



Peru-Princeton Rd.

Illinois River

Central  
Webster  
Elm  
Naisson  
Lance  
Oak  
Prairie  
Webster

Mary St  
Cornelia St  
Power St  
Greenwood St  
Spelling St  
4th St  
2nd St

6th St  
Henniessey St  
Tern St  
Dekota St  
Cleveland St  
Erie St  
St. Paul St  
Minnesota St  
Iowa St  
John Mitchell Ave  
Lawrence Ave  
Strong Ave  
Richards St  
Taylor St  
Devin St  
Minnesota St  
Carolina St

Cakole St

Ladd Rd

Northwestern St










Puaski St

Spring Valley-Marguerite Hwy





# Service Area Map

-  Roads
-  Interstate 80
-  Railroads
-  Streams
-  Bureau County Line
-  0.25 Mile Buffers
-  0.5 Mile Buffer
-  City Parks
-  SV City Limits

MAP  
#3



0.2 0 0.2 0.4 Miles



March 2003

Note: Map to be Used  
With Parks Plan Text



Illinois River

Peru-Princeton Rd.

29

6

89

Northwestern St

Ladd Rd

Puaski St

Stripa Valley Marquette Hwy

Oakdale St

John Mitchell Ave

Laybourn Ave

Strong Ave

Richard St

Taylor St

Dakota St

Terry St

Hennessey St

Spalding St

Greenwood St

Power St

Cornelia St

Mary St

St Paul St

Erre St

Cleveland St

David St

Minnesota St

Iowa St

Caroline St

Central

Nelson

Elm










Prarie

Oak

Land



# Future Parks Map

-  Roads
-  Interstate 80
-  Railroads
-  Streams
-  Bureau County Line
-  City Parks
-  Future Parks
-  Future Bike Path
-  SV City Limits

## MAP #4



0.2 0 0.2 0.4 Miles



March 2003

Note: Map to be Used  
With Parks Plan Text



## Evaluation of Existing Parks

This section lists and evaluates what people can find at each municipal park in Spring Valley. Seven parks make up the Spring Valley parks system. The map on Page 3-2 shows the location of the parks in Spring Valley. Each of them serves a particular neighborhood niche with the exception of Kirby Park, which serves the entire community.

### **Kirby Park**

Kirby Park is a 19.6-acre multi-use community park overlooking the Illinois River that is utilized for many town functions. Community gatherings are held there occasionally during the summer months. The park is readily available for both active and passive recreation pursuits. It was created in 1940 and was named for the man (Dr. Kirby) who headed the drive for subscriptions. It is located south of Hall High School at the corners of Devlin and Strong Streets. Kirby Park has a bandstand that was used for concerts for many years before falling into disrepair. Hall uses the main baseball field (Foley Field) for its varsity team. The Spring Valley Little League uses the fields west of Kirby Park. The soccer field at Kirby Park is used for older children. Younger soccer leagues use the fields at Kennedy School. The football field at nearby Hall High School is used by the youth football league and its all-weather track is open to the public. A swimming pool was built south of the original park in 1984 and is open from Memorial Day to Labor Day. An ice skating rink has been set up in the past during the winter months. A parking lot is available for approximately 40 automobiles. Parking is also allowed on the nearby residential streets. The following equipment can be found at Kirby Park:



*Foley Field*

- 1 baseball field
- 1 soccer field
- 2 tennis courts
- 1 basketball court
- 2 sand volleyball courts
- Playground
- 4 picnic shelters with 22 picnic tables
- Concessions and restroom facilities

It is apparent that Kirby Park receives regular maintenance. The park is very picturesque, with large, aging oak trees suspended over much of the passive area. The following points would help further improve Kirby Park.



*Veterans Memorial Pool at Kirby Park*

- Disallow parking on the south side of Devlin Street except during large community gatherings. Cars have the potential to be hit by balls from the baseball field. Parked cars create blind spots for drivers attempting to use the street. Pedestrians are at risk of the moving cars. With the exception of some weekend events, the existing parking lot is sufficient for the number of facility users. The City should look into the possibility of expanding the lot southward.
- The soccer field must be overhauled. It is sloped downward and has many uneven areas that could lead to injuries. It is also used for football games. While a total reconstruction would be most beneficial, it would be most costly. The field should be filled in for any holes.
- An expansion of the park to the south and west would add needed fields for softball/baseball, soccer, and football. Currently, there is a shortage of soccer and football fields. Any addition would lessen the impact on the existing fields and require less costly maintenance.
- Many residents have expressed the desire to add a skate park. Kirby Park would be the ideal candidate for such an element. It would require about 0.25 acres of available space. It should be set aside from the existing equipment and not take away from space reserved for passive recreation needs.

