



RUSSEVILLE PARK & TREE BOARD



2025 Accomplishment Report

Below is a list of what the Russiaville Park and Tree Board has accomplished or helped to accomplish in 2025

- Received word from the IDNR that our grant application for ~\$325K had been approved. Several adjustments and clarifications were requested and submitted.
- Worked with playground and building contractors on the project plans, including equipment choices and lighting.
- Received a story walk from the Russiaville Library for placement at the Inclusive Playground. Continued to raise other money as well.
- Received Tree City USA recognition from the Arbor Day Foundation for the 17th consecutive year. This is for the year 2024.
- Assisted the Kokomo Howard County Public Library / Russiaville Branch in their celebration of Arbor Day by supplying giveaways for the children's program and working during a tree giveaway program at which 73 red maples and redbuds were distributed.
- Purchased and planted as a community project 80 white cedars at the site of the proposed waste water treatment plant. Later another 40 white cedars were planted there and at other sites.
- Hosted workers from the senior class at Western High School for their community service day.
- Helped in the development of new service organization and school championship signage.
- Planned and hosted a first ever Youth FunFest at the Town Park on July 23rd. Activities included corn hole, duck pond, and hatchet throw. Attendance was approximately 160.
- Replaced some signage on the disk golf course.
- Stained benches and pulled weeds at the Iron Wheels sculpture.
- Received a pallet of recyclable leaf bags from Howard County Recycling. These were available for free at the Craft Fair and at the Town Hall.
- Staffed a table at the Rush to Russiaville Craft Fair to accept donations, hand out leaf mulch bags, and explain the new playground project.
- Presented playground plans to the Town Council. They were approved.
- Purchased a donor sign for the new playground.
- Made Santa's mailbox available to children during the Winterfest celebration at the Stout Community Center.



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2026 Project Goals and Objectives

#1: Develop Community Center Park by adding amenities.

- Based on a projected 2026 - 2027 construction timeframe, design and build an ADA compliant inclusive playground, community pavilion, and restroom east of the Jeff Stout Community Center.

#2: Continue to increase the quality of life / quality of place in the Town.

- Present the 2nd Annual Youth FunFest.
- Plan Trunk or Treating in Community Center Park.
- Meet with representatives of Western Schools and the Russiaville Library to seek out more cooperative efforts with the town.
- Sponsor and mentor any Eagle Project for scouts that pick a project appropriate for the Park & Tree Board.
- Be alert for opportunities for projects such as a pickleball court, dog park, or a volleyball court.

#3: Continue Town Park Playground rehabilitation.

- Contract with a new playground inspection (last done in 2016).
- Based on the playground inspection report continue to upgrade park equipment and remove problem items.
- Place an additional feature (e.g. Ferguson donation) in the park.

#4: Promote and plan a recycling area of yard waste so that it can be recycled rather than burned or buried.

- Work with the Town Council to see if this can be included as part of the new water treatment plant property.

#5: Develop signage and artwork along the trails and community using grant and gift monies.

- Install a caterpillar piece made from the old merry go round.

#6: Complete additional tree and flower planting around the Town

- Plant trees along Railroad Street and other places within the town.
- Monitor the health of the town trees.
- Submit an application and receive Tree City USA recognition for 2025

#7: Develop more recreational walking and biking opportunities within the Town

- Work with the Russiaville Redevelopment Commission to develop the Around the Town virtual trail and continue working on the Cloverleaf Trail from Kokomo to Frankfort.



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The costs for these projects can be supplied from multiple sources: appropriations, gifts, grants, Gene Parks Fund, as well as volunteer labor and private donations.