Town of New Glarus

Information Packet



Town of New Glarus Park Commission

2026-2027 Tree Sale Order Form

DEADLINE TO ORDER IS DEC 20, 2026!

All trees are $7.00 - Root Dip Gel $5.00 (treats 40 trees) - 5' Pro Tree Tubes $6.00/ea – 5' Tree Stakes $3.00/ea

Nannyberry Viburnum



# of trees _____

White Pine



# of trees _____

Norway Spruce



# of trees _____

Red Maple



# of trees _____

American Elderberry



# of trees _____

Quaking Aspen



# of trees _____

		$ Total for ALL TREES	$ _____
Root Dip Gel (1.0 oz treats 40 trees)	_____ x $5.00 /oz	$ Total for Root Dip	$ _____
5' Pro Tube Tree Tube:	_____ x $6.00 / tube	$ Total for Tree Tubes	$ _____
5' Tree Tube Stakes	_____ x $3.00 / stake	$ Total for Stakes	$ _____
Total number of Trees	_____ x $7.00 / tree	**$ GRAND TOTAL**	**$** _____

Order Information (must provide address for delivery)

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Please return this order form to the Town of New Glarus by **12 /20/ 2026**

Mailing Address P.O. Box 448 C/O Tree Sale
New Glarus, WI 53574

Checks : Make payable to Town of New Glarus _____ or **Cash** _____

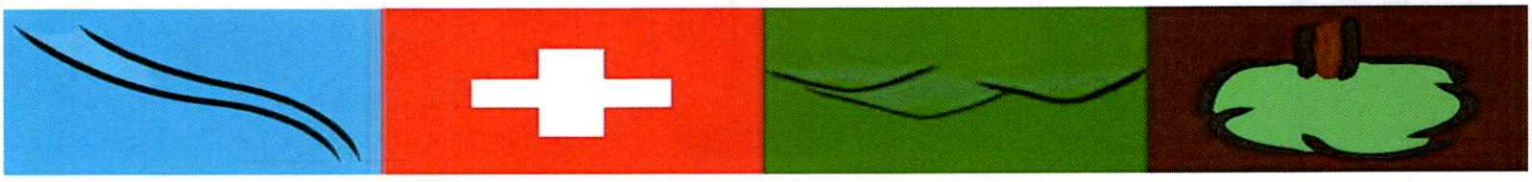
DELIVERY: Delivery date is weather dependent and is typically mid-April to early May. We will contact you when a date is determined and deliver to your home.

2027 Statewide Election Dates

April 6, 2027: **Spring general election - Wisconsin Supreme Court**

Friends of New Glarus Parks

To join the Listserv, send an email to the address below to be added to the list and receive email updates from the Friends group about activities like park workshops and events in the New Glarus area. To sign up for the Friends Group please just send an email to: friendsofnewglarusparks@gmail.com



Town of New Glarus
P.O. Box 448
New Glarus, WI 53574

Be sure to provide your address on your order form! Trees will be delivered to your address in the spring

New Glarus 360
Independent local news and information for greater New Glarus, Wisconsin.

Legacy Prairie Park Takes Shape in New Glarus

Just outside New Glarus, former farmland is becoming a place to walk, explore and watch a native landscape return. The town's Parks Commission has quietly made substantial progress, with more improvements and opportunities still on the horizon.



Nov 01 2026, 4 AM
by Todd Klassy



From the higher ridges, visitors can look across the valley. Trails wind past mature oaks, through former farmland and toward the low ground along Legler School Branch. It is quiet, scenic and, for many residents, still something of a secret.

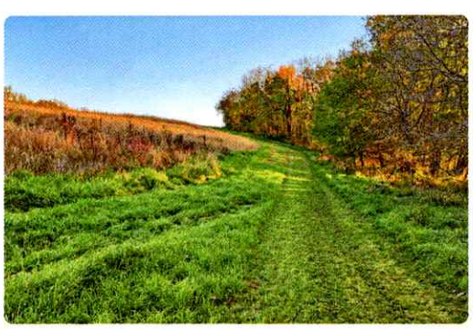
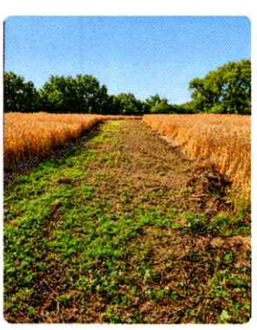
This is Legacy Prairie Park, the Town of New Glarus' developing public park off Highway 39. Although its long-term transformation remains unfinished, the property already offers miles of trails and a chance to experience a different view of the surrounding countryside.

