



FALL NEWSLETTER

September - December 2026

***Parks & Recreation
Millage Ballot Proposal
Info on page 2!**

**OAKLAND TOWNSHIP
PARKS AND RECREATION**

oaklandtwpmi.gov • 248.651.7810

GENERAL INFORMATION

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Office Location:

Paint Creek Cider Mill
4480 Orion Road, Second floor.
Rochester, MI, 48306

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday: 8:00am - 4:30pm

Park Hours:

Dawn to Dusk

Website:

Oaklandtwpmi.gov/parks-recreation

Staff

Administration

Director

Ben McLoskey

Administrative Assistant

Michele Rutledge

Recreation

Recreation Manager

Arianna Stringer

Program & Marketing

Coordinator

Hanna Muntz

Archery Coordinator

Clif Selent

Archery Instructor

Michael Thor

Recreation Staff

Brooke Patrician, Conner
Dolecki, Makena Jensen,
Annabella Dawood

Maintenance

Maintenance Manager

Bill Beverly

Maintenance Technician

Brian Rank

Maintenance Seasonals:

Dan Barton, Todd Hartzell

Stewardship

Natural Areas

Stewardship Manager

Dr. Benjamin

VanderWeide

Stewardship Specialist

Grant Vander Laan

Stewardship Seasonals:

Kelly Craig, Olivia
Franklin, Paige Williams,
Torrey Murcott

Commissioners

Emily Barkham, Chair
Daniel Simon, Vice Chair
Heidi Beverly, Treasurer
Jim Quesenberry, Secretary
Jim Fostey, Commissioner
Christine Garrett, Commissioner
Cathy Rooney, Commissioner

2026 Commission Meetings

The PRC meets on the second Wednesday of the month
at 7:00 p.m. in the main conference room of the
Oakland Township Hall.

August 12th, 2026
September 9th, 2026
October 14th, 2026

November 11th, 2026
December 9th, 2026



Update on Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park Access Improvements:

For years, the stream valley, oak forests, and restored wetlands of Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park's 268-acres have been visited mostly by wildlife and the few hikers willing to find their way through our mowed trails. This fall, however, the long-awaited access improvements supported through Land and Water Conservation Fund grant dollars will be completed, providing residents with access and amenities including: a **new parking lot** and **trailhead with essential amenities off Snell Road**, a **universally accessible crushed limestone trail** leading to a **stream overlook above the West Branch of Stony Creek**, and a **trail connection linking directly into Stony Creek Metropark** to the south.

The Alan Group has been on site since early summer, working carefully around the park's most sensitive features - protecting mature trees along the construction corridor and phasing work to ensure the habitat remains undisturbed.

I encourage everyone to visit Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park once it re-opens this fall. Whether you're coming for the new trails, Wednesday Bird Walks, or to observe one of our most distinctive natural areas, Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park is ready to welcome you with open arms. See you on the trail!

Sincerely,

Ben McLoskey

Director, Oakland Township Parks & Recreation

Congratulations to **Bill Beverly** (Left) for his new role as the Maintenance Manager. Bill has been a member of our maintenance team since 2022 and has been an integral part of our parks' continued development. We are thrilled to see you flourish in your role!



A warm welcome back to **Brian Rank**! (Right) Brian has worked with us seasonally for four years and has joined our team full-time.

Brian enjoys traveling and spending time with his wife and kids. When he isn't working for the Township maintaining the parks, you can find him flying his Cessna 150 or teaching others as a certified flight instructor. We're excited to have you Brian!

Upcoming November Ballot:

Parks & Recreation Millage Renewal

What is the purpose of the proposed Parks and Recreation Millage renewal?

To continue operating, maintaining, and improving Oakland Township's parks — including its parks, recreation facilities and offerings, and Oakland Township's 5.3-mile section of the Paint Creek Trail. The 0.6809 mill renewal will fund the Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission (OTPRC) in meeting its core obligations and advancing strategic capital improvements, including:

- **Management of over ~1,500 acres of parkland and natural areas** — including Bear Creek Nature Park, Blue Heron Environmental Area, Charles Ilsley Park, Cranberry Lake Park, Draper Twin Lake Park, Gallagher Creek Park, Lost Lake Nature Park, Marsh View Park, and Mill Race Trail, as well as supplemental maintenance of lands acquired through the Land Preservation Millage and private donation.
- **Paint Creek Trail maintenance and long-term resurfacing** — continued safety inspections, routine upkeep, and funding for the scheduled 15-year limestone surface replacement on Oakland Township's 5.3-mile corridor.
- **Year-round recreation programming** — nature appreciation, environmental education, fitness and wellness, outdoor adventure, and lifetime sports programming serving residents of all ages and abilities.
- **Signature community events** — including Music in the Meadows Summer Concert Series, Goodison Good Tyme Fall Festival, and the Winter Carnival at Bear Creek Nature Park.
- **Facility improvements** and repairs to trails, park amenities, Nature Center, playing fields and basketball court.
- **Marsh View Park improvements** — addition of pickleball courts, playground replacement, accessible picnic area, and expanded trail loop, supported in part by state grant funding.

Why is renewal of the Parks and Recreation Millage on the ballot this year?

The 0.7307 mill levy approved by voters in 2016 is **set to expire on December 31, 2026**. Since then, the Headlee Amendment has automatically reduced the rate to 0.6809 mills. This proposal renews the levy at the current rolled back rate of to 0.6809 mills, this is not a new tax.

What will happen if the Parks and Recreation Millage is not renewed?

If the millage is not renewed, funds currently used for the maintenance and improvement of Oakland Township Parks and the Paint Creek Trail and for the support of Parks and Recreation staff and Paint Creek Trail staff/security patrols would no longer be available. The Township may not be able to find alternative sources of funding for these programs and improvements.

If approved, how much more would the renewal cost me starting in 2027?

