

A Warren Farm is a good Idea

The City Council and Mayor in Warren can do something that will both save our citizens money but improve the future of our city.

Looking back at our history will show that our area was self sufficient in food production and energy for hundreds of years.

Halmich Park with its 74 acres and Veterans park with its nearly 50 acres have sizable areas which you waste money having mowed many times a year. Large parts of our parks are virtually unused, yet cost us money and manpower to maintain.

This is a waste of money and manpower.

What if you could use those areas for good purpose without having to pay to have them mowed.

What if they could be utilized for the benefit of our community.

They are big enough to, without hurting present usage for picnics and sports, to also house a farm.

This farm could eliminate the need to mow the area and also provide income to the city as well as provide great educational and recreational benefits.

Think how wonderful it would be to have a local farm where our citizens especially children could visit and see farm animals and crops.

Besides saving you money and producing income. Volunteers in partnership with our schools could maintain the farm and provide educational opportunities for our children. Both schools and parks and recreation could also hold programs there. People from other communities could be charged a small fee to use it. The closest farm now is probably Wolcott farm run by metro parks who charge a fee to use their parks which is 30 miles away. Our Warren farm would give us a local farm many others would pay to visit. Perhaps the farm could have hay rides or wagon rides drawn by real horses. Perhaps kids could milk a cow. Perhaps a pig race on Saturdays. People pay in other places just to pet the animals or feed the chickens and other animals. The farm could have Halloween and Farm Trick-or-Treat, Cider Donut horse drawn wagon rides, romantic moon light wagon rides, senior wagon rides haunted barn and many more possible events. Fund raisers most income producing to make the farm self supporting yet have provision for our poorer citizens to still be able to visit. Volunteers can be recruited to do help provide these learning opportunities to our children.

Right now this land is unused and just costs us money to maintain but a living farm would provide a great educational resource and pay for itself.

Another possibility. The unused areas of other parks could be utilized for crops. Just the unused areas without hurting their sports and picnic usage. This could save the city money. The food they produce could be sold in our farmers markets. Home grown food cost less, is healthier and safer than imported food. And it supports our local economy.

Science has improved farming so much that it is becoming possible to grow crops year around in unused buildings or plastic covered green houses. There are increasingly available areas where this can be done. Food produced is high quality, and can be counted on being produced regardless of weather unlike regular field farming. In son to be tomorrow world this food could provide safe perhaps lower cost food for our citizens. Why pay more money for food grown on other countries which has been sprayed with pesticide when our citizens can have safer, more nutritious food grown here at home . This would also support our local economy.

Wocott farm pictures <http://www.metroparks.com/blog.aspx?ID=10#>