Charter Township of Oakland

Parks, Recreation & Land Preservation Master Plan

2025 - 2029









Adopted:
Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission: 1/8/2025
Oakland Township Board of Trustees: 1/28/2025

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Table of Contents

Chapter 1: Executive Summary 7

Introduction 9

Chapter 2: Action Plan 15

Vision 17

Mission 17

Community Values 17

Goals and Strategies 17

Chapter 3: Needs Assessment & Public Participation 35

Planning and Public Input Process 37

National Recreation Trends 45

Public Input & Survey Summary 52

Chapter 4: Recreation Inventory 57

Township Parks and Facilities 59

Neighborhood Parks 62

Community Parks and Facilities 64

Conservation Parks 88

Local Trails and Pathways System 102

Regional Trail System 102

Chapter 5: Administrative Structure 109

Local Administration 111

Intergovernmental Recreation Agencies 113

Chapter 6: Community Background 117

Regional Setting 117

Demographic Characteristics 118

Economic Characteristics 123

Appendices

Appendix A: Safety Paths & Trails Strategy Plan 142

Appendix B: Community Input 173

Appendix C: Park Inventory Sheets 260

Appendix D: Millage Fund Use Criteria 295

Appendix E: Funding Sources 328

Appendix F: Environmtl & Natural Features Papers 332

Appendix G: Concept Plans 334

Appendix H: Notices 335

Appendix I: Resolutions 341

Appendix J: Minutes 343

Appendix K: Letters of Transmittal 364

Appendix L: PCSC Forms 366

Maps

Map 1. Park Service Areas 46

Map 2. Oakland Twp Recreation Facilities 60

Map 3. Drive Times to Regional Rec Facilities 97

Map 4. Existing Land Use 126

Map 5. 2023 Trails & Pathways Strategy Plan 128

Map 6. High Quality Natural Features 133

Map 7. Topography 134

Figures

Figure 1. Gallagher Creek Park 63
Figure 2. Bear Creek Nature Park 65
Figure 3. Charles Ilsley Park 67
Figure 4. Cranberry Lake Park 70
Figure 5. Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District Detail 71
Figure 6. Draper Twin Lake Park 73
Figure 7. Lost Lake Nature Park & Fox Nature Preserve 76
Figure 8. Lost Lake Nature Park & Fox Nature Preserve Detail 77
Figure 9. Marsh View Park 79
Figure 10. Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park - Site Development Plan 81
Figure 11. Watershed Ridge Park 83
Figure 12. Paint Creek Junction Park 85
Figure 13. Mill Race Trail 87
Figure 14. Blue Heron Environmental Area 89
Figure 15. Paint Creek Heritage Area 91
Figure 16. O'Connor Nature Park 93
Figure 17. Organizational Chart 112
Figure 19. Site Context - Oakland County 117
Figure 18. Site Context - State of Michigan 117
Figure 20. Site Context - SEMCOG 117
Figure 21. Household Size Comparison 119
Figure 22. Oakland Township Age Group Percentages 120
Figure 23. Median Age Comparisons 120
Figure 24. SEMCOG Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan 137
Figure 25. Great Lake-to-Lake Trail Overview 138
Figure 26. Iron Belle Trail Overview & Detail Map ... 139

Tables

Table 1. Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan 27
Table 2. Comparison to National Standards 41
Table 3. Park Facility Analysis 44
Table 4. Selected List of Mini Parks 47
Table 5. Top Recreation Activities - NSGA Survey 48
Table 6. Team Sport Growth - SFIA Survey 48
Table 7. Top Outdoor Recreation Activities - Statewide 48
Table 8. NRPA Park & Trail Quantity Comparisons to Oakland Township Facilities 50
Table 9. NRPA Staffing & Expenditures Ranges .. 50
Table 10. Sources of Operating Expenditures 51
Table 11. Distribution of Expenditures 51
Table 12. Targets for Capital Expenditures 51
Table 13. Operating Expenditures Dedicated to Parks or Recreation 51
Table 14. Programs Offered 51
Table 15. Which areas should be prioritized? 52
Table 16. Satisfaction Rates with Oakland Twp Parks 52
Table 17. Park Visitation Rates 53
Table 18. Top Ten Desired Facilities or Programs . 53
Table 19. Top Ten Desired Amenities 53
Table 20. Top Desired In-Park Support Facilities .. 53
Table 21. Top Ten Desired Programs 54
Table 22. Program Participation in the Last Year .. 54
Table 23. Best Times for Rec. Programs 54
Table 24. Recreation Programs Costs 54
Table 25. Top Reasons for Visiting CLFHD 55
Table 26. Interest in Offerings at CLFHD 55

Table 27. Top improvements desired for CLFHD.. 55
Table 28. Fox Barn at Options..... 55
Table 29. Desired Amphitheater Capacity..... 56
Table 30. Desired Amphitheater Configuration ... 56
Table 31. Regional Recreation Facility Amenities 98
Table 32. Barrier Free Accessibility Ratings 101
Table 33. Park Fund Revenues & Expenditures, 2023 - 2027..... 115
Table 34. Land Preservation Fund Budget, 2023 - 2027..... 115
Table 35. Historic District Commission Budget, 2023 - 2027 115
Table 36. Grant History..... 116
Table 37. Population Data, Oakland Twp Region. 118
Table 38. Age Group Distribution..... 118
Table 39. Median Age..... 118
Table 40. Oakland Township Household Data, 2000 - 2045..... 119
Table 42. Oakland Township Household Characteristics..... 119
Table 41. Oakland Township Household Characteristics..... 119
Table 43. SEMCOG Regional Forecast..... 120
Table 44. Ethnicity Comparison, 2010 - 2020 121
Table 45. Persons with Disabilities, 2022..... 121
Table 46. Highest Educational Attainment 122
Table 47. School Enrollment Figures 122
Table 48. Net Total Building Permits Pulled, 2016-2023..... 123
Table 49. Median Household and Per Capita Incomes, 2021..... 124
Table 50. Annual Household Income, 2022 124
Table 51. SEMCOG 2020 Land Cover Analysis..... 125
Table 52. Oakland Township Land Use Comparison, 2015 - 2023..... 125
Table 53. State and Federally Listed Plant and Animal Species..... 132

Chapter 1: Executive Summary



Campers at Marsh View Park. Image Source: Oakland Township



Frosty morning walk at Charles Ilsley Park. Image Source: Oakland Township

Introduction

The Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Department has completed the process of updating the 2020 - 2024 Parks, Recreation, & Land Preservation Master Plan in an effort to inform and guide their park planning activities over the next five years, and to meet Michigan Department of Natural Resources requirements. A thorough inventory and analysis of the existing parks and facilities managed by the Parks Department helped give the Department and the Parks and Recreation Commission a better understanding of the wants and needs of the community, and allows them to adjust planning to meet current needs as well as plan for future ones.

The plan is broken into six chapters, each of which addresses an overarching concept. While the plan is presented in a linear format, chapters are interconnected with the others, building off each other to provide key insights which ultimately inform the decisions incorporated in the Action Plan.

1. **Introduction**

   The introductory chapter provides a broad overview of the plan composition and methodology, an Executive Summary highlighting the key takeaways and lessons learned during the planning process, and a list of key accomplishments achieved since completion of the previous plan.

2. **Action Plan**

   The Action Plan reviews the overarching goals of the Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission, Parks and Recreation Staff, and the community as a whole. This chapter provides the ultimate recommendations for the next five years, including a description of any capital expenditures associated with those recommendations. It includes recommendations for the future development of the Parks system, from specific parks to general system-wide levels. The Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan is also contained in this section.

   While the projects and expenditures listed have a timeline associated with each item, it is important to remember that these items are meant to be guidelines; all of the entries are intended to be flexible and implementation may be adjusted depending on budget availability, new information, or any other extenuating circumstances.

3. **Needs Assessment & Public Participation**

   This chapter offers insight to recreational trends on a state and national level, and provides a comparison of Oakland Township's facilities against those seen in peer communities. More critically, the chapter details methodology used to communicate with Oakland Township residents to obtain their thoughts regarding recreation, and provides a summary of input received and lessons learned through months of community outreach.

4. **Parks & Recreation Inventory**

   An overview of individual parks and recreation facilities available to Oakland Township residents. The overview examines various levels of the park structure and includes facilities not explicitly included in the Township holdings, such as schools, regional trails, and quasi-public facilities.

5. **Administrative Structure and Funding:**

   A description of the Township management, history, and economic resources. The chapter details the Township and Parks and Recreation Department administrative structures, and provides a listing of the Department's expenditures and revenues, funding, and grant history.

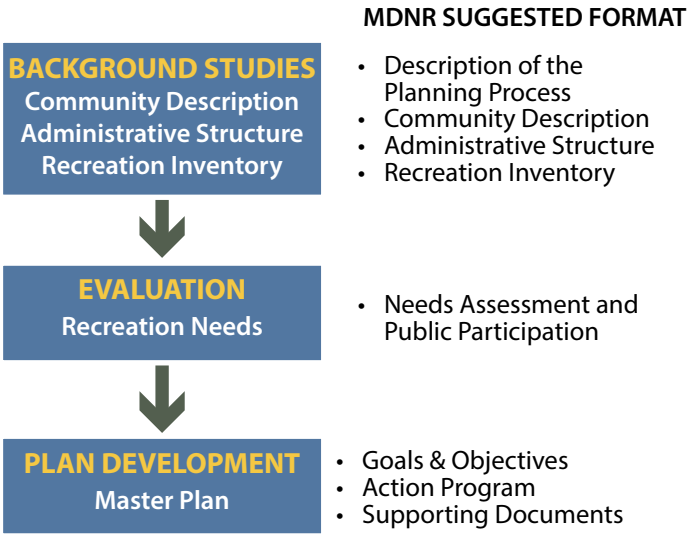
6. **Community Description:**

   This chapter examines the demographic and economic trends in the community as well as the physical characteristics of Oakland Township. The information plays a key role in defining goals and objectives.

The process used to generate the plan consists of three phases: background studies, evaluation, and plan development.

1. **Background Studies.** This phase involved gathering and updating data from census data, existing documents, plans, and field observations. The information is organized into three chapters: community description, administrative structure & funding, and parks & recreation inventory.
2. **Evaluation.** The second phase in the planning process includes an evaluation and analysis of the gathered data as well as community input to determine recreation facilities and program needs. A public input session was conducted to receive residents' opinions and ideas for the park and recreation system, and an online survey offered data from over 200 individuals. Input from local officials and the members of the Park Commission was also used.
3. **Plan Development.** The last phase in the process involves plan development and adoption. Based on the deficiencies and needs, goals and objectives were formulated and a specific action plan developed. Strategies to implement the plan are also discussed.

The following diagram illustrates the planning process and how it corresponds to the MDNR suggested format.



This Master Plan was developed with extensive input from local officials, staff, community stakeholders, and residents. In addition to a resident survey, an open house was conducted to encourage participation and generate ideas for improving the community parks and recreation system. A public hearing was held in front of the Parks and Recreation Commission on January 8, 2025, and was adopted by the Township Board of Trustees on January 28, 2025. The Master Plan was also available for public review and comment at the Township Hall, the Rochester Hills Public Library, and on the Township website for more than three months prior to the public hearing.



Red maples at the entrance to Bear Creek Nature Park. Image Source: Paul Birty / Oakland Township

Executive Summary

Oakland Township residents are fortunate to live in a community with some of the best managed and highest quality natural areas in southeast Michigan. Based on the input received through a statistically valid community survey, a community open house, and other in-person outreach efforts, residents recognize the quality of the Oakland Township recreation system, and appreciate the ongoing efforts of the Parks and Recreation Commission and Parks and Recreation Staff.

Community priorities closely mirror those expressed in both the 2015 and 2020 recreation plans. Residents want the Township to retain its rustic ambiance, and feel that preservation of open space, particularly high quality natural areas, helps to achieve that goal. Residents expect these properties to be properly maintained, however, both in terms of amenities such as playground structures and picnic shelters, but also through ongoing stewardship of the natural areas in the Township's parks and preserves.

Like many communities, trails are highly popular in Oakland Township and development of trails and paths within parks is a top priority. Residents had a clear preference for crushed limestone surfaces, similar to what is used on the Paint Creek Trail. Paths should be designed for multiple uses, accommodating pedestrians, cyclists, and equestrians where appropriate. Exercise trails rated highly with survey participants, and fitness stations could be incorporated into the trails along with important support amenities such as benches and restrooms.

While this plan focuses on internal park trail development, there is a clear desire to see pathway connections between parks as well. 80% of residents currently drive to local parks. Continued work with the Safety Paths and Trail Committee to develop safe non-motorized alternatives will be critical.

Residents expressed satisfaction with the Township's properties, with the Paint Creek Trail and Bear Creek Nature Park being the highest rated facilities. Visitors primarily come to the parks to access natural areas and exercise, with trail activities being highly popular. Those who do not visit the area parks cite a lack of time as the primary reason, although many stated they are unaware of the park offerings and in some cases, do not know the locations of the properties.

Attitudes towards Township recreation programs are very similar. Residents participate in the programs for pure enjoyment, with nature appreciation and exercise being important components. Those who participated felt that fees were appropriate, and would like to see more special events and adult programs developed. Some residents did not know about program offerings, however, while others simply do not have available free time. Survey participants indicated that weekend daytime programs or weekday evenings would best fit their schedules.

Responses to questions regarding the Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District revealed a desire for continued provision of concerts and educational programs at the property. The most desired new improvement is the inclusion of flushing restrooms.

There was limited support for the proposed barn relocation and rehabilitation projects. Hesitation centered around lack of knowledge; there is support for historic structure preservation, but little appetite for special millages or bonds to pay for the projects. If funded through sponsorships and donations or fundraisers, there was a desire to see both the Fox and Garling barns used as event spaces.

Finally, preliminary discussions regarding amphitheater development resulted in similar hesitation. While there is some support, uncertainty about location, style, and cost suggest a need for a more in-depth evaluation before residents will embrace the concept.

Key Accomplishments

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation and the Historic District Commission at Cranberry Lake Farm successfully achieved many of the goals and action items outlined in the 2020 - 2024 Recreation Plan. Some of the accomplishments include:

Programming

- Expanded soccer field use through additional leagues.
- Expanded both outdoor and indoor archery programming.
- Hired Archery Range Coordinator.
- Archery now runs year round, with indoor instruction at Baldwin Elementary in winter months, helping to retain student interest. Offering both leagues and clubs.
- Hosted the highly prestigious Michigan Senior Olympics Tournament.
- Built Archery Range Storage Shed – 30 x 40
- Awarded DNR Archery Equipment Replacement Grant: $2000 in additional equipment for indoor archery programs.
- Purchased new soccer equipment to replace second-hand and aged goals for 7v7, 9v9 and 11v11. Purchased goal backstop systems.
- Purchased golf cart for mobility challenged program participants.
- Offering fitness classes. Participation dropped during the COVID restrictions, but have been steadily building back up.
- Offering virtual Yoga and Tai Chi courses (in person also available).
- Offering free programs twice a month at the Lost Lake Nature Center in addition to the regular nature programs provided by Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve.

Maintenance

- New equipment purchases split between Maintenance and Natural Areas Stewardship, reducing overall costs and less expensive than relying on contractors.
- New heated pole barn at Watershed Ridge Park allows maintenance through winter.

Natural Areas

- Hired a full time Stewardship Specialist, allowing for more field work to be completed and better oversight of a greatly expanded volunteer corps. The Volunteer program has grown exponentially.
- Purchased trailers, track loader, utility vehicle, dump trailer (shared with Maintenance).
- Natural features inventory completed (with MNFI) at Fox Nature Preserve.
- Multiple prairie and wetland restorations completed in partnership with US Fish & Wildlife Service.
- Fox Nature Preserve land acquisition.
- Phragmites eradication program headed up by Dr. Benjamin VanderWeide, Natural Areas Stewardship Manager.
- Annual Stewardship reports published.

Cranberry Lake Farm

- Moved and restored a township milk house.
- Restored east porch steps at Farm House.
- Installed five lawn hydrants for accessible water
- Created a children's story garden.
- Installed a high-production dwarf apple orchard.
- Installed additional three beehives in a gated enclosed area.
- Added eagle statues on stone monuments at the east entrance.
- Added a small herb garden.
- Restored the Heritage Garden.
- Restored an Orchard Sprayer.
- Accepted donations for two large antique carriages.
- Continue to add new programs including a variety of new activities for "Down on the Farm".

Park Specific Improvements

- Parking lot improvements/additions completed at Draper Twin Lake Park, Charles Ilsley Park, Bear Creek Nature Park, Stony Creek Ravine Nature Preserve, Watershed Ridge Park, and Fox Nature Preserve..
- Lawn area at Bear Creek Nature Park improved to allow overflow parking during events.
- New well & electrical improvements at Bear Creek Nature Park.
- Flushable restrooms added at Marsh View Park, Bear Creek Nature Park.
- Completion of trailhead, parking, and restrooms at Paint Creek Junction Park.
- Park signage at Paint Creek Junction Park and Marsh View Park.
- New pavilion at Marsh View Park (donation).
- Improved connection between Charles Ilsley Park and subdivision.
- New trails at Watershed Ridge Park and Fox Nature Preserve.
- Acquisition of land for Fox Nature Preserve.
- Barns at Fox Nature Preserve digitally scanned and archived for historic preservation and to allow recreation in the future if desired.
- Marsh View Park archery barn. Continuing improvements to meet occupancy requirements, allow classes.
- Expanded archery lane to meet ADA requirements for longer range targets.



Fox Nature Preserve entrance. Source: Homes.com

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Chapter 2: Action Plan



Prescribed burn at Bear Creek Nature Park. Image Source: Scott Larsen/Oakland Township



Acorn gathering at Charles Ilsley Park. Image Source: Homes.com

By incorporating comments and expertise from community members, consultants, and Township Parks and Recreation staff, and utilizing guidelines from Federal and State sources, Oakland Township has been successful in creating a thorough and comprehensive Master Plan. This Master Plan creates an effective framework for the Action Plan. Extensive historical research, surveys, and community interviews have enabled the Township to identify trends and specific community needs. The Action Plan details improvements and enhancements recommended for the Oakland Township Parks system, and identifies tools needed to implement these components.

A key component of the Action Plan, the Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), helps to identify specific projects which may require significant capital outlay on the part of the Township. Implementation of these projects will be affected by numerous factors, including grant awards and general economic conditions. Even so, the projects identified in this Action Plan are distinct, meeting the needs of the community and the visions and goals of the Township itself.

The Action Plan is organized as follows:

- Vision and Mission
- Goals and Strategies
- System Wide Recommendations
- Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan
- Vision, Mission, and Community Values

Vision

The Vision Statement reflects the Park and Recreation Department's core principles and how they are conveyed to the Township's residents:

"Our vision is to provide responsible management and stewardship of our natural resources through quality parks, trails, and recreation experiences now and for future generations."

Mission

The Park and Recreation Department's Mission Statement reflects the overarching goal of the department:

"The Mission of Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission is to provide a sustainable system of parks, trails, programs, amenities, and services which create memorable experiences and a sense of place, contributes to the economic value of the Township and preserves the historical and natural heritage of the landscapes for existing and future generations."

Community Values

Community values elicited during the community input process and carried over into subsequent Master Plans include:

- Preservation of open space and our natural heritage
- Safe parks and trails
- Quality recreation experiences
- Environmental sustainability and stewardship
- Financial sustainability
- Easy and safe access to parks and trails
- Quality staff
- Open and rural feeling
- Leverage resources through effective partnerships

Goals and Strategies

As part of the 2009 Master Plan, the Parks and Recreation Department developed a 10-year Strategy Matrix to help guide them through the decision making process. The goals and strategies outlined in that original document were updated in 2014, 2019, and again in 2024 to reflect current community values in an effort to provide the best possible framework for future decision making.

1.0 Park Land

Vision for Parks:

Our vision for park lands and open space is to provide a variety of parks and trail experiences that are desired by the community for passive and active recreation that supports the community values of accessibility, preservation and safety of their experiences in our parks."

Goal:

Achieve the land acquisition and development goals for the Township over the next ten years of which 80% of park lands will be left in a natural preservation state and the remainder to be utilized for trails and general park development.

Objective 1.1: Adopt the land and amenity standards as outlined in the Master Plan.

- Implement the land and amenity standards over a ten-year period in existing and future parks to meet the community's unmet need for recreation and preservation pursuits.
- Develop design principles and standards for parks to support appropriate recreational needs and available operational money available.
- Develop a wayfinding system for parks with a signage program that informs the community of the parks that are available for their use and how to access them in the Township.
- Continue to balance active and passive facilities' needs.
- Continue to facilitate planning, design, and implementation in park and trail systems.

Objective 1.2: Seek and/or explore alternatives for funding the developing and operational costs of trails.

- Develop trails sponsorships to help support the operational costs of trails.
- Develop partnership agreements with local park and recreation systems to help develop trails that can connect to their parks and create a system of trails for the Township.

Objective 1.3: Create trail path standards with various surfaces based on operational costs and in meeting user desires for a quality experience

- Implement trail design and maintenance standards for soft surface and hard crushed rock surfaces.
- Develop a trail signage program and wayfinding system to access trails within the Township.
- Develop partnerships with neighboring park and recreation, schools, and utilities-type agencies to develop a regional approach to trail connectivity.
- Continue to focus on connectivity of external and internal trails to connect facilities.

Objective 1.4: Continue to seek voter approval for the millage to acquire land including development and maintenance costs on an as needed basis.

- Develop capital improvement costs and operational costs for projects planned in the millage levy to evaluate the impact on the park system.

Objective 1.5: Develop maintenance standards for developed park areas and the cost to maintain the standard on a yearly basis by acre and type of amenity.

- Seek to share operational costs with permitted users for access to the developed park areas where appropriate.
- Incorporate maintenance costs into program fees where appropriate.
- Establish an environmental sustainability objective into the daily operations of the Park system.
- Complete a sustainability audit and develop an action plan for improvement.

Objective 1.6: Provide functional facilities to address operational requirements

- Address barrier-free accessibility where necessary in all of the Township's parks and facilities.
- Implement a signage program in the following categories – directional, internal, interpretative, and regulatory.
- Provide facilities required to meet MDNR grant obligations.
- Provide facilities to enhance water access throughout the park system.
- Improve the park and trail systems with amenities such as benches, trash containers, restrooms, drinking fountains, parking, etc. as funds are available.
- Provide more opportunities for fishing.

2.0 PROGRAMS

Vision for Programs:

Our vision for recreation programs services will be to deliver the highest level of program experiences for people of all ages that create positive memories and appreciation for parks and living in Oakland Township.

Goal:

Develop core recreation services to maximize the Township resources and support other service providers in the region by working together to enable people of all ages to enjoy and participate in recreation opportunities both passive and active.

Objective 2.1: Confirm core recreation services the Township will be developing over the next five years, i.e. fitness and wellness, special events, family and 50+ adult programs, nature and environmental programs, and special interest clubs.

- Develop a plan for each core service to determine its overall direction, cost and operational impact.

Objective 2.2: Continue to develop new policies for pricing of services, partnership development and earned income development as it applies to recreation programs and services.

- Continue to increase partnerships particularly with schools and sports groups.
- Involve similar providers in a round table programming discussion on a regular basis to limit duplication and raise awareness on how each agency operates.
- Explore Paint Creek Cider Mill with Township as a site for special events and programs.

Objective 2.3: Initiate an active adult launch group to develop the active adult programs working in partnership with public and private entities.

- Create an advisory group of active adults to help develop engaging programming to attract older adults.
- Utilize survey results to help inform programming.

Objective 2.4: Continue to evaluate staff hours dedicated toward managing core recreation services including fitness and wellness, special events, family and 50+ adult programs, nature and environmental programs, and special interest clubs.

- Adequately staff the recreation division to build strong support for each core program

3.0 OPERATIONS & MANAGEMENT OF PARKS & FACILITIES

Vision for Operations and Management:

Our vision for park and recreation operations and maintenance is to provide the highest level of Operations and Maintenance standards possible within the resources available to meet the community's expectations for clean, safe and well- maintained parks and facilities.

Goal:

Establish and implement an Operations and Maintenance management program that addresses maintenance standards for various types of park and recreation amenities to meet the needs of users and increases the value of property for residents living in the Township.

Objective 3.1: Develop design standards for parks and recreation amenities that support a quality experience within the operational monies available to manage the resource.

- Incorporate natural area management recommendations, establish design principles and standards for planners and architects to follow in the design of parks and recreation amenities.
- Incorporate maintenance management recommendations and establish a capital improvement program that is realistic and achievable.
- Develop a Commission-approved sustainability policy statement.

Objective 3.2: Develop operational standards for parks and recreation amenities that support a quality experience within the operational monies available to manage the resource.

- Create a Maintenance Management Plan that supports established operation standards.
- Develop cost of service analysis.

Objective 3.3: Continue to evaluate staff hours dedicated toward maintenance of parks and recreation facilities.

- Adequately staff the maintenance division to meet the operational standards established for each park in accordance with the Maintenance Management Plan.

Objective 3.4: Develop and maintain partnerships to reduce duplication of services and provide cost effective operation of parks and programs.

- Strengthen collaborations and partnerships with other agencies.
- Seek new partnerships and collaborations with new partners and agencies when appropriate.
- Continue discussions with partner communities to cover gaps in programming.
- Seek collaboration with other agencies on development projects where priorities align.

4.0 FINANCE

Vision for Finance:

Our vision for financing Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Department capital and operational costs is to maximize every available resource available to create the finest parks and recreation township system in Oakland County.

Goal:

Prioritize funding streams to create options for the Township to access and meet the unmet needs of the community for recreation facilities, parks, and programs for the future.

Objective 4.1: Develop and implement financial tools to ensure financial performance and sustainability through cost of service analysis for significant operations of the Department.

- Track how the Township will spend its money in the future on parks, recreation facilities and programs.
- Inform the public on the resources available and how the Township will spend its money in the future on parks, recreation facilities and programs.

Objective 4.2: Develop and implement a capital improvement program for the Township that follows what the community desires in the most cost effective manner.

- Prioritize the capital improvements based on cost benefit, greatest impact and operational costs.

Objective 4.3: Develop and implement a community donation mechanism to allow a supplemental funding source for park, trail, and other recreation items.

- Develop a parks and trails foundation or "Friends of" group to help raise dollars for needed capital and operational projects.
- Seek "seed" money from public and private sources to help support the goals and vision of the Master Plan's capital and operational costs.
- Encourage individual in-memoriam or other donations in the form of park features such as benches, trees, bricks, and other hardscape and softscape items.

Objective 4.4: Designate partnership dollars invested by the Township for partnership groups by seeking consistency in permitting fees based on the level of maintenance required to limit entitlement.

- Develop written partnership agreements with key agencies to ensure fairness and equity is established with performance measures to track results.
- Seek new partnerships to help deliver and manage programs and events.

Objective 4.5: Develop a business plan for the Park and Recreation System in the Township each year on how the Commission will manage itself through cost of services and appropriate pricing, with measurable outcomes for parks, recreation amenities and program services.

- Align the business plan to the master plan to ensure operational and capital dollars are in place to support the programs or facilities being developed.
- Develop a pro-forma on the cash flow of the system to manage to sustainability.
- Develop efficiency practices throughout the system to maximize the Parks and Recreation resources.

Objective 4.6: Implement a long-term financial plan to address long-term maintenance requirements, facility repair, and/or replacement.

- Identify known large-scale maintenance items, schedules, and anticipated costs, and allocate funding as appropriate.
- Examples may include the 10-year Paint Creek Trail resurfacing, long-term stewardship projects, boardwalk wood replacement, playground equipment replacement, and similar projects.

5.0 NATURAL AREAS STEWARDSHIP

Vision for Natural Areas Stewardship:

Our vision for the stewardship of park natural areas is to manage Township Park natural areas with care and attention to creating and maintaining habitats suitable for the highest possible diversity of native plants and animals, and to provide our citizens with quality natural areas close to home.

Goal:

Implement a stewardship program that manages Township Park natural areas through invasive plant control, ecological restoration, and active management, to maximize the diversity of native plants, animals, and natural communities found here, while facilitating park users' access to many of these areas.

Objective 5.1: Establish baseline information for all natural areas.

- Prioritize natural areas for initial baseline information inventories.
- Floral, faunal, insect, bird, and herpetological surveys on prioritized natural areas.
- Continue efforts for ecological monitoring through contracts for threatened and endangered species; work with MNFI for more in-depth data regarding populations and locations.

Objective 5.2: Incorporate stewardship into park development, trail, and signage design standards.

- Increase awareness through signage and programming efforts.
- Work with planners to design all new facilities to minimize disruption to natural areas, enhance ecosystem services (storm water management, pollinator abundance, etc.) and maximize usefulness of trails as burn breaks.
- Evaluate all existing trails for effectiveness and possible damage to natural areas connectivity, natural areas function, wetlands, etc.
- Incorporate native species, natural community information, and stewardship into park and trail interpretive signage to create greater awareness and understanding.
- Utilize Park Management and Use Zones to guide development of improvements.
- Continue to focus on the restoration of natural areas and habitat, native plantings, and invasives management.

Objective 5.3: Increase community involvement in natural areas protection and stewardship.

- Work with The Stewardship Network, Six Rivers, Parks programming, and others for new volunteer activities and outreach methods.
- Develop partnerships with outside organizations (CRWC, MNFI, MDNR, Oakland County CISMA, etc.) to carry-out programming. Target mailings to neighbors regarding invasive plant educational opportunities.
- Educate park neighbors and residents concerning invasive plants and appropriate yard management to support healthy natural areas including appropriate disposal of yard waste and use of fertilizers and pesticides. Consider potential partnering to offer Township residents a local composting site.

Objective 5.4: Explore supplementary funding for long-term stewardship of natural areas.

- Working with other organizations such as Community Foundation, US Fish & Wildlife Service, etc., to secure funding.
- Assess projected funding and compare with projected needs.

Objective 5.5: Coordinate Parks and Recreation Ordinances with the full protection of natural areas.

- Provide stewardship input into ordinance revisions concerning proposed uses in parks with high quality natural areas.

Objective 5.6: Acquisition, protection, and/or management of natural areas adjacent to Township Parks.

- GIS/Ground truth assessment of adjacent natural areas and prioritization for their protection and management.

Objective 5.7: Use conservation easements to protect additional parkland natural areas.

- Prioritize park land for possible application of conservation easements.
- Place the conservation easement initiative on the ballot for Township residents to vote on.
- Purchase properties with sensitive habitats for the protection of natural areas.
- Purchase additional land adjacent to existing parks where when it protects green spaces and natural features.
- Creation of natural area stewardship management standards dependent upon criteria such as natural area quality and type of threat such as invasive plant population type and density.
- Acquire land for easements and trails.
- Consider conservation easements on existing park properties for future ballot consideration, including Charles Ilsley Park, Draper Twin Lake, Gallagher Creek Park, O'Connor Nature Park, Paint Creek Heritage Area-Wet Prairie, and Watershed Ridge Park.

Objective 5.8: Implement natural area management plans.

- Implement and evaluate management plan objectives, staff requirements, and other resources.
- Develop/enhance partnerships with conservation and stewardship organizations such as The Stewardship Network, HCMA, MDNR, MNA, Oakland County CISMA, and County Parks to share resources required for natural areas stewardship.
- Restore native vegetation to selective areas of farm lands within Township Parks to protect sensitive habitats.
- Continue to promote and accept donations of land.
- Evaluate existing land preservation millage intent and funding in comparison to projected needs for long-term stewardship of park natural areas.
- Conserve grassland communities through the protection and stewardship of grassland corridors and hubs.

Objective 5.9: Continue to evaluate staff hours dedicated toward managing natural areas including routine stewardship work, special restoration projects, and stewardship programs.

- Adequately staff the natural areas stewardship division to efficiently implement natural areas management plans, complete special restoration projects, and promote community involvement.
- Developing staffing standards for natural area stewardship tasks – understanding from a cost-benefit perspective which tasks should be performed by staff vs. consultants and that there are adequate resources to do so.

6.0 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Vision for Community Engagement:

Our vision for community engagement is to promote best practices for Oakland Township Parks, Recreation and Natural Areas Stewardship community engagement, marketing and communication within the resources available.

Goal:

Effectively promote interest in and advocacy for Oakland Township Parks, Recreation and Natural Areas Stewardship activities through the best marketing and communications initiatives and partnering with individuals, community groups and organizations.

Objective 6.1: Develop a strong volunteer program to help staff in managing events, programs and parks to achieve the outcomes desired and build advocacy for Oakland Township Parks and Recreation.

- Develop a volunteer training and recruitment program for volunteers.
- Establish job descriptions and duties in the park system for volunteers to help deliver services and support staff work in the Township.
- Develop a volunteer recognition program to recognize volunteer efforts in the Township parks and programs.
- Establish funded Volunteer Coordinator position.
- Development of natural area stewardship volunteer program.

Objective 6.2: Create a stronger marketing and communications effort for the program services offered through Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission.

- Improve awareness and branding of programs for the Park and Recreation System to build recognition, advocacy to energize the community to spend time in the parks and enroll in the programs.
- Develop a strong website to inform the community of activities and events upcoming. Include activity calendar and maps.
- Continue to develop marketing efforts to reach various age groups and user groups through various media methods.
- Continue to implement signage program to provide consistent signage, symbols, and park identity.
- Develop pocket maps, wayfinding apps, .
- Provide e-newsletters & e-mail blasts
- Prepare mobile app with virtual township park tour guide and/or trail maps
- Determine if Marketing and Communications needs are best met by staff or contractor and implement that plan.
- Develop social networking opportunities as a way of increasing park program awareness.

7.0 OPERATION OF PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Vision for Operation of Parks and Recreation Department:

Our vision for the operation of the Parks and Recreation Department is to support the Vision and Mission of Oakland Township Parks and Recreation by providing a respectful and supportive work environment that enables employees to contribute at optimum levels.

Goal:

Develop and implement policies, programs and services in all personnel operations with integrity, responsiveness and sensitivity to employees. Improve efficiency and effectiveness of human resources. Employ methods that enhance service, communications and productivity.

Objective 7.1: Align the organizational structure with the Master Plan, considering additional positions for overseeing Community Engagement.

- Establish roles and responsibilities for a Volunteer Coordinator.
- Establish roles and responsibilities for a Communications and Marketing Coordinator.

Objective 7.2: Annually evaluate the staffing of each functional area (stewardship, recreation, maintenance, community engagement) to meet operational standards within available funds.

- As necessary, suggest revisions to staffing types, responsibilities and levels.
- Reflect any staffing revisions in annual proposed budgets.

Objective 7.3: Develop teamwork and internal communications through ongoing staff meetings, work plans, organizational priority calendars and cross training opportunities.

- Teach and train staff and volunteers on how to communicate with each other in a proactive and productive manner.

Objective 7.4: Develop a leadership core within the Department focusing on core competencies and training needed to implement the elements of the Master Plan.

- Document the most significant internal processes that need to be improved.

8.0 CRANBERRY LAKE FARM HISTORIC DISTRICT

Vision

Our vision for Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District is to preserve the historic character of the District through restoration and rehabilitation of the built environment, and preservation of the gentleman's farm context for the benefit of future generations.

Goals

Cultivate an appreciation for the heritage of Oakland Township through education, collaboration, preservation, activities, programs, and exhibits.

Objective 8.1: Cultivate an appreciation for Oakland Township's history through a variety of recreation and preservation efforts.

- Maintain the historic character of the District through restoration and rehabilitation of barns, outbuildings, and gardens.
- Replicate lost buildings that contribute to the history of the farm.
- Develop more exhibit areas for permanent and rotating exhibits.
- Develop educational signage throughout the historic district.
- Restore the agricultural landscape.
- Work with the Natural Areas Stewardship program to preserve natural assets in the District.

Objective 8.2: Offer historical and educational programs that engage all ages through innovative programming and events.

- Offer historical and educational programs such as demonstrations, events, and special exhibits.
- Continue to hold Oakland Township Historical Society programs and events on the site.
- Continue to hold Oakland Township Parks and Recreation programs and events on site.
- Provide public use of grounds for local schools, Scout Troops, senior groups and other community organizations.
- Expand the variety programs to ensure that both passive and active options are available including hands-on and minds-on activities and workshops.

Objective 8.3: Increase awareness of the Historic District through ongoing marketing efforts.

- Improve awareness with marketing, website, newsletters, social media, mobile applications, and e-mail blasts.
- Educate residents about the value of preserving the buildings, structures and people that have contributed to this heritage .

Objective 8.4: Institute operations and management procedures to ensure the Historic District meets the needs of all area resident.

- Maintain safe, well-lighted, and clean facilities.
- Develop accessible pathways to promote access to all buildings.
- Continue to grow private rental of the facilities for weddings and other gatherings.

Objective 8.5: Institute financial protocols to provide stable and ongoing funding for the District.

- Accept donations for site improvements and artifacts that support the Township's agricultural history.
- Continue providing rentals that generate income.
- Develop five-year Capital Improvement Plan.
- Develop an endowment fund.
- Apply for grants for capital improvement projects.

Objective 8.6: Develop collaborative efforts to ensure efficient operation of the Historic District.

- Continue to partner with the Oakland Township Historical Society (OTHS).
- Collaborate with other commissions and groups that have a mutual interest in preserving Oakland Township's heritage.
- Seek additional volunteer and collaboration opportunities with Schools, community groups, local businesses, and organizations.

Objective 8.7: Develop planning documents to ensure the long-term viability of the District.

- Develop a disaster preparedness plan .
- Create a Maintenance Management Plan that supports operational standards.
- Develop historic district interpretive and signage plan.

Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan

This section summarizes the overall system recommendations as well as specific improvements to individual parks. Some are multi-year efforts that will involve time and coordination, while others are park improvements that require largely monetary investment. Table 1 – Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan incorporates the top recommendations that require capital improvement in the next five years for planning purposes.

Priorities should be reviewed on an annual basis and adjusted to respond to updated findings and identification of funding opportunities. In particular, costs should be closely monitored, as the proposed plan estimates are in 2024 dollars and are strictly preliminary. Actual costs for each project will be more specifically determined as site surveys, programming elements, and engineering plans are developed if applicable, as well as further analysis of the proposed improvement. If funding levels are lower than required to implement the Plan based on the schedule provided, the implementation could be stretched over additional years.

It should be noted that the CIP is based on the Strategic Plan financial model to ensure that the projects are aligned with the operational and financial realities of the Township's resources and are not simply a pure reflection of community desires. The Township has taken a comprehensive approach of preparing the Strategic Plan and Master Plan together to fully evaluate and prioritize projects based on the cost benefit, impact to the community, and operational costs.

Table 1. Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan

Year	Project	Est. Cost	Fund Source
2025			
2025	Garling Barn Restoration	$40,000	HDM, D
2025	Feasibility study & community outreach - Fox Barn	$ 15,000 - 20,000	LPM
2025	Land Acquisition	$315,000	LPM, PM
2025	Draper Twin Lake Park Dev - Connect East/West Paths	$50,000	LPM, PM
2025	Draper Twin Lake Park Dev- Canoe/Kayak Launch	$30,000	LPM, PM
2025	Draper Twin Lake-Canoe/kayak storage bldg and launch improvement	$15,000	PM
2025	Land Pres - Park Dev - Fox Nat Pres - Culvert replacement	$50,000	LPM
2025	Land Pres - Park Development - Blue Heron Fence	$20,000	LPM
2025	Land Pres - Park Development - Signage System	$38,500	LPM
2025	Park Dev-Signage System Fabrication	$22,500	PM
2025	Paint Creek Trail Improv-Paint Creek streambank stabilization	$5,000	PM
2025	Research Installations	$5,000	LPM
2025	Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park Dev. - Parking, Trails	$580,300	LPM, G
2025	Watershed Ridge lean-to and concrete pad for storage building, septic field	$53,000	LPM, PM
2025	Watershed Ridge - initial trail system and restroom enclosure	$18,000	LPM, PM
2025	Watershed Ridge Park Dev - Security Fencing	$5,000	LPM, PM

HDM = Historic District Millage
LPM = Land Preservation Millage
PM = Parks and Recreation Millage
D = Community Donations
G = MDNR (MNRTF, Rec Passport, LWCF), TAP, or Other Grants)

Table 1. Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan (continued)

Year	Project	Est. Cost	Fund Source
2026			
2026	Land Acquisition	$345,000	LPM, PM, G, D
2026	CLFHD - Signage development	$4,000	HDM
2026	Draper Twin Lake Park Dev - Playground	$75,000	PM
2026	Land Pres - Park Dev - Fox Nat Pres - Stabilization	$20,000	LPM
2026	Land Pres - Park Dev.- Blue Heron Parking and Paths	$90,000	LPM, G, D
2026	Land Pres - Park Development - Signage System	$23,500	LPM
2026	Park Dev - Signage System Fabrication	$22,500	PM
2026	Marsh View Park - Portable bleachers	$6,000	PM
2026	Park Equipment	$24,500	PM
2026	Park Property Equipment Purchase	$14,000	LPM
2026	Paint Creek Trail Improv-Paint Creek streambank stabilization	$5,000	PM
2026	Watershed Ridge - continued trail system development	$15,000	LPM
2026	Watershed Ridge - picnic tables	$5,000	PM
2026	Watershed Ridge - initial trail system and restroom enclosure	$20,000	LPM, PM
2027			
2027	CLFHD - Wild game brooder replica	$20,000	HDM
2027	Historic barn site - silo overlook	$18,000 - 20,000	HDM
2027	Land Acquisition	$375,000	LPM, PM, G, D
2027	Feasibility study & community outreach - Amphitheater	$ 15,000 - 20,000	PM
2027	Land Pres - Park Dev - Fox Nat Pres - Stabilization	$20,000	LPM
2027	Land Pres - Park Development - Signage System	$23,500	LPM
2027	Marsh View Park-Playground, Playcourts, Restrooms, Basketball resurface, Accessible Trails	$300,000	PM, G
2027	Park Dev-Signage System Fabrication	$22,500	PM
2027	Park Equipment	$31,200	PM
2027	Park Property Equipment Purchase	$14,000	LPM
2027	Paint Creek Trail Improv-Paint Creek streambank stabilization	$5,000	PM
2028			
2028	CLFHD - Agricultural interpretation area development	$12,000	HDM
2028	CLFHD - Expand parking area	$18,000	HDM
2028	CLFHD - Garling Barn gravel parking area	$12,000	HDM
2028	CLFHD - Accessible pathway to outbuildings	$18,000	HDM, G
2028	Land Acquisition	$200,000	LPM, G
2028	Paint Creek Junction - Historical kiosk	$20,000 - 30,000	LPM, PM
2028	Park Equipment	$27,000	PM
2028	Park Property Equipment Purchase	$14,000	LPM
2028	Paint Creek Trail Improv-Paint Creek streambank stabilization	$5,000	PM
2028	Watershed Ridge - Playground installation	$80,000	LPM, PM
2028	Watershed Ridge Park Dev - permanent parking/trails	$290,000	LPM, G

HDM = Historic District Millage
LPM = Land Preservation Millage
PM = Parks and Recreation Millage
D = Community Donations
G = MDNR (MNRTF, Rec Passport, LWCF), TAP, or Other Grants)

Table 1. Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan (continued)

Year	Project	Est. Cost	Fund Source
2029			
2029	Land Acquisition	$200,000	LPM, G
2029	Park Equipment	$27,000	PM
2029	Park Property Equipment Purchase	$14,000	LPM
2029	Paint Creek Trail Improv-Paint Creek streambank stabilization	$5,000	PM
2029	Paint Creek Trail - Resurfacing	$450,000	PM
2029	CLFHD - Barn replica	$120,000	HPM

HDM = Historic District Millage
LPM = Land Preservation Millage
PM = Parks and Recreation Millage
D = Community Donations
G = MDNR (MNRTF, Rec Passport, LWCF), TAP, or Other Grants)

Implementation Strategies

In order to accomplish the recommended actions during the next five years, it will be necessary to secure adequate funding. The current budget provides only a limited amount of funds for park development and improvements. The amount is well short of the projected expenses involved in the project schedule. Therefore, the following strategies are recommended to proceed as planned.

Apply for Local Funding

Oakland County Parks and Recreation (OCPR) ***Community Park and Trail Capital Grant Program*** provides assistance to local communities with planning, preliminary engineering, and construction costs related to park improvements and trail projects. Requests for proposals are released in March with applications due by late April. OCP awarded over $600,000 in grants to eleven communities in 2023.

More information can be found at *https://www.oakgov.com/community/oakland-county-parks/get-involved/community-outreach-grant-programs/community-grant-program*.

OCPR allocates millage funds to high-priority invasive species removal projects as part of their ***Community Habitat Improvement Grant Program***. Candidate projects demonstrate best practices, treat high priority species, increase community awareness and/or improve habitat. Funds are not distributed to recipients, but instead are paid directly to contractors for services rendered. Contact Patrick Canniff, Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability Outreach Coordinator at canniffp@oakgov.com for more information.

Recreation Assistance Partnership Program (RAPP) is an initiative that creates improved access to recreation experiences for all Oakland County residents by providing mobile recreation units, bus transportation, nature education programming and other services to more than 250,000 participants each year who may not otherwise have had access to these activities. The RAPP programs can supplement existing programming offerings and encourage users to more frequently utilize area parks.

Apply for Federal Funding

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) funds ***Transportation Enhancements (TE)*** activities for community-based projects that expand travel choices and enhance the transportation experience by improving cultural, historic, aesthetic, and environmental aspects of the transportation infrastructure. To be eligible, a project must fall into one of the TE activities. Activities which may apply to Orion include:

- Provision of facilities for pedestrians and bicycles such as walkways, curb ramps, bike parking, off-road trails, bike and pedestrian bridges and underpasses;
- Educational programs for pedestrians and bicyclists designed to encourage walking and bicycling by providing potential users with education and safety instruction through classes, pamphlets, and signage; and
- Preservation, conversion, and use of abandoned railway corridors for acquisition, development, planning, design, and construction of multi-use trails, as well as purchasing unused railroad property for reuse.

A minimum 20 percent local match is required for proposed projects and applications are accepted online on an on-going basis.

The ***Safe Routes to School (SR2S)*** program is a national movement to make it safe, convenient, and fun for children to bicycle and walk to school. When routes are safe, walking or biking to and from school is an easy way to get the regular physical activity children need for a healthy lifestyle. In Michigan, the program is sponsored by the Michigan Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and has gained momentum over the past few years. With the passage of the federal transportation legislation in 2005, Michigan's SR2S program made schools eligible for transportation enhancement funds, providing for infrastructure improvements and education campaigns. The purpose of the program, as defined in the federal legislation, is to:

Enable and encourage children, including those with disabilities, to walk and bicycle to school;

Make bicycling and walking to school a safer and more appealing transportation alternative, thereby encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle from an early age; and

Facilitate the planning, development, and implementation of projects and activities that will improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution in school areas.

The program provides mini grants for programming and major grants to help communities build sidewalks, crosswalks, and other infrastructure. Up to $200,000 per school is available for infrastructure projects, and $8,000 to build programming around the project. Communities must undergo an in-depth planning process prior to submitting an application. Deadlines are ongoing and awarded on a rolling basis. SR2S funding is 100 percent federal; no match is required.



Campers at Bear Creek Nature Park. Image Source: Oakland Township

Apply for State Funding

At the state level, the ***Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)*** and the ***Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF)*** continue to be the primary funding sources for parkland acquisition and development.

The MNRTF provides funding for the purchase and/or development of parkland for natural resource based preservation and recreation. Goals of the program are to:

- Protect natural resources and provide for their access, public use and enjoyment;
- Provide public access to Michigan's water bodies, the Great Lakes in particular, and facilitate their recreation use;
- Meet regional, county and community needs for outdoor recreation opportunities;
- Improve the opportunities for outdoor recreation in urban areas; and
- Stimulate Michigan's economy through recreation related tourism and community revitalization.

Grant proposals must include a local match of at least 25 percent of the total project cost. There is no minimum or maximum for acquisition projects. For development projects, the minimum funding request is $15,000 and the maximum is $400,000. Applications are due in April and August for acquisition projects and April (only) for development projects.

LWCF is a federal appropriation to the National Park Service, who distributes funds to the Michigan DNR for development of outdoor recreation facilities. The focus of the program has been on trailway systems and other community recreation needs such as playgrounds, picnic areas, skate parks, ball fields, soccer fields and walking paths. Minimum grant requests are $30,000 and maximum grant requests are $500,000. The match percentage must be 50 percent of the total project cost. Applications are accepted throughout the year, but must be in by April 1 to be considered for the following years grant funds.

The ***Recreation Passport*** grant program offers funding for the development of public recreation facilities for local units of government. Minimum grant requests are $7,500 and maximum requests are $150,000. The local match obligation is 25 percent of the total project cost. Application are typically due on April 1st.

Local units of government may use the ***Forest Stewardship*** program to develop a management plan for a municipal forest which would include a component targeting outreach to private landowners. A total of $2,000 may be granted with a 50 percent local match. Applications are due in September. Non-game ***Wildlife Fund Grants*** have also been offered in the past to identify, protect, manage, and restore native plant and animal species, natural communities, and other natural features.

The ***Detroit Edison Tree Planting program*** began as DTE joined the US Department of Energy's voluntary Climate Challenge Program to address greenhouse gas emissions. Cost-share funds are available to municipalities in the Detroit Edison's service area on a competitive basis for tree planting projects. A total of up to $4,000 may be granted to eligible tree planting projects on public and school property with a 50 percent local match. Applications are typically due in February.



Vernal pool monitoring. Image Source: Oakland Township

Apply for Other Grant Funding

There are also a variety of smaller grant programs available for the establishment of greenways/pathways or greenway-related facilities such as ***Bikes Belong Coalition***. The Bikes Belong Coalition is sponsored by members of the American Bicycle Industry. Their mission is to put more people on bikes more often. The program funds projects in three categories: Facility, Education and Capacity Building. Requests for funding can be up to $10,000 for projects such as bike paths, trails, lanes, parking, and safe routes to school. Applications are reviewed on a quarterly basis.

Access to Recreation is a grant program available for universal access of people of all abilities to a wide variety of recreation opportunities, such as nature viewing and photography areas, hiking trails, scenic outlooks, waterfalls and water activities of all kinds, beaches, fishing and boating, playgrounds, picnic areas, campgrounds, and much more. There are two primary grant programs under this source of funding:

1. ***Recreation Access Matching Grant*** provides up to 50 percent matching funds (up to $10,000) for the purchase of universally accessible recreation equipment and materials such as all terrain hiking wheelchairs, pool lifts, accessible playground surface, transfer systems, beach access mats, trail surface enhancements, and accessible picnic tables that enhance recreation participation by people with disabilities; and
2. ***Accessible by Design Awards*** is designed to stimulate the development of creative universally designed recreation experiences that invite, welcome, and support the inclusion of people of all abilities. Winning designs demonstrate how going above and beyond the minimum requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act can create greater access and usability for people of all abilities in the community. Winning designs are awarded cash prizes to build the projects up to $250,000 with 25 percent minimum match.

Increase Support for Parks

Public support for Parks & Recreation will be crucial in determining the level of services the Township will be able to provide in the future. A specific park or project millage over a limited period could be considered in the future for particular projects such as park or trail acquisition, development, or maintenance.

Seek Other Sources of Funding

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation and the Parks and Recreation Commission should continue to search for additional sources of funding. Seeking donations, attracting sponsors, holding fund-raising events and seeking out other revenue sources are methods that should be pursued aggressively to raise funding for park acquisition and development.



Bear Creek Nature Park. Image Source: Oakland Township

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Chapter 3: Needs Assessment & Public Participation



Community Open House, June 6, 2024. Image Source: CWA



June 6 Open House displays. Source: CWA

Basis for Action Plan

Consideration of the needs for the community is the impetus for any Parks related planning. Determining exactly what those needs are requires a multi-step evaluation process; input from the community, direction from national recreation guidelines, research of the Township's current offerings and programming, and key information compiled from the Parks and Recreation Department and the Parks and Recreation Commission are all components in the decision making process. Only after a complete understanding of the Township's requirements is established can an Action Plan be formulated.

Planning and Public Input Process

Planning Process

The Master Plan update is the result of efforts from multiple sources across the community. The Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) directed the update of the Oakland Township Parks, Recreation, & Land Preservation Master Plan. Citizen input, in the form of surveys and direct interaction with the planning consultants, staff, and Commissioners, was instrumental in the forming the plan recommendations. A thorough review of existing planning documents and an inventory of surrounding facilities also played a key role. The resulting recommendations described within the action plan reflect the needs and ideas of those who use the Township's parks and recreation facilities. The plan process is based on Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) guidelines, and includes seven tasks:

Task One - Community Description: The first task was to describe Oakland Township's physical and social features. These features include location, land use, environmental and natural features, as well as population features including age distribution, people with physical disabilities, types of households, employment, and income. This information is featured predominately in Chapter 6.

Task Two - Administrative Structure and Funding: This task was accomplished via a thorough review of the administrative structure of the Township, the Parks and Recreation Department, the PRC, and the various other recreation providers associated with the Township. A review of the current and projected revenues and expenditures for the Township as well as the grant history of funding received from the MDNR are included as part of Chapter 5.

Task Three - Parks and Recreation Inventory: Described in Chapter 4, the parks and recreation inventory was completed in part via a tour of facilities with representatives of Carlisle / Wortman Associates (CWA) and Parks staff. Written descriptions of the facilities incorporated information gleaned from a variety of sources including Parks staff, historic document review, and Consultant impressions. Township parks and facilities, schools, linear parks, regional parks and facilities, local and regional trails and pathways, local parks and facilities, and quasi-public and private recreation facilities were included as part of this inventory. The information includes the acreage, barrier-free accessibility, types of recreation facilities, natural features assessments, and other descriptions of the physical attributes of the area's facilities. Programming for both the Township's facilities as well as those of other recreation providers are also discussed in this section.

Task Four - Public Participation: Public participation was encouraged and advertised throughout the Master Plan process:

- Staff and Steering Committee Input: Two meetings were held with Parks Staff (April 3 and May 23, 2024) and the Recreation Plan Steering Committee (April 4 and August 27, 2024), to discuss the status of park developments, desired improvements, and general impressions of the efficacy of the previous plan. Staff and Park Commission members input helped to formulate the questions to be used in an online survey.
- Community Survey: A statistically significant Parks and Recreation survey was offered online and in hard copy format to the public from May 8 through July 1, 2024. The survey was developed and administered by Cobalt Community Research. The survey results were presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission on August 14, 2024, and were available for review as part of the mandated Master Plan review period. A total of 500 individual responses were received during the survey period. 425 of those responses were from the sample (mailing) group, providing +/- 4.7 percent margin of error with a confidence level of 95%.

- Community Open House: An open house was held at Township Hall on June 6, 2024, facilitated by representatives from CWA, Parks Staff, and members of the Parks and Recreation Commission. The Open House was advertised on the cover page of the Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Newsletter which is mailed to every Township household. Notices were also posted on the Oakland Township Parks and Recreation web page, Facebook page, and Twitter accounts.

  35 people attended the two hour session. Attendees were able to visit stations at their leisure and discuss their thoughts with facilitators. They had the option to leave written comments, with many writing directly on maps displayed around the room. Topics included goals and objectives, financing, park concept plans, and updates on the current park development projects. Participants were also able to vote and comment on a potential amphitheater development project.

  All comments from the online survey or provided at the open house can be found in Appendix B.

- The Master Plan draft was approved for public review at a Parks and Recreation Commission meeting on September 11, 2024. The complete Master Plan was made available for public review and comment from September 12, 2024 through January 28, 2025 (138 days in total). As required by the MDNR, the review period was publicly noticed in the September 18, 2024 Rochester Post (see Appendix H on page 335). The plan was advertised on the Parks and Recreation website, and made available through Calameo.com, an online hosting platform which allows users to view and download PDF copies of the document. Input was welcomed from anyone who had an interest in the Parks, and was not restricted to only Township residents.
- Music in the Meadows: Staff was present at the Music in the Meadows events held at Bear Creek Nature Park in June and August and at the Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District in July to listen to constituent concerns and discuss the planning efforts.
- Parks and Recreation Commission Meetings: A summary of preliminary survey results was presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission on September 14, 2024. PRC meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month, and are open to the public. Citizens are always encouraged to attend PRC meetings and provide their input. A total of seven meetings were held prior to the PRC recommending plan adoption by the Oakland Township Board of Trustees (BOT).

Task Five - Analysis: The collected information was analyzed based on the number of pertinent factors. The analysis incorporated national and state guidelines, and placed strong emphasis on local needs, the experience of the Parks and Recreation Department and consultants, the desires of the residents, and potential funding sources.

Task Six - Action Plan: Upon completion of the analysis, a review of public input results and the specific needs of the Township was conducted. This resulted in the creation of the five-year plan and provides the Township a checklist of what action is to be accomplished, when and where it will occur, who will accomplish it, how much it will cost, and potential funding sources.

Task Seven - Plan Completion and Adoption: Once consensus was reached among the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Parks and Recreation Department, three final meetings were held, each of which provided opportunities for comment from the public.

- Public Hearing: On January 8, 2025, the Parks and Recreation Commission held a public hearing on the draft plan prior to the PRC's recommendation for adoption. The hearing was publicly noticed in the Rochester Post.
- Planning Commission: The plan was presented to the Planning Commission on December 3, 2024. Input from the meeting was incorporated into the final plan. The Planning Commission provided a resolution of support for adoption of the plan.
- Formal Adoption: On January 14, 2025, the Master Plan was presented to the Township Board of Trustees, who requested additional time for review. It was presented again on January 28, where it was formally adopted. See "Appendix I: Resolutions" on page 341 and "Appendix J: Minutes" on page 343 for adoption documentation and meeting minutes.

Park Land Analysis and Service Areas

Approximately 4,430 acres of parks and facilities and approximately 37.5 miles of trails and pathways exist within Oakland Township, with 1,547 acres owned by the Township and managed by the Parks and Recreation Department. The remaining 3,138 acres are owned by public schools, Oakland County, Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority (HCMA), and the MDNR.

Oakland Township park land and facilities were compared to the minimum guidelines set forth by a 1996 National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) study. The study, which categorizes parks and open spaces as mini-parks, neighborhood parks, community parks, regional parks, and preserves, has been somewhat discounted in recent years by the NRPA. The organization has suggested that a formulaic approach to park planning cannot accommodate all of the variables which are necessary to consider in a robust park system. Even so, the study has become the standard for park plans, and does offer a simple method of comparison to other communities. The mini, neighborhood, and community parks are the close-to-home parks, designed to satisfy the recreational needs of local communities within a service radius of up to two miles. All of the Township-operated parks are considered close-to-home parks. According to NRPA standards, the amount of close-to-home park land recommended is 6.25 to 10.5 acres for every 1,000 residents.

Regional parks are parks that serve a broader area, up to roughly an hour drive from home, and focus on meeting the recreation needs of the region as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces. In Oakland Township, they include the state, county and HCMA-owned parks and recreation areas described in the preceding pages. The NRPA standard for regional parks is 15 to 20 acres of park land per 1,000 people.

According to these standards, local parks currently exceed the required acreage for total close-to-home park land and, based on population estimates for 2050, will continue to be adequate for future uses. While not public, other recreation facilities located in the area including the ones provided by the schools, conservancy sites, subdivision parks, and other private facilities will help to meet local needs. In addition, Oakland Township residents are exceptionally well-served by the regional park facilities both within the community and in adjacent townships.

"Table 2. Comparison to National Standards" on page 41 and the following discussion compares the amount of park land as it relates to the conditions of the Township and the MDNR standards based on the 2023 US Census population estimate of 20,500. The recommendations can be viewed in terms of total acreages or total parks required. Park classifications used by the MDNR are defined as follows:

- **Mini Parks:** As discussed in Chapter 4, mini parks are small, specialized parks that are usually less than 1 acre in size, serving limited, isolated, or unique populations typically less than 1/4 mile away from the park itself. Oakland Township has over 1,100 acres of private open space areas in residential subdivisions which can serve this purpose. This is well in excess of the maximum recommended acreage of 6.4 acres. No further action is recommended for this category of park.
- **Neighborhood Parks:** Neighborhood parks serve an area up to a one-half mile distance and are typically less than 10 acres in size. Oakland Township has one neighborhood park, Gallagher Creek Park. NRPA guidelines recommend between two to seven parks of this type, depending on the acreage of property. In Oakland Township, Gallagher Creek totals 15 acres, which falls below the minimum acreage recommendations. When compared to the service coverage map (see Map 1 on page 46), only the southwest corner of the Township is underserved. Rather than seek additional property for neighborhood park development, the Township may wish to consider more intensive development in community parks located near growing residential neighborhoods (e.g. Charles Ilsley Park and Watershed Ridge). Though not counted in this category, school facilities and private neighborhood parks generally help to fulfill the need for neighborhood parks (see School Facilities discussion below).

- **Community Parks:** Community parks typically serve an area within one-half to three miles and are between 30 to 50 acres in size. NRPA guidelines recommend between 103 and 165acres, with a maximum of six parks; Oakland Township owns 1,360 acres of community park land in nine parks, and exceeds the recommended maximum acreage by 1,195 acres. The vast majority of this land is used for passive activities (picnicking, trails, fishing), preservation, and nature observation; only Marsh View Park caters to active recreation users. The NRPA Guidelines suggest that Oakland Township is lacking active use facilities, but is clear from the Community Survey and subsequent open houses that the citizens of the Township prefer to continue park development with a more passive aesthetic.
- **Natural Resource Areas:** Natural resource areas are lands set aside for preservation of significant natural resources, remnant landscapes, open space, and visual aesthetics/buffering. Six areas meet this requirement in the Township for a total of 165.5 acres. The NRPA makes no suggestions for this type of space, but this is a significant asset and is highly valued by the community. The Township should continue to acquire natural resource areas as they become available.
- **School Facilities:** School properties can fulfill the requirements for other classes of parks such as neighborhood, community, sports complex, and special use. For the purposes of this analysis the four elementary schools and one middle school located in the Township were included. They provide a total of 96 acres, which complements the Township facilities and provides more active recreation facilities.
- **Linear Parks:** Linear parks are trails and trail systems and the buffer space surrounding the trails. Linear parks often include educational signage, rest stops, play areas, natural features (stream, river), or human-defined corridors (railroad right-of-way, power line easement). Multiple modes of transportation such as hiking, biking, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, canoeing, or pleasure driving may be incorporated into the same linear park or separated into individual-use areas. The Township includes linear park area consisting of two types of trails and pathways – external and internal. External trails and pathways currently consist of 13.6 miles of pathways associated with private developments. Additionally, there are a total of 49.3 miles of trails and pathways (16.7 miles of trails, 32.6 miles of pathways) proposed in the Township's Trails and Pathways Master Plan, for a future total of 62.9 miles. Internal trails and pathways consist of those located in the Township parks. This linear system represents an excellent opportunity to link parks within the Township to each other, and also to facilities in bordering communities, e.g. Addison Oaks. Links to Regional Facilities, i.e. Stony Creek Metropark and Bald Mountain Recreation Area should also be enhanced.
- **Regional Parks:** Regional facilities offer a variety of active and passive recreational opportunities which help in meeting the need for local park land and help balance the deficiencies in facilities. Oakland Township is fortunate to have three regional parks within its borders – Addison Oaks (Oakland County), Stony Creek Metropark (HCMA), and Bald Mountain Recreation Area (MDNR). These parks account for 3,040 acres of park land, well exceeding the maximum recommended 206 acres. Resident access to the parks is key, and improving connectivity to the parks is of critical importance.

In terms of pure park area, Oakland Township exhibits a surplus in all of the park land categories with the exception of neighborhood parks. As mentioned earlier, active use facilities continue to be lacking, although school facilities help to make up for some of those deficiencies. Overall, the Township provides an exceptional amount of park land for its residents.

Table 2. Comparison to National Standards

Classification	Recommended Acreage: Assumes Population of 20,500 (2023 ACS Population Estimate)				Existing Situation	
	Location, Size Criteria	Acres/1000 Residents	Min. Acres	Max. Acres	Acres	Parks
Mini Parks	< 1/4 mile, residential setting; 1 acre or less	0.25 - 0.5 acres	5.2	10.3	1,100+	• See Table 4 on page 47
Neighborhood Parks	1/4 - 1/2 miles, uninterrupted by non-residential roads	1 to 2 acres	20.6	41.2	15	• Gallagher Creek
Community Park	Determined by quality and suitability of site; serves multiple neighborhoods in 1/2 to 3 mile radius	5 to 8 acres	103	165	1,359.6	• Bear Creek • Charles Ilsley • Cranberry Lake • Draper Twin Lake • Fox Nature Preserve • Lost Lake • Marsh View • Stony Creek Ravine • Watershed Ridge
Conservation Parks (Natural Resource Areas)	Resource availability and opportunity	varies	-	-	165.5	• Blue Heron • Hirt Easement • Kamin Easement • O'Connor • PCHA - Wet Prairie • PCHA - Fen
Linear Parks	No standards available	varies	-	-	5.4 miles	• Paint Creek Trail • Paint Creek Junction • Mill Race Trail
Schools	Determined by school district property	varies	-	-	96	• Baldwin Elementary • Delta Kelly Elementary • Hugger Elementary • Musson Elementary • Oakview Middle School
Regional Parks	Serves several communities within one hour drive	5 to 10	103	206	3,040	• Addison Oaks • Stoney Creek Metropark • Bald Mountain State Recreation Area



Bear Creek Nature Park. Source: CWA

Facilities Analysis

In addition to park land, existing fixed facilities were evaluated against the recommended guidelines set by the NRPA and the MDNR to determine if Oakland Township's facilities are adequate to meet the needs of residents based on national averages. The analysis takes into account a variety of factors including specific needs and existing conditions in Oakland Township, information obtained during the public input opportunities, programming needs, site conditions, as well as national averages. Table 3 on page 44 indicates the recommended guideline and facilities, the number of facilities in the Township, and the surplus or deficiency of facilities. The comments below the table provide further prospective and assist in identifying key issues related to specific facilities.

School Facilities

A number of the facilities included in Table 3 are owned by Rochester Community Schools and Lake Orion Community Schools. Schools provide limited hours and access to the general public and do not serve primary parks and recreation functions. Nationally recognized sources suggest that school sites can satisfy only some of the recommended park space requirements.

Rochester Community Schools, for example, rents most of their classroom and athletic facilities at an hourly or daily rate depending on the type of facility requested. Facilities must be reserved in advance, with priority for scheduling the facility set as follows:

- Long term contracts
- District wide programs
- School instructional programs
- District athletic programs
- Enrichment programs
- RARA (Rochester Area Recreational Authority)
- Requests from the general public

Lake Orion employs a slightly different use model, but again priority given to school related activities and organized youth leagues. General users pay a higher rate and are given a lower priority. As a result of these priority structures, casual Oakland Township users may not be able to utilize the facilities. Currently, school sites comprise a small portion of the total park land acreage in the Township, but they account for a significant number of facilities.

100% of the baseball/softball, football, multiple recreation courts, and running tracks are located at the schools. Furthermore, 80% of the basketball courts, 67% of the playgrounds, and 43% of the soccer fields are located on school property. Given that a large percentage of the facilities are located on school sites, it could be extrapolated that there is a need for additional Township-owned amenities as specifically noted below.

Athletic Fields (Baseball/Softball, Soccer, Football, Running Tracks)

The different types of athletic fields are specifically discussed below based on recommended and projected need. On average, survey respondents did not indicate a preference for the construction of new facilities.

- ***Baseball/Softball Fields:*** The analysis of the baseball and softball fields in the Township indicates a surplus of two facilities. All of the fields are located at schools. Survey results indicate that only 3% of Township residents support pursuing development of these type of facilities.
- ***Soccer Fields:*** According to the national guidelines, there is a significant surplus of five soccer fields in the community. The reality of the numbers is that there has been a considerable increase in the number of youth and adults participating in soccer across Michigan as a whole. The large numbers of participants results in a large demand for practice and game fields. The soccer fields also experience strain due to their use for other sports' practices and games. Development of large facilities in surrounding communities, particularly in Rochester, may lessen the demand for these features. The Township should continue to monitor the use of the fields at Marsh View Park to determine if there is a continued demand for soccer and other uses. If so, the Township should consider the development of additional fields in the future.
- ***Football Fields:*** The provision of football facilities is met entirely by the school facilities at the present time, as there are no facilities owned by the Township. At this time the school facilities appear to meet the current and expected needs of the community.

- ***Running Tracks:*** The provision of running tracks is met entirely by the school facilities at the present time, as there are no facilities owned by the Township. Trail facilities may also supplement or replace the need for tracks entirely. At this time the school facilities appear to meet the current and expected needs of the community.
- ***Court Sports (Basketball, Tennis, Volleyball)***

  The different types of courts are specifically discussed below based on recommended and projected need.

  - Basketball: The basketball courts show a surplus of two courts, but a majority of the courts are located at school facilities. Demand for additional outdoor basketball courts is low, with only 4% of the survey respondents indicating an interest in new facilities.
  - Tennis Courts: There are no public tennis courts located in the Township, thus there is a deficiency of eight courts according to the national guideline. While demand for tennis courts has been low (7%), demand for pickleball courts (11%) is somewhat higher. If courts were to be developed, a shared-use setup would be appropriate.
  - Volleyball Courts: Sand volleyball courts were mentioned by 7% of survey respondents. According to the NRPA, the need for indoor and outdoor volleyball courts is not being met.
  - Ice Rinks: The national guideline reveals that there is a deficiency of one indoor ice rink in the Township. There is one formal Park-run outdoor facility located in the Township at Bear Creek, but this does not meet the year-round need in the same way as an indoor facility. Ice rink users frequently travel to neighboring communities to participate in figure skating clubs and hockey teams. Despite this, many arenas are not self-sustaining financially.

Playgrounds

Currently a majority of the playgrounds in the Township are located at school facilities, with a surplus of one playground according to the national guideline. There is a need for additional playgrounds at Township facilities, with 1 in 5 respondents mentioning playground structures as a needed facility. The playgrounds should be ADA accessible and situated near population centers in the Township to better serve the entire population.

Swimming Pools

Based on the guidelines, the Township is deficient by one swimming pool. There are no public pools located in the Township. 17% of respondents indicated a desire for a pool, while 16% would like to see a splash pad. This relatively large response rate is low compared to other usages, however, and considering the high cost of construction and maintenance of such a facility, the Township would be better served tabling the issue.

Golf Courses

The need for driving ranges and 18-hole courses is being met, while there is a deficiency of 9-hole courses according to the national guideline. There is a driving range and 18-hole course at Stony Creek Metropark, and there are a number of existing golf courses throughout the community and in the surrounding areas. At this time there is no need for the Township to pursue additional golf course facilities.

Archery Range

The need for archery ranges is being met according to the national guideline for the Township.

Trails

The Township is fortunate to have an abundance of trails and exceed the national guideline for the recommended number of trail systems. Despite exceeding the guideline, trail expansion and development continued to rate very high among survey respondents. Four of the top ten requested park items were trail related, and rustic trails (62%) was the most requested amenity in the survey. Exercise and fitness trails (34%) present an opportunity to further develop existing facilities, or attract new users to parks where trails are the primary attraction (e.g. Charles Ilsley or Watershed Ridge). Expanded in-park trail systems should be evaluated, and existing paths upgraded to allow for a wider variety of uses.

Table 3. Park Facility Analysis

Amenity	NRPA Guideline	Recommended Facilities	Existing Facilities				Surplus / Deficiency
			Township	Schools	Regional	Total	
Archery Range	1 / 50,000	1	1	0	0	1	0
Baseball / Softball	1 / 5,000	4	0	5	0	5	+1
Basketball	1 / 5,000	4	1	4	0	5	+1
Football	1 / 20,000	1	0	1	0	1	0
Golf Driving Range	1 / 50,000	1	0	0	1	1	0
Golf Course (9-Hole)	1 / 25,000	1	0	0	1	1	0
Golf Course (18-Hole)	1 / 1	0	0	0	1	1	0
Ice Rink	Indoor: 1 / 100,000; Outdoor: Climate Dependent	Indoor 1 Outdoor Climate Dependent	Outdoor 1	0	0	Indoor 0 Outdoor 1	Indoor -1 Outdoor 0
Multiple Recreation Court	1 / 10,000	2	0	2	0	2	0
Playground	1 / 3,000	7	2	4	1	7	0
Running track	1 / 20,000	1	0	1	0	1	0
Soccer	1 / 10,000	2	4	3	0	7	+5
Swimming pool	1 / 20,000	1	0	0	0	0	-1
Tennis	1 / 2,000	10	0	0	0	0	-10
Trails	1 system per region	1	1	0	3	4	+3
Volleyball	1 / 5,000	4	0	0	0	0	-4

Source: Lancaster, R.R., E. Recreation, park and open space standards and guidelines. Alexandria, va: NRPA, 1983; Mertes, J.D. and J.R. Hall. Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines, Alexandria, VA: NRPA, 1995. Based on 2023 U. S. Census population estimate of 20,500.



Musson Elementary School. Image Source: Musson Elementary / X (formerly known as Twitter)

Passive Recreation & Stewardship

Where active-use amenities scored relatively low among survey participants, passive-use amenities and stewardship activities scored very high. The majority of respondents mentioned passive use facilities, such as walking trails, as a priority for the Township. Almost all of the Township's parks meet this need, but opportunities to enhance and utilize the natural and open areas should continually be sought. When developing and improving parks it is important to incorporate walking paths, picnic areas, benches, open spaces, and other amenities that further enhance the passive recreation opportunities.

Dog Park

Demand for off -leash dog parks continues to grow in popularity with residents. 29% of respondents, up 1% from the previous plan, indicated a desire for development of such a facility. Township residents currently have access to a dog park in Orion Oaks, and a new dog parks is being planned for Stony Creek Metropark. The Oakland County 2018 - 2022 Parks & Recreation Master Plan also shows that a dog park is planned for Addison Oaks, however, correspondence with the Addison Oaks' Parks Supervisor indicates that no new dog park facilities are planned for the near future.

The prospect of a close-to-home dog park is highly controversial. As passionate as proponents are for the facilities, opponents are equally as passionate, citing concerns about noise, pollution, and disruption to sensitive wildlife areas. Because the Township is well served by existing and planned dog parks, development of a park inside the Township borders is not recommended at this time.

Other Facilities

Other facilities noted during the public input process include new canoe/kayak launches and additional fishing/observation docks. Restrooms are a perennial issue, with users asking for portable toilets and permanent facilities at different parks. These facilities should be evaluated for inclusion in future park developments in the Township as they are deemed appropriate.

National Recreation Trends

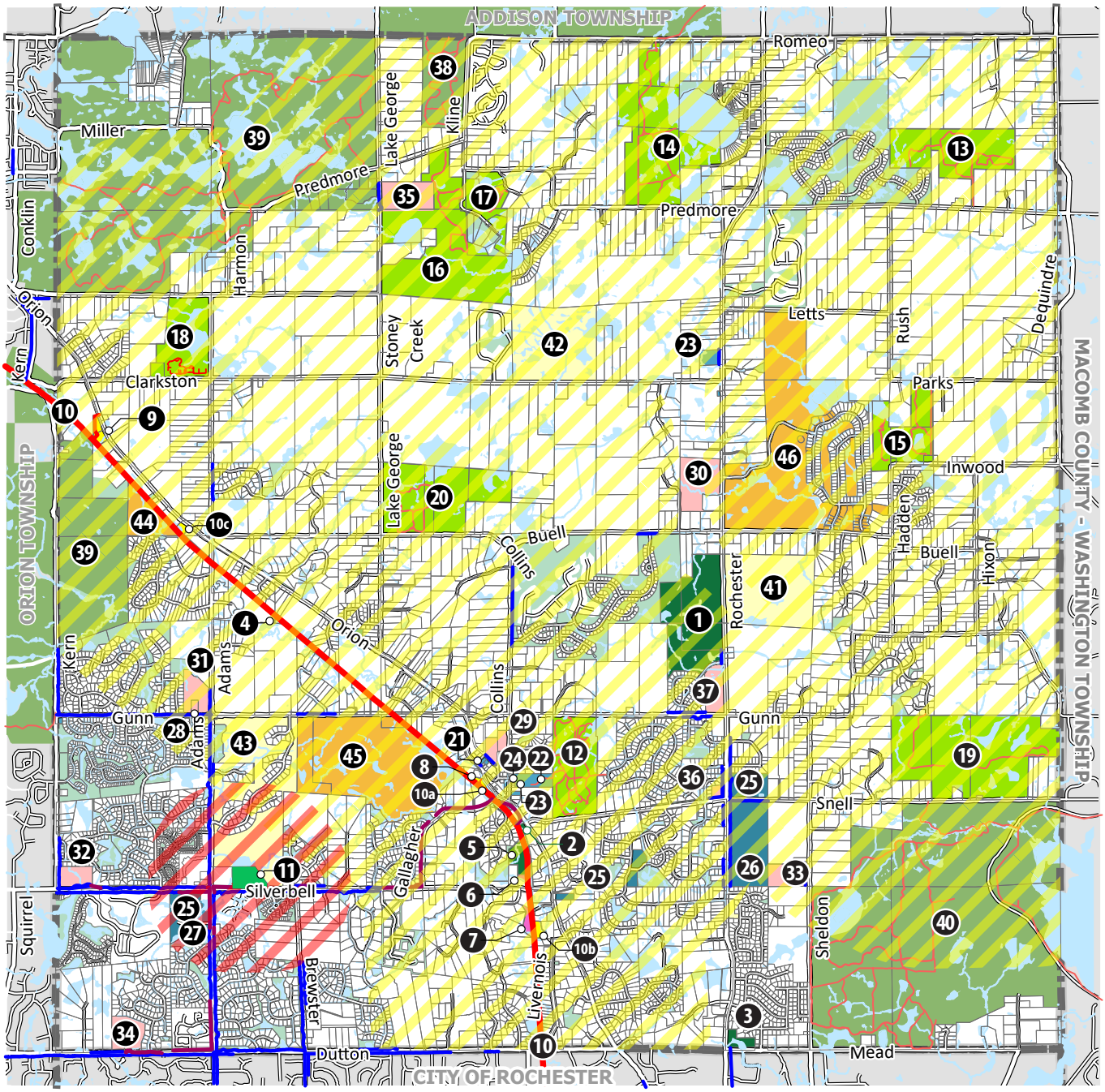
Ten Minute Walk Initiative

The NRPA, Trust for Public Land (TPL), recreation advocacy groups, and communities across the country have embraced the concept of the ***Ten Minute Walk Initiative***, which states that every American should be within walkable distance to a local park or recreation facility. Numerous studies have shown the psychological, health, and general quality of life benefits provided by improved access to green spaces, but the likelihood of utilizing these spaces decreases as distance to the facility increases. For planning purposes, traditional NRPA service radii of 1/4 to 1/2 mile for neighborhood parks and 1/2 to 1 mile for community parks are frequently used to demonstrate the effective reach of park systems. For purposes of this plan, the service radius used to evaluate the Township's coverage was 1/2 mile for neighborhood parks and 1 mile for community parks.

Map 1 on page 46 provides a graphical representation of these service areas. Due in large part to the "community" designation of its recreation facilities, Oakland Township residents can be considered to have good access across most of the Township. All but the far southeastern corner of the Township fall within the coverage area of Township parks. It should be noted that park designations and related service areas are somewhat arbitrary; were the parks designated as neighborhood parks, the service area would be significantly reduced. As the community survey shows, 80% of park visitors currently drive to their destination of choice.

It is also important to note that the map does not include regional park coverage, i.e. Bald Mountain, Addison Oaks, and Stoney Creek Metropark, nor does it include coverage areas for schools or neighboring community parks. The coverage area for the state, county, and Metropark-run facilities alone would extend well beyond the boundaries of the Township, while school facilities would cover most if not all of the remaining coverage gaps. Finally, private mini parks and preserved open spaces in residential developments helps to supplement the recreation options even further. See Table 4 on page 47 for details on private mini parks in the community. When all of the different opportunities are taken into consideration, it is safe to state that Oakland Township residents are very well served from a recreation perspective..

Map 1. Park Service Areas



Oakland Township Owned Facilities

Conservation Areas
1. Blue Heron Environmental Area
2. Mill Creek Crossing
3. O'Connor Nature Park
4. PCHA - Fen
5. PCHA - Wet Prairie

Easements
6. Hirt Easement
7. Kamin Easement

Trails & Trailheads
8. Mill Race Trail
9. Paint Creek Junction Park
10. Paint Creek Trail
    - 10a. Art Project
    - 10b. Nicholson Prairie
    - 10c. Unnamed Parcel

Neighborhood Parks
11. Gallagher Creek Park

Community Parks
12. Bear Creek Nature Park
13. Charles Ilsley Park
14. Cranberry Lake Park / Cranberry Lake Historic District
15. Draper Twin Lake Park
16. Fox Nature Preserve
17. Lost Lake Nature Park
18. Marsh View Park
19. Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park
20. Watershed Ridge Park

Municipal Properties
Semi-Public Facilities
Schools/Educational
Regional Parks

Other Open Space
Public Golf Courses
Private Rec. Facilities

Paint Creek / Iron Belle Trail
Existing Township Safety Path
Existing Subdivision Safety Path
Existing Park Path / Trail

Service Areas
Neighborhood Park - 0.5 mile radius
Community Park - 1.0 mile radius

Oakland Township Park Service Areas

N

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

0 1,500 3,000 6,000 Feet

Source: Oakland County GIS, SEMCOG
Oakland Township SPTC, Google
Carlisle / Wortman Associates
July 2024

Table 4. Selected List of Mini Parks

Development	Acres	Description
Adams Road Estates	0.8	Passive, for residents only
Bear Creek	2.3	Passive, site has limited potential for playground
Carrollton Hills	11.5	Passive
Century Oaks	51.9	Passive, for residents only
Century Woods	1.8	Passive, for residents only
Claremont	11.3	Passive
Cloisters	10.1	Active & passive, with 2 pocket parks
Coach Lamp Hills	1.0	Passive, site may be developed to provide school access & tot lot
Cornerstone	3.6	Passive, for residents only
Country Creek	47.3	Passive, for residents only
Cranberry Lake Farms	1.3	Active with boat launch & waterfront access, for residents only
Crossings	100.4	Active & passive, with community center, pool, courts, for residents only
Deer Point	33.2	Passive, part of Blue Heron Environmental Area, for residents only
Goodison Hills	9.0	Passive
Green Brook Hills	4.0	Passive
High Meadows	2.0	Passive
High Meadows II	5.0	Passive
Hills of Oakland	8.5	Passive
Kingsridge	17.8	Passive
Kirklands	3.6	Passive
Knob Creek	16.0	Passive, site has potential for playground & natural area preserve
Knorrwood Knolls	13.0	Passive, for residents only
Knorrwood Pines, West	6.3	Passive, for residents only
Log Cabin Club	16.0	Active & passive, beach, boat dock, playground, residents only
Low Meadow Estates	1.5	Passive, for residents only
Mill Valley	3.0	Passive
Oak Arbor	11.2	Passive with planned active recreation area, for use by residents only
Oakland Crest	5.5	Passive, for Township residents
Oakland Hunt	144.0	Passive, trail
Oakland Knolls	11.5	Passive, for residents only
Orchard Ridge	6.0	Passive, stormwater detention
Pinnacle	22.5	Passive
Ridgewood Hills	3.5	Passive, potential for tot lot & natural area preservation
Silvercreek	130.0	Passive, wetlands, trails
Southgate Farms	5.0	Active & passive, with two tennis courts & natural area preserve
Stonehenge Estates	4.0	Passive
Tamarack Heights	1.0	Active, with swimming beach & waterfront access, for residents only
Trout Creek	6.9	Passive
Twin Lakes	353	Active & passive, golf course
Vitale	1.5	Passive
Wellington	11	Passive
Woodlands	4	Active, clubhouse, tennis, playground, & volleyball, for residents only
Wynstone	42.0	Active, tennis, playground, pool, for residents only

National & State-wide Sports Participation

Recreation trends on a national and regional levels provide insights into recreation activities and demonstrate activities with the greatest growth in popularity. The National Sporting Goods Association (NSGA) regularly conducts national surveys to measure participation in physical activities and track changes from previous years. Table 5 lists the top ten recreation activities completed by persons aged seven years and older in the past year, as reported by the National Sporting Goods Association (2024).

The study shows strong overall growth in sports activity, with outdoor activities seeing 6.3% growth and individual sports growing by 7.2%. Individual sports participation was driven by pickleball use, which nearly doubled (79%), while outdoor sports were led by hiking and camping. Bicycle riding and mountain biking experienced strong growth as well. Team related sports saw increases in 7 of the 11 sports tracked, while up remaining up 2.2% overall. Soccer increased by 12%.

The Sports & Fitness Industry Association (SFIA) reported similar results in their survey. Participation in winter sports, team sports, and racquet sports all grew by more than 9%. Trail running and day hiking saw increases of 12.3% and 3.1% respectively. Pickleball has seen massive growth (52%), but remains well below popular individual and team sports such as tennis, basketball, and golf (see Table 6). In the NSGA survey, the sport ranked 28 nationally and 27 in the East North Central region.

These national trends are consistent with those observed in Michigan. According to the 2023 - 2027 Michigan Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), 86 percent of Michiganders participate in trail activities and "other" outdoor activities. A list of participation rates for the most popular activities in Michigan and the Detroit metropolitan area is listed in Table 7. The table shows the similarity in attitudes towards recreation between southeast Michigan and the rest of the state.

Other highlights from the most recent SCORP include:

- Four out of the top ten most popular activities involve walking or biking;
- 95 percent of Michiganders reported participating in at least one outdoor recreation activity;
- The total net economic value of outdoor recreation in Michigan was $165 billion, while positive health impacts are estimated to save around $2.8 billion in annual healthcare costs.

Table 5. Top Recreation Activities - NSGA Survey

Activity	Participation Rate (in millions)			
	National	Overall Rank	East North Central Region	Overall Rank
Exercise walking	110.2	1	15.8	1
Exercising with equipment	52.9	2	8.1	2
Hiking	51.8	3	7.2	4
Swimming	44.9	4	6.1	6
Running/jogging	43.1	5	6.4	5
Bicycle Riding	42.4	6	7.4	3
Camping	40.4	7	5.8	7
Weightlifting	36.8	8	5.0	8
Yoga	30.7	9	4.8	9
Fishing (fresh)	29.9	10	4.2	11
Work out at gym	29.1	11	4.2	10

Source: NSGA Sports Participation in the United States 2024

Table 6. Team Sport Growth - SFIA Survey

Activity	Participation Rate (in millions)		% Change 2022 - 23
	2022	2023	
Pickleball	8.95	13.58	52%
Tennis	23.6	23.84	1%
Basketball	28.15	29.73	6%
Golf	25.57	26.57	4%

Source: Sports & Fitness Industry / Topline Report 2024

Table 7. Top Outdoor Recreation Activities - Statewide

Activity	Participation Rate / (Rank)	
	Statewide	Detroit Metro
Going for a walk on local streets or sidewalks	80% (1)	79% (1)
Going for a walk on local unpaved trails/paths	62% (2)	58% (2)
Visiting the beach but not swimming	60% (3)	54% (3)
Visiting parks or playgrounds	58% (4)	43% (6)
Swimming at the beach	52% (5)	51% (5)
Sightseeing and/or scenic driving for pleasure	47% (6)	52% (4)
Day hiking on non-local, unpaved trails/paths	47% (7)	not rated
Visiting nature centers or historic sites	41% (8)	35% (10)
Motor boating, cruising	38% (9)	41% (7)
Bicycling on paved streets, paths, or sidewalks	37% (10)	37% (8)
Social gathering at park or natural area	not rated	37% (9)

Source: Michigan State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

Land and Amenity Standards Overview

Land Standards

Given this outstanding amount of land available in the Township, the Parks and Recreation Commission will focus on future land acquisition that meets one or more of the following requirements:

- Easements or properties that provide trail connections.
- Properties adjacent to existing parks that protect green spaces and natural features.
- Properties with sensitive habitats for the protection of natural areas.

Financial analysis will be performed when considering significant capital improvements, including acquisition of park land or the addition of new recreation facilities. The analysis will ensure that the long-term stewardship, maintenance and operation of the proposed capital projects can be adequately financed within the respective millage funds levied, either through the Parks and Recreation Millage or the Land Preservation Millage.

Amenity Standards

Based on the national guidelines, survey results, and evaluation of current and future facilities improvements the following should be considered in the next five years:

- Trails and Pathways: The Township should continue to work closely with the Trails and Pathways Committee to develop external trails and pathways. Attention should be paid in particular to connectivity between the parks along the northern edge of the Township. In terms of internal trails and pathways, the Township should provide a better way-finding system (signage, maps, etc.) within the parks, connectivity between trails and facilities, restrooms, drinking fountains, and trash receptacles. Additionally, the needs of bikers, hikers/walkers, cross-country skiers, and horseback riders should be evaluated and appropriate facilities provided to ensure user group compatibility.
- Passive Recreation: When developing and improving parks it is important to incorporate walking paths, picnic areas, benches, open spaces, and other amenities that further enhance the passive recreation opportunities.
- Playgrounds: There is a need for additional playgrounds at Township facilities which could possibly be included at existing or new facilities as they develop. The playgrounds should be ADA accessible and be located throughout the Township to better serve the entire population.
- Access: The Township should continue to provide general access to under-utilized parks.

NRPA Agency Performance Review

In recent years, the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) has presented data that allows agencies to compare their park systems to those in comparably sized jurisdictions. Users can compare data based on a variety of factors including jurisdiction size, number of acres managed, population density, and more. When Oakland Township is evaluated by the characteristics of its own properties, the Township's park system falls squarely in the upper quartile across multiple metrics. Even without the inclusion of state, county, and Metropark properties, Oakland Township offers over four times as much acreage as the listed upper quadrant value, while the number of residents served per park lies just beyond the upper quartile limit. With regional parks added, the number of residents per park almost exactly matches the upper quartile limit. See Table 8 for a direct comparison of Oakland Township facilities against nationwide averages.

Table 14 provides a sample of types of programs offered in comparably sized communities. The Township's current program offerings match many of those listed in the NRPA study. As the Township grows and expands its program offerings, this list offers insight into potential new areas to explore.

Finally, the NRPA offers a comparison point for staffing and budgeting levels. Table 9 through Table 13 provide details on budgeting approaches for parks and recreation departments of similarly sized municipalities. Annual budgets for similarly sized communities range from a lower quartile level of $2,059,044 per year to an upper limit of $6,719,633. These budgets support full time equivalent staff ranging from 6 to 19 employees per 10,000 residents (the equivalent of 12 to 40 employees based on Oakland Township Township's current population of 20,500). 54% of expenditures go towards personnel services. Of the capital expenses, 56% goes towards renovation, 30% to new development, and only 7% goes towards acquisition.

While these figures are somewhat generic in nature and may not reflect the complexity of operating any specific park district, they do offer a comparison point for consideration. The Township has done an exceptional job of balancing the need for land acquisition and park development against funding requirements for ongoing maintenance, staff costs, and programs. Dedicating sufficient resources towards staffing and maintenance going forward, however, will be critical to the long-term success of the department.

Table 8. NRPA Park & Trail Quantity Comparisons to Oakland Township Facilities

Comparison to communities in the United States 20 to 50 thousand residents	Township Parks Only	W/Regional Parks	Lower quartile	Median	Upper quartile
Number of residents per park	1,464	1,206	3,125	1,941	1,227
Acres of park land per 1,000 residents	78.6	223.2	5.4	10.6	17.2
Miles of Trails	17	17	4	8	18

Table 9. NRPA Staffing & Expenditures Ranges

Comparison to communities in the United States 20 to 50 thousand residents	Lower quartile	Median	Upper quartile
Park and Recreation Staffing - Full time equivalents	18	34.2	70.8
Full time equivalent staffing per 10,000 residents	5.9	11.1	19
Annual operating expenditures	$2,059,044	$3,500,000	$6,719,633
Operating expenditures per capita	$70.12	$110.32	$206.80
Revenues as a percentage of operating expenditures (cost recovery)	11.6	25	47.4
Five-year capital budget spending	$ 1,154,049	$ 3,733,306	$ 14,000,000

Source: https://www.nrpa.org/publications-research/research-papers/agency-performance-review/

Table 10. Sources of Operating Expenditures

Program	Percent
General Fund Tax Support	61%
Earned / Generated Revenue	23%
Dedicated Levies	8%
Other Dedicated Taxes	3%
Grants	2%
Other	2%
Sponsorships	1%

Table 11. Distribution of Expenditures

Program	Percent
Personnel Services	54%
Operating Expenses	38%
Capital Expenses not in CIP	5%
Other	3%

Table 12. Targets for Capital Expenditures

Program	Percent
Renovation	56%
New Development	30%
Acquisition	7%
Other	7%

Table 13. Operating Expenditures Dedicated to Parks or Recreation

Program	Percent
Parks	45%
Recreation (programming)	42%
Other	13%

Table 14. Programs Offered

Programs Offered	Percent
Themed special events	90
Social recreation	88
Team sports	87
Fitness enhancement	82
Health & Wellness	80
Individual sports	76
Safety training	72
Racquet sports	71
Aquatics	70
Performing Arts	64
Visual Arts	63
Natural & Cultural History	62
Cultural Crafts	62
Trips & Tours	61
Martial Arts	59
Running/Cycling Races	50
Golf	48
eSports/eGaming	12
Targeted Programs for Children, Seniors, and People with Disabilities	
Summer camp	88
Specific senior programs	80
Specific teen programs	62
Programs for people w disabilities	58
STEM programs	50
After-school programs	48
Preschool	37
Before-school programs	20
Full daycare	6

Source: https://www.nrpa.org/publications-research/research-papers/agency-performance-review/

Public Input & Survey Summary

The input received from residents is consistent with that provided for the previous two recreation plans. Participants in the community survey focused on five key themes:

- Land and Park Preservation: Despite the abundance of recreation land already present in the community, survey participants expressed interest acquiring parklands and safeguarding green spaces to uphold the natural charm of the community.
- Park and Trail Maintenance: Maintaining existing properties to ensure parks and trails are available for community enjoyment.
- Natural and Rustic Atmosphere: Building off of the land preservation point described above, preserving the township's rustic ambiance through stewardship of natural areas and preventing over-development was a key point.
- Development of trails and pathways within park borders was the top priority for participants.
- Community Programs and Events: Participants support diverse, engaging programs and events to enrich community life.

Satisfaction & Visitation Rates

Residents indicated that they were very satisfied with Bear Creek Nature Park and the Paint Creek Trail, and were somewhat satisfied with the remainder of the park system. Bear Creek Nature Park had the highest overall satisfaction rate at 4.4, while Watershed Ridge Park was the lowest rated at 3.5.

Visitation rates for Oakland Township parks and recreation properties were impacted by a variety of factors. Lack of leisure time (28%) was the most frequently stated reason for not visiting Oakland Township parks. Lack of awareness about the park (24%) or not knowing the location of parks (20%) highlight a need for improved communication and more prominent signage and wayfinding infrastructure.

Of those who had visited, visitation rates typically fell in the once or twice a year category. Participants cited access to natural areas (69%) as their prime reason for visiting the Township's properties, followed by exercise (65%), trail activities such as biking or walking (59%), and "getting away from the everyday routine" (51%).

Table 15. Which areas should be prioritized?

Activity	Response Percentage	
	Sample	Non-Sample
Develop walking, biking, and horse trails within park borders	50%	46%
Maintain/improve existing parks & structures (e.g. playgrounds, picnic shelters, etc.)	47%	38%
Acquire and preserve new parkland and natural areas	47%	59%
Stewardship of natural areas (natural area restoration and invasive plant management)	46%	54%
Bicycling on paved streets, paths, or sidewalks	37% (10)	37% (8)
Social gathering at park or natural area	not rated	37% (9)

Table 16. Satisfaction Rates with Oakland Township Parks

	Overall	Sample	Non-Sample
Bear Creek Nature Park	4.4	4.4	4.2
Charles Ilsley Park	3.9	3.9	3.9
Cranberry Lake Park	4.0	4.0	3.8
Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District	4.1	4.1	4.1
Draper Twin Lake Park	3.8	3.8	3.5
Fox Nature Preserve	3.8	3.8	2.9
Gallagher Creek Park	4.0	4.0	3.6
Lost Lake Nature Park	4.0	4.0	3.9
Marsh View Park	4.0	4.0	3.6
Mill Race Trail	3.9	3.9	3.4
Paint Creek Junction Park	4.1	4.1	4.0
Paint Creek Trail	4.4	4.4	4.2
Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park	3.9	3.9	3.3
Watershed Ridge Park	3.5	3.5	3.0

Notes: Satisfaction rates are calculated to the following ranges:

- *1.00 to 1.79 - very unsatisfied*
- *1.80 to 2.59 - somewhat unsatisfied*
- *2.60 to 3.39 - neutral*
- *3.4 to 4.19 - somewhat satisfied*
- *4.20 to 5.00 - very satisfied*

"Sample Group" participants are individuals selected to participate based on demographic characteristics. Their responses are part of the statistically significant survey.

"Non-sample Group" participants are Oakland Township residents in the general population who were not formally invited to participate. Their responses would not be considered statistically significant, and are therefore evaluated separately.

Table 17. Park Visitation Rates

	At least once per week		Once a month		Once or twice a year		Haven't visited	
	Sample	Non-sample	Sample	Non-sample	Sample	Non-sample	Sample	Non-Sample
Bear Creek Nature Park	9%	23%	19%	21%	36%	33%	22%	3%
Charles Ilsley Park	2%	5%	4%	21%	14%	23%	58%	31%
Cranberry Lake Park	4%	8%	7%	15%	32%	44%	39%	21%
Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District	3%	5%	6%	13%	32%	36%	40%	28%
Draper Twin Lake Park	2%	10%	5%	13%	15%	18%	58%	36%
Fox Nature Preserve	3%	5%	4%	15%	14%	18%	59%	41%
Gallagher Creek Park	3%	3%	5%	8%	21%	23%	52%	44%
Lost Lake Nature Park	1%	3%	6%	21%	28%	28%	46%	28%
Marsh View Park	2%	5%	6%	10%	23%	26%	50%	38%
Mill Race Trail	1%	8%	4%	10%	15%	18%	59%	41%
Paint Creek Junction Park	5%	10%	12%	13%	24%	23%	41%	31%
Paint Creek Trail	22%	31%	26%	23%	25%	23%	12%	10%
Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park	4%	13%	9%	18%	20%	23%	49%	33%
Watershed Ridge Park	1%	8%	3%	8%	11%	10%	65%	56%

Note: Due to blank entries, totals may not equal 100%. Numbers in parentheses ( ) are the percentages without "Don't know / haven't visited".

"Sample Group" participants are individuals selected to participate based on demographic characteristics. Their responses are part of the statistically significant survey. Their top response categories are highlighted in yellow.

"Non-sample Group" participants are Oakland Township residents in the general population who were not formally invited to participate. Their responses would not be considered statistically significant, and are therefore evaluated separately. Their top response categories are highlighted in light green.

Table 18. Top Ten Desired Facilities or Programs

Facility or Program	Percent
Walking or biking trails	72%
Natural areas	56%
Wildlife preserves	42%
Music in the parks	30%
Wetland areas	22%
Asphalt or concrete pathways	20%
Historic and/or cultural heritage sites	19%
Access to lakes for kayaking	18%
Fishing areas	16%
Covered picnic areas	14%

Table 19. Top Ten Desired Amenities

Amenity	Percent
Multi-use walking/biking paths (i.e. 10'-wide paved or limestone pathways)	33%
Fitness / exercise trails	31%
Natural areas	29%
Restoration of natural areas	28%
Rustic walking paths (i.e. 6 to 8' mowed grass)	26%
Pickle ball courts	20%
Dog parks	17%
Community gardens	16%
Amphitheater / stage	14%
Playground structures	14%

Table 20. Top Ten Desired In-Park Support Facilities

In-Park Support Facility	Percent
Rest rooms	58%
Benches	30%
Vehicular Parking	23%
Directional signage	22%
Trash receptacles	21%
Trail head information kiosks	19%
Dog stations (water, dog waste bags/bins)	18%
Drinking fountains	13%
Picnic tables	10%
Mile markers	9%

Difficulty accessing the parks may also play a role. 80% of participants typically drive to their local parks, and 72% of participants felt walking or biking trails were the most important facility for their household. 45% of participants preferred crushed limestone trail surfacing over mowed grass (27%) and paved surfaces (28%). While the survey focuses on Parks-controlled improvements, there is little doubt that improving non-motorized connections between neighborhoods and area parks would beneficial. The PRC must continue to work closely with the Safety Paths & Trails Committee to expand the Township's trail network, providing an option for residents to connect with parks via safe, non-motorized alternatives.

Desired Facilities & Amenities

Walking or biking trails (72%), natural areas (56%), and wildlife preserves (42%) were clear favorites of participants when asked to choose the most important facilities or programs. When asked which amenities they would like to see more of, the results were closer. Multi-use walking paths (33%), fitness and exercise trails (31%), natural areas (29%), restoration of natural areas (29%), and rustic walking paths (26%) made up the top five. For in-park facilities, restrooms (58%) was far and away the most requested item, followed by benches (30%). Table 18, Table 19, and Table 20 on page 53 list the top ten requests for each of these questions.

Programming

Survey participants appreciate the programs offered by Oakland Township. 48% take part in programs for pure enjoyment, while 42% do it for exercise and another 42% for nature appreciation. Lack of leisure time (35%) is the primary inhibitor for participation, followed by a lack of awareness of program offerings (32%). Not surprisingly, the best times for program participation were Saturday (64%) and Sunday (53%) daytimes, followed by weekday evenings (42%).

Fees for attending programs were considered "about right" among those who participated. The most popular programs were special events, including Music in the Meadows (21%), and Down on the Farm (13%). Goodison Good Tyme, nature programs, and winter sledding rounded out the top five.

Table 21. Top Ten Desired Programs

Program	Percent
Special events, i.e. concerts or festivals	38%
Adult programs for 50 years and older	28%
Adult fitness and wellness programs	26%
Nature appreciation and education programs	25%
Walking, hiking, and running clubs	25%
Family activities	23%
Environmental stewardship, conservation, and ecology programs	19%
Adult fine arts and performing arts	17%
History programs	17%
Bicycling clubs	13%

Table 22. Program Participation in the Last Year

Program	Percent
Music in the Meadows concerts at Cranberry Lake Farm and Bear Creek Nature Park	21%
Down on the Farm at Cranberry Lake Farm	13%
Goodison Good Tyme at Bear Creek Nature Park	10%
Nature programs at any Oakland Township park	10%
Winter sledding at Lost Lake Nature Park	10%

Table 23. Best Times for Attending Recreation Programs

Program	Percent
Saturday - daytime	64%
Sunday - daytime	53%
Weekdays - evenings	42%
Weekdays - daytime (year round)	35%
Saturday - evenings	28%
Sunday - evenings	23%
Weekdays - daytime (summer only)	15%
Weekdays - daytime after school	12%

Table 24. Recreation Programs Costs

Program	Too High	About Right	Too Low	Don't know Haven't Used
Archery Open Range Fees	1%	26%	2%	53%
Archery Class Fees	2%	24%	1%	53%
Fitness & Wellness Fees	8%	30%	1%	42%
Nature Programs Fees	2%	39%	1%	38%
Picnic Pavilion Fees	5%	33%	4%	40%
Youth Soccer Permit Fees	3%	18%	3%	57%
Adult Soccer Permit Fees	5%	15%	2%	60%
Skills Camps Youth Outdoors Fees	5%	17%	1%	58%

Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District

Slightly more than half (44% to 42%, with 14% not responding) had visited the Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District (CLFHD) in the past year. Visitors come to the site to simply walk the grounds or visit the surrounding park trails (35%), while others come to attend concerts or simply observe nature (21%). There is strong interest in seeing concerts continue at the property, with some interest in seeing additional recreational events and educational programs. See Table 26 for a further description of program offering interest.

The most desired improvement for the CLFHD is the addition of flushing restrooms (27%). A community garden area, restored barns, and a working farm (18%) also received support.

Barn Relocation / Rehabilitation Projects

Two separate barn projects were covered by the survey. Residents were clear that they support expenditure of funds for historic preservation (47%). They were less supportive of their support for relocation of the Garling Barn to Cranberry Lake Park. The proposed new location is just west of the CLFHD boundary. Uncertainty surrounding costs and impact on the surrounding park may have been factors for the mixed support levels. Roughly one third (32%) supported the project, while 18% opposed and 27% were "not sure" if they would support the move.

Support for treatment of the historic Fox Barn at Fox Nature Preserve was similarly mixed, greatest support (44%) was for full restoration of the barn so it could be used for special events, programming, and the like.

In both instances, hesitation towards restoration efforts is centered at least in part on cost of the projects and financing options. Participants were strongly in favor of using revenue sources such as donations and fund raisers (62%) and corporate sponsorships (61%), but were much less willing to support a dedicated millage (24%) or a bond (18%). More detailed feasibility studies and community outreach may help to assuage these concerns, providing clarity on the scope, impact, and cost of these opportunities.

Table 25. Top Reasons for Visiting CLFHD

Reason for Visiting	Percent
Walk the grounds, hiking, biking, riding	35%
Concerts	21%
Nature observation	21%
Down on the Farm event	13%
Programs or workshops	9%

Table 26. Interest in Offerings at CLFHD

Program Offerings	Very disinterested	Somewhat disinterested	Neutral	Somewhat interested	Very interested
Archives/research	11%	9%	29%	18%	8%
Museum	7%	7%	21%	26%	13%
Rotating exhibits	6%	8%	25%	26%	10%
Square dances	22%	13%	23%	11%	5%
Rec. events & activities	5%	5%	23%	29%	12%
Historical events & re-enactments	11%	7%	22%	20%	14%
Concerts	7%	4%	12%	25%	29%
Educational programs	4%	5%	22%	29%	14%
Down at the Farm Day	7%	5%	26%	23%	13%
Private rentals	11%	7%	34%	19%	4%
Story, Heritage & Herb gardens	6%	6%	29%	24%	9%
Little Free Library	10%	7%	31%	18%	8%

Table 27. Top improvements desired for CLFHD

Improvement	Percent
Flushing rest rooms	27%
Community garden areas	18%
Restored barns	18%
Working farm with live animals and poultry runs	18%
Picnic shelters/covered pavilions	13%

Table 28. Fox Barn at Fox Nature Preserve Options

Improvement	Support	Oppose	Not Sure
Stabilize to allow public viewing, but no public use	22%	26%	24%
Repair for storage and maintenance use only	14%	30%	28%
Restore for public use for events, programs, restrooms	44%	17%	20%

Open House Comments & Amphitheater Project

Development of an amphitheater received lukewarm support in the survey, with only 14% indicating a desire to see one developed. A station was dedicated to the amphitheater question at the Open House on June 6, and showed much stronger support for the project, with 84% in favor, and 50% of participants in favor of Bear Creek Nature Park as the location for the facility.