A renewal **will not cost anything additional** as the parks millage is already on your tax bill.

When will this proposal be on the ballot?

This newsletter went to print prior to the Board of Trustees formally adopting the ballot proposal. The Parks & Recreation Millage renewal is anticipated to appear on either the **November 2026 ballot**.

How will the Parks & Recreation Ballot question be worded?

"Shall the Charter Township of Oakland be authorized to renew the current Headlee reduced levy of up to 0.6809 of one mill for a period of ten (10) years beginning with the December 2027 levy for the purpose of providing funds to be used for the support of parks and recreation within the Oakland Township; including for the management, maintenance, acquisition, operation and improvement of Oakland Township parks, recreation areas, park trails, facilities, programs, recreation, and services; and to acquire new park land for Oakland Township? Approval of this proposal would renew the tax limitation levy of 0.6809 mills on all taxable property in Oakland Township. Approval of this proposal would authorize the levy of approximately \$0.6809 per \$1,000 of taxable property in the Township. It is estimated that this proposal will result in the authorization to collect up to \$1,462,309 in the first year if approved and levied in full. The revenue from this millage will be disbursed to the Charter Township of Oakland."

FREE



Goodison Good Tyme

SEPTEMBER 12, 2026

11AM-3PM



BEAR CREEK NATURE PARK

BOUNCE HOUSES

ROCK WALL

FACE PAINTING

ZIP LINE

ARCHERY

PHOTOBOOTH

BALLOON TWISTERS

ANIMAL SHOW

TIE DYE

FOOD TRUCKS

AND MORE!

EVENT TIME 11:00 AM-3:00 PM - FREE ENTRY, FREE PARKING
BEAR CREEK NATURE PARK, 740 W. SNELL RD





yoga

CLASSES

At Paint Creek Cider Mill

ALL LEVELS YOGA
SUNDAYS 9:30-10:30AM

MEDITATION MONDAYS
MONDAYS 4:45-5:45PM

MOMMY & ME
TUESDAYS 9:30-10:30AM

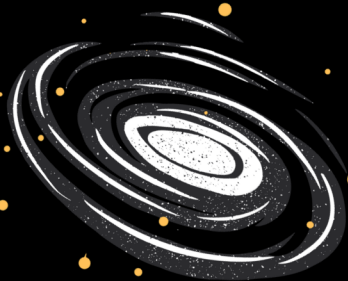
MEDITATIVE YOGA
THURSDAYS 6-7PM



Six-Week Sessions Throughout Fall
\$60 for Residents, \$72 for Non-Residents

VISIT PAGE 8 FOR MORE INFORMATION

MEANDER THE MILKY WAY



NOVEMBER 7TH 7-9:00PM
CRANBERRY LAKE FARMHOUSE

JOIN OAKLAND ASTRONOMY CLUB FOR A
PRESENTATION AND VIEW SATURN, THE
MILKY WAY, THE GREAT GLOBULAR
CLUSTERS, AND THE ANDROMEDA GALAXY
TELESCOPES PROVIDED



Register Online at:
Oaklandtownship.recdesk.com
 or scan the QR Code >>>



REGISTRATION OPTIONS

1. Online:

We encourage everyone to register online at:

Oaklandtownship.recdesk.com

You can register for Oakland Township programs any time, anywhere you have an internet connection, using a credit card (*MasterCard, Visa, or Discover*).

If you need assistance with program registration, call our office at: **(248)651-7810**

2. In Person or by Phone

Visit us at our office location or call **(248)651-7810** to register.

You can pay by credit card (*MasterCard, Visa, or Discover*), as well as cash or check. Payment is due at the time of registration.

Office located at the Paint Creek Cider Mill (2nd Floor) 4480 Orion Rd., Rochester, MI 48306

Registration and waiver forms must be signed by each registrant or the parents/guardians of minor to participate in our programs.

OAKLAND TOWNSHIP PARKS & RECREATION PROGRAM REFUND POLICY

Registrants will receive a full refund for programs cancelled by Oakland Township Parks and Recreation. Registrants withdrawing more than 4 business days prior to the program start date will receive a refund, less a \$5.00 administration fee.

No refunds will be made if withdrawing less than 4 business days from program start date.

All registrants wishing to withdraw must do so during regular business hours:

Monday-Friday, 8am-4:30pm by phone at 248-651-7810.

Registration open NOW!

ARTS & ENRICHMENT

Fall Leaf Pinch Pots

Saturday, Sept. 19th (9am - 12pm)

Paint Creek Cider Mill Ages 4-9

Get ready to take your clay creations to the next level with a fun and festive fall-themed project. We're talking pinch pots that are not only artfully formed, but also beautifully embellished with colorful beads and shimmering sequins. So, grab your clay tools, roll up your sleeves, and let's dive into the wonderful world of pinch pot artistry! Please pack a nut free snack and drink for your child.

Residents: \$42 Non-Residents: \$47

Candy Corn Slime

Saturday, Oct. 10th (11:30am - 2:30pm)

Paint Creek Cider Mill Ages 4-9

Discover the science of candy corn slime! Kids explore ingredients, reactions, and textures while making their own seasonal edible concoctions. Please pack a nut free snack and drink for your child.

Residents: \$42 Non-Residents: \$47



Spooky Science

Saturday, Oct. 24th (1pm - 4pm)

Paint Creek Cider Mill Ages 4-9

Discover the science behind your favorite games while experimenting with sports-based challenges. Learn how physics, biology, and chemistry power athletic performance. It's the perfect mix of action, curiosity, and hands-on fun! Please pack a nut free snack and drink for your child.

Residents: \$42 Non-Residents: \$47



Christmas Chemistry

Saturday, Dec. 5th (1pm - 4pm)

Paint Creek Cider Mill Ages 4-9

The magic of the holiday season meets the wonders of science! In this festive class, kids will embark on a journey of discovery as they explore chemistry through glittery, Christmasy experiments. Each experiment is designed to captivate young minds and ignite a love for science. The children will unravel the mysteries of chemical reactions while creating dazzling holiday-themed creations. Join us for a merry and magical adventure where science and Christmas cheer collide! Please pack a nut free snack and drink for your child.

