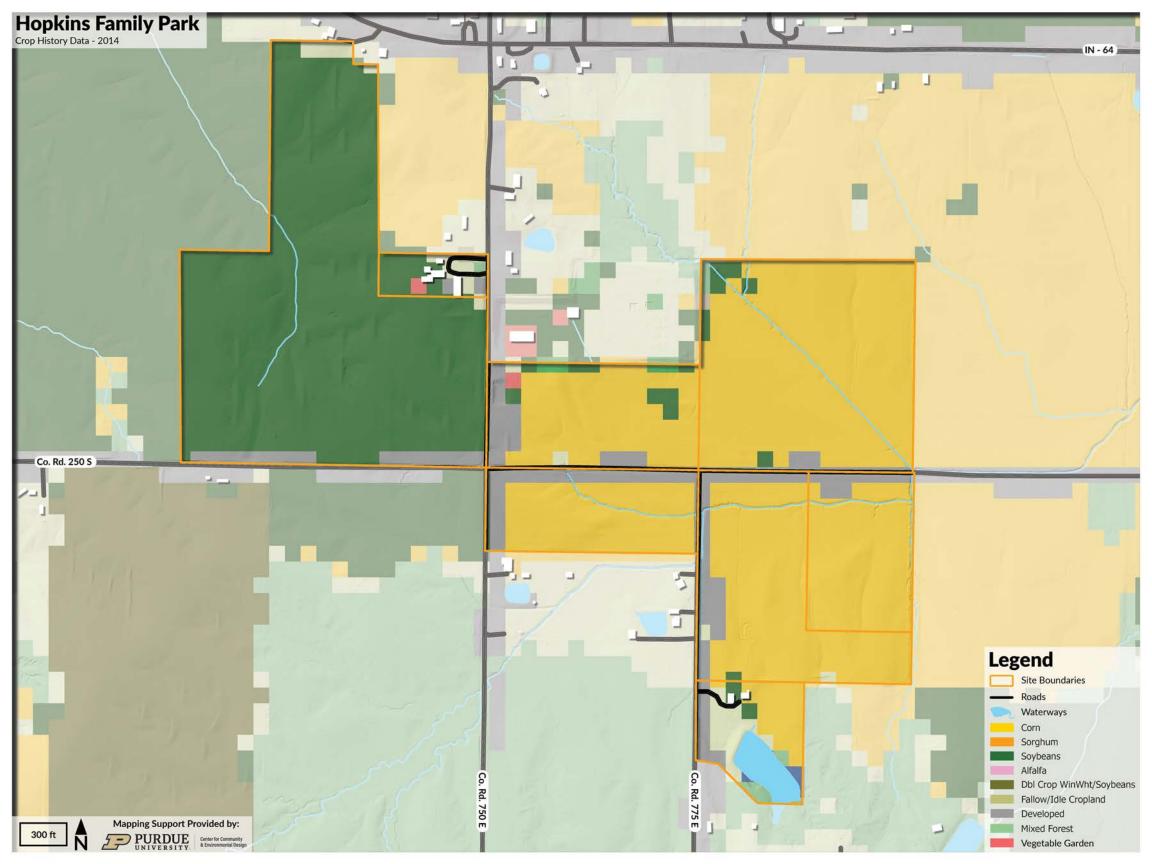


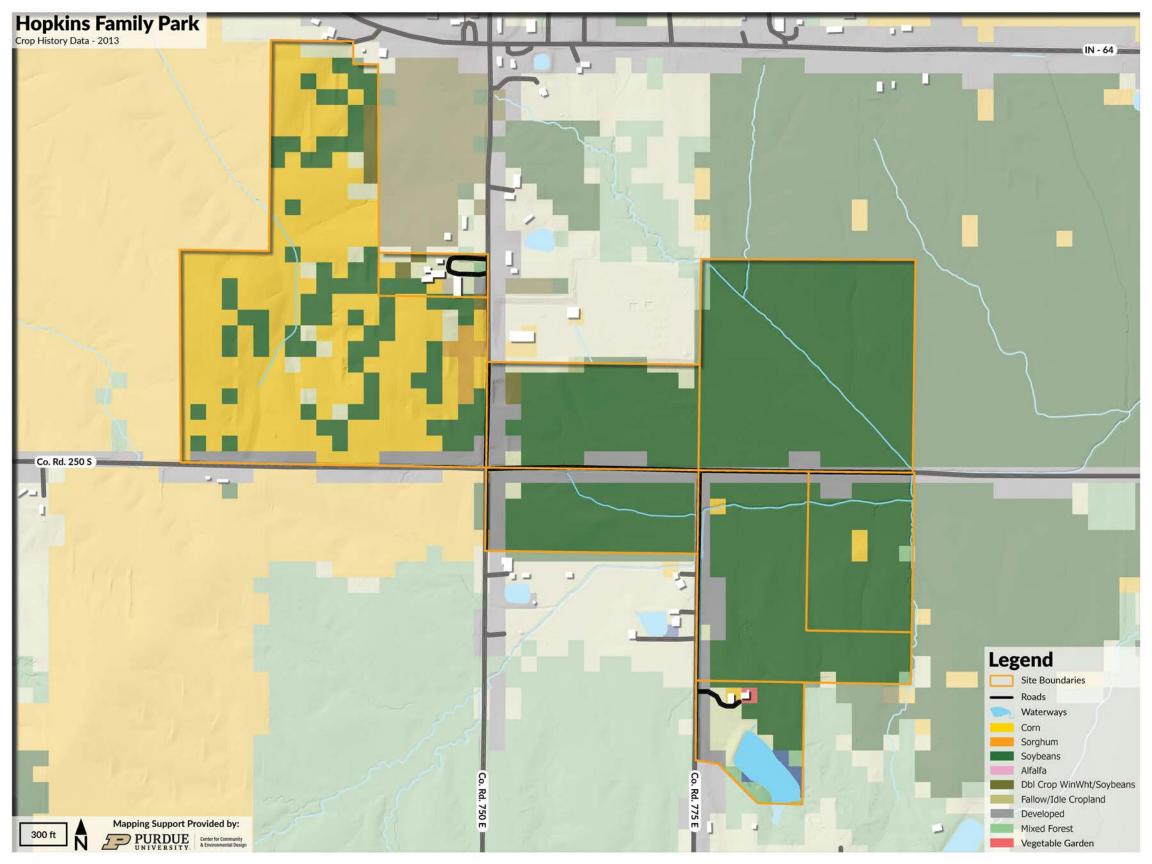


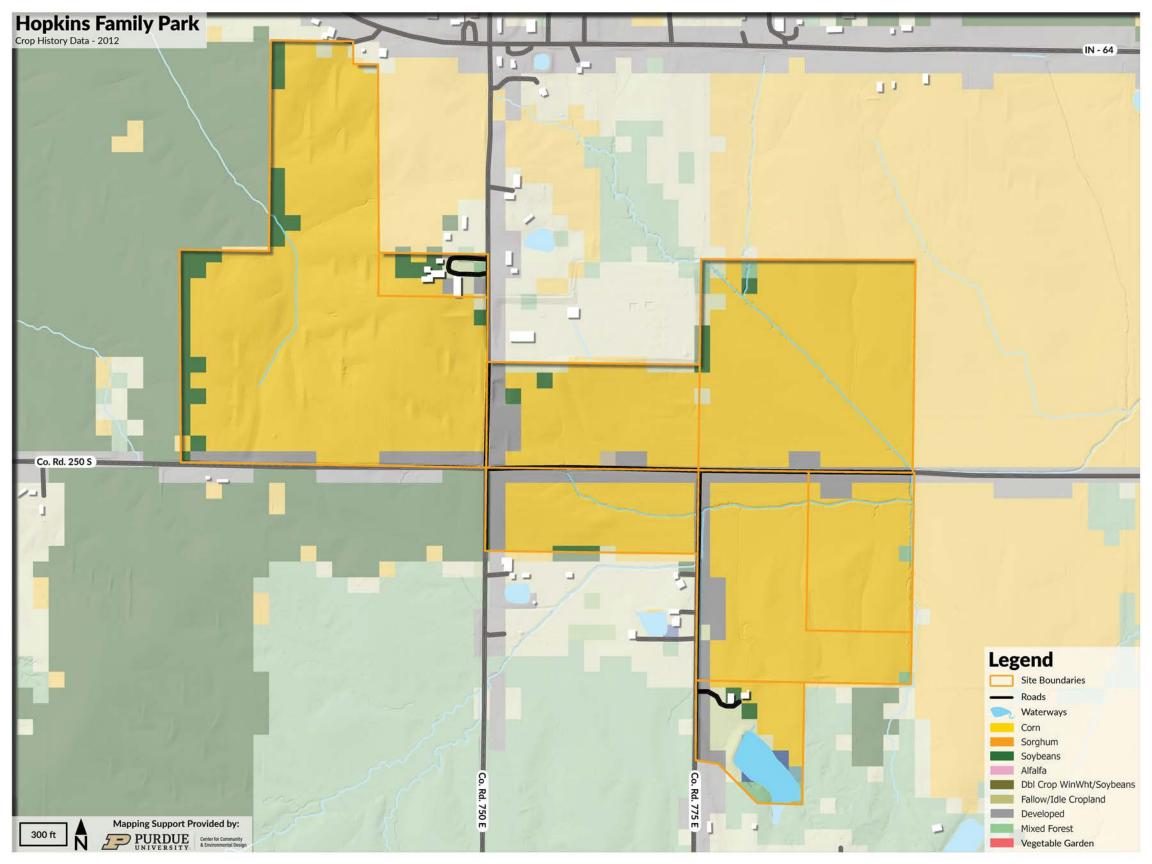


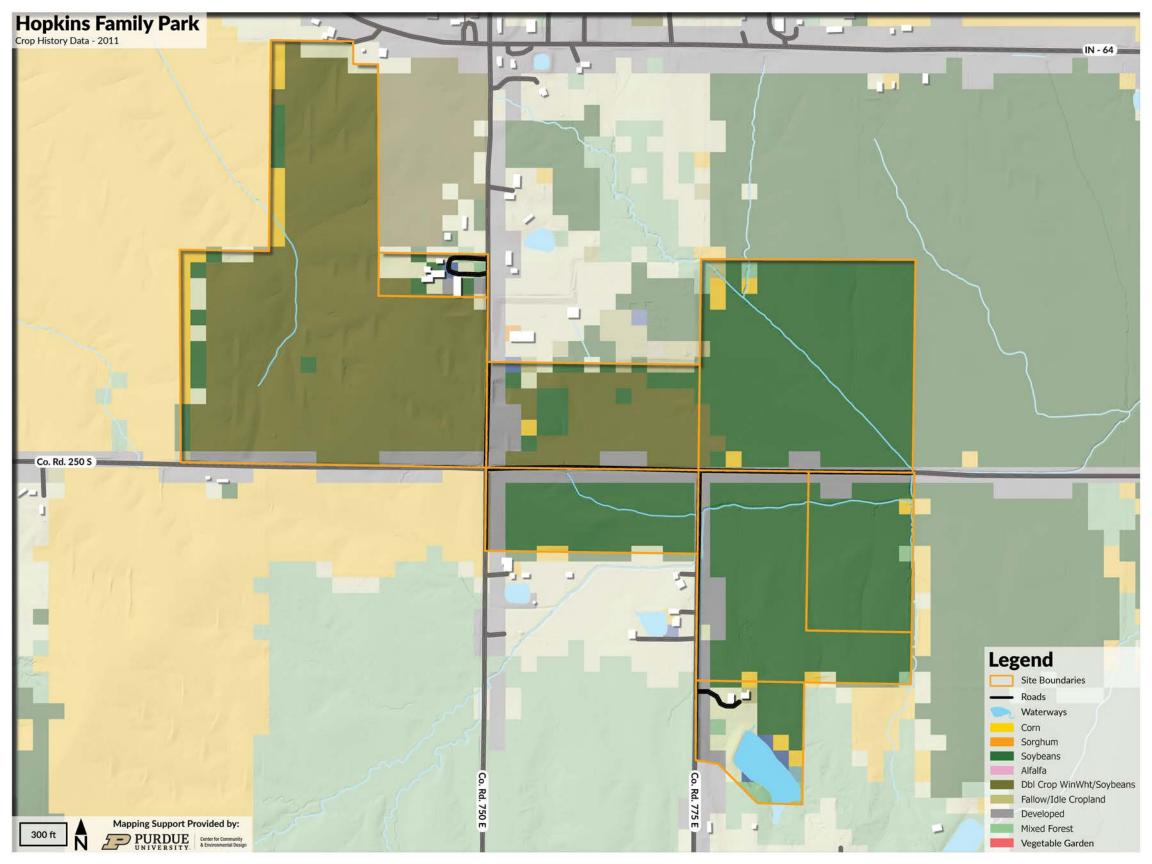


