

Winding Creek Park – Basketball Court Installation Proposal FAQs

1. Is a basketball court needed at Winding Creek Park?

- The Park District’s Master Plan provides an in-depth view of the resources, programs and services provided by our organization. Appendix C, which includes service area maps, indicates Winding Creek Park falls outside the existing service area for basketball. Please see the Service Area Map as Exhibit 1. (Note: similar to trails, installation of additional amenities are considered when there are gaps in Naperville Park District service areas and community support, even when amenities reach or exceed the recommended quantities within the park system.)
- A basketball court is a recreational amenity recommended for smaller Neighborhood Parks and larger Community Parks and District Parks. Winding Creek Park is classified as a Community Park. See below the excerpt from the Park District’s Master Plan regarding Community Parks.

Community Parks (CP) - 2 Mile “Drive-to” Service Area; 15-40 Acres - Community Parks are larger than Neighborhood Parks and are intended to serve 20,000 people and meet the recreational needs of several neighborhoods. The Park District refers to Community Parks as “drive-to” parks, meaning the service area is within a two-mile driving range. Community Parks range in area from 15 to 40 acres, allowing for broader recreational opportunities. Community Parks include passive as well as active amenities and are often lighted for programmed sports. They are also easily accessible by multiple modes of transportation with on-site parking available.
- The Park District continues to see an increased interest in youth basketball per the data below from the Naperville Youth Basketball programs conducted in the Fall and Winter:
 - Winter 2022 – 1,379 players
 - Fall 2022 – 1,590 players (141 left on waitlist)
 - Winter 2023 – 1,627 players (189 left on waitlist)
 - Fall 2023 (in progress)
 - In anticipation of higher basketball interest/demand for this fall 2023 season, the Park District has added 24 new practice slots, in order to accommodate 240 additional players
- The Park District received direct support from residents in the surrounding neighborhoods of Winding Creek Park. Letters indicating an interest in basketball were provided by 3 HOAs within close proximity to Winding Creek Park. During the 2024 Capital Projects Open House Event, the Park District received input from over 50 households in support of the proposed basketball court. On September 1, 2023, the Park District received a petition with 76 signatures to support the proposed basketball court.
- Although basketball is provided at nearby Maplebrook Bath and Tennis Club, as well as Lincoln Junior High and Maplebrook Elementary, these facilities offer limited access to the public. Please see the Existing Basketball locations as Exhibit 2.

2. Why is the basketball court proposed for the north side of Winding Creek Park?

- The Park District considered 2 locations for the proposed basketball court. The first option is located near the north side parking lot and the second option is within the open space off of Redstart Road.
- The open space off of Redstart Road is heavily used by Park District programming, including soccer, flag football and Little League.
- Although t-ball, softball and soccer practice are also programmed on the north side ballfield, the proposed basketball court is located an appropriate distance from the outfield and would not significantly reduce open space utilized by other programming. The proposed location allows for the continued use of the park for drop-in play and park district events, such as Concerts in Your Park.
- There are other basketball court layouts to consider that fit better into existing physical site conditions versus rectangular shaped courts that help foster the development of important skills and fundamentals of the game. See the image that features the circular basketball court layout with 3 posts/goals offered at Wil-O-Way Park since 2002 as Exhibit 3. (Note: the circular basketball court layout offers 1 additional post/goal when compared to 1 rectangular shaped court with 2 posts/goals, with a smaller footprint when compared to 2 basketball courts per the original request from residents.)

3. Will a basketball court increase noise or require lights at the park?

- No major change in noise level at the park is anticipated. The Park District does not intend to program the proposed basketball court. The court would be available for drop-in use by families in the area during normal park hours, from sunrise to one hour past sunset each day.
- The proposed court is approximately 225 feet from the nearest adjacent property line. Note that 67% of outdoor courts within the Park District system are 200 feet or less from adjacent residential property lines. Considering only parks classified as “Neighborhood Parks” and “Community Parks”, the average distance of a basketball court to the nearest adjacent, residential property line is 195 feet.
- Lights will not be proposed for the basketball court.

4. Will a basketball court increase vandalism at the park?

- The Park District currently offers 1 or more outdoor basketball courts at 24 parks in the system. There is no data to suggest that a basketball court is related to an increase in vandalism incidents.
- The invasive plant material along the creek located north of the parking lot is planned to be removed in order to improve views into the park.

5. Will a basketball court impact the existing drainage of the park?

- Winding Creek Park is a 19.09-acre site. The proposed basketball court would increase paved surface by 0.10 acres and will not impact existing drainage.
- The Park District continues to evaluate this aspect and will work to enhance drainage throughout Winding Creek Park.