Residents: \$42 Non-Residents: \$47

Certified Babysitter/CPR/First Aid & Safe Home Alone

Wednesday, Dec. 2nd (5:30pm - 8:30pm)

Paint Creek Cider Mill Ages 9+

Learn to be safe and responsible. Build confidence. Have a competitive edge over other babysitters. One-day class. Topics include first aid, when and how to call 911, CPR with manikin practice, choking, and more! Students will also learn how to be safe and responsible when home alone, including what to do if somebody comes to the door and the importance of not giving out personal information. Students who successfully complete the course requirements will receive a certificate of completion for Certified Babysitter/CPR/First Aid course by Live SafeAcademy (valid for two years).

Residents: \$60 Non-Residents: \$65



Adult Arts & Enrichment



Paint Like Bob Ross

Tuesdays (6pm - 9pm)

- #1 Sept. 22nd - Alaskan Summit
- #2 Oct. 20th - Florida Coast
- #3 Nov. 24th - Spectacular Sunset
- #4 Dec. 22nd - Northern Lights

Lost Lake Nature Park Ages 12+

Learn to Paint like Bob Ross in just one day!

Join Certified Instructor Ted Simpson, as he guides you through a complete oil painting in one session. Create big mountains, fluffy clouds and of course, lots of happy little trees. Learn the techniques to paint your own masterpiece that will amaze friends and family.

All supplies included, no previous experience is needed!

Each class is a different painting.

Visit www.NaturesBrushStudio.com for pictures of all classes.

Residents: \$60 Non-Residents: \$70 Per Painting.



Found Object Printmaking

Friday, Oct. 9th (6pm - 8pm)

Paint Creek Cider Mill Ages 18+

Capture the beauty of the outdoors by using natural textures as your art medium. After a brief forage on the Paint Creek Trail, students will utilize a variety of found and repurposed materials to create unique prints. Experiment with composition, pattern, and color, and discover the unconventional beauty hiding all around you! Printing supplies provided. **Register at PCCArt.org**

Residents: \$20 with code "OAK" Non-Residents: \$30



Ornament-Making Workshop

Friday, Dec. 11th (6pm - 8pm)

Paint Creek Cider Mill Ages 18+

This beginner-friendly workshop will teach you the vintage art of push-pin ornaments. Layer sparkling sequins, velvet ribbons, and colorful seed beads to give your holiday decorations a shimmering mid-century flair. These ornaments also make a great gift! All supplies included.

Register at PCCArt.org

Residents: \$20 with code "OAK" Non-Residents: \$30

FITNESS & WELLNESS

All Levels Yoga

Sundays (9:30am - 10:30am)

Cranberry Lake Farm *Ages 12+*

1 Aug. 30th - Oct. 4th

Paint Creek Cider Mill *Ages 12+*

2 Oct. 11th - Nov. 15th

3 Nov. 22nd - Dec. 27th

Join Up Dog Yoga and Oakland Township Parks and Recreation as they team up to bring you high quality yoga! All Levels classes will accommodate all skill levels with an option to modify.

Residents: \$60 Non-Residents: \$72

Mommy and Me Yoga

Tuesdays (9:30am - 10:30am)

Bear Creek Nature Park *Adults 18+, Kids 3+*

#1 Sept. 1st - Oct. 6th

Paint Creek Cider Mill *Adults 18+, Kids 3+*

#2 Oct. 13th - Nov. 17th

#3 Nov. 24th - Dec. 29th

A Mommy and Me Yoga class offers a peaceful and fun bonding experience, where moms and their little ones can connect through gentle yoga poses, mindfulness, and play. Perfect for enhancing flexibility, relaxation, and building a strong bond with your child. One registration per adult.

Residents: \$60 Non-Residents: \$72

Per Adult.

Meditation Mondays: Yin Yoga

Mondays (4:45pm - 5:45pm)

Paint Creek Cider Mill *Ages 12+*

#1 Sept. 21st - Oct. 26th

#2 Nov. 2nd - Dec. 7th

#3 Dec. 14th - Jan. 18th

Enjoy slow, gentle stretches and the practice of yin yoga. Guided meditation will be offered to enhance the experience as you release stress and tension mind and body.

Residents: \$60 Non-Residents: \$72

Meditative Yoga

Thursdays (6pm - 7pm)

Paint Creek Cider Mill *Ages 12+*

#1 Oct. 8th - Nov. 12th

Enjoy slow, mindful movement, stretches & meditation.

Residents: \$60 Non-Residents: \$72



1234 Walk Hike Ruck

Tuesdays, Sept. 22nd - Oct. 13th

(5:30pm - 7pm)

Various Oakland Township Parks *Ages 16+*

Discover the outdoors, build confidence, and connect with your community!

Join us for a four-week adventure exploring four beautiful Oakland Township parks: Cranberry Park, Bear Creek Nature Park, Fox Nature Preserve, and the Paint Creek Trail. Each 90-minute session includes an easy-paced group walk along with a different outdoor topic, from getting started with walking, hiking, and rucking to discovering local trails, useful apps, gear, and planning your next adventure.

Designed for all abilities, this program is about enjoying nature, meeting new people, and building an active outdoor lifestyle—whether you're taking your very first walk or are already an experienced hiker.

Participants will receive a keepsake carabiner and a collectible trail reference card each week, featuring practical tips and resources discussed during the session. Trail-friendly hydration and snack samples will also be provided throughout the program.

Trail snack and hydration samples will be provided each week, as well as a collectible trail reference card. We'll celebrate our final walk with an optional stop at MK Cannelle.