There was much less consensus on the style and capacity of the proposed amphitheater. Roughly a quarter (25%) felt that a rustic wooded setting was appropriate, but 28% did not answer, and 46% split almost evenly between a modern multi-use facility (16%), modern open setting (16%), and simple open field seating (14%). The desired capacity of the project was again almost evenly split, as shown in Table 29.

The results of the Open House poll were not scientific, and involved a small population respondents. Much like the barn projects, a feasibility study would be prudent before implementing such a large-scale project.

A full set of responses from the Open House as well as the analysis of the survey results by Cobalt Community Research are provided in Appendix B on page 173. Cross tabulation data is also available upon request from the Parks and Recreation Department.

Table 29. Desired Amphitheater Capacity

Improvement	Percent
No more than 250 people	22%
250 to 500	22%
500 to 1000	26%
1000 or more	2%
No answer	28%

Table 30. Desired Amphitheater Configuration

Improvement	Percent
Modern multi-use facility	16%
Modern open setting	16%
Open field seating	14%
Rustic wooded setting	24%
No answer	28%
Other: Portable amphitheater	2%

Chapter 4: Recreation Inventory



Gallagher Creek Park. Image Source: CWA



Camp at Marsh View Park. Image Source: Oakland Township Parks and Recreation

Oakland Township is blessed with an abundance of open spaces and spectacular natural beauty. Oakland Township's Parks Department places a strong emphasis on natural areas stewardship, and most of its parks tend towards generally passive use as a result. A careful inventory of the existing parks and recreation facilities can help to identify needs and opportunities for the park system, helping to inform development of facilities and future acquisitions. This chapter builds on previous Master Plans, and details the recreation opportunities available to Township residents, both public and private. The inventory covers the following components:

- Township Parks and Facilities
- Public School Facilities
- Linear Parks
- Regional Parks and Facilities
- Barrier Free Accessibility
- Local Trails and Pathways System
- Regional Trail System
- Local Parks and Facilities
- Quasi-Public and Private Recreation Facilities
- Programming

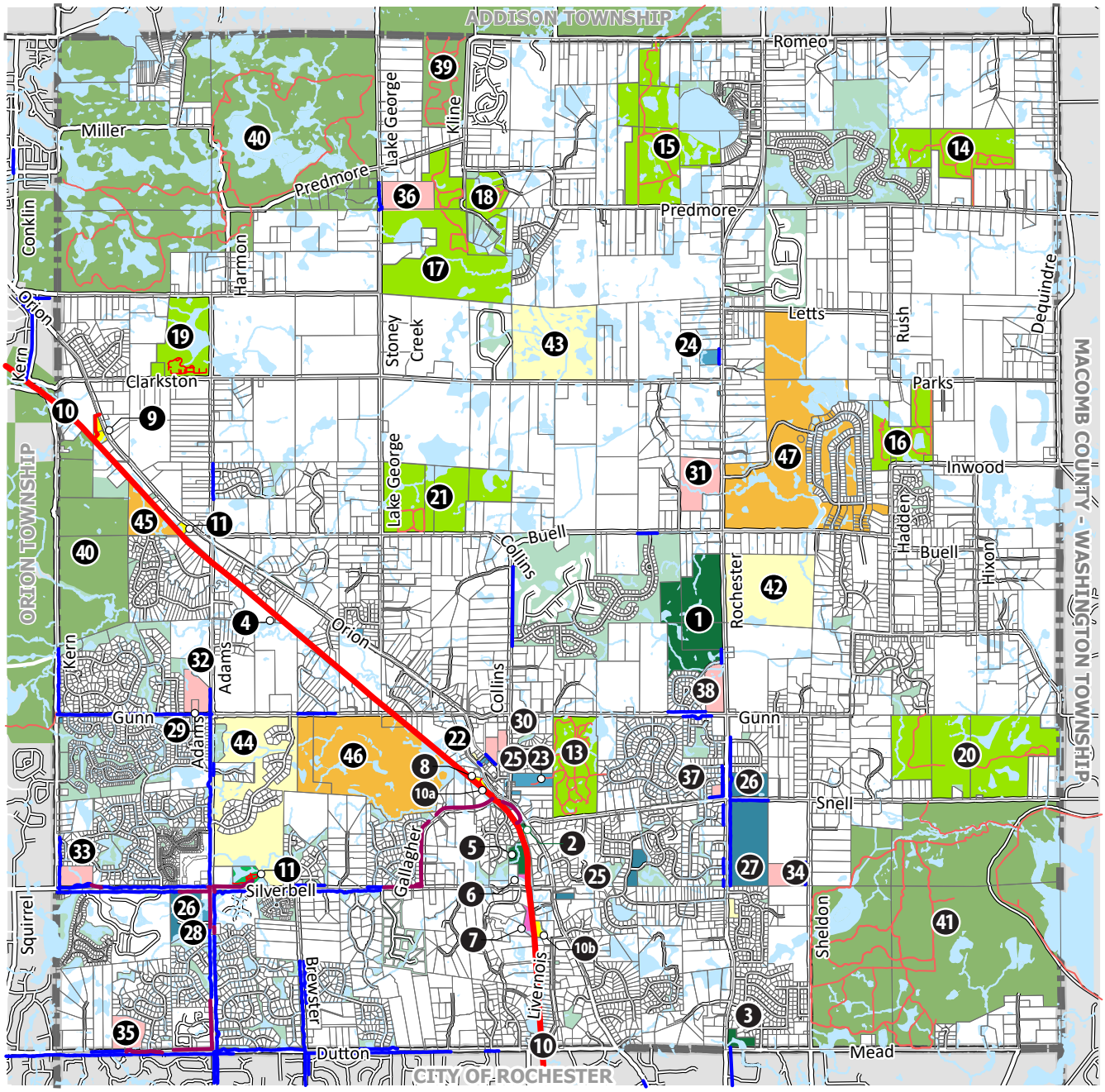
Township Parks and Facilities

Oakland Township owns and/or maintains eighteen parks, facilities, and trails. The scale of the facilities varies significantly, from small conservation easements to 200-acre nature parks. An inventory of the parks and facilities is described below and shown on Map 2 and in the Inventory Tables contained in Appendix C on page 260. Categorization of Oakland Township park facilities can be difficult, as many parks meet the requirements for park size or activities for one category, but rarely meet both requirements at the same time. This makes sorting the parks into traditional classification "buckets" challenging. For this Master Plan, we continue to utilize the categories suggested by the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA), meant to aid in determining the primary purposes and uses of facilities in the Township, but supplemented the categories with "Linear Parks & Trailheads" and "Conservation Parks". In terms of service areas, both of the new categories act as Community Parks. We feel this configuration more accurately represents the park configurations in the Township, and provides a better understanding of park usage by area residents. Map 1 on page 46 shows the service areas covered by Oakland Township parks.



Fox Nature Preserve Ribbon Cutting. Image Source: Oakland Township Parks and Recreation

Map 2. Oakland Township Recreation Facilities



Oakland Township Owned Facilities

Conservation Areas
1. Blue Heron Environmental Area
2. Mill Creek Crossing
3. O'Connor Nature Park
4. PCHA - Fen
5. PCHA - Wet Prairie

Easements
6. Hirt Easement
7. Kamin Easement

Trails & Trailheads
8. Mill Race Trail
9. Paint Creek Junction Park
10. Paint Creek Trail
    10a. Art Project
    10b. Nicholson Prairie
11. Unnamed Parcel

Paint Creek / Iron Belle Trail
Existing Township Safety Path
Existing Subdivision Safety Path
Existing Park Path / Trail

Neighborhood Parks
12. Gallagher Creek Park

Community Parks
13. Bear Creek Nature Park
14. Charles Ilsley Park
15. Cranberry Lake Park / Cranberry Lake Historic District
16. Draper Twin Lake Park
17. Fox Nature Preserve
18. Lost Lake Nature Park
19. Marsh View Park
20. Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park
21. Watershed Ridge Park

Municipal Properties
22. Paint Creek Cider Mill (Parks and Recreation Offices)
23. Oakland Township Admin. Offices & Fire Station No. 1
24. Fire Station No. 2

Other Open Space

Public/Semi-public Facilities

Semi-Public Facilities
25. Oakland County Sheriff's Office
26. Church / Religious Facility
27. Guardian Angel Cemetery
28. Veterans Tribute of Oakland Township

Schools/Educational
29. Alpine Academy
30. Baldwin Elementary
31. Birch Grove Univ. Prep & Montessori
32. Delta Kelly Elementary
33. Eagle Creek Academy
34. Hugger Elementary
35. Musson Elementary
36. Oakview Middle School
37. Premier Academy – Oakland
38. RCS Caring Steps Childrens Center

Regional Parks
39. Addison Oaks County Park
40. Bald Mountain State Rec. Area
41. Stony Creek Metropark

Public Golf Courses
42. Blackheath Golf Club
43. The Myth Golf & Banquet
44. Westwynd Golf Course

Private Rec. Facilities
45. Royal Oak Archers
46. The Wyndgate Golf Course
47. Twin Lakes Golf & Swim Club

Oakland Township Community Facilities

N

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

0 1,500 3,000 6,000 Feet

Source: Oakland County GIS, SEMCOG
Oakland Township SPTC, Google
Carlisle / Wortman Associates
September 2024

Mini Parks

Mini parks are categorized as small, specialized parks that are usually less than one acre in size and serve the needs of the residents in the immediate area, approximately less than one-quarter mile away. These parks usually serve a limited, isolated, or unique population.

While Oakland Township does not directly own or operate any mini-parks, there are over 1,100 acres of mini-parks in the Township in the form of private open space areas in some of the residential subdivisions. These areas, which are generally intended for use by residents of the developments, have been strongly supported by Township government to help satisfy the need for neighborhood open space and habitat preservation.

Although residential common areas enhance the appearance of developments, most only minimally address active recreation needs as they often consist of retention ponds, drainage ways, woodlands, wetlands, and other undevelopable land. Some areas contain picnic tables and playground equipment although generally, they do not function as active recreation areas; their value lies in the preservation of natural features. A discussion of the role of mini parks is included as part of the needs analysis beginning on page 42, and a list of selected Residential Common Areas is provided in Table 4 on page 47.



Playground at the Woodlands. Image Source: The Woodlands

Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood parks are typically multi-purpose facilities that serve as the recreational and social focus of a neighborhood. They provide areas for both passive and active recreation activities such as fields, playgrounds, picnicking, and trails. These parks are typically between five and ten acres in size and serve residents within one-half mile. Gallagher Creek Park can be classified as a Neighborhood Park. Also, a number of public school facilities and private open space meet this need by providing playgrounds and fields for Township residents and can be classified as mini or neighborhood parks.



Picnic shelter. Image Source: CWA

Gallagher Creek Park

2780 Silverbell Road
15 acres

Located at the headwaters of Gallagher Creek, just east of Adams Road and north of Silverbell Road, the Park is located in one of the more highly developed areas of Oakland Township. The park was donated to the Township in August 2000 as part of The Heights PUD.

Gallagher Creek Park features a picnic shelter, playground equipment, restrooms, and safety trail leading to the park. The parking lot is gravel, and features rain gardens along the lot's edge near the entrance of the park grounds. A wooden overlook rests on the southern side of Gallagher Creek, just north of the playground structure.



Playground structure. Image Source: CWA



Gallagher Creek overlook. Image Source: CWA

Figure 1. Gallagher Creek Park



N

0 50 100 200 Feet

15-acres
Donated in 2000

Property Boundary
Wet area (wetland, lake)

Trail Surface
Asphalt and Concrete
Rustic (dirt/grass)

Parking
Playground
Observation deck
Restrooms (Portable)
Picnic area (Shelter)
Bench / seating

Gallagher Creek Park

Oakland Township, Oakland County

Source: Oakland County GIS,
Oakland Township Parks and Recreation
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
May 2024

Community Parks and Facilities

Community parks typically contain a wide variety of recreation facilities to meet the diverse needs of residents in the Township. Community parks may include areas for intense active recreation as well as passive recreation opportunities not commonly found in mini or neighborhood parks. The focus of these parks is to meet community-based recreation needs, as well as preserve unique landscapes and open spaces. Community parks are generally between 30 and 50 acres in size and serve residents within one-half to three miles of the park. Community parks may also include smaller parks that are more specialized in nature and are meant to serve the entire community. Oakland Township has eight parks that can be classified as Community Parks.



"Alice's Woods" dedication plaque. Image Source: Oakland Township



Ice rink. Image Source: Oakland Township



Walking the paths. Image Source: CWA

Bear Creek Nature Park

740 West Snell Road
107 acres

One of the most centrally located park properties in Oakland Township, Bear Creek Nature Park was the first parcel of land to be purchased by the Parks and Recreation Commission with Township Parks and Recreation Millage Funds. With access off Gunn and Snell Roads, from the Township Hall property, and through a private subdivision easement, the park is actively utilized by a variety of users. The park has an established trail system which includes limestone and mowed rustic trails, as well as boardwalks and observation decks, a picnic pavilion, restroom facilities, rest area, information kiosks, parking area, and playground near the park's southern entrance. Trails in a hilly section leading from Township Hall were resurfaced using recycled asphalt millings to provide improved trail grades and a more stable surface. The addition of these facilities was funded by a combination of Parks and Recreation Millage funds and a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant.

The park is host to concerts and other special events throughout the year, and holds an ice rink in winter months. Improvements to the parking lot and lawn areas allow for overflow parking during special events. New flushable restrooms were also installed which are better suited to handle large crowds than previous facilities.

Despite its generally active use, the site is still considered a "nature park"; the northern half of the park in particular contains high-quality oak-hardwood forests, Bear Creek Marsh, and old farm fields. This variety of ecosystems and wildlife habitats makes Bear Creek Nature Park an excellent place for ecological, environmental and scientific study and is home for a number of programs sponsored by Parks and Recreation.

The forest, wetlands and fields located in the northern half of the park are protected by a conservation easement held by the Six Rivers Land Conservancy.



Picnic shelter. Image Source: CWA

Figure 2. Bear Creek Nature Park



Trail Surface

- Boardwalk
- Rustic (dirt/grass)
- Compacted limestone
- Property Boundary
- Wet area (wetland, lake)

Conservation Easement: Any proposed improvements within this area must be designed with and approved by the Six Rivers Land Conservancy.

- Permanent restrooms
- Parking
- Picnic shelter
- Bench
- Playground
- Observation deck
- Pedestrian entrance point
- Kiosk

Bear Creek Nature Park

Oakland Township, Oakland County
107 acres, acquired 1977

N

0 0.03 0.05 0.1 Miles

0 150 300 600 Feet

Source: Oakland County GIS, Oakland Township Parks and Recreation
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
August 2024

Charles Ilsley Park

1479 E Predmore Road
120 acres

Charles Ilsley Park was donated to the Township in January 1990 and more acquired in 2005. The park's position just northeast of the rapidly growing Wynstone subdivision makes it a key recreation property. Restrictions on recreational development expired in 2015, but the site will continue as a primarily passive-use property.

60% of this site consists of old farm fields and 40% is regenerating forest and wetlands. The terrain is gently rolling and the site contains a small wetland area. Mowed trails are provided along the edge of the hayfields, and generally passive opportunities available at the park currently include hiking, mountain biking, cross-country skiing, horseback riding, and nature observation. The site received a U.S. Fish and Wildlife grant to allow grassland restoration work, and significant prairie restoration work has been ongoing since 2015.

Parking lot improvements including a new informational kiosk and an improved connection between the park and the Wynstone subdivision were also recently completed.



New informational kiosk. Image Source: CWA



False sunflower and Bee balm. Image Source: Oakland Township



Eastern prairie restoration area Image Source: CWA

Figure 3. Charles Ilsley Park



N

0 0.03 0.05 0.1 Miles

0 125 250 500 Feet

120-acres
Donated in 1990 (83 acres) & 2005 (37 acres)

Property Boundary

Wet area (wetland, lake)

Parking

Pedestrian entrance

Trail Surface

Rustic (dirt/grass)

Portable toilet (existing)

Charles Ilsley Park

Oakland Township, Oakland County

Source: Oakland County GIS,
Oakland Township Parks and Recreation
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
May 2024

Table of Contents | Executive Summary | Action Plan | Needs Assessment & Public Participation | Recreation Inventory | Administrative Structure | Community Background

Cranberry Lake Park & Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District

388 West Predmore Road
213 acres

Located west of Rochester Road, Cranberry Lake Park spans between Predmore and Romeo Roads and is a potentially key component in a trailway system that could connect Addison Oaks, Bald Mountain, and Lost Lake Nature Park. Purchased in March 1996 and August 2003, the park consists primarily of former agricultural fields and wet woodlands. A swamp forest, the shoreline of Cranberry Lake and a bog are protected by a conservation easement held by the Six Rivers Land Conservancy. There is no developed access to the lake's shoreline at this time.

Listed in the National Register of Historic Places the designated 16-acre Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District consists of two historic homes, several barns, and accessory buildings dating back to the 1840's. The Township's Historic District Commission (HDC) is responsible for the daily operations and management of the farm for restoration projects and maintenance. The Caretaker House museum is leased to the Oakland Township Historical Society for educational and cultural purposes. The Parks and Recreation Department also uses the property for cultural events and programs including concerts, maple syrup tapping, birding, and more.

The variety of topography and wildlife habitats makes this park an excellent place for nature education and is utilized by the Parks and Recreation Commission for numerous outdoor programs. A mowed trail system is used for hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, and nature observation. Field parking near the north entrance accommodates horse trailer parking, while a 20-space gravel parking lot, picnic area, and restrooms are provided in the south near the park's historic district.

The HDC implemented a number of improvements since 2020 including the relocation and restoration of Long Lane Stock Farm milk house, restored the east porch stone steps, created a children's story garden theme around well-known literature specialist H.S. Williams, installed high production apple orchard, implemented the Heritage Garden, and more. A future barn replica project provides potential for further use.



Down on the Farm event. Image Source: HDC



Archway to garden. Image Source: CWA



Childrens' Story Garden. Image Source: CWA



Cranberry Lake. Image Source: CWA



Hen House. Image Source: CWA



Flumerfelt Barn. Image Source: CWA

Figure 4. Cranberry Lake Park



Trail Surface

- Asphalt and Concrete
- Rustic (dirt/grass)
- Historic District Boundary
- Park Boundary
- Wet area (wetland, lake)

- Parking
- Picnic area
- Vault toilet
- Lake overlook

Conservation Easement:
Any proposed improvements within this area must be designed with and approved by the Six Rivers Land Conservancy.

Cranberry Lake Park & Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District

Oakland Township, Oakland County
213 acres, acquired between 1996 - 2003

N

0 0.04 0.09 0.18 Miles

0 245 490 980 Feet

Source: Oakland County GIS,
Oakland Township Parks and Recreation
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
May 2024

Figure 5. Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District Detail





Garling Barn. Image Source: Frank Ferriolo

Draper Twin Lake Park

1015 Inwood Road
90 acres

Located between Inwood and Parks Roads, Draper Twin Lake Park was acquired in 2005 to protect water resources in the Stony Creek Watershed. The park was acquired using a combination of Land Preservation Millage funds and a significant donation in land value. The park includes half of the most easterly Twin Lake, habitat for native plants and wildlife, and a 20-acre prairie restoration planting. Numerous improvements have been made to the park, including parking near Hadden and Inwood Roads, a mowed trail system on the east side of the property, and a universally accessible trail leading to a barrier-free dock at the lake's edge. The dock includes benches and accommodates nature observation, fishing and canoe/kayak access, and numerous kayak programs are held at this site. The park also recently completed a prairie restoration planting utilizing funds from a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service grant.



Skaters on the lake. Image Source: Cam Mannino / Oakland Township



Bathroom shelter & informational kiosk, west parking lot Source: CWA

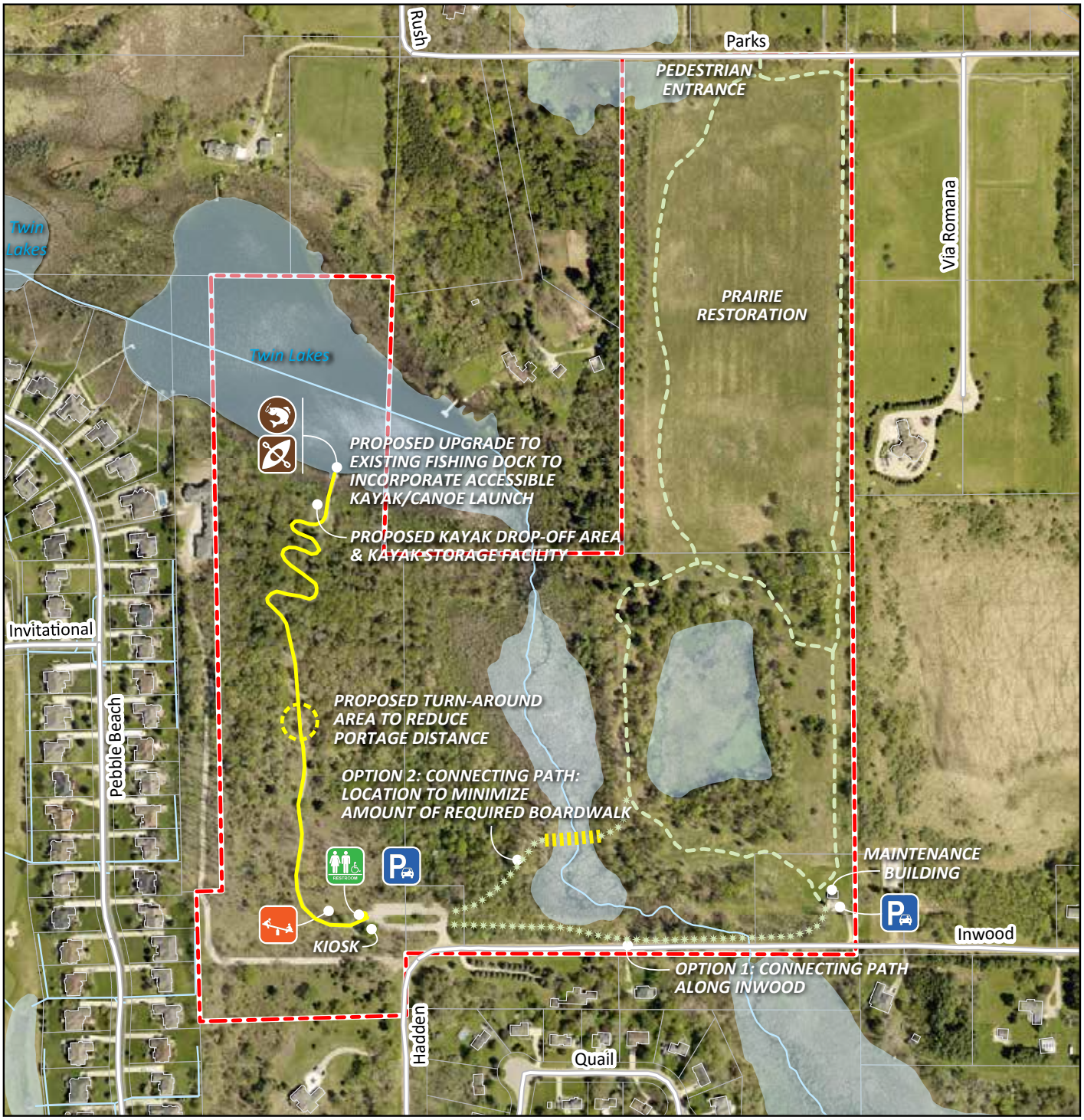


Kayak launch & dock. Image Source: Oakland Township



Habitat restoration near eastern parking lot Source: CWA

Figure 6. Draper Twin Lake Park



Trail Surface

- Existing rustic (dirt/grass)
- Future rustic (dirt/grass)
- Potential boardwalk
- Compacted limestone
- Property Boundary
- Wet area (wetland, lake)

- Parking
- Portable toilet
- Proposed play equipment
- Boat launch
- Fishing access

Draper Twin Lake Park

Oakland Township, Oakland County

90 acres, acquired in 2005

N

0 0.03 0.05 0.1 Miles

0 150 300 600 Feet

Source: Oakland County GIS, SEMCOG
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
May 2024

Lost Lake Nature Park & Fox Nature Preserve

846 Lost Lake Trail / 1627 W. Predmore Road
58 acres / 234 acres

Lost Lake Nature Park was acquired with a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant and with Land Preservation Millage funds in March 2004 and 2008. Located south of Predmore Road between Lost Lake Trail and Turtle Creek Lane, the park includes an 8-acre glacial lake, frontage on Green and Tamarack Lakes, wetlands, and a variety of geological formations and natural communities including a rare oak/pine barren plant community.

Lost Lake Nature Park is one of Oakland Township's more active-use parks. Containing the Township's first nature center, the park also boasts barrier-free boating and fishing access to Lost Lake. The park includes one of the highest elevations in the Township, making it a natural sledding locale. Two sled hills and a warming hut are included on the site.

Fox Nature Preserve is Oakland Township's newest recreation property, opened to the public on September 2, 2022. Purchase of this 234-acre property was funded by a combination of a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant, which covered 75% of the purchase price, and matching funds from Oakland Township's Land Preservation millage. The Preserve features a variety of natural habitats accessible via mowed trails. Future plans include development of the Lake George entrance on the southwest side of the property. Potential projects include a new parking lot and the rehabilitation of the existing Fox Barn.



Sledding at Lost Lake Nature Park. Source: theoutdoorsoul.net



Parks Staff on the kayak launch. Source: C&G Newspapers



Eastern bluebird at Fox Nature Preserve. Source: Oakland County Blog



Lost Lake Nature Park accessible kayak launch. Source: CWA



Mushroom hunting at Lost Lake. Source: Oakland County Blog



Evaluating the Fox Nature Preserve wet prairie. Source: Oakland Twp.



Fox Nature Preserve trail. Source: CWA

Figure 7. Lost Lake Nature Park & Fox Nature Preserve



Lost Lake Nature Park
58-acres
Purchased in 2004 (52.5 acres) & 2008 (5.56 acres)

Fox Nature Preserve
235.5-acres
Purchased in 2022

Trail Surface
- Existing rustic (dirt/grass)
- Future rustic (dirt/grass)
- Proposed Boardwalk or bridge
- Asphalt and Concrete
- Proposed safety path
- Property Boundary
- Wet area (wetland, lake)

Parking

Portable restrooms (existing)
Permanent restrooms (proposed)

Accessible kayak launch

Picnic area

Parking (proposed)

Lost Lake Nature Park & Fox Nature Preserve

Oakland Township, Oakland County

N

0 0.04 0.09 0.18 Miles

0 250 500 1,000 Feet

Source: Oakland County GIS, SEMCOG
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
May 2024

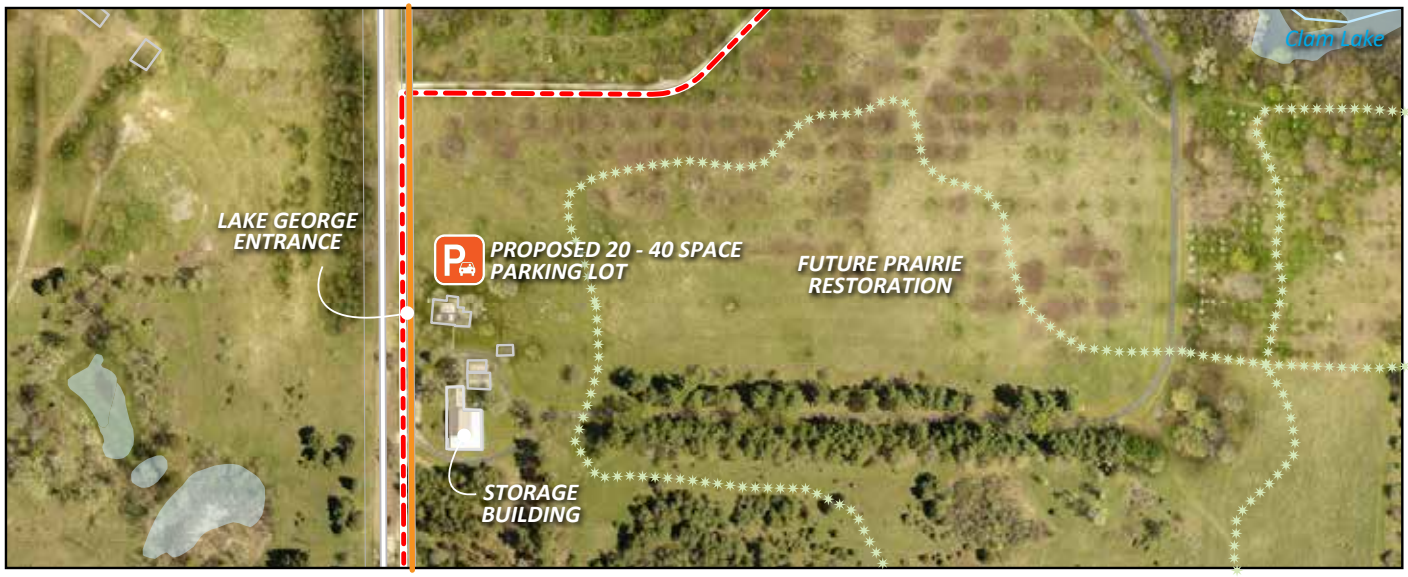
Figure 8. Lost Lake Nature Park & Fox Nature Preserve Detail



Lost Lake Nature Park Detail

N

0 100 200 400 Feet



Fox Nature Preserve Detail

N

0 150 300 600 Feet



Fox Nature Preserve bog. Source: Oakland Township

Marsh View Park

3100 E Clarkston Rd
96 acres

Marsh View Park was purchased in April 2001 with a grant from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, which was matched by Township Parks and Recreation Millage funds. This 96-acre site is located west of Adams Road, north of Clarkston Road, and south of Stony Creek Road and consists of 27 acres of wetlands and 69 acres of rolling fields and dry forests. Parking is provided at the two Clarkston Road entrances. Park expansion projects were funded by a combination of monies from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund and the Parks and Recreation Millage.

Marsh View Park is Oakland Township's only truly active-use park. Containing two multi-use sport fields, two soccer fields, a basketball court, and an Olympic archery range, Marsh View offers a variety of activities for residents. The popularity of the archery range led to the retention of an Archery Range Coordinator. Archery instruction and meets are now offered year round, with indoor instruction held at Baldwin Elementary in the winter months. Marsh View has seen a number of improvements since the previous plan, including new wayfinding and entrance signs, introduction of permanent flushable toilets, construction of an archery barn and expansion of the archery lane to meet ADA requirements, and the donation of a new pavilion on the west side of the property. Future plans include the addition of pickleball facilities, resurfacing and reconfiguration of the basketball court to allow use as an ice rink in the winter, and a new playground structure on the west side of the property.

Despite the active nature of the park, there is still a focus on native habitat preservation and stewardship. Native prairie plantings and a series of bioswales surround the park's facilities to help filter storm water before it enters the marsh. Proposed park paths would bring residents closer to the northern marsh and potentially connect to a new safety path to Bald Mountain State Recreation Area to the west.



New signage by the eastern soccer fields. Image Source: CWA



Camp at Marsh View Park. Image source: Oakland Township



Archery instruction. Image source: Oakland Township



New pavilion. Image Source: CWA

Figure 9. Marsh View Park



Trail Surface

- Asphalt
- Stairwell
- Existing rustic (dirt/grass)
- Proposed park path (dirt/grass)
- Compacted limestone
- Proposed safety path
- Property Boundary
- Wet area (wetland, lake)

- Permanent restrooms
- Parking
- Picnic pavilion
- Observation deck
- Archery range
- Soccer/lacrosse fields
- Basketball court
- Proposed pickleball courts
- Proposed playground

Marsh View Park

Oakland Township, Oakland County

96 acres, acquired in 2001

N

0 0.03 0.05 0.1 Miles

0 125 250 500 Feet

Source: Oakland County GIS,
Oakland Township Parks and Recreation
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
October 2024

Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park

1280 Knob Creek Drive
268 acres

Located between Snell Road and Knob Creek Drive, north of Stony Creek Metropark, the park preserves some of the most desirable natural areas in the Township, including the scenic stream valley, oak forest, and a half-mile stretch of the West Branch of Stony Creek, one of the highest quality tributaries of the Clinton River. Excellent trout fishing along Stony Creek and high quality forests bring anglers and hikers throughout the year.

The Six Rivers Land Conservancy holds a conservation easement on the western side of the park which protects Stony Creek, its floodplain and forested slopes. In 2020, the Township was awarded a $2.9 million Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund acquisition grant matched by $730,000 from the Township's Land Preservation Millage which enabled purchase of a 208-acre expansion of the park east to the Macomb County line. A subsequent Land and Water Conservation Fund grant will help the Township implement a series of park improvements envisioned through public workshops in 2022. The improvements include a new vehicular entrance and parking off of Snell Road, a trailhead with drinking water and restrooms, a picnic area and plantings native to Michigan, trails featuring benches and an overlook of the West Branch of Stony Creek, wayfinding and nature interpretive signs, and a proposed connection with the trails at Stony Creek Metropark.

In addition to the ongoing prairie restoration and projects described above, the property serves as a home for wetland mitigation banks, which are restored wetlands that help to offset wetland losses due to development in other places. The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE, formerly DEQ) holds wetland "conservation easements" on these wetland restoration areas.



Black Swallowtail. Image Source: Cam Mannino / Oakland Township



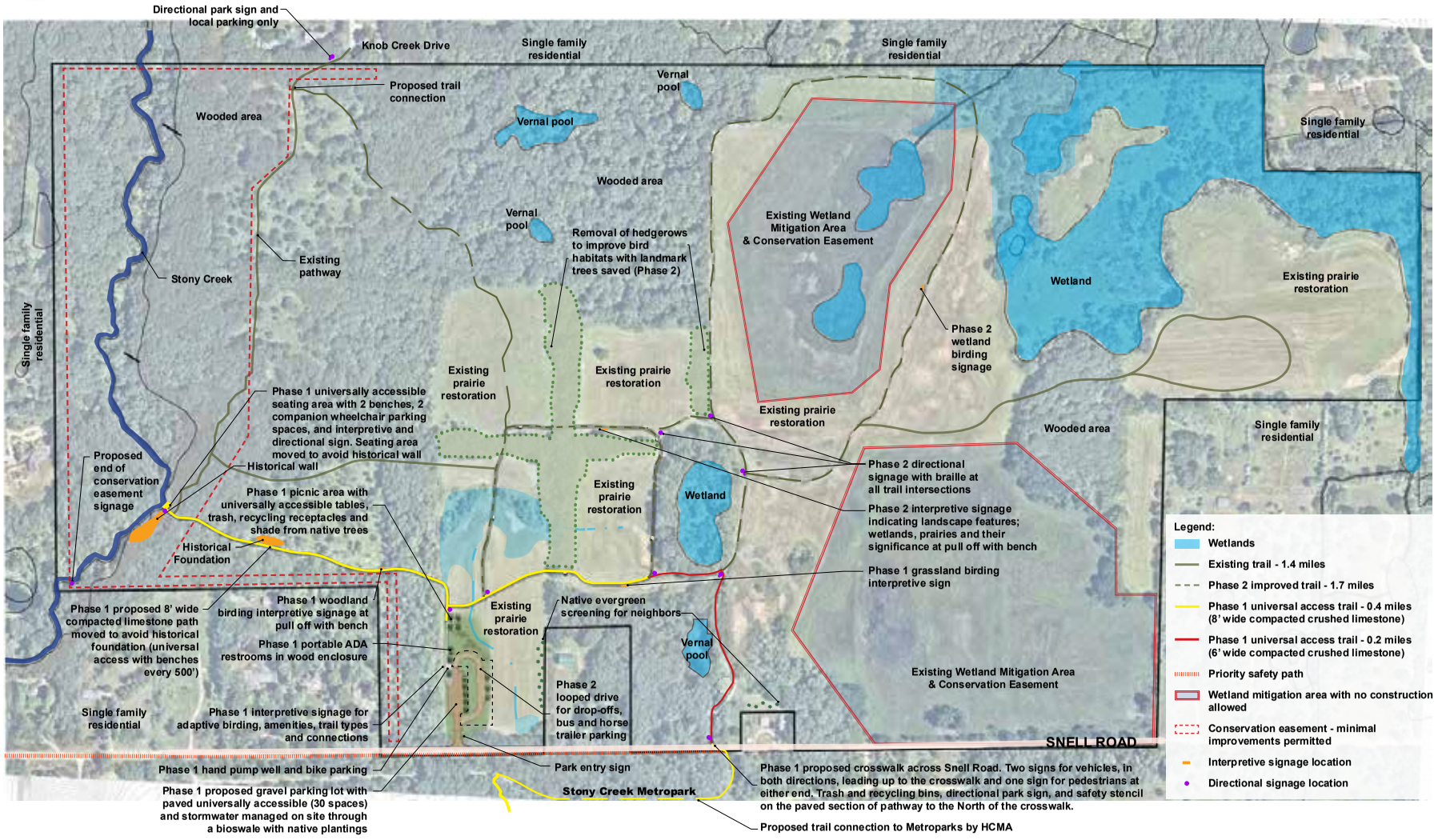
Barn Swallows on a fence. Source: Cam Mannino / Oakland Township



North wetland mitigation area. Image Source: Cam Mannino / Oakland Township

Site Development Plan

LWCF23-0032



Not To Scale
Updated 9.25.2023

Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park Site Development Plan

Oakland Township
Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park
Access and Connectivity Improvements
• 2023 Land & Water Conservation Fund • Michigan Department of Natural Resources •

Site Plan provided by: PEA GROUP

Figure 10. Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park - Site Development Plan

Watershed Ridge Park

1720 W Buell Rd
170 acres

Located at the northeast corner of Buell and Lake George Roads, Watershed Ridge Park's central location, remarkable topography, and varied ecology make it an attractive destination for residents. The park was acquired in 2008 with Land Preservation funds and a donation of land value. The park includes woodlands, wetlands, and actively farmed agricultural fields. The park contributes to the protection of wildlife habitat, wetlands, and the water quality associated with the Stony Creek and Paint Creek watersheds. A new parking lot was added west of the maintenance barn, giving hikers access to over a mile of rustic trails. Construction of a new heated pole barn allows the Maintenance and Natural Areas Stewardship departments to continue their work in winter months



Bird watching. Image Source: Cam Mannino / Oakland Township



Pileated woodpecker. Source: Bob Bonin / Oakland Township



Trails through western prairie plantings at Watershed Ridge Park. Image Source: CWA

Figure 11. Watershed Ridge Park



Linear Parks & Trailheads

The Paint Creek Trail (PCT) serves as a vital cog in the statewide Iron Belle Trail network and plays a major role in recreation development in Oakland Township. The Township has actively worked towards improving access to the PCT in recent years, acquiring and working towards development of two new parcels. These parcels and trails effectively work as community parks, but due to their distinct usage patterns, are presented as a separate category here.

Paint Creek Junction Park

2210 Orion Road
5.7 acres

Developed with funding provided through a combination of Parks and Recreation Millage funds, grants from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan, the Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation Parks and Trails Fund, and donations from the Back to the Beach Runners, Friends of the Paint Creek Trail, and Friends of Ruth Glass, the trailhead provides access for equestrians, cyclists, and pedestrians alike. Officially dedicated in 2023, the facility includes restrooms, a picnic area, and parking for horse trailers as well as standard automobiles.

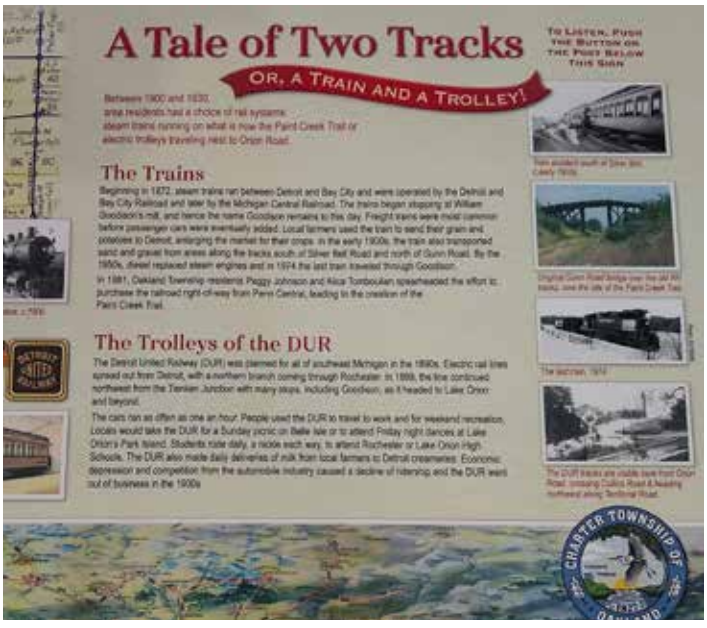
Paint Creek Junction Park celebrates the historic location of the Detroit and Bay City Railroad and Michigan Central Railroad lines, and the Detroit United Railway trolley system. The lines, which stopped at Goodison's mill, had a major impact on development in the area. The trailhead will ultimately allow for future trail connections between the Bald Mountain State Recreation Area, the Paint Creek Trail and Marsh View Park.



Picnic area & hand pump well. Image Source: CWA



Vault toilet & wayfinding sign. Image Source: CWA

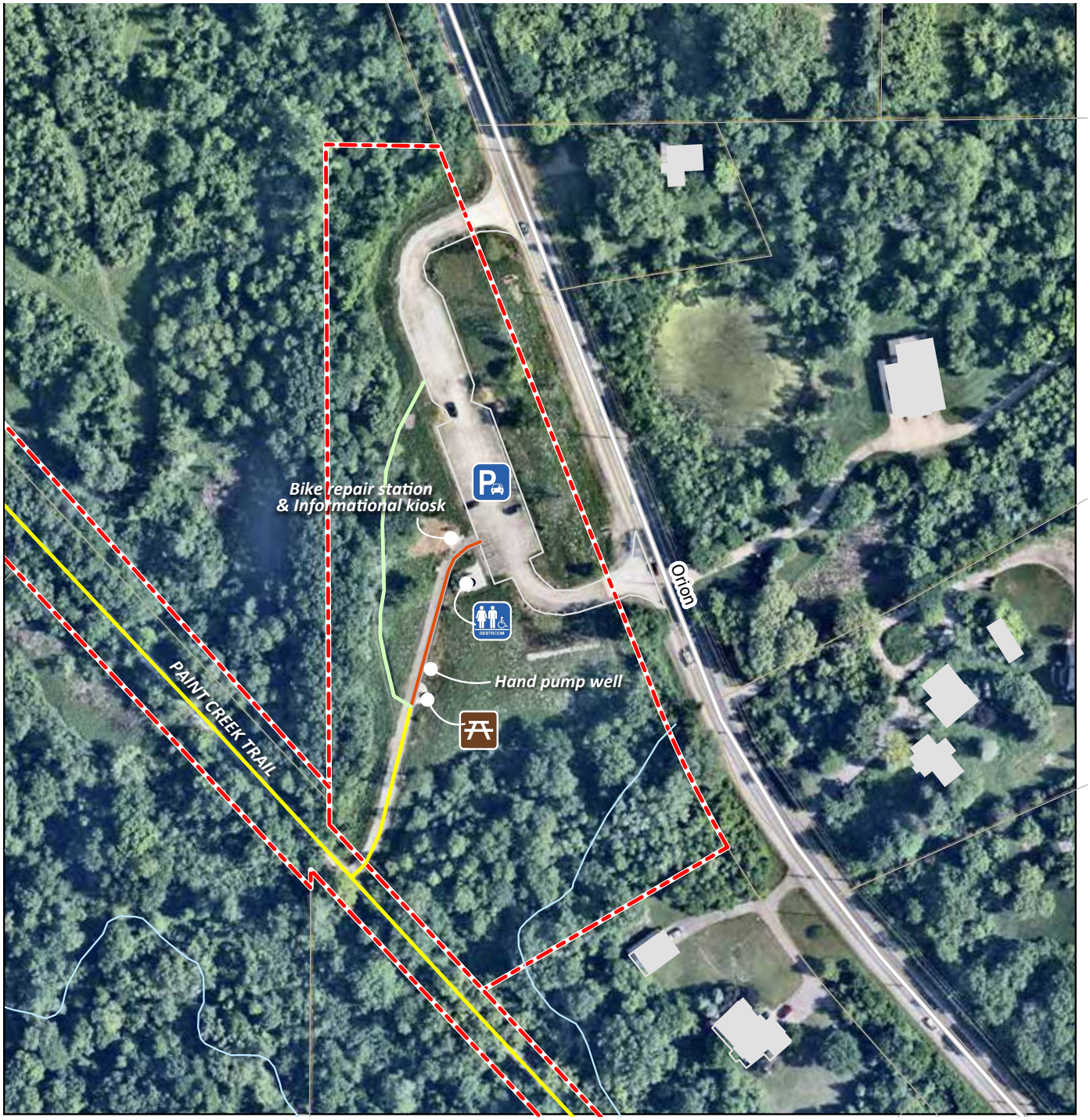


Informational sign. Image Source: M. Milos-Dale



Bike repair station. Image Source: CWA

Figure 12. Paint Creek Junction Park



Trail Surface

- Asphalt and Concrete
- Stairway
- Compacted Limestone
- Rustic (dirt/grass)

- Parking
- Vault toilet
- Picnic area

Paint Creek Junction Park

Oakland Township, Oakland County

N

0 50 100 200 Feet

Source: Oakland County GIS, SEMCOG
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
August 2024

Mill Race Trail

4400 Orion Road
2.5 acres

Donated to the Township in June 1974, the donors stipulated that the site is to remain as a natural wilderness area. Today, the site serves as a trail providing an off-road connection between the Goodison and Paint Creek Cider Mills. The trail runs from the corner of Gallagher Road to Orion Road, between the historic mill race of the Paint Creek Cider Mill and Paint Creek. Since completion of the previous plan, the sluice box has been outfitted with wrought-iron fencing. A State of Michigan Historic Marker highlights the history of the site.



Remains of the Mill Race. Image Source: Historical Marker Database

Paint Creek Trail

5.3 miles within Township, 8.9 miles overall

Built on an abandoned railroad line, the Paint Creek Trail extends 8.9 miles from Rochester Municipal Park to the Lake Orion Village limits. The railroad property was purchased in 1983 using a combination of funds from the local communities and Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund and was one of the first in Michigan to be converted from a railroad to trail usage. The regional, compacted limestone path is owned and operated by the Paint Creek Trailways Commission, an intergovernmental agency composed of Rochester, Rochester Hills, Village of Lake Orion, Orion Township, and Oakland Township.

The portion of the trail located within Oakland Township is 5.3 miles long, stretching from Dutton Road northwest to the Kern/Clarkston intersection, and is managed by the Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission. The trail right-of-way includes a variety of scenic natural areas, including woodlands, wetlands and grasslands. The Oakland Township portion of the trail allows equestrian usage in addition to bicycling and pedestrians.



Paint Creek Trail. Image Source: C&G Newspapers

Paint Creek Parcel (Unnamed)

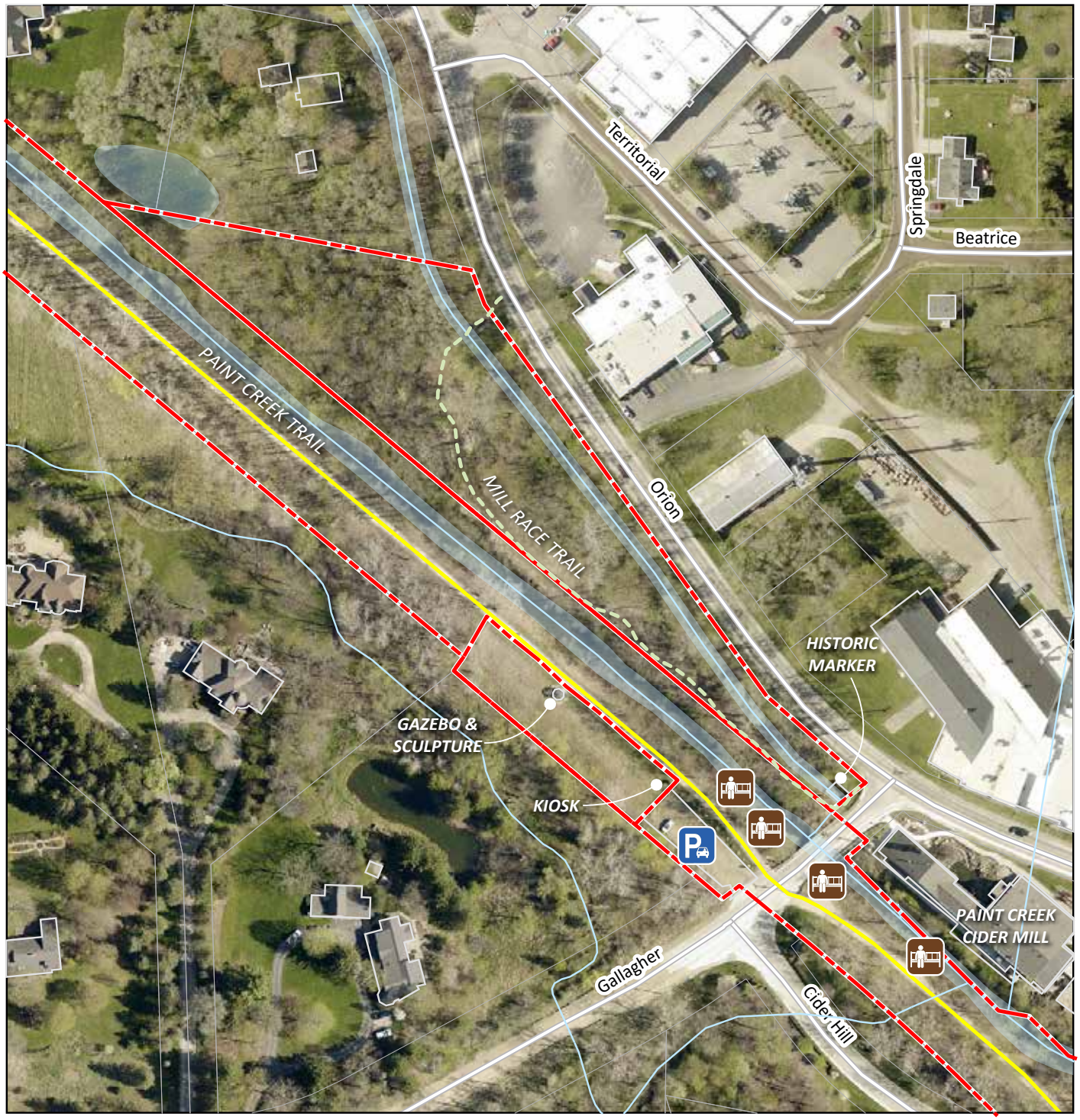
2700 Orion Road
2.5 acres

This yet-to-be-named park provides an opportunity to develop a wayfinding station, picnic area, or other trail-related amenity. Due to close proximity to Paint Creek Junction, it is unlikely that this parcel would be developed for parking.



"On Prairie" art installation. Image Source: Oakland Township

Figure 13. Mill Race Trail



Paint Creek Trail
Compacted limestone

Mill Race Trail
Rustic (dirt/grass)

Property Boundary

Wet area (wetland, lake)

Parking

Bench

Mill Race Trail

Oakland Township, Oakland County

2.5-acres, donated in 1974

N

0 50 100 200 Feet

Source: Oakland County GIS,
Oakland Township Parks and Recreation
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
May 2024

Conservation Parks

Natural Resource Areas or Conservation Parks are generally lands set aside for the preservation of significant natural resources, remnant landscapes, open space, and visual aesthetics/buffering. The location of these areas is based on resource availability and opportunity, thus the size varies depending on the property. Oakland Township has five properties that can be classified as Natural Resource Areas.

Blue Heron Environmental Area

3320 N Rochester Road
139 acres

The Blue Heron Environmental Area consists of land purchased and donated in 1990/91 and 1997. It is one of the most environmentally sensitive areas in the Township. Located west of Rochester Road, between Gunn and Buell Roads, the park was home to a great blue heron rookery. Up until 2010, the rookery contained somewhere between 25 to 50 active nests. For reasons unknown, the nests have been abandoned.

The site contains a rich mixture of upland hardwood forest, swamp, shrubby wetlands, and a small portion of agricultural fields. At this time, the majority of public access is provided through seasonal guided nature programs sponsored by the Parks and Recreation Commission. The entire Blue Heron Environmental Area is protected by a conservation easement held by the Six Rivers Land Conservancy, except the four acres at the southern end of the property that contains the Deer Point Subdivision detention basin.

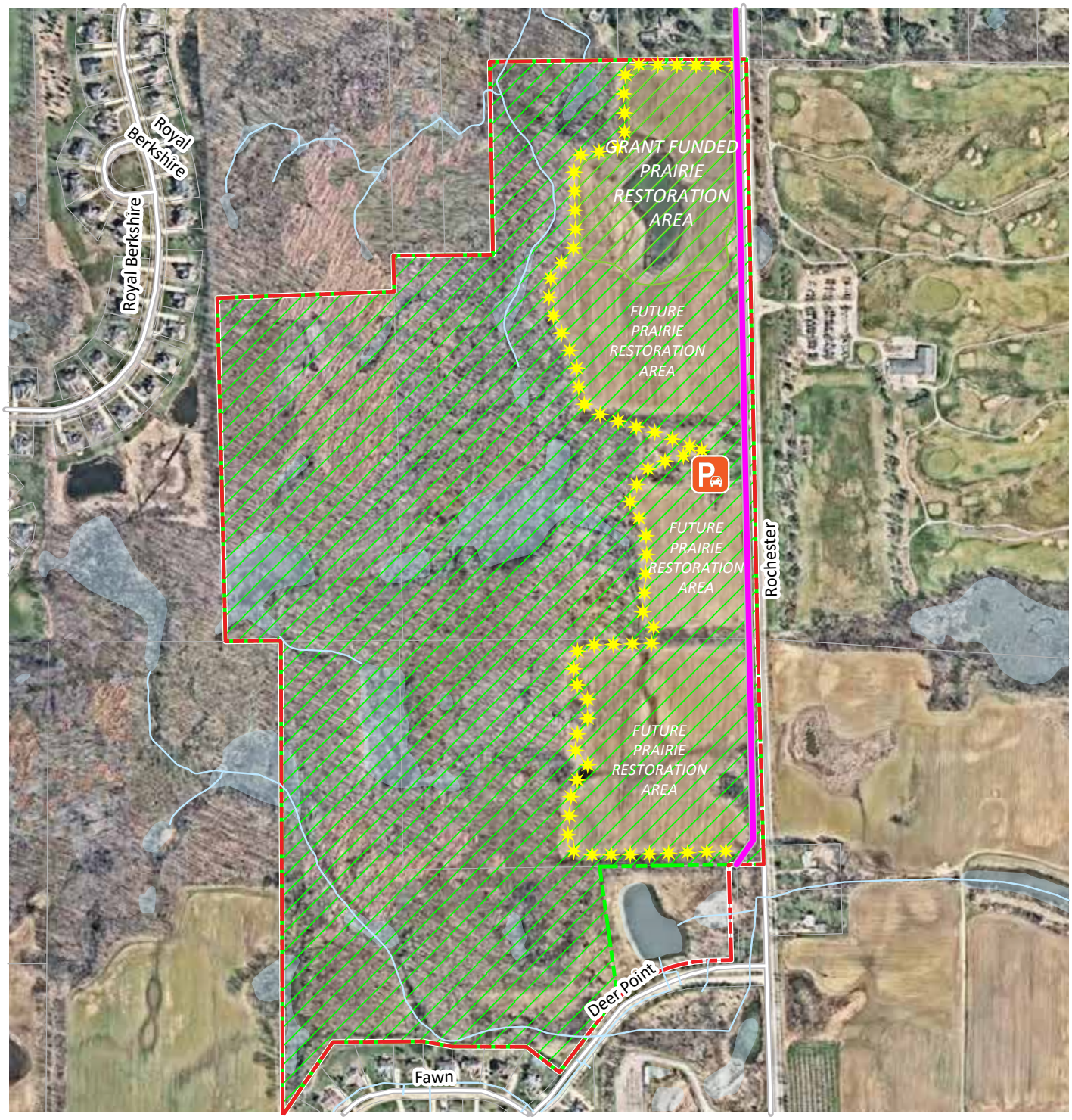


Seeding the pond with water lilies. Image Source: Oakland Township



North pond. Image Source: Oakland Township

Figure 14. Blue Heron Environmental Area



Property Boundary

Wet area (wetland, lake)

Trail Surface

Proposed Asphalt or concrete safety path

Proposed rustic trail (dirt/grass)

Proposed parking

Conservation Easement:
Any proposed improvements within this area must be designed with and approved by the Six Rivers Land Conservancy.

Blue Heron Environmental Area

Oakland Township, Oakland County

139-acres

Acquired through donations & purchase

N

0 0.03 0.05 0.1 Miles

0 200 400 800 Feet

Source: Oakland County GIS, Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Carlisle/Wortman Associates May 2024

Mill Creek Crossing

Orion Road
1 acre

Mill Creek Crossing is a small undeveloped parcel just south of the Paint Creek Cider Mill on Orion Road. The parcel is separated from the Paint Creek Trail by the creek itself, which forms a small oxbow on the north and western sides of the property.

O'Connor Nature Park

89 Mead Road
10 acres

Located at the northwest corner of the intersection of Rochester and Mead Roads. The park was acquired in 2008 through donation and preserves dramatic topography, mature oak woodlands, and marshes for the enjoyment of Township residents. There are no plans to provide vehicular access or trails at this time.

Paint Creek Heritage Area - Wet Prairie

1150 Silverbell Road
10 acres

Located northwest of Silverbell and Orion Roads, this 10-acre park was acquired using Land Preservation Millage funds in August 2003 to preserve the parcel's globally rare wet-mesic prairie plant communities. The park is located adjacent to and is accessible from the Paint Creek Trailway.

Paint Creek Heritage Area - Fen

Orion Road
0.5 acres

The Paint Creek Trail Parcel is approximately a half acre in size and was acquired in 2008. The parcel is located adjacent to the Paint Creek Trail along the northern half of the trail located in Oakland Township and protects a prairie fen wetland community.

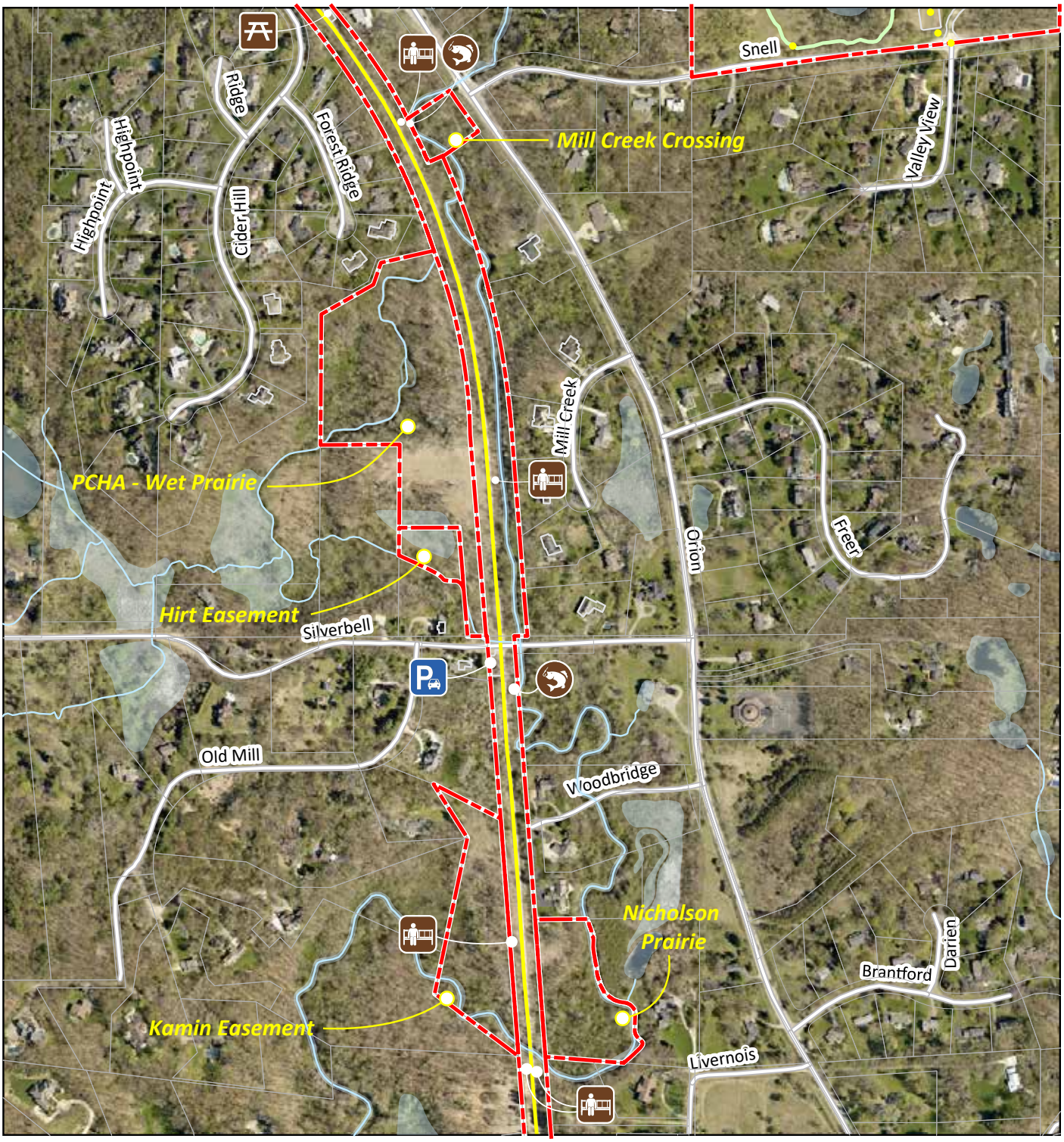


Paint Creek Heritage Area - Fen. Image Source: Oakland Township



Cleanup day at O'Connor Nature Park. Image Source: Oakland Township

Figure 15. Paint Creek Heritage Area



Paint Creek Trail

Compacted limestone

Property Boundary

Wet area (wetland, lake)

Parking

Bench/seating

Picnic area

Fishing access

Mill Creek Crossing
1-acre natural area in forested floodplain.

PCHA Wet Prairie
10-acre unique wet prairie ecosystem.

Hirt Easement
1-acre conservation easement acquired in 2008.

Kamin Easement
4-acre conservation easement acquired in 2007.

Nicholson Prairie
3.3-acre parcel owned by the Paint Creek Trailways Commission

Paint Creek Heritage Area

Oakland Township, Oakland County

N

0 0.03 0.05 0.1 Miles

0 200 400 800 Feet

Source: Oakland County GIS, SEMCOG
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
May 2024

Conservation Easements

Oakland Township is the first community in Oakland County to establish conservation easements within public park land. This effort by the Parks and Recreation Commission and Parks Department staff was not only supported by the Township Board, but also supported by the voters of the Township. It has been an accomplishment involving a passion for preserving nature, extensive research, professional expertise, and public support.

The purpose of a conservation easement is to provide a legally binding agreement that will perpetually preserve the land in its natural, scenic, cultural, agricultural, open space and/or forested condition. An easement can be used to protect the watershed values of the property, to retain quality habitat for native plants and animals, and to maintain and enhance the natural features of the property.

The Six Rivers Land Conservancy holds and monitors four easements – Bear Creek Nature Park (39.5 acres), Blue Heron Environmental Area (135.65 acres), Cranberry Lake Park (52.67 acres), and Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park (36 acres). These easements support the continued use of these Township parks as public recreation areas while at the same time prohibiting uses that would impair or interfere with the purposes of the agreement. In addition, Oakland Township holds two easements on private property discussed above and shown to the right, the Hirt Easement and the Kamin Easement.

Hirt Easement

The Hirt Easement was acquired in 2008 and is a 1-acre conservation easement located near the Paint Creek Trail. The conservation easement is held by Oakland Township on privately-owned residential property. This easement helps to protect the wet meadow and creek which are shared with the Township's Paint Creek Heritage Area – Wet Prairie.

Kamin Easement

The Kamin Easement consists of approximately 4 acres and is located adjacent to the Paint Creek Trail, south of Silverbell Road and directly across from the Nicholson Prairie (owned by the Paint Creek Trailways Commission and managed by Oakland Township Parks and Recreation). This conservation easement was acquired in 2007 and is held by Oakland Township on privately-owned residential property and serves to protect upland oak forest and a floodplain forest adjacent to the Paint Creek located within the south end of the parcel.



Paint Creek Heritage Area - Wet Prairie. Image Source: Oakland Township

Figure 16. O'Connor Nature Park



N

0 37.5 75 150 Feet

10.5-acres
Acquired in 2008

O'Connor Nature Park

Oakland Township, Oakland County

Source: Oakland County GIS,
Oakland Township Parks and Recreation
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
May 2024

Public School Facilities

Oakland Township residents also use recreation facilities at many of the schools in the community. The Township is served by Lake Orion Community Schools, Rochester Community Schools, and Romeo Community Schools. The Lake Orion Schools have one facility in the Township – Oakview Middle School. The entire district consists of seven elementary, three middle, and one high school. Rochester Schools have four facilities in the Township – Baldwin Elementary School, Delta Kelly Elementary School, Hugger Elementary School, and Musson Elementary School. The Rochester school district consists of 13 elementary, four middle, and three high schools in total. Finally, the Romeo Schools serve the northeast corner of the Township but do not have any facilities in the Township. The district includes six elementary, two middle, and one high school. The public school facilities located in the Township are the following:

- **Baldwin Elementary School** (Rochester Community Schools). This 12-acre site is located in historic Goodison. The school has one gymnasium/ auditorium, with outdoor facilities including one playground, one soccer field, one basketball court, and a nature area.
- **Delta Kelly Elementary** (Rochester Community Schools). The newest elementary school in Oakland Township, Delta Kelly serves the majority of the southwestern portion of the Township. Built in 2002, the school was named after Township resident Delta Kelly who was a teacher, historian, and natural resource advocate. The 19-acre school features two playgrounds areas, two ball fields, one soccer field, and one basketball court.
- **Hugger Elementary School** (Rochester Community Schools). This elementary school was built on 22 acres fronting Sheldon Road. Facilities include one community recreation facility, one soccer field, two ball fields, playground equipment, sandlot, and one basketball court.
- **Musson Elementary School** (Rochester Community Schools). Musson is an elementary school located in the southwestern corner of the Township and serves much of the Rochester Hills area. In addition to one gymnasium/auditorium, facilities include two sandlot playground areas, two ball fields, one soccer field, and one basketball court on a 13-acre lot.
- **Oakview Middle School** (Lake Orion Community Schools). Located on Lake George Road in the northern portion of the Township, Oakview Middle School is the only middle school located within the Township. The 30-acre site contains one football field, one track, one ball field, one basketball court, and picnic areas.



Baldwin Elementary. Image Source: Rochester Community Schools/X



Delta Kelly Elementary. Source: Rochester Community Schools/X



Hugger Elementary. Image Source: Rochester Community Schools/X



Musson Elementary. Image Source: Rochester Community Schools/X



Oakview Middle School. Image Source: Patch.com

Regional Parks and Facilities

Regional parks offer unique natural features that are particularly suited for outdoor recreation, such as viewing and studying nature, fishing, boating, hiking, and trail use. Many also include active play areas such as ball fields or courts. While these parks are not used for formal programming by Oakland Township, they provide active and passive recreational opportunities for the residents of the community and may lessen the need to build new or expanded facilities within the Township's own park system. Regional facilities are provided by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority, and Genesee, Lapeer, Livingston, Macomb, Oakland, and Wayne Counties. The regional parks located in the Township are shown on Map 3 on page 97, and those within close proximity are shown on Map 2 on page 60.

Michigan State Parks

Oakland Township is ideally positioned to take advantage of a number of state-run parks. These state facilities provide a variety of activities including camping, picnicking, swimming, hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, hiking, cross-county skiing, mountain biking, and horseback riding. There is one state park located in Oakland Township.

Bald Mountain State Recreation Area. 1,605 acres of this 4,637-acre regional park reserve are located in the Township's northwest sector. Created in 1944 and operated by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), Bald Mountain provides significant open space and natural area preservation on one of the most picturesque areas in southeast Michigan. Facilities provided at the park include picnic areas, playgrounds, a boat launch, campground, and beach area. The park also provides areas for activities such as hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, hiking, and cross-country skiing.

In addition to Bald Mountain State Recreation Area, 14 state facilities are located within a 45-minute drive of the Township. They include:

- Belle Isle State Park
- Dodge #4 State Park
- Highland Recreation Area
- Holly Recreation Area
- Lapeer State Game Area
- Metamora-Hadley Recreation Area
- Ortonville Recreation Area
- Pontiac Lake Recreation Area
- Proud Lake Recreation Area
- Seven Lakes State Park
- St. Clair Flats State Wildlife Area
- St. Johns Marsh State Recreation Area
- Wetzel Recreation Area
- William G. Milliken State Park and Harbor



Water Warrior Island at Bald Mountain State Recreation Area. Image Source: waterwarriorisland.com

County Parks

The Oakland County park system consists of 12 parks and more than 6,000 acres of land. One park, Addison Oaks, is partially located in Oakland Township. The county parks offer year-round recreational opportunities including camping, hiking, swimming, boating, golfing, picnicking, cross-country skiing, ice skating, and ice fishing. The county parks also include two water parks, the state's first refrigerated toboggan run, two nature centers, two dog parks, five golf courses, motocross track, an adaptive recreation program, outdoor amphitheater, and conference and banquet facilities.

Addison Oaks

While the majority of the 1,141-acre regional park is located Addison Township, approximately 90-acres are in Oakland Township, just west of the northern entrance to Cranberry Lake Park. Addison Oaks is operated by the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Department and opened in 1971. Addison Oaks has a good mix of hardwood stands, swamps, open fields with two lakes and spring fed ponds. A Tudor-style conference center, built in 1927, is available for wedding receptions, banquets, parties, and limited group conferences. In addition, the park offers campsites, an 18-hole championship disc golf course, hiking trails, natural beach, picnic areas, and boat rental.

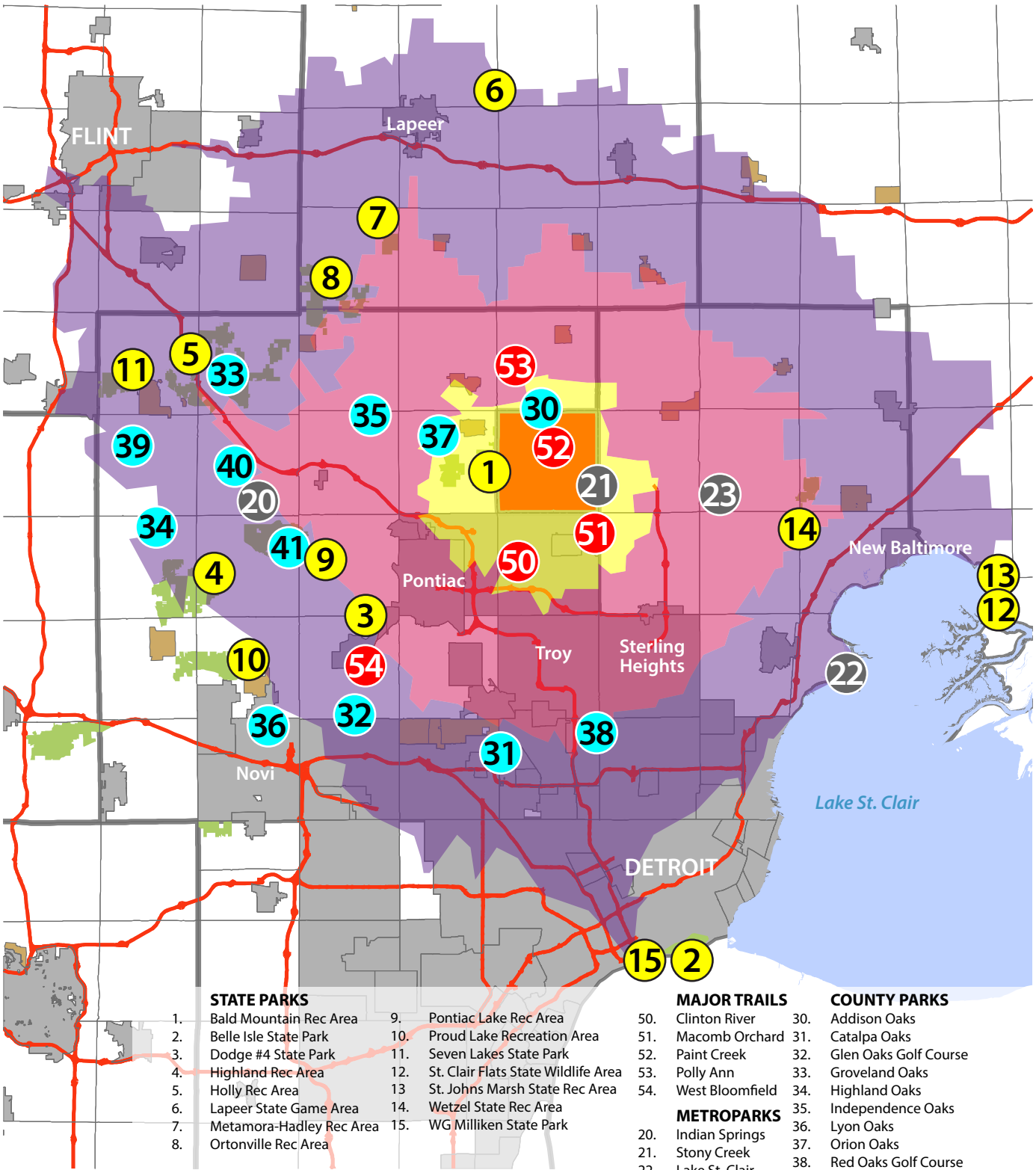
In addition to Addison Oaks, 22 county facilities are located within a 45-minute drive of the Township. They include:

- Bell Creek County Park (Wayne County)
- Catalpa Oaks (Oakland County)
- Chandler Park (Wayne County)
- Columbus County Park (St. Clair)
- Freedom Hill Park (Macomb County)
- General Squier Park (Lapeer County)
- Glen Oaks (Oakland County)
- Goodells County Park (St. Clair County)
- Groveland Oaks (Oakland County)
- Highland Oaks County Park (Oakland County)
- Hines Park (Wayne County)
- Independence Oaks (Oakland County)
- Lola Valley County Park (Wayne County)
- Lyon Oaks (Oakland County)
- Orion Oaks (Oakland County)
- Red Oaks (Oakland County)
- Rose Oaks (Oakland County)
- Springfield Oaks (Oakland County)
- Torzewski County Park (Lapeer County)
- Warren Valley Golf Course (Wayne County)
- Waterford Oaks (Oakland County)
- White Lake Oaks (Oakland County)



Addison Oaks County Park. Image Source: Oakland County

Map 3. Drive Times to Regional Recreation Facilities



STATE PARKS

1. Bald Mountain Rec Area
2. Belle Isle State Park
3. Dodge #4 State Park
4. Highland Rec Area
5. Holly Rec Area
6. Lapeer State Game Area
7. Metamora-Hadley Rec Area
8. Ortonville Rec Area
9. Pontiac Lake Rec Area
10. Proud Lake Recreation Area
11. Seven Lakes State Park
12. St. Clair Flats State Wildlife Area
13. St. Johns Marsh State Rec Area
14. Wetzel State Rec Area
15. WG Milliken State Park

MAJOR TRAILS

50. Clinton River
51. Macomb Orchard
52. Paint Creek
53. Polly Ann
54. West Bloomfield

METROPARKS

20. Indian Springs
21. Stony Creek
22. Lake St. Clair
23. Wolcott Mill

COUNTY PARKS

30. Addison Oaks
31. Catalpa Oaks
32. Glen Oaks Golf Course
33. Groveland Oaks
34. Highland Oaks
35. Independence Oaks
36. Lyon Oaks
37. Orion Oaks
38. Red Oaks Golf Course
39. Rose Oaks
40. Springfield Oaks Golf Course
41. White Lake Oaks Golf Course

DRIVE TIMES

- 15 minutes or less
- 30 minutes or less
- 45 minutes or less

N

0 5 10 20 Miles

Drive Times To Regional Recreation Facilities

Starting Point: Paint Creek Cider Mill

Table 31. Regional Recreation Facility Amenities

				ACTIVE-USE ACTIVITIES										PASSIVE-USE ACTIVITIES												
Category	Key	Name	Acres / miles	Baseball / Softball Fields	Basketball	Disc Golf	Golf	Horseshoes / Shuffleboard	Sand Volleyball	Skate Park	Soccer / multi-purpose field	Tennis & Pickleball	Banquet Facilities / Spec Events	Visitors Center	Michigan State Park Explorer	Nature Programs	Geocaching	Metal Detecting	Dog Parks / Trial Course	Pet Friendly Area	Playground	Picnic Area	Picnic Shelter	Radio Control Flying	Watchable Wildlife / Birding
STATE PARKS	1	Bald Mountain Rec Area	4,637			•											•	•			•	•	•	•	
	2	Belle Isle State Park	982									•				•	•				•	•	•		•
	3	Dodge #4 State Park	139																	•	•	•	•		
	4	Highland State Rec Area	5,900											•				•	•			•	•	•	•
	5	Holly State Rec Area	8,000			•									•		•	•		•	•	•		•	
	6	Lapeer State Game Area	8,534																						
	7	Metamora-Hadley Rec Area	723												•			•			•	•	•		
	8	Ortonville Recreation Area	5,340																						
	9	Pontiac Lake State Park	3,745												•						•	•	•	•	•
	10	Proud Lake State Rec Area	4,700												•					•	•	•			
	11	Seven Lakes State Park	1,434																		•	•	•		
	12	St. Clair Flats State Wildlife Area	6,673																						
	13	St. Johns Marsh State Rec Area	25,555																						
	14	Wetzel State Rec Area	900																						
	15	WG Milliken State Park	31												•							•	•		
METROPARKS	20	Indian Springs	2,547												•	•				•	•	•			•
	21	Lake St. Clair	770		•			•				•					•	•			•	•	•		•
	22	Stony Creek	4,461			•							•												
	23	Wolcott Mill	2,625																						
COUNTY PARKS	30	Addison Oaks	1,140			•		•	•				•				•				•	•	•		•
	31	Catalpa Oaks	24	•							•						•					•	•		
	32	Glen Oaks Golf Course	122				•						•												
	33	Groveland Oaks	361	•				•		•											•	•	•		
	34	Highland Oaks	302														•					•			
	35	Independence Oaks	1,286	•				•					•			•	•				•	•	•		
	36	Lyon Oaks	1,041				•				•		•				•		•	•	•	•	•		
	37	Orion Oaks	916														•		•	•		•			
	38	Red Oaks Golf Course	141				•				•					•			•	•	•	•	•		
	39	Rose Oaks	640														•					•			
	40	Springfield Oaks Golf Course	333				•						•												
	41	White Lake Oaks Golf Course	195				•						•												
TRAILS	42	Clinton River	16 mi																						
	44	Macomb Orchard	24 mi																						
	46	Paint Creek	8.9 mi																						
	47	Polly Ann	14.2 m																						

	TRAILS					WATER / BOATING					WINTER SPORTS					CAMPING AMENITIES										HUNTING			
	Hiking	Biking	Bike Rental	Mountain Biking / BMX Course	Equestrian	Swimming / Beach	Splash Pad / Pool / Water Slide	Paddlesports	Boat Rental	Boat Launch	Snowshoeing	Cross Country Skiing	Snowmobiling	Ice Skating / Hockey	Sledding	Equestrian Camping	Electrical Service	Winter Camping	Concession Store / Food	Cabins And Lodges	Rustic Site	Group Use Area	Vault Toilet	Modern Restrooms	Sanitation Station	Shooting Range	Hunting / Archery	Fishing	Fishing Pier
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Huron Clinton Metropolitan Authority

The Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority (HCMA) is a regional park district that encompasses the counties of Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Washtenaw and Livingston. Since its inception in 1940, the HCMA has obtained over 20,000 acres of park land, all located in the metro Detroit region. The parks provide a variety of outdoor recreation and educational activities including picnicking, hiking, golf, biking, winter sports, golf, water-related activities, horseback riding, and special programs. There is one Metropark located in Oakland Township.

Stony Creek Metropark

Stony Creek Metropark. 1,265 acres of this 4,461-acre regional park are located in the southeast corner of the Township. Owned by the HCMA, the park features the 500-acre Stony Creek Lake and offers a variety of year-round recreational activities such as picnicking, hiking, boating, fishing, bicycling, swimming, cross-country skiing, skating and sledding. The park also features an 18-hole golf course, championship disc golf course, nature center, fitness trail, and group camping facilities.

In addition to Stony Creek Metropark, three HCMA facilities are located within a 45-minute drive of the Township. They include:

- Indian Springs Metropark
- Lake St. Clair Metropark
- Wolcott Mill Metropark



Fishing on Stony Creek Lake. Image Source: Huron Clinton Metroparks



Mountain biking at Stony Creek Metropark Image Source: ModelD.com

Barrier Free Accessibility

The passage of the American Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) requires all areas of public service, including parks and other recreation facilities, to have barrier-free accessibility. As part of the 2009-2014 Parks and Recreation Master Plan, an evaluation of Oakland Township parks and recreation facilities was conducted by McKenna and Associates as part of the inventory. This data was re-visited in December 2014 as part of the overall parks inventory by Parks and Recreation staff. In accordance with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) standards, facilities were evaluated to determine if a person with any of the following criteria can safely and independently access and use the park or facility:

- Has limited sight or is blind
- Uses a wheelchair
- Has a hearing impairment or is deaf
- Uses a walking aid
- Has a mental impairment

The five-point evaluation system used to rank each facility's accessibility is described below. Based on discussions with Parks staff, the original accessibility rankings have been updated can be found in Table 32 to the right and in the Inventory Tables contained in Appendix C.

- Level 1. The park is not accessible to people with a broad range of physical disabilities. The site includes little paved areas and the facilities such as play equipment or picnic areas are not easily accessible.
- Level 2. The park is somewhat accessible to people with a broad range of physical disabilities. Either the parking area or pathways are paved, but not both. Many of the facilities such as play equipment or picnic areas are not easily accessible.
- Level 3. The park is mostly accessible to people with a broad range of physical disabilities. Most of the parking areas and pathways are paved, and some of the facilities such as play equipment or picnic areas are accessible but may be completely barrier-free. This level of accessibility includes parks adjacent to the Paint Creek Trail from which viewing and interpretive activities can take place for those need barrier-free facilities.
- Level 4. The park is completely accessible to people with a broad range of physical disabilities. Parking areas and pathways area paved, and most of the facilities such as play equipment or picnic areas are easily accessible.
- Level 5. The entire park was developed or renovated using the principles of universal design, a design approach which enables all environments to be usable by everyone, to the greatest extent possible, regardless of age, ability, or situation.

Oakland Township's facilities are largely limited by terrain and the sensitive environmental features of the parks which greatly restrict development potential. Many of the parks include mowed trails, which are not considered accessible. All of the Township's active-use areas are ADA compliant, however. Future park developments are also designed to be fully compliant.

Table 32. Barrier Free Accessibility Ratings

Facility	Score	Notes*
Bear Creek Nature Park	3	A, C
Blue Heron Environmental Area	1	B
Charles Ilsley Park	1	A
Cranberry Lake Park	1	A
Cranberry Lake Historic Distric	3	D
Draper Twin Lake Park	2	A
Fox Nature Preserve	1	A
Gallagher Creek Park	3	C
Lost Lake Nature Park	3	A, D
Marsh View Park	3	A, D
Mill Creek Crossing	1	B
Mill Race Trail	1	B
O'Connor Nature Park	1	B
Paint Creek Heritage Area - Fen	1	B
Paint Creek Heritage Area - Wet Prairie	1	B
Paint Creek Junction Park	4	E
Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park	1	B, F
Unnamed Parcel	1	B
Watershed Ridge Park	2	A

*** Key to Accessibility Notes:**

- *A = Natural areas and terrain limit score,*
- *B = Undeveloped natural area,*
- *C = Active areas all accessible,*
- *D = Most amenities fully accessible,*
- *E = Fully accessible,*
- *F = New development designed to be ADA compliant*

Local Trails and Pathways System

Oakland Township's safety trails and pathways system provides the following benefits to Township residents according to the Township's Trails and Pathways Vision:

1. Support a healthy lifestyle by:
    - Providing nearby facilities for physical activities such as walking, running and cycling
    - Providing safe routes which are an alternative to motorized transportation
2. Improve knowledge of and connection to our local ecosystems and agricultural history by providing greater access to them, while also protecting these important community assets.
3. Strengthen our community's social connections by providing facilities that support the interaction of families and users of all ages, abilities and interests.
4. Provide greater access to nearby destinations including parks, schools, shopping areas, and community facilities such as offices and Bookmobile stops.
5. Provide an opportunity for local residents to take an action that helps to reduce their carbon footprint.

The current system includes 13.6 miles of existing pathways within private developments, the trails in the Township parks, and the portion of the Paint Creek Trailway located in Oakland Township. The Trails and Pathways Master Plan (Appendix A) proposes 32.6 miles of new pathways and 16.7 miles of new trails. Included as part of the new network is 23.8 miles of connected pathways and trails known as 'The Loop' which will connect the Township's northern, southern, eastern, and western areas along a main pathway and trail corridor. In addition, it will connect residents to local parks, commercial areas, and regional recreation facilities. When the network of pathways and trails is complete in the future, the Township will have a total of 62.9 miles of non-motorized transportation. Many of the projects are proposed to be done in conjunction with parks and facilities improvements to further the goal of connectivity in the Township.

Regional Trail System

In addition to Oakland Township's local trails and pathways system, there is a significant regional system of trails through Oakland County and in nearby Lapeer and Macomb Counties. This has been made possible by improvements within regional and state parks and recreation areas, and through path development along local roads, abandoned railroads, greenways, and utility corridors. While there are still gaps in this regional trail system, Oakland Township residents have convenient access to the Paint Creek Trail as well as the trail systems throughout the adjacent regional area. Examples of existing regional trail systems include:

- Addison Oaks County Park (14.2 miles; cross-country skiing, equestrian, hiking, mountain biking, walking)
- Bald Mountain State Recreation Area (15 miles; cross-country skiing, mountain biking, snowmobiling, walking)
- Clinton River Trail (16 miles; located south of the Township in Rochester, Rochester Hills, Auburn Hills, Pontiac, and Sylvan Lake is an extension of the Macomb-Orchard Trail; biking, mountain biking, walking)
- Macomb-Orchard Trail (23.5 miles; located southeast of the Township in the Townships of Shelby, Washington, Armada and Richmond, passing through Romeo, Armada and Richmond with a connection in Rochester to the Clinton River Trail; biking, equestrian, walking, wheelchair)
- Orion Oaks County Park (10 miles; cross-country skiing, hiking, mountain biking)
- Orion Township Safety Path System (38.47 miles; provides non-motorized linkages to most major destinations in the Township, including Friendship Park, Civic Center Park, Orion Oaks County Park, Orion Township Library, most of the public schools, and connects the Village of Lake Orion with the Gingellville area)
- Polly Ann Trail (14.2 miles; located north and northwest of the Township passing through Leonard, Dryden, Imlay City, Lum, Kings Mill, Orion Township, the Village of Lake Orion, Oxford Township, the Village of Oxford, and Addison Township with a future connection planned to the Paint Creek Trail; biking, cross-country skiing, equestrian, mountain biking, walking)
- Stony Creek Metropark (19.2 miles; biking, cross-country skiing, mountain biking, walking)

Regional Local-Level Parks and Facilities

Surrounded by eleven different communities (Addison Township, Bruce Township, Charter Township of Orion, Charter Township of Shelby, City of Auburn Hills, City of Rochester, City of Rochester Hills, Oxford Township, Village of Lake Orion, Village of Romeo, and Washington Township), Oakland Township residents benefit from the proximity of six neighboring communities' parks and recreation facilities. These parks and facilities supplement those located in the Township with offerings such as active recreation, athletic fields, educational programs, golf, nature centers, playgrounds, and swimming. The following parks and facilities are located within a short distance of the Township:

Addison Township

- Addison Township Park
- Labodie Park
- Watershed Preserve Park
- Lake George Nature Park

Bruce Township

- Bruce Township Park
- Community Center Park
- Orchard Hills Park

Charter Township of Orion

- Pasadena Park
- Playful Dragon
- Jesse Decker Park
- McConnell Field
- Civic Center Park
- Friendship Park
- Camp Agawam
- Great Lakes Athletic Club
- Orion Center
- Gingell Nature Area
- Heron Springs Park
- Paint Creek Trail
- Polly Ann Trail

Charter Township of Shelby

- Chief Gene Shepherd Park
- Community Center
- Ford Field - Central Park
- Heritage Garden
- Hope Chapel
- Holland Ponds
- Lombardo Park
- Mae Stecker Park
- Municipal Grounds
- River Bends Park
- Whispering Woods Park
- Woodall Neighborhood Park & Skate Park

City of Auburn Hills

- Civic Center Park
- Riverside Park
- River Woods Park
- Manitoba Park
- E Dale Fisk Hawk Woods Nat. Ctr
- Auburn Hills Skate Park
- Dennis Dearing Jr. Mem. Park
- Community Center
- Fieldstone Golf Club
- Clinton River Trail

City of Rochester

- Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve
- Elizabeth Street Park
- Gateway Rotary Park
- Halbach Field and Mem. Grove
- Howlett Park
- Lions Park
- Municipal Park
- OPC Social & Activity Center
- Riverview Park
- Scott Street Park- Jaycee Field
- Rochester Community House
- Rochester River Walk
- Clinton River Trail
- Paint Creek Trail

City of Rochester Hills

- Avon Nature Study Area
- Avondale Park
- Bloomer & Yates Park
- Earl E. Borden Park
- Brooklands Plaza
- Eugene S. Nowicki Park
- Helen V. Allen Park
- Innovation Hills Park
- Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm
- Thelma G. Spencer Park
- Veterans Memorial Pointe
- Wabash Park
- Clinton River Trail
- Paint Creek Trail

City of Utica

- Grant Park
- Jacqueline K. Noonan Riverwalk Park
- Memorial Park
- Heritage Park
- Utica Recreation Area
- Pioneer Park Dog Park

Oxford Township

- Powell Lake Park
- Stony Lake Park
- Oakwood Lake Park
- Seymour Lake Park
- KLR Splash Pad

Village of Lake Orion

- Atwater Park
- Children's Park
- Green's Park
- Meek's Park
- Swiss Village Park
- Unger Park
- Paint Creek Trail
- Polly Ann Trail

Village of Romeo

- Gilcher-Crissman Park
- Romeo Village Park

Washington Township

- Community Center Park
- Gilcher Crissman Park & Fields
- Washington Township Park

Quasi-Public and Privately Owned Facilities

The recreation needs of some residents in Oakland Township are provided by a number of quasi-public and privately owned facilities in and surrounding the Township. These facilities range from private swim clubs to bowling establishments. Many of these facilities charge a membership or user fee. Quasi-public and private recreation facilities located within and around Oakland Township include:

Bowling Alleys

- Avon North Hill Lanes
- Century Bowling
- Cherry Hill Lanes North
- Classic Lanes
- Collier Lanes
- 5 star lanes
- Round One Bowling and Amusement
- Shelby Lanes
- Spins Bowl
- Summit Bowling Center
- Three Hundred Bowl

Cider Mills and Orchards

- Addison-Oaks Christmas Tree Farm
- Blake's Orchard
- Blake's Big Apple Orchard
- Goodison Cider Mill
- Hy's Cider Mill
- Long Family Orachard & Farm
- Miller's Big Red Apple Orchard
- Rochester Cider Mill
- Stony Creek Orchard and Cider Mill
- Verellen Orchards
- Westview Orchards
- Yates Cider Mill

Dance Instruction

- Adagio Dance
- Argentine Tango Detroit
- Ballroom Sensation
- Birmingham Ballroom
- Broadway Dance Company
- Center Stage Dance Co.
- Dance on Main Ballroom Studio
- Dance Shoppe
- Dance Studio Inc.
- Dance World
- Dancer's Edge Studio
- Deborah's Stage Door Dance Center
- Elegance in Motion Ballroom Studio
- Graceful Moves Dance Studio
- Inferno Dance Company
- LA Dance
- Michigan Ballet Theater
- MI Premier Dance Company
- Motor City Irish Dance
- North Oakland Dance Company
- Orion Oxford Dance Arts
- Oxford Academy of Dance and Performing Arts
- Pointe Academy Dance Center Rhythm Pointe Dance Academy
- Rochester Avon Rec Dance
- Rochester School of Dance
- Roxana's Dance Expressions
- 2nd Street Studio of Dance
- Stardust Ballroom Dance Studios
- Stars & Stripes Kids Activity Center
- Suzanne Hawkins Ballet Workshop
- Suzette's Masters of Dance
- Tina Marie's School of Dance
- VIBE Dance Academy

Entertainment & Cultural Facilities

- AMC Star - Great Lakes 25 Avon Players
- DTE Energy Music Theatre Emagine Theaters Rochester Hills
- Goodrich - Oxford 7 Meadowbrook Hall Meadowbrook Music Festival Meadowbrook Theatre
- Paint Creek Center for the Arts
- Romeo Theaters

Exercise and Fitness Facilities

- Anytime Fitness
- Born Yoga
- Building Your Temple Fitness
- Community Yoga Studio
- Crossfit High Caliber North
- East Street Pilates
- Eclipse Fitness
- Fitness 19
- GB Training Center
- Great Lakes Athletic Club
- Hotworkx
- Ideal Core Pilates
- Life Spa
- Lifetime Fitness
- Live Love Yoga
- McEntire Pilates
- MSB Studio Fitness
- Oakland County Crossfit
- Orange Theory Fitness
- Planet Fitness
- Powerhouse Gym
- Raw Fitness
- Red Lotus Yoga
- Retro Fitness
- Rochester Holistic Arts
- Sculptors Fitness Center
- Transformation Studio/Soothe
- Your Soul
- Updog Yoga of Rochester
- VIP Fitness
- White Lotus Yoga Studio
- World Gym
- Xceleration Fitness
- Xtend Barre
- YMCA
- YogaSix Rochester Hills
- ZellaDor Wellness & Fitness

Golf (Courses)

- Blackheath Golf Club
- Boulder Pointe Golf Club and Conference Center
- Brookwood Golf Club
- Bruce Hills Golf Course
- Cherry Creek Golf Club
- Copper Hills Golf and CC
- Fieldstone Golf Club of Auburn Hills
- Glacier Club Golf Course
- Great Oaks Country Club
- Greystone Banquet and Golf Club
- Hampton Golf and Recreation Club
- Heather Hills Golf Club
- Henrikson's Driving Range
- Indianwood Golf and CC
- Mulberry Hills Golf and CC
- Myth Golf and Banquets
- Oakhurst Golf and Country Club
- Oakland University (Katke Cousins, R&S Sharf Courses)
- Orchards Golf Club
- Oxford Hills Golf and Country Club
- Paint Creek Country Club
- Pine Knob Golf Course
- Pine Trace Golf Club
- Pine Valley Golf Course and Tennis Club
- Sanctuary Lake
- Silver Lake Golf Club
- Stony Creek Metropark Golf Course
- Twin Lakes Golf and Swim Club
- Westwynd Golf Course
- Wyndgate Golf and Country Club Golf (Driving Ranges, Miniature Golf)

Gymnastics

- All Around Gymnastics Center
- American Gymnastics
- Diamond Gymnastics
- Farmington Gymnastics Center
- FlipSpot
- Flip Starz Gymnastic Academy
- Great Lakes Elite Gyms
- GTC Gymnastics & Activity
- IRC@TG3
- Olympia Gymnastics Academy
- Stars & Stripes Kids Activity Center
- Warren Gymnastics Center

Horseback Riding & Stables

- Just a Folly Farm
- O.A.T.S. (Offering Alternative Therapy with a Smile)
- Oakland Hills Farm
- Rochester Hills Stables
- Shenanagans Farm
- Times Square Riding Academy
- Win A Gin Farm

Martial Arts

- Bushidokan Martial Arts
- Championship Martial Arts
- Citizen Defense Training
- Cosens Martial Arts Oxford
- D-Lux Martial Arts / Kids Karate
- Dynamic Martial Arts
- Gracie Barra Lake Orion Jiu-Jitsu
- Inspire Martial Arts
- JSKA of Rochester
- Kerry Roop's Superkicks
- Lee's Martial Arts
- Leonard Koei Kan Karate Do
- Martial Science Center
- New Way Martial Arts
- Okinawan Karate Do
- Pro Martial Arts
- Rochester Hills Choi Kwong Do
- Rochester School of Martial Arts
- Stars & Stripes Kids Activity Center
- TNT Martial Arts
- Waterford TaeKwon DO

Skating Facilities (Ice, Roller, Skateboard)

- 240 Squirrel Skateboard Park
- The New Rink
- Romeo Skate Park
- Skate World of Troy
- Suburban Ice

Skiing

- Alpine Valley Ski Area
- Mt. Holly Ski Area
- Pine Knob Ski Resort

Sports Facilities

- Basketball America
- Borden Park
- The Buckhorn Disc Golf Course
- Croatia Park
- The Den Sports Facility
- Elite Indoor Sports
- Mini Dragons Soccer Field
- MOR Archery
- Oakland County Sportsmen's Club
- Oakland University
- Oakland yard Athletics
- Palazzo di Bocce
- RC Baseball field
- Royal Oak Archers
- Sky Zone Indoor Trampoline Park
- Total Sports Shelby

Swimming

- Addison Oaks County Park
- Aqua-Tots
- Bald Mountain Recreation Area
- Big Blue Swim School
- Goldfish Swim School
- Great Oaks Country Club
- Heart of the Hills Swim Club
- Kingfish Aquatics of Waterford
- Lake Orion Community Schools
- Lifetime Fitness
- Oakland University
- Rochester Community Schools
- Rochester Hills Parks and Recreation
- Stony Creek Metropark
- Swim 101at Great Lakes Athletic Club
- Twin Lakes Golf and Swim Club
- Utica Shelby Swim Club
- Waterford Wave Pool YMCA



Programming

Oakland Township residents fund a variety of program offerings via millages paid to support Oakland Township Parks and Recreation, the OPC Social & Activity Center', and the Rochester Hills Library. Local school districts and the Rochester-Avon Recreation authority also offer enrichment classes and recreation programming.



Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission (OTPRC)

Oakland Township currently offers a variety of programs and events. The OTPRC offers a variety of programming related to nature and conservation education, fitness and wellbeing, outdoor adventure, and natural area stewardship. Some recent programs and events that have been offered include:

- Archery
- Adult Health & Wellness
- Yoga
- Yoga on the Lake
- Tai Chi
- Tai Chi in the Park
- Seasonal Hikes
- Nature Programs
- Family Campfire Adventures
- Seasonal Evening Hikes
- After School Nature Nuts
- Bats and Bags
- Bats of the World
- Concerts in the Park
- Discovery Backpacks
- Down on the Farm
- Gifts for the Birds
- Goodison Good Tyme
- Halloween Science
- Preschool Park Pals
- Winter Carnival
- Sledding Hill & Warming Shelter at Lost Lake Nature Park
- Ice Skating at Bear Creek Nature Park
- Kayaking
- Outdoor Skills Camps
- Soccer Camps
- Wednesday Bird Walks
- Stewardship Volunteer Workdays

The Parks and Recreation Commission has worked with other Township departments and businesses to sponsor some of the above programs and events. An example of this is the Goodison Good Tyme, a festival held in late September offering food, nature programs, crafts, music, balloon art, face painting, climbing wall, zip line, and other family activities.

School Districts

Three different school districts serve Oakland Township; Lake Orion, Rochester, and Romeo Community Schools, with the Rochester district serving the majority of the Township. All of the districts offer a variety of continuing education programs for adults, leisure and enrichment classes, and activities for people of all ages that Township residents in their respective school districts can utilize. User fees and an operating budget established by the school boards provide funding for these programs. Activities, classes, and programs are held at the various schools. The types of activities currently offered include:

- Arts and Crafts
- Finance and Language
- Dance
- Investment
- Music
- Dog Training
- Fitness and Health
- Photography
- Computers
- Golf
- Skating
- Cooking
- Gymnastics
- Swimming
- Family Matters
- Home and Garden
- Team Sports
- Karate
- Tennis

Rochester-Avon Recreation Authority (RARA)

The Cities of Rochester and Rochester Hills offer recreational programming through Rochester-Avon Recreation Authority (RARA). This regional recreation authority has been the main recreation provider to the communities of Rochester and Rochester Hills since 1946. Although Oakland Township is not an administrative participant of RARA, Township residents can participate in programs by paying an additional amount over the resident user fees for both children and adults. RARA focuses on providing year-round recreation programs for adults and children including:

- Adult w/ Child Activities
- Baseball
- Basketball
- Bowling
- Dance
- Daycamp
- Fitness
- Football
- Horseback Riding
- Karate
- Lacrosse
- Skiing
- Soccer
- Softball
- Tennis
- Theater
- Therapeutic Special Events

OPC Social & Activity Center' (OPC)

The Rochester-Oakland-Rochester Hills OPC Social & Activity Center (OPC), funded by a millage in all three communities, manages programs targeted toward seniors in the community. The commission operates from its Activity Center in Rochester Hills and offers a variety of programs for seniors.

- Arts and Crafts
- Computers
- Dancing
- Day Trips
- Foreign Language
- Games
- Health / Wellness
- Hot Lunches
- Legal Aid
- Meals on Wheels
- Minibus Transportation
- Swimming



Image Source: Rochester OPC Social & Activity Center

Library

There are currently no library facilities within Oakland Township, however residents contribute to a library millage for the Rochester Hills Public Library. The library provides Oakland Township residents with convenient access to books, video and audio recordings, magazines, and newspapers. The library also hosts a number of individual and group activities including:

- Book Clubs
- Story Hours
- Concerts
- Workshops
- Film Festivals
- Bookmobile
- Seminars

Volunteer Organizations

In addition to the above listed recreational programs, many other clubs and groups offer social, competitive, and child-oriented recreational activities. Many of these groups are volunteer organizations requiring payment of annual or monthly dues to support activities. These groups include:

- 4-H Clubs of Oakland County
- Boy Scouts of America
- Friends of Bald Mountain Recreation Area
- Friends of the Paint Creek Trailways
- Girl Scouts of America
- Paint Creek Center for the Arts
- Oakland Township Historical Society
- Rochester Redskins Football
- Rochester Youth Soccer League
- Rochester-Avondale Little League
- Supporters of Parks in Oakland Township
- YMCA of North Oakland County
- Wild Ones: native plants, natural landscapes



Volunteers with Rochester Pollinators. Image Source: Marilyn Trent

Chapter 5: Administrative Structure



Ranger Ricks at Bear Creek Nature Park, 1969. Image Source: Oakland Township



Alice Tamboulian and her stepmother at Bear Creek Nature Park, 1970. Image Source: Oakland Township

The Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Department provides a wealth of parks, recreation, and cultural facilities and programming. The department collaborates with a variety of commissions, agencies, and groups such as the Trails and Pathways Advisory Committee, to provide the high quality parks and recreation facilities present in the Township. The administrative structure and budget analysis for parks, land preservation, recreation, and trails are reviewed in this section.

Local Administration

Board of Trustees

The Oakland Township Board of Trustees was established in 1827 and functions as the main governing body representing citizen interests. Additional governmental agencies and administrative divisions have been established to better serve the varied needs of the Township, including a Parks and Recreation Commission and department.

Parks and Recreation Commission (Park Commission)

The Park Commission was established in 1974 by approval of Township voters to:

Acquire, maintain, and manage Township park land and natural areas and to provide recreational opportunities and facilities for the benefit and enjoyment of all present and future Oakland Township residents.

In 1999 the Park Commission was additionally authorized to act as the Township Recreation Board and became the Parks and Recreation Commission. The Parks and Recreation Commission is a seven-member elected body which meets monthly to provide direction on land acquisition and recreation items and administration. They have the primary responsibility for land acquisition, park planning, and significant recreation improvements in Oakland Township. This Parks, Recreation, and Land Preservation Master Plan includes goal statements, recommendations, and a five-year capital improvement schedule that generally guides decision-making and policies for the Parks and Recreation Commission and staff. In addition, decisions such as land acquisition and use of millage funds require specific criteria for the Parks and Recreation Commission to follow.

As a governmental agency legally separate from the Township Board, the Parks and Recreation Commission may spend funds or request bonds for the acquisition of land or construction of facilities. The Township Board may also appropriate monies from the general fund to acquire park land or build facilities. Both groups are interested in protecting the Township's continuing interest in the community's natural and cultural resources. To assure the continued protection of these resources the Parks and Recreation Commission must receive approval from the Township Board and the Planning Commission for the implementation of significant recreation improvements in Township Parks.



