

Mansfield Township Master Plan Changes for 2026

Changes made to the Master Plan by the Planning Commission included the following:

Added an Acknowledgement Page.

Added an Adoption Page for when the board approves it and it is adopted for the dates.

Chapter 1: Made the following changes.

- Took out the sentence on “hearing a train whistle blow off in the distance as a train crosses Way Dam Road” comment on page 8 of the Master Plan.
- Took out the references and link to the Iron County Off-Road Recreational Vehicle Ordinance from page 9.

Chapter 2: No Change

Chapter 3:

- Added the following information which is on page 21.
 - The Way Dam/Michigamme Reservoir is a popular recreational facility located in the Township. WE Energies owns the majority of the land surrounding the reservoir and does provide recreational opportunities and facilities. These opportunities and facilities include boat launches, campsites, and other access points. Land surrounding the reservoir is undeveloped. The Township recognizes the popularity of this water body and would like it to stay undeveloped, keeping the recreational facilities as they are currently. This may require the Township to become a more active partner with WE Energies or even a stakeholder through various strategic acquisitions of property. This is an effort to maintain the unique, undeveloped waterbody. Boating, fishing, water trails, hunting, and other outdoor and water recreational opportunities are available at the reservoir and surrounding land. The Township would like to preserve these features and develop similar recreational opportunities. The Township would like to preserve the lakes and wetlands along with the entire Michigamme Reservoir including the Fence River and the entire Michigamme River shores.
- Under Economic Development section, we added the following information which is on page 26.
 - Strategy: Research regulations for alternative energy and energy storage facilities including the benefits and drawbacks.

- Strategy: Investigate regulations for short term rentals including development of regulations and methods of enforcement.
- Under Lakes, Stream and Wetlands on page 24, we added the following:
 - Strategy: Study the impacts of implementing a greenbelt on the shoreline of all lakes, rivers, and streams within the Township.
- Under Recreation and Tourism on page 25, we expanded the objective as follows:
 - Objective: Create a structured plan that guides the development, maintenance, and improvement of parks and recreation facilities throughout the Township and aims to:
 - Secure Funding
 - Improve Access and Accessibility
 - Create Community Connectivity
 - Preserve Natural Resources
- Under Quality of Life section on page 25, we reworded the strategy for high speed internet since there are lots of options now for that service:
 - Strategy: Support these service companies if/when they want to come through Mansfield Township.
- Under the Beautification section on page 27, we added the following Objective and strategies:
 - Objective: Enable residents the opportunity to remove unwanted, large waste volumes locally and at a reasonable cost.
 - Strategy: Provide a recycling program and large dumpster/garbage cleanup twice a year. Strategy: Cooperate with Iron County in the development of a hazardous waste collection site within or near the Township.

Appendix: Made the following change:

- Removed all the community input and survey information. Everything in the Appendix after the Sources Section.