



Polk County
Water & Land
Legacy

Improvements to Thomas Mitchell Park

A series of improvements in Thomas Mitchell Park will begin to take shape during the fall of 2013.

Camp Creek Stabilization & Access

Camp Creek stream bank armoring will involve restoration work in approximately 14 areas. This project is designed to stabilize the stream bed and collapsing banks along Camp Creek as it flows through the park resulting in improved water quality. Eleven limestone access features will be spaced along the creek so park users can play in the creek.

The low water crossing at Thomas Mitchell Park over Camp Creek is a popular place for park users to access and be close to a moving stream. Currently, the crossing serves as a shared pedestrian and vehicular crossing with vehicles driving through the stream as it flows over the access road. This project will provide for separation of these conflicting uses improving safety, water quality and park access. The project will provide a box culvert to maintain the natural stream flow of Camp Creek while reducing the current steep grade for vehicles crossing the stream. The existing crossing will be maintained as a pedestrian crossing and provide recreational access to Camp Creek.

Pond Enhancements

Construction of an accessible trail, two fishing piers, and three shade structures are designed to enhance access and recreational opportunities around the recently renovated pond. Accessible fishing piers and shade structures will be installed on the west side. A half-mile accessible trail will circle the pond and provide complete access to the site. New trail construction will connect the accessible trail to the existing park trail system. Combined these trails will provide more than two miles of recreational opportunity.

Campground Expansion

Following abandonment of the Thomas Mitchell Park lagoon and installation of a new closed sewer system, expansion of the campground is planned. Twenty new full hook up electric sites will accommodate more campers in this very popular park. Additional expansion improvements will include a larger capacity accessible shower house and the relocation of the tent camping area south of Camp Creek.



THOMAS MITCHELL PARK — PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS LEGEND

NEW TRAILS	SHADE STRUCTURE	VEHICULAR BRIDGE
EXISTING TRAILS	FISHING PIER	PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE
	WATER ACCESS	EXPANDED CAMPGROUND SITES
		RELOCATED TENT CAMPING

Fall 2013

- Camp Creek Stabilization
- Camp Creek Crossing Improvements
- Trail Construction

Spring/Summer 2014

- Installation of pond amenities

Fall 2014

- Campground renovations



For more information about this project, contact Polk County Conservation at 515-323-5300 or visit our website at leadingyououtdoors.org. Thank you for your patience while these improvements are taking place.