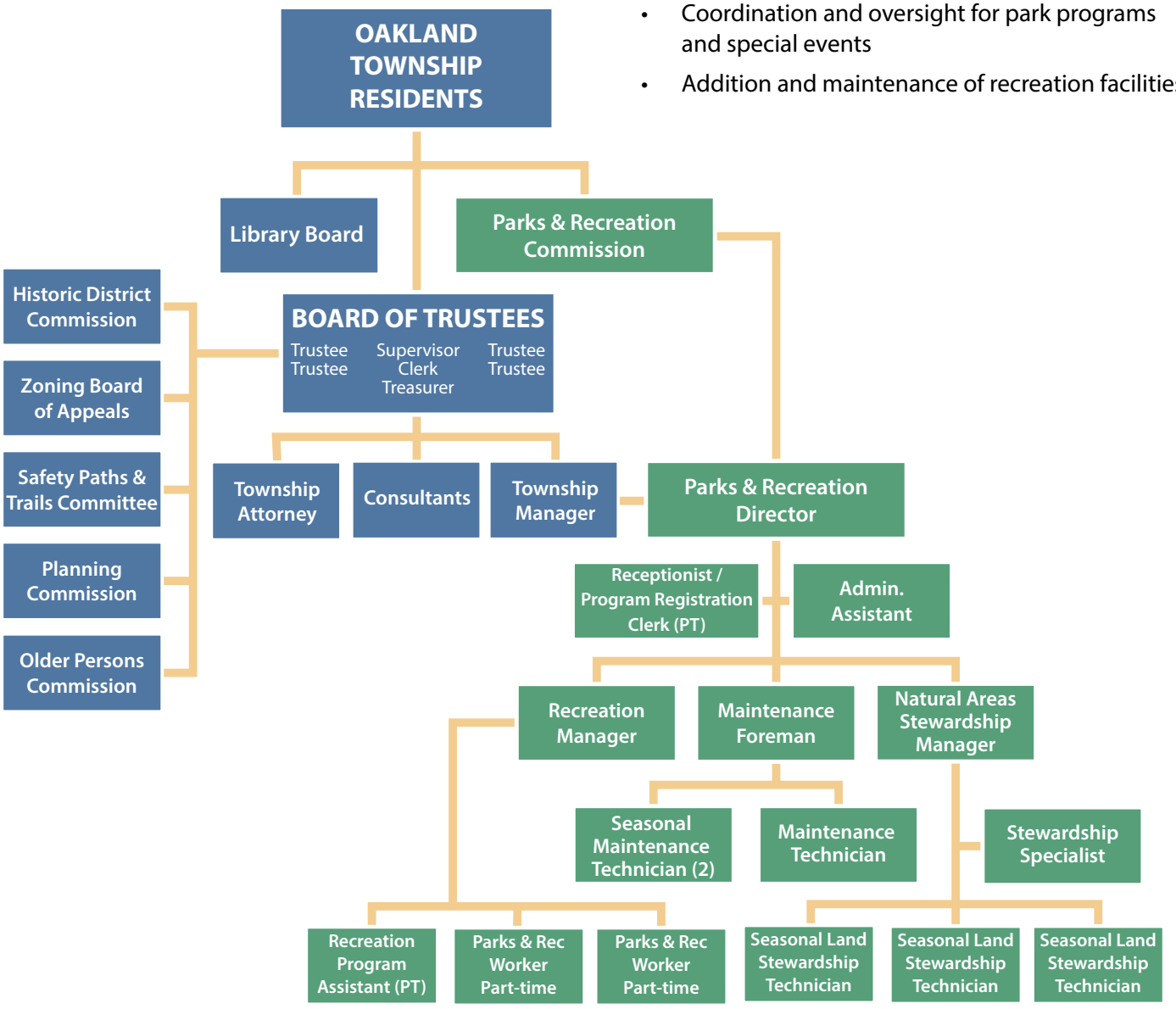
Director Mindy Milos-Dale and Staff at Lost Lake Nature Park. Image Source: C&G Newspapers

Parks and Recreation Department

Daily operations of the Parks and Recreation Department are the responsibility of the full-time Parks and Recreation Director. The current director is in charge of a staff of ten employees, in addition to seasonal staff, who contribute to the on-going management of a segment of the parks and recreation system. The Parks and Recreation Department's organization structure reflects the Department's operational programming and emphasis on natural area stewardship (see Figure 11). This aligns with the recommendations outlined in the 2009 Strategic Master Plan prepared by PROS Consulting. The Park Commission works with the director to facilitate development of recreation policies, facilities, programs, and services. The Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for:

- Preparation of agenda and notices for monthly Park Commission meetings
- Correspondence and record keeping
- Oversight and maintenance of Township park land
- Maintenance of the portion of the Paint Creek Trail in Oakland Township
- Public communication and awareness of park programs
- Preparation of grant applications and administration
- Master Plan revision and updates
- Park and land preservation planning
- Park land acquisition
- Implementation of park and natural area acquisition
- Natural areas stewardship
- Coordination and oversight for park programs and special events
- Addition and maintenance of recreation facilities

Figure 17. Organizational Chart



Environmental and Historic Groups

The environmental and historical activities of the Township have increased in keeping with new needs and opportunities. These concerns are reflected in the formation of commissions and committees with responsibilities for environmental protection and enhancement in the Township and region, as described below.

Historic District Commission (HDC)

The HDC was established in 1979 and is made up of seven members who are appointed by the Oakland Township Board of Trustees for three-year terms. The HDC's mission is to promote and preserve the rich heritage of Oakland Township by safeguarding its historical resources. The HDC administers Ordinance 37-A, which follows the guidelines set forth by The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation for historic resources. HDC believes in educating residents about the value of preserving buildings, structures, and areas that have contributed to this heritage. Currently, two Township parks, Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District and the Mill Race Trail, are designated historic resources. The Mill Race Trail has a Michigan State Historical Marker and Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The HDC currently manages and operates the 16-acre Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District.

Intergovernmental Recreation Agencies

The Township participates in two important intergovernmental agencies. These agencies provide recreational and senior services to Township residents and are described below.

Paint Creek Trailways Commission

This intergovernmental Commission contains two representatives and two alternates from each of the four member communities of Rochester, Rochester Hills, Oakland Township and Orion Township that are involved with this rails-to-trails facility, and one non-voting representative from the Village of Lake Orion. Through appointed representatives, the Oakland Township Park Commission and the Township Board participate in trail management and development to ensure compatibility with the recreational needs and the resources of the Township.

The operation of the Trailways Commission is funded by annual contributions from each of the four voting member municipalities. Each community is also financially responsible for capital improvements within their geographic section of the trail. In addition, the communities set aside millage funds to cover staff who maintain their portion of the trail, including mowing, pruning, and surface repair within their own boundaries. A part-time Trail Manager organizes the monthly meeting agendas and performs general trail administration. A seasonal bike patrol person handles safety and security concerns between May 1 and October 31. Each community provides in-kind services; Oakland Township provides office space (although the Trailways Commission does pay rent) and payroll administration for the Trailways Commission staff.

OPC Social & Activity Center (OPC)

This intergovernmental commission was organized in 1983 for the purpose of providing activities and services for persons 50 years of age or older residing within Rochester, Rochester Hills and Oakland Township. The Commission is governed by an eight-member body comprised of four representatives from the City of Rochester Hills, two representatives from the City of Rochester and two representatives from Oakland Township.

The operation of the OPC is funded by three ten-year millages in all three communities. Oakland Township's three OPC millages consist of an operating millage that was approved in 2023 (rolled back to .2250 mills in 2017, and renewed and increased to .32 mills in 2023), a debt retirement millage that was approved in 2001 at .3093 mills, and a transportation millage that was approved in 2015 at .09 mills. All three millages have been rolled back as required by state law.

The activities and services provided by OPC include the joint operations of an older persons' activity center, transportation, and initiatives directed toward improvement of the social, legal, health, housing, educational, emotional, nutritional, recreational, and mobility status of older persons. The activity center provides recreational facilities including swimming pools, weight training and aerobic equipment, an indoor track for walking/running, rooms for educational programs, a branch of the Rochester Hills Library and a cafeteria. Programming offered by OPC is described in the Programming section of Chapter 4 and OPC Transportation is described in the Transportation and Access section of Chapter 6.

Parks, Recreation, and Land Preservation Funding and Grant History

The majority of funding to support the Township's parks and recreation system comes from two millages, the Parks & Recreation Millage (Park Fund) and the Land Preservation Millage (Land Preservation Fund). The Parks Millage was renewed in 2016 for a 10-year period. The Land Preservation Millage, initiated in 2001 for a 10-year period as well, was extended 20 more years through early renewals that occurred in 2006 and in 2018. Both millages began as 0.75 mills each, but have been annually rolled back as required by state law. Each fund has different obligations and two separate budgets.

Each fund has its own listing of expenditures. The Park Fund covers park operating expenditures including salaries and wages, consultation, education, park programming, contracts, insurance, worker's compensation, and maintenance of buildings, grounds, facilities, park, trails, and the Oakland Township section of the Paint Creek Trail. The Land Preservation Fund contributes a percentage for acquiring and managing park natural areas. Each fund also includes capital expenses to support annual investments in land and facilities. The Land Preservation Fund has traditionally had a higher capital expense budget because the purpose of the fund is to acquire land for preservation purposes.

Preservation capital expenses include preservation equipment purchases and providing access to park natural areas. The Park Fund budget shows capital expenditure for the purchase of multipurpose park lands, as well as for bond repayments, building improvements, park equipment purchases, and office equipment purchases.

The Land Preservation Fund has significantly expanded opportunities for the Township Parks and Recreation Department. Additional land preservation has become possible, a natural areas stewardship manager has been hired, additional property maintenance has been provided, and some of the previous Park Fund costs have been shared with the Land Preservation Fund. While the two millages remain in effect it is important to plan projects that will maximize the benefit of these two funding sources.

Table 33 and Table 34 on page 115 summarize the Park Fund and Land Preservation Fund revenues and expenditures for fiscal years 2023/2024 through 2026/2027, and Table 35 does the same for the Historic Preservation Fund Budget. The expenditures are categorized as operations and maintenance, programming, or capital improvements. Oakland Township has also received twelve state grants for acquisition and development projects. Table 36 on page 116 summarizes the state recreation grants awarded to the Township.



Image Source: CWA

Table 33. Park Fund Revenues & Expenditures, 2023 - 2027

Revenues	2023 Amended Budget	2024 Final Budget	2025 Forecasted Budget	2026 Forecasted Budget
Millage	$1,168,900	$1,258,400	$1,296,000	$1,328,300
Grants & Donations	$0	$0	$25000	$157500
Program Revenue	$30300	$32300	$34300	$34300
Miscellaneous Revenue	$115,200	$150,000	$114,300	$108,200
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES	**$1,314,400**	**$1,440,700**	**$1,469,600**	**$1,628,300**
Appropriations	2023 Amended Budget	2024 Final Budget	2025 Forecasted Budget	2026 Forecasted Budget
Buildings & Grounds	$25,300	$27,400	$28,100	$28,700
Park Property	$163,000	$179,300	$205,500	$167,900
Parks & Recreation Department	$919,900	$1,017,800	$1,043,500	$1,035,700
Trailway Administration	$58,500	$58,500	$60,200	$61,400
Trailway Operation	$55,000	$73,000	$69,400	$70,900
Capital Outlay	$341,000	$309,900	$219,500	$278,000
TOTAL ESTIMATED APPROPRIATIONS	**$1,562,700**	**$1,665,900**	**$1,626,200**	**$1,642,600**

Table 34. Land Preservation Fund Budget, 2023 - 2027

Revenues	2023 Amended Budget	2024 Final Budget	2025 Forecasted Budget	2026 Forecasted Budget
Millage	$1,103,500	$1,109,700	$1,142,900	$1,171,300
Grants & Donations	$11000	$460500	$273000	$51700
Rental Income	$4000	$4000	$4000	$4000
Miscellaneous Revenue	$29,700	$75,900	$72,800	$34,600
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES	**$1,148,200**	**$1,650,100**	**$1,492,700**	**$1,261,600**
Appropriations	2023 Amended Budget	2024 Final Budget	2025 Forecasted Budget	2026 Forecasted Budget
Buildings & Grounds	$10,800	$11,400	$11,700	$12,000
Park Property	$44,700	$53,200	$50,600	$49,200
Parks & Recreation Department	$558,300	$690,000	$557,800	$527,400
Capital Outlay	$476,000	$1,125,300	$717,500	$372,500
Transfer Out	$0	$0	$0	$0
TOTAL ESTIMATED APPROPRIATIONS	**$1,089,800**	**$1,879,900**	**$1,337,600**	**$961,100**

Table 35. Historic District Commission Budget, 2023 - 2027

Revenues	2023 Amended Budget	2024 Final Budget	2025 Forecasted Budget	2026 Forecasted Budget
Millage	$181,400	$195,400	$201,300	$206,300
Grants & Donations	$5000	$5000	$5000	$5000
Program & Rental Income	$3500	$5000	$5100	$5200
Miscellaneous Revenue	$6,400	$16,900	$13,900	$10,900
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES	**$196,300**	**$222,300**	**$225,300**	**$227,400**
Appropriations	2023 Amended Budget	2024 Final Budget	2025 Forecasted Budget	2026 Forecasted Budget
Buildings & Grounds	$31,600	$33,100	$34,500	$35,700
Historic Commission	$116,270	$134,400	$133,600	$136,900
Capital Outlay	$60,730	$199,000	$263,000	$39,800
TOTAL ESTIMATED APPROPRIATIONS	**$208,600**	**$366,500**	**$431,100**	**$212,400**

Table 36. Grant History

Grant Number / Title	Amount	Project Scope	Status
TF99-128 Marsh View Park Acquisition	$ 2,010,101	Acquisition of 90 acres for use as a Township Park for and pedestrian link between the Paint Creek Trail and Bald Mountain Rec. Area.	Park is in excellent condition and highly popular. Ongoing development has turned the park into the premier active-use destination for the Township.
TF00-311 Bear Creek Nature Park Development	$ 313,302	Provide trails, boardwalks, observation decks, interpretive signage, picnic pavilion, playground and parking lot.	Park is in excellent condition and highly popular. It continues to be developed as a passive-use destination.
TF02-013 Lost Lake Nature Park Acquisition	$ 1,762,800	Acquisition of 32 acres, including an entire lake, geological formation, wetland areas and structure for nature center. .	Park is in excellent condition and highly popular. It's accessible waterfront and nature center provides a unique educational experience for residents.
TF05-102 Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park Acquisition	$ 893,700	Acquisition of 60.56 acres with 2,000 linear feet of frontage on Stony Creek for passive recreation and to provide a regional trail link.	Park is in excellent condition and highly popular. While relatively undeveloped at this point, recent land acquisitions will make the park more accessible to all residents.
TF07-057 Marsh View Park Development	$ 293,300	Develop trails, wetland observation deck, interpretive signage, archery range, sports fields, and basketball court.	Park is in excellent condition and highly popular. Ongoing development has turned the park into the premier active-use destination for the Township.
TF10-069 Lost Lake Nature Park Development	$ 154,900	Renovation of structure for nature center, fishing dock , boating, accessibility improvements to parking lot, pedestrian routes.	Park is in excellent condition and highly popular. It's accessible waterfront and nature center provides a unique educational experience for residents.
TF16-0009 Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park Expansion	$ 2,216,400	74-acre fee simple purchase and the purchase of less than fee simple rights on the remaining 135 acres.	Park is in excellent condition and highly popular. While relatively undeveloped at this point, recent land acquisitions will make the park more accessible to all residents.
TF18-0098 Paint Creek Junction Park Northern Trailhead Development	$ 228,400	Develop Northern Trailhead for the Paint Creek Trail in Oakland Township including a parking lot, access pathway, two unisex universal-access vault toilets, and accessible well for potable water.	Completed and in excellent condition.
TF19-0074 Marsh View Park Restrooms	$ 50,000	Provide two environmentally sustainable and universally accessible vault toilets.	Completed and in excellent condition.
TF19-0081 Bear Creek Nature Park Restrooms	$ 50,000	Provide two environmentally sustainable and universally accessible vault toilets.	Completed and in excellent condition.
TF20-0206 Lost Lake Nature Park Expansion	$ 3,081,000	Acquire 235-acre addition to Lost Lake Nature Park to increase trails and provide public access to Clam Lake and Stony Creek. Existing buildings would be repurposed for a Park Visitor Center, storage and maintenance.	Completed and dedicated as Fox Nature Preserve. Improvements have been started and are described throughout the plan.
PENDING 26-01902 Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park Development	$ 340,100	Improvements include a vehicular entrance and parking, trailhead with drinking water, restrooms, a picnic area, benches and interpretive signs.	TO BE COMPLETED

Chapter 6: Community Background

The following Community Description offers a picture of the various physical and socioeconomic characteristics of Oakland Township. The information included in this chapter provides valuable insights into the basic makeup of the community which in turn can help to develop an understanding of the needs and wants of Township residents. The Township takes great pride in being a community that provides a high quality of life for its residents and offers a diversity of values and experiences.

Regional Setting

Oakland Township is located in the northeast portion of Oakland County adjacent to Macomb County. The Township is bordered by Addison Township to the north, Washington Township (Macomb County) to the east, the City of Rochester Hills to the south, and Orion Township to the west. In addition to the adjacent communities, the Township is located a short drive from Pontiac, Rochester, Village of Lake Orion, Romeo, Auburn Hills, and Troy.

Oakland County is a member of the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG), a seven-county planning region encompassing the Detroit metropolitan region. See Figure 18 through Figure 20 for context maps.

Figure 18. Site Context - State of Michigan



Figure 19. Site Context - Oakland County

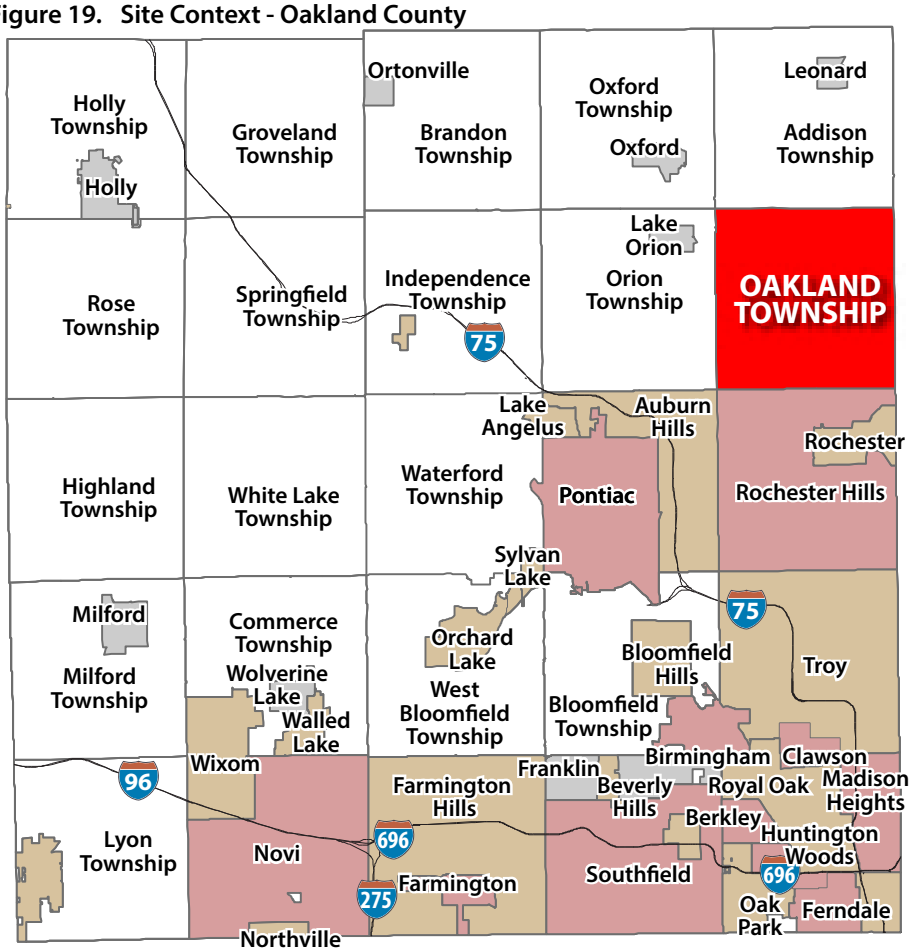


Figure 20. Site Context - SEMCOG



Table 37. Population Data, Oakland Township Region

Community	1990 Census	2000 Census	2010 Census	2020 Census	2023 SEMCOG Estimate	% Change 2010 - 2023	2050 SEMCOG Estimate	% Change 2020 - 2050
Oakland Twp	8,227	13,071	16,779	20,067	20,500	22.2%	25,924	29.2%
Addison Twp	4,785	6,107	5,948	5,879	5,782	-2.8%	6,260	6.5%
Leonard	357	332	403	377	376	-6.7%	425	12.7%
Auburn Hills	17,076	19,837	21,412	24,360	26,214	22.4%	28,863	18.5%
Lake Angelus	328	326	290	287	303	4.5%	323	12.5%
Orion Twp	21,019	30,748	32,421	35,330	36,351	12.1%	41,222	16.7%
Lake Orion	3,057	2,715	2,973	2,876	2,867	-3.6%	3,794	31.9%
Oxford Twp	9,004	12,485	17,090	18,927	18,924	10.7%	21,168	11.8%
Oxford, Village of	2,929	3,540	3,436	3,492	3,430	-0.2%	3,503	0.3%
Rochester	7,130	10,467	12,711	13,035	12,797	0.7%	14,255	9.4%
Rochester Hills	61,766	68,825	70,995	76,300	77,466	9.1%	83,089	8.9%
Bruce Twp	4,193	6,395	6,947	7,461	7,901	13.7%	8,804	18.0%
Shelby Twp	48,655	65,159	73,804	79,408	79,098	7.2%	92,218	16.1%
Washington Twp	11,386	17,122	23,296	26,261	26,535	13.9%	36,378	38.5%
Oakland County	1,083,592	1,194,156	1,202,362	1,274,395	1,270,880	5.7%	1,387,838	8.9%
SEMCOG Region	4,590,468	4,833,368	4,704,809	4,830,489	4,804,188	2%	5,138,535	6.4%
State of Michigan (7-1-22)	9,295,297	9,938,444	9,883,640	10,034,113	10,037,261	2%	10,608,242	5.7%

Source: American Community Survey, US Census, SEMCOG

Demographic Characteristics

The following demographic report reveals some of the unique characteristics of Oakland Township. The demographic makeup of the community helps determine the quality and quantity of parks and recreation facilities and programs necessary to serve Oakland Township residents.

Population

The Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) projections indicate that the Township's population is expected to increase at a brisk pace through 2050. The Township experienced a 19.6% increase between 2010 and 2020 (22% between 2010 to 2023), as indicated in Table 37, and is projected to continue to grow by 29% through 2050, ultimately peaking at just over 26,000 residents in 2040. The current growth rate is the highest in the immediate region; only Auburn Hills (13.8%) saw similar percentage increases during that time period. In terms of the number of new residents (as opposed to percentage population growth rate), Oakland Township fell below that of Shelby Township and Rochester Hills, but above that of other neighboring Townships and cities. .

Table 38. Age Group Distribution

Age Group	US Census 2000	US Census 2010	US Census 2020	ACS 2022
19 and under	23.8%	22.8%	20.1%	21.4%
20 to 44	36.7%	32.8%	33.7%	34.6%
45 to 64	23.3%	28.1%	27.9%	25.3%
65 and older	16.2%	16.3%	18.4%	18.7%

Source: American Community Survey, US Census, SEMCOG

Table 39. Median Age

Year	Oakland Township	Oakland County	State of Michigan
2010	40.4	36.5	38.1
2011	40.4	36.9	38.5
2012	42.5	37.2	38.8
2013	41.9	37.6	39.1
2014	42.7	37.7	39.3
2015	43.2	37.8	39.5
2016	43.5	37.8	39.6
2017	44.2	37.9	39.6
2018	44	37.9	39.7
2019	43.6	37.6	39.7
2020	42.2	37.9	39.8
2021	42.1	37.9	40.2
2022	40.3	38	40.3

Source: American Community Survey

Household Characteristics

Oakland Township's average household size is significantly greater than the remainder of Oakland County and Southeast Michigan, and is expected to increase. As indicated in Table 40 and Table 42, average household size had been steadily increasing from 2012 through 2020. Household size is typically a good indicator of an increase in families with children. The Township historically has had a higher than average household size than the state and county (see Figure 21 below). Since 2020, however, all three population sets have experienced downticks in household size, suggesting an aging populace with a higher percentage of empty nesters. Table 42 confirms this trend. While the decrease in the number of households with children is not dramatic (a drop from 41% in 2010 to 40% in 2022), the percentage of households with seniors age 65+ increased by 5 percent (from 23% to 28%).

The increases in population and households will translate to additional demands from current and new residents for parks and recreation facilities and programs. Oakland Township Parks & Recreation has traditionally focused on land preservation. As new subdivisions continue to be developed, however, there may be a need for more programming variety. Future parks should be dispersed throughout the community to ensure adequate recreation coverage for all residents.

The composition of households in Oakland Township is important to help plan the desired parks and recreation facilities and programs in a manner that is consistent with and proportionate to these characteristics. Future park plans should reflect the trend towards an older population while still striving to provide amenities that are attractive to younger families.

Table 40. Oakland Township Household Data, 2000 - 2045

	2000 Census	2010 Census	ACS 2022 Estimate
Population	13,071	16,779	20,019
Households	4,341	5,777	6,895
Household Size	2.79	2.9	2.9

Source: US Census, American Community Survey, SEMCOG

Table 41. Oakland Township Household Characteristics

	2010 Census	ACS 2022
Households with children	2,371 (41%)	2,657 (40%)
Households with adults age 65 years and older	1,307 (23%)	1,879 (28%)
Median age	42.3	43.1

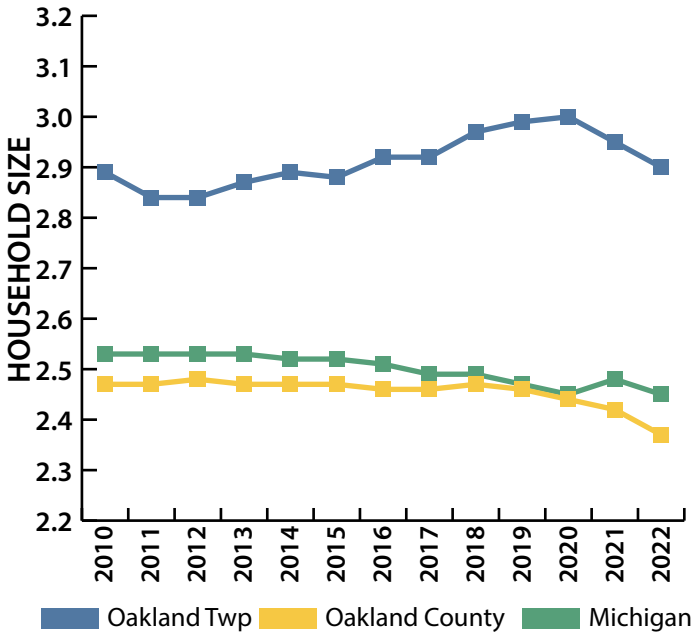
Source: US Census, American Community Survey, SEMCOG

Table 42. Oakland Township Household Characteristics

			Percentage of households with	
Year	# of HH	HH Size	Children under 18	Adults age 60 or over
2010	5,550	2.89	42.6%	30.3%
2011	5,757	2.84	40.3%	32.6%
2012	5,884	2.84	3.9%	36.3%
2013	5,919	2.87	40.0%	37.9%
2014	6,115	2.89	39.2%	38.4%
2015	6,298	2.88	38.1%	40.9%
2016	6,180	2.92	40.2%	39.1%
2017	6,326	2.92	41.9%	38.9%
2018	6,345	2.97	41.7%	37.0%
2019	6,387	2.99	41.5%	38.0%
2020	6,428	3.00	41.2%	39.1%
2021	6,712	2.95	39.6%	39.5%
2022	6,895	2.90	38.3%	39.2%

Source: US Census, American Community Survey

Figure 21. Household Size Comparison



Source: US Census, American Community Survey

Age Distribution

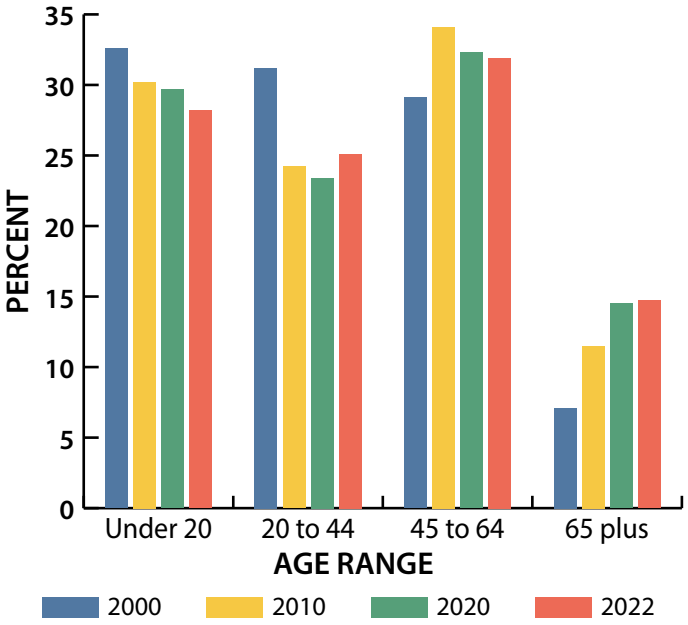
An understanding of the age distribution in the Township is an essential component in planning for future parks and recreation. As residents pass through the various stages of life, their activity requirements change resulting in the need for different facilities and programs.

At 42.6 years old, Oakland Township's median age is higher than Oakland County (41), Southeast Michigan (40.6), and the nation as a whole (38.9) (see Figure 23 below). US Census and American Community Survey (ACS) data show decreases in children under 20 (from 32.7% in 2000 to 28.2% in 2022), while the senior population 65 and older has more than doubled (from 7.1% to 14.7%).

SEMCOG's Regional Forecast predicts a continuation of this aging trend through 2050. As shown in Table 43, an overall population increase is predicted across all age ranges, with a 214% increase in seniors 85 and over between 2020 and 2050. Examined as a percentage of the total population, however, suggests a relatively stable distribution from year to year. Children under 20 are projected to see a modest decrease from 2020 to 2050 (25.8% in 2020 to 25.3%), while young adults age 20 to 44 increase from 8.6% to 9.3%, and middle age adults age 45 to 64 decrease from 50% to 47.8%. Seniors over 65 increase 15.6% to 17.5%.

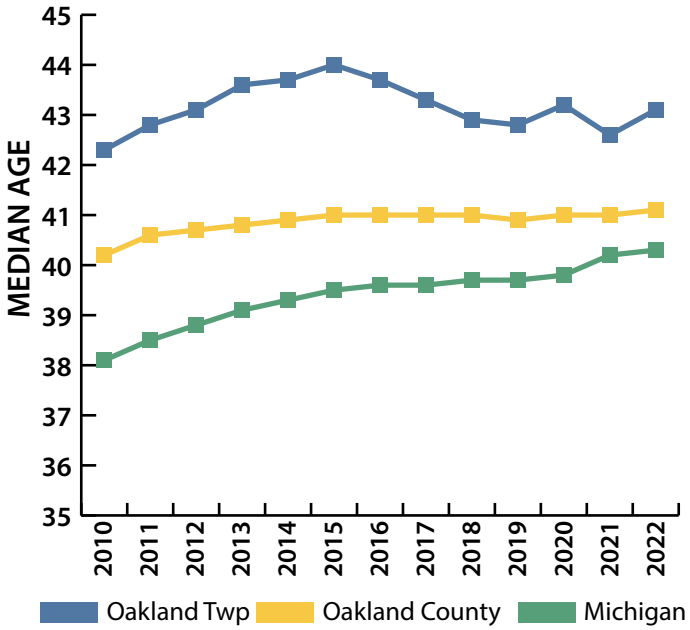
Oakland Township's increase in seniors closely mirrors the trends seen on a regional and national level, with the exception of the increase of those under age 5. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, birth rates have gradually declined over the past two decades. The projected increase of small children in the Township suggests that more Millennials and Gen Z'ers will stay in or relocate to community. It will be important for the Township to simultaneously plan for programs and services which meet the needs of both young families and senior citizens.

Figure 22. Oakland Township Age Group Percentages



Source: American Community Survey

Figure 23. Median Age Comparisons



Source: American Community Survey

Table 43. SEMCOG Regional Forecast

Age Group	2020		2030		2040		2050		Change from 2020 to 2050	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Under 5	929	4.6%	1,136	5.2%	1,357	5.6%	1,410	5.6%	481	51.80%
5 - 20	4,263	21.2%	4,327	19.7%	4,689	19.5%	4,944	19.7%	681	16%
20 - 44	1,722	8.6%	2,087	9.5%	2,208	9.2%	2,337	9.3%	615	35.70%
45 - 64	10,027	50.0%	10,658	48.5%	11,590	48.2%	12,006	47.8%	1,979	19.70%
65 - 84	2,820	14.1%	3,324	15.1%	3,476	14.5%	3,452	13.7%	632	22.40%
85+	306	1.5%	442	2.0%	733	3.0%	962	3.8%	656	214.40%

Source: SEMCOG Regional Forecast

Gender & Ethnicity

The male/female population within the Township is relatively balanced, with 10,416 males and 9,603 females. The most profound gender split exists within the 5 to 19 age group, where males outnumber females by 659. However, female populations outnumber males for individuals under 5 years old, adults between 24 and 44, and adults 65 years and older.

While there have been increases in minority populations over the past decade, Oakland Township remains largely homogeneous. The non-Hispanic white population decreased from 88.6% to 81.7% from 2010 and 2020. The Township's Asian population has steadily increased in recent years, with a 2.7% increase between 2000 to 2010, and another 2.4% increase between 2010 and 2020. The Multi-Racial population increased 2.8% between 2010 and 2020, accounting for the greatest increase of any racial group.

Persons with Disabilities

Understanding the status of persons with disabilities will assist in planning future programs and appropriate locations for facilities and activities. The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) requires that all public services, including parks, recreation, and cultural facilities, be subject to barrier-free requirements. Public providers must eliminate any eligibility requirements for participation in programs, activities, and services. As the population ages, the proportion with one or more disabilities steadily increases. This trend is consistent with the figures for Oakland Township. Approximately 6.3% of the Township's population has one or more disability; of those individuals, 47.5% are over the age of 65, 40.3% are between 18 and 64, and 12.1% are under the age of 18. The Parks and Recreation Department must account for the needs of these residents and continually examine the existing inventory for compliance.

Table 44. Ethnicity Comparison, 2010 - 2020

Race and Hispanic Origin	Census 2010	% of Population (2010)	Census 2020	% of Population (2020)	% Change 2010-2020
Non-Hispanic	16,435	97.9%	19,229	95.8%	-2.1%
White	14,872	88.6%	16,392	81.7%	-6.9%
Black	392	2.3%	386	1.9%	-0.4%
Asian	897	5.3%	1550	7.7%	2.4%
Multi-Racial	205	1.2%	805	4.0%	2.8%
Other	69	0.4%	96	0.5%	0.1%
Hispanic	344	2.1%	838	4.2%	2.1%
Total	16,779	100%	20,067	100%	-

Source: SEMCOG

Table 45. Persons with Disabilities, 2022

	Total Population		Under 18 years		18 to 64		65 and over	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total Population	20,019	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
With Disability	1,264	6.3%	153	12.1%	510	40.3%	601	47.5%
Hearing Difficulty	462	2.3%	36	0.2%	120	0.6%	306	1.5%
Vision Difficulty	140	0.7%	0	0.0%	100	0.5%	40	0.2%
Cognitive Difficulty	412	2.1%	107	0.5%	159	0.8%	146	0.7%
Ambulatory Difficulty	486	2.4%	10	0.0%	199	1.0%	277	1.4%
Self-Care Difficulty	250	1.2%	33	0.2%	108	0.5%	109	0.5%
Independent Living Difficulty	337	1.7%	0	0.0%	166	0.8%	171	0.9%

Note: Because an individual may have more than one form of disability, the total "With Disability" amount will differ from the total of the individual disability types.

Source: American Community Survey

Educational Attainment

Oakland Township residents tend to be highly educated, particularly in comparison to Oakland County and Southeast Michigan. 73.5% of the Township's residents have obtained at least an Associate's Degree; just over a third (35.7%) have obtained a Bachelor's Degree, while another 31% have obtained a Graduate/ Professional Degree. The amount of Oakland Township residents with college degrees has steadily increased, with attainment of Bachelor's and Graduate Degrees each rising 6.4% since 2010. The Township's level of educational attainment typically indicates a community of professionals with higher income levels.

School Districts

Oakland Township is served by three school districts: Lake Orion Community Schools, Rochester Community Schools, and Romeo Community Schools. The majority of the Township's student population is located in the southern two thirds of the Township and attends Rochester Community Schools.

The Rochester Community School District operates four elementary schools within Oakland Township's boundaries. Lake Orion maintains Oakview Middle School within Township boundaries and the Romeo Community School District does not have any properties within Township boundaries.

The data shows a decrease in school age children in all three districts, with Lake Orion showing the most marked drop (1,096 students or 16%). These statistics are in line with the population analysis shown on page 120.

The school grounds provide limited recreation opportunities for residents. A further discussion of the school properties and their offerings is provided in Chapter 4.

Table 46. Highest Educational Attainment

School Year	Lake Orion	Rochester	Romeo
2022-2023	6,858	15,042	5,185
2021-2022	6,850	15,076	5,074
2020-2021	6,827	15,114	4,941
2019-2020	7,265	15,477	5,043
2018-2019	7,357	15,451	5,042
2017-2018	7,466	15,361	5,140
2016-2017	7,607	15,187	5,203
2015-2016	7,631	15,084	5,203
2014-2015	7,667	14,967	5,241
2013-2014	7,606	15,140	5,312
2012-2013	7,688	15,112	5,318
2011-2012	7,803	15,104	5,462
2010-2011	7,954	15,039	5,592

Source: MiSchoolData.org

Table 47. School Enrollment Figures

General Land Use Category	Oakland Township		Oakland County		Southeast Michigan	
	5-Yr ACS 2021	% Change 2010-2021	5-Yr ACS 2021	% Change 2010-2021	5-Yr ACS 2021	% Change 2010-2021
Did Not Graduate High School	2.9%	-1.5%	5.4%	-2.4%	8.8%	-3.4%
High School Graduate	10.3%	-6.8%	18.2%	-3.2%	25.5%	-3%
Some College, No Degree	13.3%	-4.8%	19.2%	-2%	22.1%	-1.1%
Associate Degree	6.8%	0.4%	8.3%	1%	9.1%	1.5%
Bachelor's Degree	35.7%	6.4%	27.7%	3.1%	20.1%	3.2%
Graduate / Professional Degree	31%	6.4%	21.3%	3.6%	14.4%	2.9%
TOTAL	3,404.74	100.0%	4,404.33	100.0%	4,393.50	100.0%

Source: MiSchoolData.org

Economic Characteristics

A variety of indicators suggest that Oakland Township enjoys strong economic health and that residents will continue to demand high-quality services and facilities from the Parks and Recreation Department. Residents have supported funding in the form of millages since 2001 (see Appendix E on page 328), and a continued high quality park system will encourage residents to extend their support as the millages come up for renewal.

Construction Activity

Following the 2008 Recession, Oakland Township experienced an influx of building permits- equating to roughly 153 new permits per year between 2012 and 2015. Beginning in 2016, however, the Township's annual number of building permits began to decline. Between 2016 and 2023, the Township averaged just 83.8 building permits per year.

When compared to neighboring communities, Oakland Township generally experiences lower levels of new housing development. Between 2016 and 2023, Oakland Township pulled a net total of 670 building permits. This total was greater than both Rochester and Addison Township, but less than other nearby communities. Shelby Township, Rochester Hills, and Auburn Hills pulled the most permits, with each respective community exceeding Oakland Township's total by over 100%. Shelby Township was at the forefront with a total of 2,708 building permits between 2016 and 2023.

As new developments are built across the community, parks and recreation facilities should be located appropriately to serve current Township residents, and areas of existing residential concentration are ideal locations for new facilities. Private subdivision parks and preserved open space can help to supplement the Parks & Recreation offerings, serving the role of close-to-home parks and helping to preserve sensitive habitats.

Income

In 2021, Oakland Township's per capita income was $68,725. In comparison, Southeast Michigan's per capita income was $37,879 and Oakland County's per capita income was $49,012. Oakland County has continued to have a higher per capita income than the State and has increased that gap in recent years.

The Township's median household income of $161,429 exceeded that of neighboring communities and Southeast Michigan as a whole. During this time, 82% of Township households earned more than $75,000 per year and 73% earned more than $100,000 per year. Over 38% of Township households earned more than $200,000 annually. This is compared to Southeast Michigan's median household income of $68,086 and Oakland County's median household income of $86,275. See Table 49 and Table 50 on page 124 for more information.

Employment

Approximately 8,405 Oakland Township residents were in the labor force as of 2016, with 8,018 (95.4%) actively employed. Only 11.7% of Oakland Township residents work within the Township borders. Residents commute to Auburn Hills (14.3%), Troy (10.2%), and Rochester Hills (8.8%) and other nearby cities for their jobs. In 2022, 20.1% of the labor force worked from home and 79.4% drove or carpooled to work from the Township.

In 2022, over 60% of residents were in management, business, science, and arts related occupations, and another 20.3% were in sales. Almost half of the population worked either in manufacturing related industries (26.3%) or in education (20.2%).

Table 48. Net Total Building Permits Pulled, 2016-2023

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Oakland Twp	71	73	178	122	59	85	45	37
Addison Twp	19	11	20	10	10	16	9	10
Orion Twp	178	218	192	126	121	145	116	26
Oxford Twp	223	102	86	49	26	64	69	69
Shelby Twp	286	434	451	639	242	300	244	112
Washington Twp	208	191	189	185	139	147	158	73
Auburn Hills	169	297	79	220	194	172	198	168
Rochester	15	85	1	3	7	5	-3	4
Rochester Hills	350	280	99	71	134	630	199	22

Source: SEMCOG

Table 49. Median Household and Per Capita Incomes, 2021

	Median Household Income			Per Capita Income		
	5-Yr ACS 2021	Change 2010-2021	% Change 2010-2021	5-Yr ACS 2021	Change 2010-2021	% Change 2010-2021
Oakland Twp	$161,429	$23,237	16.8%	$68,725	$8,405	13.9%
Addison Twp	$95,650	($14,308)	-13%	$41,000	($5,817)	-12.4%
Bruce Twp	$110,487	$20,510	22.8%	$50,190	$13,254	35.9%
Independence Twp	$97,154	$8,688	9.8%	$46,747	$3,811	8.9%
Orion Twp	$104,676	$7,702	7.9%	$48,951	$7,334	17.6%
Shelby Twp	$82,578	$2,030	2.5%	$42,666	$3,571	9.1%
Washington Twp	$94,588	($673)	-0.7%	$46,237	$4,103	9.7%
Waterford Twp	$67,064	($1,994)	-2.9%	$38,471	$2,393	6.6%
Auburn Hills	$73,641	$12,057	19.6%	$41,116	$9,070	28.3%
Rochester	$100,021	$4,829	5.1%	$59,380	$619	1.1%
Rochester Hills	$106,398	$9,363	9.6%	$51,438	$3,778	7.9%
Macomb County	$67,828	$729	1.1%	$34,880	$1,920	5.8%
Oakland County	$86,275	$3,775	4.6%	$49,012	$4,105	9.1%
Southeast Michigan	$68,086	$2,096	3.2%	$37,879	$3,536	10.3%

Source: US Census Bureau

In 2017, Oakland Township had an unemployment rate of 2.8%, far below that of Oakland County (4.1%), the state of Michigan (5.9%), and the nation as a whole (5.3%). The Township maintained a lower unemployment rate than the county, state, and nation in 2018; however, Oakland Township was the only one of the four groups to see an increase of unemployment between 2017 and 2018 (+0.5%). By 2019, the Township's unemployment rate of 4.7% had risen above that of Oakland County (4.1%) and the nation overall (4.5%).

In the year to follow, Oakland Township residents, along with the rest of the United States, experienced an economic crisis due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Although specific unemployment rates for 2020 are not available at this time, the U.S. Census reported that unemployment in 2020 peaked at a level greater than any recorded in history. In 2021, Oakland Township saw a decrease in unemployment (-0.2%) while it continued to increase at the county and state levels. Finally, in 2022, Oakland Township's unemployment rate of 4.9% had risen above Oakland County's (3.6%), but closely resembled that of the state of Michigan (4.6%) and the United States (4.3%).

Table 50. Annual Household Income, 2022

Annual Household Income	5 Year ACS 2022		
	Oakland Twp	Oakland Cty.	SE Michigan
$200,000 or more	2,612	86,394	200,537
$150 to $199,999	1,258	58,814	171,155
$125 to $149,999	676	43,729	136,390
$100 to $124,999	606	55,333	187,148
$75,000 to $99,999	658	66,840	245,415
$60,000 to $74,999	243	42,431	173,038
$50,000 to $59,999	108	31,040	130,398
$45,000 to $49,999	96	15,970	70,800
$40,000 to $44,999	123	15,575	70,546
$35,000 to $39,999	112	16,351	74,051
$30,000 to $34,999	77	15,974	72,742
$25,000 to $29,999	39	16,462	71,148
$20,000 to $24,999	89	14,702	70,643
$15,000 to $19,999	51	11,884	63,696
$10,000 to $14,999	27	14,230	78,053
Less than $10,000	120	19,033	103,488
Median Household Income	$167,975	$92,620	$73,354
Median Per Capita Income	$72,483	$53,157	$41,197

Source: US Census Bureau

Physical Characteristics

The following describes the physical characteristics of Oakland Township, including land use and natural features to help us understand the potential for existing and future parks and recreation improvements.

Land Cover

While the terms "land cover" and "land use" sound similar, the two terms actually describe two different physical characteristics. "Land cover" describes the vegetation (natural or planted) or man-made constructions (buildings) which occur on the surface of the earth. "Land use" describes how people utilize the land and the types of activity that take place on the land.

SEMCOG's 2020 land cover analysis describes the Township's natural features versus man-made constructions. As shown in Table 51, over half (52%) of the area's land cover is dominated by woody vegetation and trees, while 35% is predominately open space including agricultural fields, grasslands, and turf grass.

Table 51. SEMCOG 2020 Land Cover Analysis

Type	Description	Acres	Percent
Impervious	Buildings, roads, driveways, parking lots	2,025	8.6%
Trees	Woody vegetation, trees	12,272.6	52.3%
Open Space	Agricultural fields, grasslands, turf grass	8,354.2	35.6%
Bare	Soil, aggregate piles, unplanted fields	70.3	0.3%
Water	Rivers, lakes, drains, ponds	745.7	3.2%

Source: SEMCOG

Land Use

While Oakland Township has seen significant development in recent years, large portions of the community remain as open space thanks in part to state, county, MetroPark, and Township recreation holdings. Land use data provided by Oakland County (see confirms single-family residential as the predominant land use, with the Township experiencing 1.3% growth between 2010 and 2015, and an additional 1.4% growth between 2015 and 2023.

The second most prominent land use in the Township is recreation/conservation space, which increased 2.5% between 2015 and 2023. This increase in recreation/ conservation space is attributed to the acquisition of Fox Nature Preserve (235 acres) and Stony Creek Nature Park (208 acres). While the Township's land recreation land holdings are significant, the largest recreation properties remain the state's Bald Mountain Recreation Area to the northwest, and the HCMA Stony Creek Metropark in the southeast.

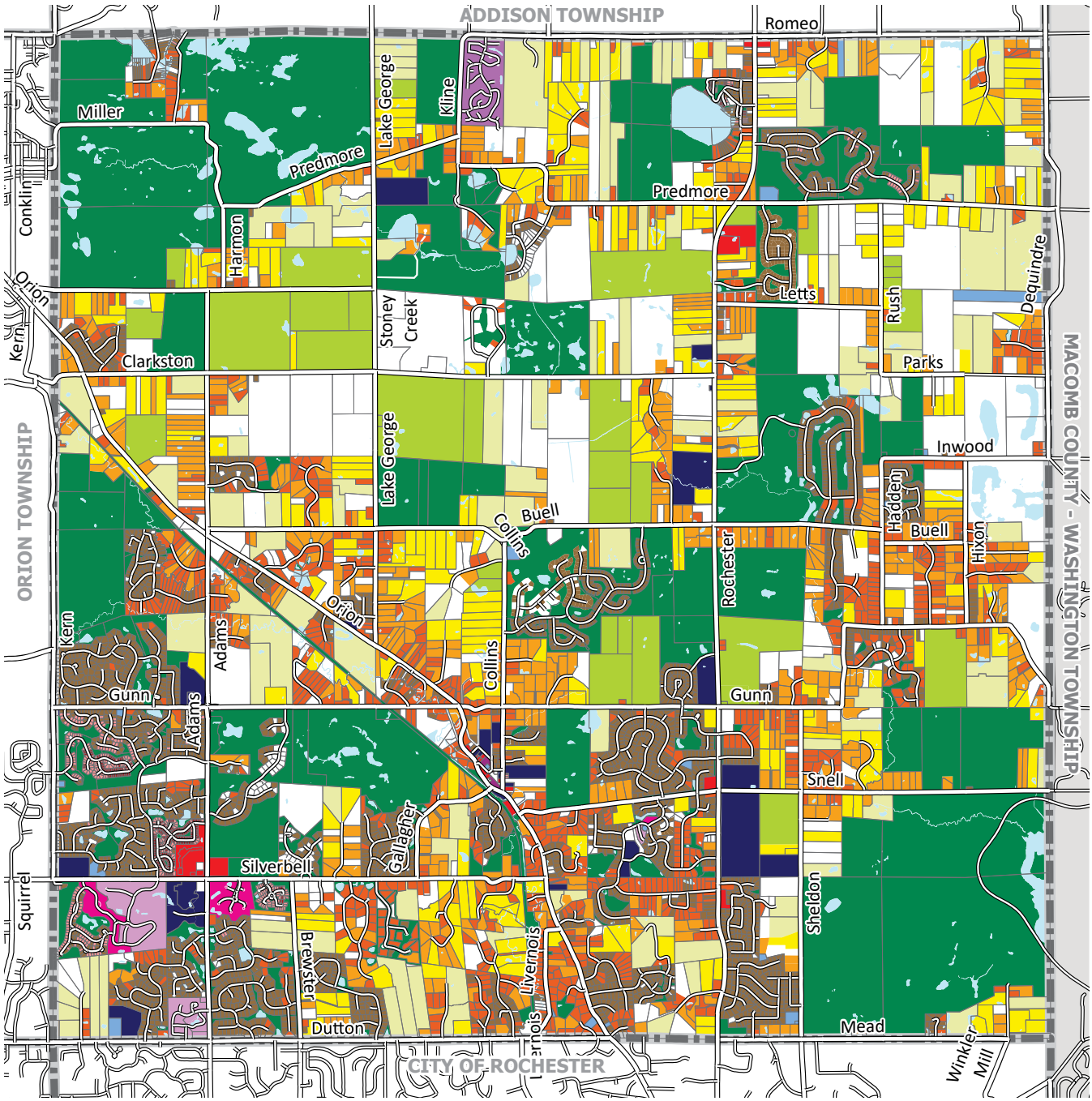
As a "bedroom community", Oakland Township residents rely on neighboring communities for goods, services, and employment needs with the exception of small pockets of commercial, industrial, and office uses. Even with this high level of development, the total amount of impervious land area (buildings, roads, driveways, or parking lots) remains relatively low. Through the efforts of the Parks and Recreation Commission and support from the community, the Township has maintained its rural character and significant acres of the land have been preserved.

Table 52. Oakland Township Land Use Comparison, 2015 - 2023

General Land Use Category	Area (in acres)			Area (percent)		
	2015	2023	Change	2015	2023	Change
Agricultural	2,016.1	1,471.9	-544.2	8.6%	6.3%	-2.3%
Single Family Residential	9,442.5	9,758	315.5	40.2%	41.6%	1.4%
Multiple Family	83.2	122	38.8	0.4%	0.5%	0.1%
Mobile Home Park	85.8	74.1	-11.7	0.4%	0.3%	-0.1%
Commercial/ Office	81.3	78.5	-2.8	0.3%	0.3%	0%
Industrial	3.7	3.7	0	0.0%	0%	0%
Public/ Institutional	296	366.9	70.9	1.3%	1.6%	0.3%
Recreation/ Conservation	5,760.5	6,332.5	572	24.5%	27%	2.5%
TCU*	67.1	67	-0.1	0.3%	0.3%	0%
Vacant	3,565.8	3,054.5	-511.3	15.2%	13%	-2.2%
Water	702.1	702.1	0	3.0%	3%	0%
Road Right of Way	1,368.9	1,441.6	72.7	5.8%	6.1%	0.3%

Source: Oakland County Community Development *TCU = Transportation, Communication, and Utilities*

Map 4. Existing Land Use



Land Use Categories

- Agricultural
- Single Family, Greater than 10 acres
- Single Family, 5 to 10 acres
- Single Family, 2.5 to 5 acres
- Single Family, 1 to 2.5 Acres
- Single Family, 14,000 to 43,559 sq. ft.
- Single Family, 8,000 to 13,999 sq. ft.
- Single Family, Less than 8,000 sq. ft.
- S.F. More than one unit per parcel
- Multiple Family
- Mobile Home Park
- Commercial/Office
- Industrial
- Public/Institutional
- Recreation/Conservation
- Transportation/Utility/ Communication
- Vacant
- Extractive
- Water
- Road Right-of-Way

Existing Land Use

Oakland Township, Oakland County

N

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

0 1,500 3,000 6,000 Feet

Source: Oakland County GIS
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
August 2024

Transportation and Access

The current transportation system in and around Oakland Township is predominately oriented toward the automobile. This can limit access to recreation facilities for certain segments of the population, namely children, young adults, and seniors who may not have access to transportation. However, Oakland Township residents pay for the OPC Social & Activity Center to provide transportation for senior citizens residing in Oakland Township and the Township is adding local safety paths and trails using the Township Trails Improvement millage funds.

Road System

Both I-75 and M-24 are located nearby and allow quick access to other locations in the Detroit Metro area. Within Oakland Township, Rochester and Adams Roads serve the main north/south corridors, and Stony Creek, Romeo (32 Mile Road), and Silverbell Roads are the major east/west connections. Orion Road cuts across the southwest portion of the Township.

Mass Transit

The Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART) provides the majority of the mass transit services for the suburban Detroit Metro area in Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, and Wayne Counties. The routes are generally located along major roadways connecting the suburban areas to one another and to downtown Detroit. SMART services do not currently extend into Oakland Township, but it can be accessed in neighboring Auburn Hills, Rochester Hills, and Shelby Township.

Oakland Township senior citizens are eligible to use transportation provided by the OPC Social & Activity Center. This transportation alternative is partially funded by an OPC transportation millage that was approved in Oakland Township in 2015 at .09 mills. For seniors who may no longer want or be able to provide their own transportation, it offers a safe, economical transportation alternative which allows them to perform necessary activities such as grocery shopping and medical visits.

Non-Motorized Pathways

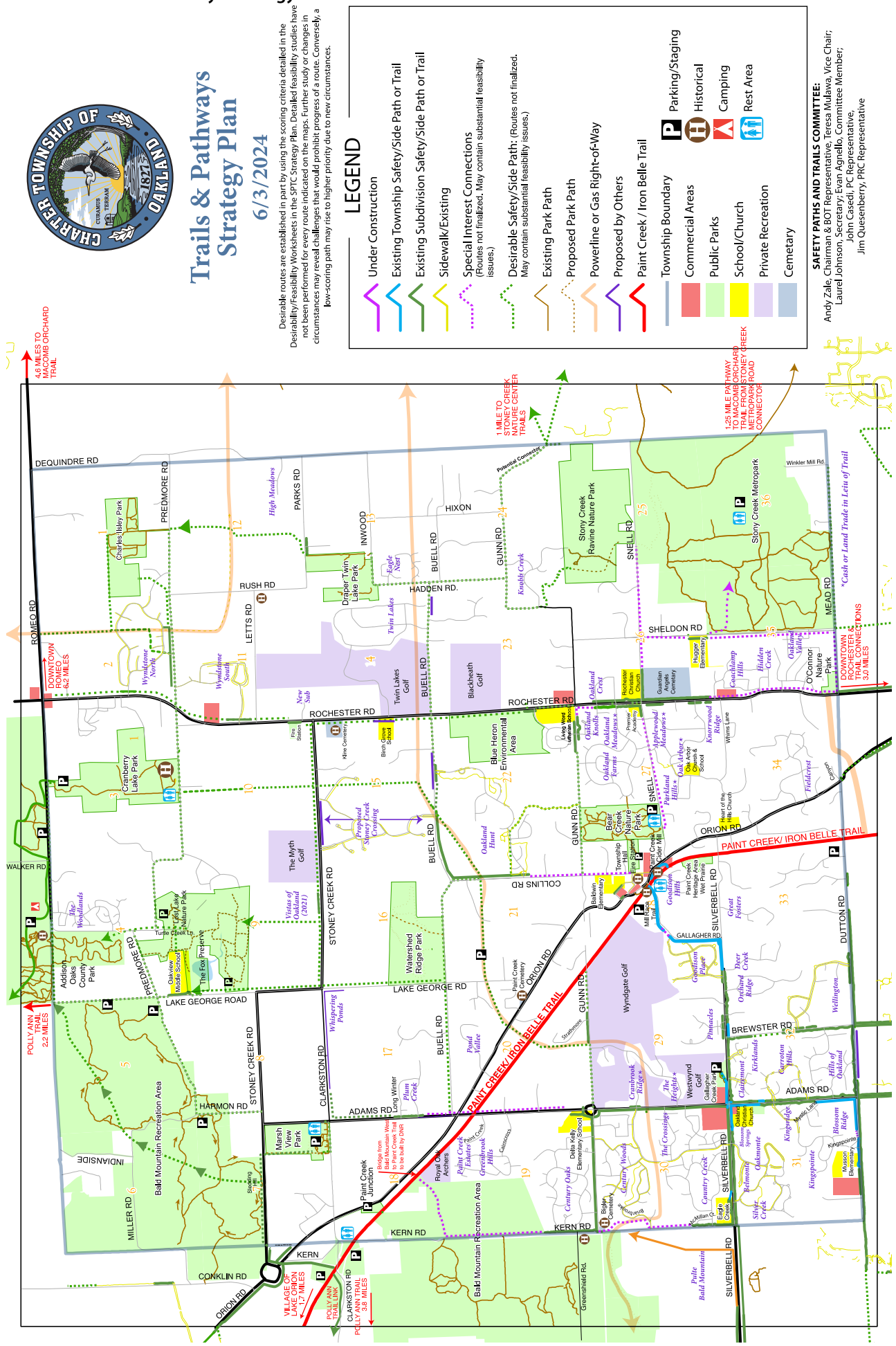
Non-motorized pathways provide physical fitness, recreation, and transportation opportunities for pedestrians, runners, bikers, and other similar users. The pathways in the Township include trails within Township parks, the Mill Race Trail, the regional Paint Creek Trail, and a continually developing pathway and trail system throughout the Township to link all areas of the community with non-motorized travel. Map 5 on the next page provides current and planned non-motorized facilities in Oakland Township, and the full Trails and Pathways Master Plan map is included in Appendix A on page 142.

Oakland Township's safety path and trail system provides opportunities for physical activities such as walking, running and cycling, safe route alternatives to motorized transportation, and greater access to nearby destinations including parks, schools, shopping areas, and community facilities.

Safety paths are intended for recreation/transportation use by walkers, bicyclists, and runners. Trails are primarily intended for recreation/transportation walkers and bicyclists, as well as nature observation, mountain bicycling, and horseback riding (separate trail). The Master Plan map illustrates 32.6 miles of proposed pathways and 16.7 miles of proposed trails.

It is important to note that Oakland Township's safety path and trail system is operated and maintained by the Oakland Township Safety Paths and Trails Advisory Committee and not by the Parks and Recreation Department. Any trails located within the boundary of a park, however, fall under the jurisdiction of the Parks Department. The Parks Department is additionally responsible for maintenance and operation of the 5.3-mile segment of the Paint Creek Trail that runs through Oakland Township. Interconnectivity between the internal trail systems and the safety path and trail system is critical to the overall success of the parks and that relationship is a frequent topic of discussion between the two departments. For the purposes of this Master Plan, however, unless otherwise noted, any description of "trails" should be construed as a description of an internal park trail or of the Paint Creek Trail.

Map 5. 2023 Trails & Pathways Strategy Plan



Environmental and Natural Features

Environmental features, such as climate, topography, hydrology, soils, vegetation, and wildlife are important to planning for the Parks and Recreation Department. Natural features are not easily restored after they are impaired. These natural features provide numerous recreation and cultural opportunities for the Parks system.

The Township and the Parks and Recreation Commission have been attentive to the environmental and natural features in the community and has made it a priority to preserve important parcels of land. They have accomplished this through a series of initiatives including development of environmental regulations, open space requirements, conservation easements, and via land acquisition. A number of documents have been completed over the years to not only better understand the natural features in the Township but to guide acquisition, management, and use of properties. The full list of these documents is included in Appendix F on page 332.

Climate

Historically, there are no unusual climatic conditions which severely impede outdoor recreational activities in the Township. The climate is humid continental modified by the Great Lakes. Oakland Township has a mean annual temperature of 49 degrees with highs of 83 in July and lows of 17 in January. The average annual precipitation is 33 inches with an annual snowfall of 37 inches per year. Due to the variations in the weather patterns in Southeast Michigan, local residents have the opportunity to enjoy many seasonal recreational activities.

Changes in weather patterns over the past few decades have to become more pronounced, however, and activities Michiganders once took for granted are becoming less certain. Extreme weather events are becoming more commonplace; sudden warm weather storms can inundate fields and cause flash floods, heat waves and droughts stress and sometimes outright kill our lawns and vegetation, and warmer than normal winter months eliminate the possibility of skating, skiing, and other typical outdoor activities. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the average global temperature in 2023 was 2.12 degrees F (1.18 degrees C) warmer than the 20th-century average, and was the hottest on record since 1850. The top ten warmest years in recorded human history have all occurred in the past decade.

Changes in weather patterns will have a profound and continued impact on recreation planning in the coming decades. According to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MIDHHS) and the US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA), Michigan will experience more frequent and more severe extreme weather events and temperature swings.

While it is beyond the scope of this document to provide an in-depth analysis of climate impact, recreation professionals should anticipate the following:

- Extreme heat and cold: Some communities use their recreation facilities as warming shelters in winter and cooling shelters in the summer. Shade structures in public gathering spaces, either in the form of artificial sun screens or by canopy trees, can make a tremendous difference in the usability of a park during the warmest days. Trees provide additional cooling capacity through evapotranspiration, and have the added benefit of helping to slow stormwater and capture carbon dioxide.
- Heavy rainstorms: The average annual precipitation in most of the Midwest has increased by 5 to 10 percent overall. The majority of the rainfall occurs during the four wettest days of the year, however, increasing about 35 percent, leading to flash flooding in low lying areas. Preservation of wetlands and open space can have a major effect on mitigating stormwater runoff, providing an area to intercept and infiltrate excess rain before it impacts residential areas.
- Extended drought: As mentioned in the previous point, rainfall is likely to be flashy, with most precipitation concentrated into early spring storms. Ironically, despite the increase in precipitation, summer months will be more likely to experience drought, meaning turf playing fields will likely require supplemental irrigation for at least part of the year. Using native plants that can handle inundation during storm events while tolerating droughts will be critical.
- Warmer winters: Recreational activities like ice fishing, skating, and skiing will likely be limited if not outright eliminated in the coming years. Outdoor skating rinks may require supplemental cooling to make them functional.

- Shifting plant and animal ranges: Historic plant and animal ranges are shifting northward in response to earlier bloom times and access to food. The USDA recently adjusted the plant hardiness zone to reflect the changes in local climate. Land preservation efforts can help to ease some of the stresses by providing wider access to food and habitat. Additionally, park planners may wish to consider incorporating species that are better adapted to slightly warmer climates conditions.
- Harmful air quality and human health: Higher temperatures increase the formation of ground-level ozone, a pollutant that causes lung and heart problems. In addition to cooling the surrounding air, trees and vegetation trap particulate matter in the air, reducing the impact of ozone.

Oakland Township's parks and natural areas cannot solve the ongoing climate crisis on their own. They can, however, help to reduce the impact of local level extreme weather events while continuing to serve as valuable recreation commodities.

Surface Water and Watershed Districts

Surface water resources are among the Township's most valuable natural resources. A significant group of naturally-formed glacial lakes occurs in the northern portion of the Township, including Cranberry, Tamarack, Green, Lost, Clam, and Twin Lakes, as well as the lakes of Bald Mountain Recreation Area. These lakes provide recreational opportunities such as boating, fishing, and swimming for area residents. Two sub-watersheds of the Clinton River occur in Oakland Township. The Paint Creek and its tributaries flow across the southwest sector of the Township, while the West Branch of Stony Creek flows through the east side of the Township and empties into Stony Creek in the southeast.

The Clinton River watershed is the primary watershed in the Township. The Clinton River flows from its headwaters, located in Springfield and Independence Townships, to Lake St. Clair in Harrison Township. Watershed districts include many smaller tributaries that feed into a larger river and are influenced by the lay of the land. The Clinton River Watershed is fed by several other sub-watersheds including Paint Creek and Stony Creek.

Wetlands

Oakland Township contains many wetlands areas scattered throughout the Township. These wetlands are transitional areas between aquatic ecosystems and the surrounding uplands. They serve to filter stormwater runoff, help control flooding and erosion, and are home to many different types of wildlife. These features are important to preserve and are valuable educational resources for residents.

Vegetation

The Township's topography, soils, and climate create conditions which support a variety of indigenous Michigan plant species. Previous studies have found well over 300 plant species, most of which are native to Michigan, within the park sites. The Oakland County Planning Division Natural Features Inventory indicates that portions of the vegetation are of area-wide and county-wide significance.

Common plant communities in the Township include:

- Emergent marsh wetlands
- Southern wet meadow
- Bog
- Southern swamp
- Southern shrub-carr wetlands
- Dry-mesic southern forest (Oak hardwood)
- Dry southern forest (Oak)
- Native prairie
- Old field
- Fen

A good representation of the native landscape of the Township is still present although the oak-hickory forests and oak barren grasslands have been fragmented by development. The presence of a number of state regulated wetlands has preserved the integrity of the scattered forested wetlands in the northern half of the Township.

Wildlife

Many types of wildlife are present throughout the Township. Known species include turkey, ermine, coyote, fox, squirrel, raccoon, whitetail deer, skunk, groundhog, beaver, and a variety of snakes, amphibians, and birds. Rare and endangered species including the Blanding's turtle, Eastern massasauga rattlesnake, Bald eagles, and other species have been seen in the Township's parks and preserves. Paint Creek is the major remaining trout stream in Metro Detroit, and it provides habitat for game and non-game birds, frogs, snakes and toads, as well as stocked trout. Gallagher Creek, a tributary of Paint Creek, is a rare and significant native brook trout stream, which is endangered by negative impacts from development pressure within its watershed. Oakland Township received several grants for protection and maintenance of the stream.

Federal and State Listed Animals, Natural Communities, and Plant Species

An important part of the environmental and natural features of Oakland Township is protecting and enhancing the existing areas which provide vital habitats for the diversity of animals, natural communities, and plant species present in the Township, some of which may be federally or state listed. A comprehensive inventory for Oakland Township is available from the Michigan Natural Features Inventory (MNFI). Table 10 contains the list of federal and state listed animals, natural communities, and plant species and their current status.

Soils

Soil features affect the cost of development and are a basis for determining the presence of a regulated wetland. The soils in Oakland Township predominately consist of Riddles-Marlette-Houghton soils which are the result of the advance and retreat of the glaciers. They are a mix of moderately drained to poorly drained loamy and mucky soils. These soils are good for recreational uses and can offer a good foundation for recreation buildings and structures such as community centers, gazebos, and pavilions.

Topography

The topography of Oakland Township is generally characterized by rolling hills and some steep slopes. Such features offer visually appealing scenery and contribute to the rural character of the community. The highest point in the Township, 1,272 feet above sea level, is located near Lake George Road at the border of Addison Township. The low point, at 772 feet, is in the far southeastern corner. The greatest concentration of slope changes and some of the steepest slopes overall are found along the Paint Creek valley in the south-central part of the Township. See Map 7 on page 134 for a representation of the Township's topography.

Beyond aesthetic value, terrain can play an important role in recreation planning, especially with active-use amenities where large, flat areas are required. Steep slopes can make compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) difficult. Marsh View Park provides an excellent example of creative land planning, providing multiple playing fields at different levels, while still maintaining ADA compliant connections between the different areas of the park.

High Quality Natural Features

Two studies are frequently cited when evaluating potential areas for preservation. The Michigan Natural Features Inventory's 2004 "Potential Conservation/ Natural Areas Report" ranked areas based on a variety of criteria including total size, size of the core area, presence or absence of a stream corridor, connectivity between habitat patches, and restorability of surrounding land. Priority conservation sites are shown throughout the community, with the highest quality (level 1) mostly clustered in the Bald Mountain State Recreation Area and Stony Creek Metropark, and additional patches in and around Cranberry Lake Park, Fox Nature Park, and Lost Lake Park.

Oakland County's 2017 High Quality Habitat analysis provided, "... a spatial representation of specific patches of natural vegetation within larger intact landscapes that have the potential to harbor high quality natural communities and/or for harboring rare plants and animals" with a goal of delineating high quality areas that demonstrated opportunity for conservation.

Map 6 on page 133 provides a graphical representation of these two reports. While the reports are necessarily high level, and may overemphasize the importance parcel size and therefore miss smaller, high quality habitats, they do provide an important resource for conservation planning, and demonstrate the value of the preserved spaces in Oakland Township.

Table 53. State and Federally Listed Plant and Animal Species

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Status	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank
Agalinis gattingeri	Gattinger's geradia	—	E	G4	S1
Alasmidonta viridis	Slippershell	—	T	G4, G5	S2, S3
Boechera missouriensis	Missouri rock-cress	—	SC	G5, T3	S2
Asio otus	Long-eared owl	—	T	G5	S1
Calephelis mutica	Swamp metalmark	—	SC	G3	S1
Carex richardsonii	Richardson's sedge	—	SC	G5	S3, S4
Castanea dentata	American chestnut	—	E	G4	S1, S2
Cirsium hillii	Hill's thistle	—	SC	G3	S3
Clemmys guttata	Spotted turtle	—	T	G5	S2
Coregonus artedi	Lake herring or Cisco	—	T	G5	S3
Cypripedium candidum	White lady slipper	—	T	G4	S2
Dry-mesic Southern Forest	Dry-mesic Southern Forest	—	—	G4	S3
Floodplain Forest	Floodplain Forest	—	—	G3	S3
Galearis spectabilis	Showy orchis	—	T	G5	S2
Gentiana puberulenta	Downy gentian	—	E	G4, G5	S1
Gentianella quinquefolia	Stiff gentian	—	T	G5	S2
Great Blue Heron Rookery	Great Blue Heron Rookery	—	—	—	—
Hieracium paniculatum	Panicled hawkweed	—	T	G5	S2
Hydrastis canadensis	Goldenseal	—	T	G3, G4	S2
Meropleon ambifusca	Newman's brocade	—	SC	G3, G4	S2, S3
Mesic Southern Forest	Rich Forest, Central Midwest Type	—	—	G2, G3	S3
Nicrophorus americanus	American burying beetle	LE	X	G2, G3	SH
Panax quinquefolius	Ginseng	—	T	G3, G4	S2, S3
Papaipema beeriana	Blazing star borer	—	SC	G2, G3	S2
Plantanthera ciliaris	Orange- or yellow-fringed orchid	—	E	G5	S1, S2
Polemonium reptans	Jacob's ladder	—	T	G5	S2
Prairie Fen	Alkaline Shrub/herb Fen, Midwest Type	—	—	G3	S3
Rich Tamarack Swamp	Forested Bog, Central Midwest Type	—	—	G4	S3
Trichophorum clintonii	Clinton's bulrush	—	SC	G4	S3
Sistrurus catenatus	Eastern massasauga	LT	SC	G3	S3
Southern Hardwood Swamp	Southern Hardwood Swamp	—	—	G3	S3
Villosa iris	Rainbow	—	SC	G5	S2
Viola pedatifida	Prairie birdfoot violet	—	T	G5	S1

S1 = Critically imperiled due to extreme rarity (5 or fewer occurrences or very few remaining individuals or acres) or because of some factor(s) making it especially vulnerable to extirpation.

S2 = Imperiled because of rarity (6 to 20 occurrences or fewer remaining individuals or acres) because of some factor(s) making it especially vulnerable to extirpation.

S3 = Rare or uncommon in state (on the order of 21 to 100 occurrences).

S4 = Apparently secure in state, with many occurrences.

SH = Of historical occurrence in state and suspected to be still extant.

SU = Possibly in peril in state, but status uncertain; need more information.

G3 = Either very rare and local throughout its range or found locally (even abundantly at some of its locations) in a restricted range or because of other factor(s) making it vulnerable to extinction throughout its range;

G4 = Apparently secure globally, though it may be quite rare in parts of its range, especially at the periphery.

G5 = Demonstrably secure globally, though it may be quite rare in parts of its range, especially at the periphery.

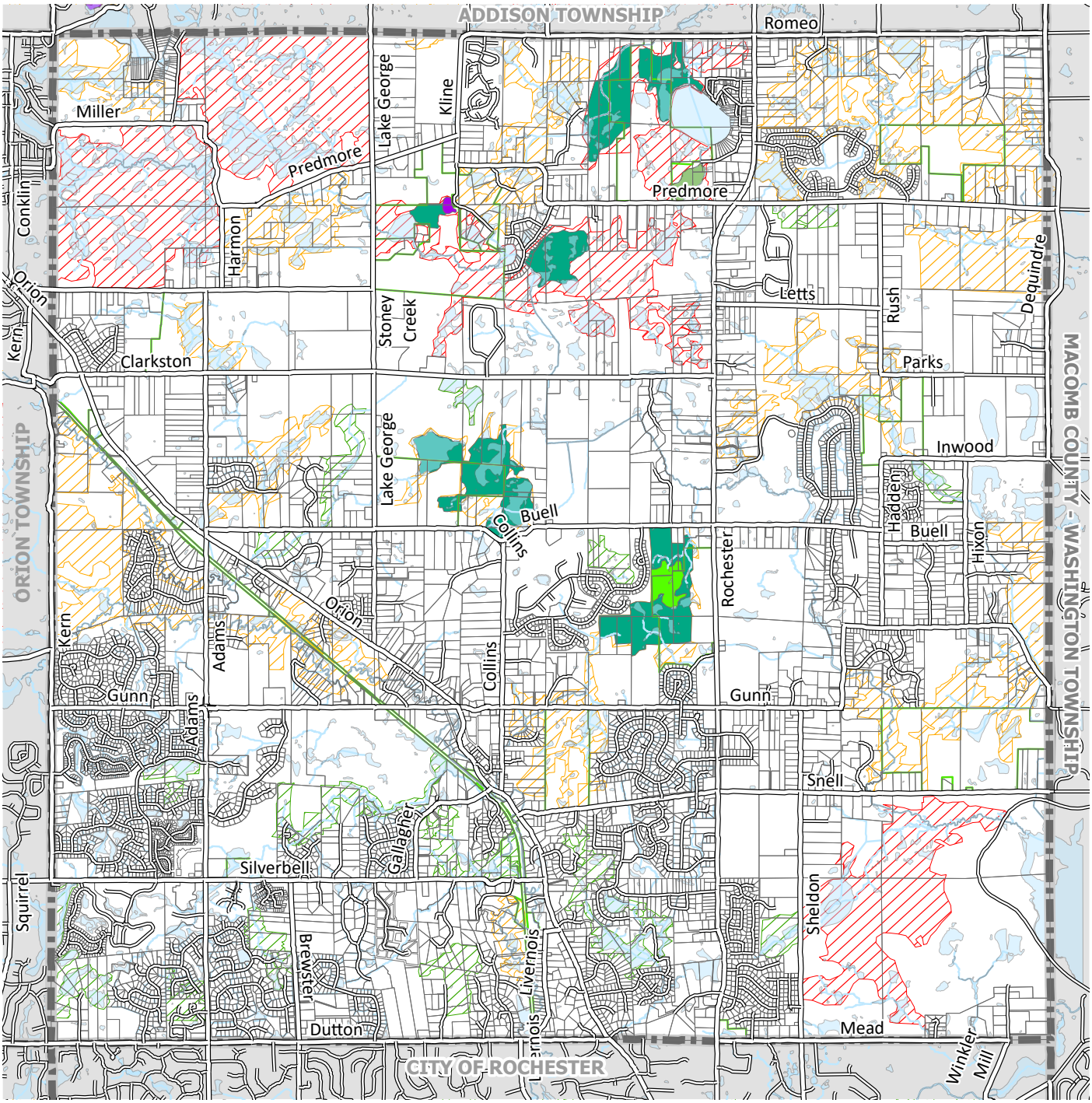
State Status Codes

E = Endangered
T = Threatened
SC = Special Concern
X = Extinct

Federal Status Codes

LE = Listed Endangered
LT = Listed Threatened

Map 6. High Quality Natural Features



2017 High Quality Habitat
- Lowland Conifer Forest
- Lowland Deciduous Forest
- Lowland Mixed Forest
- Mixed Wetland Complex
- Non-forested Wetland
- Upland Forest

2004 MNFI Potential Natural Areas
- Priority One
- Priority Two
- Priority Three

High Quality Natural Features

Oakland Township, Oakland County

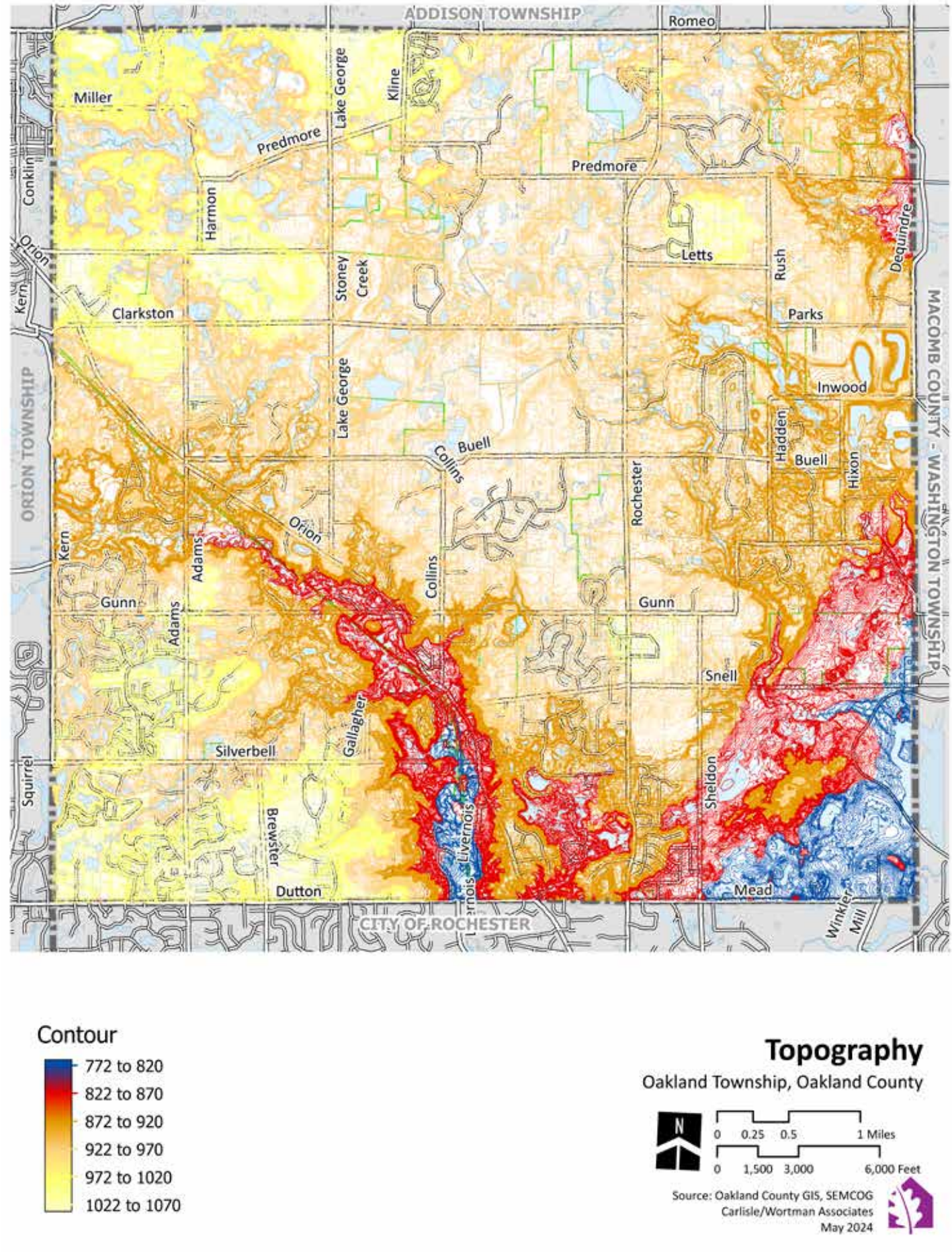
N

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

0 1,500 3,000 6,000 Feet

Source: Oakland County GIS, SEMCOG
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
May 2024

Map 7. Topography



RELATED PLANNING INITIATIVES

While change is inevitable and growth in both population and housing will occur, Oakland Township is committed to managing that growth to enhance economic benefit, recreational activities, and overall quality of life for all its residents. Maintaining the rural character of the community is considered critical by residents and Township leaders alike.

A variety of planning efforts have had important roles in helping to shape the character of Oakland Township. The Oakland County 2017 Natural Areas report, the current County green infrastructure project, and Oakland Township's current comprehensive Master Plan have all played important roles in shaping the Township's future, and each had a significant influence on this plan.

Oakland Township 2024 Comprehensive Master Plan

Oakland Township is in the process of updating its master plan concurrently with their recreation planning efforts in the summer of 2024. The update is anticipated to retain all of the goals and objectives outlined in the 2019 plan related parks, natural areas, open space, and recreation uses. The Plan's goals and policies relevant to parks and recreation include:

- Support the Parks and Recreation Commission in their efforts to plan for and expand the park and recreational facilities in the township and to preserve and steward environmental areas.
- Incorporate potential land preservation and recreational features as a priority in the site plan review process.
- Support the Historic District Commission in their efforts to inventory and plan for historic resources in the township.
- Incorporate potential features for historic preservation as a priority in the site plan review process.
- Protect natural areas through the development of Single Family - Conservation designations in new planned subdivisions.

Oakland Township 2024 Safety Paths & Trails Master Plan

Like the Comprehensive Plan, the 2017 Safety Paths & Trails Master Plan is being updated in the summer of 2024. The Oakland Township Safety Paths and Trails Committee (SPTC) was established to make recommendations to the Township Board of Trustees concerning the planning, analysis and implementation of this non-motorized system. The Committee, composed of Township officials and involved residents, holds regular monthly meetings to plan for and acquire easements or property to enable the establishment of an interconnected safety path system across the Township. The Township's safety paths and trails system fits into the larger regional and state trail planning and funding vision and forms a vital recreation and transit component for Township residents.

Oakland Township's Safety Path and Trails (SPT) Millage, established in 2006 and renewed in 2016, funds the planning, construction and maintenance of trails and paths that will provide safe, viable connections between subdivisions, parks, and other popular destinations in the Township and surrounding areas. Map 5 on page 128 is the most recent iteration of the Strategy Plan. The full Safety Path & Trails Master Plan is included as Appendix A.

Oakland County Parks and Recreation 2023 - 2027 Master Plan

The 10-member Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission (OCPRC) oversees 13 facilities totaling just over 6,700 acres. Addison Oaks, partially located in Oakland Township, provides a wide variety of recreation opportunities for area residents, including camping, boating, mountain biking, and equestrian uses.

The OCPRC adopted the Plan on January 26, 2023. Some of the recommendations for Addison Oaks include:

- Updating Adams Lake Lodge to include new restrooms and air conditioning;
- Develop a master plan to diversify recreation opportunities at the Buhl Estate;
- Add lookout docks on Buhl Lake;
- Evaluate options for winter camping; and
- Implement the Bald Mountain Connector plan with approval from the US Fish & Wildlife Service.

SEMCOG Parks and Recreation Plan for Southeast Michigan

The SEMCOG plan, adopted in 2019, was developed to highlight available recreation resources and ensure that the region's recreation system meets the needs of residents and visitors. The Plan notes that with over 2,300 parks covering 214,000 acres, over 400 miles of trails and greenways, and 450 miles of designated water trails, the region is well served by local, state, regional, and federal recreation authorities.

With almost 67,000 acres of parkland, Oakland County offers 56 acres of park per 1,000 residents. This level is higher than the region's average of 43 acres per resident. In terms of pure park availability, Oakland's acreage is almost double that of the next highest county (Washtenaw at 38,695).

The plan provides several regional policy recommendations to address recreation development. Among the recommendations, prioritization of investment in land acquisition is viewed as necessary to address gaps in access to outdoor recreation facilities. Fostering collaboration among outdoor recreation stakeholders speaks to the need for ongoing cooperation between local and regional recreation authorities. Utilization of universal design principles ensures that facilities are accessible to residents of all abilities. Supporting conservation and stewardship of natural resources recognizes the value of open space and the desire of the region's residents to have access to natural areas in reasonable proximity to their homes.

SEMCOG 2045 Regional Transportation Plan / 2020 Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan for SE Michigan

The 2045 Regional Transportation Plan provides broad transportation recommendations for projects across the seven-county region, with a budget of over $5 billion proposed for transportation infrastructure improvements. While this plan focuses on motorized infrastructure, it does provide a chance to look at upcoming projects and plan accordingly for other related infrastructure improvements.

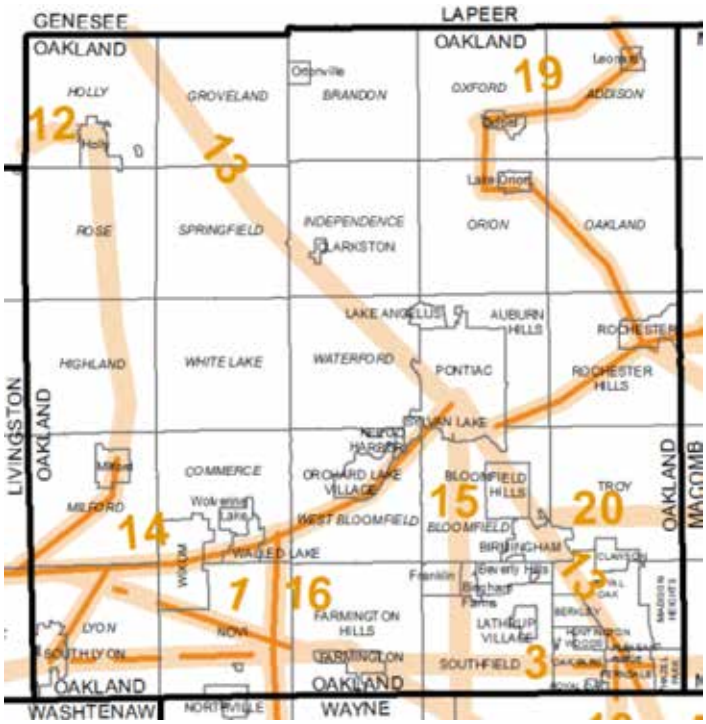
SEMCOG's 2020 "Bicycle and Pedestrian Mobility Plan for Southeast Michigan" creates a regional bicycling and walking vision for southeast Michigan, offering guidance on how to increase connectivity, use, and safety of proposed networks. The plan builds off of the 2014 Bicycle and Pedestrian Travel plan, evaluating social justice and equity issues in addition to traditional traffic and safety data included in the earlier document. The new plan shows that:

There is a growing interest in bicycle and pedestrian mobility throughout the region;

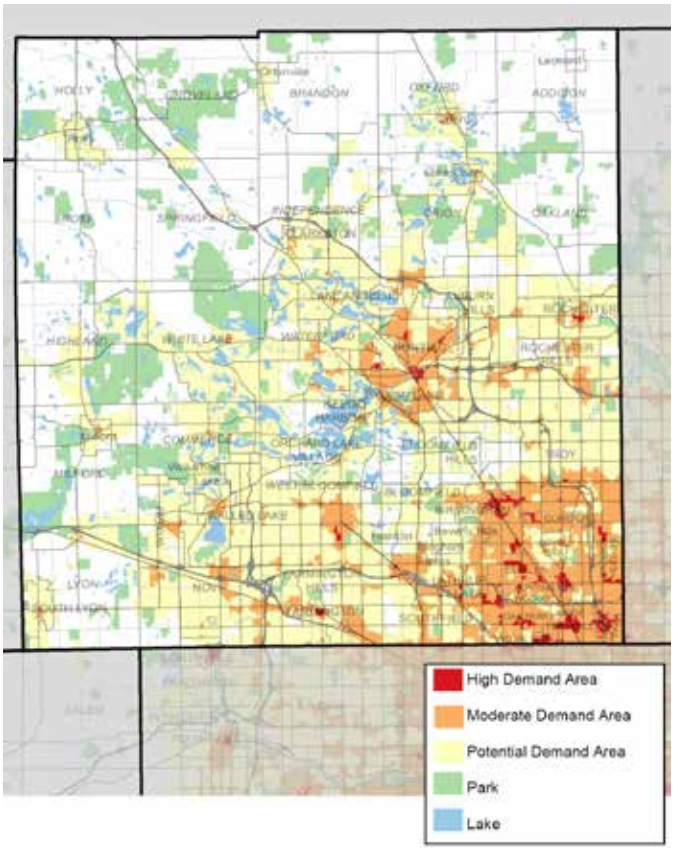
- There is desire and need to enhance safety and comfort through infrastructure improvements;
- The non-motorized network is vital for increasing access to core services and amenities;
- Gaps in the regional system present challenges for connecting existing and planned infrastructure;
- A connected system supports healthy lifestyles and provides recreation, tourism, and economic development opportunities; and
- Collaboration and coordination is required between communities is required to develop and sustain a regional system.

The new plan suggests "potential" demand for the southwestern corner of Oakland Township, with higher demand in Rochester and areas south. A map of regional bicycle and pedestrian corridors is also provided, highlighting the Paint Creek Trail corridor and connections to the south, west, and north.

Figure 24. SEMCOG Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan



Source: SEMCOG



Major Regional Trail Projects

The State of Michigan and Oakland County in particular has seen a boom in non-motorized projects in recent years. The projects are frequently interconnected, and development of one segment can have a significant impact on existing and planned developments in other communities. Oakland Township residents are fortunate to already be connected to one of the most important trails in the area. If regional planning efforts continue to progress as anticipated, the trail network available to Oakland Township residents will expand exponentially.

Opened in 1983, the ***Paint Creek Trail (PCT)*** was the first rail-trail developed in the state. The Paint Creek Trailways Commission was formed under the Urban Cooperation Act of 1967. The Commission is formed of representatives from each of the five communities along the trail's route. Recent projects along the trail include construction of a new bridge between Dutton and Silverbell Roads.

The PCT continues north and west to the ***Polly Ann Trail***, a 36-mile rail trail corridor running through nearby Orion, Oxford, and Addison Townships. To the south, the PCT runs to the City of Rochester where it intersects the ***Clinton River Trail (CRT)***, a 16-mile long route running from Keego Harbor in the west to Rochester in the east. The CRT is somewhat unique in that it frequently parallels the ***Clinton River Bluewater Trail***, a 72-mile long water trail running from Maceday Lake in Waterford Township to Lake St. Clair in Harrison Township.



Image Source: Paint Creek Trail Commission

The CRT's surface trail connects with several other major trails and pathways, including the ***Macomb Orchard Trail*** in Rochester, the ***Shelby Township Trail***, the ***West Bloomfield Trai***l, and the ***Michigan Air Line Trail***. This network in turn is part of the much larger ***Great Lake-to-Lake Trail***, a 275-mile system which stretches from Port Huron to South Haven. The success of this route has lead to planning for four additional routes running from Muskegon to Bay City, Charlevoix to Alpena, Manistique to Marquette, and Escanaba to the Porcupine Mountains.

The most comprehensive system in the state, however, is the ***Iron Belle Trail (IBT)***, a 2,000+ mile network stretching from Belle Isle in Detroit to Iron Mountain in the far western Upper Peninsula. The IBT includes a 1,273 mile long hiking route which winds along the west side of the Lower Peninsula and borders Lake Superior in the Upper Peninsula, and a 791 mile long biking trail on the east side of the state and following US-2 in the Upper Peninsula. Since 2012, over $68 million in grant and local funds and $155 million in private donations have been collected to complete the trail.

Figure 25. Great Lake-to-Lake Trail Overview

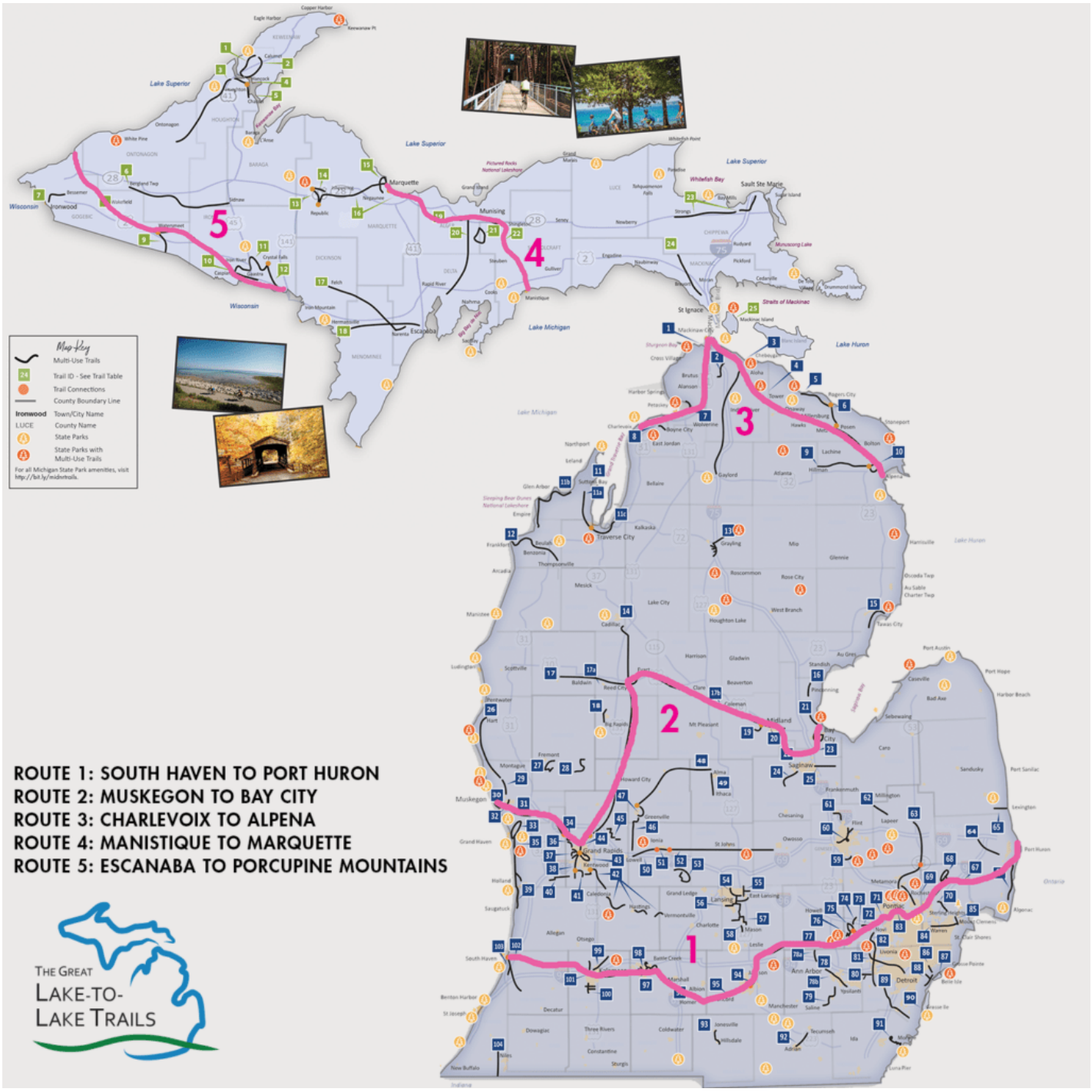


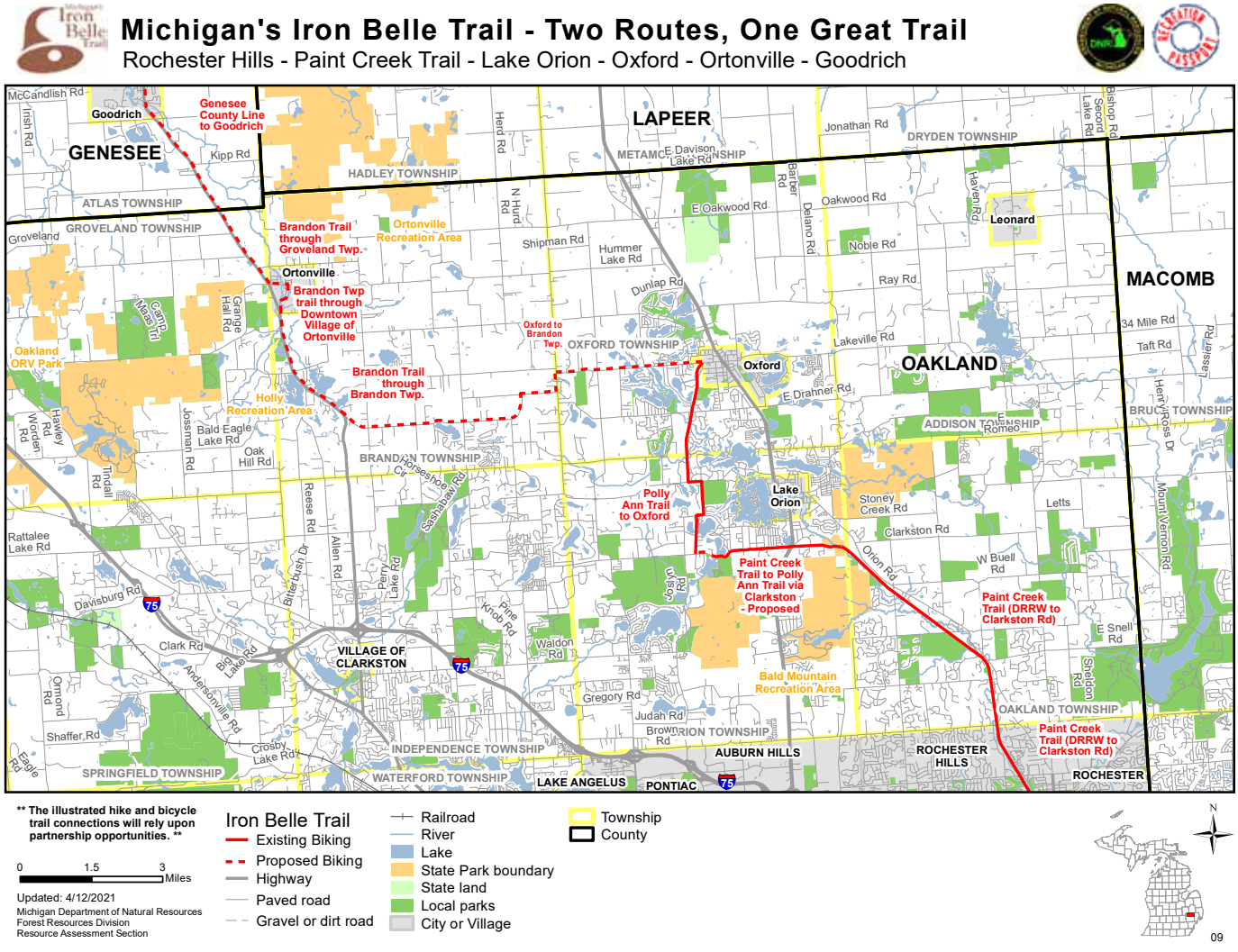
Image Source: Michigan Trails & Greenways Alliance

Figure 26. Iron Belle Trail Overview & Detail Map



Source: Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Finally, the IBT is, in turn, part of the larger ***North Country National Scenic Trail*** which travels from eastern New York to central North Dakota. The trail passes through seven states along the way, with the longest stretch found in Michigan. At approximately 4,600 miles, it is the longest of the eleven National Scenic Trails.



Appendices



Goodison Good Tyme Festival. Image Source: MichiganFun.com

Appendices

Appendix A: Safety Paths & Trails Strategy Plan 142

Appendix B: Community Input 173

Appendix C: Park Inventory Sheets.....260

Appendix D: Millage Fund Use Criteria 295

Appendix E: Funding Sources.....328

Appendix F: Environmental & Natural Features Papers 332

Appendix G: Concept Plans 334

Appendix H: Notices.....335

Appendix I: Resolutions 341

Appendix J: Minutes.....343

Appendix K: Letters of Transmittal 364

Appendix L: Post Completion Self Certification (PCSC) Forms.....366

Appendix A: Safety Paths & Trails Strategy Plan

2024 SAFETY PATHS & TRAILS STRATEGY PLAN













Five-Year Plan Prepared by the
Oakland Township Safety Paths & Trails Committee
An Appendix to the 2024 Charter Township of Oakland, Michigan Master Plan
A Supplement to the 2025 Oakland Charter Township Parks, Recreation, & Land Preservation Master Plan
http://www.oaklandtownship.org/township_departments/safety_paths_and_trails.php

1

VISION

TO CONNECT OAKLAND TOWNSHIP THROUGH A NETWORK OF SAFETY PATHS AND TRAILS

MISSION

TO SUPPORT A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE AND STRENGTHEN OUR COMMUNITY'S SOCIAL CONNECTIONS BY PROVIDING GREATER ACCESS TO LOCAL POINTS OF INTEREST



CONTENTS:

Vision/Mission……2
Overview……3
Goals……4
Strategies……5
Planning Process……6
Desirability / Feasibility Worksheets……7-12
Map: Strategy Plan……13
Map: Population Density……14
Map: Traffic Count……15
Map: Regional Connections……16
Map: Strava Heat Map-all Cycle Sports……17
Map: Strava Heat Map-all Foot Sports……18
Funding Opportunities……19-20
Building a Safety Path or Trail……21
Collaboration / Partnership……22-23
Maintenance……24
Accomplishments……25-29
Safety Path & Trails Committee ……30

OAKLAND TOWNSHIP
SAFETY PATHS & TRAILS

OVERVIEW

Until 2009, completed portions of Oakland Township's trails and paths consisted entirely of safety paths which were constructed in conjunction with private development. These existing multi-use paths are available for general public use, and are owned and maintained by a subdivision's homeowner's association. The majority of these paths are located in the southwest corner of the township where a significant portion of the township population, as well as residential and commercial developments, are located.

In 2005, a township trail and path vision was included in the township Master Plan. This unique vision to connect our township using not only safety paths, but also trails, became the basis for a millage that was approved by township voters in 2006. This millage was renewed at a reduced rate of 0.17 of one mill in November, 2016.

This vision to connect Oakland Township through a network of safety paths and trails has many benefits that will improve township residents' quality of life.

These paths and trails help support a healthy lifestyle through physical activities such as walking, running, cycling and horseback riding. With connected paths and trails, safe routes can be provided as an alternative to motorized transportation.

These paths and trails help strengthen our community's social connections by encouraging users of all ages, abilities and interests to pursue their common interests. With connected paths and trails, interaction among users is more easily attainable.

These paths and trails help to provide greater access via non-motorized routes to nearby destinations. With connected paths and trails, our community has greater access to our township's parks, the Paint Creek Trail, Bald Mountain Recreation area, Stony Creek Metropark, Addison Oaks, other regional trails, churches, schools, shopping areas and community facilities.



PROPOSED LANGUAGE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OAKLAND
SAFETY PATH AND TRAILS NETWORK MILLAGE RENEWAL

Shall the Charter Township of Oakland be authorized to renew a levy up to 0.17 mills for a period of ten (10) years, which represents a reduction of the current levy of 0.2406, starting with the December 2017 levy to provide funds for the construction and maintenance of a network of safety paths, trails, and boardwalks to provide healthy recreational opportunities and safe routes to schools, parks, and neighborhoods in the Township; and acquisition of property and right-of-way for such purposes? Approval of this proposal would authorize a tax limitation levy of 0.17 mills on all taxable property in the Township. Approval of this proposal would authorize the levy of approximately $0.17 per $1,000 of taxable property in the Township. It is estimated that this proposal would result in the authorization to collect up to $222,454.15 in the first year if approved and levied.

YES ⬭
NO ⬭

OAKLAND TOWNSHIP
SAFETY PATHS & TRAILS

GOALS

1. Create a non-motorized transportation system providing greatest benefit to township residents at lowest cost.
2. Preserve, protect and interpret natural and historical areas in conjunction with trail/path improvements
3. Provide trails/paths connections in a variety of areas across the township where there is a desire and need for them.
4. Provide more trail-oriented recreation opportunities, connecting to a network of trails including local, regional and state parks and trails
5. Provide multi-use trails/paths where appropriate and feasible for combined uses, which could include walking, running, cycling, horseback riding, roller-blade, dog walking and/or cross-country skiing.
6. Promote safe non-motorized transportation opportunities that address the needs of a full spectrum of user, including children, seniors and disabled.
7. Provide safe non-motorized passage to schools
8. Research residents' individual and collective desires and concerns and address them whenever possible and feasible.
9. Respect property ownership rights – concerning land or amenities planted or constructed on their land – to the fullest extent possible
10. Ensure long-term maintenance, which protects path and trail users, and financial stability for this system.







OAKLAND TOWNSHIP
SAFETY PATHS & TRAILS

STRATEGIES

IN CONJUNCTION WITH GOALS

1

*To economize resources expended, minimize the number of parcels traversed when selecting location of trail/path corridors – utilizing existing road/utility easements and land already owned by the township wherever feasible.
*Integrate trail/path system with regional trail/park systems, roadway, utility, or drainage improvements and natural area preservation/interpretation which will also provide grant-funding opportunities.
*Coordinate with developers and new home construction to install paths on their respective parcels
*Continue to seek voter approval for the Safety Paths & Trails millage to enable building and maintaining Oakland Township owned paths/trails

2

*Construct paths/trails in areas with appropriate topography and hydrology, minimizing removal/disturbance of native vegetation.
*During trail/path design and construction, employ guidelines and materials which minimize disturbance to the surrounding area and its natural habitat
*Coordinate trail/path planning efforts with Oakland County green infrastructure planning, as well as Oakland Township greenways vision, Parks and Recreation Planning, and land and historical preservation efforts.

3

*Integrate township trail/path system into the Oakland and Macomb county trail networks including existing and proposed local and regional non-motorized connections to/between parks, along transportation corridors, and along natural feature corridors.
*Utilize opportunities to fill in gaps within existing trail and path system to provide complete linkages that will benefit the greatest number of users.