## **Savitch Park**

Savitch Park is a 1.39-acre neighborhood park located on the north side of Spring Valley at the intersections of Spaulding and 2<sup>nd</sup> Streets. The City acquired this block-long property in 1968. It was named after the late Mayor William Savitch. It is intended primarily as an active recreation park. The park is intended only for the residents within a 0.25-mile radius, or a five minute walk. The amount of land available due to the proximity to single-family homes dictates that the park cannot expand. The following equipment can be found at Savitch Park:



*Memorial at Entryway to Savitch Park*

- Playground equipment (2 slides, swing set, 2 swinging tires, jungle gym, merry-go-round)
- Small ballfield (Kowalski Field)
- Picnic shelter with one table
- 6 benches



- 2 vending machines
- A building for miscellaneous storage
- Drinking fountain
- Bicycle rack
- Basketball court on west side of Hennessey Street



*Playground at Savitch Park*

Overall, the park is in solid shape. The softball field is intended primarily for girls softball leagues or as a recreational field for smaller children. Parking is strictly parallel street parking. There are no curbs or gutters, forcing or allowing cars to be parked on sidewalks or lawns. A few items could be improved, including:

- Improve the surfacing under the playground equipment. Currently, gravel is used and can be very uneven with skinned areas that can cause children to trip and fall.
- Swings are missing from the swing set. The swings should either be added or the component should be removed altogether. The structure can serve as a safety hazard for running children.
- Some of the playground equipment could use a coat of paint. In addition, some of the features should be checked for rust, rot, and possible corrosion where the structures come in contact with the ground.
- Kowalski Field has an uneven outfield that can be dangerous. The field has some weeds and small holes. Slight maintenance for a few hours by neighboring residents can upgrade the look of the field.
- The basketball court should be repaved and a layer of acrylic surfacing should be added.

## **Webster Park**

Webster Park is a neighborhood park at the northwest corner of Central and Elm Streets serving the neighborhood east of the Burlington Northern Railroad tracks. The park comprises 0.62 acres, more than half of which is an open field. A few large trees hang over the playground, creating patches of shade. The park site is leased by the City for the enjoyment of people in the Webster Park neighborhood, though the land is available for purchase. Alternative sites should be determined nearby in case the sale of the



*Playground at Webster Park*

property becomes finalized. It is used entirely for active recreation uses; no benches are available.

The following items are available at the park:

- Many playground components (slide, swing set, jungle gym, bouncy toy, merry-go-round, seesaw, and a clown swing set)
- An open field for baseball/softball

The park is intended for non-structured uses. All parking is on the street. Many areas could use improvement. These include:

- The surfacing is inadequate. A resurfacing of the area under the playground equipment is necessary. There is currently a mixture of grass and gravel under the equipment. The area should be leveled and a secure, non-slip material should be placed underneath the entire area. This could be wood chips, fine sand, or fine gravel.
- The park is prone to flooding during heavy rains due to its relatively flat site. This can be eliminated partly from a better irrigation system. The soils may not be perfectly conducive to draining water out in a timely manner. A soils analysis may point out potential modifications.
- Some of the equipment is deteriorating and may be in need of replacement. A checklist of each component would include identifying any broken or missing handrails, guardrails, or steps and repairing any sharp edges or protrusions. Loose materials or foreign objects must be removed. This is a site where new equipment would help revitalize the park.
- The utility pole in the middle of the field is a definite safety hazard. As a general rule, utilities should be buried and poles should never be in the way of a user.
- The open field does not reach its potential and could be upgraded. Some benches would better showcase the field for users.

