

LAKE TAGHKANIC STATE PARK MASTER PLAN

Proposed Actions

Natural Resources

- Expand on the existing knowledge and protection of Rare, Threatened, and Endangered (RTE) species, species of Special Concern (SC), and Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) in the Park.
- Develop and implement an Environmental Stewardship Plan for LTSP.
- Expand invasive species management efforts; develop and implement programs to promote public engagement and participation in invasive species management.
- Maintain the water quality of Lake Taghkanic by protecting the watershed’s integrity and headwaters.

Cultural Resources

- Renovate and retrofit the East Bathhouse as a community center with flexible interior spaces for programs, meetings, and other public uses and public outdoor space (e.g., patio, seating, fire pit).
- Dedicate a portion of the CCC-built East Bathhouse for education and interpretation.
- Improve the CCC cabins by addressing needed repairs and upgrade with outdoor amenities, where appropriate.
- Renovate the CCC Recreation Hall.
- Upgrade utilities at the Park’s rental cottages, repair deteriorated materials, and address code and accessibility issues where possible.
- Address circulation and site drainage issues around the Cottages; repair eroded and compacted areas and improve visitor access to the lakefront.
- Replace three rental Cottages with ADA accessible units.
- Demolish and remove the barn and house at the Park’s Reesa Farm section.

Recreational Resources

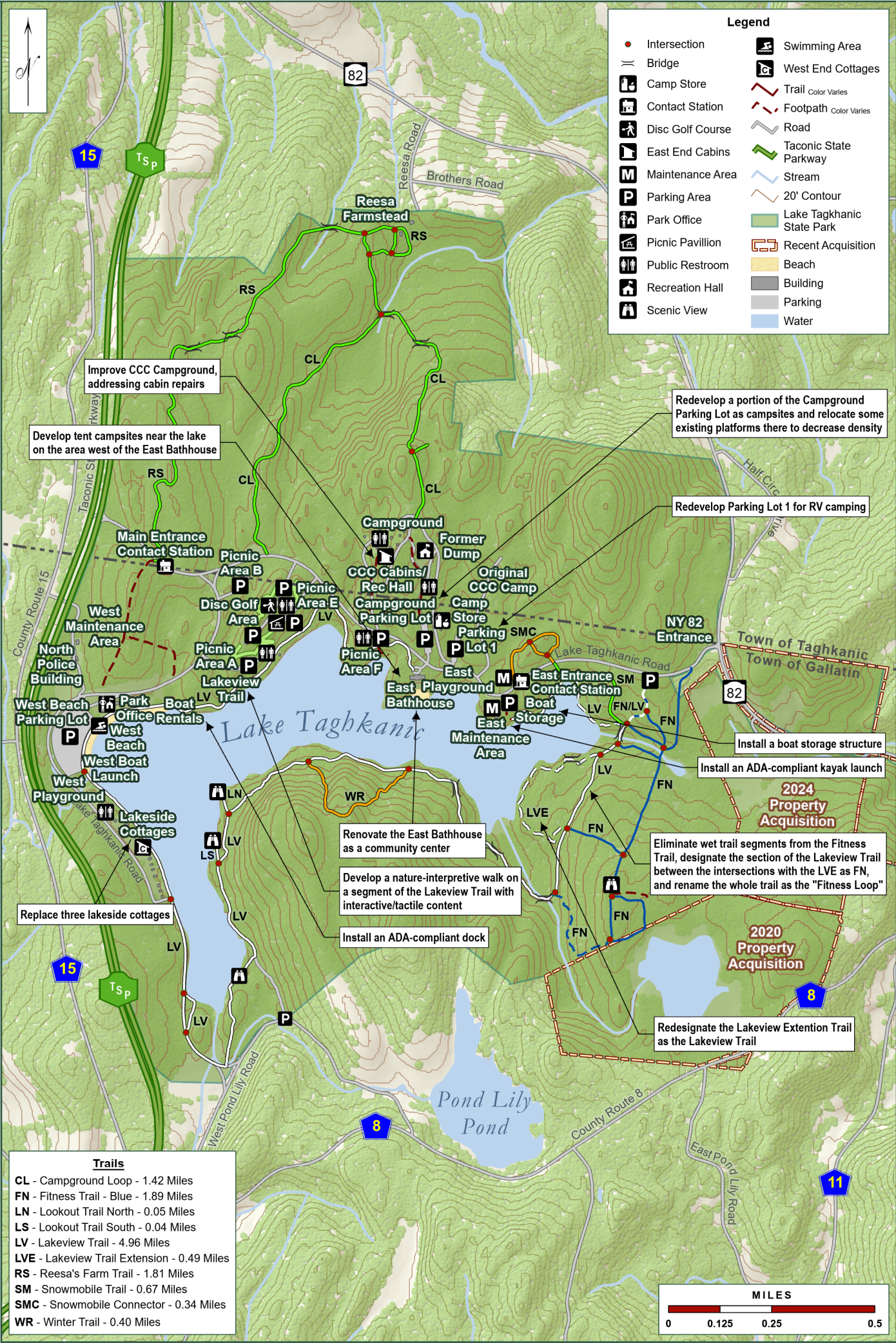
- Enhance biking amenities to facilitate non-vehicular transportation within the Park.
- Explore options for providing bike/scooter rentals for use within the Park.
- Install a pickleball court at Parking Lot B.
- Update the Basketball Court to meet current safety standards.
- Improve the drainage, raise, and resurface the ballfield.
- Install a boat storage structure by the East Boat Launch.
- Relocate the East Boat Launch for more direct access to the lake.
- Install an ADA-compliant kayak launch at the East Boat Launch.
- Improve the Park’s boat rental facilities by adding an ADA-compliant dock and upgrading connectivity for credit card use at the rental shed.
- Install an ADA-compliant fishing pier at the West Beach.