4

*Provide trails that are designed as recreation experiences which emphasize natural areas and minimize built intrusions such as road crossings.
*Provide connections to and from destinations where there is greatest interest and need.

5

*Where multiple trail uses could be simultaneously enjoyed, trail/path planning and design will attempt to support the proposed uses while minimizing conflicts.

6

*Ensure that ADA (or wherever possible Universal Access) and ASHTO standards are adhered to wherever feasible
*Minimize pedestrian and automotive conflicts by minimizing number of driveway and roadway crossings.

7

*Ensure that safe pedestrian connections are offered between residential neighborhoods, schools and within their catchment areas.

8

*Provide residents opportunities to give their input concerning proposed trail/path segments through public and individual meetings
*Provide residents with a mechanism to nominate a trail/path segment which is not currently proposed or to elevate the priority of one which is proposed.
*Provide residents with a mechanism to share their concerns about existing trail/path segments that may need maintenance, repair or improvement.

9

*Where the best trail/path route must cross property owned or improved by others, township will aid or compensate property owners to the fullest extent possible.

10

*Reserve a portion of the millage revenue to provide funding for future repairs or improvements to township held paths and trails.
*Develop guidelines to maintain the safety and long-term durability of Oakland Township owned pathways and boardwalks.

OAKLAND TOWNSHIP
SAFETY PATHS & TRAILS

PLANNING PROCESS

The Oakland Township Safety Paths & Trails committee has completed the process of updating the 2017 Safety Paths & Trails Strategy Plan in an effort to inform and guide their planning activities over the next five years.

Planning Goals:

1. To set trail and path standards as a guide for future safety paths and trails for the next 10 years and beyond.
2. To prepare a strategy plan document that would be included as a supplement to the 2025 Oakland Township Parks, Recreation, & Land Preservation Master Plan as well as an appendix to the 2024 Charter Township of Oakland, Michigan Master Plan. It is anticipated that this inclusion in one or both of these master plan documents would facilitate potential grant applications.

Resources used to compile the 2024 Safety Paths & Trails Strategy Plan

1. Previous Parks and Recreation and Oakland Township master plans
2. 2017 Safety Paths and Trails Strategy plan, including the 2015 Township-wide Citizen Survey and the results of the September 21, 2016 Citizen Open House
3. Desirability/Feasibility Worksheets updated as of 6/5/24
4. The Safety Paths and Trails Committee meets regularly

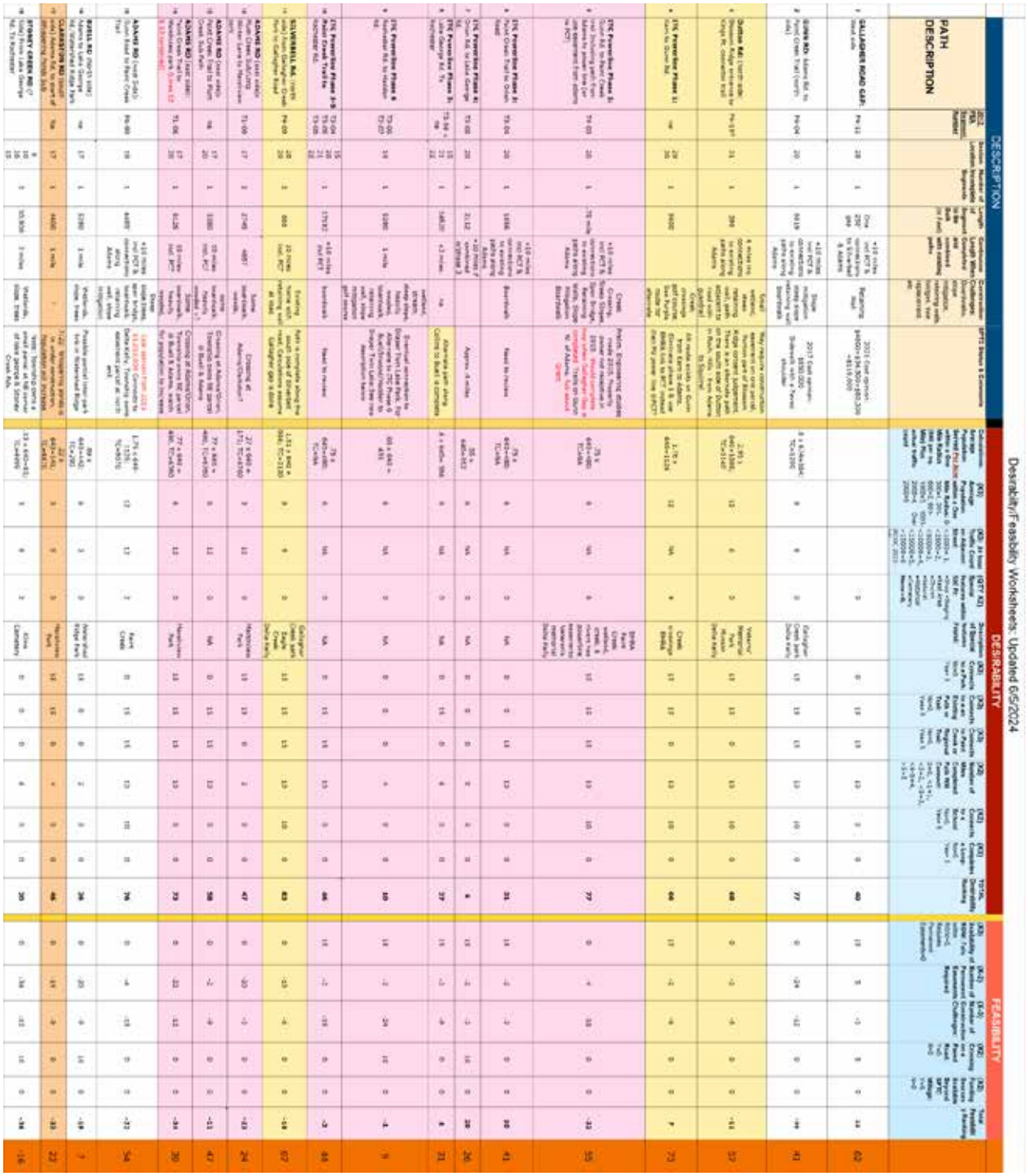
DESIRABILITY / FEASIBILITY

WORKSHEETS

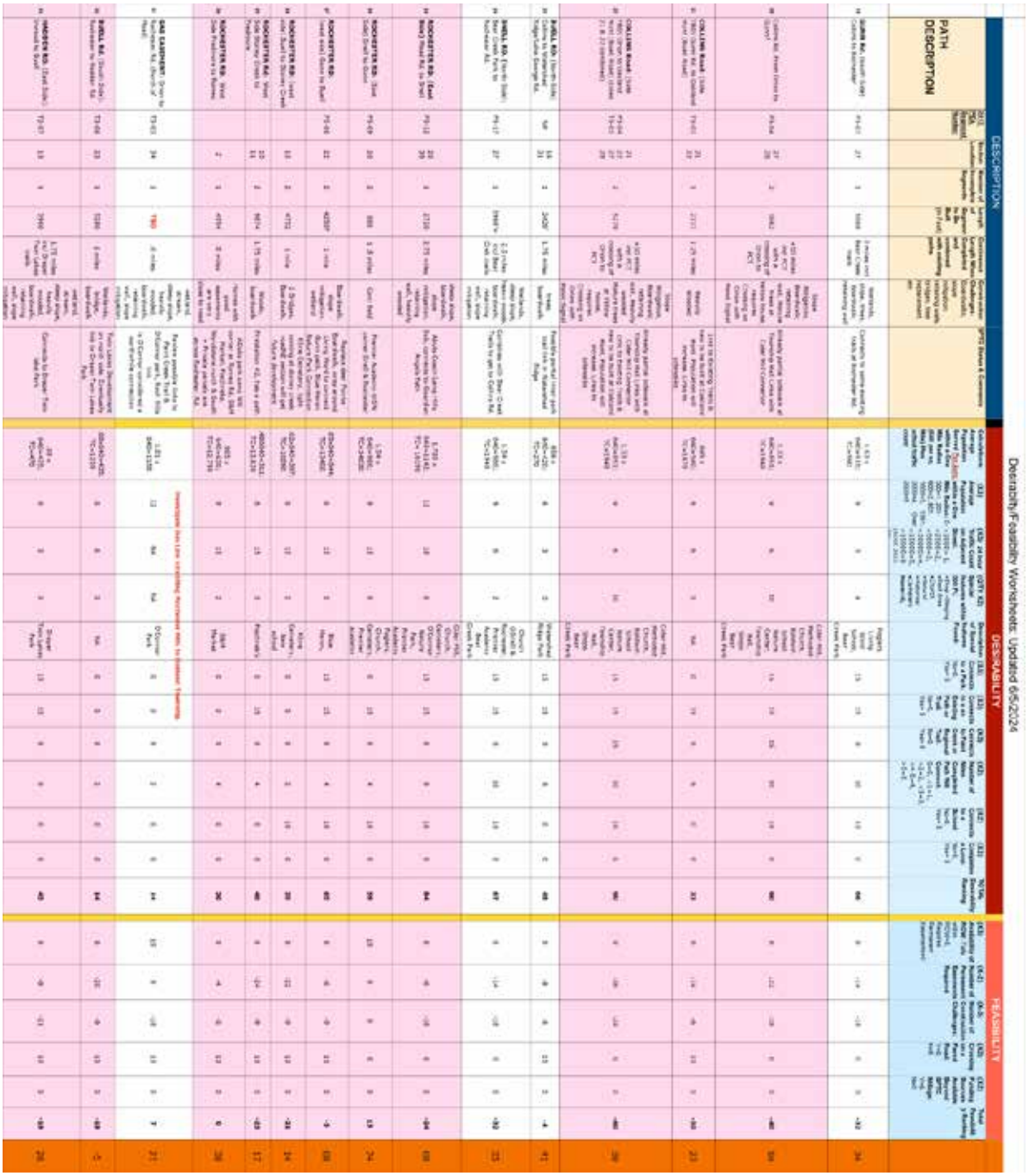
The Desirability / Feasibility Worksheets used in this document help to prioritize prospective trail routes and to identify known issues. These worksheets are routinely updated by the Safety Paths and Trails Committee as new information and trail opportunities become available due to circumstances such as road improvements, subdivision development or new easement and grant opportunities.

Scoring criteria for the Worksheets was established by studying previous Township Master Plans, previous Feasibility Studies, the Township's planning consultant and the Safety Paths and Trails Committee's recommendations as well as the data on the maps on pages 13-18. Further study or changes in circumstances may reveal additional feasibility challenges that would prohibit progress of a high scoring route. Conversely, a low-scoring path may rise to higher priority due to new circumstances.

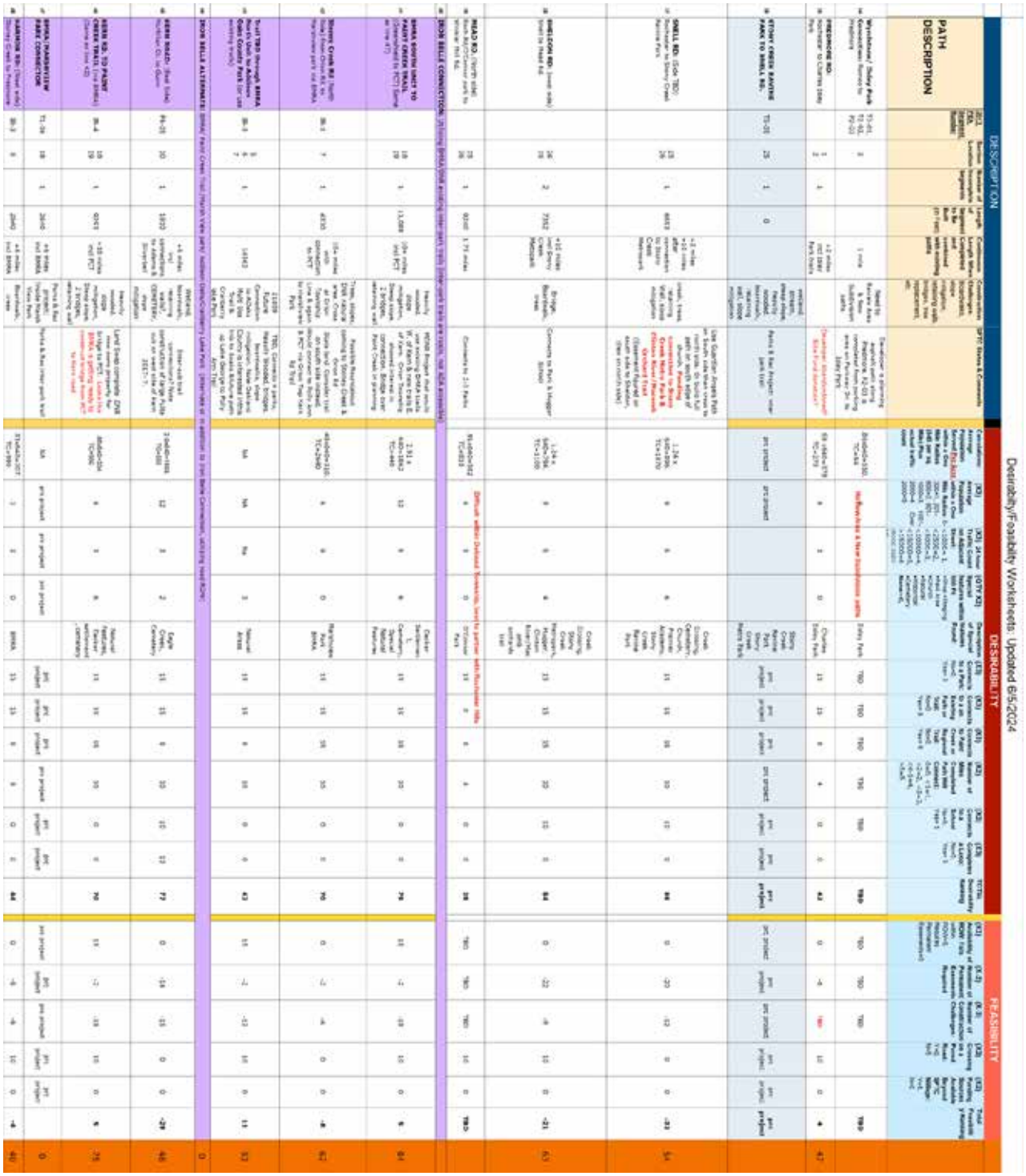
WORKSHEETS


Desirability/Feasibility Worksheets: Updated 6/5/2024
DESIRABILITY
FEASIBILITY
PATH DESCRIPTION

WORKSHEETS

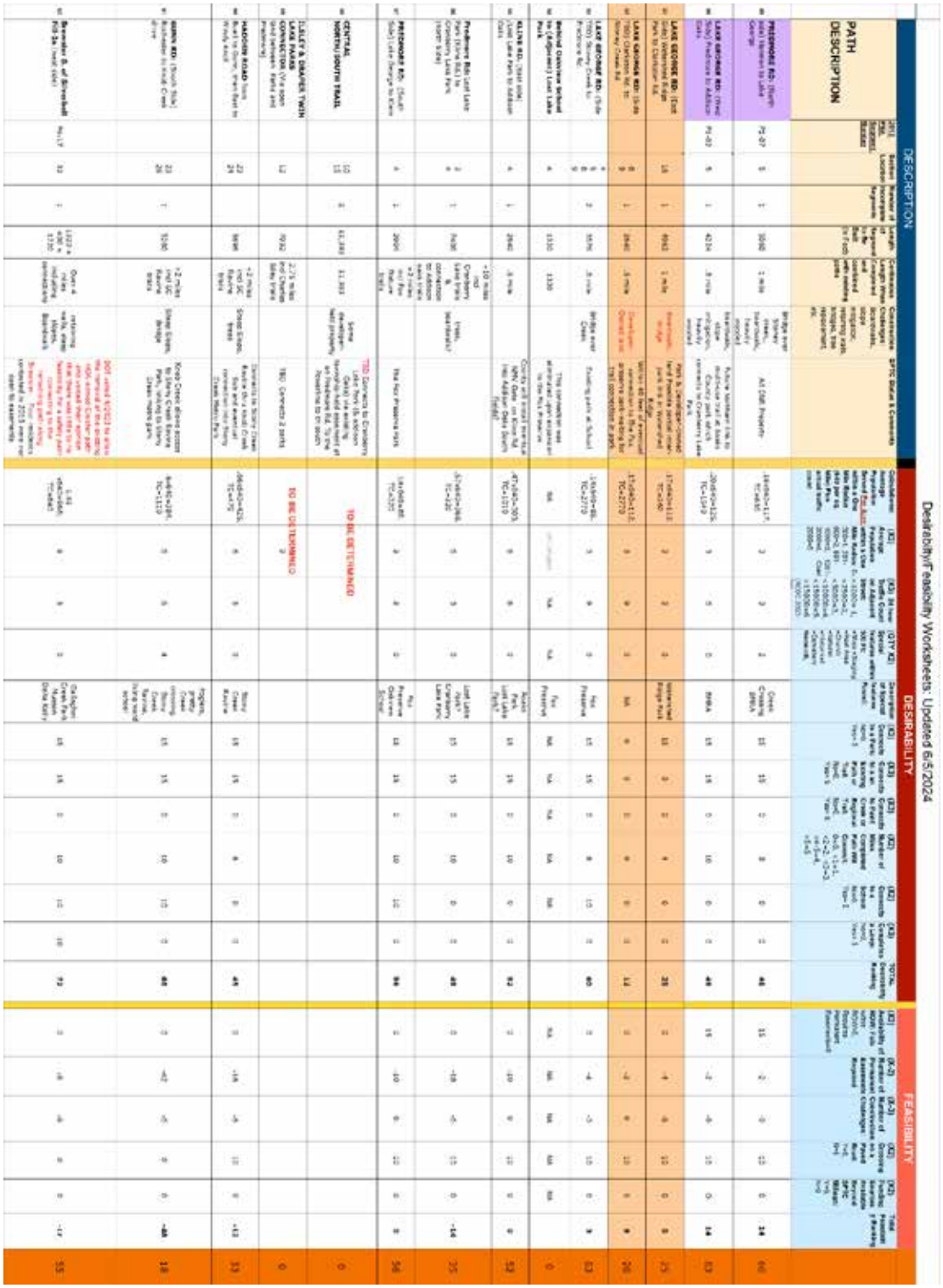

Desirability/Feasibility Worksheets: Updated 6/5/2024
DESCRIPTION
DESIRABILITY
FEASIBILITY
PATH DESCRIPTION

WORKSHEETS

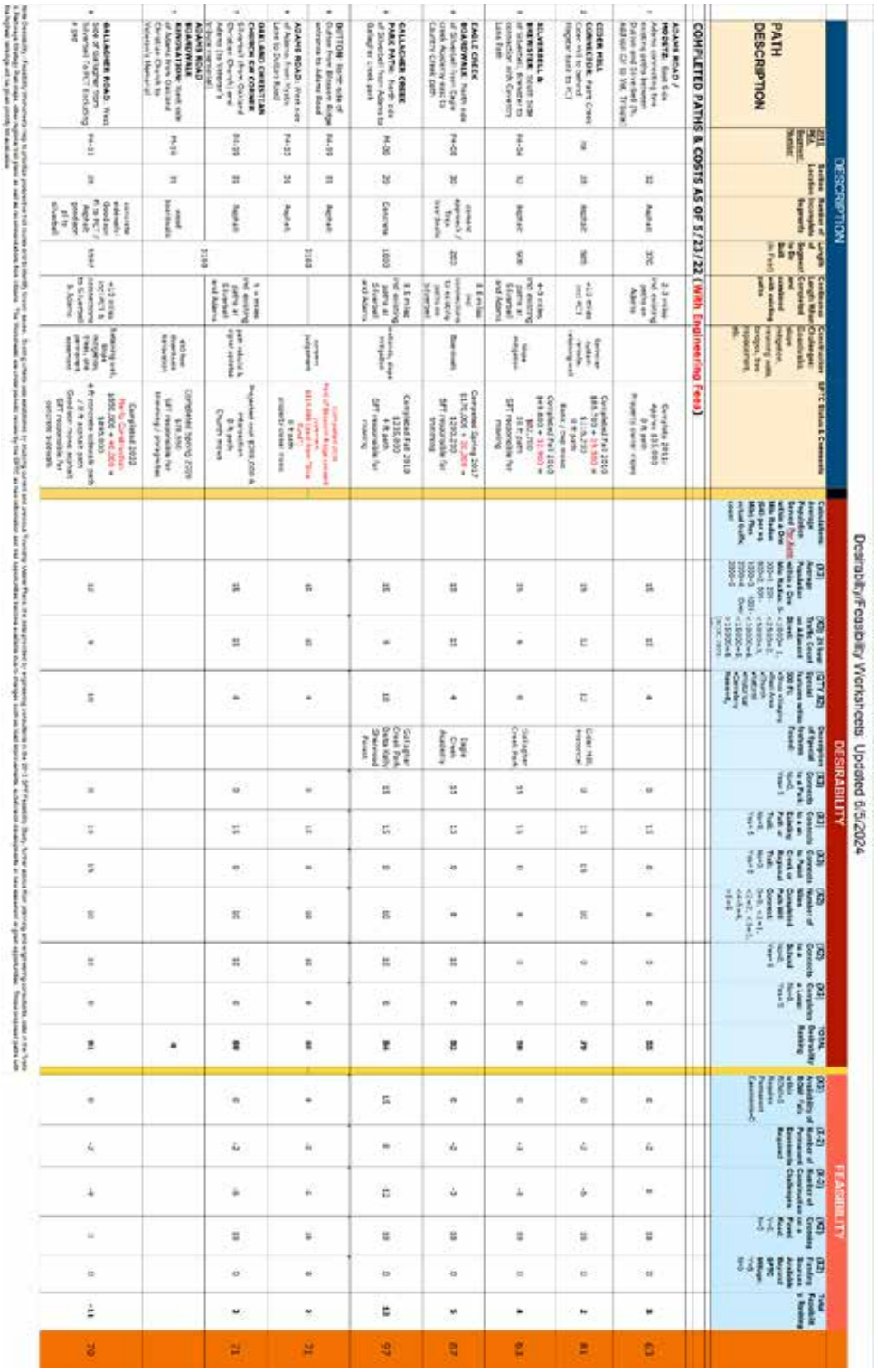

Desirability/Feasibility Worksheets: Updated 6/5/2024
DESCRIPTION
DESIRABILITY
FEASIBILITY
PATH DESCRIPTION

DESIRABILITY / FEASIBILITY

WORKSHEETS



WORKSHEETS


Desirability/Feasibility Worksheets: Updated 6/5/2024
DESCRIPTION
DESIRABILITY
FEASIBILITY
PATH DESCRIPTION
COMPLETED PATHS & COSTS AS OF 5/23/22 (With Engineering Fees)

DESIRABILITY / FEASIBILITY

WORKSHEETS

OAKLAND TOWNSHIP SAFETY PATH CRITERION / METHODOLOGY

Yellow Cells indicate that an alternative path exists

Pink Cells indicate grouping of major paths that are broken down into several segments

Orange Cells indicate path possibly to be developed

Purple Cells indicate possible connections to the Bike Trail

PATH DESCRIPTION COLUMNS:

HSA Segment Number – These segment numbers reference current and perennial safety paths from the 2021 HSA analysis and are mirrored on the Trails & Pathways Strategy Plan Map which is included in the township's Master Plan dated September 03, 2017. It is planned safety path designations within a ½ mile of the road the safety path would be built, read up from number is used. If the desired safety path lies the side of the road as 1500. Even if the safety path straddles two blocks, both blocks will be included in the chart.

Number of crossings required – Typically 1 unless the proposed safety path includes a section where a path or sidewalk currently exists and would connect to either side of the existing path, then no crossings required and 0 or more).

Length of segment to be built (in feet) – This is the length of path to be built, excluding any existing path sections.

Continuous length when completed and combined with existing paths – This is the total of the path to be constructed, plus the length of all of the paths / trails that it will connect to.

Construction challenges – for all challenges including boardwalks, slope mitigation, retaining walls, bridges, steep slope, heavily treed, golf course crossing. If there would be more than one boardwalk or bridge needed, that should be noted in comments.

MPC Status & comments – Includes any cost estimates, and pertinent information regarding the proposed path. If there is a path along the opposite side of the street, it should be noted. Also, any parallel paths that could be alternate route should be noted.

DESIRABILITY COLUMNS:

Catchment / Average Population Served Per Acre within a One Mile Radius (-AM) – Average population within a one mile radius. There are 640 acres per square mile). This column also includes actual traffic count. Information regarding the average population per acre was obtained from the 2020 census per township's website. The township was broken down into 10 sections. Once a section was identified, the area within a one mile radius was calculated. Then, the total population was calculated for each section. A one mile radius (based on the closest point of the proposed path) was then overlaid on the map for any of the sections that the one mile radius was within (highest and average).

Average Population within a one mile Radius – Based on the population within a one mile radius calculated line four columns, points were assigned as shown and multiplied x3.

24 hour Traffic count on adjacent street – Traffic counts shown in the first column were downloaded or information received from the Road Commission of Oakland County's website (based on traffic information from 2021 – 2024). Based on these traffic counts, points are assigned as shown until multiplied x1.

Special Features within 500 Feet – Included in special features are schools, lodging and dining, hotel, area, church, natural beauty, historical features, elementary (park courses were not considered a special feature). The number of features listed in column 45 were totaled, then multiplied x2.

Description of special features – special features are listed as well as any accessible and/or parks that the proposed path would connect to.

Connects to a Park – If the proposed path allows it, along with existing paths, to connect to a park, 10 points were assigned. If not, then zero points were assigned.

Connects to an existing path or trail – If the proposed path allows it, along with existing paths, to connect to an existing path (even if it is a small sidewalk section), 10 points were assigned. If not, then zero points were assigned.

Connects to Front Creek or Paint Creek Trail – If the proposed path allows it, along with existing paths, to connect to the PCT or a Heritage Trail, then 10 points were assigned. If not, then zero points were assigned.

Number of rides completed path will connect – Based on the number of rides the completed path would connect, points were assigned as shown, then multiplied x2.

Connects to a School – If the proposed path allows it, along with existing paths, to connect to a school, 10 points were assigned. If not, then zero points were assigned.

Completes a Ride – If the proposed path completes a ride, 10 points were assigned. If not, then zero points were assigned.

Total Desirability Ranking – This is the total of the points assigned for columns 2 x 4 and 9-21

FEASIBILITY COLUMNS:

Availability of ROW – If the entire proposed path falls within an existing ROW, 10 points were assigned. If not then zero points were assigned. The ROWs may be from Oakland County property gateway / 3-4 bridges count). Right-of-ways were assumed to exist for utilities like the power line and railroad. Non-motorized trail for utilities like the power line and railroad. Non-motorized trail

Number of permanent easements required – The ROW may be from Oakland County property gateway was used to determine the number of properties along the proposed path that would be required for a grant or permanent easement. One easement was assumed to be needed for the entire ROW as well as any paths proposed within Bald Mountain Recreation area.

Number of Construction Challenges – For each construction challenge listed under the Description column #6, minus 5 points was assigned. The number of challenges were totaled and multiplied x 5.

Crossing on a Paved Road – If the proposed path crossed a paved road, or in order to connect to a school or park one had to cross a paved road, zero points were assigned. If no crossing of a paved road was involved, 10 points were assigned.

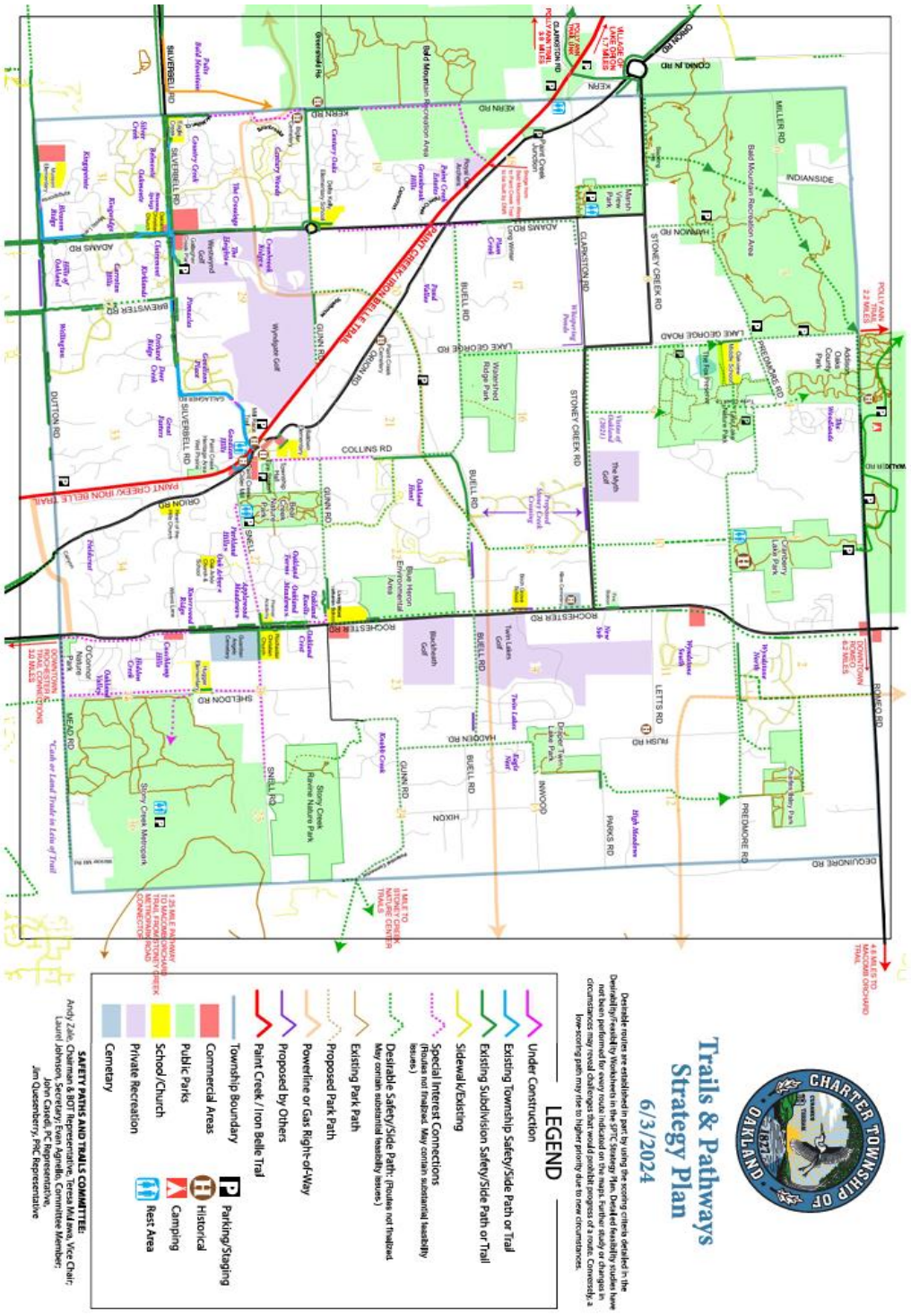
Funding sources available beyond DPF millage – If there were funding sources known and applied for, 10 points were assigned. If not zero points were assigned.

Total Feasibility Ranking – This is the total of the points assigned for columns 1-5

Total Overall Ranking – This is the total of both the desirability ranking and the feasibility ranking

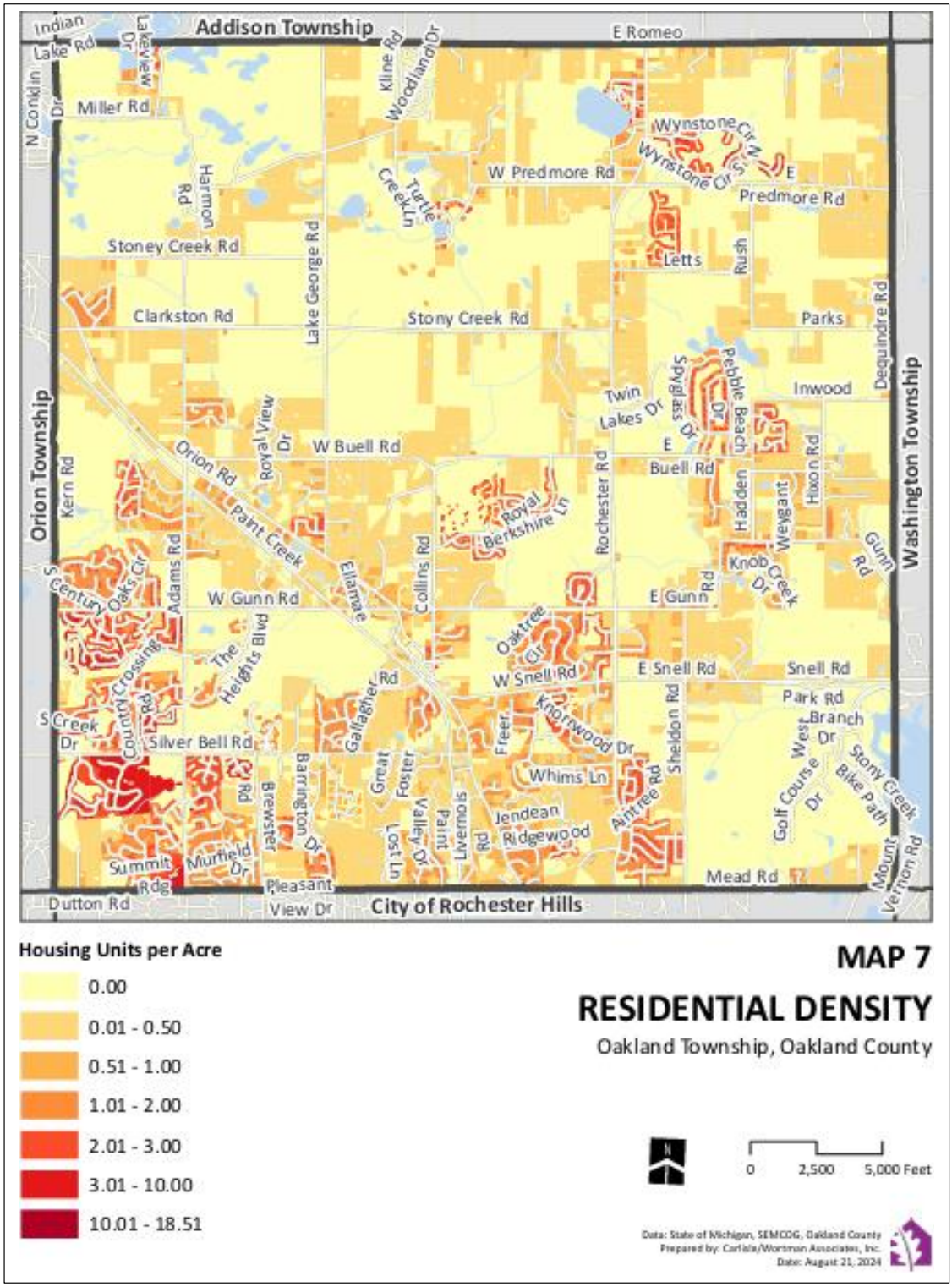
OAKLAND TOWNSHIP
SAFETY PATHS & TRAILS

STRATEGY PLAN MAP



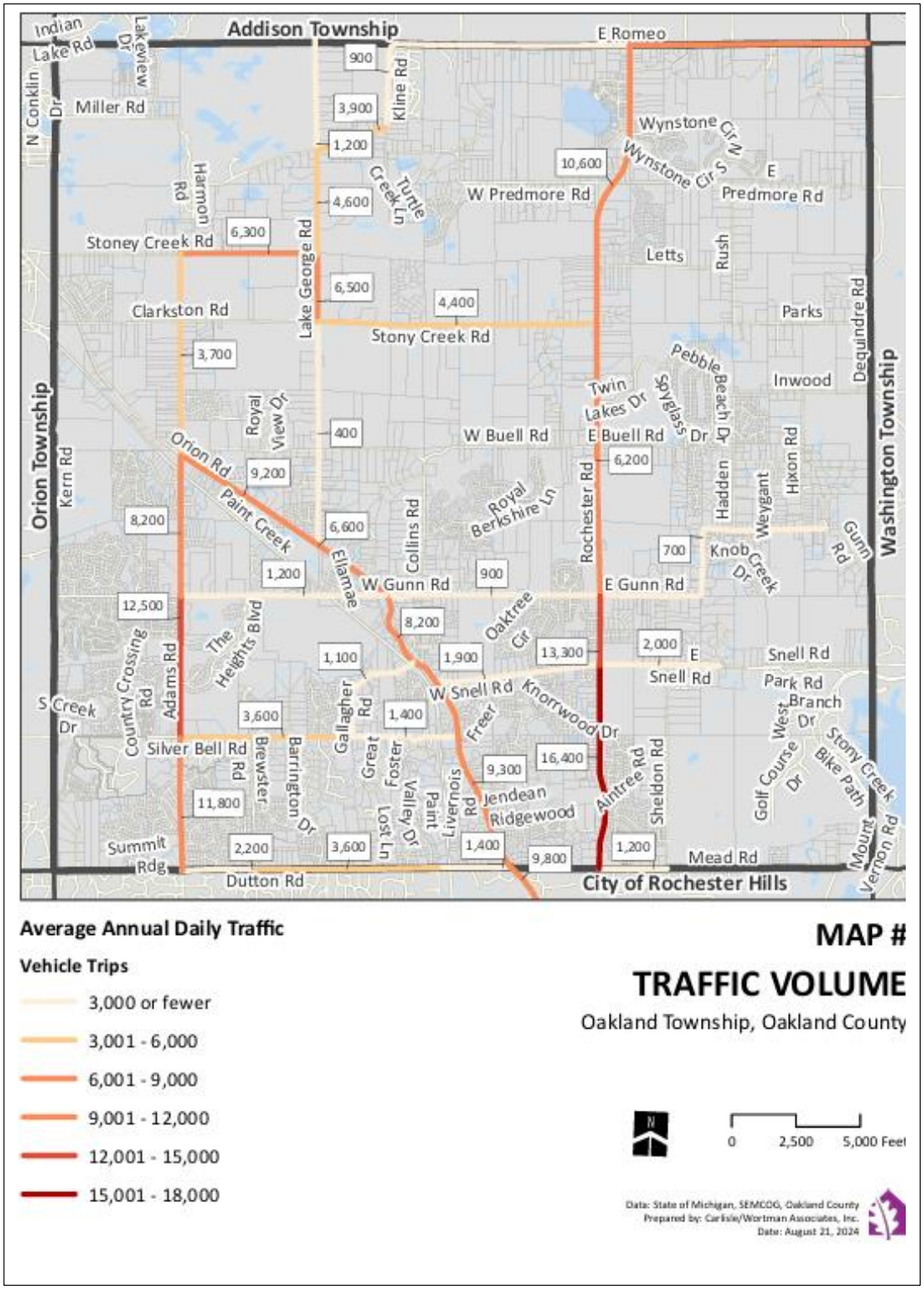
OAKLAND TOWNSHIP
SAFETY PATHS & TRAILS

POPULATION DENSITY MAP

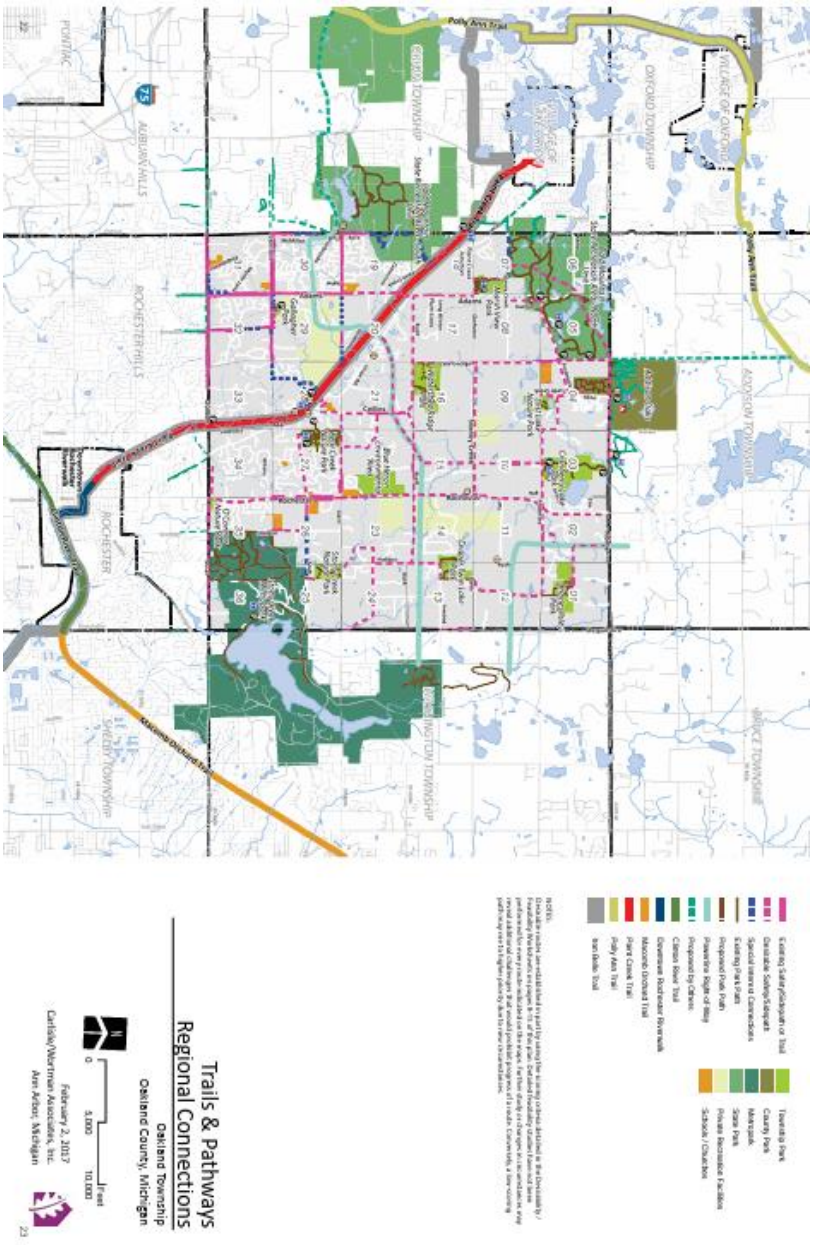


OAKLAND TOWNSHIP
SAFETY PATHS & TRAILS

TRAFFIC COUNT MAP

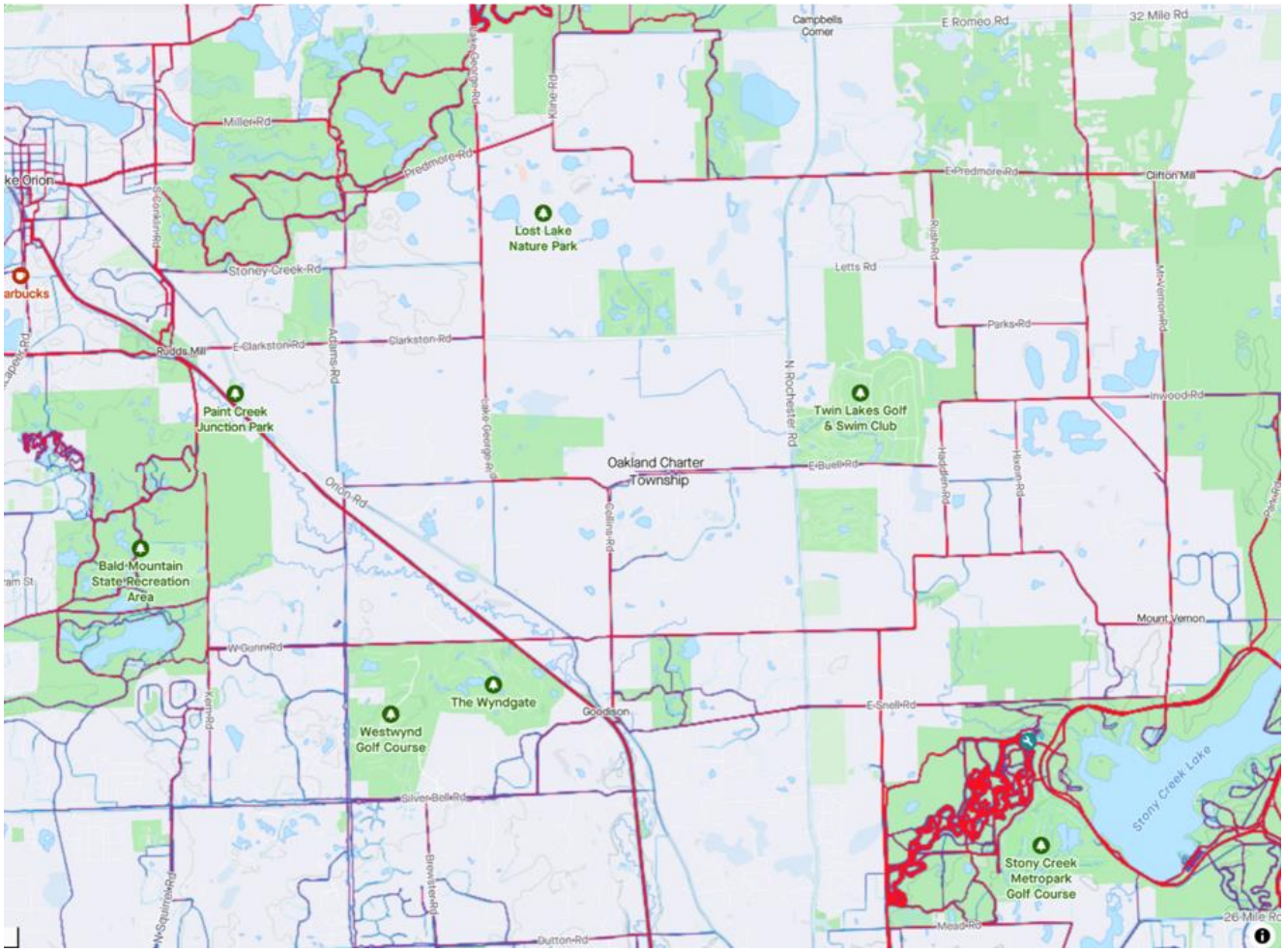


REGIONAL CONNECTIONS MAP



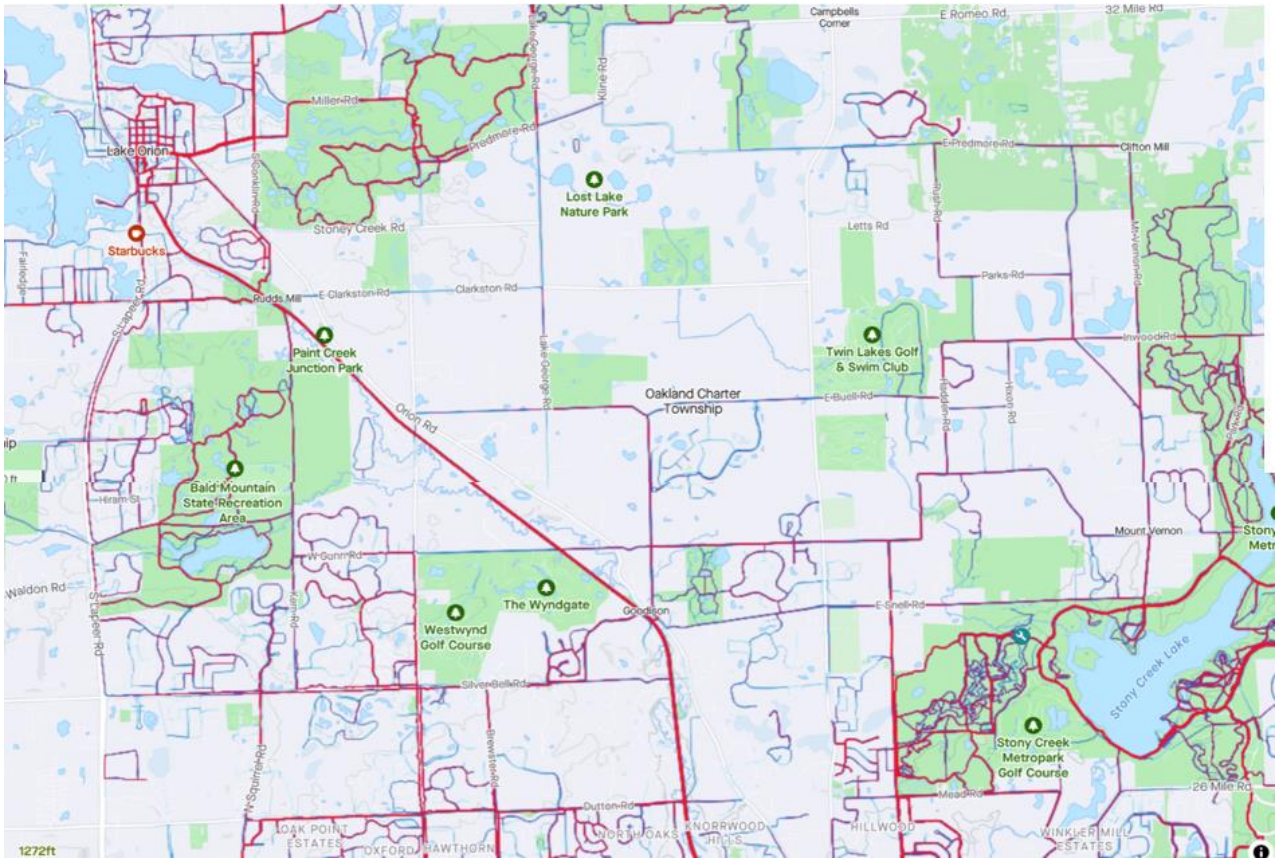
STRAVA HEAT MAP – ALL CYCLE SPORTS

The Strava Heat map shows the level of activity on various roads and paths over the last year, and is updated monthly. Red shows paths in regular use. The darker the color red, the higher the level of activity on those paths. This map shows activity for all cycle riders, mountain bike riders, e-bike riders, gravel riders and velomobile riders.



STRAVA HEAT MAP – ALL FOOT SPORTS

The Strava Heat map shows the level of activity on various roads and paths over the last year, and is updated monthly.. Red shows paths in regular use. The darker the color red, the higher the level of activity on those paths. This map shows activity for all hikers, walkers, runners and trail runners.



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Oakland Township Safety Paths and Trails includes township-owned, non-motorized travel systems that are located in Oakland Township, but are not within township parks. In addition to completed paths, 32 miles of proposed pathways and 16 miles of proposed trails are under review by the Safety Paths and Trails Committee.

Resources and Strategies used to fund construction of Safety Paths & Trails

1. The vision to connect Oakland Township's existing trails, along with parks, schools businesses, and residential areas with trails and pathways became the basis for a millage that was approved by voters in 2006. The millage can pay 100% of costs for land for paths and trails, plus construct and maintain a township-wide network of paths and trails. The millage was renewed by the voters in 2016 at a tax rate of 17 cents per $1000 of property value. For fiscal year 2024, revenue from the millage is estimated to be approximately $312,000.
2. Trail development can be an expensive undertaking, and the township may need to pursue additional financial assistance. One of the goals is to include partners such as the Huron-Clinton Metroparks and the Road Commission of Oakland County to assist in obtaining potential grants.
3. Oakland Township encourages its citizens to ensure safe non-motorized routes through the donation of an easement. The township will prepare and process all the paperwork and pay for the legal recording. Plus, beyond community recognition, there is the potential for tax deductions and increased property values.
4. The Federal Government and the State of Michigan encourage non-motorized trail networks and have made more grant opportunities available to communities than ever before. Oakland Township and the Safety Path and Trails committee will continue to pursue grant opportunities such as:
    a. Oakland County Parks Community Park and Trail Capital Grant Program – was created to assist local communities with planning, preliminary engineering/design and construction costs directly related to park improvement and trail projects located in Oakland County. Oakland Township and the Safety Path and Trails committee were successful in obtaining a grant from this program in the amount of $63,750 to assist in completing the 200 foot gap in the pathway along Gallagher Road. https://www.oakgov.com/community/oakland-county-parks/get-involved/community-outreach-grant-programs/community-grant-program



b. Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund – State grants are available to local units of government for acquisition of land and development of recreation facilities. Applications are evaluated on established criteria such as natural resource access and conservation, proximity to population clusters, applicant's committed matching funds, and priority projects of the trust fund board, such as trails, regional significance, public access to lakes and rivers, wildlife habitat and hunting access. A Department of Natural Resources approved 5-year recreation plan is required to be eligible. For development projects, the minimum grant is $15,000 and the maximum is $400,000. https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/buy-and-apply/grants/rec/mnrtf

c. Land and Water Conservation Fund – The Land and Water Conservation Fund is a federal appropriation to the National Park Service, who distributes funds to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for development of outdoor recreation facilities. The focus of the program is for protection of natural and cultural resources, access to recreation, maintenance and sustainability of recreation facilities, education and partnerships. Trail development has also been a common goal for recreation providers in recent years. A Department of Natural Resources approved 5-year recreation plan is required to be eligible. The minimum grant is $30,000 and the maximum is $500,000. https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/buy-and-apply/grants/rec/lwcf

d. Transportation Alternatives Program & Safe Routes to Schools – Is a federal program to make it safe, convenient, and fun for children, including those with disabilities, to bicycle and walk to school. The maximum grant is $300,000 / school in funds to help build sidewalks and crosswalks around the school. https://saferoutesmichigan.org/

e. People for Bikes Community Grant Program - The People for Bikes mission is to put more people on bikes more often. The program funds projects in three categories: Infrastructure, Policy and Participation. https://www.peopleforbikes.org/grants

f. Michigan Health Endowment Fund – The mission of the Health fund is to improve the health of Michigan residents, with special emphasis on the health and wellness of children and seniors. The fund's priority is to support efforts with outcomes that lead to creation or promotion of policies expanding access to a healthier built environment. Supporting the community engagement component of a community's master plan ensures that health-related factors such as safe walking paths, parks, and recreational areas are integrated into the plan.

BUILDING A SAFETY PATH OR TRAIL

There are many steps involved in planning and building a safety path or trail:

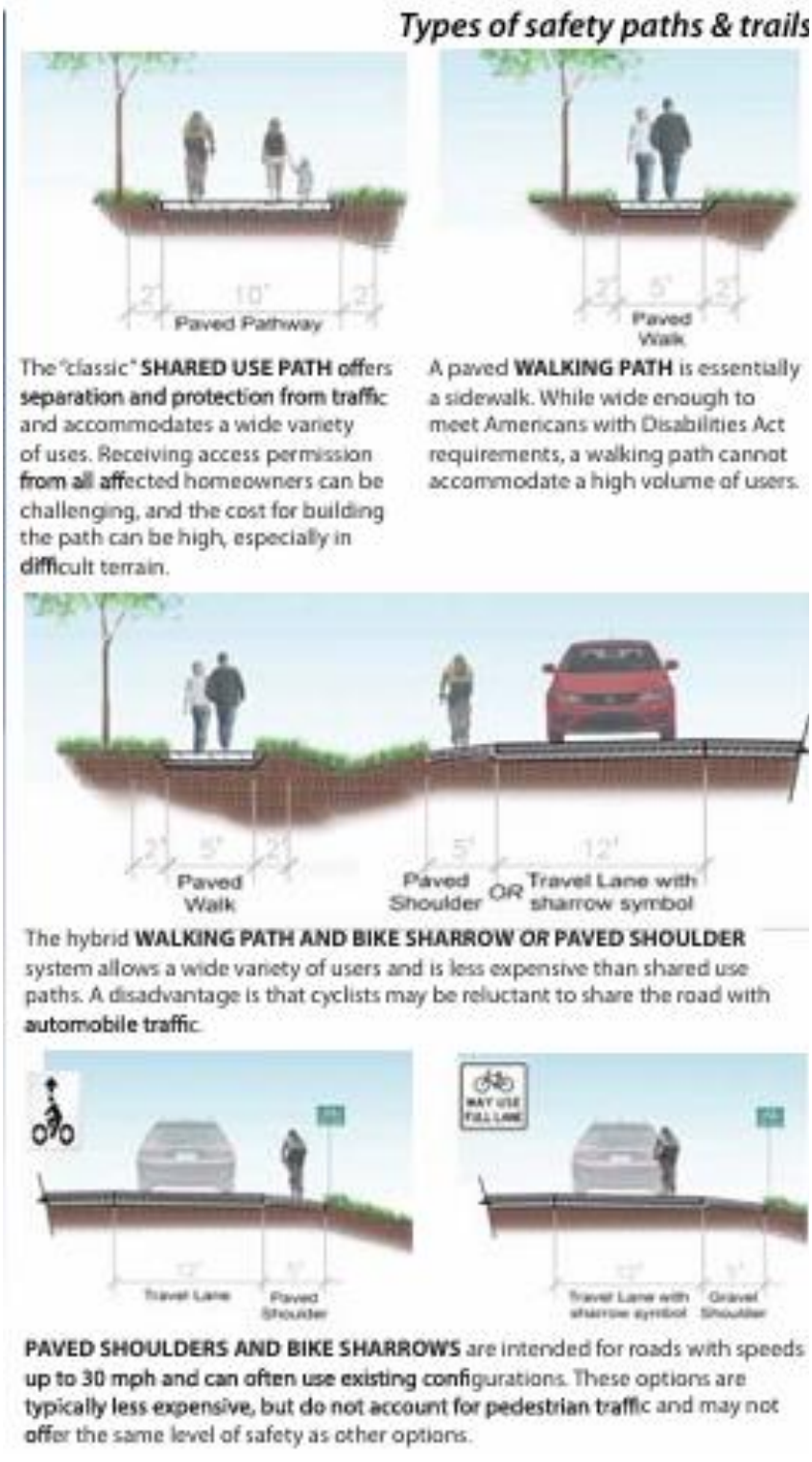
1. Choose the best route and construction techniques economically
2. Obtaining easements & permits
3. Use due diligence in following established guidelines (ASHTO, ADA, municipal and local government requirements, WRC, Road Commission, DNR, utilities, HDC, tree ordinance, etc.)
4. Obtain funding (grants, millage, developer contributions to Safety Paths Fund)
5. Choose contractor and monitor construction
6. Maintain existing routes

Challenging terrain such as hills and wetlands often demand structures beyond a simple trail or safety path such as:









COLLABORATION AND PARTNERSHIP

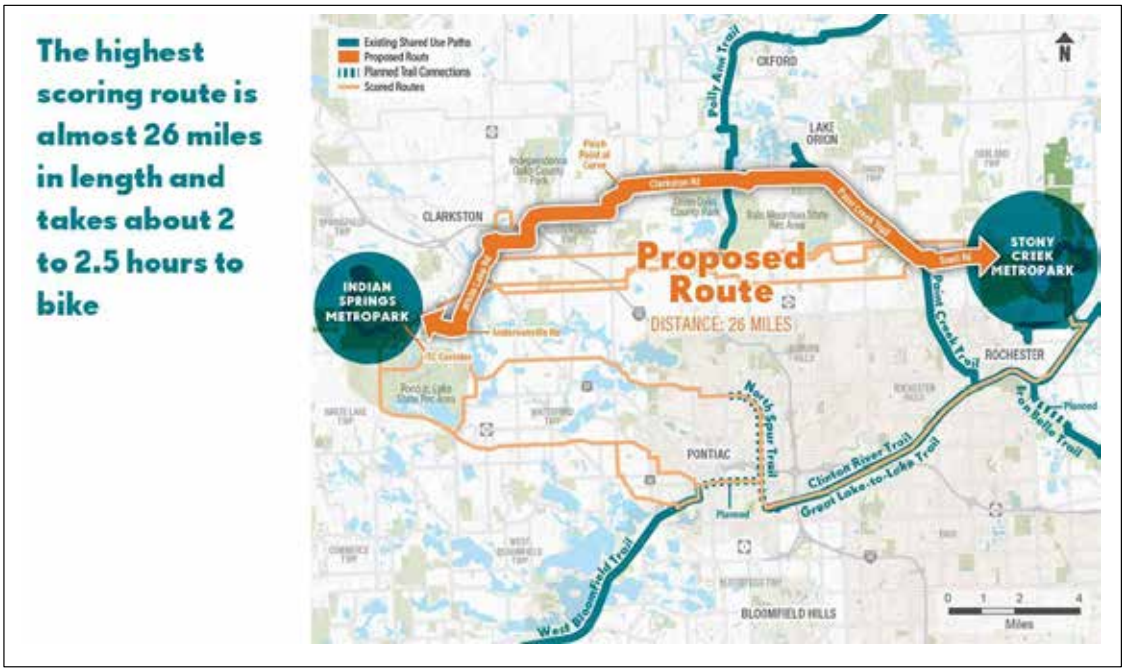
In our continued efforts to connect Oakland Township with safety paths and trails, it is important to encourage all interested parties to become our partners in our endeavor to make these desired connections a reality. We thank those persons and entities who have assisted in creating some of our paths within the township.

1. Paint Creek Trail - The Paint Creek Trail was the first non-motorized rail-to-trail in the State of Michigan. In 1983, 10.5 miles of railroad was purchased for $450,000. Half of the money came from the Michigan Land Trust (now Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund) and the other half came from the four original trails communities. The Paint Creek Trail now connects through Rochester via the 16 mile Clinton River Trail and to the 23.5 mile Macomb Orchard Trail (all the way to the city of Richmond). The Charter Township of Orion recently completed construction of a new bridge and pathway, the Polly Ann Connector, near Clarkston and Kern Roads that allows trail users to easily connect from the Paint Creek Trail to the 36 mile Polly Ann Trail.
2. Addison Oaks County Park – In 2012, Addison Oaks added a 2.5 mile "Connector Trail" that links the main park to Addison Oaks-East and Cranberry Lake Park. This has provided access to Addison Oak's 20+ mile trail system for hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking and winter fat tire biking. Oakland County's Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant provided much of the funding for this project.



3. Public Support - Continued public support for pedestrian and bicycle facility development through the renewal of the Safety Path and Trails Network millage is crucial in determining the non-motorized transportation success of Oakland Township.
4. Homeowners support through easements - Critical to growth of the path & trail system is a landowner's consent for an easement permitting the Township to use needed land to locate a path/trail - OR actual donation of the required land.

5. Huron-Clinton Metroparks (HCM) – the Metroparks are teaming up with partners and communities to work towards connecting all 13 Metroparks with non-motorized trails. These trail networks will enable more connections to state, county, local and metro parks, and neighboring communities in the region. The Safety Paths and Trails committee is currently exploring installing a safety path along E. Snell Road to the border of Stony Creek Metropark. The HCM would then extend the path into Stony Creek Metropark and their extensive trail system. This path is an important part of the goal to connect Stony Creek to Indian Springs Metroparks and would provide Oakland Township residents safe access into Stony Creek Metropark.



6. Subdivision Developers - Oakland Township's design standards require subdivision developers to include "Adequate pedestrian and bicycle circulation... including external on the border of the development adjacent to road rights-of way." This standard supports growth of a path/trail system, linking subdivisions with schools, parks, other residential areas, and allows the SPTC to work with developers in creating a community benefit. Paths in subdivisions are maintained by their Homeowner's Association.

MAINTENANCE

For all safety paths and sidewalks owned by Oakland Township, the Township is responsible for maintaining these paths and sidewalks. Each year, funding is set aside to repair and maintain these safety paths. In 2023, the Safety Path and Trails Committee prepared a maintenance guideline to be used to maintain the safety and long-term durability of the Township owned pathways and boardwalks. This guideline also provides a timeline for expected maintenance tasks and a suggested monthly maintenance task schedule. The schedule will provide the Township a framework for procuring services each year to maintain their pathways. Annual maintenance tasks occurs periodically between April and November, and includes inspection of paths and boardwalks, debris cleanup, mowing, clearing vegetation, trimming bushes/tree limbs near paths and weed whipping the path edge. The long-term maintenance schedule for asphalt and concrete paths include periodically sealing/repairing cracks, repairing distressed or failing joints, replacing sections of path due to pavement failure, addressing root heave conditions, applying fog seal on asphalt paths, and constructing an asphalt overlay when an asphalt path approaches 18-20 years old. It is expected to cost $4 per linear foot to seal asphalt cracks less than 1 inch, $7 per linear foot to seal cracks greater 1 inch and $3.75 per square foot plus labor to replace a section of an asphalt path. It is expected to cost $8 per square foot to replace a section of a concrete path and $35 per joint expansion repair. The average cost is expected to be $250 per tree root removal. The long-term maintenance schedule for boardwalks includes periodic inspection of decking and railing and replacing any heaved or cracked boards, repairing decking surface due to any settling or heaving, power washing, inspection of substructure and repairing as needed. It is expected to cost $55 per linear foot to replace wood railings and $15-$20 per square foot to replace decking floor boards. The Safety Path and Trails Committee anticipates using more aluminum, composite and/or pressure treated wood for future boardwalks to reduce future repair costs. Most maintenance work is conducted in house by Township staff. More extensive repair work will be performed by external contractors. The budget for all maintenance repairs for 2024-2026 ranges from $20,000 to $34,000. As the safety path system ages, it is expected that the funds needed for contracted repairs will increase and is currently estimated to average $59,000 per year for the following three year period 2027-2030.

*



OAKLAND TOWNSHIP
SAFETY PATHS & TRAILS

ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Modetz / Adams Connection:

Completed in July of 2010, this path connects two pathways on the east side of Adams Road, between Dutton and Silverbell. It is an excellent example of how private citizens and SPTC can work together for the betterment of the community. John and Mary Modetz saw that users of the subdivision-built pathway on either side of their property had to veer onto Adams Road to continue on the safety path. Recognizing an unsafe situation, they generously offered the easement for a safety path.

The Cider Mill Connector:

Completed in September of 2016, this trail offers a safe alternative to using a very busy vehicular bridge on Gallagher Road to reach Goodison and the Cider Mill Building. The Cider Mill connector runs from the Paint Creek Trail behind Flagstar Bank to the pedestrian bridge on Orion Road and then to the Paint Creek Cider Mill. Many thanks to Flagstar Bank for their generous donation of the easement for this trail.





25

Silverbell / Brewster Link:

Completed in the fall of 2016, this path along the south side of Silverbell Road, from Brewster to the Coventry Lane path connects about 6.25 miles of existing safety paths in one of the highly populated areas of the township. Many thanks to property owners, Steve and Laura Benequisto, for allowing the easement on their property and recognizing the need for safe routes for their neighbors.



Eagle Creek Boardwalk:

Completed in 2017, this 230-foot boardwalk along the north side of Silverbell Road just east of Kern Road, provides a link to the popular paths along Silverbell and Kern.





Gallagher Creek Park Path:

Completed in 2018, this sidewalk is on the north side of Silverbell Road, running from Adams Road to Gallagher Creek Park. It was built in conjunction with improvements to the crosswalk access at Silverbell and Adams Roads and the path resurfacing around Oakland Christian Church.



Dutton / Adams Road Path:

Completed in 2018, this path runs along the north side of Dutton from the Blossom Ridge entrance to Adams, and then north (along the west side of Adams) to Mystic Lane.





Adams / Silverbell Road Path:

Completed in 2019. This path around Oakland Christian Church at the southwest corner of Adams and Silverbell Roads was in disrepair. It was resurfaced along with improvements to the crosswalks and signalization.



Adams Road Boardwalk:

Completed in 2019. This 430-foot boardwalk runs south of Silverbell Road along the west side of Adams Road. A portion of the decking was removed and replaced, and all of the horizontal and top railings were removed and replaced according to code.





Gallagher / Silverbell Road Path:

Completed in 2022, this 1.1 mile long path connects some of the township's most densely populated neighborhoods to the Paint Creek Trail and the village of Goodison.



Addison Oaks / Cranberry Lake Park Connection:

Completed in 2012, this path connects Cranberry Lake Park to Addison Oaks. The "Connector Trail" by Addison Oaks County Park is a 2.5 mile network of trails and boardwalks that stretches from Lake George Road through Addison Oaks and along the north side of Romeo Road to the crosswalk at Cranberry Lake Park. Funded through Oakland County, through a Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant, this trail system links the natural and historical resources of three parks: Bald Mountain Recreation Area, Addison Oaks and Cranberry Lake. This project exemplifies how strategic partnerships can greatly enhance trail and park connections.



Future Path:

The Mackley family, recognizing the need for a north/south connection between township parks has contributed the easement for future path or trail development.



OAKLAND TOWNSHIP

SAFETY PATHS & TRAILS COMMITTEE

At the end of 2007, a Safety Paths and Trails Committee (SPTC) was established to make recommendations to the township board of trustees concerning the planning, analysis and implementation of this non-motorized system. The SPTC acts as an advisory committee to the Board of Trustees and includes a representative from the Board of Trustees, Parks and Recreation Commission and the Planning Commission. The SPTC is always looking for informed citizens to serve on the Committee. The SPTC welcomes all comments, recommendations, suggestions and ideas concerning current and future safety paths and trails within Oakland Township and encourages the public to attend its meetings. Most meetings are televised live via the Oakland Township Government Television Live Stream and recordings of past meetings can be accessed through the township's website, www.oaklandtownship.org. The Safety Paths and Trails committee generally meets on the first Wednesday of the month to accomplish the following:

1. Establish systematic desirability and feasibility criteria to aid in the selection of potential projects

2. Work with professional engineering consultants to consider safety paths and trails design, cost, and construction location

3. Work with engineering and legal consultants and township staff to secure necessary easements from private landowners

4. Recommend safety paths and trails projects to the board of trustees

5. Establish policies and guidelines which will help direct the implementation and maintenance of safety paths and trails

6. Gain an understanding of how our township's safety paths and trails system fits into the larger regional and state trail planning and funding vision

7. Review how safety paths and trails groups operate in other communities, and study what policies, procedures and tools they use

8. Review/update our township's trail and safety path information online and in township newsletters

Committee Members:

Andrew Zale,
Chairperson,
Board of Trustees
Representative

Teresa Mulawa,
Vice Chair,
Citizen Member

Laurel Johnson,
Secretary,
Citizen Member

John Casadei,
Planning Commission
Representative

Jim Quesenberry,
Parks & Recreation
Representative

Evan Agnello
Committee Member

Shane Smith
Committee Member

This document can be accessed online at:
www.oaklandtownship.org/township_departments/safety_paths_and_trails_future_plans.php

Appendix B: Community Input

Oakland Township residents were provided the opportunity to participate in a survey administered by Cobalt Community Research. Postcards were sent to a sample group as part of a statistically valid sampling, while an open survey with the same question set was made available to the community at large. 425 responses were received from the sample group, and an additional 75 from the general population.

In addition, a Community Open House was held on June 6, 2024, at Township Hall. Participants were given the opportunity to speak with Parks and Recreation Commissioners, staff, and consultants at the event.

The following pages provide the results of the survey and a summary of comments received at the Open House. The survey data is available as an Excel spreadsheet by request at the Parks and Recreation Department. All responses provided on the following pages are unedited, except to redact identifying information.

Survey Postcard Notice Example

A Few Minutes of Your Time Will Help Make Oakland Township an Even Better Place to Live, Learn and Play! Complete the Parks, Recreation and Land Preservation Master Plan Study!

Deadline: Before May XX, 2024

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation is conducting a study to establish priorities for the future acquisition, development and operation of parks, recreation facilities, natural areas, and programs in the community.

Your feedback matters. It ensures the Township has the best information to develop the 2025-2029 Master Plan for Parks, Recreation, and Land Preservation.

The Township and Cobalt Community Research are working together on this study to keep your results confidential. Cobalt is a nonprofit organization created to help organizations measure and manage their efforts through high-quality, affordable research.

Complete the study on-line at **www.CobaltCommunityResearch.org/OT**

Use the Study ID number below (your identity will not be linked with your responses):

XXXX

If others in your home want to participate, have them add "Oakland Township" after the Study ID when they begin.

If you prefer to print a paper copy, you may do so at the landing page above, or you may request a copy from Cobalt: Information@CobaltCommunityResearch.org.

Mark your calendar: The Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission will host an open house for the community to provide feedback on the Township's parks, recreation facilities and programming. The feedback provided will guide the development of the 2025-2029 Parks, Recreation, and Land Preservation Master Plan. It will be between 6pm-8pm Thursday June 6, 2024, at the Oakland Township Hall, 4393 Collins Road, Rochester, MI 48306.

Survey Language

2024 Parks and Recreation Evaluation for 2025-2029 Parks, Recreation, and Land Preservation Master Plan

Thank you for taking the time to participate in our evaluation. Your input will be critical as we look forward to the next five years and try to find ways to develop and improve our parks and recreation system. The evaluation should take about 15 minutes to complete.

Please enter your study ID number from your postcard.
(Your responses will remain anonymous and will not be shared with the Township.)

About You

1. In which quadrant of the Township do you live? (For a map, see **www.CobaltCommunityResearch.org/OT**.)

○ Northwest ○ Southwest ○ Northeast ○ Southeast ○ Outside the Township

2. Please indicate your age. For households with multiple family members, mark all that apply.

☐ 0-5 years ☐ 13-18 years ☐ 25-34 hears ☐ 55-64 years ☐ 75 and over ☐ Prefer not to answer
☐ 6-12 years ☐ 19-23 years ☐ 45-54 years ☐ 65-74 years

3. Which category best describes your home?

○ Apartment/condo/ townhouse ○ Mobile home ○ Single family home on < 1-acre lot ○ Single family home with an acre or more

Parks and Recreation

The Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission manages approximately 1500 acres of Township park land, trails, and recreation facilities. The Township's 10-year Parks and Recreation millage and 10-year Land Preservation millage fund acquisition, planning, development, programs, operation, and maintenance. These millages will be up for renewal in 2026 and 2030.

4. What are the things that are done especially well that should continue?

5. Which three areas below should be prioritized to meet the needs of you and your household? (Mark up to 3.)

☐ Acquire and preserve new parkland and natural areas
☐ Construct new sports fields and courts (e.g. softball, soccer, pickle ball, etc.)
☐ Develop new park programming
☐ Develop new specialized amenities (outdoor fitness circuits, adventure parks, amphitheater, splash pad, etc.)
☐ Develop walking, biking, and horse trails within park borders
☐ Maintain existing park programming
☐ Maintain/improve existing parks & structures (e.g. playgrounds, picnic shelters, etc.)
☐ Stewardship of natural areas (natural area restoration and invasive plant management)

6. How do you typically travel to local parks? (Mark all that apply.)

☐ Walk ☐ Drive ☐ Bike

7. Which ***times work best for you and your household*** to participate in recreation programming? (Mark all that apply.)

☐ Weekdays - daytime (year round)
☐ Weekdays - daytime (summer only)
☐ Weekdays - daytime after school
☐ Weekdays - evenings
☐ Saturday - daytime
☐ Saturday - evenings
☐ Sunday - daytime
☐ Sunday - evenings

8. How ***satisfied are you*** with each of the Oakland Township parks listed below? You can find a map of them at www.CobaltCommunityResearch.org/OT. If you are not sure, please mark "***Don't Know***."

	Very unsatisfied	Somewhat unsatisfied	Neutral	Somewhat satisfied	Very satisfied	Don't know/ haven't visited
Bear Creek Nature Park	○	○	○	○	○	○
Charles Ilsley Park	○	○	○	○	○	○
Cranberry Lake Park	○	○	○	○	○	○
Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District	○	○	○	○	○	○
Draper Twin Lake Park	○	○	○	○	○	○
Fox Nature Preserve	○	○	○	○	○	○
Gallagher Creek Park	○	○	○	○	○	○
Lost Lake Nature Park	○	○	○	○	○	○
Marsh View Park	○	○	○	○	○	○
Mill Race Trail	○	○	○	○	○	○
Paint Creek Junction Park	○	○	○	○	○	○
Paint Creek Trail	○	○	○	○	○	○
Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park	○	○	○	○	○	○
Watershed Ridge Park	○	○	○	○	○	○

9. How ***frequently do you visit*** Oakland Township's parks?

	At least once a week	Once a month	Once or twice a year	Don't know/ haven't visited
Bear Creek Nature Park	○	○	○	○
Charles Ilsley Park	○	○	○	○
Cranberry Lake Park	○	○	○	○
Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District	○	○	○	○
Draper Twin Lake Park	○	○	○	○
Fox Nature Preserve	○	○	○	○
Gallagher Creek Park	○	○	○	○
Lost Lake Nature Park	○	○	○	○
Marsh View Park	○	○	○	○
Mill Race Trail	○	○	○	○
Paint Creek Junction Park	○	○	○	○
Paint Creek Trail	○	○	○	○
Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park	○	○	○	○
Watershed Ridge Park	○	○	○	○

10. What are your primary reasons ***for using*** Oakland Township parks? (Mark all that apply.)

- ☐ Access to natural areas
- ☐ Active use facilities like sled hill, archery range, or sports fields (non-organized)
- ☐ Exercise
- ☐ Family, friends, neighborhood, or community gathering
- ☐ Get away from every day routine, surroundings & activities
- ☐ Nature education
- ☐ Oakland Township Parks programming or events
- ☐ Organized sports (e.g. soccer team)
- ☐ Passive use facilities like picnic areas or playgrounds
- ☐ Pathway to destination elsewhere
- ☐ Physical attributes / setting
- ☐ School programs
- ☐ Trail activities (e.g. running, walking, biking, horseback riding)
- ☐ Water activities (e.g. fishing, kayaking)

11. What are your primary ***reasons for NOT using*** Oakland Township parks? (Mark all that apply.)

- ☐ Facilities / amenities I am looking for are not available
- ☐ I can appreciate open spaces without using a park
- ☐ I do not know the location of parks
- ☐ Insufficient staffing or services
- ☐ Lack of leisure time
- ☐ Lack of parking
- ☐ Lack of walking / biking access
- ☐ Not accessible for people with disabilities
- ☐ Not interested in using parks
- ☐ Park facilities in other communities better suit my needs
- ☐ Parks are not well maintained
- ☐ Mowed in-park trails are too difficult to use
- ☐ Safety concerns
- ☐ Unaware of offerings

12. Which ***five*** Oakland Township facilities or programs are ***most important*** for you and your household? (Mark up to 5.)

- ☐ Access to lakes for kayaking
- ☐ Asphalt or concrete pathways
- ☐ Covered picnic areas
- ☐ Fishing areas
- ☐ Historic and/or cultural heritage sites
- ☐ Horse trails
- ☐ Hunting areas
- ☐ Large multi-field sports facilities
- ☐ Music in the parks
- ☐ Natural areas
- ☐ Nature studies
- ☐ Overhead lighting
- ☐ Primitive campgrounds
- ☐ Rustic facilities
- ☐ Splash parks
- ☐ Walking or biking trails
- ☐ Wetland areas
- ☐ Wildlife preserves

13. Which ***five*** of the following amenities would ***you like to see more of*** in Oakland Township? (Mark up to 5.)

- ☐ Amphitheater / stage
- ☐ Baseball/softball fields
- ☐ Basketball courts
- ☐ Community gardens
- ☐ Cross-country ski trails
- ☐ Disc golf
- ☐ Dog parks
- ☐ Equestrian facilities
- ☐ Expanded fishing opportunities
- ☐ Expanded hunting opportunities
- ☐ Fishing/observation docks
- ☐ Fitness / exercise trails
- ☐ Ice skating rink (outdoor)
- ☐ Improved universal accessibility (parking, trails, other amenities)
- ☐ Mountain biking trails
- ☐ Multi-use walking/biking paths (i.e. 10'-wide paved or limestone pathways)
- ☐ Natural areas
- ☐ Outdoor adventure park (rope course and zip line)
- ☐ Pickle ball courts
- ☐ Picnic areas and pavilions
- ☐ Playground structures
- ☐ Primitive camping
- ☐ Restoration of natural areas
- ☐ Rustic walking paths (i.e. 6 to 8' mowed grass)
- ☐ Sand volleyball courts
- ☐ Skate park
- ☐ Sled hills
- ☐ Soccer/Lacrosse fields
- ☐ Splash pad
- ☐ Tennis courts
- ☐ Water feature (e.g. fountain, lake, etc.)

14. Please mark the top ***three*** in-park ***support facilities*** needed for you and your household. (Mark up to 3.)

- ☐ Benches
- ☐ Bike racks
- ☐ Directional signage
- ☐ Drinking fountains
- ☐ Hitching posts
- ☐ Interpretive signs
- ☐ Mile markers
- ☐ Picnic tables
- ☐ Rest rooms
- ☐ Road signs directing to parks
- ☐ Trail head information kiosks
- ☐ Trash receptacles
- ☐ Vehicular Parking

15. Which trail surfaces best meet the needs of you and your household?

- ☐ Mowed grass trail
- ☐ Crushed limestone trail
- ☐ Paved trail (concrete or asphalt)

16. Which programs have you or members of your household ***participated in over the past year***? (Mark all that apply.)

- ☐ Archery at Marsh View Park
- ☐ Guided bird walks
- ☐ Down on the Farm at Cranberry Lake Farm
- ☐ Fitness and wellness programs
- ☐ Free fishing at Lost Lake Nature Park or Draper Twin Lake Park
- ☐ Goodison Good Tyme at Bear Creek Nature Park
- ☐ Hunting at Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park
- ☐ Ice skating at Bear Creek Nature Park
- ☐ Kayaking at Lost Lake Nature Park or Draper Twin Lake Park
- ☐ Music in the Meadows concerts at Cranberry Lake Farm and Bear Creek Nature Park
- ☐ Natural area stewardship events - volunteer workdays
- ☐ Natural areas stewardship winter talks
- ☐ Nature programs at any Oakland Township park
- ☐ Open houses at Lost Lake Nature Center
- ☐ Phragmites (invasive plant) treatment
- ☐ Soccer at Marsh View Park
- ☐ Winter Carnival at Bear Creek Nature Park
- ☐ Winter sledding at Lost Lake Nature Park

17. What are your primary ***reasons for participating*** in programs and events? (Mark all that apply.)

- ☐ Exercise
- ☐ Family activities
- ☐ Hobbies and personal interests
- ☐ Learning
- ☐ Nature appreciation
- ☐ Nature education
- ☐ Physical attributes or settings
- ☐ Pure enjoyment
- ☐ School programs
- ☐ Sense of community

18. What are your primary ***reasons for NOT participating*** in programs and events? (Mark all that apply.)

- ☐ Cost
- ☐ Ease of registration
- ☐ I do not know the location of the parks
- ☐ Insufficient staffing and services
- ☐ Lack of leisure time
- ☐ Not accessible for people with disabilities
- ☐ Not convenient day or time
- ☐ Not interested in attending programs/events
- ☐ Prefer to participate in programs in other communities
- ☐ Prefer virtual programs
- ☐ Preferred program or special event not offered
- ☐ Unaware of offerings

19. Which of the following ***programs would best meet the needs*** of you and your household? (Mark all that apply.)

- ☐ Adult fine arts and performing arts
- ☐ Adult fitness and wellness programs
- ☐ Adult programs for 50 years and older
- ☐ Bicycling clubs
- ☐ Educational programs
- ☐ Environmental stewardship, conservation, and ecology programs
- ☐ Equestrian clubs
- ☐ Family activities
- ☐ History programs
- ☐ Nature appreciation and education programs
- ☐ Preschooler programs
- ☐ Programs for persons with special needs
- ☐ Special events, i.e. concerts or festivals
- ☐ Teen-oriented programs
- ☐ Walking, hiking, and running clubs
- ☐ Youth sports programs
- ☐ Youth summer day camp programs

20. How do you feel about ***fees charged*** for recreation programs, equipment, and facilities?

	Too high	About right	Too low	Don't know/ haven't used
Archery Open Range (free)	○	○	○	○
Archery Class - per hour (Resident $12 - 20, Non-resident $15 - 25)	○	○	○	○
Fitness & Wellness - per hour (Resident $10, Non-resident $12)	○	○	○	○
Nature programs - per class (Resident $5, Non-resident $7)	○	○	○	○
Picnic pavilion - five hours (Resident $25, Non-resident $50)	○	○	○	○
Youth soccer field permit - per game (Resident $55, Non-resident $70)	○	○	○	○
Adult soccer field permit - per game (Resident $90, Non-resident $120)	○	○	○	○
Skills camps youth outdoors ($150-$225)	○	○	○	○

21. Fox Nature Preserve contains a ***historic barn*** that could be renovated and used for future programs. Please review the list of options below and share if you support or oppose each one.

	Support	Oppose	Not sure
Stabilize the historic Fox Barn at Fox Nature Preserve to allow public viewing of the outside, but do not allow public use of the barn (foundation only cost would be approximately $275,000)	○	○	○
Repair the historic Fox Barn so it can be used for storage and maintenance (foundation only cost would be approximately $500,000)	○	○	○
Restore the historic Fox Barn to allow public use for events, programs, rest room use, etc. (foundation only cost would be approximately $750,000)	○	○	○

22. The Township would pursue grants to help offset the cost of the historic barn projects at Fox Nature Preserve and Cranberry Lake Farm. What other sources of revenue do you support to complete the historic barn projects and provide appropriate maintenance? (Mark all that apply.)

- ☐ Corporate sponsorships
- ☐ Bond/borrow for the costs
- ☐ Community donations/fund raisers
- ☐ Resident-supported dedicated millages

23. Considering all questions so far, which additional, specific improvements would you like to see to better meet the needs of you and your household?

Cranberry Lake Farm (CLF) Historic District

The CLF encompasses sixteen acres in Cranberry Lake Park. It includes restored houses and barns dating back as far as the 1840s. CLF is operated by the Oakland Township Historic District Commission and is funded for 10 years through the Historic District Operating Millage.

24. Have you ever visited the Cranberry Lake Farm (CLF) Historic District?

- ○ Yes
- ○ No

25. What ***activities*** typically bring you to CLF? (Mark all that apply.)

- ☐ Concerts
- ☐ Down on the Farm event
- ☐ Nature observation
- ☐ Picnic
- ☐ Private events
- ☐ Programs or workshops
- ☐ Research / Museum
- ☐ Scouting activities
- ☐ Story Garden
- ☐ Volunteering
- ☐ Walk the grounds, hiking, biking, riding

26. How would you ***rate your interest*** in the following CLF offerings?

	Very disinterested	Somewhat disinterested	Neutral	Somewhat interested	Very interested
Archives / research	○	○	○	○	○
Museum	○	○	○	○	○
Rotating exhibits	○	○	○	○	○
Square dances	○	○	○	○	○
Recreational events and activities	○	○	○	○	○
Historical events and re-enactments	○	○	○	○	○
Concerts	○	○	○	○	○
Educational programs	○	○	○	○	○
Down on the Farm day	○	○	○	○	○
Private rentals	○	○	○	○	○
Story, Heritage, and Herb gardens	○	○	○	○	○
Little free library	○	○	○	○	○

27. What ***improvements*** would you like to see at CLF? (Mark all that apply.)

- ☐ Additional parking
- ☐ Additional picnic seating
- ☐ Agricultural crops
- ☐ Community garden areas
- ☐ Flushing rest rooms
- ☐ Improved signage for buildings and implements
- ☐ Interactive displays
- ☐ More accessible pathways to the buildings
- ☐ Permanent cultural exhibits
- ☐ Picnic shelters/covered pavilions
- ☐ Restored barns
- ☐ Restored implements
- ☐ Working farm with live animals and poultry runs
- ☐ Yurts/gazebos

28. Cranberry Lake Farm received the donated, historic ***Garling Barn*** that could be relocated, renovated and used for public activities and programs. Please share if you support or oppose the options below.

	Support	Oppose	Not sure
Relocate the donated Garling Barn to the Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District (cost would be approximately $425,000)	○	○	○
In general, it is important for the Township to expend funds for historic preservation to retain important historic structures in the Township	○	○	○

Communication Preferences

29. What is the best way to ***keep you informed*** about Oakland Township parks, recreation facilities, programming, and events? (Mark all that apply.)

- ☐ Cable access television
- ☐ E-newsletters and e-mail blasts
- ☐ Facebook
- ☐ Family, friends, and neighbors
- ☐ Flyers/posters at Parks & Rec properties
- ☐ Handouts at park events and programs
- ☐ Instagram
- ☐ Interactive Parks and Recreation website with active calendar and maps
- ☐ Natural Area Stewardship blog (OaklandNaturalAreas.com)
- ☐ Newspaper articles
- ☐ Nextdoor
- ☐ Oakland Township newsletter
- ☐ Oakland Township website
- ☐ Parks and Recreation newsletter
- ☐ Roadside signs
- ☐ Rochester Community Schools Enrichment Program catalog
- ☐ Special events postcards
- ☐ X (formerly Twitter)

30. The Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission will host an open house for the community to provide feedback on the Township's parks, recreation facilities and programming. The feedback provided will guide the development of the 2025-2029 Parks, Recreation, and Land Preservation Master Plan. It will be between 6pm-8pm Thursday June 6, 2024, at the Oakland Township Hall. If you would like to be included on the Parks & Recreation e-mail list, please add your information below.

Please mail before due date to Cobalt, PO Box 416, Charlotte, MI 48813

Cobalt Community Research

Supporting Decisions | Inspiring Ideas

2024 Parks and Recreation Evaluation for 2025-2029 Parks, Recreation, and Land Preservation Master Plan

August 2024

2024015

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Background on Cobalt Community Research

- 501c3 not for profit research coalition
- Mission to provide research and education
- Developed to meet the research needs of schools, local governments, and nonprofit organizations

Bottom Line

- Done right: Comments focus on preservation, maintenance, rustic ambiance, and programming
- Areas to prioritize: Develop trails, acquire/preserve new areas, maintain/improve existing parks and structures, stewardship of natural areas
- Travel to parks: 80 percent drive, 34 percent walk, 28 percent bike
- Best times: Saturday and Sunday daytimes, weekday evenings
- Highest rated parks: Paint Creek Trail and Bear Creek Nature Park
- Reasons to use parks: Access natural areas, exercise, trail activities
- Reasons not using: Lack of time, unaware of offerings, do not know locations
- Most important facilities/programs: Walking or biking trails, natural areas, wildlife preserves
- Preferred amenities to expand: Mulit-use paths, fitness/exercise trails, nature areas

Bottom Line *continued*

- Important support facilities: Restrooms and benches
- Reasons to attend programs/events: Pure enjoyment, nature appreciation, exercise
- Reasons not attending: Lack of time, unaware of offerings
- Programs to best meet needs: Special events, adult programming
- Fees are general considered about right
- Limited support for barn projects except for Fox Barn to allow public use, but funded through sponsorships and donations/fund raisers
- CLF offerings of greatest interest: Concerts and educational programs
- Most preferred improvements at CLF: Flushing rest rooms

Methodology

- Contact information gathered from Township voting records.
- Conducted using a single postcard mailing in May 2024 with only 1 survey per household. Responses were online with a unique ID number provided on the postcard.
  - Mailing list (one mailing per household): 6,863
- Valid response from approximately 425 residents, providing +/- 4.7 percent margin of error with a confidence level of 95%
- Residents who were not part of the mailing also could participate but had their responses kept separate. These responses are provided in the crosstab reports.
- Total response of those included and the volunteers not included in the mailing: 500
- *Note: Results may not equal 100% because of no response to the specific question and/or multiple responses available*

Preserving Voice: Looking Into Detail

Rating Questions
2024 Oakland Township Parks and Recreation
Response: 425, Margin of Error +/- 4.7

		Rate Satisfaction with Township Parks													
		Bear Creek Nature Park	Charles Ilsley Park	Cranberry Lake Park	Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District	Draper Twin Lake Park	Fox Nature Preserve	Gallagher Creek Park	Lost Lake Nature Park	Marsh View Park	Mill Race Trail	Paint Creek Junction Park	Paint Creek Trail	Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park	Watershed Ridge Park
Overall		**4.4**	**3.9**	**4.0**	**4.1**	**3.8**	**3.8**	**4.0**	**4.0**	**4.0**	**3.9**	**4.1**	**4.4**	**3.9**	**3.5**
Home Location	Northwest	4.4	4.1	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.2	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.1	4.4	4.6	4.1	3.9
	Southwest	4.7	4.0	4.3	4.3	3.9	4.1	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.0	4.2	4.5	4.1	3.7
	Northeast	4.0	3.6	3.8	3.9	3.6	3.4	3.7	3.8	3.5	3.6	4.0	4.1	3.7	3.2
	Southeast	4.4	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.8	4.0	3.6	4.0	3.8	4.0	3.9	4.4	3.9	3.2
	Outside the Township*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ages in Home	0-5 years*	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.6	4.3	4.7	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.6	4.3	3.6
	6-12 years	4.3	4.0	4.1	3.9	4.0	3.7	4.0	4.4	4.4	3.7	4.1	4.4	3.8	3.8
	13-18 years	4.2	3.3	3.7	3.6	3.8	3.8	3.5	4.3	3.7	3.7	4.1	4.4	3.6	3.4
	19-24 years*	4.4	3.7	3.8	3.3	3.6	3.4	4.3	4.1	3.7	3.7	4.1	4.3	3.7	3.9
	25-34 years	4.7	4.5	4.3	4.3	3.8	4.3	4.0	4.6	4.2	4.1	4.8	4.7	4.3	3.5
	35-44 years	4.5	4.1	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.3	4.1	4.1	4.4	4.3	4.1	4.6	4.3	3.8
	45-54 years	4.3	3.6	3.9	3.8	3.9	3.7	4.2	4.0	4.0	3.9	4.2	4.4	3.7	3.4
	55-64 years	4.4	3.9	4.1	4.1	3.5	3.9	3.9	4.0	3.9	3.9	4.2	4.4	3.9	3.4
	65-74 years	4.5	4.0	4.1	4.1	3.8	3.8	3.9	4.1	4.0	3.8	4.1	4.3	3.9	3.9
	75 and over	4.3	4.1	4.0	4.0	3.9	3.6	3.9	4.0	3.5	3.6	4.0	4.4	3.9	3.4
	Prefer not to answer*	4.3	3.7	4.2	4.4	3.8	3.8	4.0	4.0	4.2	3.6	4.3	4.2	4.2	3.3

Consistent Scores Regardless of Demographics

Checkered Scores that Vary by Demographics

Results



Word Cloud:

What are the things that are done especially well that should continue?

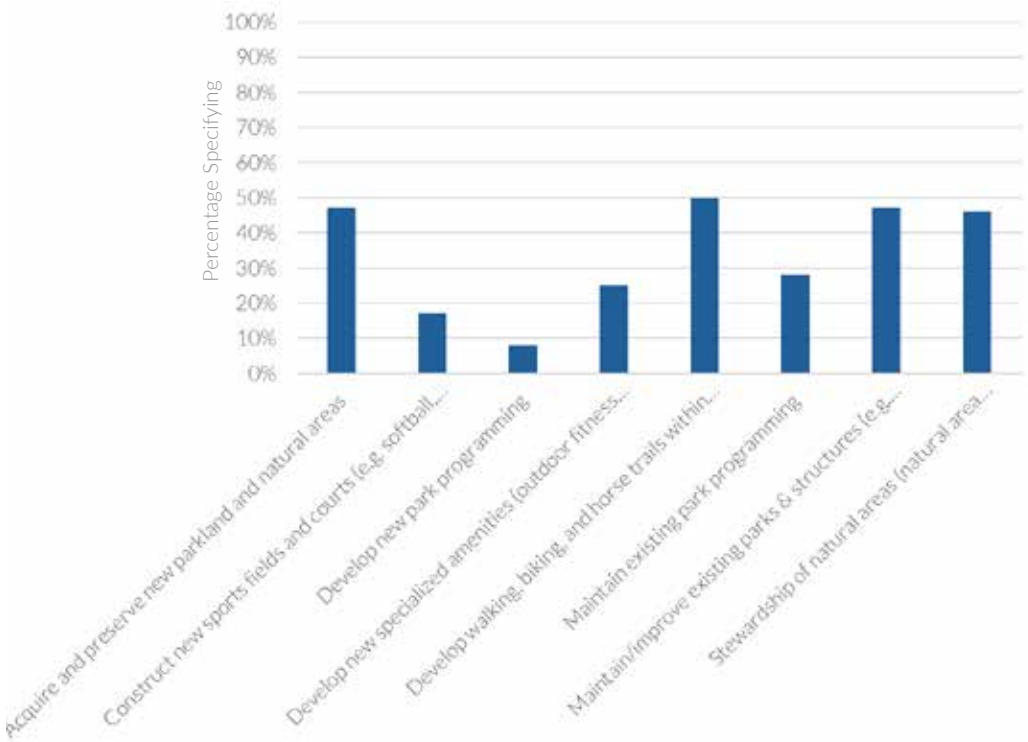
Top Themes:

- Land and Park Preservation: Prioritize acquiring parklands and safeguarding green spaces to uphold the natural charm.
- Park and Trail Maintenance: Ensure parks and trails are well maintained for community enjoyment.
- Natural and Rustic Atmosphere: Preserve the township's rustic ambiance by maintaining wooded areas and preventing overdevelopment.
- Community Programs and Events: Support diverse, engaging programs and events to enrich community life.

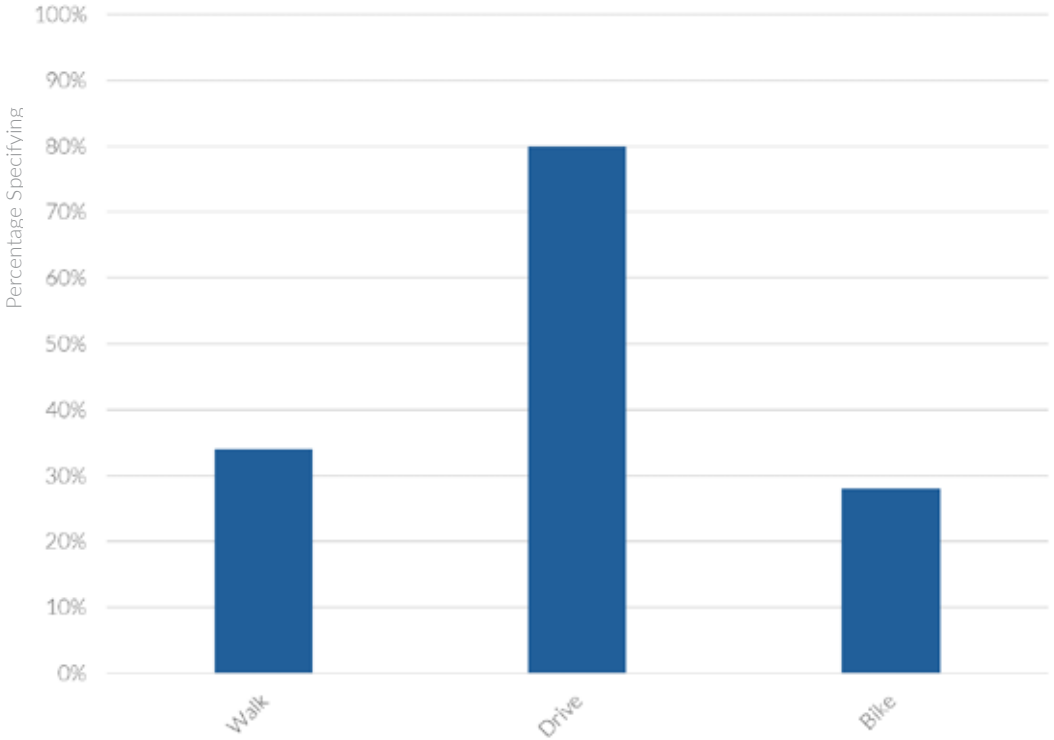


Note: See full list of comments for context

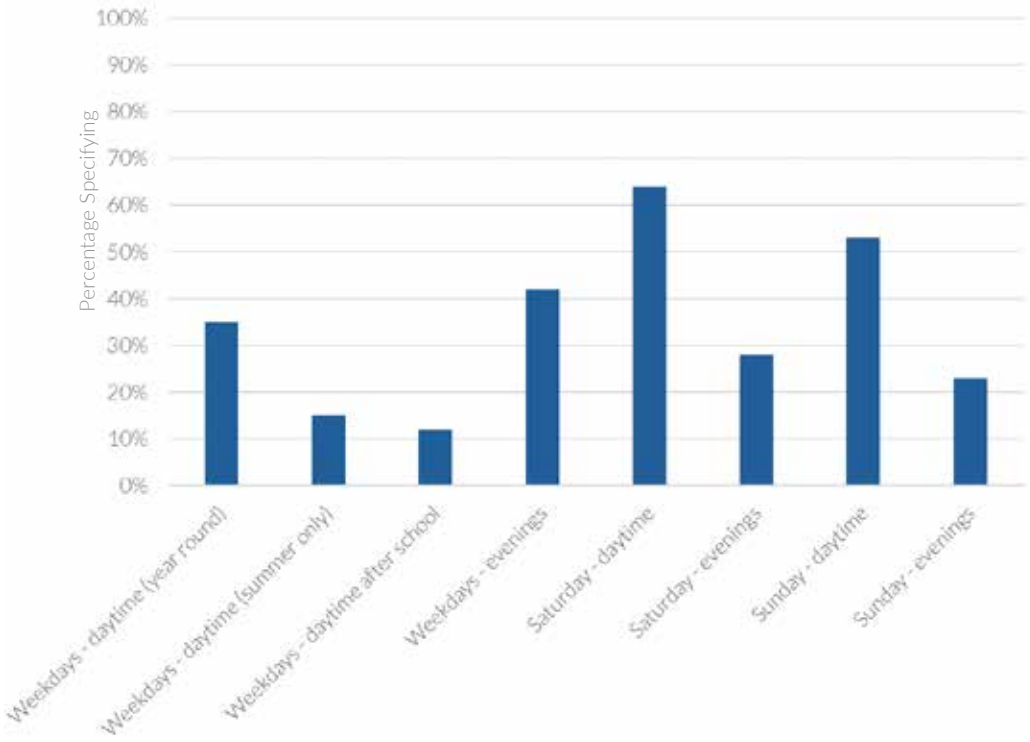
Which three areas should be prioritized for your household's needs?



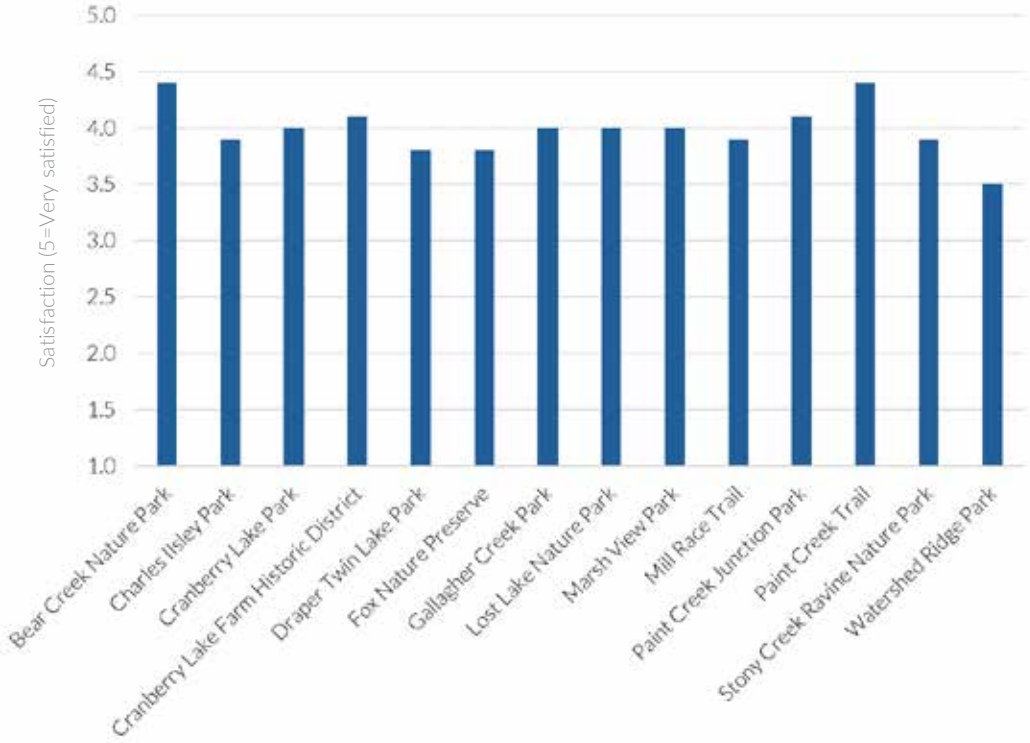
How do you typically travel to local parks?



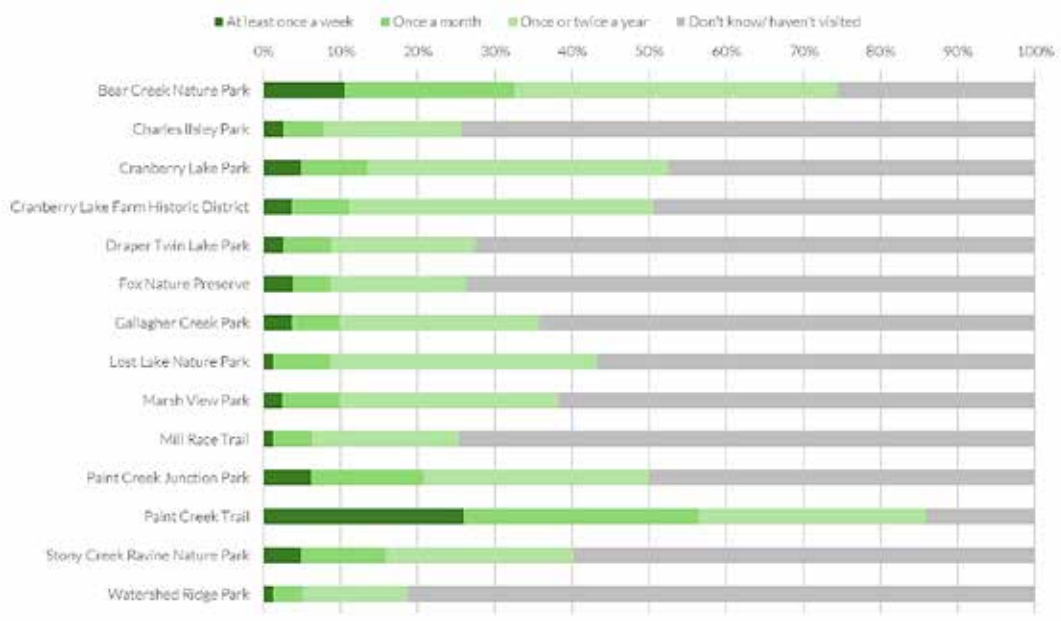
Which times are best for your household to join recreation programs?