"It's calm, it's peaceful. It's just gorgeous," said Harry Pulliam, chairman of the town's Parks Commission, describing the views from the property. He wants it to be a place where people can enjoy nature close to home, rather than another park centered on playgrounds and athletic facilities.

Pulliam said the town has developed more than five miles of trails, perhaps approaching six, and is gradually replacing portions of cultivated land with native prairie. The vision stretches well beyond the improvements visitors can see today.

How the Park Began

The project grew out of a long-standing need for a new town garage. Pulliam said the existing facility on Railroad Street was aging, too small for modern equipment and in poor condition. When a large tract of land became available, town officials saw an opportunity to accommodate municipal buildings and dedicate much of the remaining property to recreation and conservation.


The town acquired the property in 2023. Its July 2024 community park master plan describes 84 acres acquired for a combination of parkland and municipal facilities, following the separation of a privately owned farmette. The overall plan encompasses trails, prairie and oak savanna restoration, scenic overlooks, picnic areas, an orchard and space for the new town garage and possibly a future town hall.

The Parks Commission worked with consultant Vierbicher on the plan, adopted July 10, 2024. Community workshops and a survey helped shape the proposal; 79 people responded to the online survey, with trails, restoration and picnic areas among the most requested features. These desires

were in keeping with past surveys used to develop the town's Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP), updated every five years since 2006. Together, these plans remain a guide, not a promise that every illustrated amenity will be built.

Trails First, More to Come

For now, trails are the park's most visible improvement. Visitors can enter from Hayes Lane off Highway 39, where Pulliam described a gravel parking area and portable restroom. A southern access route near Legler Valley Road reaches another parking area, although the path into the park currently involves crossing a small steam, the Legler School Branch of the Little Sugar River.

Much of the trail construction was accomplished using local resources, including town limited-term employees, Town Board and Parks Commission members, a neighboring landowner and Green County crews. By relying on local labor and equipment, project organizers said the town was able to keep construction costs down and complete all planned phases of the trail project at once, rather than spreading the work over several years.

Partnerships have played an important role in the park's development. Collaboration with the New Glarus-Monticello cross-country team helped secure a Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources grant supporting construction. The park is expected to become the team's home course, and athletes are already practicing there and helping clear rocks and branches from the trails. Another partnership, this one with neighboring landowner Eddie Klitzke, helped improve access from the south. Through a land exchange, the town acquired valley property near Legler Valley Road suitable for park access in exchange for land higher on the ridge that could be used for future residential development. Looking ahead to 2027, the commission hopes to add a pedestrian bridge over the stream.



YOUTUBE

Legacy Prairie Park. Town of New Glarus Trails

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nllAof3n1go

An improved north-south gravel route can accommodate bicyclists as well as walkers, Pulliam said, while motorized vehicles are prohibited. The commission still needs to complete some trail repairs and add more wayfinding signs. He also hopes to develop flatter, wheelchair-accessible routes, particularly near the stream, although those improvements remain in the planning stage.

According to information provided by project organizers, Legacy Prairie Park will be the only public cross-country course in southern Wisconsin. Unlike the University of Wisconsin's Thomas Zimmer Championship Course, which is not generally open for public recreational use, Legacy Prairie Park's trails are available for community recreation. The Parks Commission also hopes to attract cross-country events during the summer months, expanding the park's use beyond the school competition season.

Pulliam said the course is nearly ready for competition, although a date for its first official home meet has not been confirmed.

Restoring the Landscape

Another transformation is happening more slowly. Pulliam said roughly five acres of prairie have been planted, with more restoration planned as funding and agricultural leases permit. Some acreage continues to be cultivated, and he described working cooperatively with the farmer as fields are converted in stages.

Prairie restoration involves preparing the ground, removing competing vegetation, planting native seed and controlling invasive plants. Pulliam said the process can take several years to mature. In addition to offering habitat and seasonal color, deep-rooted native vegetation can help reduce runoff and erosion on the steep property.



A collection of wildflowers photographed at the Town of New Glarus' Legacy Prairie Park highlights the variety of native plants growing throughout the landscape. Pictured in order are what are believed to be False Sunflower (Oxeye), Showy Tick-Trefoil, White Heath Aster, New England Aster, Black-Eyed Susan and New England Aster. Species identifications are preliminary.

