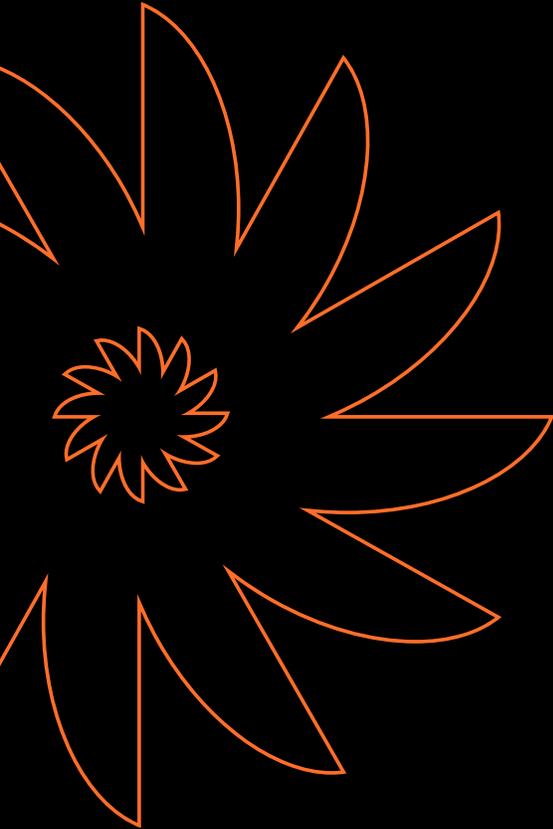




2025 ANNUAL REPORT

*Portage Park &
Recreation Department*



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GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

01

Park & Recreation Board

Chuck Sulik, Chairperson
Shannon Dunahee, Alderperson
Kyle Bernander, Alderperson
Ed Carlson, Portage School District Representative
Tyler Kamrath, Community Member
Kelsey Wilcox, Community Member

City of Portage Staff

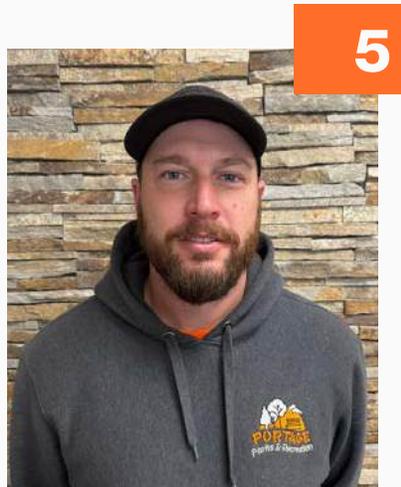
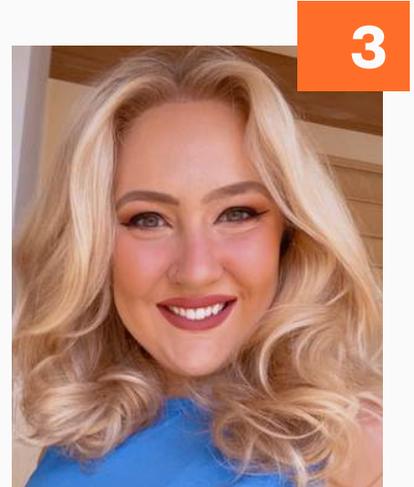
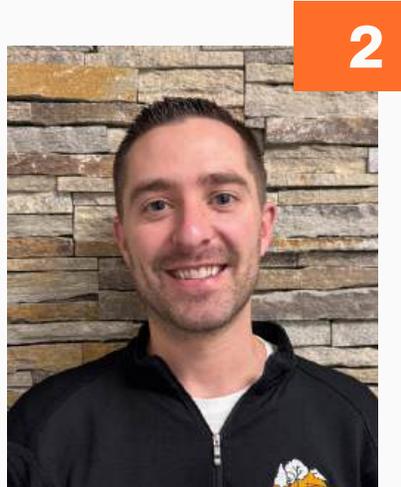
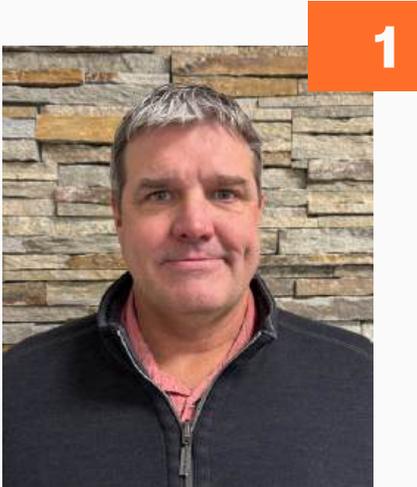
Matt Fiene, Mayor
Jesse Spankowski, City Attorney
Justin Schoenemann, City Administrator
Jennifer Becker, Finance Director
Rebecca Ness, City Clerk
Philip Livingston, Director of Public Works
Toby Monogue, Director of Parks & Recreation
Keith Klafke, Police Chief
Troy Haase, Fire Chief
Steven Sobiek, Business Development & Planning
Debbie Bird, Library Director