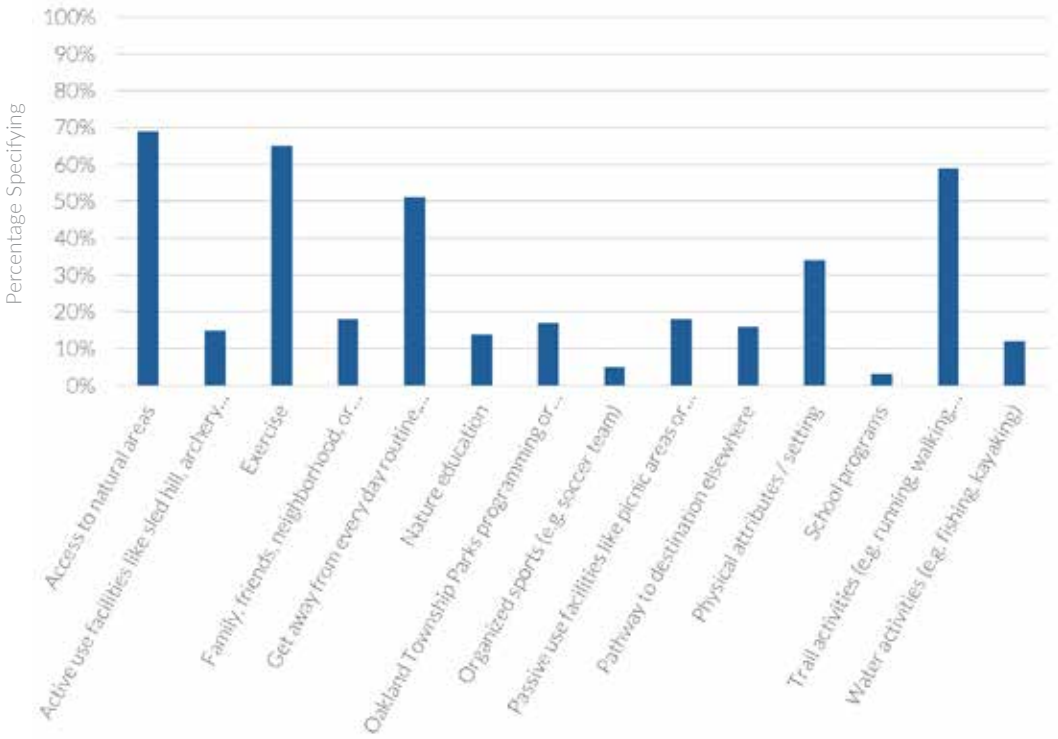
Rate Satisfaction with Township Parks



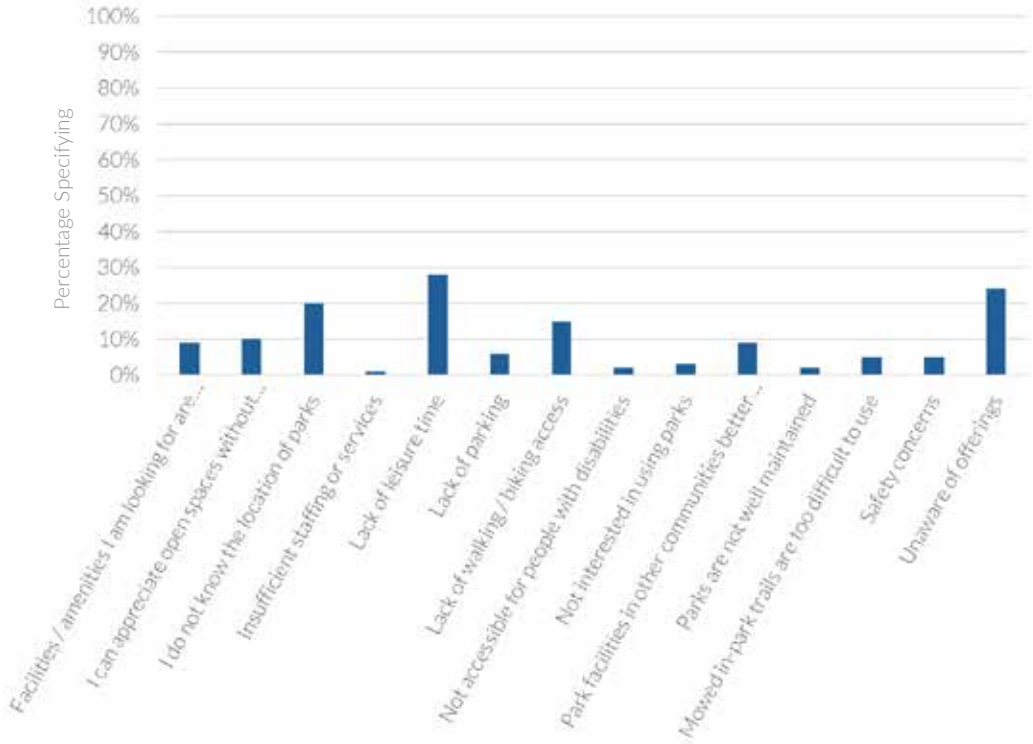
Frequency of Use



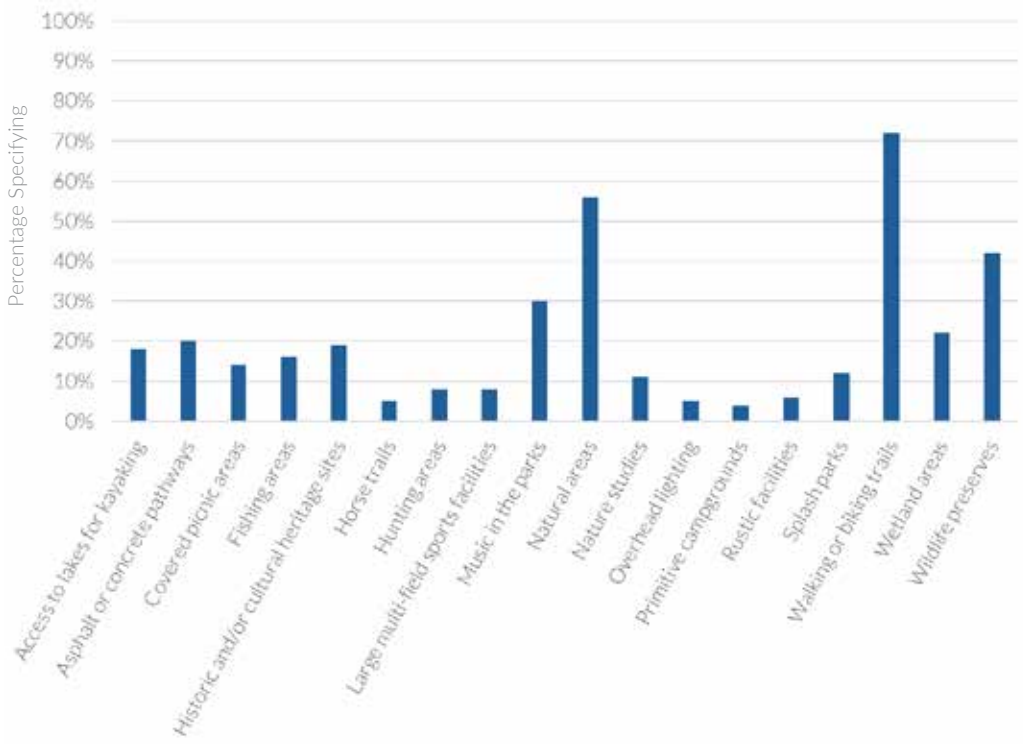
What are your primary reasons for using Oakland Township parks?



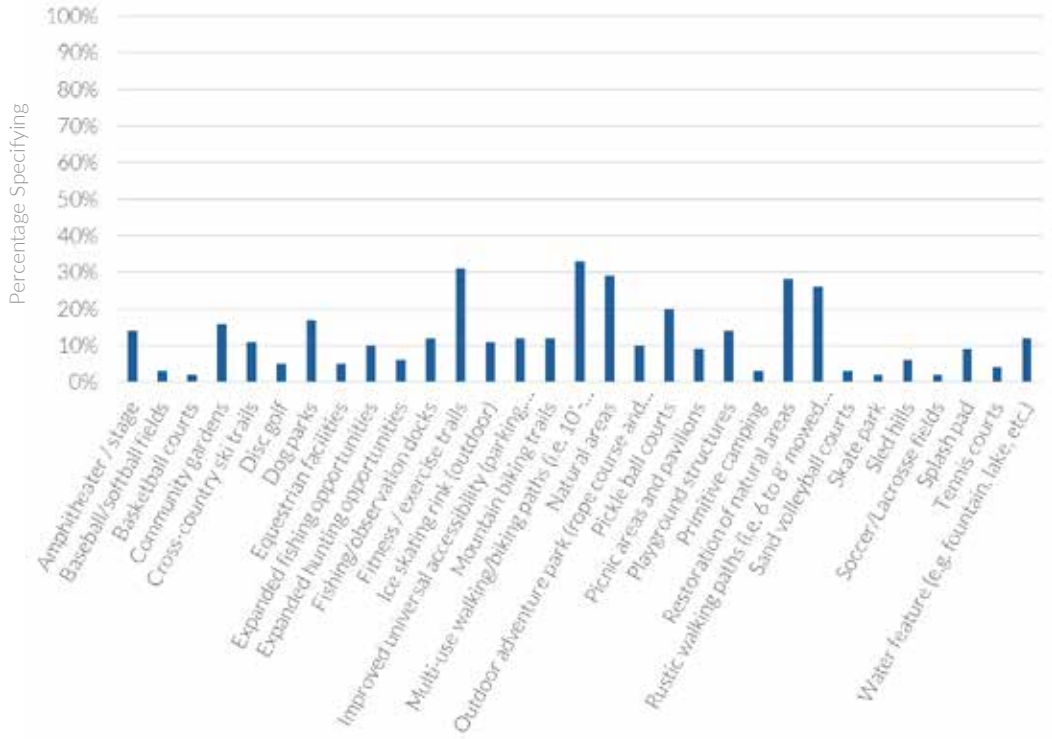
What are your primary reasons for NOT using Oakland Township parks?



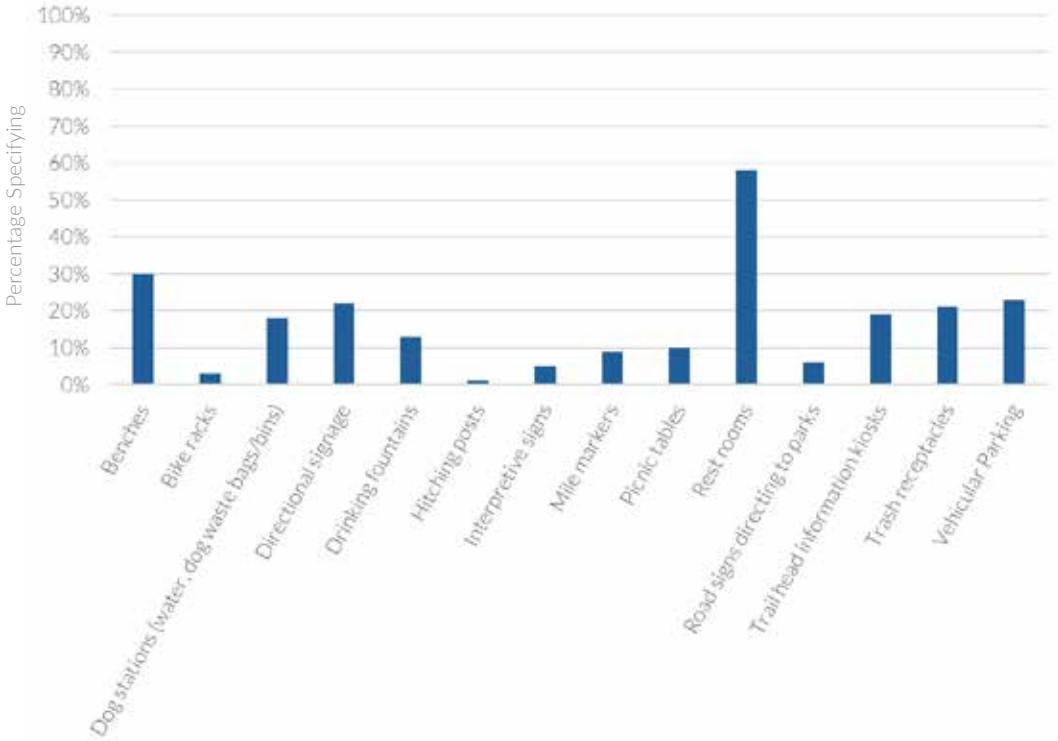
Which five Oakland Township facilities or programs are most important for you and your household?



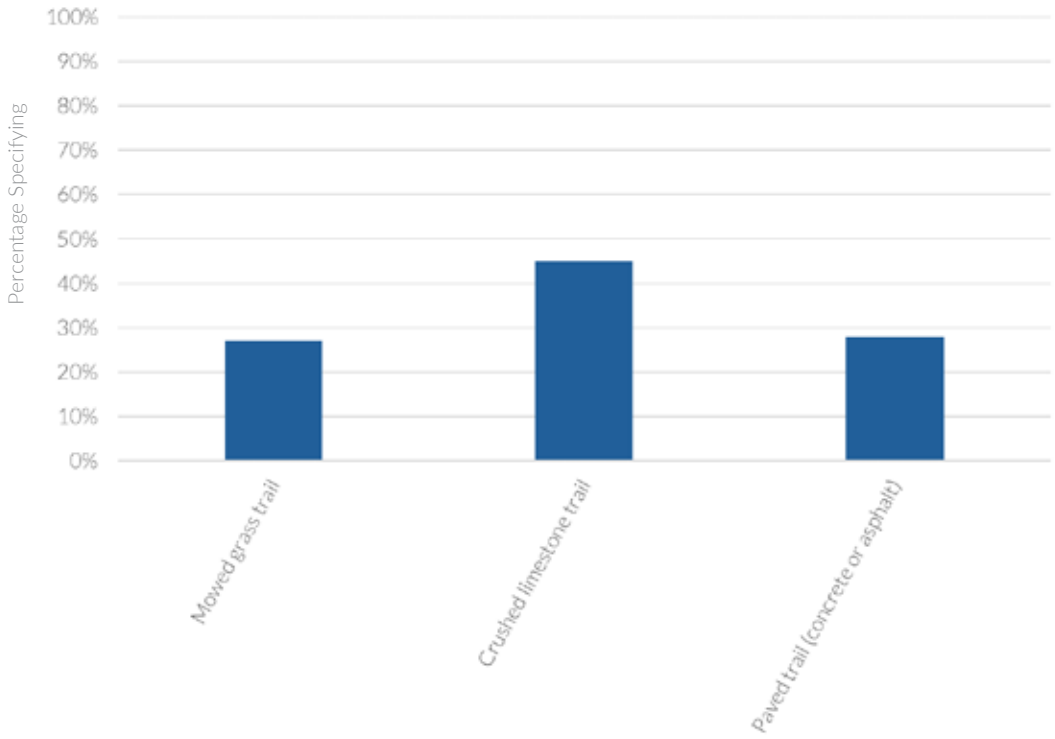
Which five of the following amenities would you like to see more of in Oakland Township?



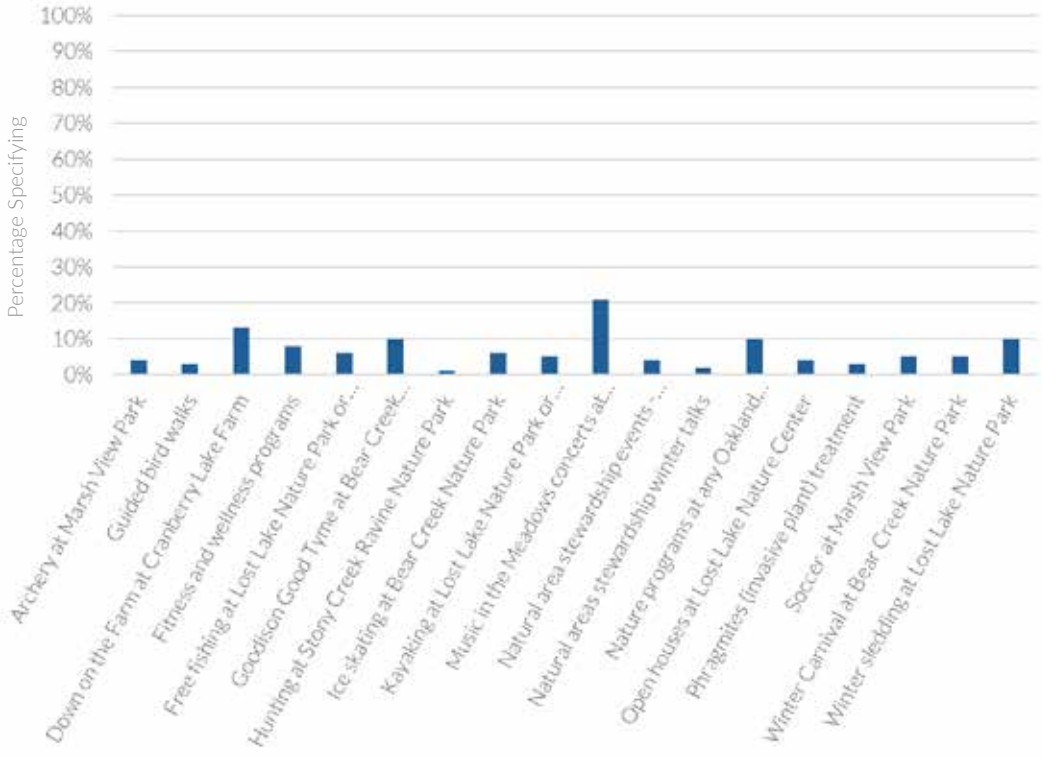
Please mark the top three in-park support facilities needed for you and your household.



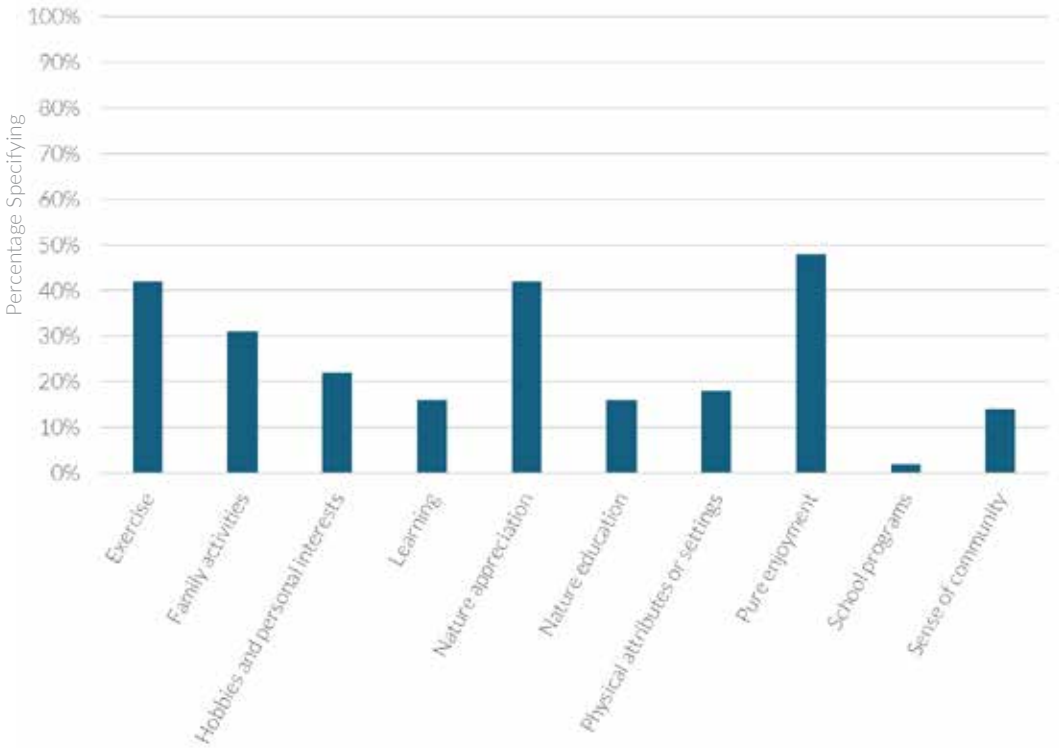
Which trail surfaces best meet the needs of you and your family



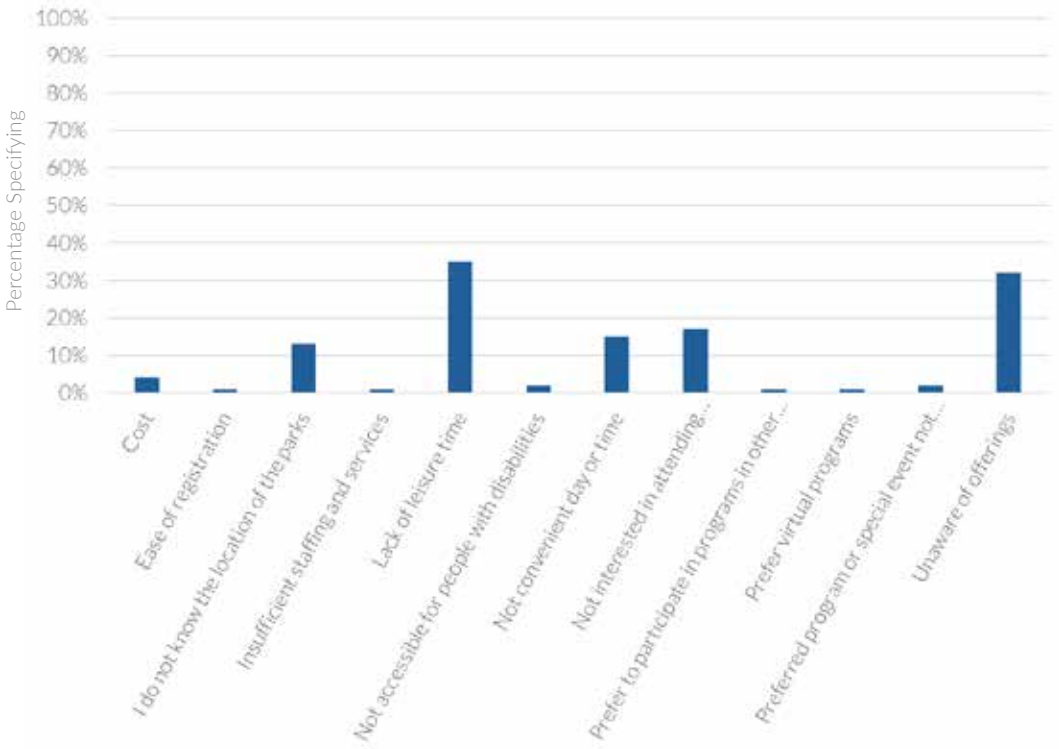
Which programs have you or members of your household participated in over the past year?



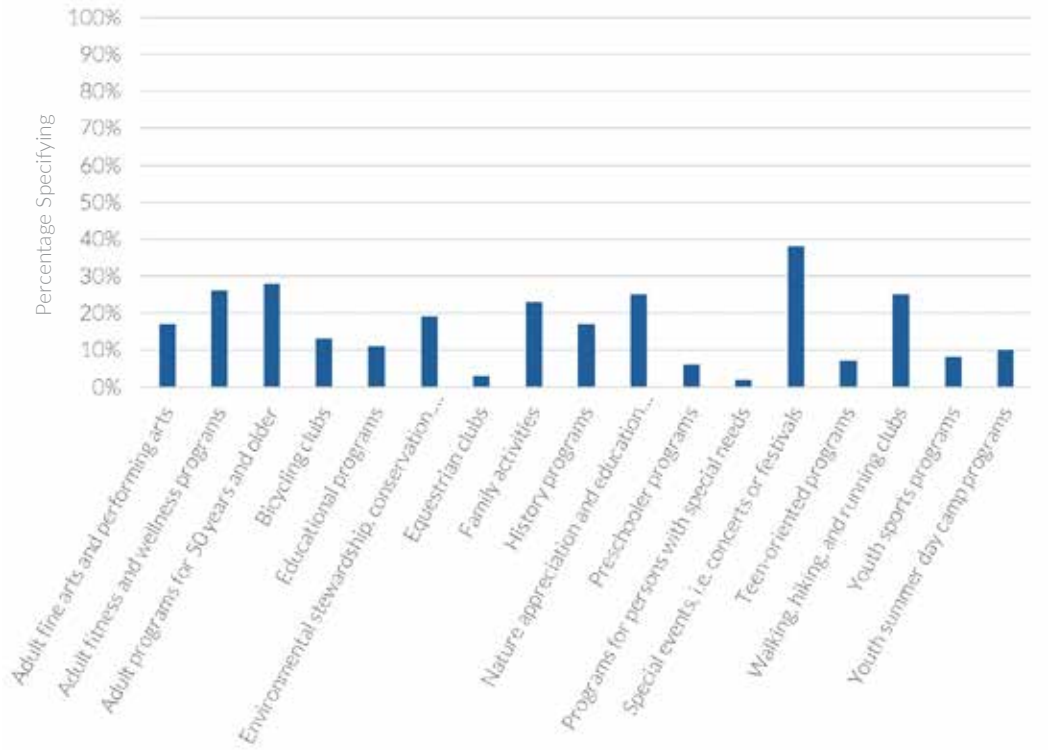
What are your primary reasons for participating in programs and events?



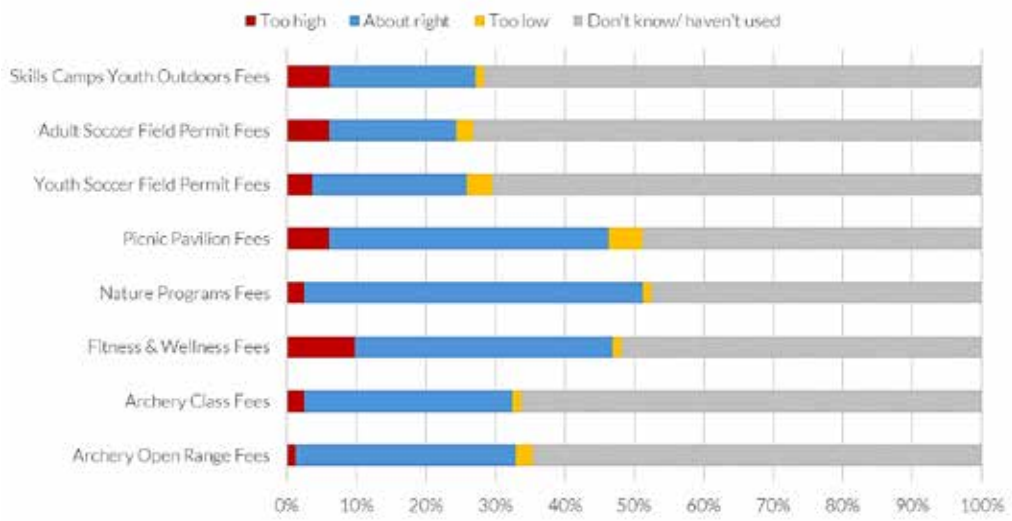
What are your primary reasons for NOT participating in programs and events?



Which of the following programs would best meet the needs of you and your household?



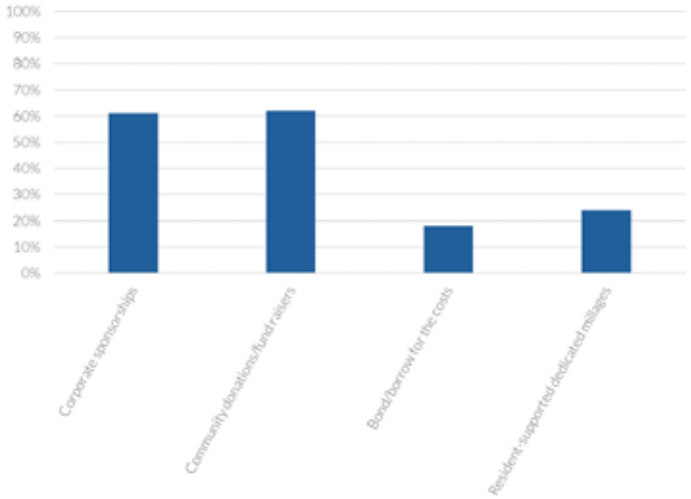
Fees



Historic Fox Barn

		Stabilize Fox Barn but no public use			Repair Fox Barn for storage and maintenance			Restore Fox Barn to allow public use		
		Support	Oppose	Not sure	Support	Oppose	Not sure	Support	Oppose	Not sure
Overall		27%	29%	30%	18%	36%	33%	52%	20%	25%
Satisfaction with Fox Nature Preserve	Very unsatisfied	33%	42%	8%	25%	50%	8%	50%	42%	8%
	Somewhat unsatisfied	10%	60%	30%	10%	50%	30%	20%	50%	30%
	Neutral	25%	36%	21%	14%	46%	21%	54%	29%	18%
	Somewhat satisfied	38%	14%	29%	14%	24%	38%	48%	19%	29%
	Very satisfied	33%	33%	19%	29%	44%	17%	58%	25%	10%
	Don't know/ haven't visited	26%	27%	34%	16%	33%	39%	53%	15%	29%

In addition to grants, what other sources of revenue do you support to complete the historic barn projects and provide appropriate maintenance?



Word Cloud:
Considering all questions so far, which additional, specific improvements would you like to see to better meet the needs of you and your household?

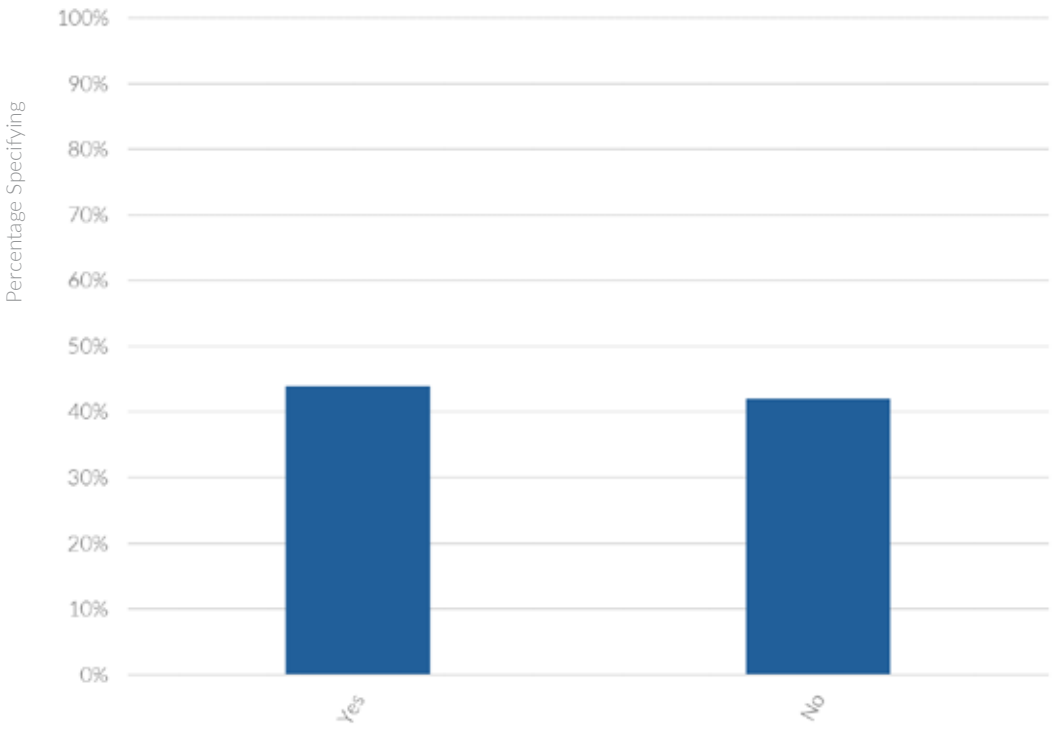
Top Themes:

- Park Accessibility and Connectivity: Enhance access with paved trails, bike paths, and sidewalks for all users.
- Preservation of Natural and Rural Character: Maintain parks' rustic charm by limiting new development.
- Recreational Facilities and Programs: Expand offerings with pickleball courts, running trails, and family-friendly events.
- Infrastructure Improvements: Improve infrastructure with maintained trails, restrooms, and better road safety.
- Communication and Awareness: Increase awareness with detailed maps, guidebooks, and a user-friendly website.

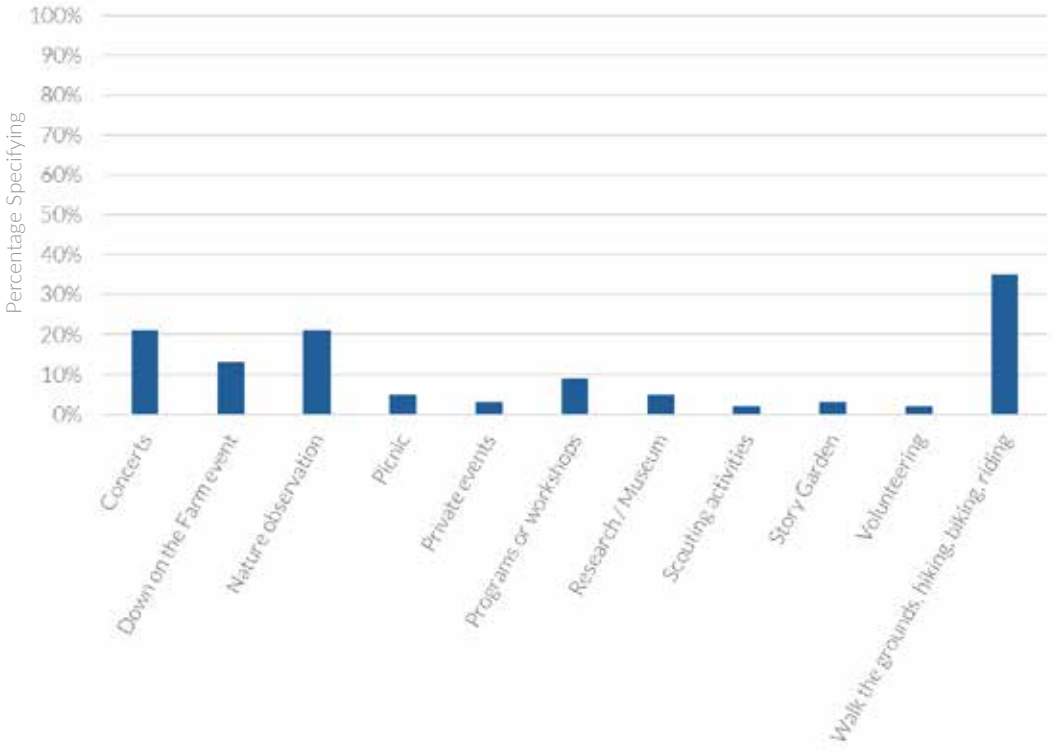


Note: See full list of comments for context

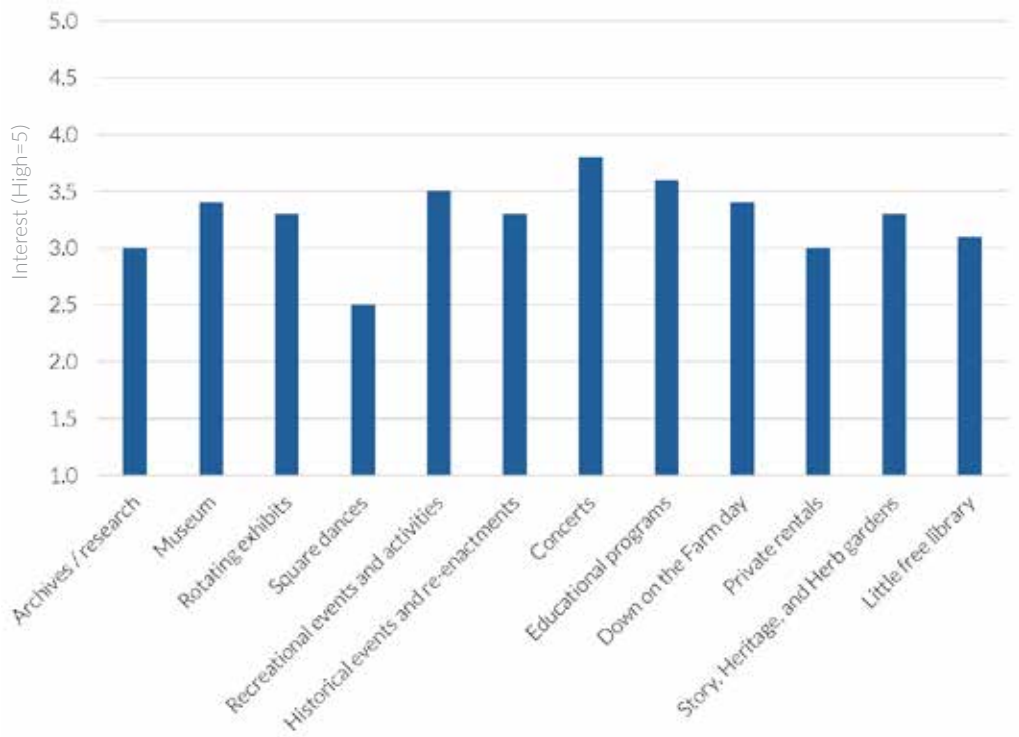
Visited the Cranberry Lake Farm (CLF) Historic District?



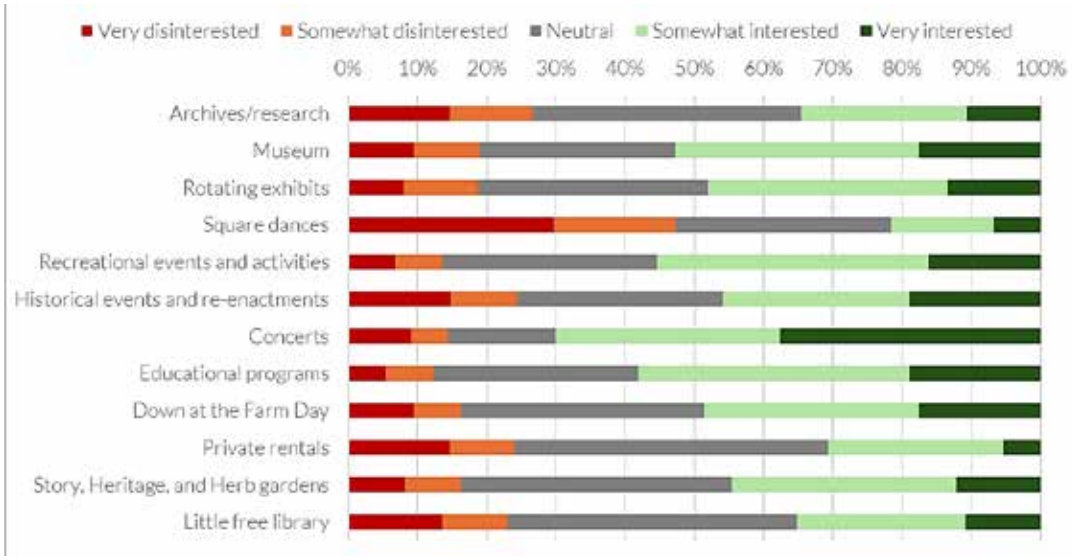
What activities typically bring you to CLF?



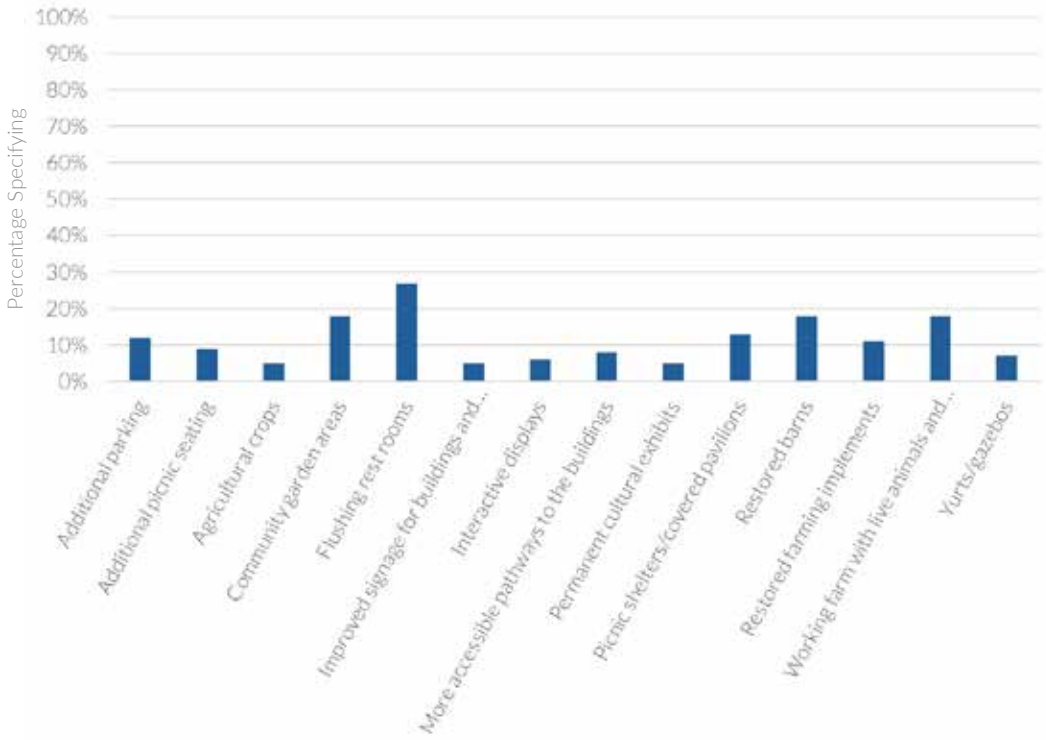
Level of Interest in CLF Offerings



Level of Interest in CLF Offerings



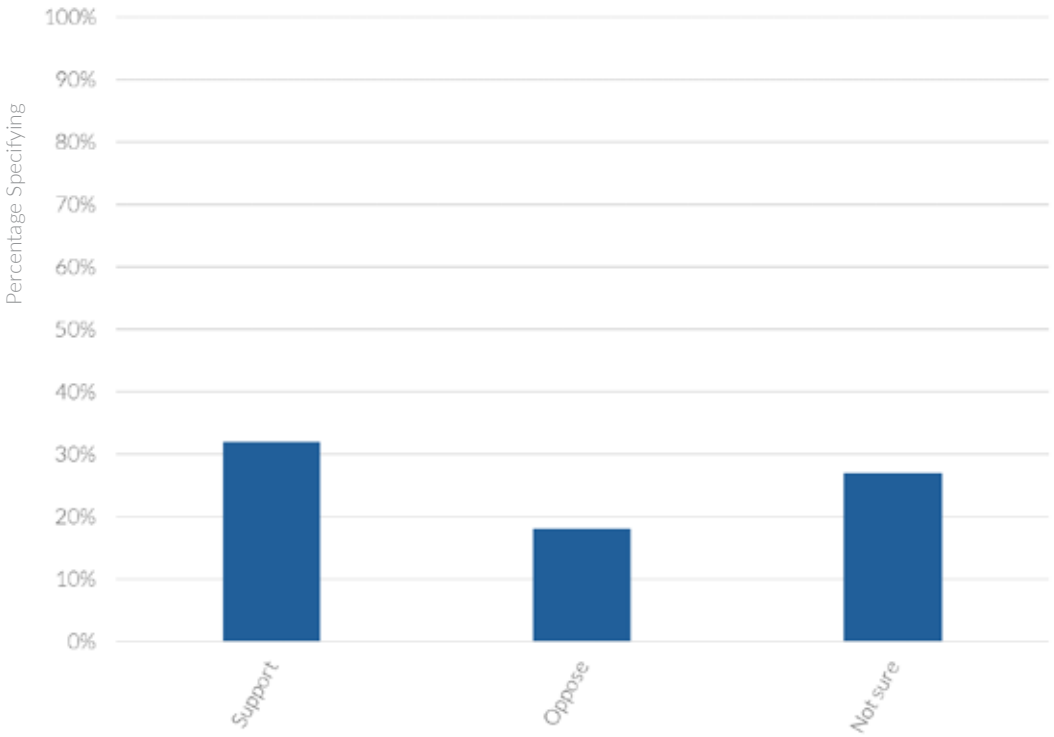
What improvements would you like to see at CLF?



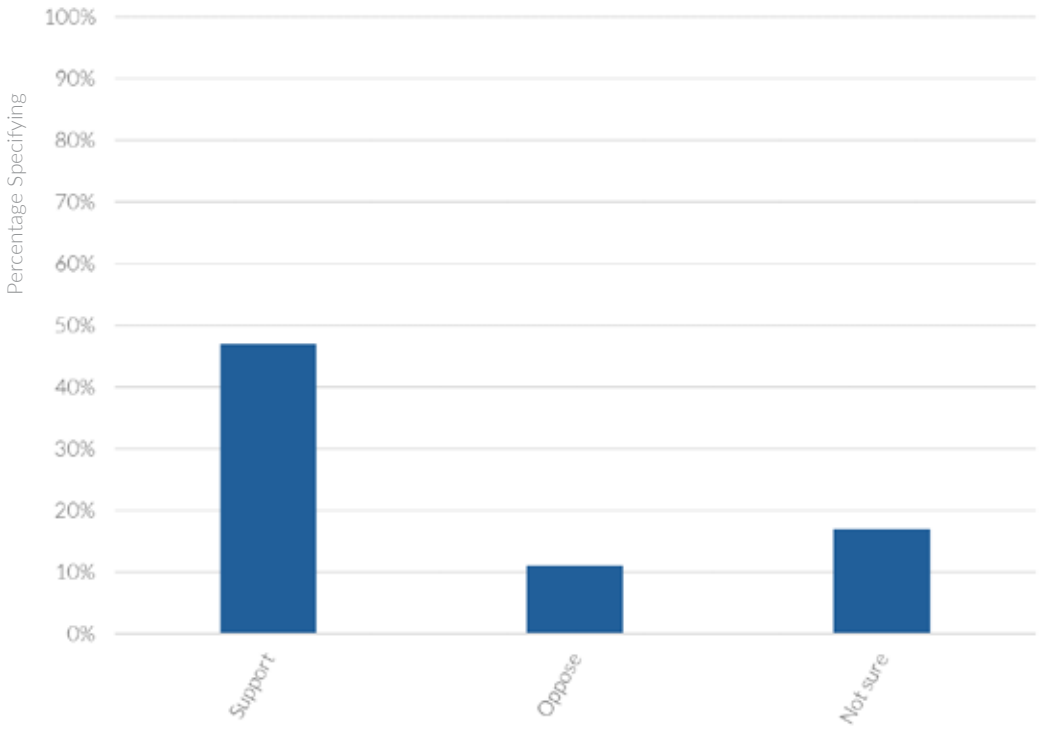
What improvements would you like to see at CLF?

What improvements would you like to see at CLF?	Have you ever visited the Cranberry Lake Farm (CLF)	
	Yes	No
Additional parking	22%	29%
Additional picnic seating	18%	14%
Agricultural crops	12%	9%
Community garden areas	36%	31%
Flushing rest rooms	51%	66%
Improved signage for buildings and implements	14%	10%
Interactive displays	11%	16%
More accessible pathways to the buildings	15%	17%
Permanent cultural exhibits	11%	7%
Picnic shelters/covered pavilions	25%	29%
Restored barns	42%	22%
Restored farming implements	26%	14%
Working farm with live animals and poultry runs	41%	24%
Yurts/gazebos	13%	14%

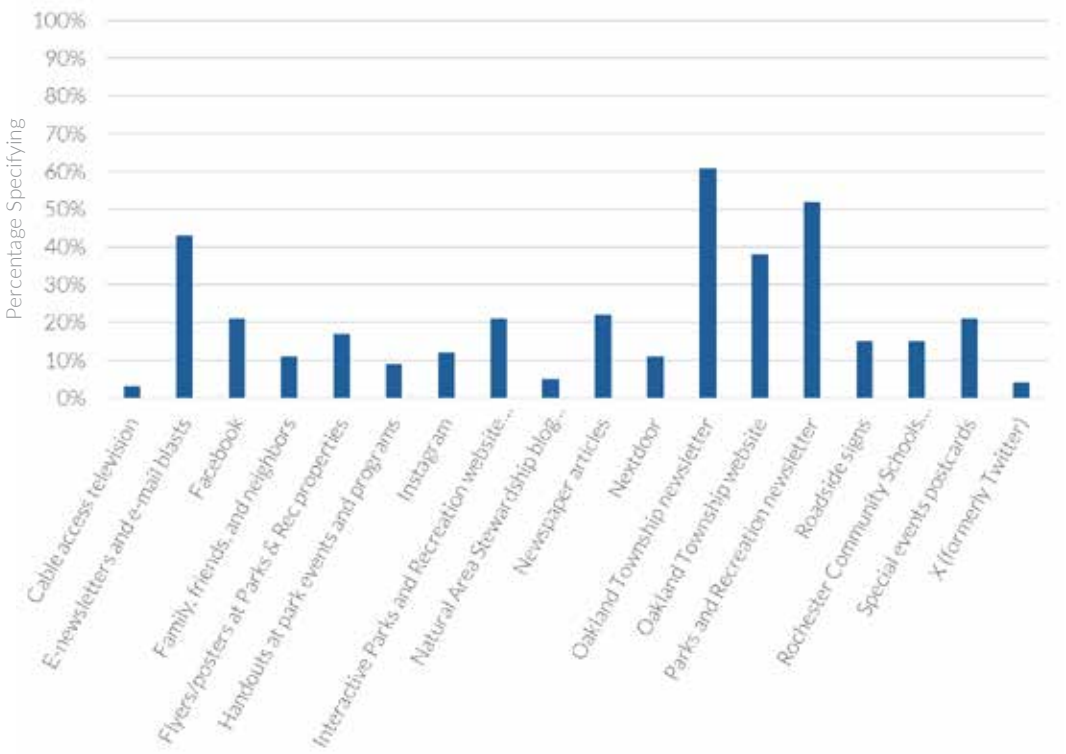
Relocate the donated Garling Barn to the Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District



In general, it is important for the Township to expend funds for historic preservation to retain important historic structures in the Township



Where do you go most often for local news?



Questions

Rating Questions

2024 Oakland Township Parks and Recreation

Response: 425, Margin of Error +/- 4.7

		Rate Satisfaction with Township Parks													
		Bear Creek Nature Park	Charles Ilsley Park	Cranberry Lake Park	Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District	Draper Twin Lake Park	Fox Nature Preserve	Gallagher Creek Park	Lost Lake Nature Park	Marsh View Park	Mill Race Trail	Paint Creek Junction Park	Paint Creek Trail	Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park	Watershed Ridge Park
Overall		4.4	3.9	4.0	4.1	3.8	3.8	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.9	4.1	4.4	3.9	3.5
Home Location	Northwest	4.4	4.1	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.2	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.1	4.4	4.6	4.1	3.9
	Southwest	4.7	4.0	4.3	4.3	3.9	4.1	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.0	4.2	4.5	4.1	3.7
	Northeast	4.0	3.6	3.8	3.9	3.6	3.4	3.7	3.8	3.5	3.6	4.0	4.1	3.7	3.2
	Southeast	4.4	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.8	4.0	3.6	4.0	3.8	4.0	3.9	4.4	3.9	3.2
	Outside the Township*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ages in Home	0-5 years*	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.6	4.3	4.7	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.6	4.3	3.6
	6-12 years	4.3	4.0	4.1	3.9	4.0	3.7	4.0	4.4	4.4	3.7	4.1	4.4	3.8	3.8
	13-18 years	4.2	3.3	3.7	3.6	3.8	3.8	3.5	4.3	3.7	3.7	4.1	4.4	3.6	3.4
	19-24 years*	4.4	3.7	3.8	3.3	3.6	3.4	4.3	4.1	3.7	3.7	4.1	4.3	3.7	3.9
	25-34 years	4.7	4.5	4.3	4.3	3.8	4.3	4.0	4.6	4.2	4.1	4.8	4.7	4.3	3.5
	35-44 years	4.5	4.1	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.3	4.1	4.1	4.4	4.3	4.1	4.6	4.3	3.8
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	55-64 years	4.4	3.9	4.1	4.1	3.5	3.9	3.9	4.0	3.9	3.9	4.2	4.4	3.9	3.4
	65-74 years	4.5	4.0	4.1	4.1	3.8	3.8	3.9	4.1	4.0	3.8	4.1	4.3	3.9	3.9
	75 and over	4.3	4.1	4.0	4.0	3.9	3.6	3.9	4.0	3.5	3.6	4.0	4.4	3.9	3.4
	Prefer not to answer*	4.3	3.7	4.2	4.4	3.8	3.8	4.0	4.0	4.2	3.6	4.3	4.2	4.2	3.3
Home Type	Apartment/condo/townhouse*	4.3	4.5	3.6	3.6	3.5	4.2	4.1	3.6	4.0	3.8	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.0
	Mobile home*	3.3	5.0	3.0	3.3	3.0	3.4	2.7	3.7	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.4	4.0	3.0
	Single family home on < 1-acre lot	4.4	3.7	3.9	3.9	3.6	3.8	4.0	4.1	4.1	3.8	4.1	4.4	3.9	3.5
	Single family home with an acre or more	4.4	4.0	4.3	4.4	4.1	3.9	4.1	4.0	4.0	4.2	4.3	4.4	3.9	3.5
Mailing	Yes	4.4	3.9	4.0	4.1	3.8	3.8	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.9	4.1	4.4	3.9	3.5
	No	4.2	3.9	3.8	4.1	3.5	2.9	3.6	3.9	3.6	3.4	4.0	4.2	3.3	3.0

**Cohort has lower response level which may increase score variation*

Note: Results may not equal 100% because of no response to the specific question and/or multiple responses available

Rating Questions

2024 Oakland Township Parks and Recreation

Response: 425, Margin of Error +/- 4.7

		Rate Satisfaction with Township Parks													
		Bear Creek Nature Park	Charles Ilsley Park	Cranberry Lake Park	Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District	Draper Twin Lake Park	Fox Nature Preserve	Gallagher Creek Park	Lost Lake Nature Park	Marsh View Park	Mill Race Trail	Paint Creek Junction Park	Paint Creek Trail	Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park	Watershed Ridge Park
Overall		4.4	3.9	4.0	4.1	3.8	3.8	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.9	4.1	4.4	3.9	3.5
Home Location	Northwest	4.4	4.1	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.2	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.1	4.4	4.6	4.1	3.9
	Southwest	4.7	4.0	4.3	4.3	3.9	4.1	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.0	4.2	4.5	4.1	3.7
	Northeast	4.0	3.6	3.8	3.9	3.6	3.4	3.7	3.8	3.5	3.6	4.0	4.1	3.7	3.2
	Southeast	4.4	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.8	4.0	3.6	4.0	3.8	4.0	3.9	4.4	3.9	3.2
	Outside the Township*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ages in Home	0-5 years*	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.6	4.3	4.7	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.6	4.3	3.6
	6-12 years	4.3	4.0	4.1	3.9	4.0	3.7	4.0	4.4	4.4	3.7	4.1	4.4	3.8	3.8
	13-18 years	4.2	3.3	3.7	3.6	3.8	3.8	3.5	4.3	3.7	3.7	4.1	4.4	3.6	3.4
	19-24 years*	4.4	3.7	3.8	3.3	3.6	3.4	4.3	4.1	3.7	3.7	4.1	4.3	3.7	3.9
	25-34 years	4.7	4.5	4.3	4.3	3.8	4.3	4.0	4.6	4.2	4.1	4.8	4.7	4.3	3.5
	35-44 years	4.5	4.1	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.3	4.1	4.1	4.4	4.3	4.1	4.6	4.3	3.8
	45-54 years	4.3	3.6	3.9	3.8	3.9	3.7	4.2	4.0	4.0	3.9	4.2	4.4	3.7	3.4
	55-64 years	4.4	3.9	4.1	4.1	3.5	3.9	3.9	4.0	3.9	3.9	4.2	4.4	3.9	3.4
	65-74 years	4.5	4.0	4.1	4.1	3.8	3.8	3.9	4.1	4.0	3.8	4.1	4.3	3.9	3.9
	75 and over	4.3	4.1	4.0	4.0	3.9	3.6	3.9	4.0	3.5	3.6	4.0	4.4	3.9	3.4
	Prefer not to answer*	4.3	3.7	4.2	4.4	3.8	3.8	4.0	4.0	4.2	3.6	4.3	4.2	4.2	3.3
Home Type	Apartment/condo/townhouse*	4.3	4.5	3.6	3.6	3.5	4.2	4.1	3.6	4.0	3.8	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.0
	Mobile home*	3.3	5.0	3.0	3.3	3.0	3.4	2.7	3.7	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.4	4.0	3.0
	Single family home on < 1-acre lot	4.4	3.7	3.9	3.9	3.6	3.8	4.0	4.1	4.1	3.8	4.1	4.4	3.9	3.5
	Single family home with an acre or more	4.4	4.0	4.3	4.4	4.1	3.9	4.1	4.0	4.0	4.2	4.3	4.4	3.9	3.5
Mailing	Yes	4.4	3.9	4.0	4.1	3.8	3.8	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.9	4.1	4.4	3.9	3.5
	No	4.2	3.9	3.8	4.1	3.5	2.9	3.6	3.9	3.6	3.4	4.0	4.2	3.3	3.0

**Cohort has lower response level which may increase score variation*

Note: Results may not equal 100% because of no response to the specific question and/or multiple responses available

Distribution Questions

2024 Oakland Township Parks and Recreation

Response: 425, Margin of Error +/- 4.7

		Which three areas should be prioritized for your household's needs?								How do you typically travel to local parks?		
		Acquire and preserve new parkland and natural areas	Construct new sports fields and courts (e.g. softball, soccer, pickle ball, etc.)	Develop new park programming	Develop new specialized amenities (outdoor fitness circuits, adventure parks, amphitheater, splash pad, etc.)	Develop walking, biking, and horse trails within park borders	Maintain existing park programming	Maintain/improve existing parks & structures (e.g. playgrounds, picnic shelters, etc.)	Stewardship of natural areas (natural area restoration and invasive plant management)	Walk	Drive	Bike
Overall		47%	17%	8%	25%	50%	28%	47%	46%	34%	80%	28%
Home Location	Northwest	53%	14%	6%	29%	47%	27%	49%	49%	35%	75%	33%
	Southwest	51%	24%	11%	25%	49%	30%	44%	37%	23%	85%	23%
	Northeast	47%	12%	7%	25%	53%	24%	45%	47%	36%	86%	23%
	Southeast	41%	16%	6%	23%	50%	29%	50%	56%	41%	72%	34%
	Outside the Township*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ages in Home	0-5 years*	35%	15%	4%	58%	46%	27%	58%	31%	38%	85%	38%
	6-12 years	39%	13%	8%	39%	61%	24%	50%	34%	42%	87%	37%
	13-18 years	45%	10%	8%	40%	58%	28%	38%	45%	35%	88%	20%
	19-24 years*	35%	30%	10%	30%	50%	30%	40%	50%	30%	85%	15%
	25-34 years	33%	17%	10%	53%	50%	20%	53%	37%	37%	77%	33%
	35-44 years	43%	21%	4%	45%	54%	18%	57%	34%	32%	86%	36%
	45-54 years	51%	16%	10%	35%	55%	22%	41%	40%	30%	84%	29%
	55-64 years	48%	21%	9%	22%	55%	26%	41%	51%	41%	73%	33%
	65-74 years	46%	18%	8%	16%	44%	37%	44%	56%	28%	82%	20%
	75 and over	52%	11%	7%	7%	45%	30%	52%	59%	23%	82%	18%
	Prefer not to answer*	62%	-	8%	-	54%	31%	38%	62%	54%	77%	31%
Home Type	Apartment/condo/townhouse*	33%	33%	8%	21%	38%	33%	46%	38%	29%	83%	8%
	Mobile home*	71%	-	-	14%	57%	43%	57%	43%	57%	57%	29%
	Single family home on < 1-acre lot	42%	24%	10%	32%	49%	28%	47%	40%	32%	82%	30%
	Single family home with an acre or more	57%	8%	5%	17%	53%	25%	47%	57%	35%	79%	29%
Mailing	Yes	47%	17%	8%	25%	50%	28%	47%	46%	34%	80%	28%
	No	59%	15%	5%	33%	46%	18%	38%	54%	31%	87%	38%

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Distribution Questions

2024 Oakland Township Parks and Recreation

Response: 425, Margin of Error +/- 4.7

		Which times are best for your household to join recreation programs?								Bear Creek Nature Park Use				Charles Ilsley Park Use			
		Weekdays - daytime (year round)	Weekdays - daytime (summer only)	Weekdays - daytime after school	Weekdays - evenings	Saturday - daytime	Saturday - evenings	Sunday - daytime	Sunday - evenings	At least once a week	Once a month	Once or twice a year	Don't know/ haven't visited	At least once a week	Once a month	Once or twice a year	Don't know/ haven't visited
Overall		35%	15%	12%	42%	64%	28%	53%	23%	9%	19%	36%	22%	2%	4%	14%	58%
Home Location	Northwest	41%	16%	6%	47%	65%	20%	49%	16%	6%	10%	41%	29%	-	4%	10%	67%
	Southwest	28%	13%	10%	49%	70%	30%	57%	25%	10%	17%	33%	23%	1%	3%	9%	62%
	Northeast	36%	17%	19%	34%	66%	27%	51%	21%	3%	17%	36%	29%	5%	6%	21%	50%
	Southeast	38%	17%	12%	41%	57%	30%	54%	25%	16%	29%	38%	9%	1%	4%	15%	57%
	Outside the Township*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ages in Home	0-5 years*	15%	23%	35%	62%	81%	42%	65%	35%	8%	31%	31%	19%	4%	-	15%	65%
	6-12 years	8%	16%	34%	50%	74%	42%	53%	37%	13%	26%	29%	16%	5%	-	16%	58%
	13-18 years	18%	20%	20%	43%	70%	33%	50%	30%	8%	15%	43%	23%	3%	-	15%	63%
	19-24 years*	30%	25%	-	55%	60%	5%	45%	15%	-	20%	40%	20%	-	-	10%	70%
	25-34 years	37%	13%	13%	53%	67%	30%	53%	30%	17%	20%	37%	13%	3%	7%	13%	57%
	35-44 years	11%	21%	26%	50%	83%	46%	71%	42%	8%	26%	34%	24%	1%	-	13%	72%
	45-54 years	12%	17%	19%	48%	75%	40%	58%	33%	5%	18%	43%	23%	1%	1%	13%	63%
	55-64 years	39%	13%	8%	52%	65%	25%	51%	19%	10%	19%	34%	23%	2%	5%	14%	55%
	65-74 years	59%	15%	6%	29%	60%	17%	53%	13%	9%	17%	37%	21%	1%	8%	14%	48%
	75 and over	45%	18%	4%	20%	54%	11%	46%	9%	9%	21%	32%	21%	-	4%	16%	57%
	Prefer not to answer*	69%	23%	8%	15%	15%	-	23%	-	23%	8%	31%	15%	-	15%	15%	46%
Home Type	Apartment/condo/townhouse*	29%	17%	4%	50%	63%	29%	54%	21%	-	13%	29%	29%	-	-	13%	50%
	Mobile home*	57%	14%	14%	29%	43%	43%	43%	43%	29%	14%	14%	43%	14%	-	29%	57%
	Single family home on < 1-acre lot	32%	17%	15%	41%	66%	34%	55%	25%	11%	21%	38%	18%	2%	4%	12%	60%
	Single family home with an acre or more	40%	13%	10%	44%	64%	20%	52%	20%	7%	17%	36%	24%	1%	4%	16%	58%
Mailing	Yes	35%	15%	12%	42%	64%	28%	53%	23%	0.09	19%	36%	22%	0.02	0.04	14%	58%
	No	31%	33%	23%	59%	62%	41%	56%	33%	23%	21%	33%	3%	5%	21%	23%	31%

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Distribution Questions

2024 Oakland Township Parks and Recreation

Response: 425, Margin of Error +/- 4.7

		Cranberry Lake Park Use				Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District Use				Draper Twin Lake Park Use				Fox Nature Preserve Use			
		At least once a week	Once a month	Once or twice a year	Don't know/ haven't visited	At least once a week	Once a month	Once or twice a year	Don't know/ haven't visited	At least once a week	Once a month	Once or twice a year	Don't know/ haven't visited	At least once a week	Once a month	Once or twice a year	Don't know/ haven't visited
Overall		4%	7%	32%	39%	3%	6%	32%	40%	2%	5%	15%	58%	3%	4%	14%	59%
Home Location	Northwest	2%	4%	41%	35%	2%	2%	45%	37%	-	2%	14%	65%	2%	2%	22%	57%
	Southwest	2%	9%	22%	45%	1%	6%	23%	48%	-	3%	11%	63%	1%	4%	10%	61%
	Northeast	8%	10%	34%	30%	8%	7%	34%	31%	7%	8%	24%	43%	6%	5%	18%	52%
	Southeast	3%	5%	35%	42%	2%	7%	32%	43%	2%	4%	12%	64%	3%	3%	12%	65%
	Outside the Township*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ages in Home	0-5 years*	-	4%	19%	62%	-	4%	31%	54%	-	-	15%	69%	4%	4%	12%	65%
	6-12 years	5%	5%	29%	42%	3%	5%	29%	45%	3%	3%	11%	63%	-	3%	16%	63%
	13-18 years	8%	3%	35%	40%	5%	3%	33%	45%	3%	5%	20%	53%	3%	5%	20%	55%
	19-24 years*	-	-	30%	50%	-	-	20%	60%	10%	5%	10%	55%	-	-	25%	55%
	25-34 years	3%	3%	33%	40%	-	10%	30%	37%	3%	3%	13%	60%	3%	7%	10%	60%
	35-44 years	1%	3%	22%	63%	-	3%	26%	61%	1%	4%	12%	71%	3%	1%	17%	67%
	45-54 years	6%	5%	34%	41%	2%	5%	33%	47%	4%	6%	18%	55%	-	6%	14%	64%
	55-64 years	5%	12%	32%	32%	6%	5%	27%	38%	5%	3%	13%	59%	5%	4%	13%	55%
	65-74 years	3%	7%	34%	33%	2%	7%	33%	36%	2%	8%	13%	56%	2%	3%	14%	57%
	75 and over	-	9%	43%	29%	2%	9%	41%	30%	-	7%	14%	52%	-	5%	11%	61%
	Prefer not to answer*	-	15%	38%	15%	-	8%	54%	15%	-	-	23%	46%	-	8%	31%	38%
Home Type	Apartment/condo/townhouse*	-	8%	13%	46%	-	-	21%	46%	-	-	13%	54%	-	-	13%	54%
	Mobile home*	43%	14%	29%	14%	29%	14%	43%	14%	14%	-	29%	57%	43%	29%	-	29%
	Single family home on < 1-acre lot	3%	8%	29%	45%	3%	6%	27%	47%	1%	3%	17%	59%	1%	3%	13%	64%
	Single family home with an acre or more	4%	6%	39%	32%	2%	7%	39%	34%	4%	7%	11%	58%	4%	4%	16%	57%
Mailing	Yes	0.04	7%	32%	39%	0.03	0.06	32%	40%	0.02	0.05	15%	58%	0.03	0.04	14%	59%
	No	8%	15%	44%	21%	5%	13%	36%	28%	10%	13%	18%	36%	5%	15%	18%	41%

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Distribution Questions

2024 Oakland Township Parks and Recreation

Response: 425, Margin of Error +/- 4.7

		Gallagher Creek Park Use				Lost Lake Nature Park Use				Marsh View Park Use				Mill Race Trail Use			
		At least once a week	Once a month	Once or twice a year	Don't know/ haven't visited	At least once a week	Once a month	Once or twice a year	Don't know/ haven't visited	At least once a week	Once a month	Once or twice a year	Don't know/ haven't visited	At least once a week	Once a month	Once or twice a year	Don't know/ haven't visited
Overall		3%	5%	21%	52%	1%	6%	28%	46%	2%	6%	23%	50%	1%	4%	15%	59%
Home Location	Northwest	4%	2%	24%	53%	-	6%	33%	41%	4%	18%	31%	31%	2%	12%	14%	57%
	Southwest	7%	12%	24%	36%	-	3%	23%	51%	3%	8%	22%	46%	2%	5%	13%	57%
	Northeast	1%	2%	18%	60%	3%	11%	35%	34%	2%	5%	24%	51%	1%	-	18%	62%
	Southeast	1%	4%	19%	60%	2%	3%	27%	52%	2%	1%	19%	60%	1%	3%	14%	61%
	Outside the Township*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ages in Home	0-5 years*	4%	15%	27%	42%	-	4%	23%	58%	4%	-	27%	54%	4%	-	19%	62%
	6-12 years	3%	5%	29%	47%	-	16%	32%	37%	-	11%	32%	39%	-	-	13%	68%
	13-18 years	-	-	18%	65%	3%	15%	28%	43%	-	5%	35%	43%	-	8%	10%	65%
	19-24 years*	-	-	25%	55%	-	5%	20%	55%	-	10%	15%	55%	-	10%	5%	65%
	25-34 years	3%	10%	13%	57%	3%	-	20%	57%	7%	-	13%	60%	-	10%	13%	57%
	35-44 years	3%	8%	26%	53%	-	5%	29%	57%	1%	7%	24%	58%	1%	4%	12%	70%
	45-54 years	4%	2%	22%	57%	-	13%	31%	43%	2%	11%	29%	43%	2%	7%	14%	60%
	55-64 years	4%	4%	20%	52%	3%	5%	25%	45%	3%	6%	22%	47%	2%	3%	14%	56%
	65-74 years	3%	7%	21%	48%	-	2%	34%	43%	1%	3%	21%	54%	-	3%	14%	61%
	75 and over	-	5%	16%	55%	-	4%	30%	39%	-	4%	23%	50%	-	4%	16%	59%
	Prefer not to answer*	-	8%	23%	46%	-	8%	15%	46%	8%	-	23%	38%	-	8%	31%	31%
Home Type	Apartment/condo/townhouse*	13%	8%	8%	33%	-	4%	13%	50%	-	4%	13%	54%	-	-	13%	50%
	Mobile home*	14%	-	29%	43%	43%	14%	29%	14%	14%	-	43%	43%	14%	-	29%	57%
	Single family home on < 1-acre lot	3%	8%	21%	52%	0%	6%	30%	47%	2%	8%	23%	49%	2%	5%	12%	60%
	Single family home with an acre or more	1%	2%	22%	55%	1%	6%	29%	45%	2%	5%	23%	52%	-	4%	17%	60%
Mailing	Yes	3%	5%	21%	52%	0.01	6%	28%	46%	0.02	6%	23%	50%	0.01	0.04	15%	59%
	No	3%	8%	23%	44%	3%	21%	28%	28%	5%	10%	26%	38%	8%	10%	18%	41%

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Distribution Questions

2024 Oakland Township Parks and Recreation

Response: 425, Margin of Error +/- 4.7

		Paint Creek Junction Park Use				Paint Creek Trail Use				Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park Use				Watershed Ridge Park Use			
		At least once a week	Once a month	Once or twice a year	Don't know/ haven't visited	At least once a week	Once a month	Once or twice a year	Don't know/ haven't visited	At least once a week	Once a month	Once or twice a year	Don't know/ haven't visited	At least once a week	Once a month	Once or twice a year	Don't know/ haven't visited
Overall		5%	12%	24%	41%	22%	26%	25%	12%	4%	9%	20%	49%	1%	3%	11%	65%
Home Location	Northwest	10%	29%	25%	25%	25%	35%	22%	10%	2%	14%	14%	55%	4%	8%	12%	63%
	Southwest	5%	13%	23%	37%	30%	29%	18%	7%	1%	5%	17%	55%	1%	5%	6%	64%
	Northeast	3%	7%	24%	50%	14%	20%	33%	17%	6%	6%	24%	50%	1%	1%	16%	64%
	Southeast	4%	8%	24%	46%	19%	28%	26%	15%	7%	12%	22%	43%	1%	1%	12%	67%
	Outside the Township*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ages in Home	0-5 years*	-	8%	38%	38%	19%	31%	35%	-	-	8%	27%	50%	-	-	15%	69%
	6-12 years	-	11%	24%	47%	16%	39%	18%	8%	3%	5%	24%	53%	3%	-	8%	68%
	13-18 years	8%	15%	15%	48%	18%	33%	23%	15%	8%	8%	25%	48%	3%	3%	10%	68%
	19-24 years*	5%	15%	20%	40%	10%	45%	15%	10%	-	15%	15%	50%	-	10%	-	70%
	25-34 years	3%	10%	10%	53%	20%	30%	20%	7%	3%	7%	10%	57%	-	3%	7%	67%
	35-44 years	1%	12%	37%	41%	20%	26%	38%	7%	5%	9%	20%	57%	3%	3%	8%	75%
	45-54 years	8%	14%	16%	47%	22%	36%	22%	12%	2%	11%	24%	49%	1%	4%	11%	69%
	55-64 years	5%	14%	23%	38%	21%	29%	21%	12%	4%	7%	20%	48%	2%	3%	12%	62%
	65-74 years	5%	7%	28%	44%	26%	23%	26%	10%	2%	9%	22%	48%	-	2%	11%	66%
	75 and over	2%	9%	23%	45%	18%	20%	29%	18%	5%	18%	14%	43%	-	4%	14%	57%
	Prefer not to answer*	-	23%	15%	38%	23%	15%	15%	23%	-	8%	31%	38%	-	8%	15%	54%
Home Type	Apartment/condo/townhouse*	4%	4%	29%	33%	17%	25%	21%	13%	-	-	21%	46%	-	-	13%	54%
	Mobile home*	29%	-	29%	43%	29%	14%	29%	29%	29%	-	43%	29%	14%	-	43%	43%
	Single family home on < 1-acre lot	4%	14%	19%	46%	21%	31%	25%	10%	3%	8%	20%	51%	1%	2%	9%	68%
	Single family home with an acre or more	4%	12%	28%	38%	24%	22%	25%	16%	5%	11%	19%	50%	1%	4%	12%	64%
Mailing	Yes	5%	12%	24%	41%	22%	26%	25%	12%	0.04	0.09	20%	49%	0.01	0.03	11%	65%
	No	10%	13%	23%	31%	31%	23%	23%	10%	13%	18%	23%	33%	8%	8%	10%	56%

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Distribution Questions

2024 Oakland Township Parks and Recreation

Response: 425, Margin of Error +/- 4.7

		What are your primary reasons for using Oakland Township parks?													
		Access to natural areas	Active use facilities like sled hill, archery range, or sports fields (non-organized)	Exercise	Family, friends, neighborhood, or community gathering	Get away from every day routine, surroundings & activities	Nature education	Oakland Township Parks programming or events	Organized sports (e.g. soccer team)	Passive use facilities like picnic areas or playgrounds	Pathway to destination elsewhere	Physical attributes / setting	School programs	Trail activities (e.g. running, walking, biking, horseback riding)	Water activities (e.g. fishing, kayaking)
Overall		69%	15%	65%	18%	51%	14%	17%	5%	18%	16%	34%	3%	59%	12%
Home Location	Northwest	75%	22%	65%	22%	59%	12%	20%	6%	20%	25%	35%	-	65%	16%
	Southwest	70%	11%	67%	16%	47%	14%	19%	5%	15%	10%	34%	2%	62%	9%
	Northeast	65%	14%	62%	13%	50%	13%	18%	7%	16%	16%	30%	6%	50%	17%
	Southeast	68%	17%	66%	20%	52%	18%	15%	3%	23%	17%	39%	3%	64%	11%
	Outside the Township*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ages in Home	0-5 years*	62%	42%	65%	23%	58%	19%	19%	12%	58%	23%	38%	12%	81%	12%
	6-12 years	58%	50%	66%	29%	55%	18%	21%	21%	26%	18%	26%	11%	68%	18%
	13-18 years	63%	33%	63%	20%	53%	15%	15%	18%	13%	8%	28%	5%	58%	18%
	19-24 years*	75%	10%	50%	15%	50%	-	5%	5%	25%	-	20%	-	60%	25%
	25-34 years	67%	17%	63%	7%	67%	20%	13%	-	37%	13%	47%	-	77%	10%
	35-44 years	66%	32%	71%	24%	58%	17%	18%	9%	28%	16%	39%	8%	76%	14%
	45-54 years	67%	28%	72%	23%	59%	7%	12%	12%	18%	11%	29%	5%	66%	18%
	55-64 years	69%	9%	67%	13%	53%	13%	17%	1%	18%	16%	34%	1%	59%	13%
	65-74 years	68%	7%	68%	15%	43%	17%	21%	7%	11%	14%	32%	2%	49%	11%
	75 and over	77%	4%	59%	9%	43%	20%	25%	4%	5%	16%	39%	2%	46%	5%
	Prefer not to answer*	69%	-	54%	31%	31%	15%	15%	-	23%	23%	54%	-	62%	8%
Home Type	Apartment/condo/townhouse*	54%	8%	67%	8%	33%	17%	25%	-	4%	-	21%	-	46%	8%
	Mobile home*	71%	14%	57%	-	71%	29%	14%	-	14%	29%	-	-	43%	43%
	Single family home on < 1-acre lot	65%	17%	66%	19%	54%	13%	17%	7%	18%	17%	36%	4%	63%	10%
	Single family home with an acre or more	77%	14%	65%	17%	50%	16%	18%	4%	20%	17%	37%	1%	58%	15%
Mailing	Yes	69%	15%	65%	18%	51%	14%	17%	0.05	18%	0.16	34%	0.03	59%	12%
	No	69%	18%	72%	13%	54%	18%	23%	5%	18%	10%	49%	3%	67%	21%

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Distribution Questions

2024 Oakland Township Parks and Recreation

Response: 425, Margin of Error +/- 4.7

		What are your primary reasons for NOT using Oakland Township parks?													
		Facilities / amenities I am looking for are not available	I can appreciate open spaces without using a park	I do not know the location of parks	Insufficient staffing or services	Lack of leisure time	Lack of parking	Lack of walking / biking access	Not accessible for people with disabilities	Not interested in using parks	Park facilities in other communities better suit my needs	Parks are not well maintained	Mowed in-park trails are too difficult to use	Safety concerns	Unaware of offerings
Overall		9%	10%	20%	1%	28%	6%	15%	2%	3%	9%	2%	5%	5%	24%
Home Location	Northwest	16%	10%	18%	2%	31%	4%	31%	8%	6%	6%	2%	8%	2%	27%
	Southwest	8%	10%	23%	1%	28%	4%	15%	1%	1%	14%	2%	3%	6%	28%
	Northeast	7%	12%	14%	1%	26%	9%	10%	3%	2%	7%	3%	7%	4%	17%
	Southeast	10%	7%	23%	2%	27%	6%	13%	-	3%	7%	3%	4%	6%	23%
	Outside the Township*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ages in Home	0-5 years*	8%	4%	27%	-	23%	8%	27%	-	-	15%	-	4%	4%	35%
	6-12 years	13%	3%	29%	3%	34%	5%	26%	-	3%	11%	-	3%	8%	32%
	13-18 years	8%	10%	28%	-	38%	10%	15%	-	8%	10%	-	3%	3%	33%
	19-24 years*	20%	5%	30%	-	40%	5%	15%	5%	-	10%	-	10%	5%	20%
	25-34 years	17%	-	37%	-	13%	7%	7%	-	-	17%	-	-	3%	37%
	35-44 years	7%	5%	30%	1%	34%	4%	21%	-	3%	9%	3%	3%	5%	36%
	45-54 years	10%	7%	27%	1%	45%	8%	19%	-	4%	11%	1%	4%	5%	30%
	55-64 years	9%	11%	19%	1%	24%	6%	15%	2%	2%	9%	3%	9%	2%	20%
	65-74 years	16%	8%	21%	1%	22%	7%	14%	3%	1%	9%	2%	6%	8%	24%
	75 and over	4%	21%	7%	-	20%	5%	7%	7%	7%	2%	2%	2%	2%	14%
	Prefer not to answer*	-	23%	-	8%	-	8%	8%	-	8%	-	15%	8%	23%	-
Home Type	Apartment/condo/townhouse*	13%	8%	17%	4%	17%	-	8%	-	4%	17%	-	4%	13%	29%
	Mobile home*	14%	-	29%	-	14%	14%	-	14%	-	14%	14%	-	-	14%
	Single family home on < 1-acre lot	10%	8%	21%	1%	30%	7%	16%	1%	2%	10%	3%	4%	5%	27%
	Single family home with an acre or more	7%	13%	19%	1%	28%	6%	16%	2%	3%	6%	1%	7%	4%	19%
Mailing	Yes	9%	10%	20%	1%	28%	0.06	15%	0.02	3%	9%	0.02	5%	5%	24%
	No	10%	8%	21%	-	44%	15%	31%	-	-	5%	5%	-	3%	21%

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Distribution Questions

2024 Oakland Township Parks and Recreation

Response: 425, Margin of Error +/- 4.7

		Which five Oakland Township facilities or programs are most important for you and your household?																	
		Access to lakes for kayaking	Asphalt or concrete pathways	Covered picnic areas	Fishing areas	Historic and/or cultural heritage sites	Horse trails	Hunting areas	Large multi-field sports facilities	Music in the parks	Natural areas	Nature studies	Overhead lighting	Primitive campgrounds	Rustic facilities	Splash parks	Walking or biking trails	Wetland areas	Wildlife preserves
Overall		18%	20%	14%	16%	19%	5%	8%	8%	30%	56%	11%	5%	4%	6%	12%	72%	22%	42%
Home Location	Northwest	20%	27%	18%	24%	16%	2%	8%	8%	31%	53%	10%	6%	2%	2%	14%	78%	27%	47%
	Southwest	18%	28%	15%	15%	17%	3%	10%	13%	31%	60%	9%	6%	2%	4%	13%	71%	20%	44%
	Northeast	23%	19%	13%	20%	20%	7%	11%	4%	25%	48%	10%	2%	6%	5%	9%	68%	14%	33%
	Southeast	13%	13%	12%	12%	22%	6%	4%	6%	33%	61%	14%	5%	5%	10%	12%	75%	29%	46%
	Outside the Township*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ages in Home	0-5 years*	19%	27%	31%	15%	27%	-	4%	12%	12%	46%	-	4%	4%	4%	50%	65%	8%	19%
	6-12 years	5%	29%	24%	16%	16%	3%	3%	18%	16%	42%	-	8%	5%	3%	29%	71%	11%	24%
	13-18 years	28%	33%	20%	18%	8%	5%	5%	18%	20%	50%	10%	8%	13%	5%	13%	80%	23%	40%
	19-24 years*	25%	35%	15%	15%	10%	5%	5%	15%	10%	60%	5%	-	10%	10%	5%	80%	15%	25%
	25-34 years	23%	13%	17%	17%	13%	10%	13%	3%	30%	50%	10%	-	7%	7%	33%	80%	10%	40%
	35-44 years	14%	22%	17%	16%	21%	1%	7%	11%	24%	50%	5%	8%	4%	4%	28%	78%	12%	30%
	45-54 years	35%	27%	20%	23%	13%	5%	10%	16%	24%	48%	10%	8%	7%	5%	12%	82%	19%	41%
	55-64 years	20%	19%	13%	16%	17%	7%	9%	5%	31%	57%	7%	3%	2%	8%	5%	76%	27%	44%
	65-74 years	13%	21%	11%	14%	24%	6%	9%	7%	40%	56%	13%	3%	1%	3%	10%	63%	25%	43%
	75 and over	13%	21%	4%	13%	20%	5%	2%	2%	43%	66%	21%	-	4%	9%	4%	61%	25%	48%
	Prefer not to answer*	-	8%	8%	-	23%	15%	-	-	23%	62%	8%	8%	-	-	-	69%	31%	46%
Home Type	Apartment/condo/townhouse*	21%	38%	4%	13%	29%	-	-	8%	38%	58%	4%	-	8%	-	17%	50%	17%	29%
	Mobile home*	57%	14%	14%	43%	14%	-	29%	-	-	71%	14%	14%	14%	14%	14%	43%	29%	29%
	Single family home on < 1-acre lot	17%	23%	18%	15%	17%	3%	8%	11%	30%	52%	9%	5%	2%	5%	13%	74%	20%	40%
	Single family home with an acre or more	19%	14%	10%	17%	20%	8%	7%	4%	31%	60%	14%	5%	4%	8%	10%	75%	25%	48%
Mailing	Yes	18%	20%	14%	16%	19%	0.05	0.08	8%	30%	56%	11%	0.05	4%	0.06	12%	72%	22%	42%
	No	23%	5%	15%	13%	23%	3%	8%	5%	28%	67%	18%	-	5%	-	8%	72%	31%	54%

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Distribution Questions

2024 Oakland Township Parks and Recreation

Response: 425, Margin of Error +/- 4.7

		Which five of the following amenities would you like to see more of in Oakland Tov																				
		Amphitheater / stage	Baseball/softball fields	Basketball courts	Community gardens	Cross-country ski trails	Disc golf	Dog parks	Equestrian facilities	Expanded fishing opportunities	Expanded hunting opportunities	Fishing/observation docks	Fitness / exercise trails	Ice skating rink (outdoor)	Improved universal accessibility (parking, trails, other amenities)	Mountain biking trails	Multi-use walking/biking paths (i.e. 10'-wide paved or limestone pathways)	Natural areas	Outdoor adventure park (rope course and zip line)	Pickle ball courts	Picnic areas and pavilions	Playground structures
Overall		14%	3%	2%	16%	11%	5%	17%	5%	10%	6%	12%	31%	11%	12%	12%	33%	29%	10%	20%	9%	14%
Home Location	Northwest	20%	4%	-	24%	14%	10%	18%	4%	14%	8%	18%	37%	10%	24%	18%	41%	27%	12%	14%	12%	10%
	Southwest	18%	2%	3%	16%	13%	1%	17%	4%	9%	6%	7%	30%	12%	14%	10%	32%	26%	11%	23%	10%	11%
	Northeast	9%	5%	2%	13%	8%	7%	21%	7%	12%	7%	16%	28%	12%	8%	12%	29%	28%	8%	20%	9%	14%
	Southeast	11%	4%	2%	14%	10%	8%	13%	3%	9%	4%	11%	29%	8%	8%	10%	34%	30%	11%	22%	5%	17%
	Outside the Township*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ages in Home	0-5 years*	15%	4%	4%	8%	4%	8%	19%	4%	8%	4%	8%	12%	8%	12%	8%	15%	15%	35%	-	8%	58%
	6-12 years	13%	5%	3%	11%	8%	8%	18%	5%	16%	3%	18%	26%	13%	5%	11%	29%	16%	18%	11%	5%	26%
	13-18 years	15%	8%	-	15%	13%	3%	23%	5%	15%	-	13%	30%	18%	8%	20%	30%	20%	25%	30%	8%	10%
	19-24 years*	10%	-	5%	40%	20%	5%	10%	-	5%	5%	10%	25%	10%	10%	25%	45%	20%	15%	35%	10%	5%
	25-34 years	3%	-	3%	10%	13%	17%	23%	10%	10%	10%	17%	13%	20%	13%	7%	27%	17%	20%	23%	13%	23%
	35-44 years	16%	4%	3%	14%	7%	8%	20%	4%	12%	5%	11%	26%	11%	11%	14%	26%	22%	30%	12%	4%	29%
	45-54 years	18%	5%	2%	12%	11%	6%	24%	6%	13%	6%	17%	42%	16%	5%	20%	36%	22%	17%	20%	7%	11%
	55-64 years	14%	3%	2%	20%	15%	3%	20%	4%	9%	6%	11%	41%	6%	10%	11%	45%	27%	4%	33%	9%	10%
	65-74 years	16%	5%	-	15%	11%	5%	9%	5%	8%	6%	9%	24%	9%	16%	2%	30%	32%	7%	22%	9%	13%
	75 and over	5%	-	-	21%	13%	7%	9%	7%	9%	4%	11%	13%	5%	21%	7%	32%	45%	2%	13%	14%	7%
	Prefer not to answer*	8%	-	-	-	-	-	8%	8%	-	-	-	31%	15%	8%	8%	23%	31%	-	-	-	-
Home Type	Apartment/condo/townhouse*	13%	4%	4%	21%	8%	-	4%	-	4%	-	13%	38%	4%	13%	4%	29%	25%	-	29%	8%	8%
	Mobile home*	-	-	-	14%	-	-	29%	-	43%	29%	43%	14%	14%	29%	14%	43%	29%	14%	-	-	-
	Single family home on < 1-acre lot	14%	4%	3%	15%	9%	5%	17%	2%	10%	6%	10%	33%	12%	12%	12%	32%	24%	10%	21%	8%	15%
	Single family home with an acre or more	14%	2%	-	16%	15%	7%	19%	8%	10%	6%	12%	27%	9%	11%	12%	35%	36%	12%	19%	11%	14%
Mailing	Yes	14%	3%	2%	16%	11%	0.05	17%	0.05	10%	0.06	12%	31%	11%	12%	12%	33%	29%	0.1	20%	9%	14%
	No	15%	5%	0.03	15%	5%	5%	13%	5%	10%	8%	5%	33%	13%	15%	26%	26%	38%	15%	10%	8%	13%

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Distribution Questions

2024 Oakland Township Parks and Recreation

Response: 425, Margin of Error +/- 4.7

		vnship?									
		Primitive camping	Restoration of natural areas	Rustic walking paths (i.e. 6 to 8' mowed grass)	Sand volleyball courts	Skate park	Sled hills	Soccer/Lacrosse fields	Splash pad	Tennis courts	Water feature (e.g. fountain, lake, etc.)
Overall		3%	28%	26%	3%	2%	6%	2%	9%	4%	12%
Home Location	Northwest	2%	31%	18%	6%	2%	6%	4%	6%	6%	20%
	Southwest	4%	20%	25%	5%	3%	7%	2%	12%	3%	11%
	Northeast	4%	30%	25%	2%	1%	6%	2%	7%	6%	8%
	Southeast	3%	34%	29%	3%	2%	7%	2%	12%	4%	13%
	Outside the Township*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ages in Home	0-5 years*	4%	27%	8%	4%	-	19%	-	50%	8%	19%
	6-12 years	5%	21%	13%	8%	-	16%	-	16%	8%	24%
	13-18 years	8%	20%	25%	5%	5%	10%	3%	5%	10%	20%
	19-24 years*	5%	15%	15%	-	-	10%	5%	-	15%	5%
	25-34 years	7%	23%	20%	3%	-	10%	-	37%	3%	7%
	35-44 years	3%	32%	17%	5%	-	11%	1%	24%	9%	17%
	45-54 years	6%	22%	19%	6%	4%	11%	4%	7%	6%	12%
	55-64 years	3%	25%	30%	3%	2%	4%	2%	5%	2%	13%
	65-74 years	1%	31%	29%	1%	1%	7%	2%	8%	2%	14%
	75 and over	-	34%	32%	4%	2%	-	2%	5%	2%	16%
	Prefer not to answer*	-	54%	38%	-	-	-	-	-	8%	-
Home Type	Apartment/condo/townhouse*	8%	13%	17%	-	4%	4%	4%	8%	-	21%
	Mobile home*	14%	43%	14%	-	-	-	-	14%	-	14%
	Single family home on < 1-acre lot	4%	26%	22%	3%	2%	7%	2%	9%	4%	13%
	Single family home with an acre or more	1%	34%	33%	5%	1%	6%	1%	9%	5%	9%
Mailing	Yes	3%	28%	26%	0.03	2%	6%	2%	9%	0.04	12%
	No	8%	33%	33%	-	5%	5%	-	8%	5%	10%

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Distribution Questions

2024 Oakland Township Parks and Recreation

Response: 425, Margin of Error +/- 4.7

		Please mark the top three in-park support facilities needed for you and your household.														Which trail surfaces best meet the needs of you and your family		
		Benches	Bike racks	Dog stations (water, dog waste bags/bins)	Directional signage	Drinking fountains	Hitching posts	Interpretive signs	Mile markers	Picnic tables	Rest rooms	Road signs directing to parks	Trail head information kiosks	Trash receptacles	Vehicular Parking	Mowed grass trail	Crushed limestone trail	Paved trail (concrete or asphalt)
Overall		30%	3%	18%	22%	13%	1%	5%	9%	10%	58%	6%	19%	21%	23%	27%	45%	28%
Home Location	Northwest	33%	4%	12%	16%	24%	-	4%	10%	20%	69%	6%	18%	22%	27%	16%	59%	25%
	Southwest	32%	6%	16%	19%	10%	-	5%	10%	12%	55%	4%	19%	20%	22%	22%	49%	31%
	Northeast	26%	2%	21%	30%	9%	3%	4%	8%	8%	58%	8%	19%	21%	20%	32%	39%	24%
	Southeast	29%	3%	21%	20%	14%	1%	8%	10%	5%	57%	4%	18%	22%	26%	34%	45%	25%
	Outside the Township*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ages in Home	0-5 years*	8%	4%	19%	12%	8%	-	-	12%	27%	58%	-	19%	27%	15%	19%	42%	38%
	6-12 years	13%	-	21%	13%	11%	-	-	5%	21%	50%	5%	18%	18%	24%	21%	42%	34%
	13-18 years	25%	-	23%	20%	18%	3%	-	8%	15%	58%	10%	25%	20%	25%	33%	43%	38%
	19-24 years*	10%	-	25%	15%	20%	-	-	5%	20%	50%	5%	10%	10%	30%	25%	40%	30%
	25-34 years	30%	3%	33%	13%	-	7%	-	3%	13%	67%	3%	17%	27%	23%	37%	50%	33%
	35-44 years	26%	3%	21%	18%	12%	-	1%	5%	14%	62%	5%	12%	24%	25%	26%	46%	34%
	45-54 years	20%	5%	29%	18%	19%	2%	5%	13%	13%	58%	7%	20%	18%	24%	23%	47%	34%
	55-64 years	29%	6%	16%	22%	12%	1%	5%	6%	9%	60%	4%	21%	24%	23%	29%	45%	22%
	65-74 years	37%	2%	14%	31%	7%	1%	8%	14%	7%	56%	5%	17%	15%	28%	30%	41%	29%
	75 and over	50%	-	9%	30%	20%	-	7%	4%	9%	64%	4%	14%	9%	20%	21%	36%	27%
	Prefer not to answer*	23%	-	23%	-	8%	-	-	8%	-	23%	8%	38%	31%	23%	31%	54%	15%
Home Type	Apartment/condo/townhouse*	42%	-	-	29%	21%	-	8%	8%	8%	46%	4%	25%	21%	8%	13%	33%	25%
	Mobile home*	57%	-	29%	29%	14%	-	-	14%	-	86%	14%	14%	14%	29%	57%	29%	43%
	Single family home on < 1-acre lot	27%	4%	17%	22%	12%	-	5%	7%	10%	56%	7%	17%	22%	26%	23%	46%	35%
	Single family home with an acre or more	31%	4%	21%	22%	14%	2%	5%	12%	11%	60%	4%	20%	19%	22%	33%	48%	18%
Mailing	Yes	30%	0.03	0.18	22%	13%	0.01	5%	9%	10%	58%	6%	19%	21%	23%	27%	45%	28%
	No	31%	5%	18%	15%	13%	-	8%	13%	3%	44%	15%	15%	28%	21%	33%	49%	18%

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Distribution Questions

2024 Oakland Township Parks and Recreation

Response: 425, Margin of Error +/- 4.7

		Which programs have you or members of your household participated in over the past year?																	
		Archery at Marsh View Park	Guided bird walks	Down on the Farm at Cranberry Lake Farm	Fitness and wellness programs	Free fishing at Lost Lake Nature Park or Draper Twin Lake Park	Goodison Good Tyme at Bear Creek Nature Park	Hunting at Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park	Ice skating at Bear Creek Nature Park	Kayaking at Lost Lake Nature Park or Draper Twin Lake Park	Music in the Meadows concerts at Cranberry Lake Farm and Bear Creek	Natural area stewardship events - volunteer workdays	Natural areas stewardship winter talks	Nature programs at any Oakland Township park	Open houses at Lost Lake Nature Center	Phragmites (invasive plant) treatment	Soccer at Marsh View Park	Winter Carnival at Bear Creek Nature Park	Winter sledding at Lost Lake Nature Park
Overall		4%	3%	13%	8%	6%	10%	1%	6%	5%	21%	4%	2%	10%	4%	3%	5%	5%	10%
Home Location	Northwest	6%	2%	10%	12%	4%	6%	-	4%	2%	27%	6%	2%	10%	2%	2%	16%	8%	10%
	Southwest	6%	5%	10%	5%	6%	11%	-	6%	5%	13%	2%	2%	9%	3%	6%	5%	4%	9%
	Northeast	5%	3%	19%	13%	7%	8%	2%	4%	7%	21%	3%	2%	8%	7%	4%	5%	1%	15%
	Southeast	2%	3%	11%	5%	6%	13%	1%	10%	3%	28%	6%	3%	14%	3%	2%	3%	9%	8%
	Outside the Township*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ages in Home	0-5 years*	-	-	19%	4%	-	12%	-	8%	-	-	4%	-	15%	-	-	8%	8%	12%
	6-12 years	11%	-	16%	8%	11%	11%	-	8%	3%	8%	-	-	16%	3%	3%	21%	11%	29%
	13-18 years	10%	3%	8%	5%	13%	10%	-	13%	5%	18%	-	-	18%	5%	-	20%	15%	28%
	19-24 years*	5%	5%	10%	5%	-	5%	-	5%	5%	10%	-	-	10%	-	5%	10%	5%	10%
	25-34 years	-	3%	13%	3%	3%	7%	-	3%	3%	17%	-	-	7%	3%	3%	3%	-	7%
	35-44 years	-	3%	13%	5%	4%	12%	-	9%	5%	5%	3%	1%	11%	5%	1%	9%	11%	21%
	45-54 years	14%	1%	10%	11%	10%	7%	-	13%	8%	16%	1%	-	10%	1%	2%	12%	11%	24%
	55-64 years	2%	2%	16%	9%	8%	10%	2%	4%	7%	27%	5%	1%	11%	4%	5%	3%	5%	5%
	65-74 years	1%	7%	13%	8%	1%	6%	-	3%	1%	26%	6%	3%	13%	5%	7%	3%	1%	2%
	75 and over	2%	5%	16%	5%	7%	16%	-	2%	5%	38%	11%	7%	14%	2%	7%	5%	-	4%
	Prefer not to answer*	-	8%	-	15%	-	8%	-	8%	-	15%	8%	15%	8%	-	-	-	8%	-
Home Type	Apartment/condo/townhouse*	8%	4%	8%	13%	13%	8%	-	-	13%	29%	-	4%	17%	-	-	4%	-	8%
	Mobile home*	-	14%	14%	-	14%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14%	29%	-	-	-	14%
	Single family home on < 1-acre lot	5%	3%	9%	9%	6%	9%	1%	8%	4%	16%	3%	2%	9%	3%	2%	6%	8%	12%
	Single family home with an acre or more	2%	4%	18%	6%	4%	12%	1%	6%	5%	27%	6%	2%	12%	4%	6%	5%	3%	9%
Mailing	Yes	4%	3%	13%	8%	6%	10%	0.01	0.06	5%	21%	0.04	2%	10%	0.04	0.03	5%	0.05	10%
	No	10%	21%	23%	13%	10%	18%	3%	5%	10%	41%	15%	3%	18%	3%	5%	5%	10%	26%

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Distribution Questions

2024 Oakland Township Parks and Recreation

Response: 425, Margin of Error +/- 4.7

		What are your primary reasons for participating in programs and events?									
		Exercise	Family activities	Hobbies and personal interests	Learning	Nature appreciation	Nature education	Physical attributes or settings	Pure enjoyment	School programs	Sense of community
Overall		42%	31%	22%	16%	42%	16%	18%	48%	2%	14%
Home Location	Northwest	35%	35%	31%	22%	37%	20%	22%	55%	-	10%
	Southwest	47%	30%	23%	17%	39%	15%	17%	41%	3%	13%
	Northeast	39%	34%	26%	11%	43%	12%	19%	49%	4%	13%
	Southeast	41%	29%	14%	18%	48%	18%	17%	48%	3%	16%
	Outside the Township*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ages in Home	0-5 years*	35%	65%	12%	4%	54%	15%	15%	35%	8%	15%
	6-12 years	29%	58%	16%	11%	45%	11%	11%	42%	11%	18%
	13-18 years	43%	60%	28%	13%	53%	13%	23%	60%	8%	15%
	19-24 years*	45%	40%	25%	15%	35%	5%	20%	50%	-	10%
	25-34 years	37%	33%	20%	3%	37%	17%	20%	33%	-	13%
	35-44 years	36%	54%	22%	9%	41%	11%	14%	39%	5%	21%
	45-54 years	47%	48%	29%	13%	40%	14%	20%	53%	6%	14%
	55-64 years	43%	27%	23%	18%	41%	11%	15%	45%	-	9%
	65-74 years	47%	18%	24%	24%	48%	28%	21%	46%	2%	13%
	75 and over	52%	14%	16%	16%	50%	23%	23%	68%	2%	16%
	Prefer not to answer*	23%	8%	8%	23%	38%	23%	23%	31%	-	15%
Home Type	Apartment/condo/townhouse*	58%	21%	21%	17%	42%	29%	13%	42%	4%	8%
	Mobile home*	43%	43%	43%	29%	57%	43%	14%	71%	-	29%
	Single family home on < 1-acre lot	41%	36%	18%	13%	37%	10%	16%	45%	3%	10%
	Single family home with an acre or more	40%	26%	25%	20%	48%	20%	22%	52%	1%	18%
Mailing	Yes	42%	31%	22%	16%	42%	16%	18%	48%	2%	14%
	No	46%	28%	28%	31%	54%	23%	26%	56%	3%	23%

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Distribution Questions

2024 Oakland Township Parks and Recreation

Response: 425, Margin of Error +/- 4.7

		What are your primary reasons for NOT participating in programs and events?											
		Cost	Ease of registration	I do not know the location of the parks	Insufficient staffing and services	Lack of leisure time	Not accessible for people with disabilities	Not convenient day or time	Not interested in attending programs/events	Prefer to participate in programs in other communities	Prefer virtual programs	Preferred program or special event not offered	Unaware of offerings
Overall		4%	1%	13%	1%	35%	2%	15%	17%	1%	1%	2%	32%
Home Location	Northwest	4%	-	14%	-	37%	4%	14%	12%	-	-	4%	33%
	Southwest	3%	1%	16%	1%	41%	1%	17%	16%	2%	1%	2%	33%
	Northeast	7%	2%	10%	2%	32%	4%	17%	20%	1%	1%	1%	38%
	Southeast	4%	2%	13%	1%	30%	1%	11%	18%	1%	1%	3%	26%
	Outside the Township*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ages in Home	0-5 years*	-	-	15%	-	35%	-	12%	8%	4%	-	-	50%
	6-12 years	5%	-	16%	-	42%	-	18%	11%	3%	-	-	42%
	13-18 years	5%	-	28%	-	50%	-	18%	23%	-	-	-	50%
	19-24 years*	10%	-	25%	-	40%	5%	20%	5%	-	-	-	35%
	25-34 years	-	-	20%	-	23%	-	10%	13%	-	-	-	40%
	35-44 years	4%	1%	18%	1%	39%	-	20%	14%	1%	3%	-	43%
	45-54 years	4%	1%	22%	-	51%	-	23%	14%	-	-	2%	45%
	55-64 years	5%	2%	10%	1%	34%	1%	14%	13%	2%	1%	2%	29%
	65-74 years	1%	2%	14%	1%	25%	3%	9%	16%	1%	1%	6%	31%
	75 and over	4%	2%	5%	2%	23%	9%	9%	32%	-	4%	2%	16%
	Prefer not to answer*	15%	-	-	8%	8%	-	23%	23%	-	-	-	-
Home Type	Apartment/condo/townhouse*	4%	4%	13%	-	33%	-	25%	17%	-	-	-	38%
	Mobile home*	29%	-	29%	-	29%	14%	-	29%	-	-	-	57%
	Single family home on < 1-acre lot	2%	0%	14%	1%	35%	2%	15%	16%	2%	0%	2%	33%
	Single family home with an acre or more	6%	2%	12%	1%	35%	2%	14%	19%	-	1%	3%	30%
Mailing	Yes	4%	1%	13%	0.01	35%	0.02	15%	17%	0.01	0.01	2%	32%
	No	5%	3%	10%	-	41%	-	31%	18%	-	3%	10%	23%

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Distribution Questions

2024 Oakland Township Parks and Recreation

Response: 425, Margin of Error +/- 4.7

		Which of the following programs would best meet the needs of you and your household?																
		Adult fine arts and performing arts	Adult fitness and wellness programs	Adult programs for 50 years and older	Bicycling clubs	Educational programs	Environmental stewardship, conservation, and ecology programs	Equestrian clubs	Family activities	History programs	Nature appreciation and education programs	Preschooler programs	Programs for persons with special needs	Special events, i.e. concerts or festivals	Teen-oriented programs	Walking, hiking, and running clubs	Youth sports programs	Youth summer day camp programs
Overall		17%	26%	28%	13%	11%	19%	3%	23%	17%	25%	6%	2%	38%	7%	25%	8%	10%
Home Location	Northwest	14%	33%	33%	18%	14%	24%	-	20%	8%	25%	4%	4%	37%	10%	29%	10%	8%
	Southwest	17%	27%	30%	11%	11%	16%	2%	22%	15%	23%	6%	1%	43%	5%	23%	7%	11%
	Northeast	18%	22%	26%	11%	10%	19%	6%	23%	19%	21%	5%	5%	29%	8%	24%	9%	8%
	Southeast	18%	24%	25%	13%	12%	21%	3%	25%	22%	31%	7%	-	42%	8%	25%	8%	11%
	Outside the Township*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ages in Home	0-5 years*	4%	12%	-	-	12%	12%	4%	58%	12%	15%	42%	-	23%	8%	31%	31%	35%
	6-12 years	5%	13%	3%	11%	16%	8%	5%	47%	11%	21%	5%	-	29%	26%	24%	24%	32%
	13-18 years	10%	33%	13%	15%	15%	5%	3%	43%	5%	28%	-	-	50%	38%	30%	13%	18%
	19-24 years*	10%	30%	15%	-	15%	10%	5%	35%	-	15%	-	-	45%	5%	25%	5%	5%
	25-34 years	13%	20%	13%	13%	17%	13%	7%	40%	20%	37%	23%	-	40%	-	23%	7%	17%
	35-44 years	7%	18%	7%	14%	14%	13%	3%	45%	12%	17%	18%	1%	37%	13%	32%	26%	29%
	45-54 years	10%	36%	19%	17%	10%	12%	2%	34%	10%	22%	4%	2%	45%	23%	36%	10%	11%
	55-64 years	23%	28%	41%	15%	9%	21%	4%	15%	20%	25%	2%	2%	44%	2%	28%	2%	3%
	65-74 years	28%	29%	38%	10%	10%	22%	1%	14%	21%	23%	6%	1%	37%	3%	20%	8%	5%
	75 and over	23%	27%	48%	5%	11%	21%	2%	11%	21%	30%	-	2%	30%	-	5%	2%	4%
	Prefer not to answer*	15%	15%	15%	8%	23%	31%	8%	-	8%	46%	-	-	23%	8%	23%	-	8%
Home Type	Apartment/condo/townhouse*	25%	38%	33%	4%	13%	13%	-	13%	25%	17%	4%	4%	42%	4%	8%	4%	4%
	Mobile home*	-	29%	29%	-	14%	29%	-	29%	14%	43%	14%	14%	29%	-	-	-	14%
	Single family home on < 1-acre lot	13%	26%	26%	12%	10%	16%	1%	27%	11%	21%	6%	2%	39%	10%	23%	10%	13%
	Single family home with an acre or more	20%	26%	30%	16%	12%	23%	5%	19%	22%	31%	5%	1%	37%	5%	30%	7%	7%
Mailing	Yes	17%	26%	28%	13%	11%	19%	0.03	23%	17%	25%	6%	2%	38%	7%	25%	8%	10%
	No	13%	33%	31%	10%	10%	31%	5%	28%	21%	31%	10%	-	33%	8%	28%	5%	13%