Trails

- Repair or re-route low, wet, unsustainable, and eroded sections of the Park’s existing trail system – repair culverts and bridges.
- Develop and implement a park-wide Trail Wayfinding Signage and Marking Plan.
- Improve the Snowmobiling experience by clearly indicating, both on the map and through signage on the trails, where snowmobiles are permitted.
- Expand the existing parking lot at the trail kiosk by the East Entrance (NY 82).
- Rehabilitate and improve the Lakeview Trail (LV) on the south side of the lake and designate the Lakeview Extension Trail (LVE) as the new Lakeview Trail for hiking.
- Eliminate wet trail segments of the Fitness Trail (FN), designate the section of the Lakeview Trail between the two intersections with the LVE as part of the FN, rename the trail as the Fitness Loop, and improve signage.
- Develop a true Campground Loop Trail by adding an east-west cross trail connection from the left branch of the Campground Loop back to the Campground Loop trailhead; adjust the location of the Campground Loop trailhead for better access and less intrusion into campsites.
- Assess potential route options for creating an east-west trail connection between the Reesa’s Farm Trail and the Campground Loop and implement if a viable route is determined.
- Evaluate route options for a trail connecting from the Campground Loop east to the gravel parking lot by the East Entrance (NY 82) and implement if a viable route option is determined.
- Develop a linear trail in the southeast portion of the Park from County Route 8 to the Fitness Trail, with a spur leading to the Wildlife Viewing Area.
- Investigate options for connecting existing trails to the newly acquired property on old NY 82 and implement if appropriate.
- Investigate the possibility of connecting the LTSP trail network to New Forge State Forest and implement, as appropriate.

Education, Programming and Outreach

- Develop new programs that will engage both existing and new visitors and attract area residents to the Park year-round.
- Develop and implement nature programming for visitors of all ages.
- Develop educational programs and content that will expand access for visitors, including multilingual content.



- Create seasonal, “floating” staff positions to develop and implement educational content at multiple parks across the Taconic Region.
- Develop an accessible interpretive route that incorporates a conceptual “timeline” that illustrates the site’s progression from prehistory to the present.
- Create short, entertaining informational videos to inform and educate visitors about the Park’s amenities and expectations for behavior.
- Educate visitors about the historic value of the cabins and other CCC buildings to raise awareness of their significance.
- Explore possibilities for partnerships to support the development of new programs and activities.
- Expand the Park’s interpretative content and incorporate multi-modal methodologies (e.g., audio, visual, programming, tactile/interactive elements).
- Develop a nature-interpretive walk along a segment of the Lakeview Trail with interactive/tactile content appropriate for a greater range of abilities.
- Develop a Comprehensive Signage Plan that assesses the Park function and needs, with recommendations for all signage types, including wayfinding, informational, and interpretive signs.

Infrastructure and Operations

- Redevelop a portion of the Campground Parking Lot for tent campsites and relocate some existing tent platforms into the new area to decrease density.
- Improve the campground’s vehicular circulation, creating a more defined entrance that provides an improved “gateway” experience for campers.
- Redevelop Parking Lot 1 for RV camping.
- Develop new tent campsites in the area west of the East Bathhouse.

- Improve the accessibility of selected cabins in the campground.
- Relocate the East Maintenance Area to an adjacent location (at an existing fueling station/pole barn) with updated facilities.
- Improve and update the West (Parkway) Maintenance Area at its current location.
- Replace the Park Police Building with a new facility in a different location.
- Remodel and update the existing Park Police Building.
- Rehabilitate the West Beach Parking Area with green infrastructure including permeable pavement, tree islands, pedestrian walks, EV chargers, and bicycle racks.
- Relocate contact booths at the West (Parkway) Entrance further into Park and add electric/phone service, security components, and a battery-operated payment system.
- Relocate the Park’s East Entrance booth and provide electric/phone service and a battery-operated payment system.
- Create a shared-use trail on the section of the Lakeview Trail between the West Beach and the Campground.
- Improve pedestrian facilities in paved areas by painting lined routes and crosswalks.
- Improve connectivity in the Park by installing fiber-optic cable for broadband connectivity at key points.
- Relocate electric lines currently on poles in recreation areas underground.
- Increase the Park’s quantity production of potable water.
- Modernize the Park’s wastewater system.
- Complete the formal process for closing the landfill site.
- Investigate opportunities for developing a free-standing solar project at the Park.
- Install small-scale solar installations on existing rooftops (cottages, bathrooms, maintenance buildings).
- Incorporate solar elements as part of the redevelopment of the West Beach Parking Lot.