City Council

District 1: David Trantow
District 2: Shannon Dunahee
District 3: David Paull
District 4: Steven Rohrbeck
District 5: Tim Green
District 6: Kyle Bernander
District 7: Karyn Wetzel
District 8: Amy Schlinkert
District 9: Christopher Crawley

Meet Our Team

02



1. Toby Monogue - Director
2. Mike Percy - Recreation Coordinator
3. Hayley Wolfe - Recreation Assistant
4. Mark Fahey - Parks Crewperson
5. Justin Brown - Parks Crewperson
6. Chris Sheskey - Parks Crewperson

Vision & Mission



Vision

The Portage Park and Recreation Department's Vision is to enrich the community by providing affordable, diverse recreational opportunities to encourage physical fitness and mental health while building community bonds and enhancing the quality of life by providing safe, welcoming parks and recreational facilities. Community through people, parks, and programs.

Mission

The Portage Park and Recreation department aims to provide and maintain a beautiful and accessible park system, quality and affordable recreation programs, and restore and maintain city forestry. We strive to serve the community and provide options that will benefit the lives of those in the Portage Community.

Parks Projects

Charters of Freedom

This year, Portage proudly became the first community in Wisconsin to host the Charters of Freedom Project, a permanent outdoor monument featuring life-size replicas of the Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and additional displays of the Civil Rights Amendments—modeled after the originals as they appear in the National Archives in Washington, D.C.

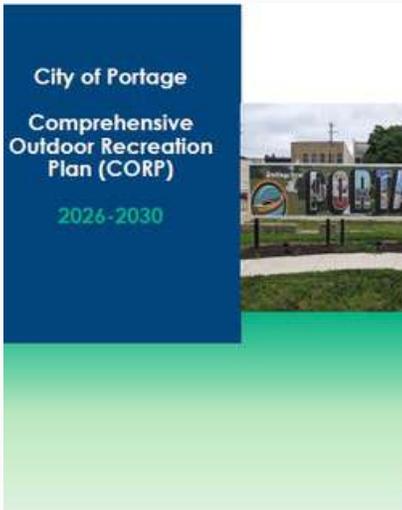


Security Cameras

Security cameras installed at Riverside Park to improve the safety of the park, and to deter and monitor any vandalism on the newly installed Charters of Freedom displays.

Rolling Prairie Conservancy & Dog Park

The project includes an 11-acre restored prairie with walking paths where visitors can enjoy native grasses and open space, alongside more than 8 acres of fenced-in dog park areas with separate spaces for large and small dogs. Designed to be a welcoming destination for residents, families, and their four-legged companions.



Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP)

On January 8, 2026, the City of Portage formally adopted the 2026–2030 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP), establishing a long-range guide for the development, expansion, and improvement of outdoor recreation facilities throughout the community.

Parks

Shelter Rentals

05



Resident Rentals:

138

Non-Resident
Rentals:

33

Tier 1 Shelters

M-F \$45 R/\$70 NR

Sat/Sun \$55 R/\$80 NR

Tier 2 Shelters

M-F \$35 R/\$60 NR

Sat/Sun \$45 R/ \$70 NR

Tier 3 Shelters

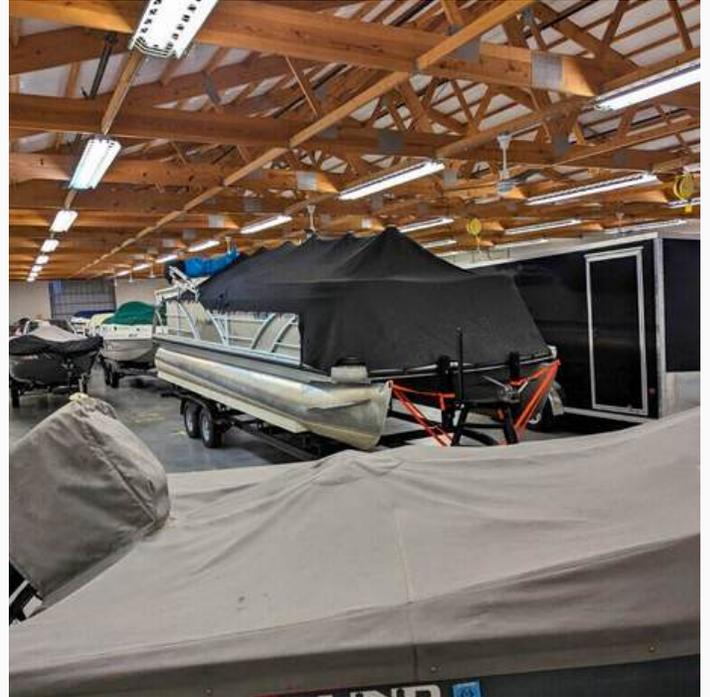
M-F \$25 R/ \$50 NR

Sat/Sun \$35 R/\$60 NR

Location	# of Rentals
Collipp- Worden #1	45
Pauquette #1	21
Sunset	27
Collipp-Worden #2	11
Pauquette #2	19
Silver Lake	15
Beasley Pavillion	19
Goodyear	5
Riverside	0
Pine Meadow	7
Woodridge	0
Sanborn	0
Pauquette Gazebo	2

Winter Storage @ Fairgrounds

06



2025-2026 Storage

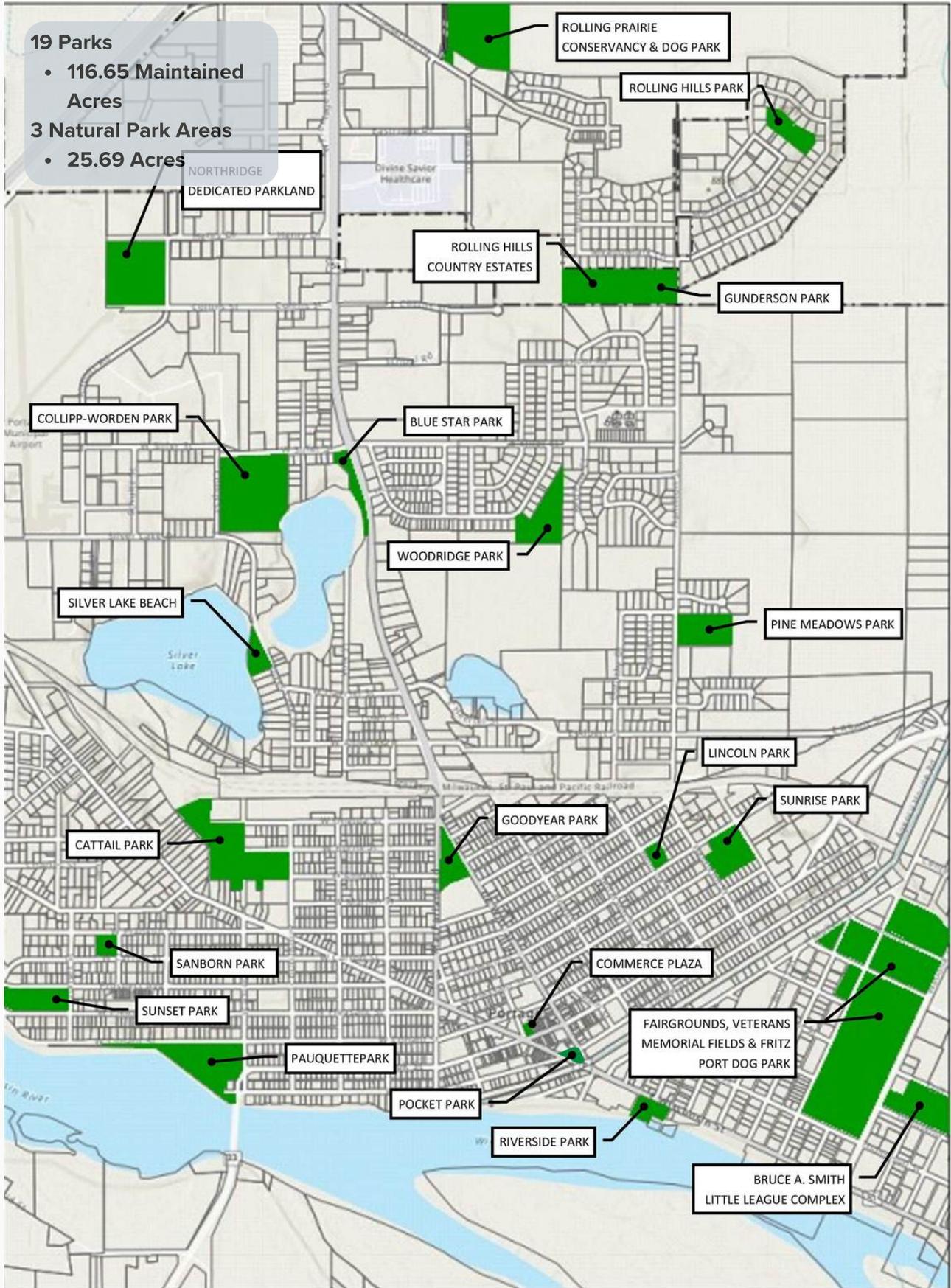
- Total Items Stored: 76
 - 48 Resident /28 Non-Resident
- Total Revenue: \$31,130.02