Grace McLaughlin, Pulliam's wife, a longtime town resident with a doctorate in ecology, described the park as an opportunity to experience the region's earlier natural landscape. She said she has taken longtime residents, including people with farmland of their own, to see why the restoration matters.

McLaughlin noted that being on agricultural land, while valuable for everyone, is not quite the same as having a glimpse of what that land looked like 200 years ago. She emphasized the different experience offered by native prairie.

The old agricultural landscape is not disappearing all at once. Pulliam said about 36 acres are still rented for crops, and the commission expects to convert cultivated areas gradually. One proposed project would revive a historic orchard area. Only one aging apple tree is believed to remain, and

Pulliam said a local fruit-tree enthusiast has taken cuttings in an effort to preserve its genetics.

A Park Built Over Time

The commission's aspirations include benches, picnic places, additional restoration, a pedestrian bridge and possibly a new community orchard. Some ideas depend on volunteers and donations. A proposed Friends of New Glarus Parks organization, being coordinated by commission member Jason Neton, could eventually help with fundraising and upkeep.

Pulliam said the commission operates with a comparatively small annual budget, which means improvements must be made incrementally. He described a $15,000 annual budget and a request to raise it to $20,000 for 2027. The trail project benefited from a $45,000 Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources grant, made possible through collaboration with the New Glarus-Monticello cross-country team. The town provided the matching funds largely from money saved in previous Parks Commission budgets. Using local employees, volunteers and county resources for construction further reduced costs, allowing all planned trail phases to be completed together.

Town of New Glarus Community Park Master Plan

Download

Town of New Glarus Community Park Master Plan.pdf • *35 MB*

https://www.newglarus360.com/content/files/2026/10/Town-of-New-Glarus-Community-Park-Master-Plan.pdf

The town is also exploring a conservation easement intended to protect open space over the long term, although the proposal has not been presented as a completed agreement. Decisions about which lands would be covered and what activities would remain permitted are still important details to settle.

For residents who have never visited, the next step may be as simple as following a trail to one of the overlooks. Pulliam recommends the ridge near a stand of bur oaks, where the view reaches across the valley. The park may take many more years to realize its full vision, but the landscape — and the opportunity to experience it — is already there.

– Residents interested in visiting or volunteering can contact the Town of New Glarus for current park access information and Parks Commission opportunities.

– Sources: Interview with Harry Pulliam and Grace McLaughlin, Town of New Glarus Parks Commission meeting minutes and information packets (2023–2026), Town of New Glarus Community Park Master Plan (adopted July 10, 2024)

– Photos courtesy Harry Pulliam

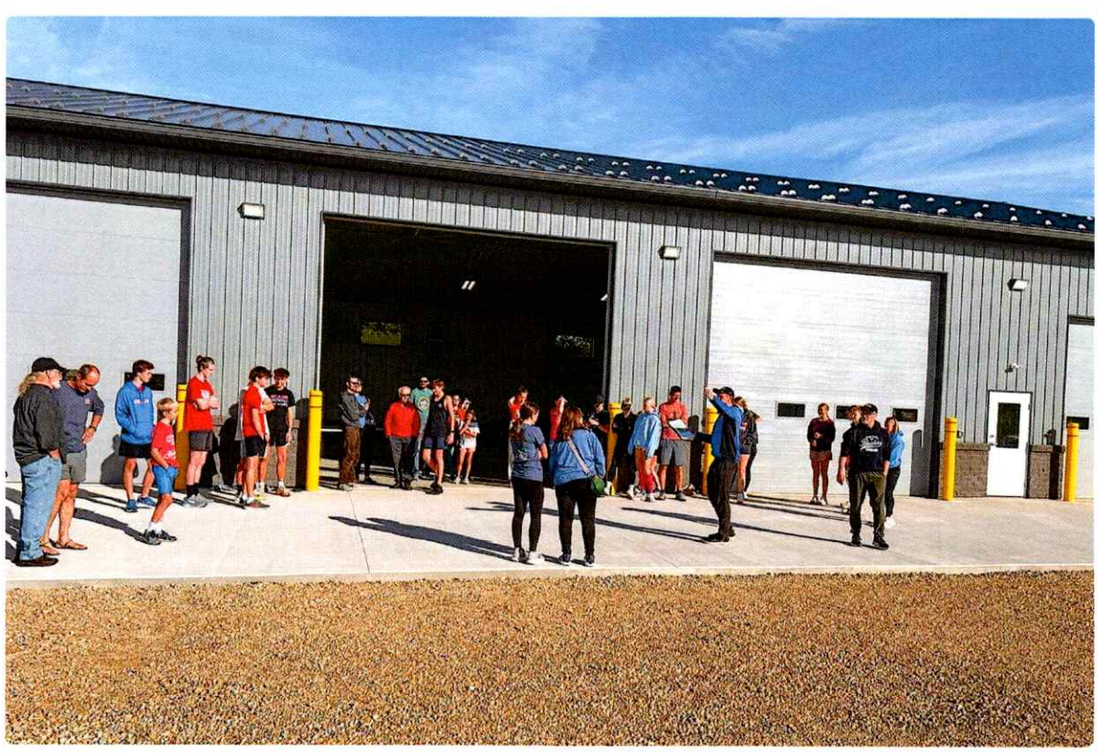
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New Glarus-Monticello Cross-Country Team Celebrates New Home Course