## Dakota Street Park

Dakota Street Park is the smallest park in the park system, utilizing only 0.17 acres, or about the size of a typical parcel. It is on the west side of town on West Dakota Street. It is a sub-neighborhood park primarily aimed at children living within easy walking distance. Though it is so small, there are active and passive recreation possibilities. It is an important park because of the way it functions as a centerpiece for the west side residents. Because of its small size, its recreation potential is limited to the



*Playground at Dakota Street Park*



playground. Fencing on the east and south sides helps to enclose the park from the bordering homes without acting as a deterrent to potential users. Large oak trees offer shade to the south half of the park but also contribute many broken branches. The items found at the park include:

- Playground equipment (2 merry-go-rounds, swing set, 2 clown swing sets, slide)
- 1 picnic table

Many improvements are needed to bring the playground to standard safety levels. There are a number of ways for children to get hurt using the park. These include:

- Replace the missing swings or remove the swing component altogether. The southern merry-go-round is aging and may need to be replaced.
- The slide height is very high for young children. The slide should either be taken out or protective guardrails must be added. It may not be structurally stable. Low-lying branches are close to the top of the slide and should be trimmed. The slide drop zone requires additional surfacing. Small pebbles or dirt is the existing surface beneath the slide. This does not provide the necessary cushioning, particularly with the height of the slide. New materials should be utilized that will offer the necessary give for the slide users.
- The park requires regular clearing of the dropped branches and trimming of the trees. The branches can act as weapons when used inappropriately or as trip hazards. Downed branches also give the park an unsightly appearance and act as obstacles in the equipment use zones.
- A wasp nest was spotted under the northern merry-go-round. Regular inspections should get rid of any non-equipment problems such as these.

## Baltikauski Park



*Signage at Baltikauski Park*

The newest addition to the Spring Valley parks system, this park was built on Northwestern Street on the far western edge of the town. The small neighborhood park was built in the early 1990's in front of a forest. It is located next to the abandoned Coal Mine Park #3 that can be currently used as an informal hiking trail. The mine is utilized by ice skaters when the weather dictates. As a newer park, general maintenance is not currently an issue. All parking is on Northwestern Street. Park components include:

- Playground equipment (2 swing sets, 3 bouncy toys, 2 merry-go-rounds, slide, jungle gym)

The Coal Mine Park #3 has opportunities for park development with some cleanup and minimal maintenance. The land is not suitable for any built development due to its clay base, but would be ideal for passive open space or trails. Further into the future, the trails could be used to connect to a trail traveling east-west near the Illinois River which would serve as the Spring Valley connector for the Grand Illinois and American Discovery Trails.

### **Coal Mine Park #1**

This privately-owned 22.6 acre park is located on an abandoned mine property on the southeast side of Spring Valley. A hill used for sledding is the highest point in Spring Valley at about 620 feet and provides views of the Illinois River. Fishing is allowed on the pond on the northwest side of the park. The year-round park contains an existing mile-long trail on the property. The City has been involved in negotiations for further development for years. The site has a small, unlined gravel parking lot for as much as 10 cars. Plans are being determined to create multiple trail sections throughout the mine property. Future extensions would serve as a portion of the Grand Illinois Trail. Eight four-foot wide sections would be included, plus the extension off the I&M Canal trail would cross nearby. A gazebo would be built atop the hill and a 16' x 24' shelter would be located next to the pond. A larger parking lot would make it more likely to accommodate additional users. The trail sections would move to the following areas:

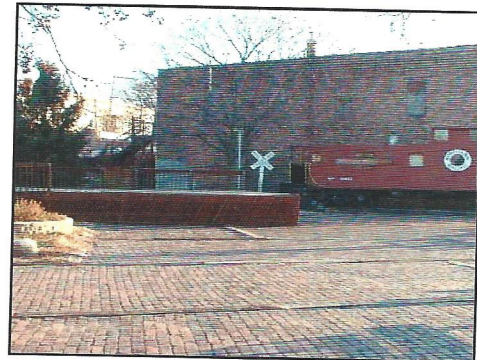


*Possible connector to the future Grand Illinois Trail*

- 1200 feet around the parking lot
- 330 feet from St. Paul Street to the shelter
- 700 feet paralleling the pond
- 300 feet from the parking lot to an Access Road
- 1275 feet from the pond around the hill to the Access Road
- 1800 feet for an Access Road starting at St. Paul Street
- 75 feet for a fixed deck bridge over the pond
- 400 feet for a sled run and gazebo sidewalk down the hill

### **Mini Park**

This small, City majority-owned park is located downtown and provides a respite for shoppers and workers. It contains many benches, encouraging people to relax. The park hosts Municipal Band



*The stage at the downtown Mini Park*



concerts each Friday night during the summer. It is intended for small gatherings and not for larger concerts that would cause safety problems for passing motorists.

### **Barto Landing**

Barto Landing is located on the north side of the Illinois River and serves as a calm-water lagoon boat-launch. It is the only calm-water public access for 40 miles. It is heavily utilized by residents and visitors. The Spring Valley Master Walleye Club sponsors the largest professional fishing tournament in the U.S. in March. The MWC Tournament attracts people from all over the country.