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Distribution Questions

2024 Oakland Township Parks and Recreation

Response: 425, Margin of Error +/- 4.7

		Archery Open Range Fees				Archery Class Fees				Fitness & Wellness Fees				Nature Programs Fees			
		Too high	About right	Too low	Don't know/ haven't used	Too high	About right	Too low	Don't know/ haven't used	Too high	About right	Too low	Don't know/ haven't used	Too high	About right	Too low	Don't know/ haven't used
Overall		1%	26%	2%	53%	2%	24%	1%	53%	8%	30%	1%	42%	2%	39%	1%	38%
Home Location	Northwest	2%	24%	0.02	59%	2%	27%	-	55%	6%	39%	-	41%	2%	41%	2%	41%
	Southwest	-	30%	3%	49%	-	25%	1%	55%	9%	26%	1%	46%	2%	34%	2%	42%
	Northeast	2%	22%	-	53%	5%	21%	1%	49%	13%	28%	1%	37%	5%	39%	2%	33%
	Southeast	-	29%	3%	51%	3%	25%	2%	54%	5%	33%	3%	42%	2%	45%	1%	35%
	Outside the Township*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ages in Home	0-5 years*	-	38%	-	42%	-	35%	-	42%	8%	35%	4%	31%	4%	42%	-	31%
	6-12 years	-	29%	3%	47%	-	21%	3%	53%	3%	26%	3%	45%	3%	34%	5%	34%
	13-18 years	-	38%	-	48%	3%	30%	-	50%	5%	35%	-	48%	3%	43%	3%	38%
	19-24 years*	-	40%	-	30%	-	35%	-	35%	10%	30%	-	30%	5%	35%	-	30%
	25-34 years	-	33%	-	47%	3%	27%	-	50%	10%	23%	3%	43%	-	40%	-	40%
	35-44 years	-	28%	3%	51%	1%	29%	1%	50%	7%	32%	3%	41%	4%	37%	3%	37%
	45-54 years	1%	37%	0.01	47%	1%	37%	-	45%	5%	39%	-	41%	1%	47%	1%	34%
	55-64 years	-	29%	2%	49%	2%	22%	2%	54%	12%	30%	2%	37%	1%	43%	1%	35%
	65-74 years	2%	22%	1%	61%	5%	20%	1%	61%	13%	23%	1%	51%	5%	34%	2%	45%
	75 and over	-	13%	-	66%	2%	7%	-	70%	5%	27%	-	50%	4%	36%	-	39%
	Prefer not to answer*	-	15%	0.08	31%	8%	8%	-	46%	15%	31%	-	23%	-	38%	-	31%
Home Type	Apartment/condo/townhouse*	0.04	13%	-	67%	-	13%	-	67%	4%	25%	-	54%	-	29%	4%	50%
	Mobile home*	-	29%	-	71%	-	29%	-	57%	-	43%	-	57%	-	57%	-	43%
	Single family home on < 1-acre lot	0%	26%	2%	50%	2%	24%	1%	51%	9%	31%	1%	39%	2%	37%	2%	37%
	Single family home with an acre or more	1%	29%	2%	53%	4%	24%	1%	55%	9%	29%	2%	45%	3%	43%	1%	37%
Mailing	Yes	0.01	26%	0.02	53%	0.02	24%	0.01	53%	8%	30%	0.01	42%	0.02	39%	1%	38%
	No	-	33%	8%	41%	3%	38%	3%	38%	8%	38%	3%	31%	3%	41%	5%	31%

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Distribution Questions

2024 Oakland Township Parks and Recreation

Response: 425, Margin of Error +/- 4.7

		Picnic Pavilion Fees				Youth Soccer Field Permit Fees				Adult Soccer Field Permit Fees				Skills Camps Youth Outdoors Fees			
		Too high	About right	Too low	Don't know/ haven't used	Too high	About right	Too low	Don't know/ haven't used	Too high	About right	Too low	Don't know/ haven't used	Too high	About right	Too low	Don't know/ haven't used
Overall		5%	33%	4%	40%	3%	18%	3%	57%	5%	15%	2%	60%	5%	17%	1%	58%
Home Location	Northwest	4%	43%	-	41%	4%	27%	-	57%	6%	24%	-	59%	14%	20%	-	55%
	Southwest	3%	35%	3%	38%	3%	19%	3%	56%	3%	18%	2%	57%	2%	18%	2%	58%
	Northeast	7%	33%	2%	37%	4%	13%	3%	59%	6%	8%	3%	62%	5%	15%	1%	57%
	Southeast	5%	31%	8%	39%	3%	19%	4%	56%	5%	14%	3%	60%	7%	18%	1%	57%
	Outside the Township*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ages in Home	0-5 years*	4%	46%	-	27%	4%	27%	4%	42%	8%	19%	4%	46%	4%	27%	-	46%
	6-12 years	5%	26%	8%	37%	5%	26%	5%	39%	8%	16%	5%	47%	13%	21%	3%	39%
	13-18 years	-	50%	3%	35%	10%	30%	-	45%	10%	28%	-	48%	8%	35%	-	43%
	19-24 years*	15%	40%	-	15%	10%	20%	5%	35%	15%	15%	5%	35%	5%	30%	-	35%
	25-34 years	-	47%	-	33%	-	17%	-	63%	-	13%	-	67%	3%	17%	-	60%
	35-44 years	3%	38%	4%	37%	4%	29%	3%	46%	7%	20%	3%	53%	7%	25%	1%	49%
	45-54 years	2%	41%	6%	36%	6%	27%	4%	48%	7%	23%	4%	51%	5%	27%	1%	52%
	55-64 years	3%	39%	5%	32%	2%	16%	4%	56%	3%	14%	3%	59%	3%	17%	2%	57%
	65-74 years	8%	29%	1%	49%	3%	16%	2%	64%	5%	13%	2%	67%	8%	11%	1%	66%
	75 and over	11%	20%	2%	48%	-	9%	-	73%	2%	7%	-	73%	2%	7%	-	70%
	Prefer not to answer*	-	15%	8%	46%	-	8%	8%	54%	-	8%	-	54%	8%	15%	-	46%
Home Type	Apartment/condo/townhouse*	8%	17%	-	54%	4%	13%	-	67%	4%	13%	-	67%	8%	8%	-	63%
	Mobile home*	14%	43%	-	43%	-	14%	-	86%	-	14%	-	86%	-	14%	-	71%
	Single family home on < 1-acre lot	3%	35%	6%	35%	4%	20%	3%	51%	6%	16%	2%	54%	5%	20%	1%	52%
	Single family home with an acre or more	6%	33%	2%	44%	2%	16%	2%	63%	3%	13%	2%	66%	6%	14%	1%	64%
Mailing	Yes	5%	33%	0.04	40%	3%	18%	0.03	57%	5%	15%	0.02	60%	5%	17%	0.01	58%
	No	5%	36%	10%	31%	8%	18%	10%	46%	10%	21%	8%	41%	10%	23%	5%	44%

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Distribution Questions

2024 Oakland Township Parks and Recreation

Response: 425, Margin of Error +/- 4.7

		Stabilize the historic Fox Barn at Fox Nature Preserve to allow public viewing of			Repair the historic Fox Barn so it can be used for storage and maintenance			Restore the historic Fox Barn to allow public use for events, programs, rest room use, etc.			Additional Fox Nature Preserve and Cranberry Lake Farm Revenue Sources				Visited the Cranberry Lake Farm (CLF) Historic District?	
		Support	Oppose	Not sure	Support	Oppose	Not sure	Support	Oppose	Not sure	Corporate sponsorships	Community donations/fund raisers	Bond/borrow for the costs	Resident-supported dedicated millages	Yes	No
Overall		22%	26%	24%	14%	30%	28%	44%	17%	20%	61%	62%	18%	24%	44%	42%
Home Location	Northwest	16%	35%	27%	10%	43%	29%	37%	27%	22%	57%	65%	22%	24%	49%	45%
	Southwest	19%	26%	25%	17%	27%	27%	44%	17%	17%	61%	59%	18%	24%	33%	50%
	Northeast	24%	24%	20%	15%	27%	26%	44%	14%	21%	59%	58%	18%	21%	54%	30%
	Southeast	23%	22%	27%	13%	30%	30%	45%	16%	23%	65%	69%	17%	26%	44%	44%
	Outside the Township*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ages in Home	0-5 years*	31%	19%	15%	27%	19%	27%	38%	8%	19%	38%	50%	19%	19%	31%	50%
	6-12 years	21%	32%	5%	11%	37%	13%	39%	16%	16%	45%	53%	13%	21%	37%	42%
	13-18 years	23%	25%	18%	15%	33%	20%	60%	15%	10%	65%	65%	23%	28%	35%	58%
	19-24 years*	20%	35%	15%	10%	40%	20%	40%	25%	10%	55%	50%	20%	10%	25%	60%
	25-34 years	30%	20%	23%	30%	20%	30%	37%	13%	27%	63%	67%	23%	27%	37%	50%
	35-44 years	20%	32%	21%	14%	36%	25%	53%	11%	17%	55%	61%	22%	25%	30%	54%
	45-54 years	25%	22%	22%	13%	31%	24%	49%	13%	18%	61%	69%	18%	25%	39%	49%
	55-64 years	25%	24%	22%	18%	32%	23%	45%	18%	19%	61%	62%	17%	20%	46%	39%
	65-74 years	20%	33%	25%	17%	34%	26%	39%	22%	22%	62%	61%	17%	24%	48%	39%
	75 and over	20%	23%	29%	11%	27%	32%	41%	20%	25%	66%	63%	20%	29%	54%	38%
	Prefer not to answer*	8%	23%	31%	-	15%	46%	15%	31%	23%	54%	54%	15%	15%	62%	8%
Home Type	Apartment/condo/townhouse*	17%	25%	25%	8%	38%	25%	33%	17%	21%	50%	54%	13%	21%	42%	38%
	Mobile home*	57%	14%	-	43%	14%	14%	57%	29%	14%	71%	86%	29%	57%	86%	14%
	Single family home on < 1-acre lot	20%	21%	27%	16%	25%	29%	42%	14%	23%	63%	62%	20%	26%	36%	48%
	Single family home with an acre or more	23%	32%	21%	13%	36%	27%	48%	21%	17%	60%	63%	16%	20%	53%	35%
Mailing	Yes	22%	26%	24%	14%	30%	28%	44%	17%	20%	61%	62%	18%	24%	44%	42%
	No	21%	26%	26%	18%	33%	21%	41%	21%	21%	59%	64%	23%	28%	56%	23%

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Distribution Questions

2024 Oakland Township Parks and Recreation

Response: 425, Margin of Error +/- 4.7

		What activities typically bring you to CLF?											Archives/research					Museum				
		Concerts	Down on the Farm event	Nature observation	Picnic	Private events	Programs or workshops	Research / Museum	Scouting activities	Story Garden	Volunteering	Walk the grounds, hiking, biking, riding	Very disinterested	Somewhat disinterested	Neutral	Somewhat interested	Very interested	Very disinterested	Somewhat disinterested	Neutral	Somewhat interested	Very interested
Overall		21%	13%	21%	5%	3%	9%	5%	2%	3%	2%	35%	11%	9%	29%	18%	8%	7%	7%	21%	26%	13%
Home Location	Northwest	20%	16%	18%	4%	4%	10%	2%	2%	2%	2%	39%	10%	14%	31%	20%	6%	8%	12%	24%	24%	14%
	Southwest	21%	12%	15%	3%	1%	5%	3%	2%	3%	1%	22%	12%	10%	32%	12%	4%	9%	5%	23%	22%	11%
	Northeast	25%	19%	29%	5%	4%	15%	10%	2%	6%	4%	45%	10%	5%	21%	23%	10%	5%	4%	18%	30%	13%
	Southeast	18%	8%	24%	8%	3%	8%	5%	2%	2%	1%	39%	11%	10%	30%	18%	10%	6%	10%	20%	27%	14%
	Outside the Township*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ages in Home	0-5 years*	8%	15%	8%	8%	8%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	19%	-	8%	31%	19%	8%	-	8%	23%	19%	15%
	6-12 years	8%	18%	18%	5%	5%	8%	-	-	3%	-	32%	0.03	11%	34%	13%	3%	-	5%	26%	21%	11%
	13-18 years	10%	10%	23%	8%	-	8%	8%	-	3%	3%	35%	13%	0.08	30%	18%	8%	5%	-	33%	20%	15%
	19-24 years*	-	10%	-	5%	5%	-	5%	5%	-	-	15%	10%	15%	45%	-	-	5%	10%	35%	5%	5%
	25-34 years	13%	10%	10%	3%	-	3%	-	-	7%	-	37%	3%	17%	27%	27%	10%	3%	10%	10%	47%	13%
	35-44 years	9%	14%	12%	7%	4%	5%	3%	1%	4%	3%	22%	7%	13%	32%	20%	4%	5%	7%	26%	22%	13%
	45-54 years	13%	10%	16%	5%	-	5%	5%	-	2%	2%	36%	11%	7%	35%	17%	5%	5%	4%	33%	22%	12%
	55-64 years	27%	13%	26%	5%	2%	11%	6%	2%	2%	2%	41%	13%	9%	25%	17%	9%	9%	9%	15%	30%	13%
	65-74 years	31%	13%	21%	5%	2%	16%	2%	2%	3%	-	31%	11%	8%	32%	17%	9%	7%	13%	15%	26%	13%
	75 and over	32%	16%	32%	9%	4%	14%	14%	5%	5%	4%	34%	25%	0.04	25%	18%	13%	13%	-	16%	29%	20%
	Prefer not to answer*	15%	15%	38%	-	15%	8%	8%	-	8%	-	54%	15%	15%	15%	15%	-	15%	8%	31%	8%	-
Home Type	Apartment/condo/townhouse*	29%	8%	17%	4%	-	-	-	-	-	4%	25%	21%	4%	25%	4%	8%	13%	8%	17%	13%	17%
	Mobile home*	14%	29%	29%	-	-	14%	29%	-	-	-	86%	0.14	-	29%	-	57%	-	14%	14%	14%	57%
	Single family home on < 1-acre lot	16%	10%	17%	4%	2%	5%	4%	2%	2%	1%	29%	12%	9%	30%	17%	4%	7%	6%	27%	21%	9%
	Single family home with an acre or more	28%	17%	27%	6%	3%	16%	7%	2%	6%	2%	44%	10%	10%	28%	22%	10%	6%	7%	14%	35%	14%
Mailing	Yes	21%	13%	21%	5%	0.03	0.09	0.05	0.02	0.03	2%	35%	11%	9%	29%	18%	8%	7%	7%	21%	26%	13%
	No	31%	21%	31%	8%	10%	18%	3%	3%	3%	8%	38%	5%	15%	28%	18%	8%	5%	3%	21%	31%	13%

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Distribution Questions 2024 Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Response: 425, Margin of Error +/- 4.7		Rotating exhibits					Square dances					Recreational events and activities				
		Very disinterested	Somewhat disinterested	Neutral	Somewhat interested	Very interested	Very disinterested	Somewhat disinterested	Neutral	Somewhat interested	Very interested	Very disinterested	Somewhat disinterested	Neutral	Somewhat interested	Very interested
Overall		6%	8%	25%	26%	10%	22%	13%	23%	11%	5%	5%	5%	23%	29%	12%
Home Location	Northwest	4%	14%	20%	25%	18%	22%	12%	29%	12%	2%	4%	12%	29%	27%	6%
	Southwest	6%	10%	26%	25%	6%	26%	10%	24%	7%	5%	4%	3%	25%	28%	11%
	Northeast	6%	4%	24%	23%	12%	19%	12%	16%	16%	7%	5%	5%	21%	26%	15%
	Southeast	6%	8%	26%	29%	9%	21%	18%	25%	13%	2%	5%	6%	20%	36%	11%
	Outside the Township*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ages in Home	0-5 years*	-	8%	12%	38%	8%	-	23%	31%	8%	4%	-	4%	19%	31%	12%
	6-12 years	-	8%	18%	26%	8%	18%	24%	13%	5%	3%	-	5%	24%	21%	13%
	13-18 years	8%	3%	33%	28%	5%	25%	8%	20%	10%	13%	-	3%	28%	23%	23%
	19-24 years*	10%	5%	35%	15%	5%	20%	10%	30%	-	10%	-	5%	35%	20%	10%
	25-34 years	7%	13%	7%	50%	3%	27%	17%	17%	20%	3%	7%	3%	13%	40%	20%
	35-44 years	3%	9%	26%	26%	9%	18%	22%	20%	12%	1%	3%	4%	21%	32%	16%
	45-54 years	5%	5%	33%	27%	6%	22%	11%	28%	8%	7%	2%	1%	33%	25%	14%
	55-64 years	5%	9%	20%	32%	9%	18%	14%	23%	15%	5%	4%	5%	16%	35%	12%
	65-74 years	7%	9%	26%	23%	11%	17%	15%	25%	10%	8%	6%	8%	24%	26%	11%
	75 and over	14%	2%	27%	16%	23%	36%	11%	20%	13%	4%	16%	5%	27%	29%	5%
	Prefer not to answer*	8%	8%	31%	15%	-	38%	15%	-	8%	-	15%	-	15%	23%	-
Home Type	Apartment/condo/townhouse*	13%	-	21%	29%	8%	29%	13%	21%	4%	-	13%	-	25%	17%	17%
	Mobile home*	14%	14%	29%	14%	29%	43%	-	29%	29%	-	-	14%	-	29%	57%
	Single family home on < 1-acre lot	6%	8%	26%	26%	6%	20%	14%	24%	12%	2%	4%	4%	24%	29%	11%
	Single family home with an acre or more	4%	9%	25%	26%	14%	23%	13%	22%	12%	9%	6%	7%	22%	32%	11%
Mailing	Yes	6%	8%	25%	26%	10%	22%	13%	23%	11%	0.05	5%	0.05	23%	29%	12%
	No	5%	5%	28%	23%	13%	18%	15%	23%	8%	10%	3%	3%	18%	38%	13%

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Distribution Questions 2024 Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Response: 425, Margin of Error +/- 4.7		Historical events and re-enactments					Concerts					Educational programs				
		Very disinterested	Somewhat disinterested	Neutral	Somewhat interested	Very interested	Very disinterested	Somewhat disinterested	Neutral	Somewhat interested	Very interested	Very disinterested	Somewhat disinterested	Neutral	Somewhat interested	Very interested
Overall		11%	7%	22%	20%	14%	7%	4%	12%	25%	29%	4%	5%	22%	29%	14%
Home Location	Northwest	14%	4%	29%	20%	12%	10%	6%	8%	24%	31%	6%	6%	24%	25%	18%
	Southwest	12%	7%	26%	17%	10%	5%	3%	14%	22%	30%	3%	8%	26%	24%	10%
	Northeast	8%	8%	18%	20%	17%	7%	2%	8%	27%	26%	6%	3%	18%	32%	12%
	Southeast	9%	9%	18%	24%	18%	6%	8%	14%	27%	28%	3%	6%	21%	32%	17%
	Outside the Township*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ages in Home	0-5 years*	4%	8%	15%	23%	15%	-	8%	19%	27%	12%	-	8%	19%	27%	12%
	6-12 years	3%	11%	18%	26%	5%	3%	5%	13%	26%	16%	-	8%	21%	24%	11%
	13-18 years	8%	10%	28%	20%	10%	3%	5%	13%	23%	33%	3%	13%	28%	20%	13%
	19-24 years*	20%	15%	20%	15%	-	5%	5%	20%	15%	25%	5%	5%	40%	10%	10%
	25-34 years	10%	10%	13%	27%	23%	7%	7%	13%	23%	33%	3%	10%	13%	40%	17%
	35-44 years	11%	13%	21%	17%	12%	5%	8%	14%	25%	22%	-	11%	25%	25%	14%
	45-54 years	10%	8%	27%	22%	8%	7%	2%	14%	28%	24%	4%	5%	31%	27%	8%
	55-64 years	9%	7%	20%	24%	16%	9%	2%	8%	25%	32%	5%	2%	20%	36%	9%
	65-74 years	11%	7%	22%	16%	21%	8%	6%	15%	14%	36%	5%	7%	20%	23%	20%
	75 and over	20%	-	20%	21%	20%	13%	5%	5%	29%	36%	11%	4%	16%	30%	21%
	Prefer not to answer*	8%	-	31%	23%	-	8%	-	8%	31%	15%	8%	-	8%	38%	8%
Home Type	Apartment/condo/townhouse*	17%	-	17%	25%	13%	8%	4%	13%	4%	42%	8%	4%	13%	25%	21%
	Mobile home*	14%	-	-	14%	71%	29%	-	-	57%	14%	-	14%	14%	29%	43%
	Single family home on < 1-acre lot	10%	10%	24%	18%	9%	5%	4%	14%	28%	23%	2%	6%	24%	28%	10%
	Single family home with an acre or more	11%	6%	21%	23%	19%	8%	6%	10%	22%	34%	6%	4%	21%	30%	16%
Mailing	Yes	11%	0.07	22%	20%	14%	7%	4%	12%	25%	29%	4%	5%	22%	29%	14%
	No	3%	10%	21%	26%	13%	3%	3%	10%	31%	28%	3%	3%	23%	21%	21%

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Distribution Questions

2024 Oakland Township Parks and Recreation

Response: 425, Margin of Error +/- 4.7

		Down at the Farm Day					Private rentals					Story, Heritage, and Herb gardens				
		Very disinterested	Somewhat disinterested	Neutral	Somewhat interested	Very interested	Very disinterested	Somewhat disinterested	Neutral	Somewhat interested	Very interested	Very disinterested	Somewhat disinterested	Neutral	Somewhat interested	Very interested
Overall		7%	5%	26%	23%	13%	11%	7%	34%	19%	4%	6%	6%	29%	24%	9%
Home Location	Northwest	8%	6%	25%	25%	12%	14%	8%	33%	24%	2%	6%	2%	31%	27%	12%
	Southwest	7%	6%	29%	16%	14%	10%	9%	34%	15%	5%	7%	10%	30%	23%	3%
	Northeast	7%	3%	21%	27%	13%	8%	3%	36%	18%	4%	8%	5%	27%	19%	11%
	Southeast	6%	6%	30%	27%	11%	11%	8%	33%	24%	3%	3%	8%	31%	27%	12%
	Outside the Township*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ages in Home	0-5 years*	-	4%	12%	27%	23%	-	12%	27%	23%	4%	-	8%	27%	27%	4%
	6-12 years	-	8%	13%	29%	0.13	-	8%	34%	21%	-	3%	11%	29%	21%	-
	13-18 years	3%	0.1	28%	18%	18%	8%	-	40%	25%	3%	5%	5%	38%	15%	13%
	19-24 years*	-	0.05	35%	20%	10%	-	-	40%	25%	5%	10%	5%	40%	5%	10%
	25-34 years	7%	7%	20%	30%	20%	13%	13%	23%	27%	7%	-	7%	23%	43%	10%
	35-44 years	5%	4%	20%	28%	18%	3%	11%	34%	24%	3%	4%	8%	32%	25%	7%
	45-54 years	4%	7%	28%	22%	14%	7%	6%	39%	20%	2%	7%	5%	37%	18%	7%
	55-64 years	7%	2%	27%	25%	11%	10%	2%	35%	22%	4%	4%	4%	26%	30%	8%
	65-74 years	6%	8%	30%	18%	15%	8%	11%	34%	17%	6%	7%	8%	29%	21%	11%
	75 and over	18%	4%	32%	18%	5%	27%	5%	34%	11%	2%	14%	4%	29%	27%	14%
	Prefer not to answer*	15%	0.08	-	38%	-	38%	-	15%	15%	-	15%	15%	15%	15%	-
Home Type	Apartment/condo/townhouse*	8%	4%	25%	17%	8%	21%	8%	17%	8%	8%	13%	8%	25%	8%	13%
	Mobile home*	-	-	29%	43%	0.29	43%	-	29%	29%	-	14%	-	14%	43%	29%
	Single family home on < 1-acre lot	6%	6%	25%	23%	11%	8%	6%	32%	22%	4%	5%	7%	30%	25%	5%
	Single family home with an acre or more	8%	4%	27%	24%	14%	12%	7%	39%	17%	3%	7%	6%	30%	24%	12%
Mailing	Yes	7%	5%	26%	23%	13%	11%	7%	34%	19%	4%	6%	6%	29%	24%	9%
	No	8%	3%	21%	23%	21%	5%	8%	38%	15%	8%	3%	8%	26%	23%	15%

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Distribution Questions

2024 Oakland Township Parks and Recreation

Response: 425, Margin of Error +/- 4.7

		Little free library				
		Very disinterested	Somewhat disinterested	Neutral	Somewhat interested	Very interested
Overall		10%	7%	31%	18%	8%
Home Location	Northwest	10%	6%	35%	20%	8%
	Southwest	14%	8%	35%	14%	2%
	Northeast	9%	5%	24%	19%	13%
	Southeast	7%	10%	31%	21%	10%
	Outside the Township*	-	-	-	-	-
Ages in Home	0-5 years*	-	8%	27%	27%	4%
	6-12 years	5%	13%	21%	21%	3%
	13-18 years	5%	5%	28%	28%	10%
	19-24 years*	5%	5%	40%	10%	10%
	25-34 years	3%	7%	23%	37%	13%
	35-44 years	7%	11%	26%	20%	12%
	45-54 years	10%	5%	34%	23%	5%
	55-64 years	11%	5%	33%	16%	7%
	65-74 years	9%	13%	31%	16%	7%
	75 and over	18%	7%	36%	11%	9%
	Prefer not to answer*	23%	-	15%	31%	-
Home Type	Apartment/condo/townhouse*	29%	8%	17%	8%	4%
	Mobile home*	14%	-	29%	29%	29%
	Single family home on < 1-acre lot	8%	8%	32%	17%	8%
	Single family home with an acre or more	10%	7%	32%	20%	9%
Mailing	Yes	10%	7%	31%	18%	8%
	No	5%	8%	31%	21%	8%

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Distribution Questions

2024 Oakland Township Parks and Recreation

Response: 425, Margin of Error +/- 4.7

		What improvements would you like to see at CLF?													
		Additional parking	Additional picnic seating	Agricultural crops	Community garden areas	Flushing rest rooms	Improved signage for buildings and implements	Interactive displays	More accessible pathways to the buildings	Permanent cultural exhibits	Picnic shelters/covered pavilions	Restored barns	Restored farming implements	Working farm with live animals and poultry runs	Yurts/gazebos
Overall		12%	9%	5%	18%	27%	5%	6%	8%	5%	13%	18%	11%	18%	7%
Home Location	Northwest	12%	12%	4%	22%	25%	-	2%	4%	2%	8%	22%	14%	20%	2%
	Southwest	11%	10%	3%	14%	25%	4%	5%	8%	5%	13%	12%	8%	13%	5%
	Northeast	11%	8%	4%	13%	27%	7%	8%	9%	4%	17%	19%	12%	18%	9%
	Southeast	14%	8%	8%	22%	31%	8%	8%	9%	6%	13%	20%	11%	23%	8%
	Outside the Township*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ages in Home	0-5 years*	4%	4%	4%	15%	19%	4%	4%	4%	4%	19%	12%	4%	15%	8%
	6-12 years	13%	13%	8%	11%	21%	5%	8%	5%	-	16%	13%	11%	24%	5%
	13-18 years	18%	13%	10%	23%	38%	8%	10%	8%	-	15%	13%	8%	23%	10%
	19-24 years*	15%	5%	5%	15%	25%	-	-	10%	5%	15%	10%	5%	10%	5%
	25-34 years	7%	7%	7%	20%	33%	3%	7%	13%	13%	17%	13%	7%	30%	17%
	35-44 years	8%	7%	3%	13%	24%	4%	8%	7%	4%	18%	14%	8%	21%	11%
	45-54 years	12%	8%	6%	23%	24%	4%	7%	7%	5%	11%	16%	10%	19%	11%
	55-64 years	10%	10%	5%	16%	24%	5%	5%	7%	5%	12%	21%	12%	16%	7%
	65-74 years	16%	9%	6%	13%	22%	5%	5%	10%	3%	8%	20%	9%	18%	5%
	75 and over	23%	16%	5%	25%	43%	11%	7%	13%	5%	21%	27%	16%	23%	4%
	Prefer not to answer*	-	8%	-	23%	46%	-	8%	8%	-	8%	8%	-	8%	-
Home Type	Apartment/condo/townhouse*	8%	4%	8%	8%	21%	8%	4%	13%	8%	17%	4%	-	8%	4%
	Mobile home*	-	-	14%	29%	43%	14%	14%	43%	-	29%	29%	29%	43%	-
	Single family home on < 1-acre lot	13%	10%	5%	15%	27%	6%	6%	7%	5%	12%	15%	9%	14%	6%
	Single family home with an acre or more	13%	8%	4%	22%	28%	4%	7%	8%	4%	14%	24%	14%	23%	9%
Mailing	Yes	12%	9%	5%	18%	27%	5%	6%	8%	5%	13%	18%	0.11	18%	7%
	No	5%	5%	8%	18%	26%	15%	-	3%	5%	13%	26%	18%	15%	8%

**Cohort has lower response level which may increase score varia*

Note: Results may not equal 100% because of no response to th

Distribution Questions

2024 Oakland Township Parks and Recreation

Response: 425, Margin of Error +/- 4.7

		Relocate the donated Garling Barn to the Cranberry Lake Farm Historic			In general, it is important for the Township to expend funds for historic			Where do you go most often for local news?														
		Support	Oppose	Not sure	Support	Oppose	Not sure	Cable access television	E-newsletters and e-mail blasts	Facebook	Family, friends, and neighbors	Flyers/posters at Parks & Rec properties	Handouts at park events and programs	Instagram	Interactive Parks and Recreation website with active calendar and maps	Natural Area Stewardship blog (OaklandNaturalAreas.com)	Newspaper articles	Nextdoor	Oakland Township newsletter	Oakland Township website	Parks and Recreation newsletter	Roadside signs
Overall		32%	18%	27%	47%	11%	17%	3%	43%	21%	11%	17%	9%	12%	21%	5%	22%	11%	61%	38%	52%	15%
Home Location	Northwest	29%	18%	33%	47%	12%	22%	4%	41%	16%	16%	14%	14%	6%	24%	4%	25%	12%	69%	45%	41%	20%
	Southwest	34%	17%	24%	49%	12%	15%	-	46%	23%	10%	21%	10%	13%	17%	4%	23%	12%	60%	33%	52%	17%
	Northeast	32%	19%	23%	44%	12%	15%	5%	40%	17%	8%	18%	12%	9%	22%	7%	24%	7%	59%	39%	54%	11%
	Southeast	33%	16%	31%	50%	8%	19%	3%	46%	26%	13%	17%	4%	18%	24%	4%	18%	14%	61%	39%	52%	15%
	Outside the Township*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ages in Home	0-5 years*	31%	4%	19%	46%	4%	8%	-	38%	35%	15%	27%	8%	12%	31%	4%	23%	8%	46%	35%	46%	15%
	6-12 years	24%	18%	18%	39%	13%	8%	-	42%	39%	8%	26%	8%	18%	26%	-	11%	16%	50%	32%	37%	13%
	13-18 years	40%	18%	23%	48%	10%	15%	-	58%	38%	10%	30%	8%	30%	33%	-	18%	15%	63%	33%	53%	15%
	19-24 years*	20%	25%	20%	20%	15%	30%	-	40%	30%	20%	25%	10%	15%	5%	-	30%	10%	55%	35%	40%	25%
	25-34 years	37%	3%	37%	53%	3%	20%	-	50%	20%	20%	23%	10%	13%	17%	7%	23%	17%	57%	40%	53%	13%
	35-44 years	26%	16%	26%	46%	12%	14%	1%	50%	34%	20%	25%	14%	25%	26%	5%	17%	12%	58%	38%	39%	24%
	45-54 years	36%	16%	24%	47%	11%	14%	-	41%	39%	10%	18%	7%	20%	25%	1%	13%	11%	60%	36%	54%	14%
	55-64 years	36%	21%	22%	50%	13%	14%	3%	45%	14%	9%	14%	8%	7%	17%	3%	23%	10%	65%	46%	53%	16%
	65-74 years	36%	17%	25%	44%	15%	18%	2%	48%	13%	7%	16%	9%	8%	21%	6%	29%	14%	61%	38%	57%	10%
	75 and over	36%	21%	30%	57%	7%	21%	5%	46%	13%	11%	13%	7%	5%	23%	9%	32%	13%	75%	38%	64%	11%
	Prefer not to answer*	15%	15%	38%	23%	15%	31%	8%	23%	-	8%	8%	8%	-	8%	8%	15%	-	54%	31%	54%	-
Home Type	Apartment/condo/townhouse*	25%	17%	25%	42%	17%	13%	4%	42%	13%	8%	8%	-	21%	4%	4%	13%	17%	38%	21%	50%	4%
	Mobile home*	43%	14%	43%	86%	-	14%	29%	29%	-	14%	29%	29%	14%	29%	-	29%	-	29%	57%	86%	29%
	Single family home on < 1-acre lot	29%	17%	29%	45%	11%	19%	0%	45%	26%	12%	22%	8%	15%	23%	3%	20%	12%	60%	34%	48%	16%
	Single family home with an acre or more	37%	18%	24%	50%	11%	15%	4%	42%	18%	11%	13%	11%	9%	20%	7%	26%	11%	68%	45%	56%	16%
Mailing	Yes	32%	18%	27%	47%	11%	17%	3%	43%	21%	11%	17%	0.09	12%	21%	5%	22%	11%	61%	38%	52%	15%
	No	36%	13%	23%	44%	5%	26%	5%	51%	21%	18%	28%	15%	5%	23%	21%	26%	8%	54%	38%	44%	28%

**Cohort has lower response level which may increase score varia*

Note: Results may not equal 100% because of no response to th

Distribution Questions

2024 Oakland Township Parks and Recreation

Response: 425, Margin of Error +/- 4.7

		Rochester Community Schools Enrichment Program catalog	Special events postcards	X (formerly Twitter)
Overall		15%	21%	4%
Home Location	Northwest	14%	25%	4%
	Southwest	18%	27%	5%
	Northeast	12%	17%	5%
	Southeast	16%	18%	4%
	Outside the Township*	-	-	-
Ages in Home	0-5 years*	23%	19%	8%
	6-12 years	24%	16%	11%
	13-18 years	23%	20%	8%
	19-24 years*	25%	10%	-
	25-34 years	17%	17%	3%
	35-44 years	24%	20%	8%
	45-54 years	29%	24%	6%
	55-64 years	7%	19%	2%
	65-74 years	10%	28%	6%
	75 and over	5%	18%	4%
	Prefer not to answer*	-	8%	-
Home Type	Apartment/condo/townhouse*	13%	21%	8%
	Mobile home*	14%	29%	-
	Single family home on < 1-acre lot	19%	19%	6%
	Single family home with an acre or more	11%	22%	2%
Mailing	Yes	15%	21%	4%
	No	18%	10%	5%

**Cohort has lower response level which may increase score varia*

Note: Results may not equal 100% because of no response to th

Who Responded

2024 Oakland Township Parks and Recreation

Response: 425, Margin of Error +/- 4.7

		Mailing		Combined with Volunteers	
		Counts	Percentage	Counts	Percentage
Overall		**425**	**100%**	**500**	**100%**
Home Location	Northwest	53	12%	60	12%
	Southwest	119	28%	140	28%
	Northeast	111	26%	126	25%
	Southeast	123	29%	147	29%
	Outside the Township*	-	-	3	1%
Ages in Home	0-5 years*	29	7%	35	7%
	6-12 years	42	10%	48	10%
	13-18 years	42	10%	46	9%
	19-24 years*	20	5%	25	5%
	25-34 years	30	7%	38	8%
	35-44 years	82	19%	93	19%
	45-54 years	83	20%	95	19%
	55-64 years	131	31%	147	29%
	65-74 years	89	21%	103	21%
	75 and over	59	14%	73	15%
	Prefer not to answer*	13	3%	15	3%
Home Type	Apartment/condo/townhouse*	25	6%	30	6%
	Mobile home*	7	2%	7	1%
	Single family home on < 1-acre lot	216	51%	247	49%
	Single family home with an acre or more	164	39%	195	39%
Mailing	Yes	425	100%	425	85%
	No	-	-	75	15%

**Cohort has lower response level which may increase score variation*

Note: Results may not equal 100% because of no response to the specific question and/or multiple responses available

Survey Open-Ended Question Responses

Q4: What is done especially well
Acquire parkland and natural areas
Acquiring green space and keeping it wild for nature
Acquiring greenspace land.
Acquiring Land and developing it. Fox and Stonycreek reserves. Improvements in Bear Creek
Acquiring land for new parks and prairie/oak savanna restoration projects
Acquiring more parklands, keeping parks in their natural state, access/parking
Acquiring new parkland
Acquisition and protection of park land. It is very important to maintain greenspace and preserve many areas of Oakland Township that are open and natural. Also, minimize shopping centers!
Acquisition of land for parks and stewardship all parkland
acquisition of land for public use and conservation
acquisition of parkland and expansion of the trail network
acquistion and preservation of park acreage and continue well developed / executed program offerings for OT residents
Addison and Golden Oaks parks
Address invasive species
Aggressively purchase land for park use.
All
All recreation activities and programs are a priority with my wife and I.
allocating land for parks and making it affordable
Almost nothing.
Although I love the new location signs .. they are hard to see over the vegetation
Amount of land reserved for parks
Aquisition of Park lands
Area clean up maintenance, parks and paint creek trail
Bathrooms at all park, well maintained trails, free events for families
Beautiful parks, low commercial properties
Beautiful parks, easy to use and scenic trails, family and child friendly parks
Buy and maintain open spaces
Buy more property
buying land to combat less development
Buying of park land
Buying park land, responsibly developing the parks, maintaining current parks
Can't think of any
Care of the trails and parks
care taken with the current park land, communication to residents about park activity and park activity
clean
Clean parks
Clean, tidy, well maintained beautiful community.
Cleanliness
Cleanliness and general appearance
Cleanliness of the areas. Kept up quite well
communication to residents
Concert in the Park
Concerts in the parks
concerts, classes, sled hill
Continue to develop and improve pars

continue to purchase adjoining land for parks expansion
Continued intentional planned development to preserve the elegant and natural environment of our township. Love the plentiful parks and trails. I'd like to see expanded hunting opportunities for deer, turkey, coyote, small game, etc. Bow or gun.
controlling invasive plants within our parks and informing the residents on how to do the same to try to reduce the wide spread of invasive plants throughout our township and county.
Creating and keeping greenspace and not allowing rezoning for commercial or high density housing.
Developing engaging parks and recreation areas.
Developing trails and maintaining the wild nature of most of the parks while having recreational development in some areas of some of the parks.
Development is POOR. Maintenance is average. Prefer that millage be used to provide top maintemnance, and minimal new developemnt. This questionairre is suspect. EG. #6, I don't walk, I drive. Some Bike. So PArking and lock racks are left out from developemnt plans.
Do not construct new sports fields. I have seen the destruction of canton township with over development
doggie bags at the parks with garbage cans for waste
Don’t build more houses
don't know
Easy access and restrooms
Easy access. Free entry for seniors.
Ecological management of parks seems thoughtfully done and should continue; I like the effort to restore many parks to their natural oak/meadow habitat. Park programming is pretty good.
events at parks
Everything is Oakland is so clean, you do a great job with litter pickup.
Expanding park property
Family activities, beautiful parks
Family friendly parks, good upkeep of them, focus on nature in the township
Festivals for community
Financial strength and stewardship, preservation of delicate natural features and land, preserve the rural character of the township
Focus on gathering interest from the community regarding future plans.
Focus on outdoor space and connected trail systems; parks programs and events
Free activities for families, mostly for the children
General maintenance of the parks. I take my grandchildren to the park on Silverbell near Adams Road.
getting grants
Good balance of stewardship and recreational activities; grants to purchase and improve parks; education—archery, yoga, Lost Lske partnership with Dino Hill; concerts in the parks—good variety of music types
Good care of the Paint Creek Trail
Grant writing, preservation of natural areas, excellent management of parks by Dr. Ben (what a treasure he is)
Gravel road is maintained well
Great Parks
Great walking trails.
Ground keeping
Grow natural areas, connect parks with walking trails
having local parks for residents to enjoy
Hiking and biking trails
hiking trails out door concerts planned activities for children

I appreciate that when trees are cut down that they are left in the woods. I like that you allow them to go back to nature and allow fungi to form. I appreciate a minimalist approach to maintenance. I also enjoy the archery range management.
I have no concerns
I like the concerts and bear creek park
I'm not sure there is anything especially well done. I compare Oakland Twps to Macomb and Macomb has surpassed OT by far with new outdoor parks, splash, and sports fields.
Improve ALL Parks and Remove Chains and Padlocks - So Township Residents Can Use ALL Parks
Improvements to allow more residents access
improving existing parks with amenities
is the magazine worth the money?
Keep a lot of open land and parks.
Keep areas natural
Keep natural landscape
Keep roads in good repair, keep city feel out no businesses, keep it rural with parks and rec.
Keeping a lot of natural land for parks and trails, keeping the parks in good condition.
Keeping out strip malls and Rochester Hills style development
Keeping parks as natural as possible for the tranquility and wildlife; fighting invasive species; maintenance of historical structures
Keeping retail development/commercial development out
Keeping taxes lower than Democratic Party governmentally controlled areas
Keeping the Township looking nice, providing parks ,preserving the land, and preventing the community from being bought out by businesses.
Keeping trails up. Adding the nice bathroom facility at Bear Creek.
Keeping/maintaining green space along with dirt roads
Lack of commercial property. Minimal subdivisions
Land acquisition
Land Acquisition and Preservation, Stewardship- Invasive Species Control and Education.
land dedicated for parks
Land maintenance facility maintenance & parking area maintenance
Land preservation
Land preservation
Land preservation
Land preservation
Land preservation and specifically preservation of agricultural land
Land preservation for parks and trails
Land preservation!!!! Should be #1 Priority.
Land preservation, land restoration, grant applications, programs
Land Preservation. The Department really needs to work with the other areas of the City to continue preserving land that is being used for developments
land stewdship of the parks, programs , classes, and events about nature in the parks
Leaving many parks and large areas of land natural. Maintaining the rustic atmosphere of oakland township. Not allowing overdevelopment of the area and protecting it from becoming a busy suburb. Maintaining wildlife, both plants and animals is wonderful.
Leaving open as much green space as possible. And what a park is developed it looks very natural with its surroundings.
Like that the township is kept quaint and not overdeveloped. We don't need a target or a convenience store.
Limiting strip malls/stores to only the Adams and Silverbell complex

looking after all the wildlife around and making sure they have spots to live at
Lots of green space and maintained parks
Lots of parks and trails, clean parks, play equipment in good condition
Lots of walking trails and Nature Preserves. Parks are well maintained
Love Bear Creek nature park for walking
Love the Bald Mountain State Rec areas with kayaks and paddle boards to rent . . . . also regularly use the Paint Creek Trail for walking and biking - love the improvements and maintenance on it.
Love the signage & quantity
Lower Taxes
maintain a small town country environment
Maintain and expand Rails-to-Trails within your jurisdiction, particularly the segments that will ultimately become part of the Iron Belle Trail. Continue to keep Stony Creek a clean and well run park.
Maintain and expand the paint creek trail
maintain and mowing area around both old traditional (e.g. Paint Creek) and new asphalt trails (Gallagher between Orion and SilverBell, etc.), love xmas decorating around new innovation park, love the number of parks we have to choose from
Maintain natural areas and a rustic feel. Keep wooded lots and natural areas interwoven with areas of existing houses. Keep the peace and quiet. Keep the feeling of there being a low population here. Maintain mature trees, lakes, and wildlife populations. Keep Paint Creek Trail rustic, made of dirt, and bordered with plant life, trees, and natural ecosystems.
Maintain parks and trails and playground equipment
Maintain the archery center
Maintain the paint creek trail.
maintaing the parks
Maintaining a "rural feel" of Oakland Township with many parks and trails to choose from.
Maintaining a natural look, like in Bear Creek Park
Maintaining access to the land and maintaining the natural beauty of the land
Maintaining hiking paths, nature centers, expanding hiking trails
Maintaining parks and trails
Maintaining parks and trails and having family friendly events
Maintaining preservation and wildlife areas and not building up the area with convenience stores and gas stations
maintaining property
maintaining the parks
Maintaining trails and parks
maintanence and expansion of paint creek trail, preservation of green spaces and expansion of access to protected open spaces
Maintenance
Maintenance and keeping parks clean
Maintenance of grounds continues to be well maintained
Maintenance of parks
Maintenance of parks
Maintenance of parks and trails
Maintenance of the Paint Creek Trail and parking access.
Maintenance of the parks.
Maintenance of the trails, they are very well maintained and can be used by residents of all ages
maintenance,millage acquisition.operation
manage parks

Management of invasive species, maintaining park walkways
Management of park land
Master Plan, limitation for subdividing land, large parcel, numerous undeveloped park land, rural environment and low density housing.
Mowed trails are kept in good condition, program variety is good
Music in the Meadows, Archery, Goodison Good tyme, Ice skating looks iffy due to weather but a good idea...nature classes for kids, etc.,
Music in the Meadows, Bear Creek Park, Parks with good hiking and recreation options
Music in the Park and the upkeep on the trials
Na
Native plant/prairie grass restoration and preservation
Natural open spaces
Natural areas
Natural serenity, bathroom facilities updated and clean
Natural spaces
Nature parks
Nature preservation
New Parks for kids and pets
none
not sure
Not sure
Oakland Township Parks & Rec team is very proactive and forward thinking
Open space/greenspace, trails,
Open Spaces/Parks wells maintained
Our parks are beautiful and plentiful. You provide varied programs that are affordable.
Outdoor events
Overall job well done
Overall maintenance
Paint Creek Trailways, Festivals & Events (Winter Festival, Music in the Meadows)
Park accessibility, events, maintenance
Park cleanliness
Park information publications
Park land preservation in natural state.
Park land, trails and recreation areas
Park Maintenance
Park maintenance
Park maintenance
Park maintenance
Park maintenance and programs for the community
Park maintenance and upkeep
Park maintenance, upkeep of facilities
Park programs and maintenance
Park security is a must because illegal immigrants are pouring through our borders!
Park upkeep, new amenities
Parking, and maintenance
Parks
Parks
parks

parks adn maintaining the rural/agricultural feel of the area
Parks and open space are great. Keep out gas stations, fast food and stores
Parks and trails
Parks and trails
Parks and trails
Parks and trails; community programs/events
Parks appear clean and well managed
Parks are clean
Parks are kept up nicely, we especially love Bear Creek
Parks availability
Parks very well maintained throughout all seasons.
Parks, are amazing. Love all the green space
Parks, bike trails, natural areas, land preservation
parks, programs
Parks, zoning/planning
Playground equipment
Please continue aquiring land to be kept as is. Please continue your extensive Parks activities for adults as well as children.
Plenty of protected forest, trails, beautification roads
Preservation
preservation of green space and parks. keep up the great work!!
Preservation of land-Parks. maintenance appears well done. And, condition of the Paint Creek Trail.
Preservation of open green space no commercial buildings
Preservation of open spaces, and natural areas, park improvements for families and children.
Preserve nature natural beauty, Though I'm not sure that is being done particularly well right now with all the building
preserve the greenspaces
Preserve, maintain, and expand parks and trails while limiting new construction, traffic, emissions, and pollution
Preserving Green Spaces
Preserving natural areas.
preserving parkland for the future before it becomes another subdivision
Preserving plots of land. Maintenance seems good.
Procuring more open spaces , preventing overbuilding in the county
Procuring more park land and keeping this park land undeveloped with as much nature maintained as possible. Do not construct playing fields or dog parks as these just create excess traffic and noise!
Proper maintenance of land and roads and trails.
Provide an oasis away from the city with natural space
provide classes outdoor, preserving natural areas, birding, celebrations using our parks
Public trails
purchase and protect valuable OT lands and features
Purchasing land for park & developing them responsibly
Purchasing land for parks
purchasing of land for parks and greenspace
Purchasing plots of land for parks
quarterly news letters/magazines with park and recs updates and on going stuff.. all the fun events for families and available classes for all.
recreation facilities in the parks, concerts in the parks, physical upkeep of the parks

Regularly maintaining existing Parks, Preserving as much of the nature area/park as possible while still making it accessible for people to enjoy, prevent businesses and excessive home building that clutters charm of Oakland Township
Removal of invasive , non-native plants
Removing invasive plants
Renting out the parks at reasonable rates
Restoration of land to its native status
Rural Parks for hiking
Securing land to maintain nature
stewardship
Stop commercial development of special rural areas.
Talking about parks
test
test
The amount of parks and trails we have access to is amazing. They are all well kept and accessible for those of us with young children. It feels like Oakland Township is one giant park that we get to reside in.
The establishing and maintaining of township parks
The parks and events held in them
The parks and trail are such assets and seem to be well maintained. Programs are extensive. Good job!
The parks are nice
The parks are well kept and accessible.
the PRC has done a wonderful job of adding paths/trails and green spaces throughout the township. I hope this continues
The trails and natural beauty of this area are so well maintained and beautiful
The trails are great
The trails are well-maintained.
The trails.
Too much is spent on parks it needs to be scaled back
Township has a variety of parks and programs
Township part maintenance continues to get better
Township trials and keeping out marijuana dispensaries
Trail maintenance
Trail maintenance
Trail maintenance.
trails
Trails
Trails , parks
Trails and access to the parks
Trails and parks
Trails are beautiful and always feel like a priority. Second, we love that the Township isn't overly filled with houses or businesses. It is the escape we were always dreaming of.
Trails are well maintained
Trails are well-maintained and parks and rec programs are good.
trails created and expanded, all of of the bike paths and bikable walkable spaces
Trails, parkd
Tree Trimming on main roads, Road Repair
trimming back and controlling growth along the running trail
Up keeping of parks

Upkeep of facilities and parks
Upkeep of parks including prescribed burns , removal of invasive species, and planting of native plants.
Use of matching grants to acquire land and use of land preservation millage to restore the land through stewardship
variety of programs for all ages; park well maintained and clean
Walking and biking trails, the large area of parks.
Walking rods around the neighborhood
Walking trails
Walking/bike paths along some major roads.
We are brand new to Oakland Township, we are unsure.
We have a large number of parks. Keep it that way
We love the old signage that matches all the other Oakland Township signs - do not replace
We love the restoration of native plants to the parks.
well maintained parks
Well maintained parks, lots of new developing parks
Well maintained parks. Reverting to native habitat.
Would like them to make junction Park look a little nicer
you have a good amount of land and should keep aquiring more
You should add more trail at watershed ridge park, it is a pretty area.
Youth programs

Q23: Additional, specific improvements
10' wide concrete pathways do not belong in Oakland Township's rural environment. Do not ruin our landscapes that we residents enjoy.
A facility for model boating. It would be nice it could accommodate boats powered by electric motors, boats powered with fuel burning engines, and model sailboats.
A new, more rural, residential zoning district of 5-10 acre minimum. The historical platting throughout the township supports this with many farms, including strip farms that are at least 5 acres in size. The township should acknowledge, respect existing, and promote new parcel sizes that are larger. This will maintain diversity and historical context while protecting natural and wild-life habitat as well.
A sidewalk down Adams connecting Gallagher Creek Park to the Paint Creek Trail to Marshview Park. It would allow more people the chance to access these great parks!!
Accessibility for wheelchair bound residents.
Acquire more land for parks
Acquisition of approximately 80 acres north of Stoney Creek Ravine Nature Park for park expansion, woodland habitat restoration and walking trails with access (parking lot) from Gunn Road.
adding pickle ball courts to couple of the parks.
Additional parking at some parks
Add-on facilities to Paint Creek Cider Mill
Bathrooms, a community pool would also be great!
Better access ability for special needs access (for extended family who cannot comer to events, parks because they are not accessible
Better communication of programming , maps, events. Detailed maps mailed to residents, guide books program book, etc
Better communication via email/text re: park programs, more live music events, better vehicle parking at some parks
Better grass trails at Lost Lake Park and Fox Nature Preserve. Maybe connect the two parks by trails. Add restroom at Fox Nature Preserve.
Better placement of trash cans. Sidewalks on major roads so we can bike/walk to our parks safely.
Better utilize and maintain the existing park lands we currently own.
Bike paths to help tie parks together or trailhead access
Boardwalk at Draper Twin Lake Park
Cheaper pricing for programs
Connect parks by walking trails that are not on the side of a road.
Continue procuring park land and preserving the rural, rustic character of the land with no more playing fields, buildings/structures. Keep the land natural for enjoying the outdoors with trails.
Cranberry Lake park: there are about 3 areas of the trail that are often wet and muddy. Also, I can't get all the way to Cranberry Lake because of the mud.
Create many more rustic hiking and biking trails through out the park. They should be narrow and completly natural without any crushed stone.
dog parks, path improvements so people can better access parks
Don’t allow grow houses , it seems like everywhere I go now I see signs for weed or smell it in the air. I’m not opposed to people having the freedom to do as they please but I don’t want any part of it.
don't raise taxes
Enduro/downhill/freeride mountain bike trails. See Horns Hill in Newark, Ohio.
Expand easy walking access to the paint creek trail near the populated area around Adams/Silverbell roads.
expansion of stony creek ravine nature park to connect to stony creek metro park via walk/bike trail network
Fewer costs to residents.
Fewer subdivisions, more nature please!

Fill the doggie bag stations year round.
First and foremost, need more communication and info to understand the parks and elements within parks that are available; next is then likely more teen and working adult (traditional corporate hours) programs that are of interest
For question 21 there was no option or cost for removal of current Barn in need of major repairs and rebuild identical representation of the Barn with all new materials and foundation for full public use and resident programming and activities in Fox Nature preserve. This would be a better long term safe structure with possible much better value to the residents of Oakland Township.
Happy the way they are now.
I know the new Innovation Park isn't Oakland Township, but that is an ideal park (a little of everything and very clean). I bike a lot and don't feel roads and even some trails are safe, more signage for cars to slow (or completely stop and certain path intersections. Also, wider roads (or paths on sides of dirt roads such as Silverbell and Dutton where bikers can safely bike). New Gallagher asphalt path is great but it stops at the worst spot (as you approach Orion road...you have to get off path, get back on dirt road where there is a sharp turn, someone is going to get hurt bad then get back on path. That needs to be addressed.
I strongly believe the community boardwalks that are independently maintained by various subdivisions (e.g., Cloisters, Claremont, etc.), but are depicted in blue indicating Existing Township Safety/Side Path or Trail on the 'Trails and Pathways' map should be maintained by the Charter Township of Oakland.
I think it's a great township revenue opportunity if utilized enough.
I think OT i s doing a great job with all the parks and rec offerings . . . . I'll be retiring next year and look forward to discovering and participating in many of these activities for socialization and exercise and knowledge!
I think the township is doing a good job. Stay focused on maintaining green spaces and preserving open land. Minimize large subdivision requests and shopping centers. Maintain the rural feeling of Oakland Township. How can we maintain the dirt roads more consistently and to a higher quality. I live on East Snell (very heavily traveled) and generally in very poor shape!
I think you're already doing a great job.
I want to see more naturalized areas for our wildlife resource.
I would like to find out more about the Fox Barn and understand the significance of it. As far as improvements, when asked about trail material, grass would be fine but it is rarely mowed and allows for too many ticks which keep us away different time of year. Limestone is nice but I am wondering if there is anything to keep the dust down. This is especially a problem on the Paint Creek Trail with E Bikes leaving a cloud of dust that people are choking on. We love the OT parks so much! We like that the nature is accessible and being preserved with out over building the areas with too many attractions. I would rather see OT parks maintain the quality of current parks and newly acquired parks instead of building splash pads and other infrastructure that will need regular maintenance.
I would like to see many more hiking trails (mowed definitely; limestone optional) on the new, large sections of Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park. The older ravine section is perfect! However, because the park is so big, it would be fantastic to have several benches throughout the entirety of that park for sitting and enjoying birding, wildlife and nature. Bike racks and additional parking at both entrances with directional signage would also be helpful. The Watershed Park on Buell could also use a lot of work in the forested area. Are we meant to walk back there or not? If yes, we need some trails and signage.
i would like to see more playground facilities or a splashpad. less funds should be spent on senior citizen specific programs
I would like walkable recreation in my section of Oakland Township – the southwest section. I pay a lot of money in taxes and we have a lot of parks in rural areas. I would like to see expansion of recreation and trails walking distance from my home..

I would love to see a disc golf course installed in the township. It is a wonderful way to see the beauty of Oakland Township while playing a fun game.
I would love to see some quality pickleball courts added to one or more of the parks
I would prefer the funds to go to something besides restoring a barn
Improve the roads and create free programs for teenagers and youth
Improved paths and additional ones.
Information on location of all the Oakland Twp parks once a year. Supply information on playgrounds, walking trails etc.
Is this the low bidder on the RFP? Costs appear inflated.
Just please stop developing the area so much, and above everything, prioritize nature.
Keep the horses off Paint Creek!
keeping wetlands as is. Opposing new developments on wetlands. Oakland Twp allowing Developers use for increasing revenue. Enough already. Traffic is awful.
Lack of dedicated pickleball courts compared to most other communities. Must drive to other cities to play pickleball.
less subdivisions with ugly, poorly built homes
Lower the speed limit on roads or put additional stop signs
Maintain and create existing and new trails for biking and hiking. Be sure that our Oakland Township segment of the Iron Belle Trail is as good as any other section.
More and improved playgrounds, splash parks, baseball parks with concessions and bathrooms. Improved signage for locations or parks etc. Yearly paper mailed out with pictures, locations of existing parks and new parks, fields etc.
More attention given to off- leash dogs in Parks- Fox Nature Preserve.
More benches on Paint Creek trail. I live across the street from Paint Creek Junction, love it walk the dog, the limestone that goes up to the trail isn't maintained or graded after heavy rains and have to walk on side. I would really like to have a swimming lake or pool somewhere closer to us with out going to Stony Creek.
More disc golf courses
More family friendly events during the weekend
more high quality hiking options
More mountain bike trails!
More parks supporting wetlands and migratory birds
More paths/parks for walking only, no bicycles
More pathways in my area to get to parks by walking or biking. I have to drive to all parks.
More restrooms on trails
more sign posts that blink to notify drivers when walkers/joggers/bikers are approaching the road crosswalk so vehicles slow down/stop to allow safe crossing of the raod
More trails at Watershed Ridge, continuing planned work at Stoney Creek Ravine
More trails for walking
more trails, sidewalks along gravel roads in the township
Multi use pavilion at Bear Creek Farmers Market/ice rink
My family of seniors & young adults would love to see an adult sized playground/exercise area. Studies have shown more adults exercise if it's fun. We could have outdoor exercise equipment like the OPC has outside their building as well as adult sized swings, etc. I believe our current playgrounds are signed for 12 and under which leaves us feeling weird about using even the swings.
My family would love to see adult exercise/play equipment in at least one park. Not necessarily a fitness circuit, more of an adult/teen playground. While adults can probably use much of the children's equipment, it's creepy to have adults and older children playing near little ones. We'd like to see adult sized swings, and gliders, maybe exercise equipment like what's outside the OPC. Just a fun way to get more activity.

N/A
N/A
N/A
Na
NA
Na
Nature educational programs weekday evenings
Needs to market the events and facilities
No more tax increases to support parks. This can be done by fees permits of people who use the parks. I don’t wanna pay anymore. Only thing I would help support Is fundraising for that Barn and I think we had to make it so it can be used by all restrooms, food sources, and possibly some storage.
None
None
none
none, stop all the needless spending!
Not really a supporter. It won't be long until Biden/Whitmer sends us 50,000 illegal gifts, and builds low income housing in the 'parks', and paves over everything just like the rest of Oakland County. Wairt until Adams is widened to five lanes. OC Democrats can't wait. TAX,tax,tax and tax more because its theirs, not ours.
not sure
nothing
Paint Creek Trail head access for Greenbrook Hills neighborhood, or better safer pathway from neighborhood to trailhead for walking, bicycling, jogging, etc.
Parking and walking trails! Every park should be accessible with a parking lot and walking trails. Stony Creek Ravine seems like a private park for surrounding residents only, and I strongly oppose that! (No parking lot and only 1 short trail.) I'd like a walking trail to Clam Lake. We should parking for Fox Nature preserve from Lake George Road!
Parks connect to neighborhoods by paved bike path
paved trails
Periodic visits to Bear Creek by law enforcement to enforce leash laws for dogs
Pickleball courts
Pickleball Courts, blacktop Paint Creek Trail like they did the Tart Trail in Traverse City. I also have a son in a wheelchair so anything you can to make it easier for wheelchairs to get around.
Please keep the parks as rustic as possible. We would like not to see any further development of the parks and allow the land and nature to prevail as it has in the past. We are absolutely opposed to any sort of dog parks being developed. Do not further pave W. Snell Road adjacent to Bear Creek Park, for safety reasons for all.
Plow bike paths in winter. Complete bike path on Gallagher Rd. Better maintenance on Bear Creek trails. Limit bike speed/e bikes on trails.
Preserve green spaces
Print Maps. Phones and computer screens are inadequate as useful map views. They are too small. The township map in this site is a perfect example.
Provide more support for lake monitoring and keeping the lakes healthy
public pickleball courts
Reestablishing wetlands.
Restroom facilities where currently there are none
Running trails in woods
Safer roads with limits on speed to get to any park safely

Safety path along west side of Adams Rd, north of Gunn
Separation of biking trails from walking trails from horse trails
single track mountain bike trail if there's a large enough suitable area.
Softball field, pickle ball courts, equestrian trails/parking.
something needs to be done to allow access to Blue Heron park , otherwise sell it!
Sometimes less is more.
Somewhere where the public can get together and hold events.
Spray pathways for ticks.
Square dancing classes for teens or all ages at Cranberry Lake park
Stewardship led nature hikes off the beaten path
Stoney Creek Ravine : 1). For deer hunting, I would like to see the townships requirement of having a partner with you to be allowed to hunt be removed. It is not always convenient or possible to coordinate someone to hunt with, especially for a lottery drawing format. This prevented me for participating significantly less than I wanted to. I was really looking forward to hunting the area and was very disappointed I was not able to submit an application more often due to this rule. The rule is not a hunting requirement in DNR managed or state park public lands, so why is it a requirement in Stoney Creek? Is the purpose to prevent more hunting, and eventually close the park to hunting due to "lack of interest". It's more of a lack of access due to an arbitrary rule. 2). I would like to see Stoney creek ravine opened up for spring turkey hunting
Stop buying land. Improve what we have so we get more benefits. Take a look at Seymour Lake Park. This truly benefits the community and puts their tax dollars to work.
Stop signs at major intersections for bike crossings at roads (paint Creek on Adams). Upgraded cross country ski trails.. More biking options.
Take the barn down
Tear down these historic barns, they are a money pit! With all the money saved we could build a bike park.
test
the most activity for youth looks only archery, soccor, if have a special kayaking team would be great, in summer camp , kayaking is only a part in the class. wish have more art classes. in our city haven't pickleball court. we r short of indoor pickleball court, which could prevent strong sunshine , block rain, and wind. the pickleball building install with mamy garage door, which could be open for breeze. while close in winter.
The parks have been very well run. Keep up the good work.
The roads are so bad in the township, the parks are not accessible much of the year. I have tried to reach the parks, but the holes in the dirt road made it impossible!
The Township needs to maintain safety paths for the entire township. Not just select areas. some neighborhoods have to maintain the safety paths and this should not be the case
There isn't much to do at the OT parks, they are mostly just nature. That is lovely, but it doesn't draw people to them. I think the parks are very underutilized by the community because nobody knows what to do at them.
Think Parks Commission and employees do excellent job, offing variety of programs and classes. Appreciate open areas and parks you have made possible. Keep up good work! Parks are for all residents.
Tick control / prevention
Toilet facilities on paint creek trail near silver bell rd.
Township website diffucult to navigate and find timely info. Yoga offered in AM during week. Not Sunday mornings! More programs on stewarding our own acreage.
trails in winter are icy and dangerous especially the lime stone ones. Need to have level grass paths on each side of these trails for walking instead of the lime stone paths.
unlock gates at Old Heron Rookrey - so Public (Taxpayers Can Park and Walk in Park)
Unsure

Update and maintain the limestone parking at Bear Creeks Gun Road Entrance - nature has completely taken over.
Utilize the larger nature space that we have to install the ground water storage, rather than placing it adjacent to homes. It sounds like we have plenty of other opens spaces that would be better used and which could blend into nature. I have no issue looking at a ground water storage tank/building that is near a park or walking trial. I take major issue with individuals that will need to view this from their front door.
Walking paths or sidewalks to reach the trails and parks.
Water areas, camping, more pathways
Water bottle fillers , disc golf, golf practice area ,orv and or golf cart access,additional parking at athletic fields ,,more trails in wetlands “boardwalks “
We are both in our 80’s. We use and enjoy the parks
We are new to the area and the state and just need to have better awareness of all of these amazing options that are available to us.
We are pretty happy with all we have
We could use a community garden option. With the new water tower planned off of Kern Road, this would be the perfect place to set up a community garden that residents could use. It would need sunshine and water and a shed for shared gardening tools. Residents could rent these plots for a season. Because of the deer in the area, and home owner association regulations it is very hard to have a vegetable garden. Deer fences are needed and most HOAs don't allow fences. Since the new water tower is so close to many residents, this would be a nice option that many could walk or bike to and allow residents to grow their own vegetables. This isn't an option for most people live in subdivisions. Please consider adding a community garden to this area where the new tower will be built. It would be a nice way to offset the negative aspects of this tower with a really valuable resource.
We don't need additional improvements. We like the parks to remain vacant and natural. Adding content to parks do not necessarily mean you have improved them! I do not want the added eye sore or cost added to my taxes.
We want tennis courts!
We would like more beach or water park, splash pad
weather shelters, rest rooms
widen Pint Creek Trail. the high speed cyclists can be rude. Approaching and at the last minute yelling "on your left", which can startle a person. I stopped walking there for that reason. It seems like some of them resent walkers on "their trail."
would like to have specific park for RC flying, when the fields are not mowed it is impossible to find your plane
would like to see paths as originally proposed put into fox nature preserve and lost lake. This is a beautiful area and as a resident our tax dollars paid for it. We should have access to the full park. Also I fully support getting rid of the invasive plants / trees to restore the park to its natural setting.. As to other parks, With the influx of ticks, the grass paths need to be cut more often and probably need to be much wider to avoid having to deal with ticks after a walk.

Other Plan Correspondence

From: Mindy Milos-Dale
To: Chris Nordstrom
Subject: FW: pickleball in Oakland Township
Date: Monday, May 13, 2024 11:14:50 AM

Chris,

Please include this comment in our public input gathering for master plan.

Thank you,

Mindy

From: Donna [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, May 12, 2024 8:47 AM
To: mail <mail@oaklandtownship.org>
Subject: pickleball in Oakland Township

Donna F [redacted] Fri, May 10, 7:19 PM (2 days ago)

to parksplannig

Hello,
I was wondering if putting in pickleball courts in any of the many parks in Oakland Township is up for consideration ? Pickleball is becoming a very popular sport for all ages now and it's becoming harder to find outdoor courts to play in in our area. As it is I have to go to Lake Orion and Oxford to play. And we have so many beautiful parks here in Oakland Township with a lot of room. Please add it to your list of things to consider for our parks.
A longtime resident of Oakland Township,
Donna F [redacted]

Oakland Township Recreation Plan Open House Comments

June 6, Oakland Township Hall, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

The following comments were written on notepads by participants at the Open House. Comments are transcribed verbatim; no attempt was made to correct spelling or grammatical errors. Comments are organized by property. Comments with a number in parentheses refer to a sticker placed on an open house board. Stickers were left on twelve boards, but comments were left on sixteen notepads, so the comments and board images may not always correspond directly to one another. Scans of the individual boards are included in this summary. The original sheets are on file with Oakland Township Parks and Recreation.

Bear Creek Nature Park

- (1) Additional Toboleaon sign here ID'n the woods
- All signage & interpretive renewal
- (2) Wood deck renew/replace
- (3) some trail work
- Tell the story
- A permanent ice rink similar to Sterling Heights would be ideal
- (4) E-bike charging station!
- (5) Stage for concerts
- (6) Larger parking area at Gunn Rd entrance. Signage here.
- (7) Provide a 3-4 car area to park and walk in
- (8) Large ice rink so kids can really skate
- (9) Park is perfect as is. No larger ice rink than what is there. Leave the trails rustic for the pedestrians and all the animals. The open land area is beautiful. We would prefer no permanent stage and no further development. It is ideal & absolutely no dog park.

Blue Heron Environmental Area

- Open the chain gates so we can park & walk
- Trails only. No picnic area! No playground – homes in subs have their own plus Oakland Hunt has common playground.
- (2) Parking lot improvements. Playground. Most visible park (Rochester Rd). Open up to residential use.
- (3) Great courts, needs parking, remove chains. OT has owned this park for over 35 years and it has never had a place to park.
- (4) Since herons are no longer nesting here, what can the fields be used for? Quiet courts like pickleball & tennis?


Pine Needle
Gunn
Jacquelynn
Oak Tree
Bear Creek
Ridge Side
Oak Hill
Springside
Oakbridge
Parkview
TOWNSHIP HALL
ICE RINK (SEASONAL)
Snell
Valley View
Trail Surface
Proposed Rustic (dirt/grass)
Boardwalk
Rustic (dirt/grass)
Compacted limestone
Property Boundary
Wet area (wetland, lake)
Conservation Easement:
Any proposed improvements within this area must be designed with and approved by the Six Rivers Land Conservancy.
Permanent restrooms
Parking
Picnic shelter
Bench
Playground
Observation deck
Pedestrian entrance point
Kiosk
Bear Creek Nature Park
Oakland Township, Oakland County
107 acres, acquired 1977
N
0 0.03 0.05 0.1 Miles
0 150 300 600 Feet
Source: Oakland County GIS, Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Carlisle/Wortman Associates May 2024






GRANT FUNDED PRAIRIE RESTORATION AREA
FUTURE PRAIRIE RESTORATION AREA
FUTURE PRAIRIE RESTORATION AREA
FUTURE PRAIRIE RESTORATION AREA
Royal Berkshire
Royal Berkshire
Rochester
Deer Point
Fawn
Blue Heron Environmental Area
Oakland Township, Oakland County
139-acres
Acquired through donations & purchase
Property Boundary
Wet area (wetland, lake)
Trail Surface
Proposed Asphalt or concrete safety path
Proposed rustic trail (dirt/grass)
Proposed parking
Conservation Easement:
Any proposed improvements within this area must be designed with and approved by the Six Rivers Land Conservancy.
N
0 0.03 0.05 0.1 Miles
0 200 400 800 Feet
Source: Oakland County GIS, Oakland Township Parks and Recreation
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
May 2024

Charles Ilsley Park

- (1) If this property is for sale/offered, buy it! Wonderful park!
- (2) Expand parking lot for more than 5 cars
- (2) Expand parking lot for parking & walking in park

Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District (note: no comments left on boards)

- Don't agree on moving any more old structures, including Garling Barn. For events, need modern amphitheater, meeting rooms, maybe with historic architectural influence <name redacted>
- Love the historic barns. Like larger size.

Cranberry Lake Park (note: no comments left on boards)

- Muddy trail @ proposed lake overlook
- Signage directing visitors to lake
- Signage & limestone hardpack on trail to prevent bike tire puncture and get rid of wet areas
- Fishing dock on the lake! Kayaking (bring your own) on lake! Have gravel road on east side of boundary for access to lake.
- I second the fishing dock/kayak launch
- Improve trail to 32 Mile Road / Maintain regularly
- I like the idea of the barn transfer and the new associated parking lot. An overlook for the lake would be fine w/the addition of rustic trails.

Draper Twin Lake Park (note: no comments left on boards)

- (1) Would love to see the proposed playground
- (2) Location of playground stupid, near parking lot, should be in nature location with vista of lake to also incorporate picnic area for adults to watch kids fishing, kayaking
- (3) Path to be limestone. I have biked on the grass cut trail, very dangerous for tire puncture!! Lots of kids/ bikes in area.

Fox Nature Preserve

- (1) Culvert should be #1 ASAP
- (3) Trails to be limestone – biking. Signage very important as trails very windy and branching off.
- (4) Save historic barns as much as possible! OT is rural character HAS barns.
- (5) Proceed with planned primary parking off Lake George.
- Remove & fully rebuilt current barn from ground up for public use.

Charles Ilsley Park
Oakland Township, Oakland County
Source: Oakland County GIS, Oakland Township Parks and Recreation
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
May 2024
Property Boundary
Wet area (wetland, lake)
Parking
Pedestrian entrance
Trail Surface
Rustic (dirt/grass)
Portable toilet (existing)
0 0.03 0.05 0.1 Miles
0 125 250 500 Feet
20-acres
onated in 1990 (83 acres) &
005 (37 acres)
Walnut Glen
Predmore
KIOSK
McIntosh
Parkway
Rush
PRAIRIE RESTORATION
PRAIRIE RESTORATION
PRAIRIE RESTORATION
PRAIRIE RESTORATION





Lost Lake Nature Park Detail

0 100 200 Feet 400



Fox Nature Preserve Detail

0 150 300 Fee 600







Gallagher Creek Park

- (1) Brook trout habitat / Restore!
- (2) Is that possible? DNR never seemed interested.

Marsh View Park

- (1) If a permanent ice rink can't go into Bear Creek I'd think Marsh View Park would be a nice location. By future parking lot expansion.
- (2) Soccer field along Adams not level
- (3) As this is the only proposed pickleball location 4 cours is not enough. 6 should be minimum with room for expansion – example Borden Park. Waiting people (20 sometimes to play). Tennis courts not necessary since all high schools have tennis courts. You can fit 4 pickleball courts per tennis court, 16 people play vs 4 on same surface area <name redacted>
- Safety paths necessary as traffic is getting insane.
- (4) Make this into a parking lot. The field is OBSOLETE w/ 2 levels of grass
- (5) Fitness stations – equestrian trails. Park was acquired to provide eq. use and there is zero eq use allowed
- (6) Utilize this parking area year round
- (7) Equestrian trails & rest area – would be a great meeting place. Don't forget access at Stoney Creek / Adams.
- (8) Great idea to stripe for pickleball. Usage would be over the top
- (9) Yes to pickleball court location.

Mill Race Trail

- Native plantings w/signage

O'Connor Nature Park

- Needs better signage, visibility for education. Take advantage of a positive attribute from this park and teach it/share on signage.
- Make observation deck – could wetland be opened up more to attract birds?

Paint Creek Junction Park

- (1) E bike charging station!
- (2)
- (3) Control phragmites!
- Outdoor fitness equipment
- (4) 12'-wide pathway is too wide, cars will drive down the pathway

Gallagher Creek Park
Oakland Township, Oakland County
Source: Oakland County GIS, Oakland Township Parks and Recreation
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
May 2024
Cloisters
Silverbell
Claremont
PRAIRIE RESTORATION
Trail Surface
Asphalt and Concrete
Rustic (dirt/grass)
Property Boundary
Wet area (wetland, lake)
Parking
Restrooms (Portable)
Playground
Picnic area (Shelter)
Observation deck
Bench / seating
0 50 100 200 Feet
15-acres
Donated in 2000


Stoney Creek
PROPOSED SAFETY PATH
Proposed park path
PROPOSED SAFETY PATH
Adams
ADD SHADE STRUCTURE AT ARCHERY RANGE
PROPOSED MULTI-USE PLAYING COURTS
RESURFACE BASKETBALL COURT WITH PICKLEBALL STRIPING AND ALLOW WINTER ICE RINK SET UP
EXISTING PICNIC SHELTER & PROPOSED PLAYGROUND
FUTURE PARKING LOT EXPANSION
Clarkston
MAINTENANCE SHED
Trail Surface
Asphalt
Stairwell
Existing rustic (dirt/grass)
Proposed park path (dirt/grass)
Compacted limestone
Proposed safety path
Property Boundary
Wet area (wetland, lake)
Permanent restrooms
Parking
Picnic pavilion
Observation deck
Archery range
Soccer/lacrosse fields
Basketball court
Proposed pickleball courts
Proposed playground
Marsh View Park
Oakland Township, Oakland County
96 acres, acquired in 2001
N
0 0.03 0.05 0.1 Miles
0 125 250 500 Feet
Source: Oakland County GIS, Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Carlisle/Wortman Associates May 2024

Springdale
Territorial
Orion
HISTORIC MARKER
Cider Mill
MILL RACE TRAIL
PAINT CREEK TRAIL
KIOSK
GAZEBO & SCULPTURE
Mill Race
Oakland Township, Oaklan
2.5-acres, donate
Paint Creek Trail
Compacted limestone
Mill Race Trail
Rustic (dirt/grass)
Property Boundary
Wet area (wetland, lake)
Parking
Bench
0 50 100
Source: Oakland County GIS
Oakland Township Parks and Recreation
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
May 2024
Orion
PROPOSED SMALL GAZEBO/PICNIC SHELTER WITH CONNECTING PATH
PAINT CREEK TRAIL
Paint Creek Parcel (Unnamed)
Oakland Township, Oakland County
2.5-acres
Paint Creek Trail
Compacted limestone
Property Boundary
Wet area (wetland, lake)
0 35 70 140 Feet
Source: Oakland County GIS,
Oakland Township Parks and Recreation
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
May 2024

O'Connor Nature Par
Oakland Township, Oakland Coun
Source: Oakland County GIS,
Oakland Township Parks and Recreation
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
May 2024
Oakland Valley Drive
Beechview Drive S
Rochester Road
Mead Road
ROCHESTER HILLS
N
0 37.5 75 150 Feet
10.5-acres
Acquired in 2008

Paint Creek Junction Park
Oakland Township, Oakland County
5.5-acre park/trailhead
Dedicated 2022
Oakland Township, MI | October, 2019
PEA GROUP

Paint Creek Parcel

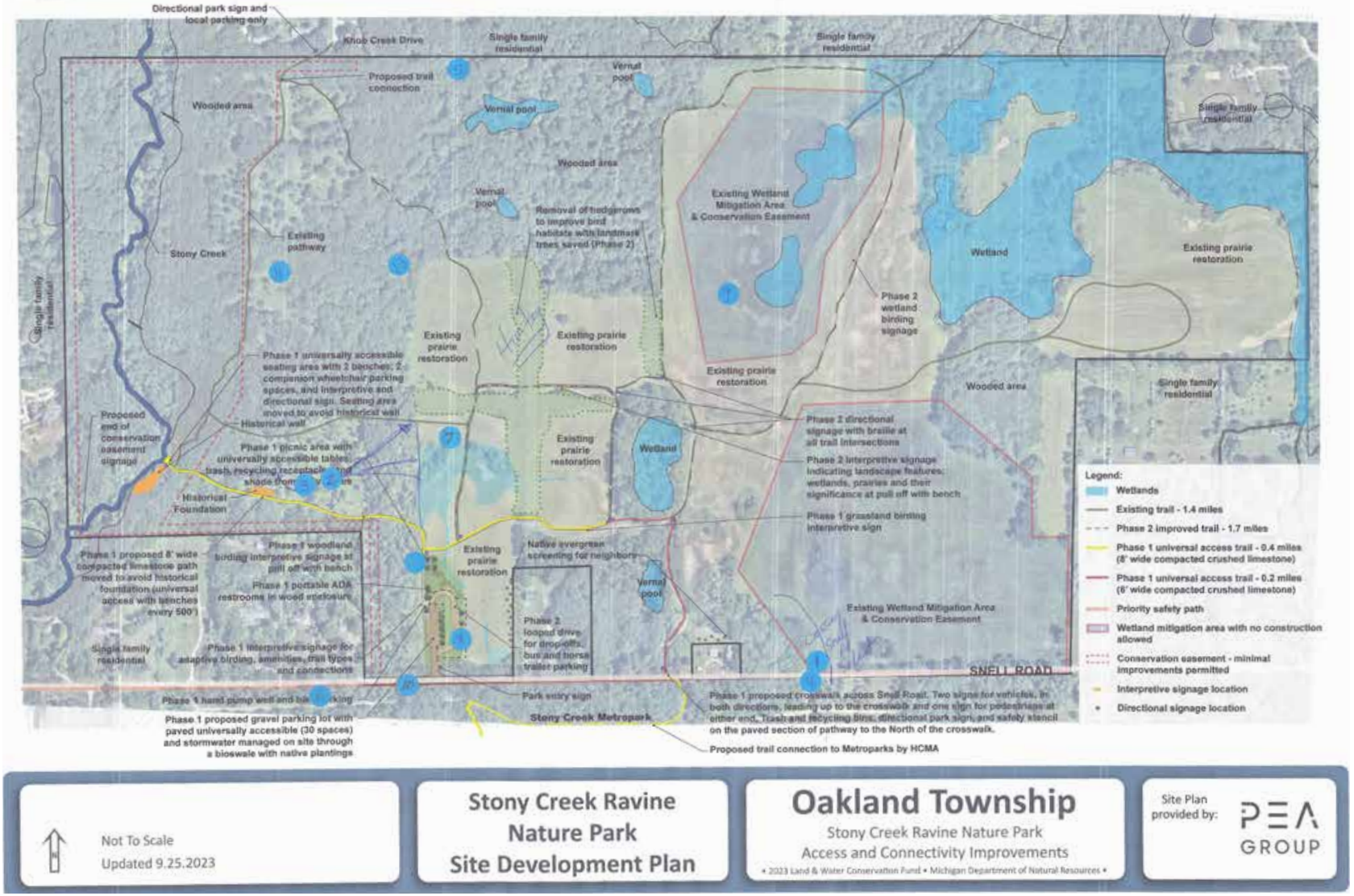
- (1) Picnic site for 100,000 visitors/yr. Do it!
- (2) add trail
- (3) Sell it! Not needed & elevation issues make it difficult to develop.

Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park

- (1) Put parking lot on Metropark side – not OT park. Keep it small.
- Service drive to Tower
- (2) Move trail to existing trail through woods, no tree cutting required
- (3) Move trail north, less tree cutting required plus moves trail away from private residences.
- (4) Move parking lot to Metropark side, Ravine/Metro connector near existing service drive.
- (5) Acquire land zone residential and make connector trail to Gunn Rd.
- (6) Priority safety path is a PRIORITY dangerous to bike on Snell!!! Subs near the schools, kids on bikes!!! Why drop off for buses?
- (7) Make all trails limestone now!
- (8) Too large for a rural twp park. No other parking lot is of this huge size. Why is this parking lot so large? In a VRLD area of low residence? SCM Park Metropolitan park needs a parking lot.
- (9) Wetland education
- (10) Posted speed limit on Snell Rd
- (11) Motorized vehicles seen using the trails, not sure what can be done but worth keeping in mind.
- Scenic overlook
- (10) Reduce speed limit in front of park 35 mph or less
- (12) Location of picnic area is bad near parking lot & bathroom? Ugh!
- Snell Rd is 55 mph and the vehicle travel 70 mph!
- (13) Why is the fact that this park is hunted 4 months out of the year missing from any maps?

Site Development Plan

LWCF23-0032



Not To Scale
Updated 9.25.2023

Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park Site Development Plan

Oakland Township
Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park
Access and Connectivity Improvements
• 2023 Land & Water Conservation Fund • Michigan Department of Natural Resources •

Site Plan provided by: PEA GROUP

Watershed Ridge Park
Oakland Township, Oakland County
Source: Oakland County GIS, Oakland Township Parks and Recreation
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
May 2024
Trail Surface
Existing rustic (dirt/grass)
Proposed rustic (dirt/grass)
Property Boundary
Wet area (wetland, lake)
Parking
Proposed playground
Proposed Trailhead
Proposed Restrooms (Portable)
Picnic area
FUTURE PRAIRIE RESTORATION
FIREWOOD PICK-UP AREA
MAINTENANCE POLE BARN
Buell
NW WETLAND RESTORATION
SW WETLAND RESTORATION
Lake George
0 0.03 0.05 0.1 Miles
0 125 250 500 Feet
170-acres
Acquired in 2008

Watershed Ridge Park

- (1) No dirt/grass trails – REALLY! Kids in sub-Oakland Hunt – could bike here down Buel. Should be limestone. Also better for runners! Twp could have marathons here going into Bear Creek! Pathway connect down Collier Rd to Paint Creek Trailway.
- (2) Potential disc golf course site?
- (3) Trail growth & improvement for more resident use. Consider playground.
- (4) Add trails to this area.
- (5) Too small parking lot can't turn around a car w/out a 2 pt turn.
- (6) Nice area for gardening
- Screen from maintenance barn

Miscellaneous Comment Box Notes

- Staff is kind and professional. They explained everything well.
- OT has great history. Keep the RURAL character. NO 10' wide concrete pathways!
- Would like a pickleball court
- CLF Why have duplicate concerts programs HDC & OTPR?

5.0 NATURAL AREAS STEWARDSHIP

Vision for Natural Areas Stewardship:

Our vision for the stewardship of park natural areas is to manage Township Park natural areas with care and attention to creating and maintaining habitats suitable for the highest possible diversity of native plants and animals, and to provide our citizens with quality natural areas close to home.

Goal:

Implement a stewardship program that manages Township Park natural areas through invasive plant control, ecological restoration, and active management, to maximize the diversity of native plants, animals, and natural communities found here, while facilitating park users' access to many of these areas.

Objective 5.1: Establish baseline information for all natural areas.

- Prioritize natural areas for initial baseline information inventories.
- Floral, faunal, insect, bird, and herpetological surveys on prioritized natural areas.
- Continue efforts for ecological monitoring through contracts for T & E species; work with MNFI for more in-depth data regarding populations and locations.

Objective 5.2: Incorporate stewardship into park development, trail, and signage design standards.

- Increase awareness through signage and programming efforts.
- Work with Planners to design all new facilities to minimize disruption to natural areas, enhance ecosystem services (storm water management, pollinator abundance, etc.) and maximize usefulness of trails as burn breaks.
- Evaluate all existing trails for effectiveness and possible damage to natural areas connectivity, natural areas function, wetlands, etc.
- Incorporate native species, natural community information, and stewardship into park and trail interpretive signage Objective to create greater awareness and understanding.
- Utilize Park Management and Use Zones to guide development of improvements.
- Continue to focus on the restoration of natural areas and habitat, native plantings, and invasives management.

Objective 5.3: Increase community involvement in natural areas protection and stewardship.

- Work with The Stewardship Network, Six Rivers, Parks programming, and others for new volunteer activities and outreach methods.
- Develop partnerships with outside organizations (CRWC, MNFI, MDNR etc.) to carry-out programming. Target mailings to neighbors regarding invasive plant educational opportunities.
- Educate park neighbors and residents concerning invasive plants and appropriate yard management to support healthy natural areas including appropriate disposal of yard waste and use of fertilizers and pesticides. Consider potential partnering to offer Township residents a local composting site.

Objective 5.4: Explore supplementary funding for long-term stewardship of natural areas.

- Working with other organizations such as Community Foundation, US Fish & Wildlife Service, etc., to secure funding.
- Assess projected funding and compare with projected needs.

Objective 5.5: Coordinate Parks and Recreation Ordinances with the full protection of natural areas.

- Provide stewardship input into ordinance revisions concerning proposed uses in parks with high quality natural areas.

Objective 5.6: Acquisition, protection, and/or management of natural areas adjacent to Township Parks.

- GIS/Ground truth assessment of adjacent natural areas and prioritization for their protection and management.

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Appendix C: Park Inventory Sheets

KEY TO MAP CATEGORIES:

PARK USE & MANAGEMENT ZONES

Conservation: The primary focus is conservation of natural areas of exceptional quality or special significance (e.g. habitat for notable wildlife or a rare plant community). No development is allowed in this zone, although interpretive signage in adjacent zones is encouraged.

- Cultural Landscape: In this overlay zone, preservation of the historical and cultural resources is the primary management focus. The Cultural Landscape Overlay allows the uses in the underlying zone but addresses the cultural and historical resources found within the park.
- Developed Recreation: Allows high density active recreation in areas not designated for natural area's significance. Appropriate development includes athletic fields, pavilions, and other specialized facilities, courses, or field that allow active recreation.
- Natural Areas Recreation: Emphasizes natural areas, allowing limited development for passive recreation uses. Examples of appropriate development include trails, boardwalks, docks, sledding hills, and interpretive signage.
- Visitor Services: Encompasses the developed areas required for program administration and operations. This zone will include any maintenance facilities and all related land required to conduct the business of running Oakland Township parks.

RECREATION TYPES

- Active recreation refers to a structured individual or team activity that requires the use of special facilities, courses, fields, or equipment. Examples include soccer, football, golf, tennis, or basketball.
- Passive recreation refers to recreational activities that do not require prepared facilities. Examples include nature photography, wildlife study, hiking, biking, and kayaking. Passive recreational activities place minimal stress on a site's natural areas; as a result, natural areas can provide ecosystem service benefits and are highly compatible with natural resource protection.

ACCESSIBILITY INDEX

- Level 1. The park is not accessible to people with a broad range of physical disabilities. The site includes little paved areas and the facilities such as play equipment or picnic areas are not easily accessible.
- Level 2. The park is somewhat accessible to people with a broad range of physical disabilities. Either the parking area or pathways are paved, but not both. Many of the facilities such as play equipment or picnic areas are not easily accessible.
- Level 3. The park is mostly accessible to people with a broad range of physical disabilities. Most of the parking areas and pathways are paved, and some of the facilities such as play equipment or picnic areas are accessible but may be completely barrier-free. This level of accessibility includes parks adjacent to the Paint Creek Trail from which viewing and interpretive activities can take place for those need barrier-free facilities.
- Level 4. The park is completely accessible to people with a broad range of physical disabilities. Parking areas and pathways area paved, and most of the facilities such as play equipment or picnic areas are easily accessible.
- Level 5. The entire park was developed or renovated using the principles of universal design, a design approach which enables all environments to be usable by everyone, to the greatest extent possible, regardless of age, ability, or situation.

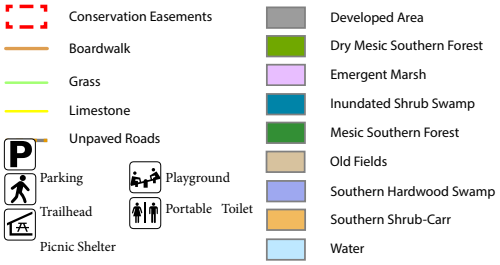
PARK CATEGORIES

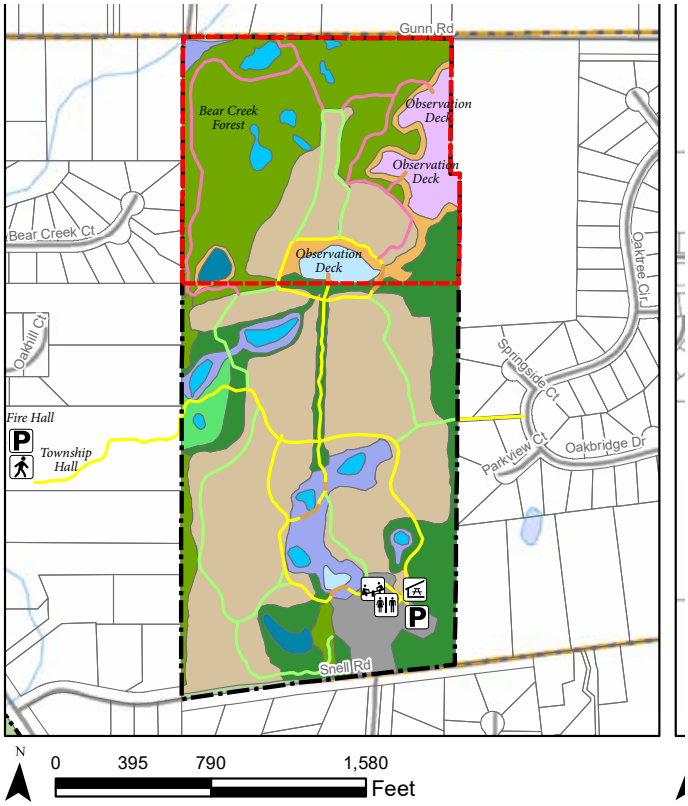
- Mini Parks: Small, specialized parks that are usually less than 1 acre in size, serving limited, isolated, or unique populations typically less than ¼ mile away from the park itself.
- Neighborhood Parks: Serve an area up to a one-half mile distance and are typically less than 10 acres in size.
- Community parks typically serve an area within one-half to three miles and are between 30 to 50 acres in size. NRPA guidelines recommend between 89.5 and 179 acres, with a maximum of six parks.
- Natural Resource Areas: Natural resource areas are lands set aside for preservation of significant natural resources, remnant landscapes, open space, and visual aesthetics/buffering.
- Linear parks are trails and trail systems and the buffer space surrounding the trails. Linear parks often include educational signage, rest stops, play areas, natural features (stream, river), or human-defined corridors (railroad right-of-way, power line easement). Multiple modes of transportation such as hiking, biking, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, canoeing, or pleasure driving may be incorporated into the same linear park or separated into individual-use areas.
- Regional facilities offer a variety of active and passive recreational opportunities which help in meeting the need for local park land and help balance the deficiencies in facilities.

Oakland Charter Township
Parks & Recreation Inventory Tables

BEAR CREEK NATURE PARK

Location	740 W Snell Road
Size (acres)	107
Acquisition	1977
Conservation Easement	39.5 acres, held by SRLC. Restrictions by MNRTF project agreement
Predominant Usage	Passive Recreation and Natural Area Preservation
Accessibility Assessment	Level 3
Category	Community Park





Park Asset / Amenity	Quantity	Condition	Comments
Benches	18	Good	3 @ playground & 7 along trails & 8 on docks
Bridges / Boardwalk	3	Good	
Docks / Decks	3	Good	Wooden
Fencing		Good	Split rail fence
Fields - Open Lawn	1	Excellent	Open lawn area only
Grill	1	Good	Includes charcoal disposal bin
Interpretive Signage	1	Good	
Kiosks	4	Good	
Natural Areas		Excellent	• Over 30 acres of oak forest provide important habitat for resident wildlife and migratory birds • System of wetlands cleans and stores stormwater
Parking Lot	22 spaces	Good	Gravel
Toilets	1	Excellent	Permanent flushable toilets
Storage Shed	1	Good	Connected to restroom
Trails - limestone Trails - mowed Trails - packed soil	Total of all trails: 3.6 miles	Good	8-foot wide accessible trails, 5-foot wide rustic trails. Limestone trails resurfaced in 2019 - 2020.
Overflow Parking	up to 50 spaces	Good	Expanded grass lawn area for event parking overflow adding an additional 70 parking spaces to the existing 150 overflow spaces for a current total of 220 event parking spaces.
Portable Ice Rink	1	Excellent	60’ x 100’

BEAR CREEK NATURE PARK, CONT.

Natural Area Type	Acres	Condition	Comments
Old Field	48.5	Fair	Encroachment of invasive shrubs & trees being managed with invasive shrub mowing, prescribed fire, and seeding with native plant species
Dry-Mesic Southern Forest	25.0	Good	Some invasive shrubs
Southern Hardwood Swamp	9.5	Fair	Encroachment of invasive shrubs & trees
Southern Shrub-Carr	7.5	Fair	Areas with extensive encroachment by glossy buckthorn
Mesic Southern Forest	6.6	Poor	Degraded area near old homestead site, has some remnant plants
Vernal Pool	3.8	Excellent	Site hydrology fairly intact. Important habitat for amphibians
Emergent Marsh	3.6	Good	Need to work to protect and manage entire marsh
Other / developed areas	2.3	Good	Mowed lawns, playground, picnic shelter, parking lot, shed
Water	1.2	Good	Site hydrology fairly intact; invasive cattails are encroaching on the open water in Bear Creek Marsh

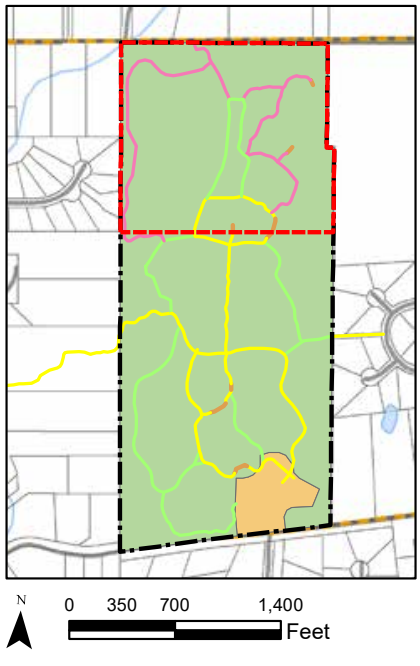
STRENGTHS

- Best access to multiple activities of any Township park
- Well designed pavilion and picnic space suitable for events
- A welcoming park
- Trail and interpretive maps are available
- Access off Gunn and Snell Roads, from Township Hall, and through private subdivision easement
- Contains high quality oak/hardwood forests, Bear Creek Marsh, many ponds

CHALLENGES

- Oakland Township PRC only manages west half of Bear Creek Marsh; entire marsh needs to be managed as one
- Natural areas stewardship along edges shared with subdivision property, succession of old farm fields
- Erosion problems on trails due to topography
- Neighbor encroachment and dumping of yard waste is problematic

PARK USE & MANAGEMENT ZONES



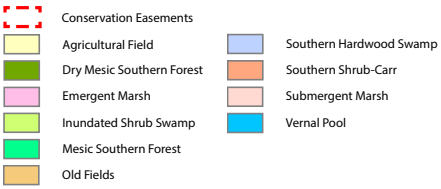
POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES

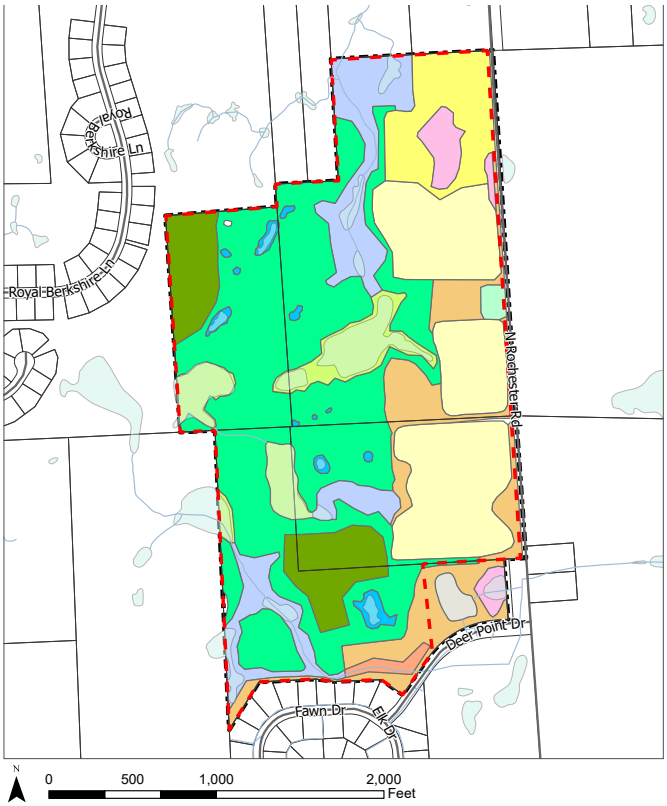
- Neighbor education regarding dumping followed up with site visits to discuss unique qualities of site
- Trail management & maintenance: assess where trails are truly needed / desirable
- Monitor erosion along Gunn Road
- Continue prairie restoration throughout old fields
- Evaluate potential addition of high quality forest to the park on the western boundary
- Management of entire Bear Creek Marsh with permission of other owners and use of donation funds
- Connection to Township Safety Path along Snell Road
- Potential test site for improved wayfinding and park signage

Oakland Charter Township
Parks & Recreation Inventory Tables

BLUE HERON ENVIRONMENTAL AREA

Location	3320 N Rochester Road
Size (acres)	139
Acquisition	1990 / 1991 / 1997
Conservation Easement	135.65 acres held by SRLC
Predominant Usage	Environmental Protection
Accessibility Assessment	Level 1
Category	Natural Resource Area





Park Asset / Amenity	Quantity	Condition	Comments
Fields - farm		Excellent	Leased by local farmers
Forest (upland and wetland)		Excellent	

BLUE HERON ENVIRONMENTAL AREA, CONT.

Natural Area Type	Acres	Condition	Comments
Agricultural Field	39.0	Good	Conservation easement says field must be restored to native vegetation if agricultural activities cease. Plant native vegetation on wet and highly erodible areas in farm fields.
Emergent Marsh	0.3	Good	Some glossy buckthorn around edges of marshes
Inundated Shrub Swamp	3.6		
Mesic Southern Forest	42.1	Excellent	Effects of high deer density evident
Old Field	12.2	Good	Encroachment of invasive shrubs and trees removed in 2018 with invasive species mowing
Southern Hardwood Swamp	26.8	Excellent	Effects of high deer density evident
Submergent Marsh	1.0		

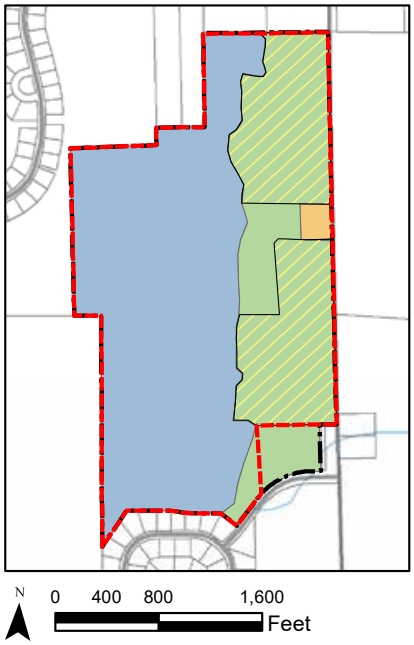
STRENGTHS

- Environmental area
- 25 to 50 active heron nests documented from 1978 - 2008; Herons deserted site in 2009
- Upland hardwood forest, swamp, and shrubby wetlands
- As surrounding habitat is lost to development, need to reevaluate if farming is the best use of the land. Would native prairie plantings better support wildlife and provide more recreational opportunities for park users?
- Size of the preserve
- Diversity of plant species and high floristic quality
- Located along Rochester Road which offers opportunities to reach public and allow a greater appreciation of the park

CHALLENGES

- Dump cleanup
- Public access is only provided through seasonal guided nature programs
- No established access; no parking or trails
- High deer impact due to forested area; must reduce deer population to maintain and restore quality of area
- Mowing of park property along southern boundary shared with subdivision

PARK USE & MANAGEMENT ZONES



POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES

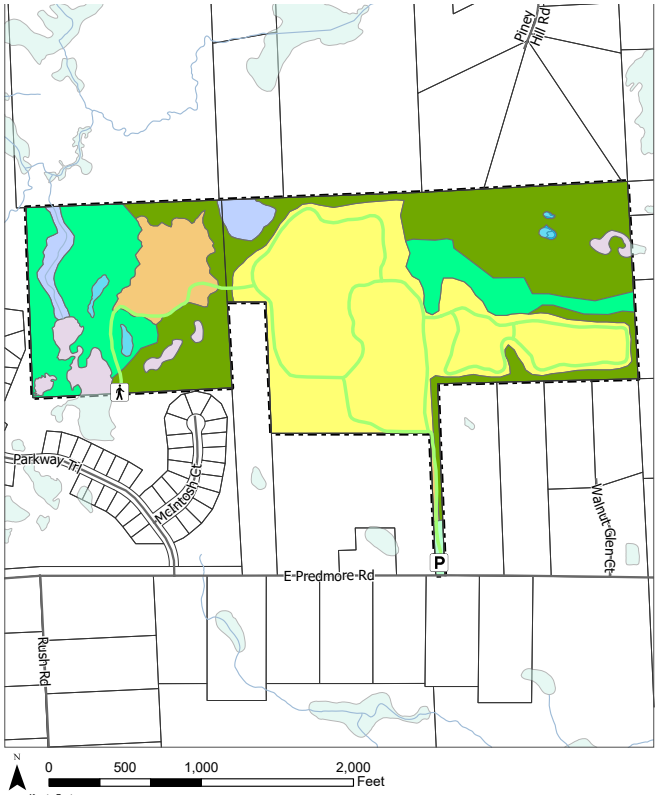
- Protect forested areas to north and west of park to buffer high quality forest
- Take advantage of educational opportunities to raise awareness for need of protected habitat
- Proposed connection to Safety Path system along Rochester and Gunn Roads
- Restore natural area connectivity within park
- Neighbor education regarding dumping along west, south, and north
- Possible signage and fence to delineate property boundaries
- Develop limited trail system in conjunction with SRLC based on ornithologist recommendations.
- Plant native vegetation on wet and highly erodible areas of farm fields to prevent sediment and nutrients from agriculture dumping into wetlands.