Pricing Structure (per foot of item being stored)

- Secured Buildings: \$15 Residents /\$20 Non-Residents
 - Locked, indoor space
- Un-Secured Building: \$10 Residents / \$15 Non-Residents
 - Open-air shelter, not locked

*October 31, 2025 through April 11, 2026

Park Map



Recreation

08



Top 5 Most Popular Recreation Programs

Dance

Karate

Cheerleading

Preschool Open Play

PHS Tennis Camp

New Programs

Tumbling

Preschool Open Play

Tai Chi

Strength, Stretching, and Stillness

Women's Wellness Retreats



1707

Recreation Program
Participants

121

Total Classes Offered

Recreation

08

Program	# of Classes	# of Participants
Tot Basketball	3	61
Karate	18	224
PHS Curling Camp	1	10
PHS Tennis Camp	3	99
Safe Sitter Essentials	10	32
Dance Program S1	13	163
Tot T-Ball	3	56
Tot Soccer	3	61
Baseball Skills Camp	1	11
PHS Baseball Camp	1	30
PHS Girls Basketball Camp	2	61
Playground Program	1	80
Warrior Crafts	1	32
Discover Drums	4	7
Flag Football - Spring	2	45
Flag Football - Fall	2	53
Summer Dance Program	3	48
Summer Cheerleading	3	92
Summer Tumbling	2	24
Tot Dance	2	55
Fall/Winter Tumbling	4	48
Preschool Open Play	24	146
Instructional Soccer	2	35
PHS Track/CC Camp	2	57
PHS Volleyball Camp	3	83
Strength, Stretch, & Stillness	4	42
Women's Wellness Retreats	2	38
Tai Chi Prime	2	14

Adult Recreation

10



Adult Softball

- 4 teams, 50+ players
- 10-week season (May-August), plus Playoffs

Adult Volleyball

- 10 teams, 80+ players
- 14-week season (November-February) plus end of the season tournament



Open Gyms

- Offered Sunday mornings (9am-Noon) November through February
- 394 users in 2025
- Free to attend

Pickleball

- Averaged 50+ players each week, May through September



Adult Rec Classes

- Tai Chi
- Strength, Stretching, and Stillness
- Women's Wellness Retreat

Special Events

- **Truck or Treat - 500 + children in attendance**



- **National Night Out - 2000+ in attendance**

- **Letters from Santa - 116 letters sent**

- **Concerts in the Park - Approximately 150 attended**

- **Bucks Game - 15 tickets sold**





- Tree City USA for 31st year.
- In 2025 the City of Portage removed 40 trees and planted 77 new trees. Noteworthy planting locations included: W Conant St, Emmett St, W. Edgewater St, Prospect Ave, Meadowlark Ln, Bluebird Dr, Cardinal Ct, and Eagle Ridge Ln, and the Rolling Prairie Conservancy & Dog Park

77
Trees Planted

40
Trees Removed

500
Trees Pruned

Forestry- Arbor Day



On April 23rd, city staff worked with volunteers from Kruger Family Industries (top) to plant trees in celebration of Arbor Day in the City of Portage. Staff also did a second planting in the spring with volunteers from the Portage Rotary Club (right).