Bring a weighted pack, a regular backpack, or simply yourself—everyone is welcome. Dress for the weather and come ready to explore the hidden gems of Oakland Township!

Residents: \$5 Non-Residents: \$7

FITNESS & WELLNESS

5 Weeks to 5k

Thursdays Sept. 24th - Oct. 22nd

(5:30pm - 6:30pm)

Paint Creek Trail

Meet at Paint Creek Cider Mill Parking Lot *Ages 16+*

Take the first step toward completing your first 5K!

This modified Couch to 5K program is designed to meet you where you're at, using the proven run/walk interval method to safely build endurance and confidence. Whether you're new to running or returning after time away, you'll progress at your own pace in a supportive group environment.

Weekly coached sessions on the scenic Paint Creek Trail include a different learning theme each week, covering running form, pacing, injury prevention, nutrition, and race-day preparation. Participants will also receive simple homework workouts to continue their progress between sessions.

As a fun goal to work toward, participants will have the option to register for a local Halloween-themed 5K at a discounted rate.

No experience necessary—just a willingness to get moving!

Residents: Free Non-Residents: Free



ZenBeatz Glow Party

Friday, Sept. 25th (7pm - 8pm)

Paint Creek Trail *All Ages*

Meet at the Paint Creek Cider Mill

A high energy, music powered walking experience that feels like a moving dance party.

Participants wear glowing headphones and follow a guided route filled with upbeat music, rhythm breaks, and optional dance along moments. Glow sticks and headphones are provided, creating a colorful, family friendly atmosphere that lights up the night. Perfect for all ages and all fitness levels.

Residents: \$12 Non-Residents: \$15

Halloween ZenBeatz Glow Party

Friday, Oct. 30th (7pm - 8pm)

Paint Creek Trail *All Ages*

Meet at the Paint Creek Cider Mill

Celebrate Halloween with a spooky high-energy, music powered walking experience that feels like a moving dance party. Participants wear glowing headphones and follow a guided route filled with upbeat music, rhythm breaks, and optional dance along moments. Glow sticks and headphones are provided, creating a colorful, family-friendly atmosphere that lights up the night. Wear your favorite Halloween costume and join the fun. Perfect for all ages and fitness levels.

Residents: \$12 Non-Residents: \$15



ARCHERY

Archery Club

Tuesdays (5pm - 6pm)

#1 Sept. 1st - Sept. 22nd

#2 Sept. 29th - Oct. 20th

Marsh View Park Archery Range *Ages 10-18*

Joining an archery club is a great way to achieve your archery goals, make new friends and have fun! Shooting year-round will improve your accuracy, efficiency and confidence. You'll benefit from tips and tricks others share with you, and, most importantly, enhance your overall archery experience. Use our equipment or bring your own. **Prerequisite:** Must have completed Beginner & Next Step Archery course.

Residents: \$75 Non-Residents: \$90

Indoor Archery Club

November - Dates and Times TBD

Baldwin Elementary School Gymnasium *Ages 10 - 18*

Junior Olympic Archery Development (JOAD)

Wednesdays (5pm - 6pm)

#1 Sept. 2nd - Sept. 23rd

#2 Sept. 30th - Oct. 21st

Marsh View Park Archery Range *Ages 10-18*

We are excited to offer this new opportunity for our shooters looking to advance their technique and earn achievement awards. JOAD will focus on your shooting skills, technique, and process. We will go in depth into how we shoot and discuss ways to improve. All participants must be a member of USA Archery. Use our equipment or bring your own.

***(Must have coach evaluation or recommendation to register)* Please contact us at OTPR.JOAD@gmail.com to see if you are a good fit for JOAD.**

Residents: \$72 Non-Residents: \$90

Beginning Archery

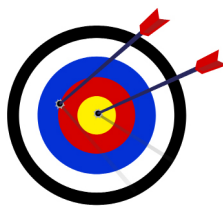
**Saturdays, Sept. 19th - Oct. 17th
(9:00am - 10:30am)**

Marsh View Park Archery Range

Ages 8+

Looking for something new and fun to try on a beautiful fall day? This fun class is for you and your family! Our instructors will cover safety, equipment and basic fundamentals of shooting.

Residents: \$90 Non-Residents: \$112



Next Step Archery

**Saturdays, Sept. 19th - Oct. 17th
(10:45am - 11:45am)**

Marsh View Park Archery Range *Ages 8+*

Once you've completed our Beginning Archery program, take your skills to the next level by improving your form, discover the use of sights to improve your aim, and sharpen your release skills to prepare yourself for competition or to simply master the target during practice.

Prerequisite: Must have completed a Beginning Archery class or its equivalent.

Residents: \$60 Non-Residents: \$75



Zombie Shoot

Saturday, Oct. 24th (10am - 12pm)

Marshview Park Archery Range *Ages 8+*

Join us for a spooky time at our Halloween themed archery event! Test your skills by shooting at monster targets, pumpkins, and even your own custom-decorated zombie. All equipment is provided, and no prior archery experience is needed. Costumes are welcome as long as they're safe to shoot in. See if you have what it takes to survive the Zombie Apocalypse Shoot!

Residents: \$5 Non-Residents: \$7



Open Range Shoot Free for All Ages

Marsh View Park Archery Range

Practice your archery skills during these open hours! Range supervised by certified USA Archery Instructors. Not sure how to shoot? Our instructors can assist you with our **1st Shot Demo Program** - 5 minute teaching time/demo during Open Range Shoot Session Times. Bows, arrows and targets provided or bring your own.

Children between 8 and 17 years of age must be accompanied by an adult.

Registration required for each 1 hour session.