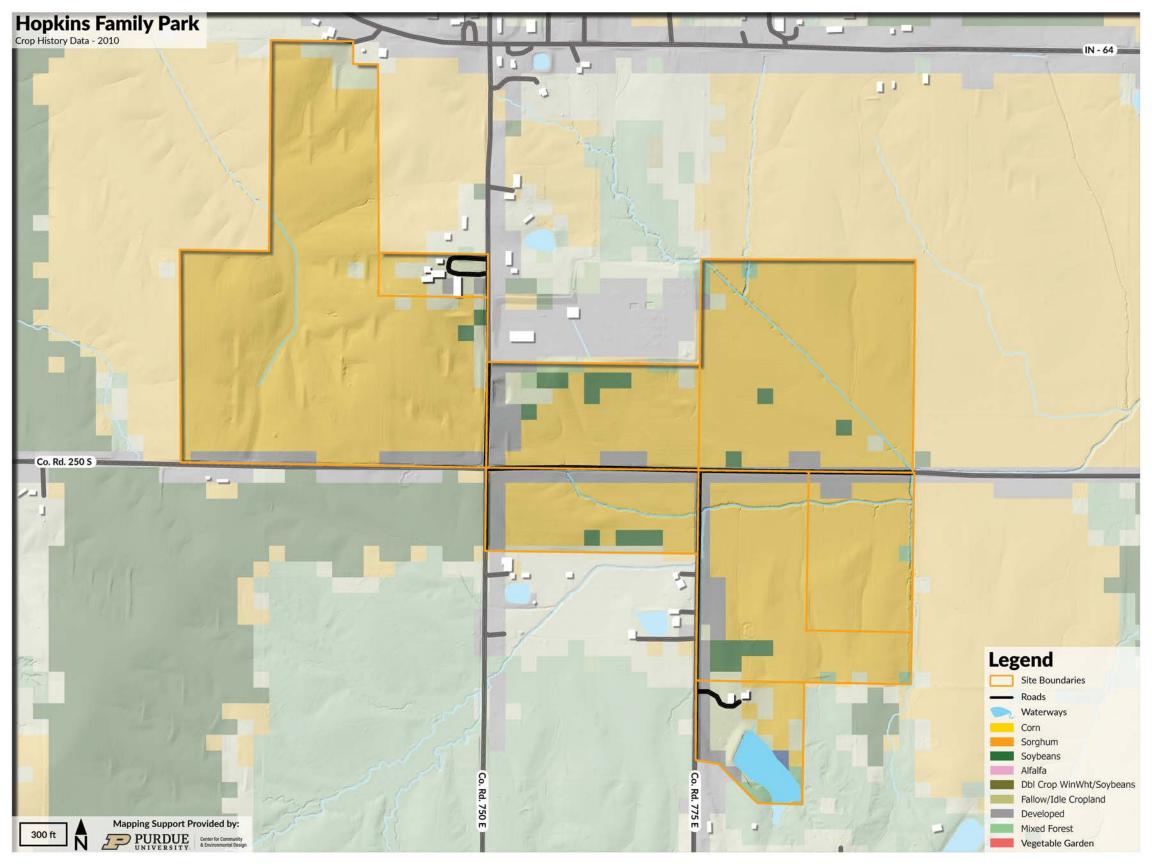


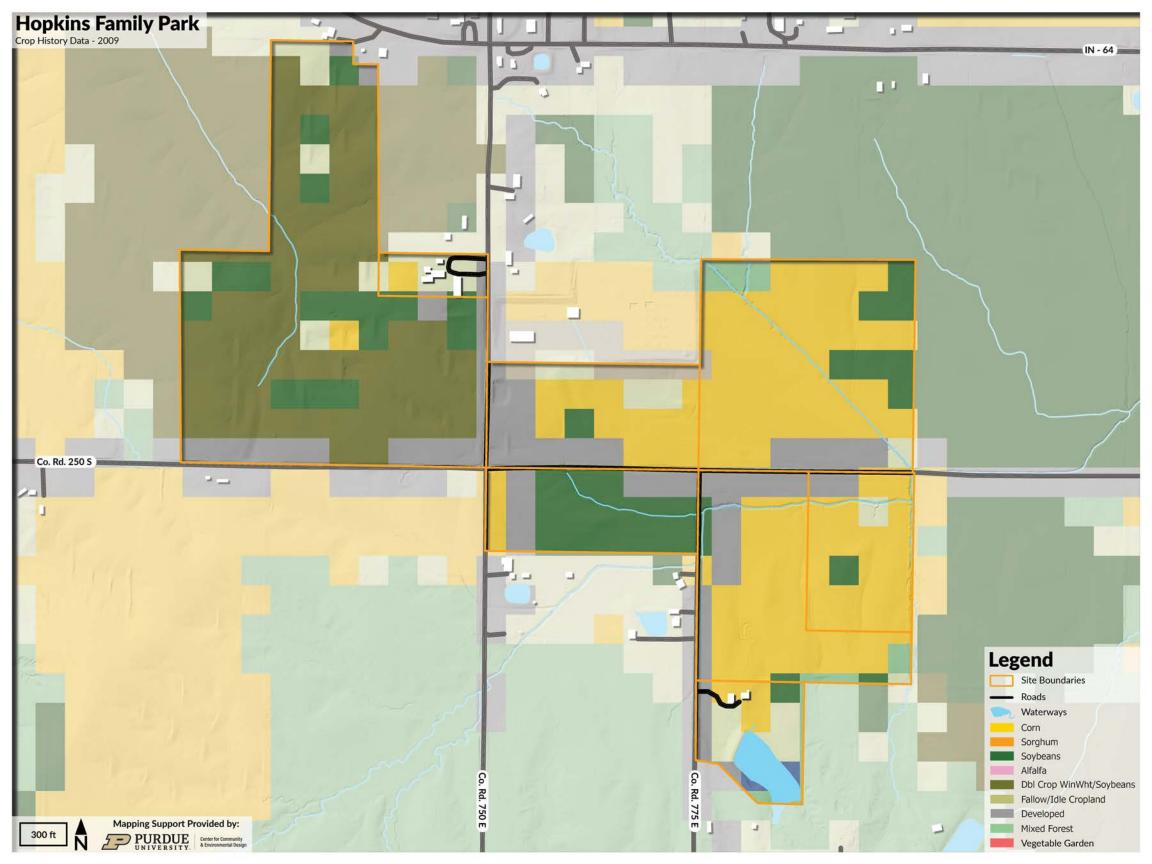


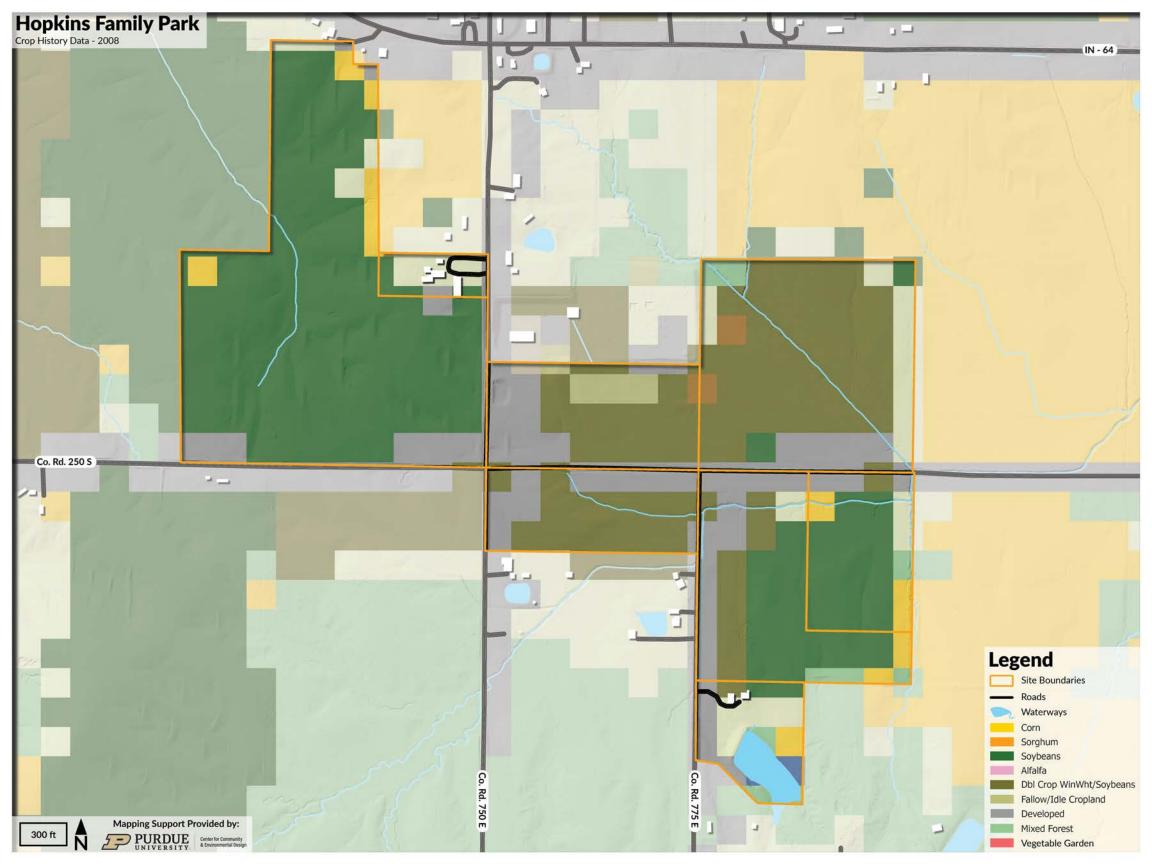


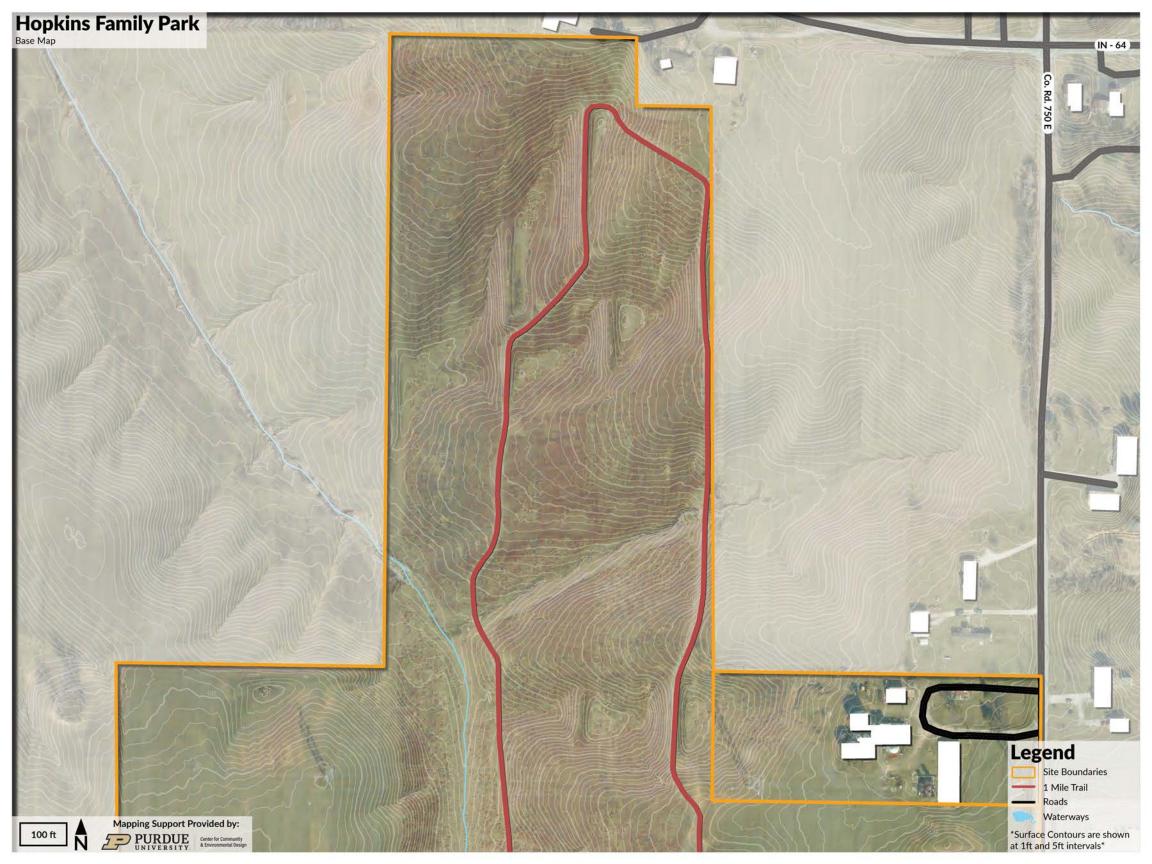


