

LAKEMEN FIELD

REINVIGORATING WAUPACA'S BASEBALL HERITAGE



CITY OF WAUPACA
LAKEMAN ATHLETIC FIELD REDEVELOPMENT - PRELIMINARY MASTER PLAN
1211 MICHIGAN ST, WAUPACA, WI

WAUPACA LAKEMEN FIELD HISTORY & COMMUNITY IMPACT

The Waupaca Lakemen, established in 1946, have been a part of our city for decades, with generations of city residents playing for the team. Lakemen Field (formerly Haberkorn Field and the City Athletic Field) was built in 1940 through a Works Progress Administration (WPA) Grant for \$6,850.

The Lakemen, considered one of the top amateur baseball teams in Wisconsin, have a total of 17 Grand Championships and 5 Grand Championship Runner-Up titles, earning their first grand championship in 1972. They were the 2022 Dairyland Grand Champions, the team's fourth consecutive championship and their fifth in the past six years.

Teams travel from all over the state and Midwest to play at Lakemen Field, generating valuable tourist revenue for our community. Facility improvements will allow Waupaca to host the Legion State Tournament.

Lakemen Field is one of the only truly multi-generational facilities in Waupaca. On a local level, Lakemen Field provides a safe and welcoming space for families, community members, and our many members from the King Veteran's Home.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Lakemen Field is used seven months a year, seven days a week by 14U, 15U and 16U Babe Ruth leagues, American Legion baseball teams, the Waupaca High School varsity team, and the Waupaca Lakemen.

Over the years, improvements have been made to Lakemen Field. These upgrades have lasted well past their projected lifespan. Existing wood light poles are splitting with deep cracks, creating a safety hazard. The lights are not as bright as they used to be and now produce about 25% of lumens needed for safe ball play at night.

PROJECT TIMELINE & FUNDING

In 2022, the City of Waupaca Parks and Recreation Department laid the foundation for the Lakemen Field Renovation by identifying key priorities (upgrading lights and poles, field improvements, and speaker system) and working with Rettler Corporation on the design and budget for the project. The next steps are outlined below:

- **Fundraising & Grants:** Spring through Fall 2023
- **Project Out to Bid:** Fall 2023
- **Construction:** Fall 2024
- **Grand Opening:** Summer 2025

The first phase will include lights, infield, and sound system. The City of Waupaca currently has \$175,000 in the 2024 Capital Improvement for this project. The total Phase 1 Cost is \$450,000 - \$475,000 (with contingency).

We will need to fundraise between \$275,000-\$300,000

DONOR RECOGNITION OPPORTUNITIES

Donor signage and naming rights are an opportunity to visibly demonstrate your commitment to this community. Your name will be prominently displayed through signage at Lakemen Field, on the Waupaca Lakemen website, and in any promotional materials featuring this exciting project.

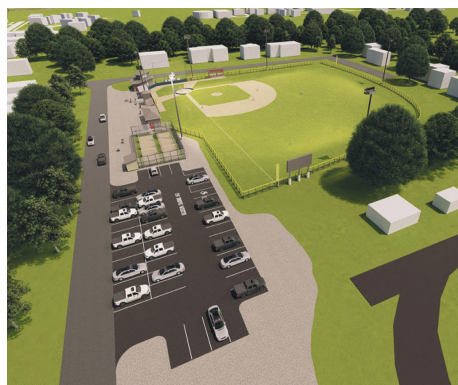
- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Grand Slam: \$50,000 | Double: \$5,000 |
| Homerun: \$25,000 | Single: \$1,000 |
| Triple: \$10,000 | Bunt: \$100 - \$999 |

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

For detailed information on specific donation opportunities, please contact:

Laura Colbert
City of Waupaca Parks & Recreation Director
715-258-4435 | icolbert@waupacawi.gov

Josh Peterson
City of Waupaca Parks Superintendent
Lakemen General Manager
715-412-1302 | jjpeterson@cityofwaupaca.org



LAKEMEN FIELD

DONATION FORM

Contact Information

Name: _____

Organization (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Donation Information (All Donations Are Tax Deductible)

Name for Donor Recognition: _____

Donation Amount: _____

Make check payable to: **Waupaca County Natural Resources Foundation or WCNRF**

Please note in memo: Lakemen Field Renovation

Send completed payment form with payment to: **Friends of Waupaca Parks**

407 School Street

Waupaca, WI 54981

Donations can be made online at: <http://friendsofwaupacaparks.com/donate>

Donations \$1,000 or higher will be recognized through donor signage at Lakemen Field.



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