Thursdays

May 21st - Sept. 3rd

5:00pm - 6:00pm

6:00pm - 7:00pm

7:00pm - 8:00pm

Saturdays

Sept. 5th - Oct. 31st

No Sessions 9/12*

12:00pm - 1:00pm

1:00pm - 2:00pm

2:00pm - 3:00pm

3:00pm - 4:00pm

Sundays

Sept. 6th - Oct. 25th

12:00pm - 1:00pm

1:00pm - 2:00pm

2:00pm - 3:00pm

3:00pm - 4:00pm

FREE! Drop in Nature Programs

All programs take place at Lost Lake Nature Center. All Ages.

For 2026, we're turning Lost Lake Nature Park into a different habitat each month! Travel the world without setting foot on an airplane or ship as we transport you to:

August - Rivers

Mississippi and the Nile

Saturday, August 8th (12pm - 3pm)

September - Wetlands

Michigan Wetlands and Everglades

Saturday, September (12pm - 3pm)

October - Deserts

Sahara and Death Valley

Saturday, October (12pm - 3pm)

Each open house includes an awesome craft, outside games, and inside models and biofacts to immerse yourself in another place! Every world traveler needs a passport, so we'll be providing each visitor a passport booklet that you can get stamped with each open house you attend! Show us your passport at the December open houses to get a special prize!

November - Rainforest II

Africa and Asia

Saturday, November (12pm - 3pm)

December - Arctic

Arctic A-L

Saturday, December (12pm - 3pm)

NATURE PROGRAMS

Family Friday- Fox Nature Foray

Friday, Sept. 25th (5pm - 6:30pm)

Fox Nature Preserve *All Ages*

Follow fox tracks among the trails of Fox Nature Preserve. Focus on fox facts, feel fox fur, and find the fun. Forbs with fox in their names will be featured, too, foxglove and foxtail among them. Fifty minutes plus of fox fun foray!

Residents: \$5 Non-Residents: \$7



Fungi of Michigan

Saturday, Sept. 26th (11am - 12:30pm)

Lost Lake Nature Center *Ages 7+*

Did you know that fungi have a kingdom of their own? Join Lorenzo Lo Piccolo to learn about these intriguing organisms. The program will cover topics such as introduction to fungi kingdom and mycology, foraging tips and sustainability, fungi identification and safety, and discuss specific fall Michigan species. The presentation will refer to a collection of curated fungi. All minors must be accompanied by an adult.

Residents: \$5 Non-Residents: \$7

Flyers and Flowers of Fall

Sunday, Oct. 4th (2pm - 3:30pm)

Charles Ilsey Park *Ages 6 and up*

Catch and release a few Fall flyers. See pollinators in action; take home seeds of the meadow, thanks to Rochester Pollinators. Come for scents, scenes and sunshine! Ten insect nets will be provided on a borrow and return basis.

Residents: \$5 Non-Residents: \$7

The RETURN of The Great Pumpkin Bowl

Friday, Oct. 16th (7pm - 8:30pm)

Lost Lake Nature Park *All Ages*

We excitedly invite you to celebrate the majesty of the orange pumpkin! Participants will carry their ammunition to the top of the hill, aim true, and then send their pumpkins careening back down with the intention of obliterating the trash cans at the bottom of the hill. This ultimate celebration in pumpkin destruction wouldn't be complete without a snack so expect cider and doughnuts to keep you energized. Participants must provide their own pumpkins. All family members in attendance must register.

Residents: \$5 Non-Residents: \$7

Fall Colors Walk- Seven Ponds Nature Center

Saturday, Oct. 17th (10am - 11:30am)

Lost Lake Nature Park *All Ages*

Take a relaxing stroll with a naturalist and enjoy the vibrant fall colors, which should be at their peak! As we walk, we'll also explore the plants and wildlife of Bear Creek Nature Park.

Residents: \$5 Non-Residents: \$7

Squirrels and Nuts

Friday, Oct. 23rd (10am - 11:30am)

Lost Lake Nature Parks *Ages 3-5*

Explore some favorite Fall foods of the rodents near us. Touch furs, see dreys (nests) as we learn about five local squirrels and six different nuts. Make a pinecone squirrel feeder with birdseed instead of nuts.

Residents: \$5 Non-Residents: \$7

Meander the Milky Way and More!

Saturday, Nov. 7th (7pm - 9pm)

Cranberry Lake Farmhouse *Ages 8+*

Enjoy an orientation to the Autumn night sky at the historic Cranberry Lake Farmhouse. Then, weather permitting, savor Saturn, meander the Milky Way, and be awe struck by the Great Globular Clusters of the season and the magnificence of the Andromeda Galaxy as we observe through the telescopes of the Oakland Astronomy Club.

Residents: \$5 Non-Residents: \$7



Frosty Fun Crafts

Tuesday, Dec. 1st (10am - 11:30am)

Lost Lake Warming Shelter *Ages 2.5-5*

Celebrate the season with a little winter creativity! Adult/child pairs will make three simple holiday-themed crafts to take home. Decorate a tabletop snowman, create a sparkling snowflake, and enjoy one surprise craft to complete the fun. Come for crafting, conversation, and seasonal cheer!

Residents: \$5 Non-Residents: \$7

Michigan's Winter Animals- Seven Ponds Nature Center

Saturday, Dec. 12th (10am - 12pm)

Lost Lake Nature Center *All Ages*

Where do animals go in the winter, and what do they to survive? Join a naturalist from Seven Ponds Nature Center for an indoor presentation where we will touch real taxidermy and talk about the amazing adaptations of Michigan's critters. Then, we'll take a small hike to look for tracks and signs (weather permitting).

Residents: \$5 Non-Residents: \$7

Adult Nature Programs

End of Summer Garden Tips

Monday, Sept. 21st (6pm - 7:30pm)

Paint Creek Cider Mill *Ages 16+*

The season is coming to a close... Pumpkins and gourds are displayed on straw bales alongside bundles of corn stalks. What can you still do in and around your garden? Join us to learn about some things that still can – and maybe even should – be done as Autumn arrives and Winter closes in.

