



Splash Pad Q & A

The Town has been offered a \$500,000 grant by the Legacy Foundation of Central Wisconsin in Wisconsin Rapids to build a splash pad. If you want to know more about the Legacy Foundation see below.

So, what is a splash pad? It is simply an area fitted with a non-slip surface and various nozzles and features that can shower, spray, rain, mist, and shoot streams of water to create an awe-inspiring and inviting place for recreational water play. It has little or no standing water in the play area. While anyone can enjoy it, it's most attractive to kids primarily from toddlers to 12 years old.

How does a splash pad work? A splash pad is a series of fixtures that spray, dump or squirt water that kids play in. If you search the internet you'll find a lot of videos of some larger splash pads. Here is a link to a Youtube video of a splash pad in Middleton WI.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0uSvIVgr15Y>

How big is a Splash pad? Splash pads vary in size, but we are anticipating this pad as being 3,000 -3,500 sf with an area around it being at least that big again. The overall foot print should be about 7,000-9,000 sf for the splash pad area.

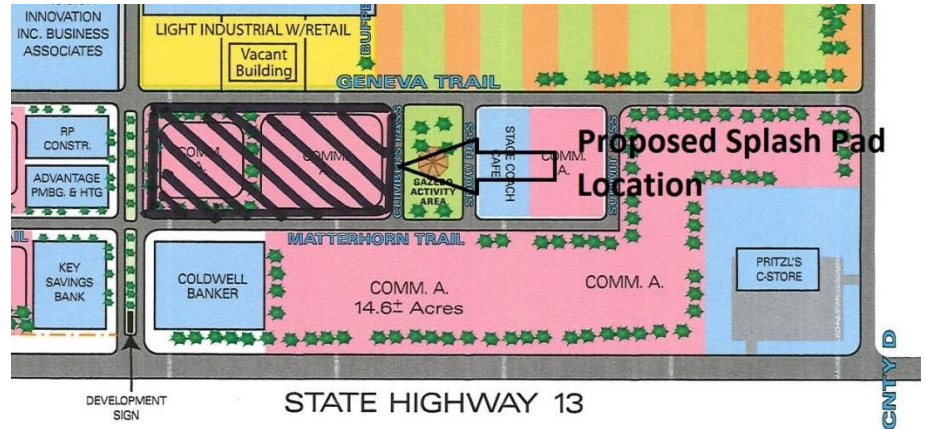
So, the water just runs? No. The water is started when a child activates a start button (similar to a cross walk button). That starts a cycle of spraying that lasts for a set time for each feature. When the cycle is done, the water stops until it is activated again. The entire splash pad can be set on a timer limiting daily operation to some set hours 10:00 am- 6pm for example.

Won't there be a lot of chemicals involved? No, not with this size splash pad. This size splash pad uses a flow through system. The water used is the same water that comes from the Rome Water Utility for drinking. No water is captured and reused. As proposed, once used in the park, the water is percolated back in to the ground water. Chemicals used by the Rome Water Utility in treating the water for drinking are evaporated in to the air on the Splash pad.

Won't this cost a lot to maintain? No. The splash pad is designed with low maintenance in mind. The exact annual cost will depend on final size and features selected, but the operating costs are expected to be **well less than \$10,000 annually**. These costs can be paid from revenue received from the Town's portion of Room Tax and/or revenue generated by other sources such as Dyracuse Park.

Where will the splash pad park be located? The exact location of the splash pad itself hasn't been decided, but the Town Board has approved locating the park for the parcel between

Geneva Trail and Matterhorn Trail directly across Climbers Pass south of the gazebo area in the Alpine Village. That location was selected due to child safety, infrastructure savings (there is water on site already) and being central to the gazebo and restroom area.



What else will be by the splash pad?

Last year community businesses, individuals and organizations (too many to mention them all here) raised money for playground equipment. That playground equipment will be located near the splash pad making a great one stop play area. The grant can also be used for shade shelters and picnic tables and other seating. All of this adding to the open unfenced park area.



Will this interfere with other events in that area? No. Others involved in the area feel this will bring more participation and enhance our great community events. This will be a great asset for the Town for both residents and visitors.

What are the next steps? There will be a design update and public input meeting at 5:00 pm on

April 24th at the Town Hall. After that there will be a final design meeting and approval consideration by the Town Board as early as late May 2017.

Who is the Legacy Foundation and why are they doing this? In March of 2015, the very successful and independent Riverview Hospital Association seized the incredible opportunity to bring more healthcare services and specialists to the area while also improving the long-term economic stability of healthcare in our community by merging with Aspirus.

Making a great situation even better for our community, \$140 million from the sale proceeds went toward creating the Legacy Foundation of Central Wisconsin, Inc., a completely independent new organization. Legacy Foundation’s mission is to **improve and promote overall health, wellness, and general well-being in our community.**

Improving Community Well-Being			
Physical	Emotional	Intellectual	Societal
Medical Care	Mental Health Care	Education	Safety
Dental Care	Alcohol & Drug Abuse	Job Training	Transportation
Food Security	Child or Adult Care		Infrastructure
Emergency Shelter			Art & Culture
Exercise & Fitness			
Guiding Principles	Benefit People in the Greater Wisconsin Rapids Area		
	Benefit Many People or an Underserved Population		
	Based on Data with Measurable Long-term Impact		
	For One-Time or Finite-Duration Grants		
	To Organizations Working in Collaboration With Other Organizations		
	To Tax Exempt Organizations with Strong and Compassionate Leadership		

They accomplish their mission through partnering with other organizations. This approach will allow them to magnify the expertise and networks that already exist in our community while keeping operating costs down, thereby retaining more funds to distribute through grants. Below is a graphic that summarizes their mission and vision.