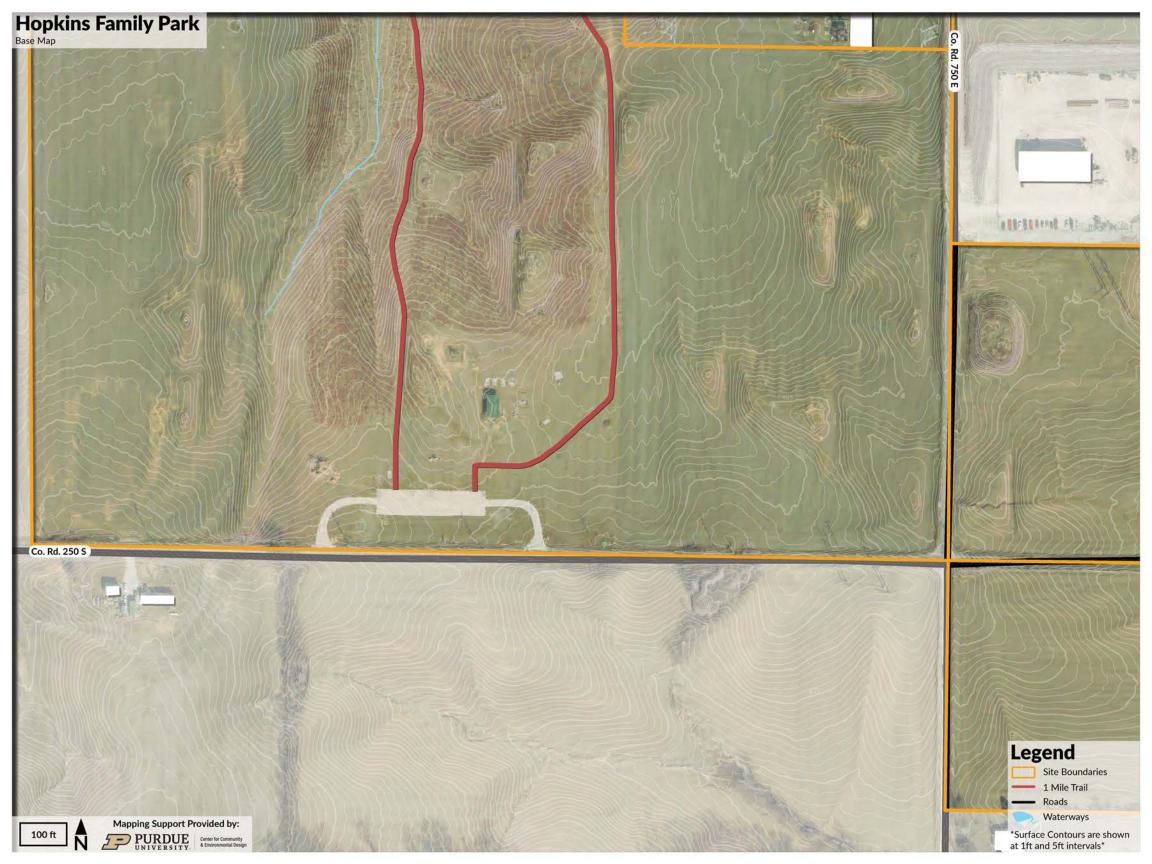




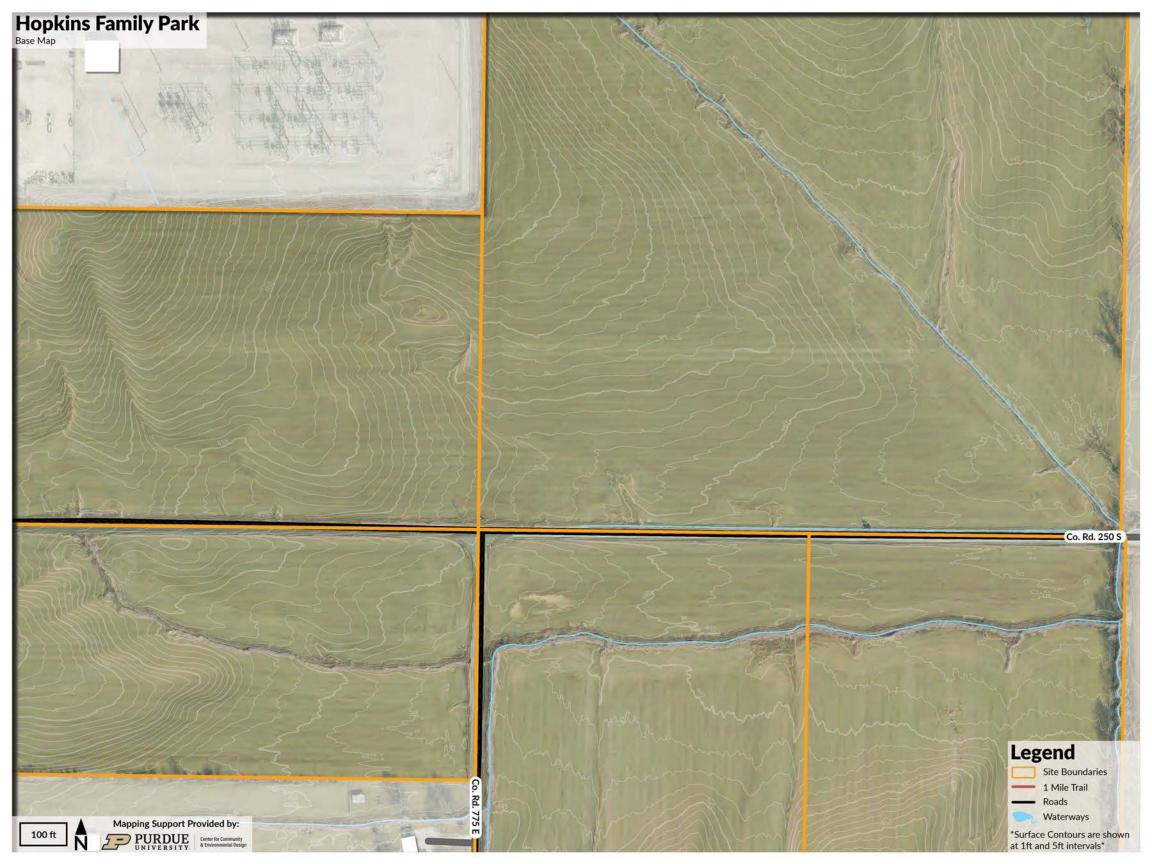


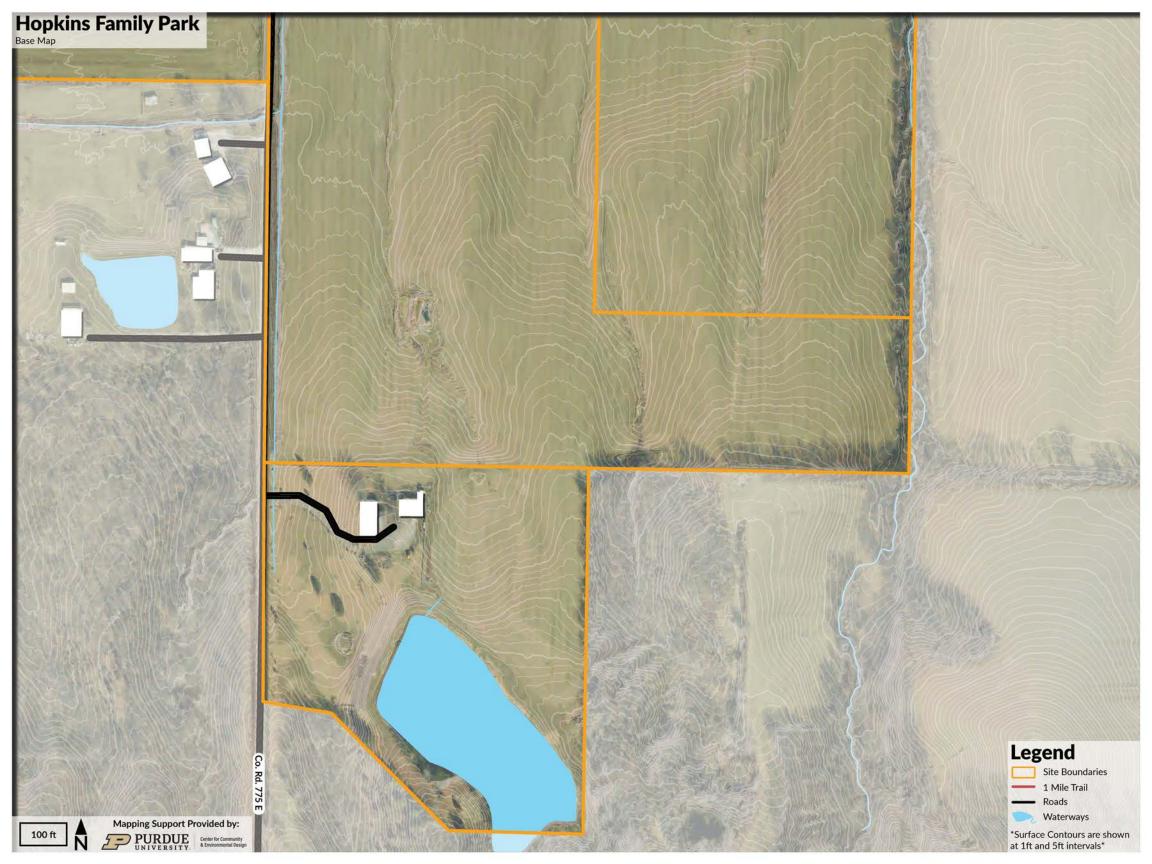