Residents: \$5 Non-Residents: \$7



Creatures of the Night

Thursday, Oct. 15th (6pm - 8pm)

Paint Creek Cider Mill *Ages 16+*

Join Six Rivers Land Conservancy's Conservation and Stewardship Director, Ian Ableson, for an indoor presentation on Michigan's nocturnal ecology. We'll discuss bats, owls, astronomy and anything else that goes bump in the night! No live animals.

Residents: \$5 Non-Residents: \$7

Woody Plant ID Hike

Saturday, Nov. 7th (10am - 12pm)

Bear Creek Nature Park *Ages 14+*

Join certified arborist and wetland ecologist, **Bryana Guevara**, for a guided fall hike focused on woody plant identification. During this hands-on walk through Bear Creek Nature Park, participants will learn to identify trees, shrubs, and woody vines using bark, buds, branching patterns, fruit, and overall form, perfect for the upcoming dormant season. Bryana will share practical field tips and professional tricks while exploring Michigan's natural communities.

This class is ideal for curious nature lovers, land stewards, students, and anyone looking to sharpen their plant ID skills beyond leaves.

Residents: \$5 Non-Residents: \$7

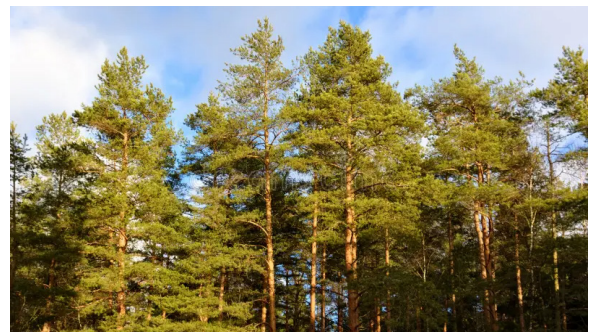
Pining Over Yew

Saturday, Dec. 5th (9:30am - 11:30am)

Lost Lake Nature Center *Ages 50+*

Spruce up your home by making an evergreen centerpiece! Discover which coniferous tree you don't want for a Christmas tree, how pines can help you avoid scurvy, and how to identify trees with needles. Take a taste of pine needle tea and take a short stroll among trees at Lost Lake Nature Park.

Residents: \$5 Non-Residents: \$7





Thank-You to Our Stewardship Crew!

A big thank-you to Kelly Craig, Olivia Franklin, Torrey Murcott, and Paige Williams for their great work this summer as seasonal land stewardship technicians on our natural areas stewardship crew! Together the crew pulled thousands of pounds of garlic mustard, continued restoration work in our wet-mesic prairie and prairie fen wetlands, controlled many acres of invasive plants, helped lead volunteer workdays, and did photo monitoring. Each crew member contributed their skills and background to help us enhance and restore our natural areas. We are so thankful for them. Good luck in your future endeavors!

This summer our technicians also wrote posts for our natural areas stewardship blog at oaklandnaturalareas.com. Check out the website to read their posts and learn more about our program!

If this position sounds like fun to you, consider applying for the 2027 crew! Look for the job announcement this winter on our website.



Summer 2026 Stewardship Crew
In order of appearance left-right, top to bottom.
Ben VanderWeide, Torrey Murcott, Paige Williams,
Kelly Craig, Grant Vander Laan, Olivia Franklin

Get Involved: Volunteers Needed!

Our natural areas stewardship team continues to improve habitat in our parks! It's important for us to help our community connect with and care for nature in our parks. We've added opportunities for you to get involved in meaningful ways. Learn more about our natural areas stewardship programs and events at oaklandnaturalareas.com and on pages 20-21.

Would you like to learn new skills, work with a great team, and participate in local conservation?

Our natural areas stewardship volunteers help us with native seed collecting, prescribed fire, invasive species control, photo monitoring, pollinator garden maintenance, outreach, and more! We fit opportunities to your availability and interests.

To get involved visit: <https://oaklandnaturalareas.com/volunteer-calendar/volunteer-opportunities>

****All minors must have a waiver signed by a guardian, minors under 14 must be accompanied by a guardian.****

Thank You Spring 2026 Volunteers!

These volunteers collectively contributed 463.5 hours from February 2026 – May 2026! Thanks to each and every one of you for contributing your time to make our parks better for people and nature.

Agatha Bayones, Karen Blaszyk, Aaron Carroll, Theresa Celusta, Madison Christol, Corinne Denomme, Marnie Donegan, Kathleen Dougherty, Stephen Eich, Sara Evans, Susan Forgie, Anthony Gimpel, Kristine Hahn, George Hartsig, Louise Hartung, Mark Isken, David Klionsky, Dave Kramer, Irene Louisignau, Michael Mallon, Cam Mannino, Jenna Marcath, Nick Mascarella, Lisa Muenzenberger, Allison Nye, Calvin Nye, Erica Nye, Wesley Nye, Laurie Peklo, Donna Perkins, Mark Peters, Sharon Pizzuti, Jon Reed, Erika Schick, Bob Schrader, Elizabeth Shultz, Dale Sigelko, Jenny Sigelko, Rita Ski, Ethan Teranes, Susan Young, Aaron VanderWeide, Anthony VanderWeide

STEWARDSHIP

Volunteer Spotlight: Donna Perkins



I Volunteer --- You should too!

I love the volunteer work I do in Oakland and Shelby Townships. I realize I have a responsibility as a steward of the natural world to take care of it. I believe we should leave the planet better off than we lived on it. So, I try to tend to my small corner of the world in three ways.

First, by noticing what's there in front of me. Using all my senses, I absorb the wonders of nature. I go birding with the bird group in Oakland Township. With Dr. Ben as the guide we not only see the birds of the air, we learn about the flora growing from mother earth. He teaches as we watch for the birds. Many times I have said, "Hey Ben! What is this plant or tree?" He responds with both the common name and the botanical identification! Such a wealth of knowledge he has!! He has convinced me that native plants are better than the invasive ones. (I still love me some Queen Anne's lace though).

