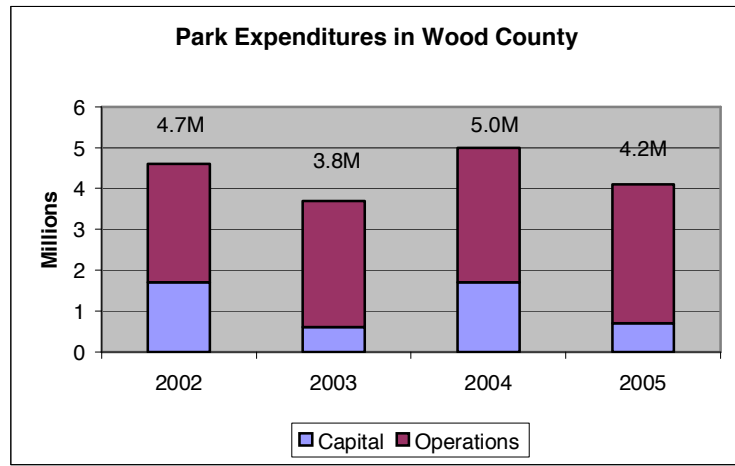


**Parks  
Provide  
Low Cost  
Outdoor  
Recreation to  
Wood County**



**Key Facts**

- Parks operation budgets have steadily increased in the past four years.
- Park capital expenditures fluctuate depending on budget constraints and projects being under taken.
- Biking and hiking trails have steadily increased from 19.7 miles in 2002 to 39.5 miles in 2005.
- There were 270 miles of snowmobile and ATV trails in Wood County in 2005.
- YMCA’s, Boys and Girls Clubs and numerous other clubs also offer recreational activities for county residents.
- The Marshfield Parks Department also operates the county fairgrounds and an exceptionally large award-winning zoo.

**Why is this Information Important?**

City and county parks provide an array of leisure activities for all age groups at little or no cost to the park patron.

**Park Systems in Wood County**

Wood County, Marshfield City and Wisconsin Rapids City each operate substantial park systems with their own facilities, objectives and budgets. These park systems are funded through taxes, fees, donations, grants, state aid and timber sales revenue. In addition, there are numerous village and town parks, recreational facilities, picnic shelters and camping areas.

The Wood County Parks System includes 8 parks totaling 2,789 acres. The county parks provide an abundance of outdoor active recreation such as swimming, ATV and snowmobile riding, cross-country and hiking trails, downhill skiing, downhill tubing, boating and fishing.

The cities of Marshfield and Wisconsin Rapids have 33 parks spanning 489 acres. They consist of small neighborhood parks and play fields, community parks for large gatherings and events, ball diamonds, fair parks and small garden type parks. Biking and hiking trails have become popular in recent years.

*Source: Wood County, Marshfield, Wisconsin Rapids, Pittsville and Hewitt Park Departments*