### **Spring Creek Golf Course**

The public golf course serves as the only course within the community and is open year-round. Located on the north edge of Spring Valley near I-80, it was built around the meandering Spring Creek and offers 18 unique holes. The clubhouse is open for lunch and dinner.

## Land Assessment

The matrix found on Page 3-11 shows the size and amenities found in the Spring Valley parks system. This plan evaluates only the non-school parks within the city limits, or parks that the city has the authority to maintain. The general condition of the Spring Valley parks is good. With a few exceptions, normal cleanup, rehabilitation, and expansion of the existing parks would be a better fiscal alternative than building new parks on the same or different sites. There is a total of 3,611 acres within the corporate limits. Presently, 48.77 acres of land are devoted to recreational pursuits. Barto Landing does not fit into this classification. This is 7.9 acres less than the desired amount of land dedicated to parks and recreation. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources recommends 10.5 acres of usable park space per each 1,000 residents. According to IDNR, Spring Valley should have 56.7 acres.

Much of the land and facilities emphasize active types of recreation. This is typical with most parks. The bulk of the passive recreation is at the Coal Mine Park #1. Each park should contain a balance between active and passive types of recreation. Active types will still contain the bulk of the devoted land due to the space needed for most of the activities. The proposed enhancements to the Coal Mine Park #1 would greatly add to the passive possibilities and encourage trail usage. A link to a regional trail system, such as the Grand Illinois Trail, would also offer residents additional recreation choices.

Two alternatives are possibilities. The first alternative would follow a route paralleling the Illinois River and the CSX Railroad tracks. The map on the following page shows an aerial photograph of a portion of the territory where a second linkage could be located along Spring Valley-Marquette Highway before turning onto Dakota Street. Both routes would utilize Spring Valley-Marquette Highway. The second alternative would move east on Dakota Street, then south on Lawrence Avenue, then east on Devlin Street, then north on Cornelia Street, and finally east on St. Paul Street. It would connect to the Coal Mine Park #1 and its proposed trails. An extension to Peru near the CSX Railroad tracks would connect with the park. If the trail were to keep this route through Spring Valley, proper safety precautions must take place. These would include the possibility of building sidewalks where lacking or blocking the needed right-of-way from automobile traffic, incorporating the necessary street markings, and creating interpretive and wayfinding signs. These are particularly essential where pedestrian/bicycle and automobile traffic will utilize the same throughways. The first alternative would have less impact on the existing traffic pattern but would not take visitors through the downtown.







**Summary of Spring Valley Parks Facilities**

Location/Park Type	Size (Acres)	Baseball Field	Soccer Field	Tennis Court	Basketball Court	Playground	Volleyball Court	Swimming Pool	Golf Holes	Bikeway/Hiking	Boat Launch	Fishing Area	Stage	Picnic Shelter	Picnic Tables	Concessions	Restrooms	Parking Lot	
<i>City Parks</i>																			
Batilkowski Park	0.4					x													
Coal Mine Park	2.26									x		x							x
Dakota St. Park	0.17					x									1				
Kirby Park	21.2	1	1	2	1	x	2	1				1	4	22	x	x	x		
Mri Park	0.2											1							
Savitch Park	2.4	1			1	x							1	1					
Webster Park	1.8					x													
<b>CITY TOTAL</b>	<b>48.77</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	
<i>Schools</i>																			
Kennedy School*	9.64		2			x													x
Lincoln School	0.54					x													x
Hill High School	7.77	2														x	x	x	
<i>Other Parks</i>																			
Barro Landing	4.69																		x
Spring Creek Golf Course	129.35							18			x	x						x	x
* Includes the whole school property																			



## Spatial Assessment

The parks in Spring Valley are spread out so that most people are within walking distance of physical recreation. The map on Page 3-13 shows an analysis of the spatial distribution of the parks. The buffers around each park show a distance of 0.25 miles, or a five-minute walk. This was used as the maximum allowable walkable distance to ensure safety of all participants to a neighborhood level park. Parks that offer some type of physical exertion and do not require fees or extra equipment were used in the analysis. These consisted of athletic fields, playgrounds, or trails. Seven parks meet this requirement in Spring Valley. The second buffer outlines a distance of 0.5 miles around Kirby Park, or a 10 minute walk. As the only community park in Spring Valley, Kirby Park is a destination park for most users. Therefore, it receives more automobile traffic than any other park and is not necessarily used only by adjacent residents.

