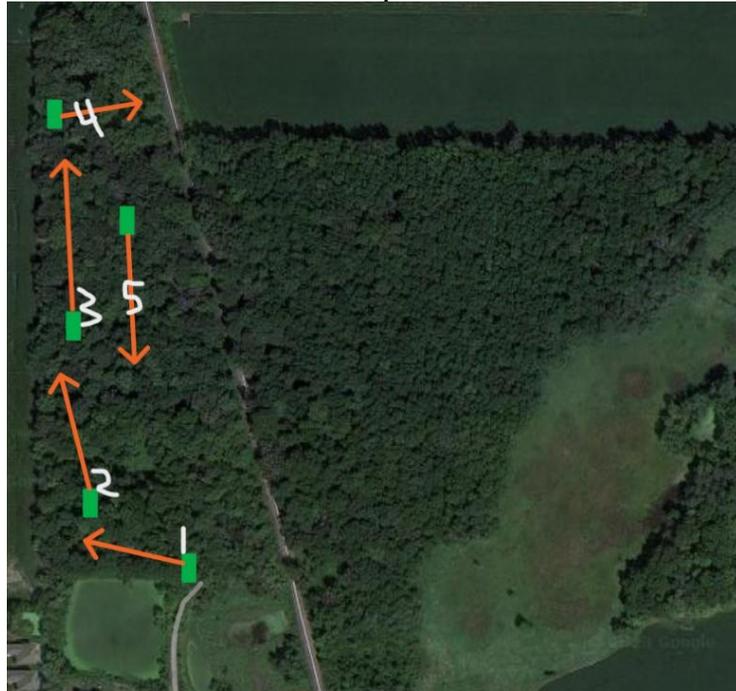


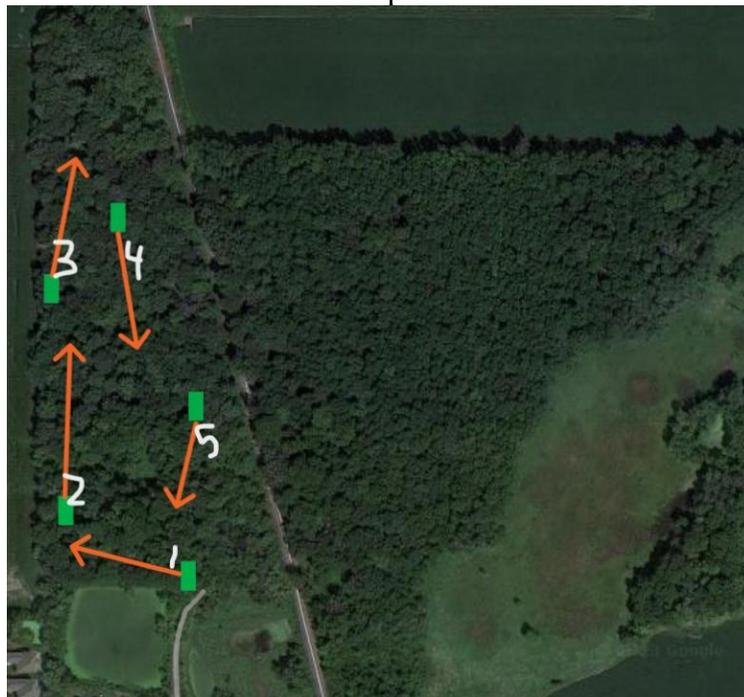
Temporary Disc Golf Course Proposal for Hauberg Woods:

The Cannon River Valley Disc Golf Club (CRVDGC) is proposing the installation of a temporary 5-hole disc golf course in Hauberg Woods Park in Northfield. Currently there is only a walking trail loop in the park. Below are a few ideas of how a course layout would fit into the landscape.

Example 1



Example 2



Rationale:

There are now more than 9000 Disc Golf courses in the United States, nearly all installed by city and county parks departments. They have found that there are few recreational activities that offer the high benefit-to-cost ratio of disc golf. Disc golf has relatively low capital and maintenance costs compared with other recreational installations, is environmentally sound, is played year-round in all climates and is enjoyed immediately even by beginners of all ages.

What Is Disc Golf?

Disc Golf is played much like traditional golf. Instead of hitting a ball into a hole, you throw a more streamlined looking Frisbee® disc into a supported metal basket. The goal is the same: to complete the course in the fewest number of shots. A golf disc is thrown from a tee area to each basket, which is the "hole." As players progress down the fairway, they must make each consecutive shot from the spot where the previous throw has landed. The trees, shrubs and terrain changes in and around the fairways provide challenging obstacles for the golfer. Finally, the "putt" lands in the basket and the hole is completed.

Who Can Play?

The simple answer is that everyone can. In studies measuring participation in recreational activities, "throwing a Frisbee" has consistently been a top-ten activity. A disc golf course serves a broader portion of the community than many narrower interest activities with higher cost, skill or fitness levels required to even begin to play. Men and women, young and old, families with small children -- all can play disc golf. Because disc golf is so easy to understand and enjoy, no one is excluded. Players merely match their pace to their capabilities and proceed from there.

How Much Does It Cost To Play?