Oakland Charter Township
Parks & Recreation Inventory Tables

CHARLES ILSLEY PARK

Location	1479 East Predmore Road
Size (acres)	120
Acquisition	1990, 2005
Conservation Easement	n/a
Predominant Usage	Passive Recreation and Natural Area Preservation
Accessibility Assessment	Level 1
Category	Community Park

Dry Mesic Southern Forest
Emergent Marsh
Old Fields
Grass
Unpaved Roads / Natural Beauty Road
Southern Hardwood Swamp
Vernal Pool
Water
P Parking



Park Asset / Amenity	Quantity	Condition	Comments
Parking lot	1	Good	Gravel. Expanded existing 10 space gravel parking lot adding an additional 10 spaces as well as adding a porta john and porta john enclosure for a grand total of 20 parking spaces and 1 handicapped space.
Trails - mowed	2.3 miles	Good	Mowed paths
Native prairie plantings		Good	Approximately 50 acres of native prairie plantings installed 2015 to 2018
Woodland		Good	Northeast and northwest corners

CHARLES ILSLEY PARK, CONT.

Natural Area Type	Acres	Condition	Comments
Old Field	56.4	Good	In process of conversion to native prairie / oak savanna
Dry-Mesic Southern Forest	55.0	Good	Large diameter trees & steep topography
Emergent Marsh	3.9	Fair	
Southern Hardwood Swamp	3.5	Good	Low diversity, but few invasives
Water	0.6	Good	
Vernal Pool	0.2	Good	Important amphibian habitat

STRENGTHS

- Rolling hills
- Open pastoral setting
- Access from Wynstone subdivision and Predmore Road
- Prairie restoration started in 2014 in old farm fields
- Northeast woods

CHALLENGES

- Panhandle entrance limits visibility and access to park and facilities from Predmore Road
- High deer impact; must reduce deer population to maintain and restore the quality of the area.
- Parking lot too small to accommodate larger programs and equestrian trailers
- Swallow-wort population on land south and west of park

PARK USE & MANAGEMENT ZONES



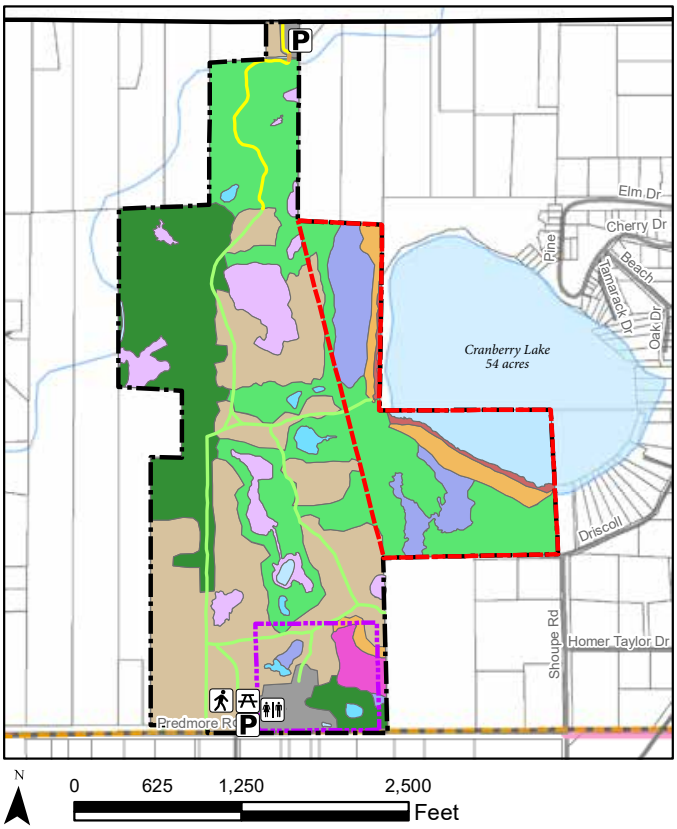
POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES

- Recreation activities such as cross-country skiing, hiking, and horseback riding
- Proposed connection with Township Trail system along Predmore and up to Romeo Road
- Restore natural area connectivity within park
- Maintain established trails
- Incorporate fitness elements on trails
- Protect fields, wetlands, and forest on surrounding properties to buffer natural areas
- Possible playground and picnic facilities

Oakland Charter Township
Parks & Recreation Inventory Tables

CRANBERRY LAKE PARK

Location	388 W Predmore Road
Size (acres)	213
Acquisition	1996, 2003
Conservation Easement	52.67 acres held by SRLC
Predominant Usage	Passive Recreation and Natural Area Preservation
Accessibility Assessment	Level 1 (Historic District level 3)
Category	Community Park



- Bog
- Developed Area
- Emergent Marsh
- Mesic Southern Forest
- Mesic/Wet Mesic Southern Forest
- Old Fields
- Grass
- Limestone
- Unpaved Roads
- Conservation Easements
- Cranberry Lake Historic District
- Southern Hardwood Swamp
- Southern Shrub-Carr
- Southern Wet Meadow
- Vernal Pool
- Water
- Parking
- Trailhead
- Picnic Area
- Toilet

Park Asset / Amenity	Quantity	Condition	Comments
Bridge	1	Excellent	
Grill	1	Good	
Historic District Farmstead	1	Excellent	16 acres, operated by Historic District Commission
Historic Farmhouse	1	Excellent	
Outbuildings w/in HD	8	Excellent	Includes charcoal disposal bin
Kiosks	2	Excellent	
Parking Lot	20 spaces	Good	Gravel
Toilet	1	Excellent	Barrier Free, Service Contracted
Trails - mowed		Good	5-foot wide
Trails - limestone	1.2 miles	Excellent	8-foot wide, restored in 2016; connects to Addison Oaks

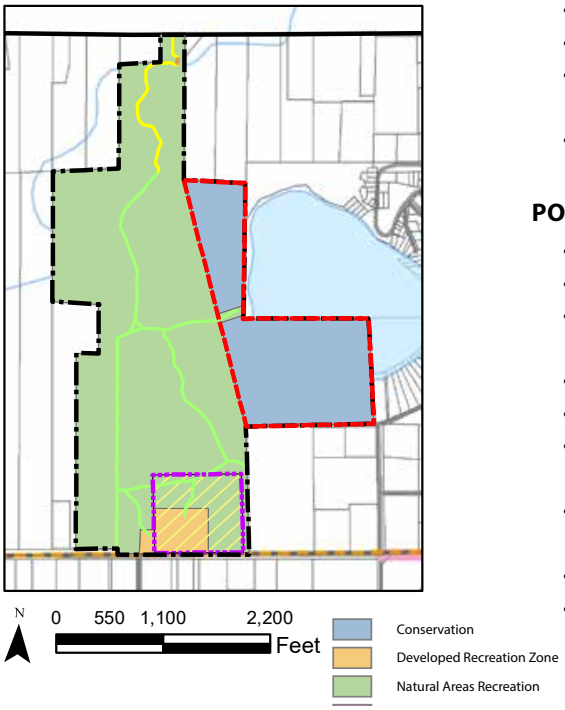
CRANBERRY LAKE PARK, CONT.

Natural Area Type	Acres	Condition	Comments
Bog	1.6	Good	Only bog in Township property
Developed Area	5.9	Poor	Developed around historic farm. Invasive woody plant encroachment and farm dump
Dry-Mesic Southern Forest	82.4		
Emergent Marsh	12.3	Good	
Mesic Southern Forest	185.9	Good	Somewhat fragmented
Mesic/Wet-Mesic Southern Forest	8.3		
Old Field	62.2	Fair	Encroachment by invasive shrubs & trees
Pond	0.4		
Southern Hardwood Swamp	12.3	Good	
Southern Shrub Carr	3.0	Good	Primarily adjacent to Cranberry Lake
Southern Wet Meadow	3.0	Good	Need to protect wet meadow on property to southeast
Vernal Pool	1.9		
Water	9.2	Good	Site hydrology fairly intact, few aquatic noxious weeds

STRENGTHS

- Beautifully restored national and state historic site; 1840s Axford-Coffin Farm managed by Historic District Commission
- Location for concerts and other special events and farm programs
- Nature education, bird watching, and orienteering programs
- Great location for hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, and cross-country skiing
- Connection between Predmore and Romeo Roads
- Cranberry Lake shoreline high quality - mixed hardwood swamp, bog, and shrub swamp
- Very diverse flora and high floristic quality
- Trail connection to Addison Oaks County Park

PARK USE & MANAGEMENT ZONES



CHALLENGES

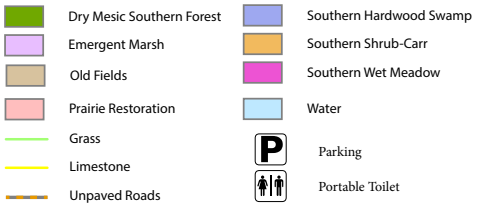
- Clean up farm dump
- Increasing abundance of oriental bittersweet
- Weeds continually establish within and along edges of lake; Starry stonewort and Eurasian milfoil
- Climate changes over time suggest that bogs may eventually disappear from SE Michigan

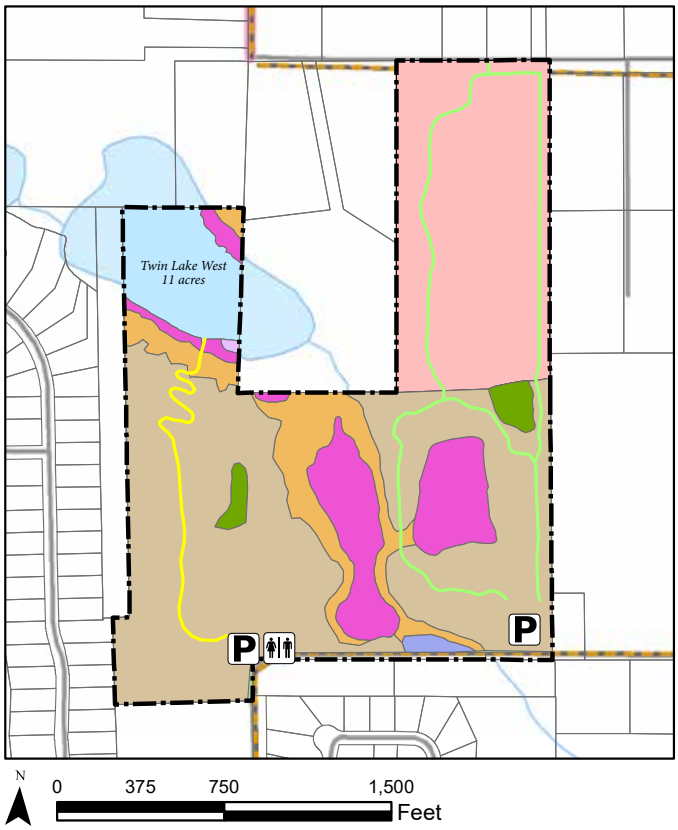
POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES

- Conduct prescribed burns
- Implement efforts to protect bog
- Future connection with Bald Mountain and Lost Lake Nature Park via Township and County Park and Trails
- Primitive camping experience
- Restore native plant communities to old fields
- Protect wetland on southwest corner of park to control Phragmites
- Expand parking at southern entrance to allow equestrian trailer access
- Expand equestrian trail system
- Establish appropriate access to Cranberry Lake and its shoreline

DRAPER TWIN LAKE PARK

Location	1015 Inwood Road
Size (acres)	90
Acquisition	2005
Conservation Easement	n/a; Deed restriction limits usage to only Parks & Recreation and Natural Area Preservation activities
Predominant Usage	Passive Recreation
Accessibility Assessment	Level 2
Category	Community Park





Park Asset / Amenity	Quantity	Condition	Comments
Benches	5	Good	2 @ dock, 1@ trailhead, 2 along trail
Boardwalk / Fishing dock	1	Excellent	Accessible dock
Parking Lot	1	Good	Gravel; 22 cars & trailers
Portable Toilet	1	Excellent	Contract for service
Prairie Restoration	20 acres	Excellent	
Storage Shed	1	Good	
Trails - Limestone Trails - Mowed	1.6 miles total	Good	10-foot wide. Some erosion near lake

DRAPER TWIN LAKE PARK, CONT.

Natural Area Type	Acres	Condition	Comments
Old Field	40.5	Poor	Encroachment of invasive shrubs & trees
Planted prairie	23.2	Good	In process of conversion to native prairie / oak savanna
Southern Wet Meadow	8.9	Good	High quality wetland vegetation present
Southern Shrub-Carr	7.3	Good	High quality wetland vegetation present
Water	5.8	Poor	Phragmites on adjacent lake properties
Dry-Mesic Southern Forest	1.3	Poor	Highly degraded
Southern Hardwood Swamp	0.4	Poor	Adjacent to Inwood Road, degraded
Emergent Marsh	0.1	Good	Few invasives

STRENGTHS

- Accessible fishing and kayaking dock
- Kayak fleet stored and programs held here
- Mowed trail connection between Inwood and Parks Roads
- High quality wet meadow bordering the lake to the south and other wetlands
- Prairie restoration of old farm fields at northeast corner started in 2014

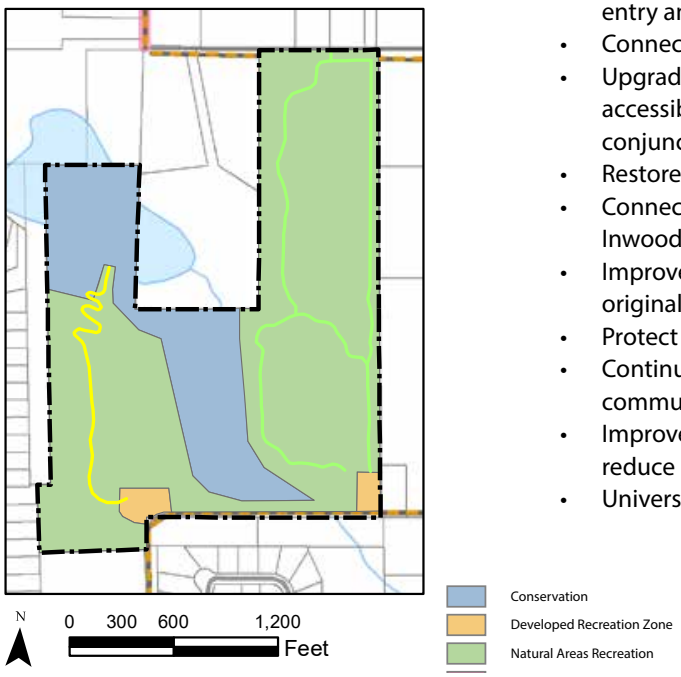
CHALLENGES

- Large wetland separates west and east sides of park
- Deer impact; must reduce population to protect natural features
- Continued limestone trail erosion / maintenance due to steep topography
- Phragmites on other properties around lake
- Length of trail to fishing dock prohibitively long for disabled visitors

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES

- Reconfiguration of signage as part of overall Township Parks entry and wayfinding sign plan
- Connect west and east sides of park with trail
- Upgrade eastern mown trail to crushed limestone to improve accessibility. Improve eastern parking lot before or in conjunction with any trail improvements.
- Restore natural area connectivity within park
- Connect park trails with Township safety paths proposed for Inwood and existing on Parks Road
- Improvements / reconfiguration of limestone trail and original trail to reduce erosion problems
- Protect wetlands around lakes with conservation easement
- Continued restoration of old fields to native plant communities
- Improved access drive with drop-off area near top of hill to reduce portage distance
- Universally accessible dock for kayak/canoe launch

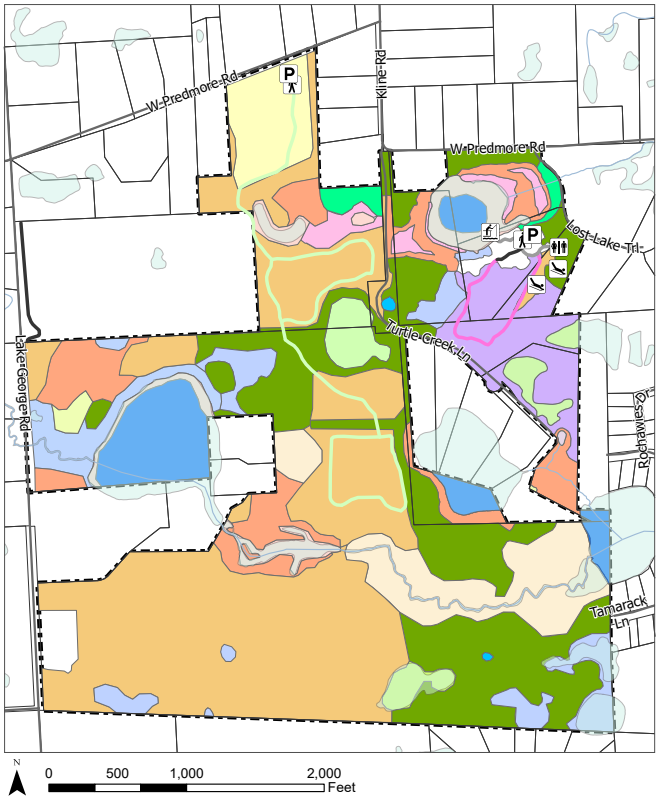
PARK USE & MANAGEMENT ZONES



Oakland Charter Township
Parks & Recreation Inventory Tables

FOX NATURE PRESERVE

Location	1627 West Predmore Road
Size (acres)	234
Acquisition	2022
Conservation Easement	n/a
Predominant Usage	Passive Recreation, Natural Area Preservation
Accessibility Assessment	Level 1
Category	Community Park



Parking
Grass
Dry Mesic Southern Forest
Emergent Marsh
Inundated Shrub Swamp
Mesic Southern Forest
Old Fields
Oak-Pine Barren
Prairie Fen
Rich Tamarack Swamp
Southern Hardwood Swamp
Southern Shrub-Carr
Southern Wet Meadow
Submergent Marsh

Park Asset / Amenity	Quantity	Condition	Comments
Parking lot	1	Good	Gravel
Trails - mowed	1.1 miles	Good	Mowed paths
Fox Barn	1	Poor	Requires significant rehabilitation before use

Natural Area Type	Acres	Condition	Comments
Dry Mesic Southern Forest			
Emergent Marsh			
Inundated Shrub Swamp			
Mesic Southern Forest			
Old Fields			
Oak-Pine Barren			
Prairie Fen			
Rich Tamarack Swamp			
Southern Hardwood Swamp			
Southern Shrub-Carr			
Southern Wet Meadow			
Submergent Marsh			

FOX NATURE PRESERVE, CONT.

STRENGTHS

- Adjacent to Lost Lake Nature Park and Oakwood Middle School
- Clam Lake frontage
- Historic Fox barn
- Potential access from three sides of property
- Woods throughout property

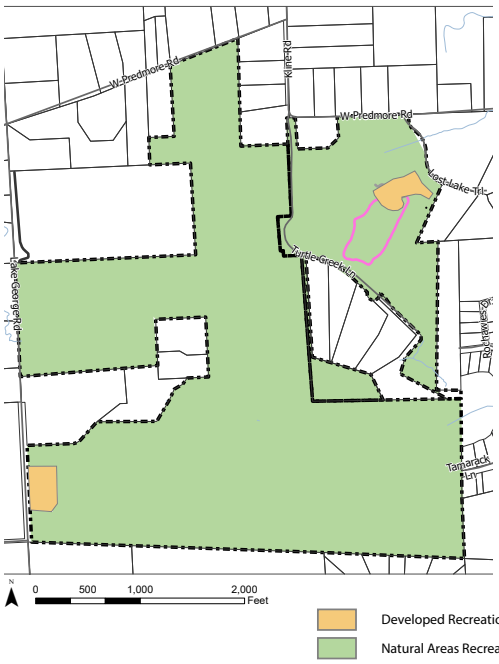
CHALLENGES

- Culvert requires replacement. West Branch of Stony Creek bisects property from east to west
- Agricultural portions of park contain drain tiles which flow into natural area, dumping sediment and nutrients into wetlands

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES

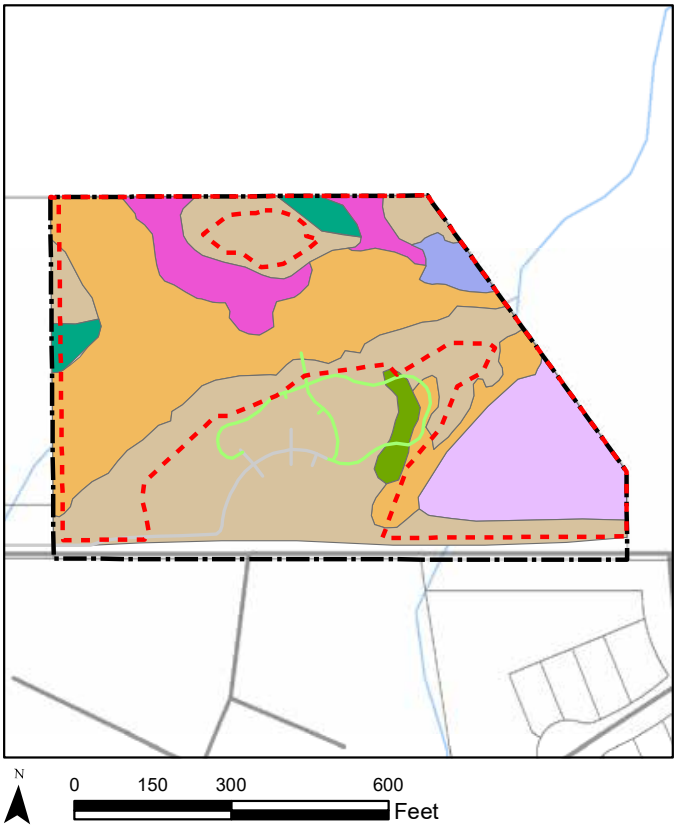
- Conversion of Fox barn for storage or possible event venue
- New playground and parking at proposed Lake George entrance
- Possible prairie restoration opportunities

PARK USE & MANAGEMENT ZONES



GALLAGHER CREEK PARK

Location	2780 Silver Bell Road
Size (acres)	15
Acquisition	2000
Conservation Easement	10.2 acres held by EGLE
Predominant Usage	Nature Preserve, Passive Recreation
Accessibility Assessment	Level 3
Category	Neighborhood Park



Park Asset / Amenity	Quantity	Condition	Comments
Playground Equipment	1	Excellent	Swings and playground equipment installed in 2018
Toilets	1	Excellent	Portable toilet with enclosure, rented from contractor
Picnic Shelter	1	Excellent	Installed in 2018
Parking Lot	1	Good	Gravel
Trail - mowed	0.2 miles	Good	
Pathway	0.2 miles	Excellent	Connects to Adams Road

GALLAGHER CREEK PARK, CONT.

Natural Area Type	Acres	Condition	Comments
Prairie restoration planting	6.6	Good	Native prairie plantings installed in 2016 and 2018
Southern Shrub-Carr	4.6	Fair	Phragmites present
Emergent Marsh	1.8	Good	Phragmites present but relatively intact
Southern Wet Meadow	0.9	Fair	Phragmites present
Southern Hardwood Swamp	0.2	Fair	
Dry-Mesic Southern Forest	0.2	Good	Habitat restoration began in 2015

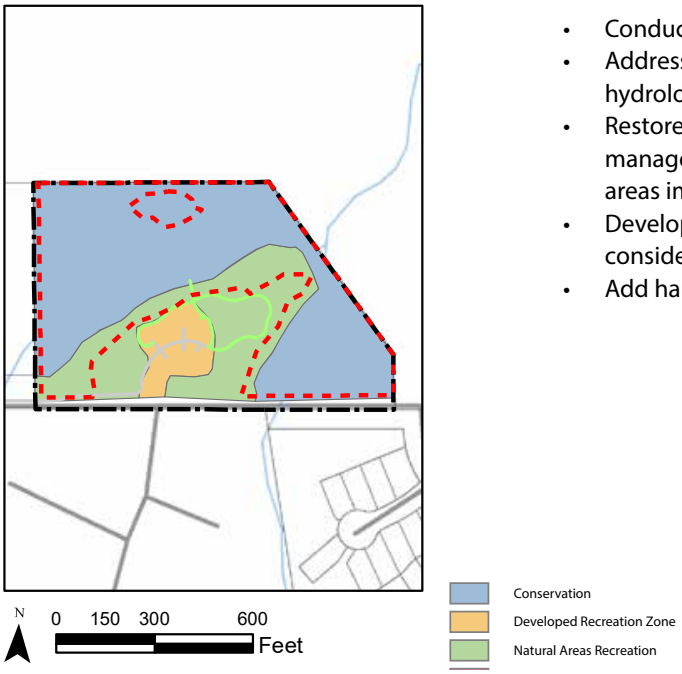
STRENGTHS

- Township's only true neighborhood park, located near high population density of subdivision
- New playground equipment and park amenities highly popular with nearby residents
- Safety Path and trails connecting along north side of Silver Bell and from park to Adams Road
- Contains a delicate balance of upland area, emergent marsh, and the Gallagher Creek headwaters area
- Unique riparian corridor; one of the only remaining populations of native brook trout in SE Michigan
- Location offers both an educational outlet and valuable resource for neighbors
- Easy access from nearby subdivisions for dog walking

CHALLENGES

- Location along busy Silver Bell Road
- Must reduce deer population to protect natural features of the park
- Large Phragmites populations will need to be controlled
- Enhance the park while protecting sensitive natural features

PARK USE & MANAGEMENT ZONES

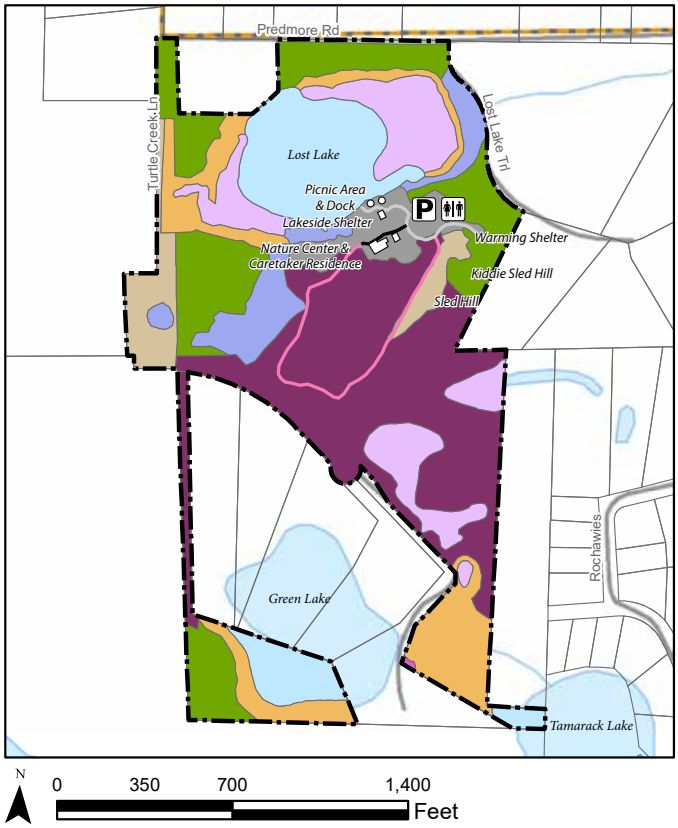


POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES

- Conduct prescribed burns
- Address impact of development on water quality and hydrology
- Restore natural area connectivity within the park; extend management beyond site boundaries to include natural areas immediately outside park
- Develop walking paths to better showcase natural areas; consider boardwalks for adjacent wetlands
- Add hard surface for handicapped parking spaces

LOST LAKE NATURE PARK

Location	846 Lost Lake Trail
Size (acres)	57.9
Acquisition	2004, 2008
Conservation Easement	n/a; restrictions; MNRTF project agreement
Predominant Usage	Passive Recreation and Natural Area Preservation, Environmental Education
Accessibility Assessment	Level 3
Category	Community Park



Developed Area
Dry Mesic Southern Forest
Emergent Marsh
Old Fields
Dirt
Oak-Pine Barren
Southern Hardwood Swamp
Southern Shrub-Carr
Southern Wet Meadow
Water

Parking
Portable Toilet
Picnic Area
Trailhead

Park Asset / Amenity	Quantity	Condition	Comments
Caretaker's House / Nature Center	1	Good / Excellent	
Kiosks	2	Good	
Outbuildings	2	Excellent	Outbuildings and converted barns
Parking Lot	37 spaces	Excellent	
Portable toilets	2	Excellent	
Shore - Lakeside native plantings		Excellent	
Sled Hill	2	Excellent	Re-contoured for safety
Storage Shed	1	Excellent	
Trails - dirt	0.3 miles	Good	1-foot wide from Caretaker's House to top of Sled Hill; steep topography
Warming Shelter	1	Excellent	
Asphalt paths	730 linear feet	Excellent	5 - 10-foot wide
Universally accessible Canoe, Kayak, & Fishing Dock	1	Excellent	
Audio-Interpretive signs	2	Excellent	
Portable Water Hydrants	2	Excellent	
Concrete Pads - Picnic / Education nodes	2	Excellent	

LOST LAKE NATURE PARK, CONT.

Natural Area Type	Acres	Condition	Comments
Oak-Pine Barren	17.2	Good	Red maple reducing light in understory
Dry-Mesic Southern Forest	10.4	Good	Red maple reducing light in understory
Emergent Marsh	6.9	Fair	High quality wetland vegetation but significant glossy buckthorn encroachment
Southern Shrub-Carr	6.8	Fair	High quality wetland vegetation but significant glossy buckthorn encroachment
Water	6.0	Good	No known aquatic invasives, little Phragmites, mostly undeveloped shoreline
Southern Hardwood Swamp	3.5	Good	
Other	5.4	Fair	Developed area. Various invasive plants due to disturbance history
Old Field	2.1	Poor	Heavily disturbed

STRENGTHS

- Fishing programs
- Winter organized events & sledding
- Nature Center open houses & programming
- Non-motorized lake access to 8-acre Lost Lake, provision of kayaking at open houses
- 17 acres of wetlands
- Mature oaks and white pine forest
- Highest quality natural area in the Township parks system
- Portions of park west & south of Green Lake offer chance to expand the extent of the high-quality upland and wetland areas
- Partnership with Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve to operate Nature Center

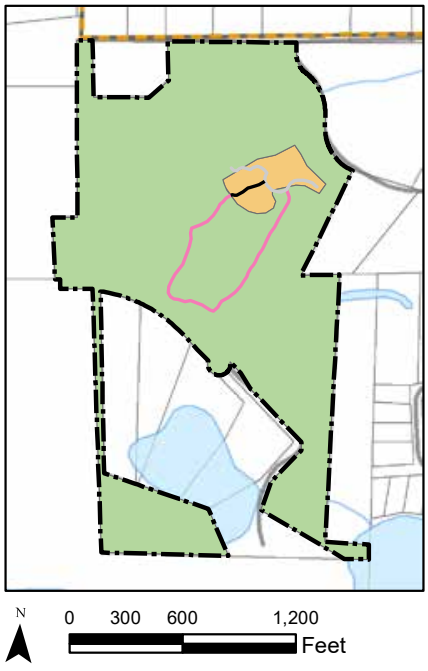
CHALLENGES

- Presence of several invasive species
- Gravel parking lot may be too small for events and to support additional facilities at this park

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES

- Collaboration and trail connection with Oak View Middle School, Addison Oaks, Bald Mountain Recreation Area
- Continue to maintain oak/pine barren community
- Improve the habitat for Eastern Massasauga rattlesnake
- Manage wetlands surrounding Lost Lake
- Conduct prescribed burns
- Work with adjacent landowners to protect wetlands and natural areas bordering the park

PARK USE & MANAGEMENT ZONES

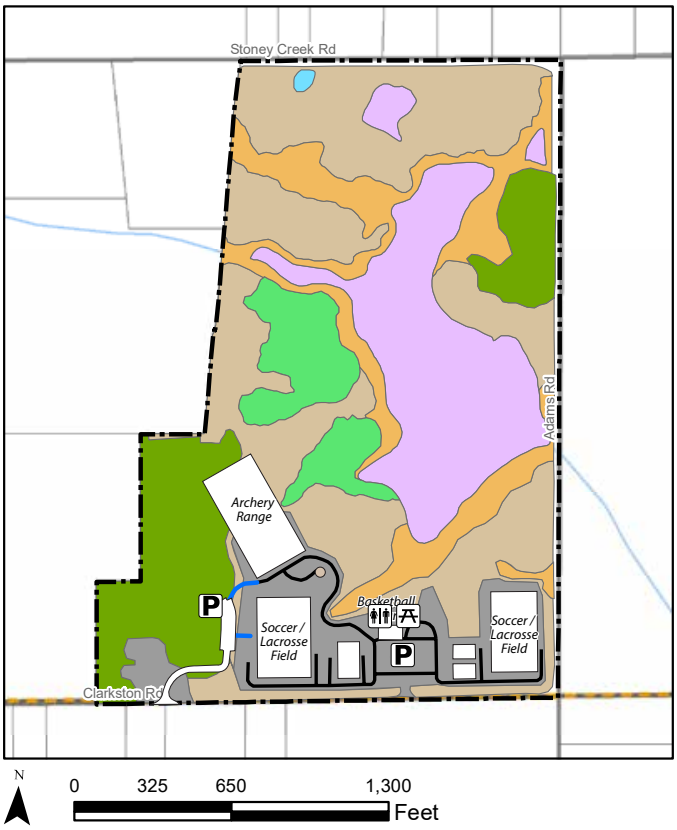


Oakland Charter Township
Parks & Recreation Inventory Tables

MARSH VIEW PARK

Location	3100 E Clarkston Road
Size (acres)	96
Acquisition	2001
Conservation Easement	n/a; restrictions; MNRTF project agreement
Predominant Usage	Active & passive recreation, Natural Area Preservation
Accessibility Assessment	Level 3
Category	Community Park





Park Asset / Amenity	Quantity	Condition	Comments
Basketball Court	1	Fair	with two adjustable height nets
Interpretive Signs	2	Excellent	
Multi-use Sports Fields	2	Excellent	190' x330' soccer, lacrosse, football
Observation Deck	1	Excellent	
Outdoor Archery Range	1	Excellent	10 lane, universally accessible, expanded in 2017
Parking Lot	70 spaces	Excellent	Gravel, lower level of park
Parking Lot	43 spaces	Excellent	Asphalt, upper level of park, constructed 2017
Pavilion	1	Excellent	Picnic pavilion adjacent to western parking lot
Toilets	2	Excellent	Two permanent restrooms and one portable toilet for archery range
Soccer fields	2	Excellent	90' x 50'
Storage	2	Excellent	Added second storage building for archery range
Trails - asphalt	0.7 miles	Excellent	10-foot wide ADA compliant
Trails - gravel		Excellent	To observation deck

MARSH VIEW PARK, CONT.

Natural Area Type	Acres	Condition	Comments
Old Field	32.4	Fair	Some native prairie vegetation persists
Emergent marsh	16.5	Good	Site hydrology still fairly intact, few noxious invasive species
Other	14.2	Fair	Athletic fields and archery range. Surrounding areas planted to native vegetation, but some invasive problems
Southern Shrub-Carr	10.9	Fair	
Dry-Mesic Southern Forest	10.1	Poor	Old apple orchard, black locust
Mesic/Wet-Mesic Southern Forest	6.1	Fair	Low native plant diversity from disturbance history
Vernal Pool	0.3	Fair	Not surrounded by native vegetation

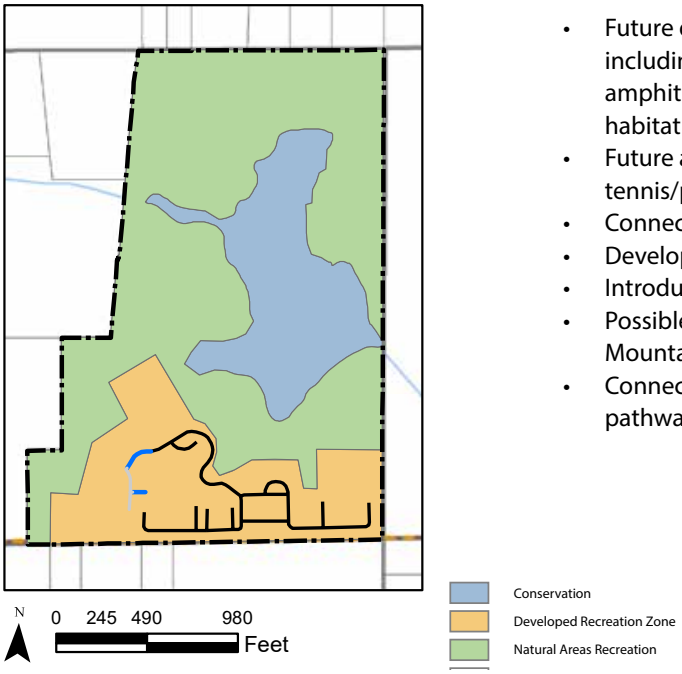
STRENGTHS

- Township's only active-use park with new facilities in 2009 and 2017
- 27 acres of native plantings, prairies and wetlands provide important wildlife habitat
- Emergent marsh most remarkable natural feature of the site
- Added 5 acres on Park's western boundary
- Historic value
- Scenic view from southwest area of park

CHALLENGES

- Separation of active, passive, and natural area preservation zones
- Maintain athletic fields while protecting the hydrology and nutrient load of wetlands
- Steep topography between upper & lower areas of park presents accessibility issues

PARK USE & MANAGEMENT ZONES

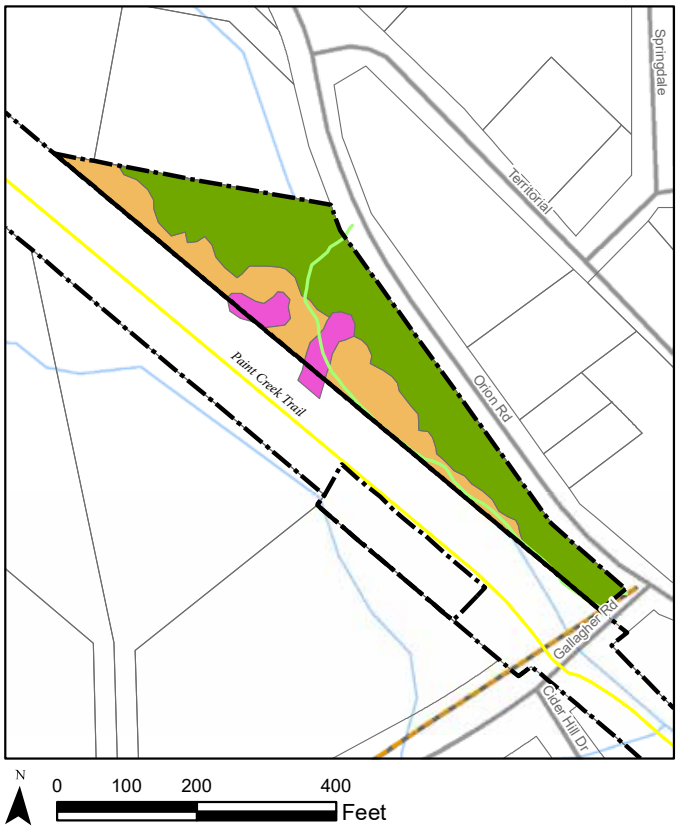


POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES

- Future development of the north portions of the park including improved trails, boardwalks, overlooks, amphitheater and open recreation areas. Enhance wildlife habitat with native plantings, prairies, and wetlands
- Future addition of playground, picnic shelter, and multi-use tennis/pickleball courts
- Connection to Bald Mountain Recreation Area
- Development of Phase II of parking on west edge of park
- Introduce fitness elements to existing & new trails
- Possible trail along east side of park and/or connector to Bald Mountain State Recreation Area
- Connection of upper and lower areas of park by accessible pathway

MILL RACE TRAIL

Location	4480 Orion Road
Size (acres)	2.5
Acquisition	1974
Conservation Easement	n/a
Predominant Usage	Trail Connection and Natural Area Preservation
Accessibility Assessment	Level 1
Category	Linear Park



Dry Mesic Southern Forest
Southern Shrub-Carr
Southern Wet Meadow
Limestone

Park Asset / Amenity	Quantity	Condition	Comments
Bridge over Mill Race and two stairways	1	Good	Wooden - Pedestrian
Mill Race Control Structure	1	Fair	
Trail - dirt	0.3 miles	Fair	
Fencing		Excellent	Around Mill Race control structure
Parking	1	Good	Gallagher Road parking lot and Paint Creek Trail

MILL RACE TRAIL, CONT.

Natural Area Type	Acres	Condition	Comments
Dry-Mesic Southern Forest	1.5	Poor	Thick invasive shrub and tree cover
Southern Shrub-Carr	0.7	Poor	Thick invasive shrub and tree cover
Southern Wet Meadow	0.2	Poor	Thick invasive shrub and tree cover

STRENGTHS

- Off-road connection between Goodison and Paint Creek Cider Mills
- State designated historic site; Paint Creek Mill Race
- Trail provides views of Paint Creek and Mill Race on either side

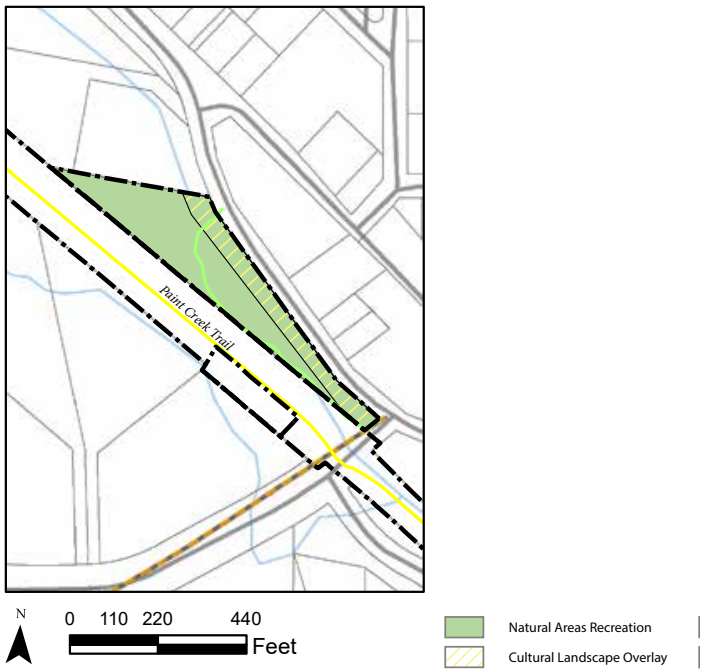
CHALLENGES

- Deed restrictions
- Invasive species overwhelming natives and trail corridor
- No connections between parking lots / Cider Mill to trail
- No connection across Orion Road to Goodison
- Very difficult to access with power equipment to complete habitat restoration projects

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES

- Two Mill Race control structures are located on other property also owned by Oakland Township; this property could provide trail connection to Gunn Road
- Remove invasive plants and restore native vegetation with interpretive signage
- Install crosswalk / zebra stripes across Gallagher Road
- Evaluate options for connecting walkway along north side of Gallagher Road from Paint Creek Trail to Mill Race Trail

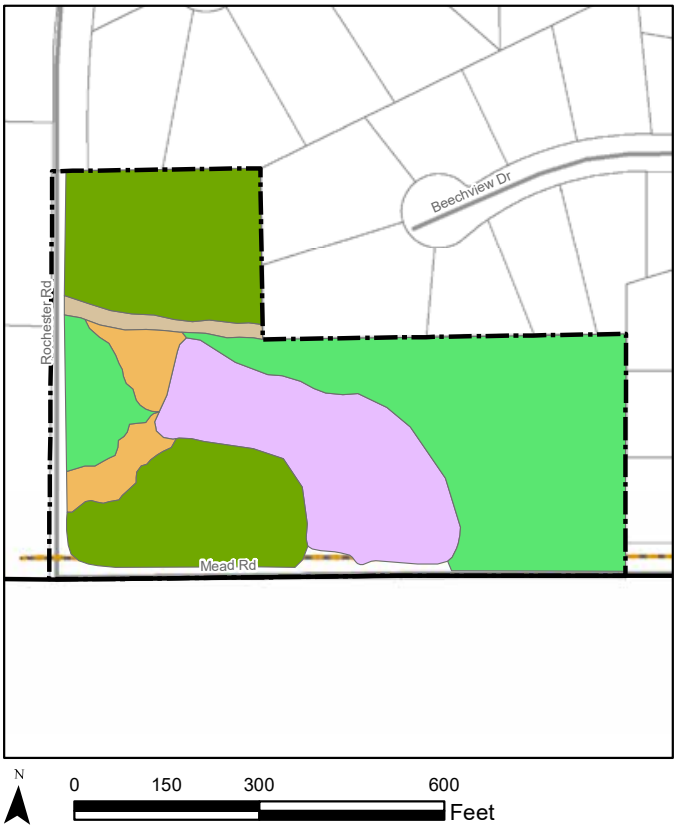
PARK USE & MANAGEMENT ZONES



O'CONNOR NATURE PARK

Location	89 Mead Road
Size (acres)	10
Acquisition	2008
Conservation Easement	n/a
Predominant Usage	Nature Preserve
Accessibility Assessment	Level 1
Category	Natural Resource Area





Park Asset / Amenity	Quantity	Condition	Comments
Emergent Marsh	2.5 acres	Good	

O'CONNOR NATURE PARK, CONT.

Natural Area Type	Acres	Condition	Comments
Mesic/Wet-Mesic Southern Forest	3.8	Fair	High diversity, but also high invasive plant pressure
Dry-Mesic Southern Forest	3.2	Good	Remnants of former oak savanna
Emergent Marsh	2.0	Good	High quality floating sedge mat on east side
Southern Shrub-Carr	0.5	Good	Phragmites present in low numbers after several years of treatment
Old Field	0.2	Poor	Frequent disturbance in utility right-of-way allows invasive plants

STRENGTHS

- Nature preserve area with limited access for protection of natural features
- High botanical diversity

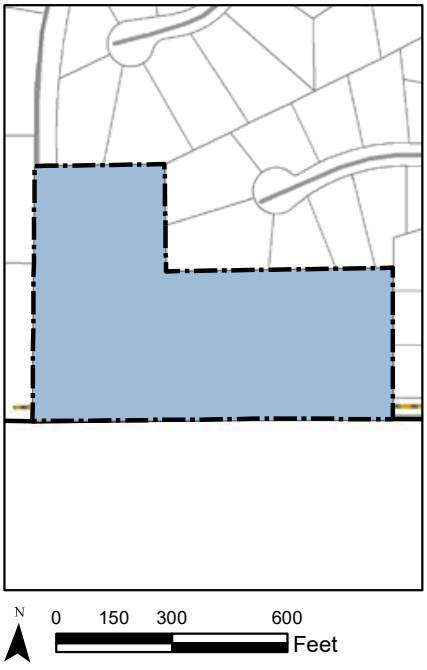
CHALLENGES

- Natural area stewardship along edges shared with subdivision to the north and houses to the east; must stop neighbor dumping and remove yard waste
- Erosion associated with the abutting roads and their right-of-ways
- Re-establishment of Phragmites in disturbed areas
- Frequent disturbance in the utility right-of-way

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES

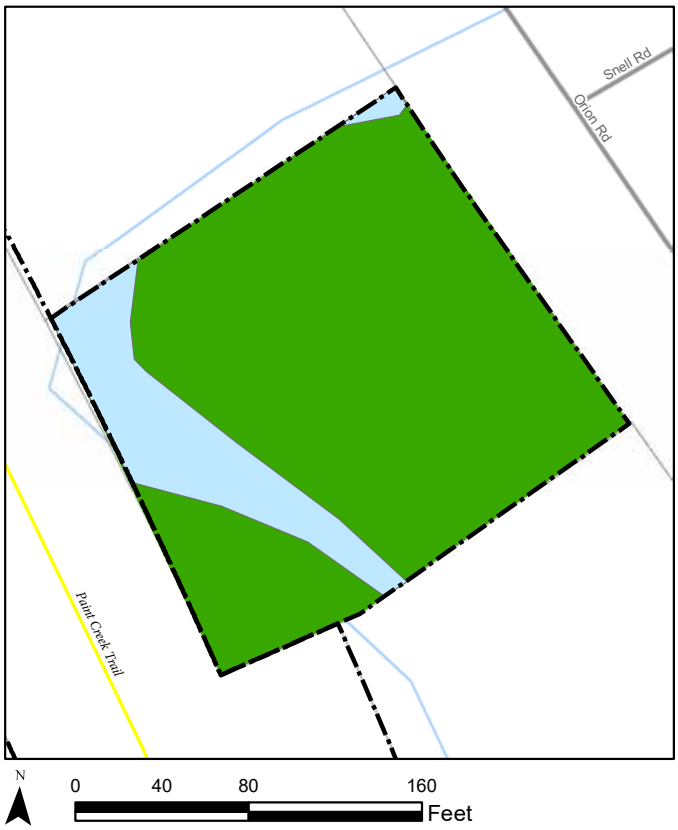
- Proposed viewing and interpretation from possible future Township Trail system along Rochester and Mead Roads
- Neighbor education regarding dumping and unique nature of site
- Conduct prescribed burns
- Educate neighbors regarding invasive plant species on their properties
- Use check dams to slow flow of water and establish native plant community along Rochester Road right-of-way

PARK USE & MANAGEMENT ZONES



MILL CREEK CROSSING

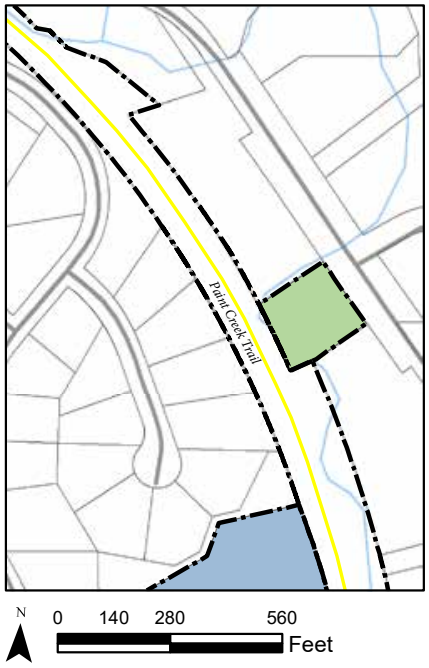
Location	Orion Road west of Snell
Size (acres)	1
Acquisition	1991
Conservation Easement	n/a
Predominant Usage	Future trail connection and Natural Area Conservation
Accessibility Assessment	Level 1
Category	Linear Park



Floodplain Forest
Water
Limestone

Park Asset / Amenity	Quantity	Condition	Comments
-	-	-	-

PARK USE & MANAGEMENT ZONES



Natural Areas Recreation

STRENGTHS

- Contains 215 feet of Paint Creek and borders additional 200 feet of Creek on northwest boundary
- Strategic location across from Snell

CHALLENGES

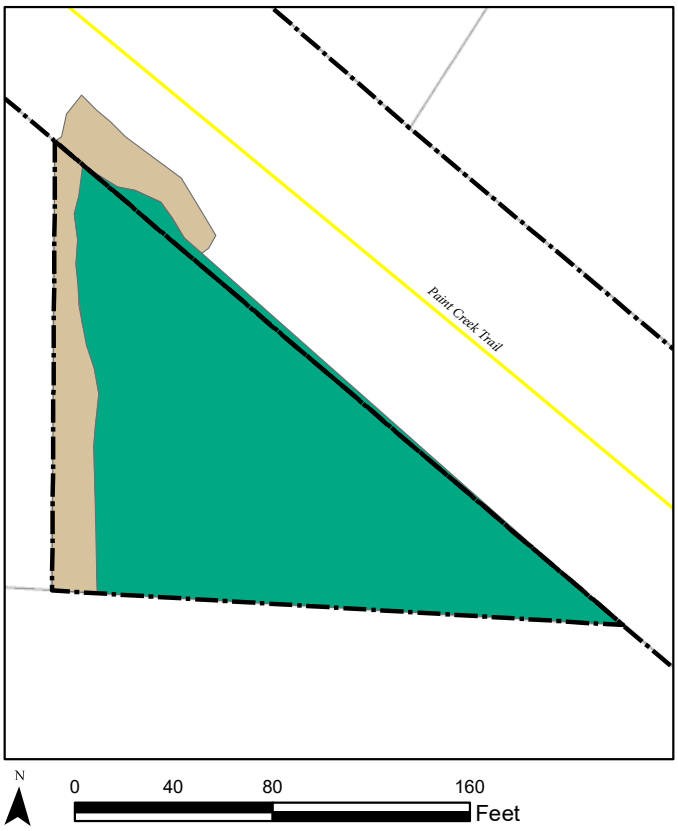
- n/a

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES

- Protect Creek frontage and floodplain to the northwest and southeast

PAINT CREEK HERITAGE AREA - FEN

Location	Paint Creek Trail
Size (acres)	0.5
Acquisition	2008
Conservation Easement	n/a
Predominant Usage	Nature Preserve
Accessibility Assessment	Level 1
Category	Natural Resource Area



Fen
Old Fields
Limestone

Park Asset / Amenity	Quantity	Condition	Comments
Fen	0.5	Excellent	-

Natural Area Type	Acres	Condition	Comments
Fen	0.5	Excellent	-

PARK USE & MANAGEMENT ZONES



Conservation

STRENGTHS

- Adjacent to Paint Creek Trail
- Nature preserve with limited access for protection of natural features
- Only fen in the Township park system (fens are biologically and geologically unique wetlands only found in the Midwest)

CHALLENGES

- Small size makes it vulnerable to present & future site stressors
- Invasive species are present
- Neighbors encroaching on the site

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES

- Installation of interpretive signage at trail edge
- Coordination of natural area stewardship with SRLC conservation easement to west and Paint Creek Trail
- Work with neighbor to west to end encroachment
- Conduct prescribed burns
- Remove invasive species
- Work with southern landowners to extend management further into wetland complex

Oakland Charter Township
Parks & Recreation Inventory Tables

PAINT CREEK HERITAGE AREA - WET PRAIRIE

Location	Paint Creek Trail
Size (acres)	10.5
Acquisition	2003
Conservation Easement	n/a
Predominant Usage	Nature Preserve
Accessibility Assessment	Level 1
Category	Natural Resource Area



Floodplain Forest
Mesic Wet Prairie
Limestone
Oak Savanna
Southern Wet Meadow
Conservation Easements

Park Asset / Amenity	Quantity	Condition	Comments
Parking	1	Good	Silver Bell Road parking lot of Paint Creek Trailway
Interpretive signage	1	Excellent	Installed by Paint Creek Trail Commission
Deer enclosure	1	Good	

Natural Area Type	Acres	Condition	Comments
Wet-Mesic Prairie	6.8	Good	Core area excellent. Areas to north and south need additional work to reduce abundance of invasive shrubs
Oak Savanna	3.2	Fair	Encroachment by invasive shrubs & trees. Deer browse pressure is evident
Southern Wet Meadow	0.3	Good	
Floodplain forest	0.2	Fair	Encroachment of invasive shrubs & trees

PAINT CREEK HERITAGE AREA - WET PRAIRIE, CONT.

STRENGTHS

- Preservation of globally threatened grassland ecosystem and wildlife
- Adjacent to and accessible from the Paint Creek Trail
- Hosts approximately 200 native species and has very high floristic quality
- Protects wetland and floodplain corridor

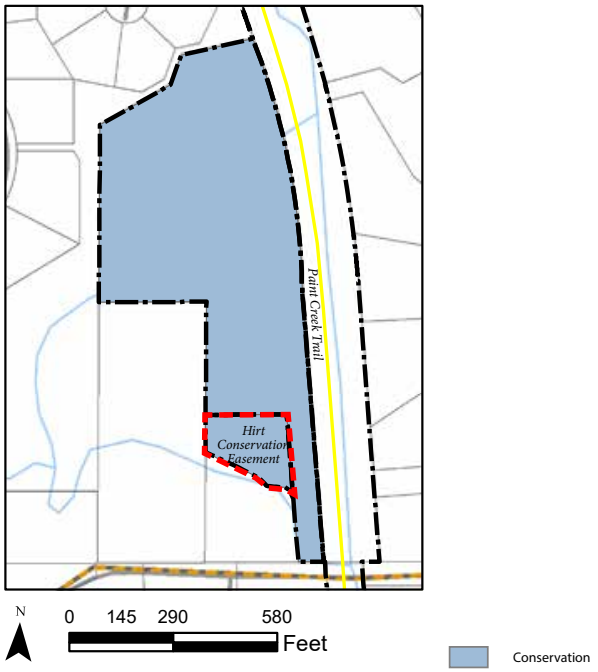
CHALLENGES

- Natural area interpretation done from edge of Paint Creek Trail

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES

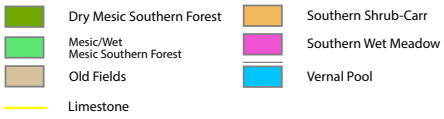
- Coordination of natural area stewardship / protection of adjacent subdivision natural area, Hirt easement, and Paint Creek Trail
- Remove invasive species and work with southern neighbor to do the same
- Habitat restoration to expand the wet prairie area
- Protect parcel on southwest side to conserve entire habitat

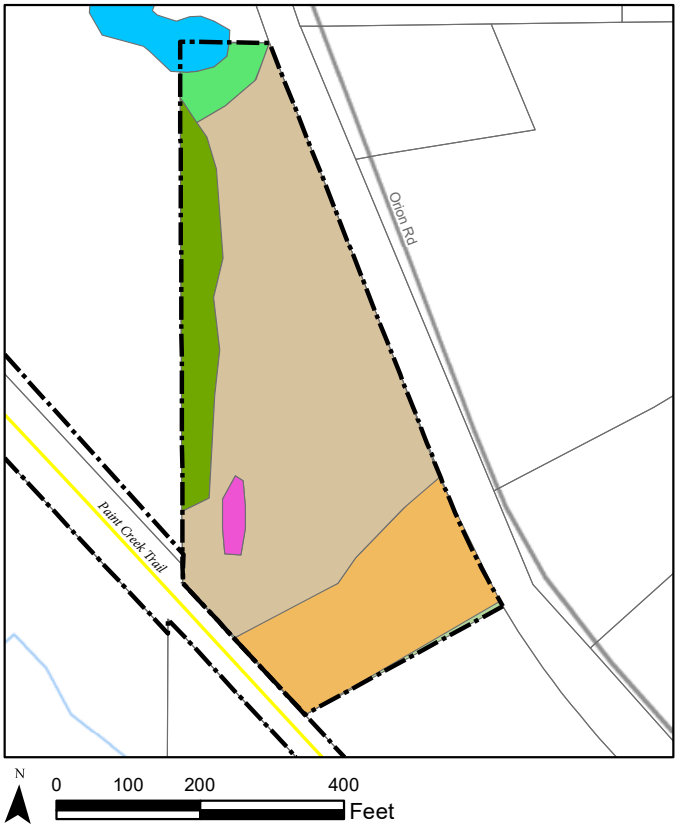
PARK USE & MANAGEMENT ZONES



PAINT CREEK JUNCTION PARK

Location	2210 Orion Road
Size (acres)	6
Acquisition	2003
Conservation Easement	n/a
Predominant Usage	Future parking to service Paint Creek Trailway, Passive Recreation
Accessibility Assessment	Level 4
Category	Linear Park





Park Asset / Amenity	Quantity	Condition	Comments
Bike repair station	1	Excellent	
Interpretive Signs	1	Excellent	
Parking Lot	35 spaces	Excellent	Gravel, 32 spaces plus 3 asphalt accessible spots. Horse trailer parking to north
Picnic area	1	Excellent	Picnic table
Potable water	1	Excellent	Hand pump
Toilets	1	Excellent	Permanent vault toilet
Trails - asphalt	195 feet	Excellent	10-foot wide ADA compliant, from parking to picnic table
Trails - limestone	200 feet	Excellent	10-foot wide ADA compliant, from picnic table to trail

PAINT CREEK JUNCTION PARK, CONT.

Natural Area Type	Acres	Condition	Comments
Dry-Mesic Southern Forest	0.6	Degraded	Degraded fencerow
Mesic/Wet-Mesic Southern Forest	0.2	Degraded	Wet forest near vernal pool
Old Field	3.6	Degraded	Shrubby old field, with some wet pockets
Southern Shrub Carr	1.2	Degraded	Degraded - lots of common buckthorn, glossy buckthorn, privet, multiflora rose. Emphemeral stream
Southern Wet Meadow	0.1	Degraded	Pocket in old field with Riddell's goldenrod, mountain mint, Scirpus pendulus
Vernal Pool	0.4	Degraded	north side of parcel. Contains interesting sedges (Carex tuckermanii)

STRENGTHS

- Property strategically purchased to offer trail connections between Township parks, trails, and pathways, regional and state parklands
- Trail's immediate adjacency to the wet meadows provides educational outlet and chance for appreciation of wetland without leaving the trail
- Use as trailhead provides improved access and amenities for Paint Creek Trail users

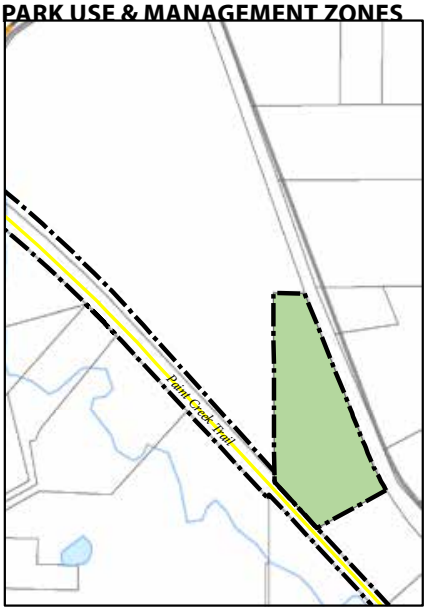
CHALLENGES

- Highly disturbed and invaded parcel

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES

- Enhance native plant diversity as parcel is developed for trail access

PARK USE & MANAGEMENT ZONES



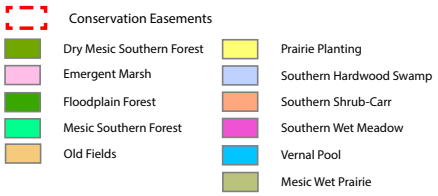
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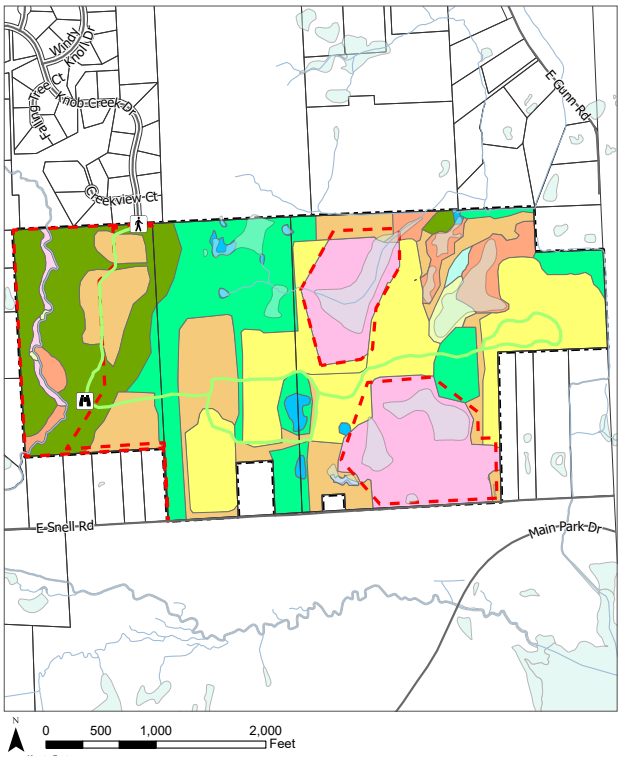
Natural Areas Recreation

Oakland Charter Township
Parks & Recreation Inventory Tables

STONY CREEK RAVINE NATURE PARK

Location	1280 Knob Creek Drive
Size (acres)	268
Acquisition	2008, 2019
Conservation Easement	36 acres, SRLC. Restrictions, MNRTF project agreement
Predominant Usage	Passive recreation, Natural Area Preservation
Accessibility Assessment	Level 1
Category	Community Park





Park Asset / Amenity	Quantity	Condition	Comments
Trails - Dirt / Mowed Grass	0.6 miles	Good	

Natural Area Type	Acres	Condition	Comments
Dry-Mesic Southern Forest	38.8		On knob west of vernal pool
Emergent Marsh	61.2		
Floodplain Forest	1.8		
Mesic Southern Forest	52.3		
Old Field	112.4		
Prairie Planting	109.1		
Southern Hardwood Swamp	0.3		Need to verify
Southern Shrub Carr	14.0		
Southern Wet Meadow	3.1		
Vernal Pool	3.0		extends slightly onto private property to the north
Wet-Mesic Prairie	0.8		Dry on uphill side, getting wetter on east toward SSC

STONY CREEK RAVINE NATURE PARK, CONT.

STRENGTHS

- Located across Snell Road from Stony Creek Metropark
- New land acquisition greatly increases presence along Snell Road and allows unprecedented access to the park
- Scenic stream valley with fishing opportunity
- Oak forest
- Undisturbed natural areas
- High floristic quality
- Extremely variable habitat
- Controlled archery antler-less hunting two days per week Oct. 1 to Jan. 1 helps control deer densities

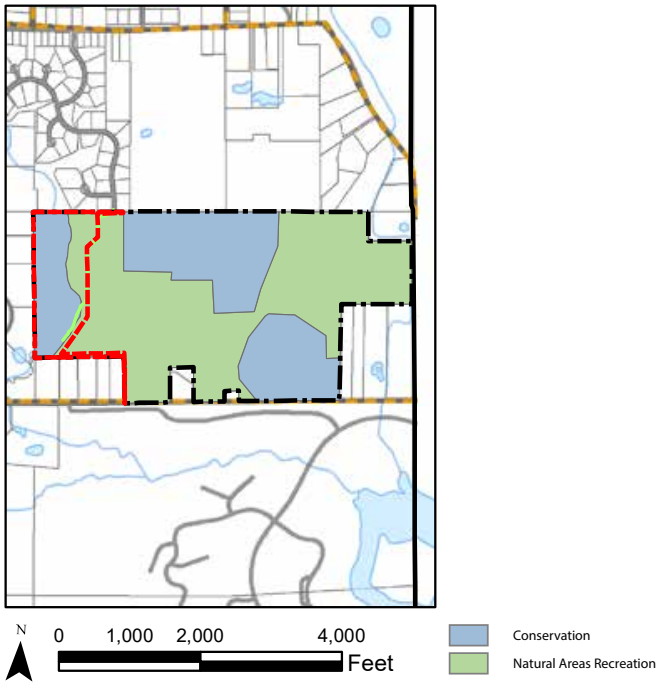
CHALLENGES

- Encroachment of invasive trees and shrubs in old farm fields
- Walk-in access only at this time; will change with addition of new parking lot off of Snell and new connecting trails

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES

- Phase 1 access improvements will include:
  - New parking lot, restroom, drinking water, picnic areas, and access trails as described in MNRTF grant application
  - Interpretive panels along a nature walk
  - Marked trail system
  - Trail connection to Stony Creek Metropark; allow mountain biking trails to extend in to Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park
- Add fishing piers and/or boardwalks at the stream
- Conduct prescribed burns
- Remove invasive species and establish native vegetation
- Work with adjacent landowners to protect high quality forest and stream corridor
- Continue farming to manage invasive plants

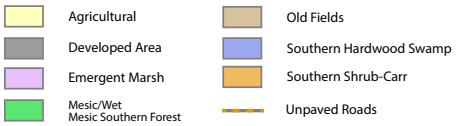
PARK USE & MANAGEMENT ZONES

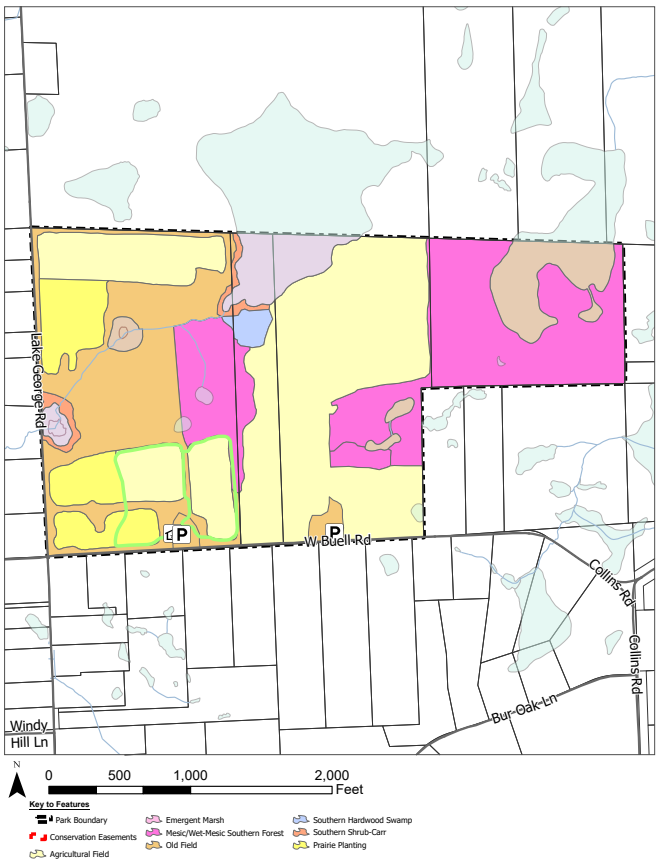


Oakland Charter Township
Parks & Recreation Inventory Tables

WATERSHED RIDGE PARK

Location	1720 West Buell Road
Size (acres)	170
Acquisition	2008
Conservation Easement	n/a
Predominant Usage	Active & Passive recreation, Natural Area Preservation
Accessibility Assessment	Level 2
Category	Community Park





Park Asset / Amenity	Quantity	Condition	Comments
Farm Fields	1	Good	
Storage Building	2	Excellent	Main maintenance and stewardship storage for entire parks system. Second building added, shared with Township Building Department and Public Works
Parking lot	1	Good	Rustic parking lot completed
Trails	1	Excellent	Southern loop completed

Natural Area Type	Acres	Condition	Comments
Agricultural Field	81.1	Good	Low habitat quality, but few invasive weeds
Mesic Southern Forest	40.4	Good	Deer impact evident
Old Field	28.8	Good	Invasive shrubs controlled with forestry mowing starting in 2018
Southern Shrub-Carr	11.8	Good	Phragmites control program has been in place since 2014
Emergent Marsh	7.4	Good	Phragmites control program has been in place since 2014
Other	5.7	Poor	Old homestead sites
Southern Hardwood Swamp	1.5	Fair	Some encroachment by invasive shrubs & trees

WATERSHED RIDGE PARK, CONT.

STRENGTHS

- Rolling hills
- Property includes both Paint Creek and Stony Creek sub-watersheds
- Cultural conservation of agricultural history
- Central location, size, and combination of natural and highly altered landscapes make it an excellent candidate for both active and passive uses

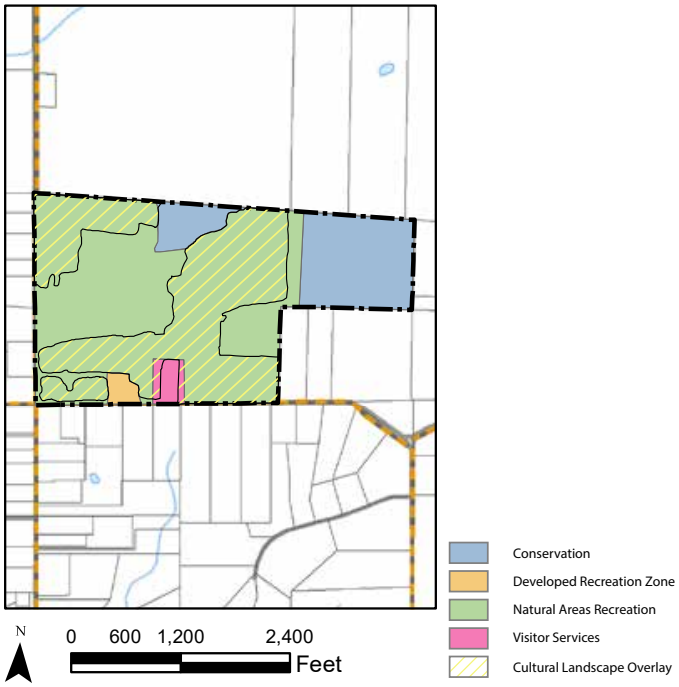
CHALLENGES

- Continue to develop access parking to the park
- Agricultural portions of park contain drain tiles which flow into natural area, dumping sediment and nutrients into wetlands

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES

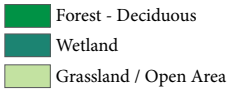
- Active recreation accessed from Buell Road, limited to acreage not purchased with Land Preservation Millage
- Interpretation of hydrology in two watersheds that are included in park
- Addition of northern trail system would contribute to Township Trail system's proposed connection between Buell and Stony Creek Roads
- Conduct prescribed burns
- Conversion of portions of agricultural fields to a native plant community currently underway. Will increase habitat connectivity and reduce pollution from farm field runoff
- Establish appropriately placed trails to minimize disruption
- Integrate active-use areas within the agricultural fields
- Work with adjacent property owners to protect high quality forest and wetland

PARK USE & MANAGEMENT ZONES



UNNAMED PARK

Location	2700 Orion Road
Size (acres)	2.5
Acquisition	2016
Conservation Easement	n/a
Predominant Usage	Linear Park, Natural Area Preservation, Passive Use
Accessibility Assessment	Level 1
Category	Linear Park

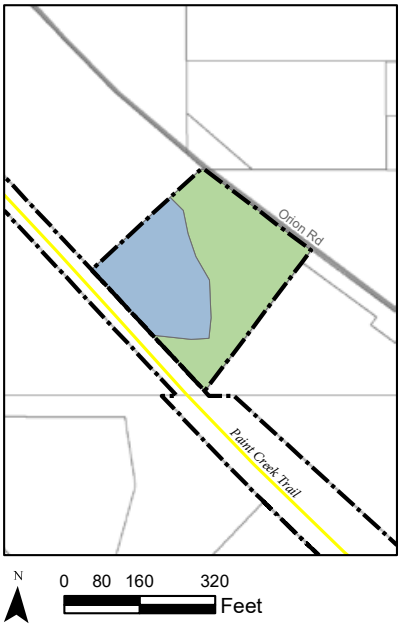


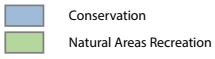


Park Asset / Amenity	Quantity	Condition	Comments
-	-	-	-

Natural Area Type	Acres	Condition	Comments
-	-	-	-

PARK USE & MANAGEMENT ZONES





STRENGTHS

- Adjacency to Paint Creek Trail makes it a desirable picnic or resting spot
- Wetlands provide opportunity for education and natural area appreciation

CHALLENGES

- Wetlands through middle portion of park limit recreation development options

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES

- Install picnic area, benches, gazebo, or similar amenities on southeast corner of park

Appendix D: Millage Fund Use Criteria

METHODOLOGY

FOR

SITE EVALUATION

Prepared for Oakland Township

Park Commission

Alice Tomboulian, Publications Consultant
March 9, 1976

Community Park

Generally these areas provide the individual an opportunity to enjoy contact with broad expanses of natural scenery, but an equally important purpose is to provide a pleasant environment in which he can engage in a variety of recreational activities. It is usually designed and developed for the enjoyment and diversified use of large numbers of people.

One facility/40,000 residents — therefore, two in the township

Minimum acreage: 50 acres

Oriented toward more extensive outdoor uses not possible in small recreation areas

The park can be combined with additional community needs for intensive recreation uses (swimming pools, tennis courts, skating rinks, ball fields) or with needs for municipal buildings to require a 100 acre site

Neighborhood Park

Generally there should be a recreation area near the center of every residential area. A neighborhood is usually considered to be the geographical area served by an elementary school. Two types of areas have served the neighborhood - the playlot, serving a radius of 1/8 mile, and the playground or park, serving a 1/2 mile radius.

1 acre/1000 residents - minimum acreage: 6 acres

Usually designed for passive, unsupervised play. The neighborhood park is desirably combined with a playground (1/3000, 4 acres) and ballfields (3/6000, 7 acres) and if possible located at a school. This would total a 25 acre school site, larger than conventional. Neighborhood parks might also be associated with critical natural areas. There are 21 proposed elementary schools in the Master Plan; assuming each of these satisfies the requirements for playgrounds and ball fields, we are considering, in addition, 15-21 neighborhood parks of 6 acres each.

These neighborhood parks will be provided by:

1. Working with the school districts to insure suitable site and size selection.

2. Working with developers to provide open spaces and recreation facilities in subdivisions.

3. Acquisition of neighborhood park sites near concentrations of population where suitable open space has not otherwise been provided. Priority will be given to critical resource areas where preservation of the resource is compatible with intensive recreational use.

Critical Resource Areas

Here, fixed acreage requirements cannot be assigned. Acquisition will depend on a careful inventory of township lands and be based on an evaluation of the environmental, economic and social consequences of conversion to urban use.

"As part of an outdoor educational program, it would be well to consider the preservation of a system of natural areas representative of those found in the township. These would include oak, beech maple, swamp and floodplain forests, bogs, marshes, sedge meadows, lake ponds and streams, meadows and prairies. With careful selection a number of other important natural features could be included in the above areas such as glacial channels, moraine, till and outwash plain, eskers, glacial knobs and various land forms. By careful choice it would also be possible to include the principal soil types on these tracts. These would be useful in demonstrating the relationship of vegetation to soil characteristics and land patterns. These natural area preserves could also serve a dual purpose by preserving the natural scenic beauty of the township and i providing the protective natural vegetative cover for retarding erosion of steep slopes and controlling flood waters along floodplain areas. Swamps, bogs and marshes could also serve as valuable natural reservoirs which in turn function to retard flood damage and give more even flow to streams and creeks. All preserves of sizeable area would be important wildlife sanctuaries and would provide opportunities for bird study and other related activities. These tracts would provide examples of the natural flora of the area, especially retaining outstanding examples of the colorful spring wildflower stands which are to be found in certain locations." 1

1 Paul W. Thompson, Ecological Survey of Oakland Township, 1974

COMMUNITY PARK SITE EVALUATION WORKSHEET

Site designation_____

PARCEL SIZE RATING____	4 2 0
RESOURCES RATING____	
Woodland vegetation	4 3 2 1 0
Wildlife habitat	4 3 2 1 0
Representative natural area	4 2 0
Water resources	4 3 2 1 0
Topography	4 2 0
Scenic view	2 1 0
Land form	2 1 0
Historic feature	2 1 0
USE POTENTIAL RATING____	
Water Recreation	4 3 2 1 0
Intensive recreation	4 3 2 1 0
Passive recreation	2 1 0
Winter Sports	2 1 0
Parking lot potential	4 2 0
Municipal or recreation building	4 2 0
Compatibility of resource protection and use	4 2 0
COMMUNITY PLANNING RATING____	
Compatibility with current adjacent land uses	4 3 2 1 0
Fit with Township Master Plan (Future land uses)	4 3 2 1 0
Accessibility by local residents	4 3 2 1 0
Accessibility for school use	4 3 2 1 0
Fit with other Township and comparable park sites	4 3 2 1 0
PROBABILITY OF LOSS RATING____	
Sale is likely in near future	4 3 2 1 0
Threat of conversion	4 3 2 1 0
Price related to time	4 3 2 1 0

Rev. 3/30/76

NEIGHBORHOOD PARK SITE EVALUATION WORKSHEET

Site designation _____

PARCEL SIZE RATING_____	4 2 0
RESOURCES RATING_____	
Woodland vegetation	4 3 2 1 0
Wildlife habitat	4 3 2 1 0
Representative natural area	2 1 0
Water resources	4 3 2 1 0
Topography	2 1 0
Scenic view	2 1 0
Land form	2 1 0
Historic feature	2 1 0
USE POTENTIAL RATING_____	
Water recreation	4 3 2 1 0
Intensive recreation	4 2 0
Passive recreation	2 1 0
Winter sports	2 1 0
Parking lot potential	2 1 0
Municipal or recreation building	4 2 0
Compatibility of resource protection and use	4 2 0
COMMUNITY PLANNING RATING_____	
Compatibility with current adjacent land uses	4 3 2 1 0
Fit with Township Master Plan (Future land uses)	2 1 0
Accessibility by local residents	4 3 2 1 0
Accessibility for school use	4 3 2 1 0
Fit with other Township and comparable park sites	4 3 2 1 0
PROBABILITY OF LOSS RATING_____	
Sale is likely in near future	4 3 2 1 0
Threat of conversion	4 3 2 1 0
Price related to time	4 3 2 1 0

CRITICAL RESOURCE AREA SITE EVALUATION WORKSHEET

Site designation_____

RESOURCES RATING_____

Wildlife habitat	4 3 2 1 0
Representative natural area	4 2 0
Water resources	4 3 2 1 0
Rare ecological community	4 2 0
Rare plant or animal species	4 2 0
Land form	4 2 0
Historic feature	2 1 0

USE POTENTIAL RATING_____

Educational or scientific use	4 3 2 1 0
Selected recreational use	2 1 0
Compatibility of resource protection and use	4 2 0

COMMUNITY PLANNING RATING_____

Compatibility with current adjacent land uses	4 3 2 1 0
Fit with Township Master Plan (Future land uses)	2 1 0
Accessibility by local residents	2 1 0
Accessibility for school use	4 3 2 1 0
Fit with other Township and comparable park sites	2 1 0

PROBABILITY OF LOSS RATING_____

Sale is likely in near future	4 3 2 1 0
Threat of conversion	4 3 2 1 0
Price related to time	4 3 2 1 0

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FACTOR CHECKLIST

PARCEL SIZE

		Factor Points
A.	Size of potential site is within the desirable range for the type of park contemplated	4
B.	Size of potential site is outside the desirable range, causing drawbacks or an extra public expense, but still usable for the type of park contemplated	2
C.	Size of potential site is such that usability is doubtful	0

RESOURCES FACTORS

WOODLAND VEGETATION

To provide scenic beauty; to shade, separate and buffer activities; to provide wildlife cover and food; to control erosion.

		Factor Points
A.	Woodland vegetation covers about $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of site, and has most or all of the characteristics listed below.	4
B.	Woodland vegetation covers about $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of site, but lacks some of the characteristics listed below.	3
C.	Woodland vegetation covers only about $\frac{1}{4}$ or over $\frac{1}{2}$ of site, and lacks several of the characteristics listed below.	2
D.	Woodland vegetation covers very little or almost all of the site, and lacks most of the characteristics listed below.	1
E.	Woodland vegetation not present.	0

Characteristics:
Trees arranged in clusters advantageous for park use.
Boundary buffer characteristics.
Wide range of tree species, ages and sizes.
Provide wildlife cover, nesting and feeding.

WILDLIFE HABITAT

To provide opportunities for formal and informal observation of all forms of plant and animal life; to preserve plant and animal species in an urbanizing community.

		Factor Points
A.	Diverse and significant wildlife species are present. Adequate cover and food for continued existence. Buffering from human activities both external to and within the park.	4
B.	Habitat suitable for continued support of a substantial variety of wildlife.	3
C.	Extensive habitat for common species of plants and animals.	2
D.	Some habitat for common species which can be expected to be preserved	1
E.	No potential for wildlife habitat preservation	0

REPRESENTATIVE NATURAL AREA

To preserve outstanding examples of representative natural areas found in the Township, for their educational and scenic values. These areas include: oak forests, swamp and floodplain forests, marshes, sedge meadows, lakes or ponds, streams and dry meadows.

		Factor Points
A.	An outstanding example of a representative natural area is present, with significant populations of the important component species, and of sufficient extent to assure continued vitality.	4-community or critical resource 2-neighborhood
B.	A good example of a representative natural area is present, but lacking substantial populations of some important species or lacking the extent for assured vitality.	2-community or critical resource 1-neighborhood
C.	Site does not have a natural area which displays representative features.	0

WATER RESOURCES

To provide scenic beauty and recreational opportunity; to preserve natural systems for flood control, water quality control, and aquifer recharge.

		Factor Points
A.	Site includes a lake or free-flowing stream, with significant buffer zones	4
B.	Site includes a lake or free-flowing stream lacking natural buffer zones; OR Site includes floodplain or wetland with significant retention and aquifer recharge capacity; OR Site has potential for a significant impoundment.	3 3 3
C.	Site includes wetlands with some retention and recharge capacity; OR Site includes major drainage swales.	2 2
D.	Site has potential for storm-water retention.	1
E.	No potential contribution to water resources.	0

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TOPOGRAPHY

A variety of topographic features is visually appealing, and may include examples of important glacial land forms. Slopes can provide vertical differentiation of activities and buffering from surrounding uses; slopes can be useful for recreational use, but can also present limitations to use.

	Factor Points
A. Site is largely in gentle and moderate slopes, with some steep slopes in locations advantageous to park use.	4 community 2 neighborho
B. Site has mixed slope types, but over half of the site has one predominant type.	2 community 1 neighborho
C. Site is almost entirely flat, or almost entirely covered with steep slopes.	(flat)0 community 1 neighborho (steep)0

Slope types: Gentle - less than 8% gradient
Moderate - 8 to 20% gradient
Steep - over 20% gradient

SCENIC VIEWS

To enhance attractiveness of a park, and to preserve outstanding scenic views for public enjoyment.

	Factor Points
A. Site affords unusual scenic views for park users; contributes to amenity of adjacent properties and passers-by.	2
B. Site affords pleasant yet not unusual scenic views	1
C. Site does not afford scenic views	0

LAND FORM

To include significant land forms in a system of natural areas, for their educational and scenic values, and in order to retard erosion and control flooding. These land forms include: glacial channels, moraines, till and outwash plains, eskers, glacial knobs, swamps, bogs, marshes and floodplains.

	Factor Points
A. Site includes a significant land form which is well-displayed and is entirely or sufficiently contained within the site.	4-critical resource 2-comm.or neighborhood.
B. Site includes a significant land form, but it is not well-displayed or a large part lies off the site.	2-critical res. 1-comm.or neighborhood
C. Site does not include a significant land form.	0

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HISTORIC FEATURE

To incorporate historic features when their location coincides with other park resources, and their inclusion is economically feasible.

		Factor Points
A.	Site includes a structure of recognized historic significance in the community	2
B.	Site includes the location or remains of a former structure or activity of historic significance in the community	.1
C.	Site does not include a historic feature	0

RARE ECOLOGICAL COMMUNITY (Critical Resource Area)

To preserve ecological communities which are rare in the Township and the region, for their educational, scientific and heritage value.

		Factor Points
A.	A rare ecological community is present, with significant populations of the important component species, and of sufficient extent to assure continued vitality.	4
B.	A rare ecological community is present, but lacking substantial populations of some important species or lacking the extent for assured continued vitality.	2
C.	No rare ecological community is present.	0

RARE PLANT OR ANIMAL SPECIES (Critical Resource Area)

To preserve rare or endangered species and their habitats, for their educational, scientific and heritage value.

		Factor Points
A.	A significant population of a rare or endangered species of plant or animal is present, with adequate habitat for continued existence	4
B.	A smaller population of a rare or endangered species of plant or animal is present;	2
	OR	
	Habitat is less reliable for continued existence of the species	2
C.	No rare plant or animal species known to be present	0

USE POTENTIAL FACTORS

WATER RECREATION

In most cases a site adjacent to a river, lake or wetland is preferred to a site with no surface water; water-related recreation has prime use value.

		Factor Points
A.	Potential for swimming, plus some of the following	4
B.	Potential for boating, plus some of the following	3
C.	Potential for fishing, plus the following	2
D.	Potential for wildlife observation and visual amenity, related to surface water	1
E.	No surface water on site	0

INTENSIVE RECREATION

Intensive recreational use includes:

Field games - softball, baseball, football, soccer, golf practice
Court games - tennis, basketball, volleyball, shuffleboard, handball, horseshoes
Playground or tot lot

		Factor Points
A.	Site has potential for incorporating 5 or more intensive recreational uses (Community)	4
	3 or more intensive recreational uses (Neighborhood)	4
B.	Site has potential for incorporating 4 intensive recreational uses (Community)	3
C.	Site has potential for incorporating 3 intensive recreational uses (Community)	2
	1 or 2 intensive recreational uses (Neighborhood)	2
D.	Site has potential for incorporating 1 or 2 intensive recreational uses (Community)	1
E.	Site has no potential for intensive recreational use	0

PASSIVE RECREATION

Major passive recreational uses include:
Picknicking
Hiking and bridle trails
Informal and formal nature study and wildlife observation

		Factor Points
A.	Site has excellent potential for two or more passive recreational uses	2
B.	Site has excellent potential for one passive recreational use; OR Site has lower quality potential for two or more passive uses	1 1
C.	Potential for passive recreation is questionable	0

WINTER SPORTS

Winter sports include:
Ice skating and hockey
Coasting hill
Cross-country skiing

		Factor Points
A.	Site has excellent potential for two or more winter sports	(2)
B.	Site has excellent potential for one winter sport; OR Site has lower quality potential for two or more winter sports	(1) (1)
C.	Site lacks potential for winter sports	0

PARKING LOT POTENTIAL

An adequate area for vehicle parking is essential for a community park site; parking lot potential may be desirable but not essential for a neighborhood park or a critical resource area.

	Factor Points
A. Site has parking lot potential meeting all criteria listed below.	4 - Community 2 - Neighborhood or critical resource
B. Site has some parking lot potential, but meetings only 2 or 3 of the criteria listed.	2 - Community 1 - Neighborhood or critical resource
C. Parking lot potential meets no more than one of the criteria listed.	0

Criteria:
Lot area could serve estimated peak number of vehicles.
Soil conditions would permit lot construction.
Lot construction would cause minimal damage to resources.
Lot(s) would have good access from public road.

MUNICIPAL OR RECREATION BUILDING

A fully-developed community park could include a full-sized recreation building, or could be combined with a site for a large municipal building such as a library or administration building. A neighborhood park could include a small recreation building or a small municipal building such as a fire station.

	Factor Points
A. Building site potential meets all criteria listed below.	4
B. Building site potential lacks one or more of the criteria listed.	2
C. Building site potential is lacking.	0

Criteria:
Building could be of desired scope.
Building could be of normal construction.
Desirable building location is available.

EDUCATIONAL OR SCIENTIFIC USE (Critical Resource Area)

"In modern education, natural areas serve as outdoor laboratories for demonstrating the important application of ecological principles to modern conservation and stress(ing) the need to preserve our valuable natural resources such as forests, waters and wildlife." - Paul W. Thompson

	Factor Points
A. Educational or scientific potential meets all criteria listed below.	4
B. Site meets 3 of the criteria listed.	3
C. Site meets 2 of the criteria listed.	2
D. Site meets only one of the criteria listed.	1
E. Site lacks educational or scientific potential.	0

Criteria:

Site can be used to demonstrate one or more types of natural areas found in the Township.
Site can be used to illustrate one or more glacial land forms and/or representative soil types.
Site functions as a wildlife sanctuary and offers opportunities for wildlife observation and study.
Site has potential for development of a support building for educational or scientific uses.

SELECTED RECREATIONAL USE (Critical Resource Area)

Certain recreational uses may be appropriate on a critical resource site and would fulfill community expectations. These appropriate uses include:

Boating
Picnicking
Hiking and horseback riding
Ice skating
Farming

	Factor Points
A. Site has potential for two or more recreational uses.	2
B. Site has potential for one recreational use.	1
C. Site lacks recreational potential.	0

COMPATIBILITY OF RESOURCE PROTECTION AND USE

		Factor Points
A.	Site meets all criteria listed below.	4
B.	Site meets only 2 or 3 of the criteria listed.	2
C.	Site would not meet more than one of the criteria.	0

Criteria:

Areas needed for recreational uses would not include principal resource areas of site.
Activity areas could be separated from resource areas by buffers such as slopes, tree groupings, or waterways.
Users could reach activity areas without causing damage to resource areas.
Site location and characteristics would permit surveillance, if necessary to prevent abusive use.

COMMUNITY PLANNING FACTORS

The Community Planning factors are less quantifiable than the resources and use potential factors, so the factor checklists do not assign specific point values to the favorable criteria. The compiler will have to consider the relevant information as related to the criteria, and use judgment in assigning a point value.

COMPATIBILITY WITH CURRENT ADJACENT LAND USES

Favorable criteria

Site would not be adversely affected by noise, visual impact, fumes, traffic, or other negative features of current adjacent land uses.

Projected park traffic or on-site activities would be compatible with existing adjacent conditions.

Current adjacent land uses would blend visually with the type of park under construction.

Adjacent landowners would regard a park as an asset to the area.

Park could be coordinated with existing private recreational activities in the adjacent areas (e.g. horseback riding, boating, or fishing, cross-country skiing).

FIT WITH MASTER PLAN (Future land uses)

Favorable Criteria:

Site is consistent with the Greenways portion of the Master Plan.

Site would be compatible with future adjacent land uses as projected in the Master Plan.

Site would serve to guide community development, by establishing open space in a strategic location.

Site could provide a location for other municipal uses (e.g. library, administrative offices, fire station) which are projected in Master Plan or other planning documents.

Park use, vs. urban development of site, would beneficially modify future Township plans for utility extensions (e.g. lowered public costs, decreased development pressures in vicinity).

ACCESSIBILITY BY LOCAL RESIDENTS

Favorable criteria:

Site is located where present or projected land use indicates a significant number of residents may be within an easy walk. For a community park, this could be a one-mile radius (20-minute walk); for a neighborhood park, this could be a ½-mile radius (10-minute walk); this locational factor would be less important for a critical resource area.

Site can be reached by safe pedestrian routes from locations of present or future residential developments.

Site can be connected to Township pedestrian trail system.

Site can be reached by a safe bicycle route or a projected Township bikeway.

Site can be connected to Township bridle trail system.

Site can be reached by automobile via present or projected roads which are adequate.

ACCESSIBILITY FOR SCHOOL USE

Favorable criteria:

Site is within one mile (preferably ½ mile) from an existing school, for pedestrian access.

Site can be reached from an existing school via a safe pedestrian access.

Site is within the neighborhood for a projected school in the plans of the school system or the Master Plan.

Site is adjacent to a school site (present or projected) and can be developed in coordination with school site.

FIT WITH OTHER TOWNSHIP AND COMPARABLE PARK SITES

Favorable criteria:

Area served for pedestrian access does not overlap area served by another present or projected park site.

Site would fulfill a need in Township park master plan.

Site location would attract mainly local use, little regional use.

PROBABILITY OF LOSS FACTORS

The probability of loss factors are less quantifiable than the resources and use potential factors, so the factor checklists do not assign specific point values to the relevant information. The compiler will have to use judgment in assigning point values to the information, with higher values indicating greater probability of losing the opportunity to acquire the site.

SALE IS LIKELY IN NEAR FUTURE

Relevant information:

Owner has placed property on the real estate market, or has made private contracts offering it for sale.

Potential private purchasers have made purchase offers or have stated a definite interest in purchasing the property.

Owner is known to have personal situations conducive to a sale of the property (e.g. tax burden, age, change of residence).

THREAT OF CONVERSION

Relevant information:

Urbanized development of the site could occur in the near future, if left in private hands.

Site is threatened with damaging uses, although not urbanized development, if left in private hands.

Scenic or conservation easement would not suffice for long-range protection (for a critical resource).

PRICE RELATED TO TIME

Relevant information:

Site is available at an advantageous price, due to current conditions.

Purchase price may increase in future.

Financial situation of Park Commission would permit purchase at this time.

Charter Township of Oakland
Parks and Recreation Commission

4393 Collins Road, Rochester, Michigan 48306-1670
Telephone: (248) 651-7810 • Fax: (248) 601-0106

At a regular meeting of the Charter Township of Oakland Parks and Recreation Commission held on Wednesday April 17, 2002 the following resolution was offered by Commissioner Bennett and seconded by Commissioner Barkham.

RESOLUTION

02-01

A Resolution establishing a policy for the evaluation and selection of parcels as candidates for Oakland Township's land preservation funding.

Whereas on September 11, 2001 Township residents approved a proposal authorizing the Charter Township of Oakland to levy .75 of 1 mill for a period of ten years, starting with the December 2001 levy, for the purpose of providing funds for the acquisition of land, the protection of natural habitat, and the preservation of green spaces within the Township (the "millage funds"); and

Whereas the Parks and Recreation Commission is the Township entity primarily responsible for the review of potential purchases and acquisition of properties on behalf of the Township using these millage funds; and

Whereas the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Township Board are currently undertaking the process of considering and adopting an ordinance and program which will establish the procedure and requirements to be followed in acquiring property and property rights using the millage funds; and

Whereas the Parks and Recreation Commission has been approached by a property owner in the Township offering to convey certain property to the Township, which property appears to be of potential environmental value consistent with the purposes of the land preservation millage; and

Whereas, if the Parks and Recreation Commission does not engage in some initial steps to begin the evaluation of this property for possible purchase, the opportunity to purchase said property may be lost; and

Whereas the Parks and Recreation Commission desires to capitalize on opportunities to work with willing landowners in the near term to preserve remaining Township green spaces; and

Whereas the Parks and Recreation Commission desires to evaluate parcels consistently and objectively according to a policy utilizing an established review process and screening criteria;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Charter Township of Oakland Parks and Recreation Commission does hereby adopt the following process as an interim policy governing the evaluation and selection of parcels for possible acquisition (pending adoption of an ordinance and program by the Township Board), whether these parcels have been previously evaluated, are currently being evaluated or will be considered in the future as candidates for Oakland Township's land preservation funding:

1. Property Owner or Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) shall complete and submit a Property Owner Nomination Form.

2. PRC Staff shall gather the following types of information on the property: aerial photo, natural features, zoning, land use, development potential, title information, and tax valuation records.

3. Property information shall be forwarded to the PRC Land Preservation Parcel Recommendation Subcommittee.

4. The Subcommittee shall evaluate applications based on following screening/review criteria types, using a format adopted by the PRC upon recommendation by the PRC Site Selection Criteria Subcommittee:

   Water Resources; Special Landforms, Animals, Plants and Plant Communities; Adjacency to Protected Lands; Parcel Size; Compatibility with Community Planning; Environmental Hazards; Aesthetic Value, Feasibility of Acquisition; Condition of Title; Availability of Property and Probability of Loss; Cultural Value and other unique factors.

   If the Subcommittee decides that an application warrants further study, a site visit will be scheduled with the property owner for the Subcommittee (and any necessary staff or consultants).

   If, after the site visit and the establishment of clear title to the property, the Subcommittee believes the property should be considered for acquisition, various conservation techniques and financial scenarios would be evaluated and discussed with the property owner (including Township accounting, legal and conservation consultants as the Subcommittee deems necessary).

5. After initial discussions with the property owner, the Subcommittee shall recommend to the Parks and Recreation Commission whether the property should be appraised and/or a Phase I Environmental Assessment requested. If the Parks and Recreation Commission approves an appraisal and/or Phase 1 request, the written report(s) will be shared with the property owner. If the property owner disagrees with the appraisal and/or Phase 1, they may obtain a second appraisal and/or Phase 1 at their own expense and this should be filed with the Parks and Recreation Commission.

6. When the Subcommittee and the property owner agree on the method and dollar amount for the acquisition, the Subcommittee will recommend to the Parks and Recreation Commission whether the property should be acquired using a particular conservation technique, indicating the financial impact of the acquisition on future land preservation revenues.

7. If the Parks and Recreation Commission agrees with the recommendation of the Subcommittee to purchase the property, they shall direct the Oakland Township Legal Counsel to complete the documents necessary to complete the transaction.

8. The Township is not in any way obligated to purchase or to agree to purchase any property unless and until an approved and signed agreement for such purchase is in place, i.e., neither this Resolution nor any policy adopted hereunder give rise to an obligation to purchase any given property in the Township even should that property meet any stated or unstated criteria.

Ayes: MACKLEY, TOMBOULIAN, BENNETT, BARKHAM, PERUZZI, GODIN

Nays: NONE

Absent: PHILLIPS

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution offered and adopted by the Parks and Recreation Commission of the Charter Township of Oakland at a Regular meeting held on April 17, 2002 at 7.00 pm in the Oakland Township Parks/Police Building, 4393 Collins Road, Rochester, Michigan 48306, with a quorum present.

Mindy Milos-Dale Dated: 4-18-02

Mindy Milos-Dale, Park Manager, Charter Township of Oakland

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OAKLAND
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
LAND PRESERVATION PROGRAM

PROPERTY OWNER NOMINATION FORM

Name:	
Address:	Daytime Phone:
City:	Email:

Is this nomination partly the result of encouragement by others? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
If yes, please note the group or organization:	
Address:	City:

Property Location

Address:

City:

Size: (Number of Acres)	Parcel ID Number (sidwell):

SUGGESTED ACTION:

☐ Donation of Property
☐ Donation of Easement or Development Rights
☐ Fee Simple Purchase
☐ Easement or Property Development Rights Purchase
☐ Lease to Purchase
☐ Other _____

Are there any existing easements or rights of way? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please describe: _____

_____

Are there any other encumbrances or liens on property? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please describe: _____

_____

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OAKLAND
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
LAND PRESERVATION PROGRAM

PROPERTY OWNER NOMINATION FORM (continued)

FEATURES OF PROPERTY (check those that apply to all or part of the property)

- ☐ Woodland
- ☐ Prairie/Meadows
- ☐ Waterbody
- ☐ Rare or endangered plant/animal species
- ☐ Stream or Water course
- ☐ Wetland
- ☐ Adjacent to protected land
- ☐ Roads/drives enter/bisect property
- ☐ Cultivated lands (past or present)
- ☐ Existing structure(s)
- ☐ Historical site or property
- ☐ Existing foot trails
- ☐ Varied topography
- ☐ Other _____

Are you aware of the existence of any environmental contaminants or concerns associated with the property? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If so, please describe:

_____

_____

Has a general environmental assessment been conducted of the property by a qualified consultant? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If so, is a copy of the report available for review? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Has a review of the property, for natural areas values, been performed by a recognized expert (biologist, wetlands consultant, ecologist)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If so, is a copy of the report available for review? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Are Oakland Township staff, officials and consultants permitted to visit your property if you are notified prior to the scheduled visit? ☐ Yes ☐ No

PLEASE ALSO ATTACH ANY AVAILABLE PHOTOGRAPHS, AERIAL MAPPING, MAPS, REPORTS OR OTHER DEPICTIONS OF THE PROPERTY.

_____ _____

Signature Date

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission
4393 Collins Road
Rochester, MI 48306

(248) 651-7810
(248) 601-0106 Fax
www.oaklandtownship.org

Revised (2/6/02)

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission
Land Preservation Program Screening/Review Criteria *(revised 12/18/02)*

Property Owner _____
Property Location: _____

Instructions: If property fits in more than one category assign the highest value and circle any information which applies in that category. *(* next to criteria requiring a site visit)*

A. Water Resources

I. Water Resources Access/Frontage. Does the property have frontage on a lake, Paint or Stony Creeks or a perennial tributary of the Paint or Stony Creeks?
_____Yes _____No Size and Name of Lake: _____
Linear Feet of Frontage and Name of Creek _____
If the property borders an aquatic ecosystem assign relative screening score following table below. If it fits in more than one category use highest value.