These bird walks help count the bird species that dwell in the parks. So, the second way I volunteer is with the Nest Watch program. My partner, Louise Hartung, and I have become good friends as we monitor the eight nest boxes at Draper Twin Lake Park. It took us

about three years before the invasive house sparrows vacated the park and left our boxes to the Eastern Bluebirds and Tree Swallows. *[Note: house sparrows compete with and kill our native cavity nesting birds.]* There is a kind of harmony on that prairie these days as the Bluebirds lay eggs first in the spring and as they hatch and grow, the Tree Swallows build their nests next door and start laying their tiny white eggs. We both get excited when the new birds fledge. We document each step of the nesting process and send the data off to the Cornell Lab or Ornithology for the wider bird count.

The third way I volunteer is to bring what I've learned from Oakland Township birding and nest watching over to Shelby Township where I live. River Bends Park now has eighteen nest boxes that I help monitor along with other volunteers. We tore out hundreds of old boxes filled with house sparrow nests and put in the eighteen we now closely monitor. No house sparrows have hatched in those boxes for over the four years since we started. Now the Bluebirds and Tree Swallows and House Wrens have returned!

I live near River Bends Park and am a steward of it, as if it is an extension of my own property. I believe we all have an obligation to take good care of the gifts that nature offers. All we need for sustenance can be found out there in the "green spaces." The resources are bountiful but not unlimited. We need to make sure there is plenty for us as well as the generations that come after we are gone from planet earth. So, I encourage everyone to give back some of what has been so generously given.



STEWARDSHIP

Natural Area Stewardship Events

Please join us for one of our events! Updated information and any last-minute changes to these events can be found on our Natural Areas Notebook website at oaklandnaturalareas.com.

Weekly Bird Walks

Join our friendly birders every Wednesday from September to November.

We want to document the bird species using natural areas in our parks so that we can work to improve their habitat. Bird walks start at 8:30 am and last about 2 hours. Some extra binoculars are available.

- 1st Wednesday of month – **Bear Creek Nature Park**
- 2nd Wednesday of month – **Watershed Ridge Park**
- 3rd Wednesday of month – **Fox Nature Preserve**
- 4th Wednesday of month – **Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park**
- 5th Wednesday of month – **Marsh View Park**

Seed Collecting & Cleaning Workdays

Seed Collecting Training Day September 15th 10am-12pm:

Meet at Gallagher Creek Park to learn why we collect seed of our native plants, how we clean seed, and basic of seed mix design. We'll review common seed collecting tools and techniques, then spend some time practicing on the easily accessible plants around the parking lot and playground.

Seed Collecting: Meet at Paint Creek Cider Mill before heading to our site for the day. **September 17th, October 1st, 10th, 16th, 22nd, 23rd, 29th, 30th. All Seed collecting workdays are 12:30pm-3:30pm.**

Many native plant seeds are only available for collecting for a few weeks in the fall, so we need as much help as possible during harvest! Seed collecting is a fun, relaxing way to learn new native plant species while experiencing unique natural areas. We use these seeds to help restore areas where we have removed invasive plants.

Seed Cleaning & Mixing: Meet at Watershed Ridge Park 1720 W. Buell Rd. **November 19th, 9am- 3pm**

We'll clean seed that we collected through the fall and sort them into custom seed mixes for habitat restoration in the parks. We'll have a potluck lunch in the middle, so bring a dish to pass!



STEWARDSHIP



Get Plugged In: Wildflower Planting at Lost Lake

Thursday, September 24th, 6pm to 8pm.
Lost Lake Nature Park, 846 Lost Lake Trail,
Oakland, MI 48363

Join us to plant native wildflower plugs at Lost Lake Nature Park. We're working to improve the area around the nature center so that the wildflower plantings can be used for an educational resource, pollinator food, and just looking good!

Bear Creek Nature Park Workdays

December 1st, 8th, 15th- 9am-12pm
Meet in the Snell parking lot at 740 W. Snell Road,
Rochester, MI 48306.

The special natural areas at Bear Creek Nature Park provide habitat for wildlife and a haven for native plants. We will be removing invasive shrubs this fall and spreading seed, setting the stage for more beauty next year! Tools and training will be provided.



Stewardship Holiday Coffee Hour

Wednesday, December 16th 10am - 11:30am, at Paint Creek Cider Mill

Join us to enjoy some informal socializing and networking with other nature enthusiasts! We'll share our experiences birding, checking nest boxes, volunteering, gardening with native plants, and anything else nature-related while wrapping up 2026.

Volunteers Needed

Would you like to learn new skills, work with a great team, and get more involved in local conservation? Our natural areas stewardship volunteers help native seed collecting, prescribed fire, invasive species control, photo monitoring, pollinator garden maintenance, outreach, and more! We fit opportunities to your availability and interests. No special skills required. We'll provide all training and tools you'll need. To learn visit <https://oaklandnaturalareas.com/volunteer-calendar/volunteer-opportunities/>.



STEWARDSHIP

INVASIVE SPECIES TREATMENT NOTICE

Oakland Township Parks & Recreation hereby provides notice to the public and property owners for the 2026 control of invasive plants in wetlands within township park properties including *Phragmites australis* subsp. *australis* (Common reed), invasive cattails (*Typha latifolia* and *Typha x glauca*), glossy buckthorn (*Frangula alnus*), common buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*), invasive honeysuckle (non-native *Lonicera* species), Oriental bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*), and other invasive plants as needed in township park properties.

Invasive plants can limit access to water bodies for people and wildlife, impair habitat for native plant and animals, lower property values, create a fire hazard, and cause infrastructure damage. By managing these invasive species, we seek to improve habitat for native plants, pollinators, and wildlife. If you have any other questions about invasive species, please contact Oakland Township Parks & Recreation (see information below).

