“Everybody needs beauty as well as bread, places to play and pray in, where nature may heal and cheer and give strength to body and soul alike” – John Muir

Northwestway Park
DEFINITION OF PLANNING AREA

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Outdoor Recreation groups Marion County with seven other counties as Region 8. Those counties are Boone, Hamilton, Hendricks, Hancock, Morgan, Johnson and Shelby. The above map illustrates Marion County’s location in relationship to its surrounding counties and the state.
COUNTY POLITICAL BOUNDARIES

Although there was a consolidation of city and county government in the early 1970s, there are three excluded cities (Beech Grove, Lawrence and Southport) and one excluded town (Speedway) in the county. All four of these jurisdictions have their own police, fire, park and street departments as well as appointed and/or elected officials. There are fourteen additional areas designated as “included towns” that are separate taxing districts but rely on the City to provide the majority of services. The above map illustrates the location of the excluded cities and the existing public parks in the county.

The political boundaries for this report are the county lines for Marion County, Indiana. Included as a reference are the excluded cities and towns of Lawrence, Speedway, Beech Grove, and Southport. This plan does not address the needs of the excluded cities.