Borders Lake, large pond, or chain of ponds			Borders perennial creek (as shown on USGS quad)	
Frontage is 100-500 ft.	Medium		50 – 100 feet	Medium
Frontage is 501-1000 ft.	High		100 – 2000 ft.	High
Frontage > 1000 ft. or the entire system is contained in the parcel.	Very High		>2000 ft. or >500 ft. on both sides	Very High

II. Surface water quality protection. Is the property directly connected to a surface-water ecosystem? _____Yes _____No

Does the property drain to:	
A seepage system with significant public access and/or ownership	Medium
A small drainage system such as Bear Creek.	High
A larger drainage system such as the Paint Creek, Stony Creek, Gallagher Creek or Trout Creek.	Very High

III. Ground water quality protection. Does the parcel contain any known or expected recharge areas? _____Yes _____No

Does the property contain significant areas of known or expected groundwater recharge (as defined in the 1991 Paint Creek Nonpoint Sources Control Plan, 1992 Biological Survey of Paint, Sargent and Gallagher Creeks or as cited in Paul Thompson's Inventory):	
Regional groundwater recharge	Medium
Local high velocity recharge for throughflow/groundwater connections to surface water such as lakes or perennial creeks	High
Local high velocity recharge for throughflow/groundwater connections to private or public well or drinking water supply systems as documented by existing occupied structures, approved site plans or plats	Very High

IV. Wetland Conservation/protection. Does the parcel contain or border wetland areas as defined in National Wetlands Inventory and Oakland Township Wetlands Inventory?
_____Yes _____No Wetland Acreage:_____

Does the property contain or border 5-10 acres of lacustrine, riverine, or palustrine wetlands	Medium
Does the property contain or border 10 or more acres of lacustrine, riverine, or palustrine wetlands	High
Does the property contain >5 acres of a complete wetland of any type	Very High
Note: Lacustrine = lake; Riverine = river/creek; Palustrine = standing water such as marsh, bog, swamp	

B. Special Landforms, Animals, Plants and Plant Communities

I. Landforms. Does the parcel contain any unique glacial landforms (as cited in Paul Thompson's Inventory or another source)? _____Yes _____No

Contains part of a moraine, glacial channel, till or outwash plain, esker, glacial knob, or ice contact formation such as kettle lake or a kame	Medium
Contains all of a moraine, glacial channel, till or outwash plain, esker, glacial knob or ice contact formation such as kettle lake or a kame	High
Contains all or part of more than one landform: moraine, glacial channel, till or outwash plain, esker, a glacial knob, or ice contact formation such as kettle lake or a kame	Very High

II. Wildlife Habitat*. Does the property support important terrestrial or aquatic populations or habitat or add to adjacent property/ies that would protect wildlife populations or habitat? _____Yes _____No
Documentation attached:_____

The property contributes high quality home range habitat for wide ranging resident wildlife compatible with surrounding land uses.	Medium
The property secures important habitat within the property or in combination with adjoining properties for at least one of the following: migrating songbirds, migrating waterfowl, desirable resident species requiring specialized habitat conditions.	High
The property secures essential habitat for rare, threatened or endangered species.	Very High

III. Adequate Habitat Area. Is the habitat area (property minus a 200 ft. wide buffer adjacent to unprotected property) larger than 10 acres? _____Yes _____No

	The core area contains >10 and <40 acres.	Medium
	The core area contains >40 and <80 acres.	High
	The core area contains >80 acres.	Very High

IV. Special Plants and Plant Communities*. Does the property have some native vegetation? _____Yes _____No
Documentation attached: _____

The property contains sufficient components of pre-European settlement vegetation to allow restoration to pre-European settlement conditions. There has been minimal degradation by invasive plants.	Medium
The property supports populations of plant species that show a fidelity to high quality natural communities and specialized habitats within the property. There has been minimal degradation by invasive plants.	High
The property secures essential habitat for rare, threatened or endangered plant species or rare, imperiled or critically imperiled plant communities such as oak barrens, oak "openings", prairies, fens, or conifer swamps.	Very High

C. Adjacency to Protected Land

Adjacency and enhancement. Does the property under consideration abut, or is otherwise integral to, a permanently protected tract of public or private land being held for conservation or recreation purposes? _____Yes _____No
If yes, which land? _____

The property under consideration contains <25% of an adjacent ecosystem or will provide <200 ft wide buffer for adjacent permanently protected tract.	Medium
The property under consideration contains <50% of an adjacent ecosystem or will provide <300 ft wide buffer for adjacent permanently protected tract.	High
The property under consideration contains >50% of an adjacent ecosystem or will provide >300 ft wide buffer for adjacent permanently protected tract	Very High

D. Property Size

Is the property larger than 10 acres? _____Yes _____No Size: _____

The property contains >10 and <40 acres.	Medium
The property contains >40 and <80 acres.	High
The property contains >80 acres.	Very High

E. Community Planning

I. Location's Relationship to Surrounding Land Uses. In which quadrant of the Township is the property located?
Northwest _____, Northeast _____, Southwest _____, Southeast_____
Does this quadrant have less than 300 acres of Township Parkland? _____Yes ____No

The property is located in a quadrant containing between 200 and 300 acres of Township park, conservation or environmental areas.	Medium
The property is located in a quadrant containing between 80 and 200 acres of Township park, conservation or environmental areas.	High
The property is located in a quadrant containing less than 80 acres of Township park, conservation or environmental areas.	Very High

II. Accessibility by Local Residents. Is the property accessible either from a publicly owned road, safety path, or trail? _____Yes _____No
If yes, which ones?_____

Site is located where present or projected land use indicates a significant number of residents may be within a 3 mile radius.	Medium
Site is located where present or projected land use indicates a significant number of residents may be within a 1 mile radius (20 minute walk).	High
Site is located where present or projected land use indicates a significant number of residents (or schoolchildren) may be within a ½ mile radius (10 minute walk).	Very High

III. Is property consistent with Greenways portion of the Township Master Plan?
_____Yes _____No

Property is consistent with Greenways portion of the Master Plan, is not adversely affected by and is compatible with current or future adjacent land uses.	Medium
Property is consistent with Greenways portion of the Master Plan, is not adversely affected by, is compatible with current or future adjacent land uses and is viewed by adjacent landowners as an asset to the area.	High
Site is consistent with Greenways portion of the Master Plan and would serve to guide community development, by establishing open space in a strategic location.	Very High

F. Environmental Hazards

Source of Information: _____Common Knowledge ____Current Owner ____Phase I

Is the property or any adjoining property currently being used or have been used in the past for the following purposes: gas station, motor vehicle service or repair facility, commercial printing facility, dry cleaners, photo developing lab, junkyard, landfill, waste treatment, storage, processing or recycling or disposal facility?

_____Yes _____No If Yes, indicate which use:_____

Are any of the following currently being stored, discarded or used or have been used in the past on the property or any adjoining property: automotive or industrial batteries, pesticides or other chemicals used in agricultural practices, paints, industrial waste or other chemicals in drums or other containers or storage tanks?

_____Yes _____No If Yes, indicate which use:_____

If yes to either, documentation attached:_____

G. Aesthetic Value

I. Scenic View*. Does the property preserve an outstanding scenic view or access to an outstanding scenic view? _____Yes _____No

Property preserves access to or contains scenic view for parks users as well as passers-by. Examples might include panoramic overlooks, open water bodies, tree galleries, and actively pastured or farmed agricultural fields.	Medium
Property preserves access to permanently protected unusual scenic view for parks users as well as passers-by. Examples might include panoramic overlooks, open water bodies, tree galleries, and actively pastured or farmed agricultural fields.	High
Property contains unusual scenic view for parks users as well as passers-by. Examples might include panoramic overlooks, open water bodies, tree galleries, actively pastured or farmed agricultural fields.	Very High

II. Variety of Topographic Features.

Site is almost entirely flat or almost entirely covered with steep slopes.	Medium
Site has mixed slope types, but over half of the site has one predominant type.	High
Site is largely in gentle and moderate slopes, with some steep slopes in advantageous locations.	Very High
Note: Gentle = less than 8% gradient, Moderate = 8 – 15% gradient, Steep = over 15% gradient	

H. Feasibility of Acquisition. Would the acquisition of this property be compatible with the Land Preservation fund's short-term and long-term budgetary guidelines?

_____Yes _____No Type of Acquisition:_____

Appraisal Value:_____ Township Expenditure:_____

Fee Simple purchase of Property at or below the value determined by Township's independent appraiser.	Medium
Fee simple purchase of an easement or development rights at or below the value determined by the Township's independent appraiser.	High
Grant Support, Donation of portion or entire property value; or donation of a conservation easement or development rights.	Very High

I. Availability of Property and Probability of Loss.

Is the property currently available for acquisition? _____Yes _____No

Owner is known to have personal situations conducive to a sale of the property (tax burden, age, change of residence).	Medium
Owner has placed property on the real estate market or has made private contracts offering it for sale.	High
Private purchasers have made known purchase offer or have stated a definite interest in purchasing the property.	Very High

J. Cultural Value.

Does property include the location or remains of a former structure or activity of historic significance in the community such as an archeological site, native American village, burial ground or ceremonial mound? This would be as a result of evidence found or indicated through site's presence on Oakland Township Historic and Cultural Resources Inventory Map.

_____Yes _____No If yes, please indicate cultural resource(s):_____

_____

K. Other Unique Factors.

I. Does the property offer other unique characteristics which were not covered in these criteria but would serve to benefit our community ?

_____Yes _____No If yes, please indicate resource(s):_____

_____

II. Are there other unique factors which were not covered in these criteria that would detract from the property or cause it to be a detriment to our community ?

_____Yes _____No If yes, please indicate resource(s):_____

_____

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission
Land Preservation Property Evaluation Worksheet (12/18/02)

Property Owner_____

Property Location_____

A. Water Resources Total Values Assigned: Yes_____, No_____
Medium_____, High_____, Very High_____

Individual Criteria	Does Criteria Apply? Yes/No?	Value Assigned: (NA, Medium, High, Very High)
I. Access/Frontage: A. Borders lake, large pond(s)		
Or B. Borders perennial creek		
II. Surface Water Quality Protection		
III. Ground Water Quality Protection		
IV. Wetland Conservation/Protection		

B. Special Landforms, Animals, Plants and Plant Communities Total Values Assigned:
Yes_____, No_____
Medium_____, High_____, Very High_____

Individual Criteria	Does Criteria Apply? Yes/No	Value Assigned: (NA, Medium, High, Very High)
I. Landforms		
II. Wildlife Habitat		
III. Adequate habitat Area		
IV. Special Plants and Plant Communities		

C. Adjacency to Protected Land Total Values Assigned: Yes_____, No_____
Medium_____, High_____, Very High_____

D. Property Size Total Values Assigned: Yes_____, No_____
Medium_____, High_____, Very High_____

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission
Land Preservation Property Evaluation Worksheet (12/18/02)

Property Owner_____

Property Location:_____

E. Community Planning Total Values Assigned: Yes_____, No_____, NA _____
Not Applicable_____, Medium_____, High_____, Very High_____

Individual Criteria	Does Criteria Apply? Yes/No	Value Assigned: (NA, Medium, High, Very High)
I. Location's Relationship to Surrounding Land Uses		
II. Accessibility by Local Residents		
III. Consistency with Greenways Map		

**F. Environmental Hazards: Yes_____ No_____

G. Aesthetic Value Total Values Assigned: Yes_____ No_____
Medium_____, High_____, Very High_____

Individual Criteria	Does Criteria Apply? Yes/No	Value Assigned: (NA, Medium, High, Very High)
I. Scenic View		
II. Variety of Topographic Features	Yes	

H. Feasibility of Acquisition Values Assigned: Yes_____ No_____
Medium_____, High_____, Very High_____

I. Availability of Property and Probability of Loss Total Values Assigned:
Yes_____ No_____
Not Applicable_____, Medium_____, High_____, Very High_____

**J. Cultural Value: Yes_____ No_____

**K. I. Other Unique Beneficial Factors: Yes_____ No_____
II. Other Unique Detrimental Factors: Yes_____ No_____

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission
Land Preservation Property Evaluation Worksheet (12/18/02)

Property Owner _____

Property Location: _____

Additional Important Considerations Concerning Evaluation:

FINAL SUMMATION OF CRITERIA WITH VALUES ASSIGNED (17 possible):

Total Values Assigned: Yes_____: Medium_____, High_____, Very High_____
No_____
Not Applicable_____

****ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (NO VALUE ASSIGNED):**

Environmental Hazard:	Yes_____	No_____
Cultural Value:	Yes_____	No_____
Other Beneficial Factors:	Yes_____	No_____
Other Detrimental Factors:	Yes_____	No_____

Date Evaluation Was Completed _____

Land Preservation Parcel Recommendation Subcommittee Members Participating in Evaluation:
_____
_____
_____

Oakland Township Staff/Consultants Participating in Evaluation:
_____
_____
_____

Resources Needed to Complete Land Preservation Property Evaluation Worksheet

A. Water Resources and B. Special Landforms, Animals, Plants and Plant Communities:

Oakland County Natural Feature Information including:
Current Aerial Photo, 2001 MNFI Natural Areas, Woodlands, Wetlands, Topography, Rivers, Lakes, 100 year floodplain, Soil Types

A. Water Resources:
Maps showing watersheds and groundwater recharge areas in Township
1991 Paint Creek Nonpoint Sources Control Plan
1992 Biological Survey of Paint, Sargent and Gallagher Creeks
USGS Quad Maps for Oakland Township
National Wetland Inventory
Oakland Township Wetlands Inventory (by J&L Consulting)

B. Special Landforms, Animals, Plants and Plant Communities:
1996 Revision of Oakland Township Ecological Survey by Paul Thompson
Current listing of MNFI plant communities
Current listing of MNFI element occurrences
Current MDNR Listing of Michigan's Rare Threatened or Endangered Species
MDNR Floristic Quality Assessment Manual
Presettlement Vegetation Map from Oakland County Planning

C. Adjacency to Protected Land:
Oakland County Plat Map

D. Property Size:
Parcel Tax Valuation Records

E. Community Planning:
Oakland Township Zoning and Land Use Plan
Oakland Township Master Plan

J. Cultural Value:
Oakland Township Historic and Cultural Resources Inventory Map

Appendix E: Funding Sources

The Oakland Township Parks Department has utilized different funding sources over the years to help mitigate the costs of land acquisition, facility upgrades, and other large community projects. A number of grants and other funding sources are available for these types of projects, and are described below.

GENERAL FUNDING SOURCES

Millage

A property tax millage can be used to finance specific park and recreation projects or to operate recreation facilities. Township voters approve a millage to operate over a set time frame, with funds to be used by a specific department and for a specific purpose. Millages can be used to match grant funds or finance entire projects. A millage allows more flexibility with how the money is allocated than with a bond.

The majority of funding to support the Township's parks and recreation system comes from two millages, the Parks and Recreation Millage (Park Fund) and the Land Preservation Millage (Land Preservation Fund). The Parks and Recreation Millage was approved in 2016 for a 10-year period. The land preservation millage, initiated in 2001 for a 10-year period as well, was extended 20 more years through two early renewals in 2006 and 2018. Both millages began as 0.75 mills each, but have been annually rolled back as required by state law.

Each fund has different obligations and two separate budgets. Each fund has its own listing of expenditures. The Park Fund covers park operating expenditures including salaries and wages, consultation, education, park programming, contracts, insurance, workers compensation, and maintenance of buildings, grounds, facilities, park, trails, and the Oakland Township section of the Paint Creek Trail. The Land Preservation Fund contributes a percentage for acquiring and managing park natural areas. Each fund also includes capital expenses to support annual investments in land and facilities. The Land Preservation Fund has traditionally had a higher capital expense budget because the purpose of the fund is to acquire land for preservation purposes.

Other Land Preservation capital expenses include preservation equipment purchases and providing access to park natural areas. The Park Fund budget shows capital expenditure for the purchase of multipurpose park lands, building improvements, park equipment purchases, and office equipment purchases.

User Fees

The Township can charge reasonable fees to the users of specific recreation facilities and for enrollment in recreation programs. User fees can provide substantial support for park and recreation facilities and programs. Other Michigan communities have established user fees for the use of swimming pools, tennis courts, lighted athletic fields, and indoor facilities. The Township currently charges fees for use of soccer and archery facilities at Marsh View Park and for a variety of programs.

Recreation Bonds

A number of bond programs can be used to finance construction of parks and recreation facilities. General Obligation Bonds are issued for specific community projects and may not be used for other purposes. These bonds are usually paid for with property tax revenues.

Revenue Bonds are issued for construction of public projects that generate revenue. The bonds are then retired by using income generated by the project.

Conservation Easements

A conservation easement is a method of preserving open space that is guaranteed through formal documentation. This technique is a cost effective method of preserving open space when it is not feasible or practical for the Township to acquire the land.

Oakland Township is the first community in Oakland County to establish conservation easements within public park land. The Six Rivers Land Conservancy holds and monitors four easements – Bear Creek Nature Park (39.5 acres), Blue Heron Environmental Area (135.65 acres), Cranberry Lake Park (52.67 acres), and Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park (36 acres). These easements support the continued use of these Township parks as public recreation areas while at the same time prohibiting uses that would impair or interfere with the purposes of the agreement. In addition, Oakland Township holds two easements on private property, the Hirt Easement and the Kamin Easement.

Public-Private or Public-Public Partnerships
Reduced funding for the public and private sector has created a need for various partnerships between public and private entities as well as between two or more public entities to accommodate specialized large-scale recreation demands. The Township should seek partnerships where available and beneficial.

Donations
Businesses, corporations, private clubs, community organizations, and individuals will often contribute to recreation and other improvement programs to benefit communities in which they are located. Private sector contributions may be in the form of monetary contributions, the donation of land, the provision of volunteer services, or the contribution of equipment or facilities. The Township has been very fortunate to receive generous land donations over the years and should continue to seek opportunities for additional donations in the future.

Foundations
A foundation is a special non-profit legal entity that is established as a mechanism through which land, cash, and securities can be donated for the benefit of parks and recreation services. The assets are disbursed by the foundation board of directors according to a predetermined plan.

SPECIFIC FUNDING PROGRAMS

Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF)
Oakland Township has received almost $8 million in funding from the MNRTF for acquisition and development of parks in the Township. MNRTF provides funding assistance for the purchase and development of land for public outdoor recreation and natural resource protection. This fund is directed at creating and improving outdoor recreational opportunities and providing protection to valuable natural resources. By law, no more than 25 percent of the Trust Fund revenues available for appropriation each year can be used for development, therefore the majority of funding is allocated for acquisition projects.

Priority project types of the MNRTF Board are:

- Trails/Greenways
- Wildlife/Ecological Corridors and Winter Deeryard Acquisitions
- Projects located within Urban Areas.

The available development grants are between $15,000 and $300,000 and there is no limit on the amount for acquisition projects because they depend upon the value of the property. A local minimum match of 25% is required for all projects. Applications must be postmarked by April 1st for both acquisition and development projects and August 1st for acquisition projects only.

Each year the Trust Fund Board of Trustees decides on priority project types on which proposals will receive special attention. The special initiatives for 2019 include:

- Wildlife/ecological corridors that connect at least two existing protected properties
- Acquisition projects that will protect imperiled or highly desired natural resources
- Acquisition of DNR-established winter deer yard, or acquisition of land that connects or provides a buffer area to land that is already protected and that provides critical wildlife habitat or is of high ecological value.

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)
LWCF provides matching grants to help local communities protect parks and recreation resources Funds can be used for a variety of outdoor recreation activities from hiking and biking trails to improving community parks, playgrounds, and ball fields. A local match of 50% required for all projects, and the minimum request amount is $30,000 and the maximum is $100,000. Projects are evaluated based on project need, applicant history, site and project quality, and alignment with the state's recreation plan.

The fourth criterion is how well a project aligns with Michigan's Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan and is cumulative among the following categories: trails, community outdoor recreation, green technology in outdoor recreation, universal access or coordination and cooperation among recreation providers.

The MDNR makes recommendations to the National Park Service (NPS) on which applications to fund, and the NPS grants the final approval. Applications are due March 1st for grants.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
The Fish and Wildlife Service administers a variety of financial assistance programs that award grants to local governments. Funds are available in the form of Formula and Project grants and Direct and Guaranteed/Insured loans which cover a broad spectrum of projects, including community development, land acquisition, environmental protection and restoration grants, among others.

Deadlines and terms vary depending on the direct source of the funds, although a typical project requires a 25% financial match.

Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)
The Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) is a competitive grant program for projects such as bike paths and other pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements which enhance provide safe alternative transportation options. The program uses federal transportation funds designated by Congress for these types of activities. TAP was created by the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), signed into law in July 2012.

Approximately $24.5 million is available annually. Of this, $17.6 million is available through a competitive grant process administered by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Office of Economic Development (OED). The other $6.9 million is available through competitive grant processes administered by the metropolitan planning organizations in urban areas with populations greater than 200,000. In southeast Michigan, SEMCOG administers these grants.

TAP applications may be submitted online at any time. Funding commitments are typically issued several times per year for future fiscal years.

Urban and Community Forestry Program – Community Forestry Grants
This program provides funds for projects that address the urban forestry needs of municipal governments, schools, nonprofit organizations, and volunteer groups throughout Michigan. These projects may include tree inventories, management plans, tree planting educational workshops and trailing materials, and other maintenance activities. Projects that develop or enhance urban and community forestry resources, such as management and planning, education and training, tree planting, and library resources, are looked upon highly. Applications are due each summer with minimum request of $5,000 and maximum of $10,000.

Appendix F: Environmental & Natural Features Papers

Numerous documents have been written regarding Oakland Township's natural features. The documents can help to guide facility management decisions, including acquisition, maintenance, and property usage.

The following titles are a sample of scientific articles that directly reference the Oakland Township region:

- A Limnological and Fisheries Survey of Cranberry Lake with Recommendations and a Management Plan, David J. Jude, Ph.D., 28 September 2010.
- Park Management Overview and Prioritization Among Parks and Natural Plant Communities. David Mindell & Matt Demmon, Plantwise LLC, May 2010.
- 2008 Oakland Township Deer Survey, Matt Vance, Natural Areas Stewardship Manager, Oakland Township Parks and Recreation. January 23, 2008.
- 2014 Aerial Deer Survey, Oakland County Parks, January 23, 2014.
- 2015 Aerial Deer Survey, Oakland County Parks, January 15, 2015.
- Paint Creek Heritage Area Fen – Floristic Quality Assessment, August 2014. Benjamin VanderWeide, Oakland Township Parks and Recreation.
- Gallagher Creek Park – Floristic Quality Assessment, August 2014. Benjamin VanderWeide, Oakland Township Parks and Recreation.
- O'Connor Nature Park – Floristic Quality Assessment, August 2014. Benjamin VanderWeide, Oakland Township Parks and Recreation.
- Oakland Township Parks: Rapid Site Assessment and Initial Management Recommendations, 2009, David Mindell
- Amphibian and Reptile Surveys of Bear Creek Nature Park, Cranberry Lake Park and Marsh View Park in Oakland Township, Michigan, 2008, Matthew W.H. Chatfield
- Bear Creek Nature Park Management Plan, 2008, Six Rivers Regional Land Conservancy
- Macro-moths of the Paint Creek Heritage Area Wet Prairie, 2008, Dwayne R. Badgero
- Sedimentation in Paint Creek, 2008, Mike Losey
- Soil Surveys of Bear Creek Nature Park and Paint Creek Heritage Area – Wet Prairie. University of Michigan NRE 501 Students. 2007
- The Insects of Oakland Township Parks: An Entomological Survey, 2008, Vincent Belill
- Paint Creek Heritage Area - Floristic Quality Assessment July 2006, Weatherbee's Botanical Survey and Klatt Environmental Associates, LLC
- Oakland Township Herpetological Survey Report August 2005, Herpetological Resource and Management
- Stony Creek Corridor Park Acquisition - Ecological Assessment August 2005, Weatherbee's Botanical Survey
- 2004 Natural Features Assessment Map, Tilton & Associates
- 2004 Critical Habitat Areas, Williams & Works
- 2004 Greenways Vision, Tilton & Associates and Williams & Works
- Oakland County Potential Conservation/Natural Areas Report 2002
- Recreation Visioning and Preliminary Site Development Plan - Ecological Assessment May 2000 and March 2002 Addendum, Weatherbee's Botanical Survey
- Lost Lake Park - Ecological Assessment July 2001, Weatherbee's Botanical Survey
- Ecological Restoration Plan - Nicholson Prairie - 1.2 Acre Site, Section 33 of Oakland Township - Paint Creek Trailways Commission, 2001, Applied Science and Technology, Inc.
- An Update of Critical Natural Areas in Oakland Township, 1997, Paul Thompson
- Blue Heron Environmental Area Preservation Plan 1994
- Blue Heron Environmental Area Natural Inventory Report 1978

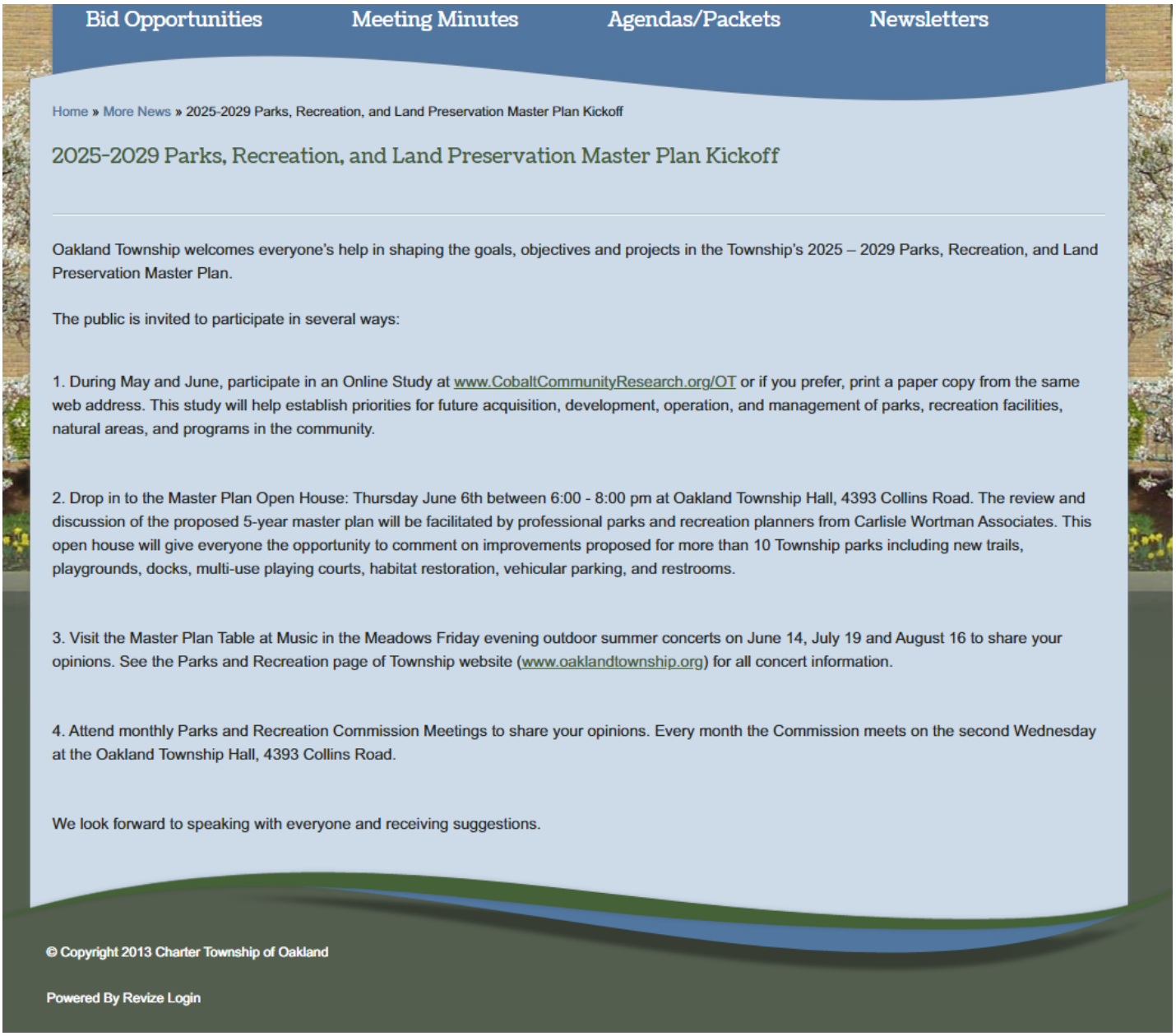
- Natural History Survey Bear Creek Nature Park 1976
- Oakland Township Ecological Survey 1974, Paul Thompson
- 2019 Aerial Deer Survey, Oakland County Parks. January 29, 2019.
- Oakland County Natural Areas Update 2017. https://www.oakgov.com/advantageoakland/resources/Documents/es_Oakland2017_PNA_FinalReport.pdf
- Paint Creek Junction Floristic Quality Assessment. August 2019. Benjamin VanderWeide, Oakland Township Parks & Recreation
- Watershed Ridge Park - Floristic Quality Assessment. August 2018. Benjamin VanderWeide, Oakland Township Parks & Recreation
- Mill Creek Crossing - Floristic Quality Assessment. August 2018. Benjamin VanderWeide, Oakland Township Parks & Recreation

Appendix G: Concept Plans

Proposed park improvments were incorporated directly into the park maps provided in "Chapter 4: Recreation Inventory" beginning on page 57. See Figure 1 through Figure 14 for more information.

Appendix H: Notices

Planning activities notice on Township website



Bid Opportunities | Meeting Minutes | Agendas/Packets | Newsletters

Home » More News » 2025-2029 Parks, Recreation, and Land Preservation Master Plan Kickoff

2025-2029 Parks, Recreation, and Land Preservation Master Plan Kickoff

Oakland Township welcomes everyone's help in shaping the goals, objectives and projects in the Township's 2025 – 2029 Parks, Recreation, and Land Preservation Master Plan.

The public is invited to participate in several ways:

1. During May and June, participate in an Online Study at www.CobaltCommunityResearch.org/OT or if you prefer, print a paper copy from the same web address. This study will help establish priorities for future acquisition, development, operation, and management of parks, recreation facilities, natural areas, and programs in the community.

2. Drop in to the Master Plan Open House: Thursday June 6th between 6:00 - 8:00 pm at Oakland Township Hall, 4393 Collins Road. The review and discussion of the proposed 5-year master plan will be facilitated by professional parks and recreation planners from Carlisle Wortman Associates. This open house will give everyone the opportunity to comment on improvements proposed for more than 10 Township parks including new trails, playgrounds, docks, multi-use playing courts, habitat restoration, vehicular parking, and restrooms.

3. Visit the Master Plan Table at Music in the Meadows Friday evening outdoor summer concerts on June 14, July 19 and August 16 to share your opinions. See the Parks and Recreation page of Township website (www.oaklandtownship.org) for all concert information.

4. Attend monthly Parks and Recreation Commission Meetings to share your opinions. Every month the Commission meets on the second Wednesday at the Oakland Township Hall, 4393 Collins Road.

We look forward to speaking with everyone and receiving suggestions.

© Copyright 2013 Charter Township of Oakland

Powered By Revize Login

Oakland County Times article regarding Open House



OAKLAND COUNTY TIMES

Sections

Oakland Township Residents Invited to Parks, Recreation, and Land Preservation Master Plan Open House

We defend all charges - from m to traffic tickets

Oakland Township Residents Invited to Parks, Recreation, and Land Preservation Master Plan Open House

(Oakland Twp, June 3, 2024)

Oakland Township, MI – Oakland Township welcomes everyone's help in shaping the goals, objectives and projects in the Township's 2025 – 2029 Parks, Recreation, and Land Preservation Master Plan.

The public is invited to participate in several ways:

1. **During May and June, participate in an Online Study at** CobaltCommunityResearch.org/OT or if you prefer, print a paper copy from the same web address. This study will help establish priorities for future acquisition, development, operation, and management of parks, recreation facilities, natural areas, and programs in the community.
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4. **Attend monthly Parks and Recreation Commission Meetings to share your opinions.** Every month the Commission meets on the second Wednesday at the Oakland Township Hall, 4393 Collins Road.

We look forward to speaking with everyone and receiving sugges

AMERICA IN BLOOM

DON'T MISS ANYTHING!

Click here to sign up for DAILY HEADLINES

OAKLAND COUNTY RESTAURANT QUEST

Working to try every restaurant in Oakland County. Check out our reviews so far!

30 Day Review Period Notice - Oakland Township Website

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation

248-651-7810

Oakland Charter Township

NOTICE OF PLAN AVAILABILITY FOR REVIEW

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation is seeking public input regarding the Oakland Township 2025 – 2029 Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources requires a minimum 30-day public review process as part of the master planning process. A formal public hearing for adoption of the Plan will be held upon completion of the 30-day review period.

A hard copy of the draft master plan is available for review at the following locations:

- Parks and Recreation offices inside the Paint Creek Cider Mill, 4480 Orion Road, Rochester, MI
- Township Hall, 4393 Collins Road, Rochester, MI
- For questions or comments, please contact Ben McLoskey, Director of Parks and Recreation at (248) 651-7810 x402, or via email at bmcloskey@oaklandtownship.org .

ACCESS 2025 MASTER PLAN FOR PUBLIC REVIEW HERE

(Previous Master Plan still accessible below)

Oakland Township 2020-2024 Parks, Recreation, and Land Preservation Master Plan (23MB)

The Record
PO Box 708
Washington, MI 48094

INVOICE

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission
Attention: Michelle Rutledge
4393 Collins Road
ROCHESTER MI 48306

Invoice Date
Sep 18, 2024

Invoice Number
INV-24463

Record Newspapers, LLC
PO Box 708
WASHINGTON MI 48094
Ph: 586.925.1159

Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Tax	Amount USD
Parks and Recreation master plan review notice - 9 column inches	1.00	113.85	Tax on Sales	113.85
			Subtotal	113.85
			TOTAL TAX	0.00
			TOTAL USD	**113.85**

Due Date: Oct 16, 2024

VISA DISCOVER PayPal
View and pay online now

PAYMENT ADVICE

To: Record Newspapers, LLC
PO Box 708
WASHINGTON MI 48094
Ph: 586.925.1159

Customer	Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission
Invoice Number	INV-24463
Amount Due	113.85
Due Date	Oct 16, 2024
Amount Enclosed	

Enter the amount you are paying above

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF MICHIGAN

COUNTY OF MACOMB

Lawrence Sobczak appeared before me and duly swore that he is the publisher of The Record Newspaper, a newspaper printed in the counties of Macomb and Oakland, State of Michigan, and that the advertisement for parks and recreation master plan review notice of which the attached tear sheet is true copy, was published on Sept. 18, 2024.

By: Lawrence Sobczak

Subscribed to me
on this 19 day of September year of 2024 Notary Seal:

Christina Murdock

Notary Public

CHRISTINA MURDOCK
NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF MACOMB
My Commission Expires October 09, 2026
Acting in the County of Macomb

Oakland Sheriff's reports...

The Oakland County Sheriff's Department reported or investigated the following incidents:

- Operating while intoxicated at the intersection of Lake George Road and Stoney Creek Road, Oakland Township, 10:52 p.m., Sept. 7;
- Larceny at the 400 block of Twinlakes Drive, Oakland Township, 10:22 a.m., Sept. 9;
- Fraud at the 1700 block of Barr Road, Addison Township, 2:51 p.m., Sept. 10;
- Fraud at the 3300 block of Hixon, Oakland Township, 12:00 a.m., Sept. 12;
- Larceny at the 1400 block of Rochester Road, Addison Township, 9:41 a.m., Sept. 12;
- And fraud at the 3000 block of Berkshire Lane, Oakland Township, 4:45 p.m., Sept. 12.

Macomb Sheriff's reports...

The Macomb County Sheriff's Department reported or investigated the following incidents:

- Suspicious person at the 11700 block of 26 Mile Road, Washington Township, 12:41 p.m., Sept. 2;
- Suspicious person at the 58000 block of Stephens, Washington Township, 5:04 p.m., Sept. 2;
- Welfare check at the 8800 block of 31 Mile Road, Washington Township, 7:00 p.m., Sept. 2;
- Civil matter at the 59100 block of West Hamilton Circle, Washington Township, 7:39 p.m., Sept. 2;
- VIN inspection at the 15000 block of 29 Mile Road, Washington Township, 12:00 a.m., Sept. 3;
- Neighbor trouble at the 11100 block of Milford Lane, Washington Township, 2:56 p.m., Sept. 3;
- Suspicious person at the 6000 block of Pond Drive, Washington Township, 3:57 p.m., Sept. 3;
- Fraud at the 57300 block of Faircrest Drive, Washington Township, 5:07 p.m., Sept. 3;
- Narcotics at the 11100 block of Hartford Road, Washington Township, 6:08 p.m., Sept. 3;
- Family trouble at the 11200 block of Hartford Road, Washington Township, 10:44 p.m., Sept. 3;
- Assist the fire department at the 6900 block of Cross Creek Drive, Washington Township, 4:58 a.m., Sept. 5;
- ID theft fraud at the 7200 block of Ridgeview Lane, Washington Township, 8:52 a.m., Sept. 5;
- Personal injury accident at the intersection of Schoenherr Road and 27 Mile Road, Washington Township, 3:31 p.m., Sept. 5;
- Family trouble at the 68500 block of Wingate Drive, Washington Township, 7:44 p.m., Sept. 5;
- Fraud at the 61700 block of West Pointe Drive, Washington Township, 11:51 a.m., Sept. 6;
- Larceny at the 6000 block of Whispering Oak Drive, Washington Township, 12:46 p.m., Sept. 6;
- Welfare check at the 8900 block of South Stony Drive, Washington Township, 6:30 p.m., Sept. 6;
- Suspicious person at the 64000 block of Turnberry Way, Washington Township, 7:50 p.m., Sept. 6;
- Disturbance at the 8600 block of 26 Mile Road, Washington Township, 9:44 p.m., Sept. 6;
- Trespassing at the 57800 block of Hanover Road, Washington Township, 12:16 p.m., Sept. 8;
- Fraud at the 63200 block of East Charleston Drive, Washington Township, 3:16 p.m., Sept. 8;

Romeo Police Department report...

The Village of Romeo Police Department generated 222 reports during the two-week period of Aug. 25 to Sept. 7, 2024.

92 of those were medical or fire runs that were dispatched by Romeo Police Dispatch and handled by the Bruce-Romeo Fire Department.

Recently, the Romeo Police Department and Bruce Township Fire Department came to an agreement for Romeo Police Dispatch to now take control of all dispatching responsibilities for the Bruce Township Fire Department inside Romeo and Bruce Township, creating a small influx in generated reports.

Over the course of two weeks, the village was host to the annual Peach Festival which came with an increase in pedestrians and visitors to the community. This increase resulted in many altercations breaking out that required a police response. The department was all hands on deck for the event, having plenty of officers to deal with any issue that may arise.

Officers on scene at the Fairgrounds assisted in locating a missing child, as well as locating the parents of a separated child.

Police officers were also busy with several unrelated reports of family trouble, where officers arrived and mediated the situation.

A afternoon patrol had been made aware of a stolen yard sign that appears to have been an isolated incident.

Dispatch received multiple reports by a caller that was concerned two females were being trafficked. Officers arrived on scene and conducted an investigation to determine no malicious activities were present.

Midnight and afternoo[n] sent to do an area check [for] screaming, possibly inv[olving] domestic dispute.

Among all of the emer[gency] officers also addressed m[ultiple] vehicle accidents, several alarms, and many 911 calls verification of caller well[being]

Armada Township man electro[cuted]

BY LARRY SOBCZAK
EDITOR

A subcontractor for DTE Energy lost his life Thursday, Sept.12 when the vehicle he was driving struck a live wire on Powell Road in Armada Township.

Paul Clement Viaene, 61, of Armada Township, who was driving a truck on 69000 block of Powell Road north of 32 Mile Road at the Romeo border when a boom on the truck came into contact with a live primary wire around 12:43 p.m., according to Macomb County Sheriff's officials.

Viaene was electrocuted, and the truck became engulfed in flames. Viaene was declared dead at the scene.

Live wires lying on the ground caused several small fires on the ground and were extinguished by firefighters from Bruce Township, Armada Township and Washington[ton]

Powell Road and 32 [Mile] were shut down for seve[ral] hours to fight the fires, co[nduct] investigation and restore po[wer]

The subcontractor for [DTE] acne was working has be[en] as Triple D Directional [Boring] located in Washington Tow[nship]

"It is with heavy he[arts] confirm that a contractor [em]ployee today while doi[ng] DTE," the company said. [We] send our love and support [to] ly and loved ones. Our te[ams] rently on the scene, worki[ng] responders and local offic[ials] with the investigation."

The county investigat[ion] man's death is ongoing. offi[cials] Macomb County Sheriff's [Office]

PUBLIC NOTICE
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OAKLAND
NOTICE OF PLAN AVAILABILITY
FOR REVIEW

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation is seeking public input regarding the Oakland Township 2025 – 2029 Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources requires a minimum 30-day public review process as part of the master planning process. A formal public hearing for adoption of the Plan will be held upon completion of the 30-day review period.

A hard copy of the draft master plan is available for review at the following locations:

- Parks and Recreation offices inside the Paint Creek Cider Mill, 4480 Orion Road, Rochester, MI
- Township Hall, 4393 Collins Road, Rochester, MI
- The draft plan is also available online on the Township's website at https://www.oaklandtownship.org/index.php, or can be directly accessed at https://www.calameo.com/read/0051076738b25d72d1fe3 .
- For questions or comments, please contact Ben McLoskey, Director of Parks and Recreation at (248) 651-7810 x402, or via email at bmcloskey@oaklandtownship.org .

Publish: 9/18/24

PLACE AN OBITUARY
BY CALLING 586-752-3524
OR EMAILING
OBITUARY@MYRECORDNEWSPAPER.COM

Clemens, the son of Irvin and Virginia (Rojeski) Steinbrink.

Richard Joseph Grix, 86, of Armada Township, died Tuesday, Sept. 10, 2024. He was born Oct. 28, 1937, the son of Bernard and Mervyn Grix.

Jeannette C. LePage, 88, of Washington Township died Tuesday, Sept.

Dusanka Djurovski, 73, of Lakeville Township and formerly Washington Township, died Thursday, Sept. 12, 2024. She was born June 3, 1951, the daughter of Ilija and Trpana Djerkovski.

Paul Clement Vinene, Sr., 61, of Armada Township, died Thursday, Sept. 12, 2024. He was born Feb. 3, 1963.

PUBLIC NOTICE
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Publish: 9/18/24

PUBLIC NOTICE
ARMADA TOWNSHIP
MACOMB COUNTY, MICHIGAN

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 114-44
SUMMARY OF MAP AMENDMENTS TO
THE ARMADA TOWNSHIP ZONING MAP

NOTICE IS HEARBY GIVEN that the Armada Township Zoning Map is amended to reflect the following map amendments:

- 22900 Armada Center Road (Center Road Property, LLC). Rezoning from the R-1, Residential District to the B-2, General Business District.
- 71800 Romeo Plank Road (Miller Farm). Rezoning from the R-1, Residential District to the AG / SAA Agricultural Preservation / Special Ancillary Agricultural Uses Overlay District.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that these Zoning Map amendments shall take full force and effect upon seven days after publication as required by law.

Mary K. Swiacki, CMMC
Armada Township Clerk

Adopted: September 11, 2024
Published: September 18, 2024
Effective: September 25, 2024

Romeo High School Varsity Wrestling





The Bulldogs won a match, 65-12, at home against Stoney Creek High School on Wednesday, Dec. 4. Above to the left, Tristin Holt, in the 138-weight class, waits for the referee to call his match as he pins down the Stony Creek player. Above to the right, Justin Rizzo, in the 113-weight class, successfully pins his opponent with the referee watching in the background. (Photos by Mike Nicley)

Romeo High School Boys Varsity Basketball









The Bulldogs lost their season opener played at home on Tuesday, Dec.



PUBLIC NOTICE
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OAKLAND

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation is seeking public input regarding the Oakland Township 2025 – 2029 Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The hearing will take place as part of the regularly scheduled Parks & Recreation Commission meeting at 7:00 p.m. on January 8, 2025, at Oakland Township Hall, 4393 Collins Road, Rochester, Michigan.

A draft copy of the plan has been available for review since September 11, 2024, and will remain available through the date of the hearing. The plan can be viewed at the following locations:

- Parks and Recreation offices inside the Paint Creek Cider Mill, 4480 Orion Road, Rochester, MI
- Township Hall, 4393 Collins Road, Rochester, MI
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Publish: 12/11/24

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- For questions or comments, please contact Ben McLoskey, Director of Parks and Recreation at (248) 651-7810 x402, or via email at bmcloskey@oaklandtownship.org.

Publish: 12/11/24

ARMADA HIGH SCHOO

Wednesday, Dec. 11

Coed Varsity Bowling 3:30 p.m. vs High School at home; **Girls Junior ketball** 4:30 p.m. vs Croswell-Lexin School at Croswell-Lexington; **Boys Va tling** 5:30 p.m. vs Oxford High School

Thursday, Dec. 12

Girls Junior Varsity Basketball 6 mont Junior/Senior High School at Al **Varsity Basketball** 7:30 p.m. vs Alm Senior High School at Almont.

Friday, Dec. 13

Boys Junior Varsity Basketball 6 mont Junior/Senior High School at Al **Varsity Basketball** 7:30 p.m. vs Alm Senior High School at Almont.

Saturday, Dec. 14

Boys Varsity Wrestling 9 a.m. vs Co ington High School at Croswell-Lexin

Monday, Dec. 16

Coed Varsity Bowling 3:30 p.m. vs nior/Senior High School at home.

ROMEO HIGH SCHOOL

Wednesday, Dec. 11

Girls Junior Varsity B Basketball 4 p.m. vs Henry Ford II High School at home; **Girls Junior Varsity Basketball** 5:30 p.m. vs Henry Ford II High School at home; **Girls Varsity Basketball** 7 p.m. vs Henry Ford II High School at home.

Thursday, Dec. 12

Boys RMS Red Basketball 3:30 p.m. vs Wyandot Middle School at home; **Boys RMS White Basketball** 3:30 p.m. vs L'Anse Creuse Middle School North at L'Anse Creuse North; **Boys Freshman Basketball** 4 p.m. vs Port Huron Northern High School at home; **Boys Freshman Basketball** 4 p.m. vs L'Anse Creuse High School at home; **Girls Junior Varsity B Basketball** 4 p.m. vs L'Anse Creuse High School at L'Anse Creuse; **Coed Bowling** 4 p.m. vs St. Clair High School at Port Huron Lanes; **Boys Junior Varsity Basketball** 5:30 p.m. vs L'Anse Creuse High School at home; **Girls Junior Varsity Basketball** 5:30 p.m. vs L'Anse Creuse High School at L'Anse Creuse.

Tuesday, Dec. 17

Girls Junior Varsity B Basketball 4 p.m. vs Lake Orion High School at home; **Girls Junior Varsity Basketball** 5:30 p.m. vs Lake Orion High School at home; **Girls Varsity Basketball** 7 p.m. vs Lake Orion High School at home.

Dec. 11-17, 2024

Appendix I: Resolutions

Resolution of Adoption by Township Board of Trustees 1/28/2025

RESOLUTION 25-02
Adoption of Charter Township of Oakland
2025 — 2029 Master Plan for Parks, Recreation, and Land Preservation

At a regular meeting of the Charter Township of Oakland Board of Trustees held on Tuesday January 28, 2025 the following Resolution was moved by Trustee Giannangeli and seconded by Trustee Langlois :

WHEREAS, the Charter Township of Oakland Parks and Recreation Commission has undertaken a planning process to determine the recreation and natural resource conservation needs and desires of its residents during a five-year period covering the years 2025 through 2029, and

WHEREAS, the Charter Township of Oakland Parks and Recreation Commission began the process of developing a community recreation and natural resource conservation plan in accordance with the most recent guidelines developed by the Department of Natural Resources and made available to local communities, and

WHEREAS, residents of the Charter Township of Oakland were provided with well-advertised opportunities during the development of the draft plan to express opinions, ask questions and discuss all aspects of the recreation and natural resource conservation plan, and

WHEREAS, the public was given a well-advertised opportunity and reasonable accommodations to review the final draft plan for a period of at least 30 days, and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on January 8, 2025 at the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting to provide an opportunity for all residents of the planning area to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the Charter Township of Oakland 2025 — 2029 Master Plan for Parks, Recreation, and Land Preservation, and

WHEREAS, the Charter Township of Oakland Parks and Recreation Commission has developed the plan as a guideline for improving recreation and enhancing natural resource conservation for the Charter Township of Oakland, and

WHEREAS, after the public hearing, the Board of Trustees voted to adopt said Charter Township of Oakland 2025 — 2029 Parks, Recreation, and Land Preservation Master Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Charter Township of Oakland Board of Trustees hereby adopts the Charter Township of Oakland 2025 — 2029 Parks, Recreation, and Land Preservation Master Plan.

AYES: Elder, Giannangeli, Campbell, Buxar, Mabry, Elder
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

I, Dave Mabry, Clerk, Charter Township of Oakland do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and original copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Oakland at their regular meeting held on Tuesday January 28, 2025.

Dave Mabry
Dave Mabry, Clerk,
Charter Township of Oakland

Dated: 1/28/2025

Resolution Recommending Adoption by Parks & Recreation Commission 1/8/2025

RESOLUTION 25-01
Parks and Recreation Commission of the Charter Township of Oakland
Recommendation for Adoption of Charter Township of Oakland
2025 - 2029 Master Plan for Parks, Recreation, and Land Preservation

At a regular meeting of the Charter Township of Oakland Parks and Recreation Commission held on Wednesday January 8th, 2025 the following Resolution was moved by Commissioner **Simon** and seconded by Commissioner **Beverly**:

WHEREAS, the Charter Township of Oakland Parks and Recreation Commission has undertaken a planning process to determine the recreation and natural resource conservation needs and desires of its residents during a five-year period covering the years 2025 through 2029, and

WHEREAS, the Charter Township of Oakland Parks and Recreation Commission began the process of developing a community recreation and natural resource conservation plan in accordance with the most recent guidelines developed by the Department of Natural Resources and made available to local communities, and

WHEREAS, residents of the Charter Township of Oakland were provided with well-advertised opportunities during the development of the draft plan to express opinions, ask questions and discuss all aspects of the recreation and natural resource conservation plan, and

WHEREAS, the public was given a well-advertised opportunity and reasonable accommodations to review the final draft plan for a period of at least 30 days, and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on January 8th, 2025 at the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting to provide an opportunity for all residents of the planning area to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the Charter Township of Oakland 2025 - 2029 Master Plan for Parks, Recreation, and Land Preservation, and

WHEREAS, the Charter Township of Oakland Parks and Recreation Commission has developed the plan as a guideline for improving recreation and enhancing natural resource conservation for the Charter Township of Oakland, and

WHEREAS, after the public hearing, the Parks and Recreation Commission voted to recommend adoption of said Charter Township of Oakland 2025 - 2029 Parks, Recreation, and Land Preservation Master Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Charter Township of Oakland Parks and Recreation Commission hereby recommends adoption of the Charter Township of Oakland 2025 - 2029 Parks, Recreation, and Land Preservation Master Plan.

AYES: Barkham, Simon, Rooney, Garret & Beverly
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Quesenberry, Fostey
MOTION CARRIED.

I, Emily Barkham, Secretary, Parks and Recreation Commission, Charter Township of Oakland do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and original copy of a resolution adopted by the Parks and Recreation Commission of the Charter Township of Oakland at their regular meeting held on Wednesday, January 8, 2025.

Dated: 01-28-2025

Emily Barkham, Secretary,
Parks and Recreation Commission,
Charter Township of Oakland

Appendix J: Minutes

Minutes from Public Hearing 1/8/2025

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OAKLAND PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
DRAFT
January 8, 2025

The January 8, 2025, meeting of the Charter Township of Oakland Parks and Recreation Commission (hereinafter "PRC") was called to order at 7:03 p.m. in the main conference room of the Oakland Township Hall.

PRESENT: Emily Barkham, Chairperson
Daniel Simon, Vice-Chairperson
Heidi Beverly, Treasurer
Christine Garrett, Commissioner
Cathy Rooney, Commissioner

Ben McLoskey, Director

ABSENT: Jim Quesenberry, Secretary
Jim Fostey, Commissioner

A quorum was present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairperson Barkham led the Commissioners, staff and those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Director McLoskey had no announcements at this time.

AMENDMENTS TO AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairperson Barkham asked to add an item to recommend to the Board of Trustees a second representative to serve on the Paint Creek Trailways Commission.

MOVED BY SIMON, SECONDED BY ROONEY, to approve this evening's agenda as presented with the addition of an item to consider recommendation to the Board of Trustees of a second representative to serve on the Paint Creek Trailways Commission.

MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF INVOICES

Treasurer Beverly reviewed the list of invoices. Vice-Chairperson Simon inquired about the status of PEA's work on the Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park project. Former Director and Grant Consultant Mindy Milos-Dale, who is working with OTPR on this project, was present and stated that PEA has been working on this project. They will meet with OTPR staff members in the field on January 14th to verify trail routes, the proposed parking lot area, etc.

MOVED BY GARRETT, SECONDED BY SIMON, to approve payment of the invoices as presented in the amount of $77,828.20.

MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY SIMON, SECONDED BY ROONEY, to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2024, special meeting as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOVED BY SIMON, SECONDED BY ROONEY, to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2024, meeting as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no one present who wished to comment on an item not on this evening's agenda. Director McLoskey was not aware of any phone calls or emails received for public comment this evening.

PUBLIC HEARING: CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OAKLAND PARKS, RECREATION AND LAND PRESERVATION MASTER PLAN, 2025-2029

Chairperson Barkham called the public hearing to order at 7:11 p.m.

Chris Nordstrom of Carlisle/Wortman Associates presented the Parks, Recreation and Land Preservation Master Plan for 2025-2029. He reviewed the presentation that he made in September. The master plan before the Commission this evening was prepared after receiving input from the statistically significant survey conducted between May 8th and July 1st of this year, the community open house held on June 6th, meetings with OTPR staff and the PRC's advisory committee, and after comparison with National Recreation and Parks Association recommended standards as well as further comparison with peer agencies.

Feedback received shows that residents continue to be in support of land preservation and maintenance of our current park properties. They favor the development of trails within the parks, and like connections between the various parks where possible. Further, they want all parks to be open and accessible to residents. Mr. Nordstrom reviewed the top desired amenities, as well as the top desired programs.

Mr. Nordstrom then explained updates that Carlisle/Wortman Associates made to the Master Plan. He also reviewed recommended goals based on the input received, noting that several of these goals are already being accomplished.

Finally, Mr. Nordstrom reviewed the projected schedule. The public hearing is this evening. If the PRC recommends approval, then the plan will go before the Board of Trustees for their consideration and approval. Any final changes will be made, as necessary, and the updated Master Plan will be submitted to the MDNR prior to February 1, 2025.

Mr. Nordstrom commended the Commission and former Director Milos-Dale for having a vision and then accomplishing it, and said he anticipates that newly installed Director McLoskey will continue this excellent work.

Chairperson Barkham invited members of the public to comment. There being no comments, Chairperson Barkham closed the public hearing at 7:21 p.m.

RESOLUTION 25-01: RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ADOPT THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OAKLAND 2025-2029 MASTER PLAN FOR PARKS, RECREATION AND LAND PRESERVATION

> MOVED BY SIMON, SECONDED BY ROONEY, to approve Resolution 25-01, the "Parks and Recreation Commission of the Charter Township of Oakland Recommendation for Adoption of Charter Township of Oakland 2025-2029 Master Plan for Parks, Recreation and Land Preservation," and to recommend that the Board of Trustees adopt this plan at the Board's January 14, 2025, regular meeting.
>
> AYES: Barkham, Simon, Beverly, Garrett, Rooney
> NAYS: None
> ABSENT: Quesenberry, Fostey
> MOTION CARRIED.

A copy of this resolution is attached as a part of these minutes.

WEST BRANCH OF STONY CREEK CULVERT REPLACEMENT GRANT APPLICATION TO MDNR FISHERIES HABITAT GRANT PROGRAM, PROPOSAL FH24-0018

Natural Areas Stewardship Manager Ben VanderWeide was present to request the PRC's recommendation that Oakland Township apply to the Michigan Natural Resources Department Fisheries Habitat Grant Program (proposal FH24-0018). He briefly reviewed the history of this project.

Oakland Township acquired Fox Nature Preserve in 2022. Shortly afterwards, the Township's risk manager identified the culvert on the West Branch of Stony Creek, within Fox Nature Preserve, as a potential risk. This was confirmed through an engineering study.

Consequently, we closed this trail connection within the park. The Fox Nature Preserve Advisory Committee (which includes members from the PRC, the Board of Trustees and residents) has been looking into various ways to address this issue, keeping in mind that water and aquatic life are key features of this park property. The Advisory Committee feels that the proposal before the Commission this evening is a good longterm solution to this problem.

Dr. VanderWeide explained that the existing failing culvert is "perched" (the upstream end is significantly higher than the downstream end) and undersized. As it exists, the culvert impounds the upstream reach of the stream, impairs fish passage, and has degraded the stream habitat. The proposal is to replace the culvert with a pedestrian bridge, which will address human safety and recreational access, restore the area immediately upstream to a more natural free-flowing stream, and improve the habitat for fish, mussels and other organisms that must move within the stream to complete their lifecycles.

In October 2024, with the support of the Fox Nature Preserve Advisory Committee, and approval from the PRC and the Board of Trustees, Oakland Township submitted a pre-proposal to the MDNR Fisheries Habitat Grant Program. Our project appeared to be a good fit for this grant program, which "supports a variety of activities to benefit fisheries, aquatic resources, and the public, including fish habitat conservation, dam removal and repair, and access to recreation." In November 2024, we were invited to submit a full proposal.

Natural Areas Stewardship Manager VanderWeide worked with engineering firm PEA, Cleyo Harris of the MDNR, and Oakland County Parks – Natural Resources, to draft the full proposal that is before the PRC this evening. The proposed plan is to remove the failing culvert, install a pedestrian bridge with streamside access, and restore the stream channel at the culvert site and immediately downstream. Dr. VanderWeide explained that replacing the culvert with a pedestrian bridge will address the safety concerns of the crossing for park users, and restore the area immediately upstream to a more natural, free-flowing stream. This will also improve the habitat for the fish, mussels (the "kidneys" of the stream), and other stream organisms that need to move within the stream to complete their lifecycles.

The pedestrian bridge will be approximately 30 ft long and 10 ft wide, and will be able to accommodate mowers and light utility vehicles, but not trucks. Dr. VanderWeide noted that there is an alternate way for vehicles to access areas to both the north and south of the proposed pedestrian bridge, so this is not a problem.

The total cost of this project is estimated to be $293,000. Oakland Township is requesting grant monies in the amount of $178,000. We expect to receive a grant from Oakland County Parks and Recreation – Natural Resources Program in the amount of $10,000, and monies are budgeted in the Land Preservation Fund to cover the remainder of the local matching amount, $105,000.

Dr. VanderWeide then reviewed the timeline for this project. The Board of Trustees will consider approval of the grant application during a special meeting tomorrow, January 9th. The application is due to the MDNR on January 10th. Grant awards will be announced in

May. If our application is successful, then construction plans will be developed and bid documents will be drawn up between August 2025 and January 2026. We will seek necessary permits (through EGLE and Oakland County) between December 2025 and March 2026. Bidding will then take place between February and April 2026. The construction contract will be awarded between April and June 2026, with construction to take place between July and October 10, 2026. The final project report will be due by December 10, 2026, although Dr. VanderWeide said there is an opportunity to extend these dates if necessary.

Dr. VanderWeide thanked the many who wrote letters in support of this project including neighboring property owners Libby Dwyer, and Dr. and Mrs. Moore; Trout Unlimited; Six Rivers Land Conservancy; and Oakland County Parks and Recreation.

Regarding a different matter, Dr. VanderWeide noted that he has observed that a dam downstream from Clam Lake, also within Fox Nature Preserve, is starting to degrade and will need to be addressed. We will need to identify an appropriate design. He noted that Cleyo Harris of the MDNR has experience with a design that steps down the lake level over the downstream area in such a way as to maintain the upstream lake level and take out the risk of the dam failing. Resident Dr. Drew Moore, who lives within the Fox Nature Preserve, pointed out that maintenance and repair of the weir is addressed in the private road agreement, so the Township will need to work with the property owners to determine the appropriate design for the weir.

RESOLUTION 25-02: RESOLUTION FOR MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES FISHERIES HABITAT GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION FH24-0018 FOR WEST BRANCH OF STONY CREEK CULVERT REPLACEMENT AT FOX NATURE PRESERVE

MOVED BY ROONEY, SECONDED BY SIMON, to adopt Resolution 25-02, a resolution supporting the submission of an application to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Habitat Grant Program, application FH24-0018, for the West Branch of Stony Creek Culvert Replacement at Fox Nature Preserve for a grant amount of $178,000, which is to be matched by financial commitment and donations of $115,000, for a total project cost of $293,000, and to recommend approval by the Board of Trustees.

AYES: Barkham, Simon, Beverly, Garrett, Rooney
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Quesenberry, Fostey
MOTION CARRIED.

A copy of this resolution is attached as a part of these minutes.

FOX NATURE PRESERVE TRAIL SYSTEM EXPANSION

Chairperson Barkham stated that, with the anticipated installation of the parking lot near Lake George Road, staff is proposing expansion of the trail system in the southern area of Fox Nature Park. The trail routes would largely follow the routes in the MNRTF concept plan, with some modifications to address concerns raised by neighbors. The proposed expanded trails include approximately 1.4 miles to the south of the West Branch of Stony Creek, and approximately 0.25 mile to the north, south of Green Lake. Trails leading to the failing culvert will not be installed at this time.

Dr. VanderWeide noted that the connection from the parking lot to the trail will be made after the parking lot is installed. This will allow staff to assess sight distances and determine the safest connection point.

While most of the trails will use existing two-track roads where available, he pointed to one area east of the private drive crossing location. Here, the plan proposes the possibility of relocating the trail approximately 150 feet to the north to avoid a large oak tree with a hollow center.

Finally, the plan before the Commission includes a portable restroom. Dr. VanderWeide recalled that when we have installed parking areas at other park trailheads, residents have requested that we also install a portable restroom. While this wasn't initially a part of this plan, Dr. VanderWeide and Maintenance Foreman Caruso felt this would be a good amenity to include for park users. Treasurer Beverly was in favor of including a restroom.

> MOVED BY ROONEY, SECONDED BY SIMON, to approve and recommend to the Board of Trustees the outlined trail expansion of the north and south loops at Fox Nature Preserve.

Discussion on Motion:

Resident Daniel Faussie, who lives within Fox Nature Preserve, shared several of his concerns. He asked about the distance between the proposed trail and the residential drive. Commissioner Rooney acknowledged that Mr. Faussie had expressed this concern in the past, and the OTPR staff took this into consideration when determining where the paths should be located. Natural Areas Stewardship Manager Dr. VanderWeide stated that the closest point of the trail is approximately 250 feet from the residential drive, and other points are approximately 350 feet from the drive.

Mr. Faussie was concerned that park users may tend to follow the existing two-track road, which goes by a hollow tree, and could be a safety concern. Chairperson Barkham said that we can take measures (including posting signs) to try to guide trail users to the new route as opposed to the existing road.

Finally, Mr. Faussie is opposed to locating a portable restroom at Fox Nature Preserve. He feels it is not aesthetically pleasing, is not in the spirit of a "nature preserve," and would likely be used by others beyond park visitors. Chairperson Barkham said that we have screened restrooms at other parks. Further, in surveys of our residents, restrooms have consistently been a top requested amenity.

Kim Moore, another resident who lives within the boundaries of Fox Nature Preserve, also stated her opposition to placing a restroom at this park. She feels it invites unnecessary traffic (for example, service or delivery drivers who stop to use the restroom), and said that other restrooms (or example the restroom at Gallagher Creek Park at Silver Bell Road and Adams Road) are so heavily used that they are not clean for families to use. Further, she suggested that park users could use the restroom facility at the adjoining Lost Lake Nature Park. Former Director Milos-Dale acknowledged that the restroom at Gallagher Creek Park receives much use, but said the PRC increased cleaning significantly to address this concern.

Vote on Motion:

MOTION CARRIED.

PORTABLE RESTROOM CONTRACT

The Commissioners reviewed the January 2nd memorandum from Maintenance Foreman Caruso. The contract for portable and vault toilet services in the parks is up for renewal. A request for proposals was posted on the Township's website as well as on Bidnet Direct. Sealed bids were due on January 2nd, and OTPR received four bids. Maintenance Foreman Caruso is recommending that we contract with Peklo Portables, LLC because of their lower price, great references, and the fact that they are located in Oakland Township.

MOVED BY SIMON, SECONDED BY ROONEY, to approve the 2025 contract between Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission and Peklo Portables, LLC for portable toilet services and pricing as reflected in their bid dated December 31, 2024.

Discussion on Motion:

Director McLoskey stated that at the end of January, the current service provider, Turner Sanitation, will remove their units and the new service provider, Peklo Portables, will install new units.

Commissioner Rooney said she looks forward to supporting a local business.

Treasurer Beverly acknowledged that the restrooms at Gallagher Creek Park are heavily used, but feels this is the exception within our parks as this area is so heavily travelled.

Vote on Motion:

MOTION CARRIED.

REC DESK: ANNUAL RENEWAL

RecDesk is the platform that OTPR uses for program scheduling and registration. Staff has been pleased with this system.

MOVED BY ROONEY, SECONDED BY GARRETT, to approve the 2025 RecDesk contract for annual subscription and services for Oakland Township's Parks and Recreation's programming registration platform in an amount not to exceed $3,700.

MOTION CARRIED.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION COMMITTEES, 2025

The Commissioners reviewed the list of PRC Committees for 2025. Commissioner Garrett agreed to serve on the Capital Improvements Committee.

MOVED BY ROONEY, SECONDED BY BEVERLY, to confirm the membership for the Parks and Recreation Commission Committees for 2025 as follows:

Property Acquisition Committee – members will be Emily Barkham, Cathy Rooney and Dan Simon; Citizen Advisor will be Colleen Barkham.

Personnel Committee – members will be Christine Garrett and Jim Quesenberry.

Music in the Meadows Summer Concert Series Committee – members will be Jim Fostey, Jim Quesenberry and Cathy Rooney; Citizen Advisors will be Ann and Dave Strubler.

Stewardship Committee – members will be Christine Garrett, Cathy Rooney and Dan Simon; Citizen Advisor will be Judy Workings.

Community Engagement Committee (sub-topic – Partnership/Sponsorship Strategic Agreements) – members will be Jim Fostey, Jim Quesenberry and Cathy Rooney.

Capital Improvements Projects Committee (sub-topic – Parks Foundation) – members will be Emily Barkham, Heidi Beverly and Christine Garrett.

MOTION CARRIED.

RECOMMENDATION OF REPRESENTATIVE: PAINT CREEK TRAILWAYS COMMISSION

The PRC makes recommendations to the Board of Trustees for representatives to the Paint Creek Trailways Commission. This is a four-year position. At the December meeting, the PRC recommended that the Board appoint Jim Fostey to represent Oakland Township as a Commissioner on the Paint Creek Trailways Commission. This evening, they considered recommending that the Board appoint Martha Olijnyk as a second representative. Ms. Olijnyk has served on the Paint Creek Trailways Commission for a number of years.

MOVED BY ROONEY, SECONDED BY SIMON, to recommend to the Board of Trustees that they appoint Martha Olijnyk to represent Oakland Township on the Paint Creek Trailways Commission for the term of 2025-2029.

MOTION CARRIED.

CLOSED SESSION

MOVED BY SIMON, SECONDED BY BEVERLY, to enter into a closed session at 8:14 p.m., pursuant to Subsection 8(d) of the Michigan Open Meetings Act for the purpose of considering the purchase of real property, and to allow Natural Areas Stewardship Manager Ben VanderWeide, Grant Consultant Mindy Milos-Dale and Recreation Manager Jason Spiller to remain in attendance to share their knowledge regarding this matter.

AYES: Barkham, Simon, Beverly, Garrett, Rooney
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Quesenberry, Fostey
MOTION CARRIED.

The regular session was reconvened at 9:05 p.m.

PARK DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

Welcome to Recreation Manager

Director McLoskey and the Commissioners welcomed Jason Spiller, who will serve as Recreation Manager following Becky McLogan's retirement. Mr. Spiller introduced himself.

Winter Carnival

OTPR will host Winter Carnival at Bear Creek Nature Park on January 25th from 12 noon to 4 p.m. This is a free, fun, family-oriented event. There will be lots of activities including ice carving demonstrations, snow games, an archery target shoot, a snow snake luge, ice skating, a magic show, and more.

Commissioner Rooney agreed that this is a great family afternoon. Chairperson Barkham thanked the staff for all their hard work to put on this special event.

TREASURER BEVERLY

Packet Information

Treasurer Beverly thanked the staff for putting together all the information included in this evening's agenda packet. She is learning a lot about Oakland Township Parks and Recreation. Commissioner Garrett concurred.

VICE-CHAIRPERSON SIMON'S REPORT

Wildflower Association of Michigan

The Wildflower Association of Michigan ("WAM") will hold their annual conference in East Lansing on March 1st and 2nd. Vice-Chairperson Simon said this is a very informative conference with lots of great lectures.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY BEVERLY, SECONDED BY ROONEY, there being no further business before the Commission, to adjourn the meeting at 9:13 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Ingrid R. Kliffel
Recording Secretary

Approved,

Jim Quesenberry
Secretary

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
January 14, 2025

The Regular Board of Trustees meeting was called to order by Supervisor Buxar on January 14th, 2025 at 7:03 PM.

I. Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

Present:	Supervisor Buxar Clerk Mabry Treasurer Giannangeli Trustee Campbell Trustee Casadei Trustee Elder Trustee Langlois
Absent:	None
Also present:	Joseph Merucci, Township Manager Dan Kelly, Township Attorney Meggan Brown, Deputy Clerk

II. Announcements

Supervisor Buxar thanked first responders for their hard work in response to a tragic accident on December 27, 2024.

She also read a letter from the Supervisor of Orion Township thanking the Oakland Township Fire Department for their assistance in response to the Keatington New Town condominium complex explosion.

III. Amendments to the Agenda/Approval of the Agenda

Motion by Giannangeli, seconded by Langlois to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion carried 7/0.

IV. Public comment for Items on the Agenda

John Markel, 245 Birch Hill Drive spoke regarding the damaged Oakland Township sign on Rochester Road. He also thanked Karen Breza, in the Treasury Department for assisting with his taxes.

Bob Yager, 1146 Bear Creek Park spoke regarding the meeting at the Paint Creek Cider Mill last Thursday.

V. Consent Agenda

Motion by Mabry, seconded by Langlois to approve the consent agenda as read.

Motion carried 7/0.

VI. **Pending Business**

1. PUBLIC HEARING - Solicitation of public comments on the introduction and first reading of the proposed Compatible Renewable Energy Ordinance (CREO).

Supervisor Buxar opened the public hearing at 7:12 p.m.

There were no comments.

Supervisor Buxar closed the public hearing at 7:13 p.m.

2. Consideration on scheduling the second reading and adoption on the proposed Compatible Renewable Energy Ordinance, as recommended by the planning commission and pursuant to Public Act 233 of 2023.

Motion by Casadei, seconded by Mabry to schedule the second reading and adoption on the proposed Compatible Renewable Energy Ordinance, as recommended by the planning commission and pursuant to Public Act 233 of 2023, on February 11th, 2025 at 7:00 PM, in the Oakland Township First Floor Board Room.

Motion carried 7/0.

3. Consideration of approving the purchase of a new Pierce Enforcer Custom Chassis Tanker, from Halt Fire Incorporated, of Wixom, Michigan, for the amount of $1,271,824.

Motion by Casadi, seconded by Langlois to authorize the Township to enter into a purchase agreement with Halt Fire Inc, for a new Enforcer Custom Chassis Tanker/pumper for the quoted price of $1,271,824.00, with an expected delivery date of December 2028 and to authorize the Township Manager and/or Supervisor to sign the agreement to begin the build process.

Motion carried 7/0.

Public comment
John Markel 245 Birch Hill Drive
Lana Mangiapane 2310 Dutton Road
Bob Yager 1146 Bear Creek Park

4. Consideration of approving Resolution No. 25–02, a resolution authorizing participation in the 2025 NoHaz program and approval of the North Oakland County Hazardous Waste Inter-Local Agreement between Oakland County and the Charter Township of Oakland.

Motion by Mabry, seconded by Elder to support the North Oakland Household Hazardous Waste Resolution 25-02 and approve the interlocal agreement with Oakland County for the safe collection and disposal of household hazardous waste, at a charge of $15 per township resident vehicle and to appoint to retain Barb Barbara as the official representative to the NoHAZ advisory board and authorize the supervisor to sign the interlocal agreement.

Roll Call Vote
Ayes: Elder, Giannangeli, Campbell, Langlois, Buxar, Mabry, Casadei
Nayes: None
Absent: None

Motion carried 7/0.

5. Consideration of receiving and filing the 2024 Maximus Central Services Cost Allocation Plan.

Motion by Giannangeli, seconded by Langlois to receive and file the 2024 Maximus Central Services Cost Allocation Plan.

Motion carried 7/0.

6. Consideration of approving the proposed budget amendments for the 2025 fiscal year.

Motion by Elder, seconded by Mabry to approve budget amendments 25-01, 25-02, 25-03, and 25-04 from the budget amendment memo dated December 31, 2024.

Motion carried 7/0.

7. Consideration of appointing Martha J. Olijnyk, as the liaison to the Paint Creek Trailways Commission, term to expire November 2028.

Motion by Buxar, seconded by Mabry to appoint Martha J. Olijnyk as the citizen alternate to the Paint Creek Trailways Commission, term to expire November 2028.

Motion carried 7/0.

8. Consideration of resolution No. 25–03, a resolution adopting the 2025–2029 Charter Township of Oakland Recreation Master Plan

This item was tabled to the January 28, 2025 Board of Trustees Meeting.

All Board of Trustees questions should be forwarded to Manager Merucci by Friday, January 24, 2025.

9. Consideration approving the purchase of eight (8) sets of turnout gear, funded by the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity Grant # E20240144.

Motion by Casadei, seconded by Elder to purchase 8 sets of Fire Fighting Gear from The Macqueen Group as quoted, $24,436.95, funds to be submitted for reimbursement from the State of Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity grant number E20240144. Funds to cover the initial purchase will come from 206.901.980.000 and the grant funds will be placed back into our account.

Motion carried 7/0.

10. Reconsideration of the motion adopted at the December 10, 2024, board meeting regarding the payment method for the 2025-2027 law enforcement services agreement with Oakland County.

Motion by Elder, seconded by Giannangeli to amend the motion from December 10, 2024 Board of Trustees meeting for the consideration to approve the proposed 2025-2027 law enforcement services agreement with Oakland County and remove “use payment terms of evenly split in section 12.3,” and change to pay as monthly invoice.

Roll Call

Ayes: Buxar, Elder, Campbell, Giannangeli, Mabry, Casadei, Langlois
Nays: None
Absent: None

Motion carried 7/0.

11. Consideration of board of trustee appointments to the planning commission, Paint Creek Trailways Commission, Historic District Commission and Safety Path and Trails Commission.

Motion by Buxar, seconded by Mabry to approve Board of Trustee appointments as

follow:

Trustee Giannangeli – Planning Commission
Supervisor Buxar - Historic District Commission
Clerk Mabry – Paint Creek Trailways Commission
Supervisor Buxar – Paint Creek Trailways Commission alternate
Trustee Campbell – Safety Paths and Trailways Commission

Motion carried 7/0.

12. Consideration of three (3) appointments/reappointments to the Board of Review.

Motion by Buxar, seconded by Langlois to reappoint Judy Workings to the Board of Review, with a term ending January 2028.

Motion carried 7/0.

Motion by Casadei, seconded by Langlois to appoint Leonard Kutschman to the Board of Review, with a term ending January 2028.

Motion carried 7/0.

Motion by Giannangeli seconded by Langlois to appoint Robert Trecapelli to the Board of Review, with a term ending January 2028.

Motion carried 7/0.

13. Consideration of two (2) appointments to the Planning Commission.

Motion by Mabry, seconded by Elder to appoint Christopher Hornbeck to the Planning Commission, with a term ending September 2027.

Public comment
Bob Yager, 1146 Bear Creek Park
Christopher Hornbeck, 3441 E Clarkston Road
Alex, 3265 Stoney Creek Road
Nicolette Jenaras, 3265 Stoney Creek Road
John Markel, 245 Birch Hill
Lana Mangiapane, 2310 Dutton Road

Roll Call

Ayes: Mabry, Elder, Buxar

Nayes: Campbell, Giannangeli, Casadei, Langlois
Absent: None

Motion failed 3/4.

Motion by Casadei, seconded by Langlois to appoint Teresa Mulawa to the Planning Commission, with a term ending September 2027.

Public comments
Bob Yager, 1146 Bear Creek Park
John Markel, 245 Birch Hill
Christopher Hornbeck, 3441 E Clarkston Road
Nicolette Jenaras, 3265 Stoney Creek Road
Teresa Mulawa, 580 E Gunn Road

Motion carried 7/0.

14. Discussion of the two (2) proposals regarding the concessionaire agreement regarding the Paint Creek Cider Mill.

Motion by Giannangeli, seconded by Elder to begin negotiations with Canelle for a Concessionaire Agreement with the Paint Creek Cider Mill and establish a committee of three board members to work with the Township Manager in negotiations.

Public comment
Bob Yager 1146 Bear Creek Park

Motion carried 7/0.

Motion by Buxar, seconded by Langlois to create a subcommittee of three board members to work on the Paint Creek Cider Mill negotiations. The subcommittee will consist of Supervisor Buxar, Trustee Elder, and Treasurer Giannangeli.

Public comment
Bob Yager, 1146 Bear Creek Park
Lana Mangiapane, 2310 Dutton Road
John Markel, 245 Birch Hill

Motion carried 7/0.

VII. **Public Comment for Items not on the Agenda**
Bob Yager, 1146 Bear Creek Park
John Markel, 245 Birch Hill

Lana Mangiapane, 2310 Dutton Road

VIII. Township Manager's Report

Manager Merucci will provide the Manager's report at the next Board of Trustees meeting, January 28, 2025.

IX. Board Reports & Correspondence: Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer, Trustees

Trustee Campbell – Had nothing to report.
Trustee Elder - Had nothing to report.
Treasurer Giannangeli – Taxes are due February 14, 2025
Trustee Casadei – Had nothing to report.
Trustee Langlois – Presented the Garling Barn moving day photos.
Clerk Mabry – Had nothing to report.
Supervisor Buxar - Wished everyone a Happy New Year and sent condolences to everyone affected by the fires in Los Angeles.

X. Adjournment

Motion by Mabry, seconded by Giannangeli to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

The next Regular Board of Trustees meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 28th, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. Oakland Township Hall 1st Floor Boardroom, 4393 Collins Road, Rochester, 48306.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Mabry, Clerk
Board of Trustees

Approved,

Robin Buxar, Supervisor
Board of Trustees

The Regular Board of Trustees meeting was called to order by Supervisor Buxar on January 28th, 2025 at 7:04 PM.

I. Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

Present:	Supervisor Buxar Clerk Mabry Treasurer Giannangeli Trustee Campbell Trustee Casadei Trustee Elder Trustee Langlois
Absent:	None
Also present:	Joseph Merucci, Township Manager Dan Kelly, Township Attorney Corrin Hearld, Elections Coordinator

II. Announcements

There were no announcements made.

III. Amendments to the Agenda/Approval of the Agenda

Motion by Casadei, seconded by Campbell to approve the agenda as amended:

Pending business item #1 resolution number shall read 25-02
Pending business item #3 resolution number shall read 25-04

Motion carried 7/0.

IV. Public comment for Items on the Agenda

There were no public comments.

V. Consent Agenda

Motion by Mabry, seconded by Campbell to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Motion carried 7/0.

VI. **Pending Business**

1. Consideration of Resolution No. 25-02, a resolution adopting the 2025 – 2029 Charter Township of Oakland Recreation Master Plan.

Motion by Giannangeli, seconded by Langlois to approve the updated and amended Master Plan, including the accompanying Future Land Use Plan and Maps, pursuant to the requirements of the Michigan Planning Enabling Act, Public Act 33 of 2008.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Elder, Giannangeli, Campbell, Casadei, Buxar, Mabry, Langlois
Nays: None
Absent: None

Motion carried 7/0.

2. PUBLIC HEARING - Solicitation of public comments on the proposed 2025-2029 Charter Township of Oakland 5-year Master Plan update.

Supervisor Buxar opened the public hearing at 7:18.

Supervisor Buxar closed the public hearing at 7:19.

3. Consideration of Resolution No. 25-04, a resolution adopting the 2025 – 2029 Charter Township of Oakland Master Plan.

This agenda item was tabled until next regular Board of Trustees meeting.

4. Consideration of receiving and filing the December 31, 2024, Cash and Investment Report

Motion by Elder, seconded by Mabry to receive and file the December 31, 2024, Cash and Investment report.

Motion carried 7/0.

5. Consideration of the budget amendment 25-05, an amendment to fund the expenses of the Garling Barn move.

This agenda item was tabled until next regular Board of Trustees meeting.

DRAFT

6. Consideration of receiving and filing the preliminary 2024, 4th quarter budget report.

Motion by Elder, seconded by Mabry to receive and file the preliminary 2024, 4th quarter budget report.

Motion carried 7/0.

VII. **Public Comment for Items not on the Agenda**

There were no public comments.

VIII. Township Manager's Report

Township Manager Joseph Merucci announced that the Veterans Tribute of Oakland Township is accepting donations for new pavers and that he is working with Deputy Clerk to bring a mobile Secretary of State's office to Oakland Township in the spring.

IX. Board Reports & Correspondence: Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer, Trustees

Trustee Campbell – Had nothing to report.
Trustee Elder – Had nothing to report.
Treasurer Giannangeli – Stated that taxes are due February 14, 2025.
Trustee Casadei – Had nothing to report.
Trustee Langlois – Shared a list of top 20 criteria on appointing someone to a board.
Clerk Mabry – Had nothing to report.
Supervisor Buxar – Had nothing to report.

X. **Adjournment**

Motion by Mabry, seconded by Langlois to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

The next Regular Board of Trustees meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 11th, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. Oakland Township Hall 1st Floor Boardroom, 4393 Collins Road, Rochester, 48306.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Mabry, Clerk
Board of Trustees

Approved,

Robin Buxar, Supervisor
Board of Trustees

Appendix K: Letters of Transmittal

Carlisle | Wortman
ASSOCIATES, INC.
117 NORTH FIRST STREET SUITE 70 ANN ARBOR, MI 48104 734.662.2200 734.662.1935 FAX

January 29, 2025

Kristen Wiltfang, CNU-A
Administrator Trails, Transportation & Environment
Economic Development Department
Executive Office Building 41W
2100 Pontiac Lake Road
Waterford, MI 48328

Dear Ms. Wiltfang:

The Oakland Township Board of Trustees adopted the Township's 2025 – 2029 Parks, Recreation, & Land Preservation Master Plan at a meeting held on January 28, 2025. The plan has been uploaded to the MDNR website for their review and approval, and will be subject to future review and updates as deemed necessary by the Board of Trustees and the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Please feel free to contact the Ben McLoskey, Parks & Recreation Director, or myself if you have any comments regarding this plan.

Thank you for your consideration,

CARLISLE/WORTMAN ASSOC., INC.
Chris Nordstrom, PLA, ASLA
Landscape Architect

cc. Ben McLoskey, Parks & Recreation Director

Benjamin R. Carlisle, *President* John L. Enos, *Vice President* Douglas J. Lewan, *Principal*
David Scurto, *Principal* Sally M. Elmiger, *Principal* R. Donald Wortman, *Principal* Craig Strong, *Principal*
Paul Montagno, *Principal* Megan Masson-Minock, *Principal* Laura Kreps, *Principal* Brent Strong, *Principal*
Richard K. Carlisle, *Past President/Senior Principal*

Carlisle | Wortman
ASSOCIATES, INC.
117 NORTH FIRST STREET SUITE 70 ANN ARBOR, MI 48104 734.662.2200 734.662.1935 FAX

January 29, 2025

Bailee Pasienza
Planner I, Environment and Infrastructure
Southeast Michigan Council of Governments
1001 Woodward Avenue, Suite 1400
Detroit, Michigan 48226

Dear Ms. Pasienza:

The Oakland Township Board of Trustees adopted the Township's 2025 – 2029 Parks, Recreation, & Land Preservation Master Plan at a meeting held on January 28, 2025. The plan has been uploaded to the MDNR website for their review and approval, and will be subject to future review and updates as deemed necessary by the Board of Trustees and the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Please feel free to contact the Ben McLoskey, Parks & Recreation Director, or myself if you have any comments regarding this plan.

Thank you for your consideration,

CARLISLE/WORTMAN ASSOC., INC.
Chris Nordstrom, PLA, ASLA
Landscape Architect

cc. Ben McLoskey, Parks & Recreation Director

Benjamin R. Carlisle, *President* John L. Enos, *Vice President* Douglas J. Lewan, *Principal*
David Scurto, *Principal* Sally M. Elmiger, *Principal* R. Donald Wortman, *Principal* Craig Strong, *Principal*
Paul Montagno, *Principal* Megan Masson-Minock, *Principal* Laura Kreps, *Principal* Brent Strong, *Principal*
Richard K. Carlisle, *Past President/Senior Principal*

Appendix L: Post Completion Self Certification (PCSC) Forms

Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Grants Management

PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT
POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT

This information required under authority of Part 19, PA 451 of 1994, as amended; the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, 78 Stat. 897 (1964); and Part 715, of PA 451 of 1994, as amended.

GRANT TYPE: (Please select one)
☒ MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND ☐ CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE
☐ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND FUND

GRANTEE: Oakland Charter Township

PROJECT NUMBER: TF00-311 **PROJECT TYPE:** Development

PROJECT TITLE: Bear Creek Park Development

PROJECT SCOPE: Trails, boardwalks/decks, pavilion, playground, parking lot, storage.

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)

Name of Agency (Grantee)	Contact Person	Title
Oakland Twp.Parks and Recreation Commission	Ben McLoskey	Director
Address	**Telephone**	
4393 Collins Road	248-651-7810	
City, State, ZIP	**Email**	
Rochester, MI, 48306	mmdale@oaklandtownship.org	

SITE DEVELOPMENT

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided? ☒Yes ☐No
If yes, please describe change(s).
We leveled lawn area near Snell Road entrance and moved temporary ice rink to this park.

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.) ☐Yes ☒No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

SITE QUALITY

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area? If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism. ☐Yes ☒No

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Weekly trail, pavilion, playground maintenance in warm season. Restroom maintained year-round. Ice rink + parking lots maintained in winter. 4-season natural area stewardship.

GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants) ☒Yes ☐No ☐N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure. ☒Yes ☐No

Fee is charged for exclusive rental of pavilion on weekends.

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Daylight hours in four seasons.

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.

Please print	Grantee Authorized Signature	Date
Ben McLoskey	B. M	1/15/25
Michele Rutledge		
Please print	Witness Signature	Date

Send completed report to:

POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS
GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925



Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund
Plaque Locations
Bear Creek Nature Park
TF00-311, TF19-0081

Oakland Township
Parks & Recreation



Last Updated: 1/13/2025

Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Grants Management

PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT
POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT

This information required under authority of Part 19, PA 451 of 1994, as amended; the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, 78 Stat. 897 (1964); and Part 715, of PA 451 of 1994, as amended.

GRANT TYPE: ☒ MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND ☐ CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE
(Please select one) ☐ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND FUND

GRANTEE: Oakland Charter Township

PROJECT NUMBER: TF02-013 **PROJECT TYPE:** Acquisition

PROJECT TITLE: Oakland Township Lost Lake Park Acquisition

PROJECT SCOPE: Acquisition of 32-acre park including lake and nature center structure.

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)

Name of Agency (Grantee)	Contact Person	Title
Oakland Twp.Parks and Recreation Commission	Ben McLoskey	Director
Address	**Telephone**	
4393 Collins Road	248-651-7810	
City, State, ZIP	**Email**	
Rochester, MI, 48306	bmcloskey@oaklandtownship.org	

SITE DEVELOPMENT

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided?
If yes, please describe change(s). ☐Yes ☒No

Since we implemented TF10-069 for development of recreation facilities at this park we have not added or changed facilities, layout or activities offered.

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.) ☐Yes ☒No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

SITE QUALITY

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area?
If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism. ☐Yes ☒No

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Daily inspection/maintenance of sled hill in winter. 4-season natural area stewardship.
Weekly facility maintenance in warm season. Snow plow parking lot in winter.

GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants) ☒Yes ☐No ☐N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure. ☒Yes ☐No

Fee charged for exclusive rental of warming shelter/sled hill during evenings after hill is closed to the public.

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Daylight hours in four seasons and Friday/Saturday evenings for sled hill.

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.

Ben McLoskey		1/15/25
Please print	*Grantee Authorized Signature*	Date
Michele Rutledge		
Please print	*Witness Signature*	Date

Send completed report to:

POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS
GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925



Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund
Plaque Locations
Fox Nature Preserve - TF20-0206
Lost Lake Nature Park - TF02-013, TF10-069

Oakland Township
Parks & Recreation



Last Updated: 1/13/2025

Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Grants Management

PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT
POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT

This information required under authority of Part 19, PA 451 of 1994, as amended; the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, 78 Stat. 897 (1964); and Part 715, of PA 451 of 1994, as amended.

GRANT TYPE: ☒ MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND ☐ CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE
(Please select one) ☐ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND FUND

GRANTEE: Oakland Charter Township

PROJECT NUMBER: TF05-102 **PROJECT TYPE:** Acquisition

PROJECT TITLE: Stony Creek Corridor Park Acquisition

PROJECT SCOPE: Acquisition of 60-acre park including west branch of Stony Creek.

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)

Name of Agency (Grantee)	Contact Person	Title
Oakland Twp. Parks and Recreation Commission	Ben McLoskey	Director
Address	**Telephone**	
4393 Collins Road	248-651-7810	
City, State, ZIP	**Email**	
Rochester, MI, 48306	bmcloskey@oaklandtownship.org	

SITE DEVELOPMENT

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided? If yes, please describe change(s). ☒Yes ☐No

Used TF16-0009 to acquire additional 208 acres adjacent to eastern boundary after EGLE conservation easements placed over 50 acres containing 2 wetland mitigation basins.

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.) ☐Yes ☒No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

SITE QUALITY

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area? If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism. ☐Yes ☒No

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

4-season natural area stewardship.

Rustic trails are mowed bi-weekly.

GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants) ☒Yes ☐No ☐N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure. ☐Yes ☒No

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Daylight hours in four seasons.

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.

Please print	Grantee Authorized Signature	Date
Ben McLoskey		1/15/25
Michele Rutledge		

Please print	Witness Signature	Date

Send completed report to:

POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS
GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925



Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund
Plaque Locations
Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park
TF05-102, TF16-0009

Oakland Township
Parks & Recreation



Last Updated: 1/13/2025

Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Grants Management

PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT
POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT

This information required under authority of Part 19, PA 451 of 1994, as amended; the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, 78 Stat. 897 (1964); and Part 715, of PA 451 of 1994, as amended.

GRANT TYPE: *(Please select one)*
☒ MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND ☐ CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE
☐ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND FUND

GRANTEE: Oakland Charter Township

PROJECT NUMBER: TF07-057 **PROJECT TYPE:** Development

PROJECT TITLE: Marsh View Park Development

PROJECT SCOPE: Trails/deck, sports fields, basketball court, archery ranage, parking.

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)

Name of Agency (Grantee)	Contact Person	Title
Oakland Twp.Parks and Recreation Commission	Ben McLoskey	Director
Address	**Telephone**	
4393 Collins Road	248-651-7810	
City, State, ZIP	**Email**	
Rochester, MI, 48306	bmcloskey@oaklandtownship.org	

SITE DEVELOPMENT

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided? If yes, please describe change(s). ☒Yes ☐No

Added western paved parking lot and stairs to access sport fields, enlarged archery range, and added archery storage building. Moved ice rink to Bear Creek Nature Park.

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.) ☐Yes ☒No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

SITE QUALITY

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area? If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism. ☐Yes ☒No

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Athletic fields and archery range are mowed weekly. Restrooms cleaned/restocked weekly.
Parking lots graded/snow plowed as needed. 4-season natural area stewardship.

GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants) ☒Yes ☐No ☐N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure. ☒Yes ☐No

Fee is charged for use of athletic fields.

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Daylight hours in four seasons.

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.

Please print	Grantee Authorized Signature	Date
Ben McLoskey		1/15/25
Michele Rutledge		

Please print	Witness Signature	Date

Send completed report to:

POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS
GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925



Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund
Plaque Locations
Marsh View Park
TF99-128, TF07-057, TF19-0074

Oakland Township
Parks & Recreation



Last Updated: 1/13/2025

Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Grants Management

PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT
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GRANT TYPE: ☒ MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND ☐ CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE
(Please select one) ☐ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND FUND

GRANTEE: Oakland Charter Township

PROJECT NUMBER: TF10-069 **PROJECT TYPE:** Development

PROJECT TITLE: Lost Lake Nature Park Development

PROJECT SCOPE: Nature center, dock/kayak launch, parking lot, walkways, signage.

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)

Name of Agency (Grantee)	Contact Person	Title
Oakland Twp.Parks and Recreation Commission	Ben McLoskey	Director
Address	**Telephone**	
4393 Collins Road	248-651-7810	
City, State, ZIP	**Email**	
Rochester, MI, 48306	bmcloskey@oaklandtownship.org	

SITE DEVELOPMENT

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided? If yes, please describe change(s). ☒Yes ☐No

When we implemented TF10-69 for development of recreation facilities, we reconfigured sled hill, added learning stations, portable restroom enclosure and drinking water.

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.) ☐Yes ☒No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

SITE QUALITY

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area? If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism. ☐Yes ☒No

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Daily inspection/maintenance of sled hill in winter. 4-season natural area stewardship.
Weekly facility maintenance in warm season. Snow plow parking lot in winter.

GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants) ☒Yes ☐No ☐N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure. ☒Yes ☐No

Fee charged for exclusive rental of warming shelter/sled hill during evenings after hill is closed to the public.

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Daylight hours in four seasons and Friday/Saturday evenings for sled hill.

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.

Please print	Grantee Authorized Signature	Date
Ben McLoskey		1/15/25
Michelle Rutledge		
Please print	Witness Signature	Date

Send completed report to:

POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS
GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925



Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund
Plaque Locations
Fox Nature Preserve - TF20-0206
Lost Lake Nature Park - TF02-013, TF10-069

Oakland Township
Parks & Recreation



Last Updated: 1/13/2025

Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Grants Management

PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT
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(Please select one) ☐ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND FUND

GRANTEE: Oakland Charter Township

PROJECT NUMBER: TF16-0009 **PROJECT TYPE:** Acquisition

PROJECT TITLE: Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park Expansion

PROJECT SCOPE: Acquisition of 208-acre addition after EGLE easements placed on 50 ac.

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)

Name of Agency (Grantee)	Contact Person	Title
Oakland Twp.Parks and Recreation Commission	Ben McLoskey	Director
Address	**Telephone**	
4393 Collins Road	248-651-7810	
City, State, ZIP	**Email**	
Rochester, MI, 48306	bmcloskey@oaklandtownship.org	

SITE DEVELOPMENT

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided? If yes, please describe change(s). ☒Yes ☐No

EGLE conservation easement donor/wetland mitigation sponsor constructed two wetland basins and secured them with deer-proof fencing to promote growth of wetland plants.

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.) ☐Yes ☒No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

SITE QUALITY

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area? If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism. ☐Yes ☒No

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

4-season natural area stewardship.

Rustic trails are mowed bi-weekly.

GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants) ☒Yes ☐No ☐N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure. ☐Yes ☒No

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Daylight hours in four seasons.

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.

Ben McLoskey		1/15/25
Please print	*Grantee Authorized Signature*	Date
Michele Rutledge		
Please print	*Witness Signature*	Date

Send completed report to:

POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS
GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925



Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund
Plaque Locations
Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park
TF05-102, TF16-0009

Oakland Township
Parks & Recreation



Last Updated: 1/13/2025

Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Grants Management

PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT
POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT

This information required under authority of Part 19, PA 451 of 1994, as amended; the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, 78 Stat. 897 (1964); and Part 715, of PA 451 of 1994, as amended.

GRANT TYPE: ☒ MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND ☐ CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE
(Please select one) ☐ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND FUND

GRANTEE: Oakland Charter Township

PROJECT NUMBER: TF18-0098 **PROJECT TYPE:** Development

PROJECT TITLE: Paint Creek Junction Park Northern Trailhead Development

PROJECT SCOPE: Expanded northern trailhead to provide a new access point, parking for

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)

Name of Agency (Grantee)	Contact Person	Title
Oakland Charter Township	Ben McLoskey	Director
Address	**Telephone**	
4480 Orion Road, Second Floor	(248) 651-7810	
City, State, ZIP	**Email**	
Rochester, MI 48306	bmcloskey@oaklandtownship.org	

SITE DEVELOPMENT

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided? If yes, please describe change(s). ☐Yes ☒No

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.) ☐Yes ☒No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

SITE QUALITY

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area? If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism. ☐Yes ☒No

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Restrooms cleaned/restocked weekly.

Parking lots graded/snow plowed as needed. 4-season natural area stewardship.

GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants) ☒Yes ☐No ☐N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure. ☐Yes ☒No

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Daylight hours in four seasons.

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

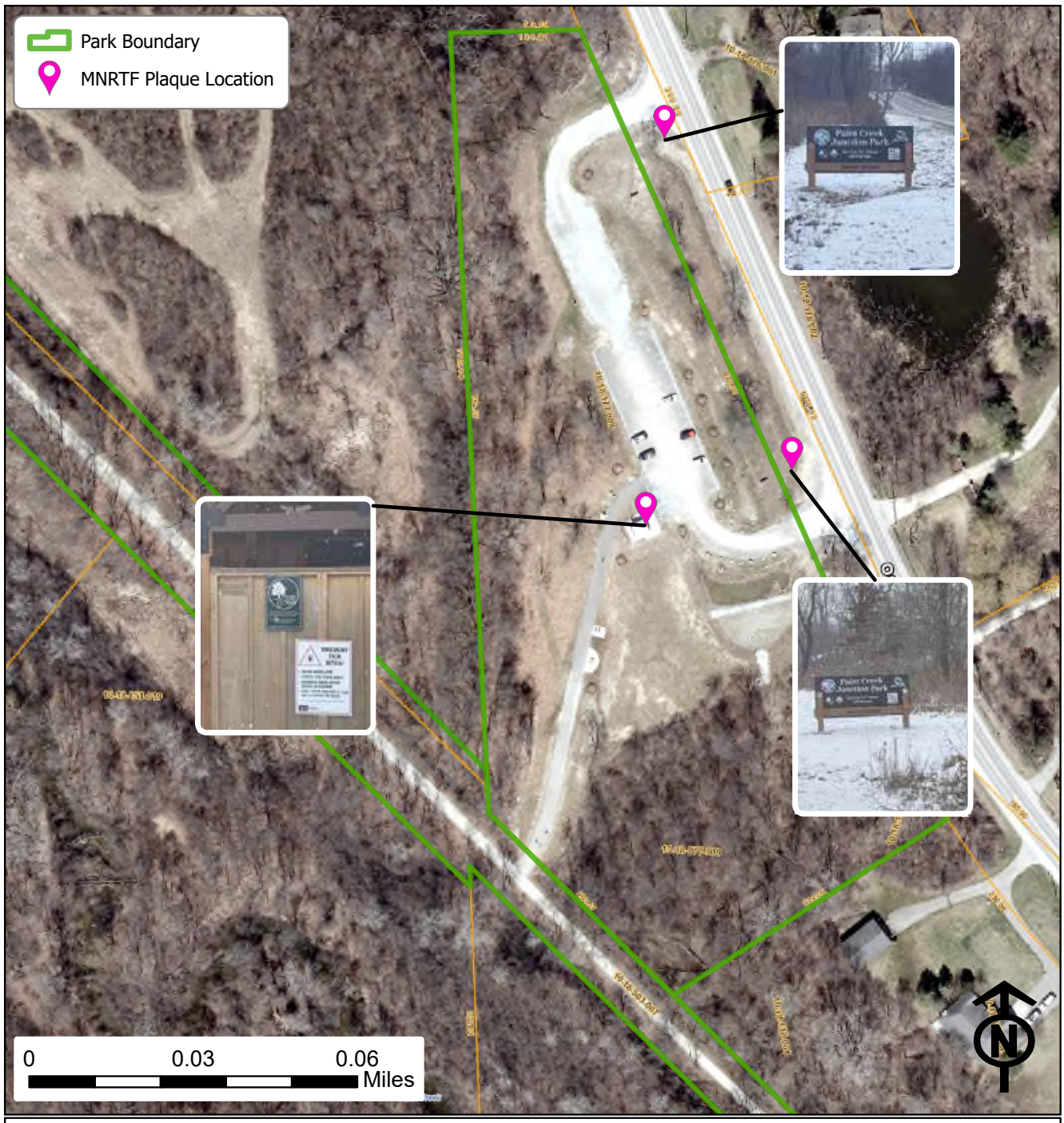
CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.

Please print	Grantee Authorized Signature	Date
Ben McLoskey	B-M	1/15/25
Michele Rutledge		
Please print	Witness Signature	Date

Send completed report to:

POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS
GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925



Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund
Plaque Locations
Paint Creek Junction Park
TF18-0098

Oakland Township
Parks & Recreation



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Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Grants Management

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GRANT TYPE: *(Please select one)* ☒ MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND ☐ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND FUND

GRANTEE: Oakland Charter Township

PROJECT NUMBER: TF19-0074 **PROJECT TYPE:** Development

PROJECT TITLE: Marsh View Park Restrooms

PROJECT SCOPE: Construct restroom facilities at Oakland Township's Marsh View Park

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)

Name of Agency (Grantee)	Contact Person	Title
Oakland Charter Township	Ben McLoskey	Director
Address	**Telephone**	
4480 Orion Road, Second Floor	(248) 651-7810	
City, State, ZIP	**Email**	
Rochester, MI 48306	bmcloskey@oaklandtownship.org	

SITE DEVELOPMENT

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided? If yes, please describe change(s). ☐Yes ☒No

Created northern trail loop / potential for adding parking at north end in future state

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.) ☐Yes ☒No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

SITE QUALITY

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area? If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism. ☐Yes ☒No

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Athletic fields and archery range are mowed weekly. Restrooms cleaned/restocked weekly.
Parking lots graded/snow plowed as needed. 4-season natural area stewardship.

GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants) ☒Yes ☐No ☐N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure. ☒Yes ☒No

Fee is charged for use of athletic fields.

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Daylight hours in four seasons.

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.

Ben McLoskey		1/15/25
Please print	*Grantee Authorized Signature*	Date
Michele Rutledge		
Please print	*Witness Signature*	Date

Send completed report to:

POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS
GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925



Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund
Plaque Locations
Marsh View Park
TF99-128, TF07-057, TF19-0074

Oakland Township
Parks & Recreation



Last Updated: 1/13/2025

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(Please select one) ☐ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND FUND

GRANTEE: Oakland Charter Township

PROJECT NUMBER: TF19-0081 **PROJECT TYPE:** Development

PROJECT TITLE: Bear Creek Nature Park Restrooms

PROJECT SCOPE: Provide restroom facilities at Oakland Township's Bear Creek NP.

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)

Name of Agency (Grantee)	Contact Person	Title
Oakland Twp.Parks and Recreation Commission	Ben McLoskey	Director
Address	**Telephone**	
4393 Collins Road	248-651-7810	
City, State, ZIP	**Email**	
Rochester, MI, 48306	bmcloskey@oaklandtownship.org	

SITE DEVELOPMENT

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided? If yes, please describe change(s). ☐Yes ☒No

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.) ☐Yes ☒No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

SITE QUALITY

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area? If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism. ☐Yes ☒No

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Weekly trail, pavilion, playground maintenance in warm season. Restroom maintained year-round. Ice rink + parking lots maintained in winter. 4-season natural area stewardship.

GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants) ☒Yes ☐No ☐N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure. ☒Yes ☐No

Fee is charged for exclusive rental of pavilion on weekends.

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Daylight hours in four seasons.

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.

Ben McLoskey	Ben McLoskey	1/15/25
Please print	*Grantee Authorized Signature*	Date
Michele Rutledge		
Please print	*Witness Signature*	Date

Send completed report to:

POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS
GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925



Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund
Plaque Locations
Bear Creek Nature Park
TF00-311, TF19-0081

Oakland Township
Parks & Recreation



Last Updated: 1/13/2025

Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Grants Management

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(Please select one) ☐ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND FUND

GRANTEE: Oakland Charter Township

PROJECT NUMBER: TF20-0206 **PROJECT TYPE:** Acquisition

PROJECT TITLE: Lost Lake Nature Park Expansion

PROJECT SCOPE: Acquisition of a 235-acre addition to LLNP-Now titles Fox Nature Pres.

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)

Name of Agency (Grantee)	Contact Person	Title
Oakland Twp.Parks and Recreation Commission	Ben McLoskey	Director
Address	**Telephone**	
4393 Collins Road	248-651-7810	
City, State, ZIP	**Email**	
Rochester, MI, 48306	bmcloskey@oaklandtownship.org	

SITE DEVELOPMENT

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided? ☒Yes ☐No
If yes, please describe change(s).

Conservation and stewardship work, prarie burns and invasive shrub work.

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.) ☐Yes ☒No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

SITE QUALITY

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area? ☒Yes ☐No
If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain.

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism. ☐Yes ☒No

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Daily inspection/maintenance. 4-season natural area stewardship.

Weekly facility maintenance in warm season. Snow plow parking lot in winter.

GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants) ☒Yes ☐No ☐N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure. ☒Yes ☒No

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Daylight hours in four seasons

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.

Ben McLoskey		1/15/25
Please print	*Grantee Authorized Signature*	Date
Michelle Rutledge		
Please print	*Witness Signature*	Date

Send completed report to: **POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS**
GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925



Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund
Plaque Locations
Fox Nature Preserve - TF20-0206
Lost Lake Nature Park - TF02-013, TF10-069

Oakland Township
Parks & Recreation



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GRANTEE: Oakland Charter Township

PROJECT NUMBER: 26-01902 **PROJECT TYPE:** Development

PROJECT TITLE: Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park Development

PROJECT SCOPE: Enclosed Portable Restrooms / Benches / Access Pathways / Signage / etc

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)

Name of Agency (Grantee)	Contact Person	Title
Oakland Twp.Parks and Recreation Commission	Ben McLoskey	Director
Address	**Telephone**	
4393 Collins Road	248-651-7810	
City, State, ZIP	**Email**	
Rochester, MI, 48306	bmcloskey@oaklandtownship.org	

SITE DEVELOPMENT

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided? If yes, please describe change(s). ☐Yes ☒No

Design work completed but haven't broken ground.

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.) ☐Yes ☒No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

SITE QUALITY

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area? If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism. ☐Yes ☒No

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

4-season natural area stewardship.

Rustic trails are mowed bi-weekly.

GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants) ☒Yes ☐No ☐N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure. ☐Yes ☒No

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Daylight hours in four seasons.

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.

Please print	Grantee Authorized Signature	Date
Ben McLoskey		1/15/25
Michele Rutledge		
Please print	Witness Signature	Date

Send completed report to:

POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS
GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925



Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund
Plaque Locations
Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park
TF05-102, TF16-0009

Oakland Township
Parks & Recreation



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(Please select one) ☐ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND FUND

GRANTEE: Oakland Charter Township

PROJECT NUMBER: TF99-128 **PROJECT TYPE:** Acquisition

PROJECT TITLE: Oakland Township Park Acquisition - Marsh View Park

PROJECT SCOPE: Acquisition of 90-acre park for active and passive recreation.

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)

Name of Agency (Grantee)	Contact Person	Title
Oakland Twp.Parks and Recreation Commission	Ben McLoskey	Director
Address	**Telephone**	
4393 Collins Road	248-651-7810	
City, State, ZIP	**Email**	
Rochester, MI, 48306	bmcloskey@oaklandtownship.org	

SITE DEVELOPMENT

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided? If yes, please describe change(s). ☒Yes ☐No

After using TF07-057 to add recreation facilities, added 5 acres for parking lot and stairs to access athletic fields, enlarged archery range and added archery building.

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.) ☐Yes ☒No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

SITE QUALITY

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area? If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism. ☐Yes ☒No

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Athletic fields and archery range are mowed weekly. Restrooms cleaned/restocked weekly.
Parking lots graded/snow plowed as needed. 4-season natural area stewardship.

GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants) ☒Yes ☐No ☐N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure. ☒Yes ☐No

Fee is charged for use of athletic fields.

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Daylight hours in four seasons.

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.

Ben McLoskey Please print	*Grantee Authorized Signature*	1/15/25 Date
Michele Rutledge Please print	*Witness Signature*	1/15/25 Date

Send completed report to:

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GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925



Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund
Plaque Locations
Marsh View Park
TF99-128, TF07-057, TF19-0074

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