A fall team picnic at Legacy Prairie Park marked a new chapter for New Glarus-Monticello runners. The gathering highlighted a community partnership that created miles of public trails and a course intended for future home meets locally.



Oct 28 2026, 12 PM
by Todd Klassy



Members of the New Glarus-Monticello cross-country team, coaches, families and community leaders gather outside the Town of New Glarus garage at Legacy Prairie Park to celebrate the introduction of the team's new home course. The park features more than five miles of trails developed through a partnership between the town and the cross-country program.

Members of the New Glarus-Monticello cross-country team, their families, coaches and local officials gathered for a fall picnic at Legacy Prairie Park to celebrate the introduction of the team's new home course.

The course is part of a growing network of more than five miles of public trails at the Town of New Glarus park off Highway 39. The trails are intended to serve both school athletes and residents looking for a place to walk, run and enjoy the countryside.

Chris Narveson, who spoke during the gathering, credited the partnership among the team, its coach and town officials for turning the project into a recreational resource for the broader community.

"The trails installed here represent more than a new place to run. They provide a lasting resource for our students, athletes, families, and entire community," Narveson told those attending.

A Partnership That Helped Build the Trails

The project received funding through a Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources grant supported by cooperation between the town and the cross-country program. Parks Commission Chairman Harry Pulliam said in a separate interview with *New Glarus 360* that the grant provided $45,000 toward an approximately $90,000 trail project, with the town matching that amount using money saved from prior Parks Commission budgets.

Narveson singled out New Glarus-Monticello coach Dennis Haak for helping shape the course, describing his "expertise, vision, and commitment" in developing a route that would challenge runners and serve the community for years to come.

"This project would not have been possible without the dedicated partnership of the New Glarus–Monticello cross-country team," Narveson said.

He also thanked the Town of New Glarus Board and Parks Commission for supporting the project. Team members have contributed to the work as well, including picking up rocks and branches as the running surfaces become established.



Athletes, families and supporters enjoy the New Glarus-Monticello cross-country team's fall picnic inside the Town of New Glarus garage at Legacy Prairie Park. The gathering celebrated the new home course and recognized the community collaboration that helped make the trail system possible.

A Home Course Still Taking Shape

The picnic celebrated the course's introduction, but competitive use remains a work in progress. Pulliam said the runners have already practiced on the trails and that the course is nearly ready to host meets. He did not confirm a date for its first home competition.

The park's hills and varied terrain offer a different training environment from conventional athletic facilities. Beyond team use, an improved north-south route can accommodate walking, running and bicycles, while other areas of the park are being restored to native prairie.

Legacy Prairie Park itself is still developing. Proposed improvements include trail wayfinding signs, a pedestrian bridge near Legler School Branch and additional accessible recreational opportunities. The town adopted a community park master plan in July 2024 to guide those longer-term efforts.

For the cross-country program, the new course gives athletes a place to train close to home and offers the prospect of welcoming competitors and spectators to a public landscape that many area residents have yet to discover.

– Residents interested in exploring the trails should check with the Town of New Glarus for current access information and trail conditions.

– Sources: Account and remarks from the New Glarus-Monticello cross-country team picnic provided to New Glarus 360; interview with Harry Pulliam; Town of New Glarus Community Park Master Plan, adopted July 10, 2024.

– Photo credit: To be supplied.

Article URL: https://www.newglarus360.com/new-glarus-monticello-cross-country-team-celebrates-new-home-course/
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