The majority of the developed area is serviced by a nearby park. One large exception is the central business district area, though Kirby Park is intended to serve people within a mile radius. The downtown mini park on St. Paul Street aims only at passive recreation. The largest residential area not within the required distance of a park is the far western side. Baltikauski and Dakota Street Parks are the closest parks and are only intended for children nearby. It is not aimed at a wider population. Each is an active recreational attraction that aims at a very specific user group. The Coal Mine Park #3 next to Baltikauski Park has the potential to serve a wider audience. There is no park towards the I-80 interchange near U.S. Route 6. This area is sparsely developed and populated and is not in need of a park at this time. Land should be acquired to plan for parks and open space when development is foreseen on the northwest portion of Spring Valley.

The location of any new parks depends on where population growth figures to occur. Little residential development has resulted in the last two decades. Possible growth areas would include east along U.S. Route 6, west along Illinois Route 29 and Northwestern Street, and north near Greenwood Street and Peru-Princeton Road. The best possible area for a new community park or athletic field complex is at Greenwood and Peru-Princeton. The construction of a park of this magnitude would depend less on additional population gain and more on local and regional recreation needs. As a general development rule, new construction should require a donation in the form of land or money to be used in the design of new parks or the rehabilitation of existing parks. This impact fee would ensure that any infrastructure improvements do not lag behind the levels of usage. The map on Page 3-14 identifies possible locations for future parks and trails. It is not meant to specify exact locations for parks but rather general areas that could benefit due to future recreation needs and new developments.

## Recreation Trends

IDNR issues recreational standards for towns to follow during parks planning activities. The standards are based on the average reporting town in Illinois and national trends in recreation participation. Sports surveys can be used to detect changes in usage and program areas that may be lacking. They help lead to where athletic fields may be necessary. National surveys have found that more recent sports involvement has moved towards individual sports and away from team sports, with the exception of basketball and soccer. The following table lists some popular “traditional” athletic activities. A participant is defined as any activity that was partaken at least once within the last 12 months.

**Table 14 – Traditional Athletic Activity Participation**

Program	10-Year National Trend
Basketball	+7.3 percent
Baseball	-10.7 percent
Softball	-48.5 percent
Volleyball	-88.3 percent
Soccer	+39.0 percent
Touch Football*	-36.0 percent

Source: National Sporting Goods Association, 1991-2001

\* Percent Change is for 1995-2001

Other “traditional” athletic activities that have seen minimized participation include racquetball, tennis, and badminton. Bowling, golf, and billiards/pool continue to see steadily increasing participation. Most outdoors activities have seen decreases. The few activities that have had increases are kayaking, trail running, hiking, and recreational walking. Those that have had decreases are recreational swimming, camping, bicycling, canoeing, rafting, water skiing, hunting, target shooting, fishing, and ice skating. Many of these latter categories are utilized as regional recreation attractions and based on the relative location to support such activities. The three activities that experience the most participation are exercise walking, swimming, and camping. Though many traditional activities are decreasing in participation, more money has been spent each year on sporting equipment. This could be a sign that certain sports are becoming more costly for a portion of the population to have the necessary equipment.

Surveys are also done on a state-by-state basis to determine the likelihood of participation in 38 sports. Dividing the state’s percentage of participants in a particular activity by its percentage of the U.S. population creates the National Sporting Goods Association State-by-State Index. For example, Illinois has 6.1% of the total inline skating participants and 4.4% of the U.S. population. This yields an index of 139, indicating Illinois residents are 1.39 times as likely to participate in inline skating than the national average. The top five categories in Illinois are inline skating, golf, bicycle riding, horseshoe pitching, and baseball.



With the exception of baseball, each of these would utilize passive recreation facilities. The 1.39 index is the second lowest top ranked category for the lower 48 states. This backs up the notion that Illinois citizens participate in many distinct activities, but have few that are popular among all residents.

Participation and membership trends have pointed to more “alternative” sports, particularly with the younger users. Television has helped accentuate this with coverage of events such as the X Games. Skateboarding, artificial wall climbing, wakeboarding, paintball, snowboarding, in-line skating, and mountain biking have all increased nearly exponentially. Many towns have either built skateboard parks or view them as their top recreation construction priority. People are interested in the variety that these activities offer and the individuality that is usually promoted.