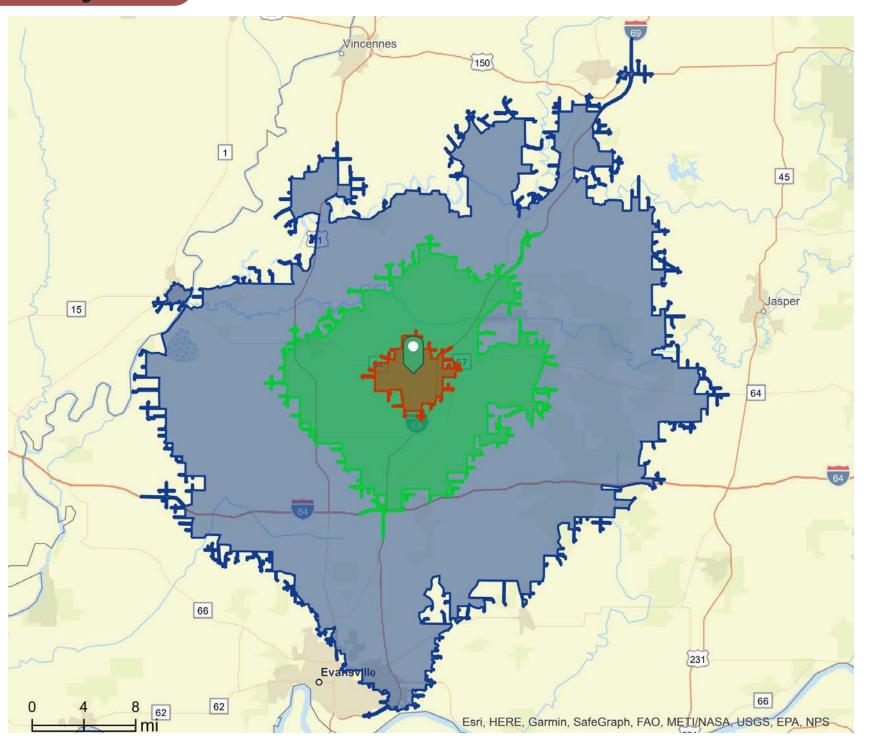




Site Analysis

Social

Study Area



Legend

5 Minute Drive

15 Minute Drive

30 Minute Drive

Sports and Leisure Participation

Highest Participation Rates

the past 6 Months

Attended a Movie in Walking for Exercise

Swimming

Hiking

46.2% 31.9% 16.8% 15.7%

Freshwater Fishing

Camping

Attended Sports Events

Weight Lifting

14.8% 14.6% 14.2% 12.6%

Favorite Sports to Participate in

Golf

Basketball

Soccer

Baseball

9%

6.7% 3.3% 2.8%

At Risk Populations

5 Minute Drive

Population: 1,122
Households: 446
Median Age: 46.4
Households With Disabilities: 163
Population Over 65: 254
Households Without a Vehicle: 32