Administration

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Staff Breakdown

- 5 Full Time Park & Rec Staff
- 1 Regular Part Time Rec Assistant
- 3 Summer/Seasonal Mowers
- 2 Summer/Seasonal Weed Harvesters
- 1 Summer/Seasonal Maintenance
- 74 Rec Program Staff
- 1 Part time Cleaning Staff DPW/Parks Building

Discount Ticket Program

- 465- Wisconsin Park & Recreation Association
Discount Tickets Sold
 - Attractions included Noah's Ark, Mt. Olympus, Pirate's Cove, Wisconsin Ducks, Jet Boat Adventures, and Milwaukee County Zoo



New Office



In February 2025, the Parks and Recreation Department proudly moved into its new office building, creating a more welcoming and functional space to better serve our community. In October 2025, we began renting out the Community Room, expanding opportunities for gatherings, meetings, and special events. By the end of the year, the Community Room hosted 15 rentals, highlighting its immediate value and strong community interest. In addition, the room supports ongoing programs each week, serving approximately 330 children and adults through a variety of recreational and community activities.

Sponsorship Program 16

Our annual Sponsorship Program generates funds to purchase supplies and safety equipment for our programs, as well as make necessary facility upgrades. These funds also allow us to keep our program registration fees affordable for all participants and help lower our budget expenses each year.

Youth Programs

You choose which of our youth programs you would like to sponsor and your business logo will be included on the T-shirts for the participants to wear and keep. Sponsorship dollars will go towards program equipment and supplies. All Youth Sponsors will receive a t-shirt from the program they sponsor (optional).



Ball Field Banners

These 8 x4 ft. banners hang along the outfield fences of the Veterans Memorial Field ball diamonds and will be seen by players and families participating in multiple programs from Adult Softball to Youth Sports and fairground events, April-October.



Sponsor Combo

Be the ultimate sponsor! Combine a Youth Program Sponsor with a Ball Field Banner in one sponsorship, at a reduced rate. BONUS: Each year you return your sponsorship combo is discounted.



2025 Sponsors

Allstate- Shelly Cibulka ♦ American Family Insurance- Riley Kubatzke ♦ American Family Insurance-Sheila Link ♦ Arbor Green ♦ Aspirus ♦ Blau Family Chiropractic ♦ Bremner Granite ♦ Cardinal FG ♦ Collectors Choice Coins & Collectables ♦ Community Bank of Portage ♦ Compass Counseling LLC ♦ Cordell's Automotive ♦ Country Plumber ♦ Crawford Oil ♦ Culvers ♦ Cutting Edge Insurance Agency ♦ Dunkin ♦ Edward Jones- Josh Vehring ♦ Edward Jones- Klay Vehring ♦ Electric 1 ♦ Flower Company ♦ Forever Yours Jewelry ♦ Galley Studios ♦ General Engineering ♦ Grande Cheese Company ♦ Gumz Farms ♦ Hair Sensations ♦ Hart & Olson Family Dentistry ♦ Hillestad Heating ♦ Johnson Chiropractic ♦ Kiwanis Club of Portage ♦ Knight Barry Title Services ♦ Kruger Family Industries ♦ La Tolteca ♦ Lynn Holdings ♦ MachineLab Fitness ♦ McReath Orthodontics ♦ Meigs Transport ♦ Midwest Dental ♦ Natures Way Landscaping ♦ New Life Physical Therapy ♦ Pflanz Mendrala Funeral Home ♦ Pizza Ranch ♦ Portage Furniture Store ♦ Portage Lions Club ♦ Portage Rotary Club ♦ Portage State Bank ♦ Rhyme ♦ Roth Professional Solutions ♦ Sean Malone- State Farm Insurance ♦ Seubert Family Dentistry ♦ Smiley Law Office ♦ Summit Credit Union ♦ TRICOR LLC- Don Rick Insurance ♦ Two Rivers Signs ♦ VFW Post 1707 ♦ WCCU ♦ Wieser Concrete ♦ Wisconsin River Title Consultants ♦ Zimmerman Plumbing

Contact Us



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608-742-2178

Phone



facebook.com/portageparknrec

Facebook



portage.recdesk.com

Website



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Portage, WI 53901

Address



Thank You

Thank you to the Portage community for your continued support. We look forward to improving the quality of the parks and recreation opportunities in 2026!