The age of the participant has an affect on the type of physical fitness someone is most likely to be interested in. Specific park user surveys can more accurately describe what types of activities Spring Valley should plan for. Younger users (6-17 years of age) are most likely to be interested in team sports (softball, soccer, basketball, etc.). Indoors sports (bowling, billiards/pool, table tennis) become more popular among those ages 18-24. These are activities that have a higher usage on weekends and evenings. Participants aged 25 and up tend to select more outdoors activities (kayaking, swimming, hiking, etc.). The following table identifies the number of participants by age group from a sample of a January 2002 national survey.

**Table 15 – Frequent Sports Participants Ages 6-24 (Thousands)**

	<u>6-11</u>	<u>12-17</u>	<u>18-24</u>	<u>25-34</u>	<u>35+</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
<b>Team</b>	6,500	9,805	3,874	2,607	3,680	26,466
<b>Extreme</b>	5,080	5,029	1,732	1,158	1,186	14,185
<b>Outdoors</b>	2,845	3,205	2,861	3,144	9,933	21,988
<b>Indoors</b>	1,457	3,171	4,424	2,619	7,986	19,657
<b>Fishing</b>	2,360	1,976	1,944	2,462	6,305	15,047
<b>Shooting</b>	679	1,447	1,604	1,604	4,202	9,722
<b>Racquet</b>	508	1,170	517	517	2,306	5,406
<b>Snow</b>	767	1,064	655	570	1,337	4,393
<b>Water</b>	492	976	612	632	1,893	4,605

Source: American Sports Data, Inc. – Sector Analysis Report, 2002

**Table 16 – Participation in Outdoor Recreation Activities in Illinois**

Activity	Percentage of Adult Respondents (age 18 or more) Participating
Bicycling	44.2
Fishing	27.1
Golfing	18.0
In-line Skating	12.1
Observing Wildlife / Birdwatching	40.4
Outdoor Basketball	23.9
Picnicking	49.2
Pleasure Driving / Sightseeing	66.0
Pleasure Walking	76.0
Running / Jogging	38.2
Soccer	5.1
Softball / Baseball	23.4
Swimming in an Outdoor Pool	44.3
Tennis	9.8

Source: Illinois Department of Natural Resources

While no data is available for the number of outdoor recreation activities participants in Spring Valley, 1997 Illinois Outdoor Recreation Activities data can lead to some conclusion which activities a typical person would be most likely to participate. Pleasure walking and pleasure driving/sightseeing are the only two activities among those respondents age 18 and up that have at least a 50 percent participation rate. The previous table lists a number of outdoor activities and their corresponding participation rates.

The average number of park facilities per 1,000 population is used to determine assessments of current parks facilities and amenities. IDNR issues statewide surveys to local governments every five years to determine a base for Illinois future facilities needs. The surveys are fairly accurate and can be applied to most communities, though larger cities have needs that generally do not apply to smaller towns. Certain facilities have averages that can be skewed, as shown in the next table. For example, one golf course of 18 holes in Spring Valley gives it an average of 3.34 per 1,000 population. Some of these categories have significant variances and therefore, larger standard deviations.



**Table 17 – Recreation Facilities Inventory**

Facility	Average Number in Illinois per 1,000 Population	Number in Spring Valley per 1,000 Population
Baseball & Softball Fields	.74	.74
Basketball Courts	.38	.37
Fishing Piers & Docks	.17	0
Golf Course (holes)	1.30	3.34
Hiking Paths (miles)	.59	.19
Picnic Shelters	.83	.93
Playgrounds	.78	.93
Soccer Fields	.21	.19
Swimming Pools	.48	.19
Tennis Courts	.87	.37
Volleyball Courts	.19	.37

Spring Valley meets or exceeds the statewide averages in most recreation categories. Four categories are below the averages. First, there are no public fishing piers or docks in the community. The location on the Illinois River and the annual fishing tournament would suggest the demand is there to consider construction of a dock for public use. Second, the one-mile hiking trail at the Mine #1 site is the only path available to residents. This is one-third of what should be expected and underscores the few passive recreation opportunities in Spring Valley. The additions to the Mine #1 site and the potential future construction of the Kaskaskia Alliance Trail would greatly expand upon this number. Third, there is a shortage of swimming pools in the community when compared to the statewide averages. The pool at Kirby Park is sufficient for the current population and users and the construction of an additional pool would only be needed with a future population surge or greater increase in the amount of land annexed into the city. Fourth, the .37 tennis courts per 1,000 population is much less than the Illinois average. Besides requiring three more courts to reach the minimum level, the two courts at Kirby Park are in need of improvements.