Language Spoken (ACS)	Age 5-17	18-64	Age 65+	Total
English Only	170	726	195	1,091
Spanish	1	0	1	2
Spanish & English Well	1	0	1	2
Spanish & English Not Well	0	0	0	0
Spanish & No English	0	0	0	0
Indo-European	0	3	11	14
Indo-European & English Well	0	3	11	14
Indo-European & English Not Well	0	0	0	0
Indo-European & No English	0	0	0	0

Asian-Pacific Island	0	0	0	0
Asian-Pacific Isl & English Well	0	0	0	0
Asian-Pacific Isl & English Not Well	0	0	0	0
Asian-Pacific Isl & No English	0	0	0	0
Other Language	0	0	0	0
Other Language & English Well	0	0	0	0
Other Language & English Not Well	0	0	0	0
Other Language & No English	0	0	0	0

15 Minute Drive

Population: 19,171
Households: 7,830
Median Age: 41.9
Households With Disabilities: 2,613
Population Over 65: 3,964
Households Without a Vehicle: 337

Language Spoken (ACS)	Age 5-17	18-64	Age 65+	Total
English Only	3,370	11,480	3,658	18,508
Spanish	30	223	25	278
Spanish & English Well	30	121	21	172
Spanish & English Not Well	0	102	4	106
Spanish & No English	0	0	0	0
Indo-European	131	100	12	243
Indo-European & English Well	131	79	12	222
Indo-European & English Not Well	0	0	0	0
Indo-European & No English	0	21	0	21

Asian-Pacific Island	0	47	12	59
Asian-Pacific Isl & English Well	0	47	12	59
Asian-Pacific Isl & English Not Well	0	0	0	0
Asian-Pacific Isl & No English	0	0	0	0
Other Language	0	14	3	17
Other Language & English Well	0	14	3	17
Other Language & English Not Well	0	0	0	0
Other Language & No English	0	0	0	0

30 Minute Drive

Population: 120,991
Households: 49,592
Median Age: 41.6
Households With Disabilities: 13,197
Population Over 65: 24,049
Households Without a Vehicle: 1,775

Language Spoken (ACS)	Age 5-17	18-64	Age 65+	Total
English Only	18,195	67,507	22,720	108,422
Spanish	464	836	68	1,368
Spanish & English Well	452	661	47	1,160
Spanish & English Not Well	12	165	13	190
Spanish & No English	0	10	8	18
Indo-European	290	573	123	986
Indo-European & English Well	290	466	123	879
Indo-European & English Not Well	0	85	0	85
Indo-European & No English	0	22	0	22

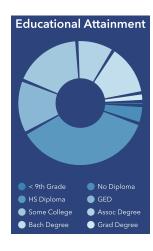
Asian-Pacific Island	141	840	333	1,314
Asian-Pacific Isl & English Well	92	639	312	1,043
Asian-Pacific Isl & English Not Well	49	195	3	247
Asian-Pacific Isl & No English	0	5	18	23
Other Language	3	129	6	138
Other Language & English Well	3	92	6	101
Other Language & English Not Well	0	36	0	36
Other Language & No English	0	0	0	0

Community Profile

5 Minute Drive

Age less than 18: 17.8%
Age between 18-65: 59%
Age more than 65: 18.5%
Median Household Income: \$69,209
Unemployment: 2.3%





15 Minute Drive

Age less than 18: 21.4%
Age between 18-65: 58%
Age more than 65: 21%
Median Household Income: \$61,226
Unemployment: 3.4%

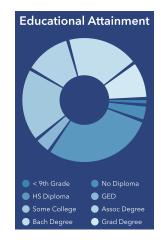




30 Minute Drive

Age less than 18: 22.1%
Age between 18-65: 58%
Age more than 65: 21.1%
Median Household Income: \$71,740
Unemployment: 2.1%





Community Tapestry

5 Minute Drive

Dominant Tapestry Type: Salt of the Earth

Salt of the Earth residents are entrenched in their traditional, rural lifestyles. Citizens here are older, and many have grown children that have moved away. They still cherish family time and also tending to their vegetable gardens and preparing homemade meals. Residents embrace the outdoors; they spend most of their free time preparing for their next fishing, boating, or camping trip. The majority has at least a high school diploma or some college education; many have expanded their skill set during their years of employment in the manufacturing and related industries. They may be experts with DIY projects, but the latest technology is not their forte. They use it when absolutely necessary, but seek face-to-face contact in their routine activities.

15 Minute Drive

Dominant Tapestry Type: Small Town Sincerity

Small Town Sincerity includes young families and senior householders that are bound by community ties. The lifestyle is down-to-earth and semirural, with television for entertainment and news, and emphasis on convenience for both young parents and senior citizens. Residents embark on pursuits including online computer games, renting movies, indoor gardening, and rural activities like hunting and fishing. Residents keep their finances simple—paying bills in person and avoiding debt.

30 Minute Drive

Dominant Tapestry Type: Salt of the Earth



Steady employment in construction, manufacturing, and related service industries. Spending time with family is their top priority.



Cost-conscious consumers, loyal to brands they like, with a focus on buying American.



Outdoor activities, such as fishing, boating, hunting, and camping are popular. To support their pastimes, truck ownership is high.



Try to eat healthy, tracking the nutrition and ingredients in the food they purchase.



Last to buy the latest and greatest products. These conservative consumers prefer to conduct their business in person rather than online.



Small Town Simplicity features a semirural lifestyle, complete with domestic trucks and SUVs, ATVs, and vegetable gardens.



Price-conscious consumers that shop accordingly, with coupons at discount centers.



Community-oriented residents. More conservative than middle-of-the-road.



Many residents favor convenience over cooking frozen meals and fast food.



Rely on television or newspapers to stay informed. Watch NASCAR and college football and basketball on TV.