



# SWAN PARK INFIELD PROJECT

## Building a Field of Dreams: The Swan Park Story

In May 1994, Gerald Swan made a generous donation of land that laid the foundation for what is now Swan Park, a beloved cornerstone of our community since its opening in 1999. What began as a shared vision has since grown into one of Central Wisconsin's premier parks, thanks to the unwavering support and contributions of many dedicated individuals and organizations.

The creation of the fields was not a solo effort—it was a collective endeavor that brought this vision to life. At the heart of the project were Syd and Oliver Faulks, brothers and founders of Faulks Brothers Construction, established in 1947. In 1999, Faulks Brothers made a substantial contribution by removing approximately 40,000 cubic yards of material from the land and generously donating \$90,000 to the development of Swan Park. Reflecting on their involvement, Syd Faulks said, "We got involved because we just felt a need for contributing to the community good."

In addition to Faulks Brothers' contribution, other local organizations stepped in to support the project. Farmers State Bank, Waupaca Foundry, and First National Bank each donated \$17,000, while Pepsi generously contributed three scoreboards for the park. Thanks to these partnerships, and the city of Waupaca's contribution of over \$1,000,000 to the initial Swan Park development, three ball fields were built, providing the community with a premier recreational space.

"Helping the community grow and prosper is part of our job. Without the community, we wouldn't be in business. Swan Park offers something for everyone. It's a facility that we can all be proud of," said Fran Vergauwen, former president of Farmers State Bank.

In 2009, as the park continued to grow, the addition of Field 4 became a reality. Faulks Brothers once again supported the project by donating equipment, labor, and materials valued at an additional \$20,000—further solidifying their commitment to Swan Park's ongoing success.

Today, while the fields remain a source of pride, they are beginning to show signs of wear. As we look to the future, we recognize that it's time to invest in a much-needed renovation to maintain the park's status as a premier recreational destination.

The Waupaca Baseball Organization and the Waupaca Area Softball Organization, Inc., in collaboration with the Parks and Recreation Department, have developed a comprehensive plan to upgrade the infields by transitioning from grass to dirt. This important project will improve playing conditions, increase flexibility in field usage, and ensure equal opportunities for both girls' and adult softball programs. To get the project underway, both organizations have already committed \$15,000 toward the renovation.

Swan Park is celebrated for its beautiful layout, outstanding amenities, and the consistent improvements visitors enjoy year after year. As we move forward with these upgrades, we are committed to ensuring that Swan Park remains a premier recreational destination for generations to come.

# Restoring Waupaca's Premier Ballfields Back to their Glory: Swan Park Infield Project

## GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

1. **Create Versatile, Safe Ballfields:** Design and construct ballfields that accommodate all ages, meeting the needs of both baseball and softball players.
2. **Continue to Successfully Host Tournaments:** Maintain and improve the facility to host tournaments that will boost our local economy and bring in visitors from outside the area.
3. **Attract New Visitors through a Variety of Amenities:** Use the park's amenities and events as a draw to encourage families and individuals to relocate to our community, strengthening our local growth.
4. **Update Fields for Future Generations:** Build and renovate facilities that will serve another generation of ballplayers, ensuring long-term value for the community.

## DONOR RECOGNITION OPPORTUNITIES

Donor signage and naming rights provide an excellent opportunity to visibly demonstrate your commitment to our community. Your name will be prominently displayed through signage at individual areas of Swan Park, as well as on the Donor Recognition Wall. These opportunities ensure that your support is recognized for years to come.

**Homerun:** Field Naming Rights - \$25,000 (15 years) \*\*Two fields available for naming rights

**Triple:** Dugout Naming Rights - \$10,000 (10 years) \*\*Eight dugouts available for naming rights

**Double:** Batting Cage Naming Rights - \$5,000 (5 years) \*\*Five batting cages available for naming rights

**Single:** Donor Wall - \$1,000+

Your contribution will leave a lasting legacy, showcasing your dedication to the continued success of Swan Park.

## PROJECT BUDGET

To complete the necessary improvements to Swan Park, we have outlined the following estimate:

### Renovate Swan Park Infields

Estimate: \$130,000

These investments will ensure that Swan Park continues to be a premier destination for recreation, providing quality facilities for the community and future generations.

## PROJECT TIMELINE

**Fundraising:** January 2025 through July 2025

**Construction:** Fall 2025

**Grand Opening:** Spring 2026

**"We loved playing there and the fields/facilities are great."** ~ Antigo Baseball Coach

**"Amazing facilities, great concessions, games are always on time and every effort to keep schedules on track and fields playable. Your community sets the "STANDARD" across every tourney we go to."** ~ Mosinee Baseball Coach

## WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

For detailed information on specific donation opportunities, please contact:

### Amanda Kraus, President

Waupaca Area Softball Organization, Inc.

715-551-9049 | [afolz589@gmail.com](mailto:afolz589@gmail.com)

### Kyle Douglas, President

Waupaca Baseball Organization

715-281-1350 | [kyle.douglas11@outlook.com](mailto:kyle.douglas11@outlook.com)



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## 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: Swan Park Infield Project\*

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>

## ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

For detailed information on specific donation opportunities, please contact:

Amanda Kraus, President

**Waupaca Area Softball Organization, Inc.**

715-551-9049 | [afolz589@gmail.com](mailto:afolz589@gmail.com)

Kyle Douglas, President

**Waupaca Baseball Organization**

715-281-1350 | [kyle.douglas11@outlook.com](mailto:kyle.douglas11@outlook.com)