Many courses are located in a city or regional park where citizens play free. Most private and several public facilities will charge up to \$5 per day to play, or earn passive income from annual passes and/or fees to enter the park. The equipment itself is quite inexpensive – discs designed for golf sell for \$8-\$15 each and only one is needed to get started.

What Kind of Construction Would Be Planned for Hauberg Woods?

The installation of a temporary 5-hole disc golf course would include the construction of tees, fairways, and the installation of signs and baskets. The city already owns 5 baskets, no need to purchase equipment right away. No foliage would need to be planted. In the woods "fairways" would need to be created. This would require cutting in lanes from the tee boxes to the baskets. Ideally the least number of trees would be removed. No large mature trees would be removed. The CRVDGC would supply all labor to install the course via volunteers. There are many reputable course designers and installers if the city would like to explore that option as well.

Tees: Each hole would have one tee pad; the tee pads would be natural surface to start. If the course becomes permanent a different tee pad would be needed. Options for tee pads are patio pavers, artificial turf, and concrete. Concrete is most commonly found at disc golf courses. The other options provide a way to cut down the cost of installation.

Baskets: Each playable hole would have a basket mounted on a pipe that slides inside an anchor pipe that gets put into a hole measuring approximately 3" in diameter and 18-24" deep. The basket pipe and anchor pipe each have collar tabs that line up and are securely locked with a padlock. Each hole would have 1-2 additional anchors installed so that the basket could be moved to different anchor locations

periodically to reduce soil compacting and erosion, plus add some variety for players similar to moving holes around on a golf green.

Signs: Tee signs are very important to help first time users find their way through the course. Each hole would have a sign indicating the hole number, length of the hole, recommended flight path and par. In addition, a rules sign and information board should be installed near the parking lot. The signs can be constructed with a variety of materials although we believe it would be preferable to construct signs with a natural appearance to fit in with the surrounding area. Commercial signs designed for disc golf are also available from several sources. To help offset the cost of the course the CRVDGC would contact local businesses and individuals to “sponsor” holes to help reduce the cost of the install.

What Maintenance Is Required for a Disc Golf Course in Hauberg Woods?

After installation, the maintenance needs for a disc golf course are primarily grass mowing. Unlike weekly mowing usually required for ball fields, mowing for disc golf can be stretched to every three weeks (depending on rainfall). And even then, only the fairways need attention. The targets are made of welded steel anchored in concrete and need no regular maintenance. In the unlikely event that one of the targets is damaged beyond repair or stolen, they can be replaced for around \$350. Much of the area of the proposed course is underutilized and not highly maintained. With the approval of the City of Northfield; CRVDGC volunteers would be eager to undertake an initial clean up of these areas and then maintain them.

How Much Land Is Needed?

A 9-hole course would cover approximately 8-9 acres, depending on design. The rough rule for total space needed is about one acre per hole. A significant advantage of disc golf is its ability to utilize areas that are not very desirable or usable for other activities such as woods choked with non-native foliage like buckthorn, rocky areas and slopes. In addition, a disc golf course need not be an exclusive use area -- it can co-exist amicably with other active and passive recreation uses such as hiking, dog-walking, etc. Finally, the relative portability of baskets and signs allows the park department to inexpensively relocate the course to another site if that is ever needed.

2. HOW DOES THE PROJECT BENEFIT THE COMMUNITY:

Recreational Needs: A disc golf course would provide an inexpensive form of recreation for people of all age and skill levels and be a much-needed addition to the recreational opportunities in Northfield. Given the high density of homes in the immediate vicinity of the park, the installation of a disc golf course would provide an important recreational resource for the neighborhood surrounding the park, as well as for the wider community. A disc golf course would give youth in the neighborhood a healthy and challenging outlet for their energies and would allow members of the CRVDGC to organize clinics and leagues on their behalf. For the growing number of disc golfers in area, the presence of a disc golf course in the city limits would eliminate the need to travel to play and would give them a base from which to further promote the sport.

Conservation: Disc golf is an environment-friendly sport. Unlike traditional golf, a disc golf course does not require large amounts of trees to be removed, grass mowed and watered daily, plants uprooted or non-native species planted. Many courses can be designed to fit into the existing flora of the park like the land proposed. The impact of a disc golf course on the surrounding area is minimal. Each hole has multiple pin placements, ensuring that no one area gets constant foot traffic (this has the added benefit of providing new challenges to players). In addition, disc golfers overall tend to take great pride in where they play, helping reduce potential litter on the course. In the long-term, a disc golf course

would also help in the preservation of the park by giving young people in the neighborhood a stake in its preservation and protection.

About Cannon River Valley Disc Golf Club: CRVDGC is currently made up of 3 board members; Kyle Schultz, Benjamin Playter, and Jim Ericksen. We formed this club to advocate the need for a disc golf course in our community. All three of us have experience in building and maintaining natural surface trails as volunteers. We all have experience organizing small volunteer groups to complete tasks in outdoor recreation settings. We all have basic construction and landscaping knowledge that would enable us to install the tee pads, basket anchors, course signage, and create the fairways necessary to install/maintain a 9-hole disc golf course. We are passionate and dedicated to seeing this wonderful form of recreation added to our great community. Our club has over 30 members and we continue to add more members every month.