Herbicide Applicators:

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation natural areas stewardship staff that have been certified as Commercial Pesticide Applicators with the State of Michigan will be conducting invasive species treatment.

Schedule & Treatment Locations:

Treatment will take place in 2026 throughout the park system. Treatment dates will depend on weather and the appropriate treatment timing for each target species.

Bear Creek Nature Park
Blue Heron Environmental Area
Charles Ilsley Park
Cranberry Lake Park
Draper Twin Lake Park
Fox Nature Preserve
Gallagher Creek Park
Lost Lake Nature Park
Marsh View Park

Mill Race Trail
O'Connor Nature Park
Paint Creek Trail Right-of-Way
Paint Creek Heritage Area Wet Prairie
Paint Creek Heritage Area – Fen
Paint Creek Junction
Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park
Watershed Ridge Park

Herbicide, Methods of Application & Re-Entry Restrictions:

- Aquatic herbicides and adjuvants will be used, including AquaNeat (glyphosate), Renovate 3 (triclopyr), Hi-Light Blue (spray indicator), and Cygnet Plus (drift control, surfactant) or equivalents.
- Foliar applications will be applied by vehicular mounted hand spray gun equipment, by backpack sprayer, or by hand wicking. Cut stump applications will be applied with wicking herbicide daubers. The herbicide will be tank mixed.
- **Do not enter treated areas until the spray has dried.**

Contact Information:

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact:

Oakland Township Parks & Recreation
4393 Collins Road, Rochester, MI 48306
248-651-7810

CRANBERRY LAKE FARM HISTORIC DISTRICT

388 W. PREDMORE RD
OAKLAND TWP

Oakland Township Historic District Commission



Honey Tasting!

Sat Aug 15 Noon to 1:30pm
\$5 resident / \$8 non-resident

Join our beekeeper Dawn Gialanella, owner of the Golden Acre Apiary. She began her study of the honeybee and searched how best to bring the bees to the surrounding area so if you are interested in honey bees, this is your workshop to learn everything you need to start your own hives.



Painting "Plein Aire"

Aug 18 and Sept 1st
10 AM to 2 PM - Fee \$30

Outdoors in the historic grounds providing beautiful landscape views and subjects. Instruction by Janet Almstadt-Davison who will provide individual attention and teaching technique in both realism and abstraction styles. A materials list of supplies is available upon registration. All artists mediums are welcome.



Free Square Dancing Fun!

Sat August 8, 5pm-8pm
In the Flumerfelt Barn
At Cranberry Lake Farm

The Golden Griffon Stringtet callers Jim & Loretta McKinney will be teaching old-time dances that consist of easy moves with spoken directions so everyone has fun. Wear comfortable shoes please. No dance experience necessary to join in the fun.



Bottom Plow Donation from Kay & Roger Smith

We welcome another implement from the Smith family. This plow was pulled by a horse or tractor and hand steered behind.



Happy Anniversary America 250th 1776-2026

Kline Cemetery Historic District

Notice all the flags flying in our cemeteries thanks to a grant the HDC received America250MI.



Meet Wilbur the Pig !

Make friends while gardening in our Story Garden on volunteer workdays, Friday afternoons from 2pm to 4pm July 31, Aug 28, Sept 25. Bring your gloves.



Oakland Township's DOWN ON THE FARM

Sat. Oct 3, 2026 11am-2pm

Cranberry Lake Farm

Family fun day on the farm located at
388 W. Predmore Road in Oakland Twp.

Featuring Live Music from Just Banjos!

Stop by our other activities with corn shelling,
tractors, apple picking & apple peeling, pumpkins,
spinning, quilting, caning, Story Garden,
beekeeping, chickens, local artists, blacksmiths,
crafts, horse grooming, farrier demonstration, lawn
games, and Dinosaur Hill activity table!
Join us for a great historic time!



Oakland Twp Historic District Commission

Oakland Township
Historical Society

Oakland Township Historical Society



<http://www.oaklandtownshiphistoricalsociety.org/>

www.instagram.com/oaklandtwphistoricalociety/



www.facebook.com/OTHSMI



Discover and preserve our community's rich past by joining the Oakland Township Historical Society. We are proudly headquartered at Cranberry Lake Farm (CLF), situated at 384 W. Predmore Road, Oakland Township, MI. Since 1974, our non-profit organization has been a gathering place for those who love history. We offer a variety of engaging opportunities and events for members and the general public. Check out our website and social media pages for more information about our programs, collections, membership, volunteer opportunities, donation interests, and historical posts.

Questions? Send an email to othspresident@gmail.com



TIME CAPSULE Sponsored in part by a grant from the Community Foundation of Greater Rochester, the public is invited to submit their history: Write a letter to the future; Leave a love note; Describe life in 2026; Share a recipe and its meaning to your family; Make some art; Detail your craft or business. Small artifacts reflective of our time are welcome. Email us or drop off items at the Caretaker's House. **Deadline Oct 1st.**

OTHs COLLECTIONS!

The original **Baldwin Elementary** Bell and Desk were loaned to the school for its 100th year celebration.



Have something to donate?
We collect antique & vintage items including furniture, tools, décor, kitchenware, china, and collectables, for example, which tell the story of our area.

The Flumerfelt Flea will return in 2027.

PROGRAMS AT CLF

Sept 2, Wed. 6:30pm Potluck. Randy Baker presents Colonial American Life - Its Regional Differences.

Oct 3, Sat. Down on the Farm. Volunteers Needed.

Nov 7, Sat. 10am Dr. Richard Stamps will present The Indigenous People of Oakland.

Check out our Social Media pages for more Information.

REVOLUTIONARY WAR EXHIBIT

This display pays Tribute to the Profound Sacrifices of our Forebears, the Founding Legacy of our Nation, and the Enduring Ideals of Liberty. *Visit the Paint Creek Cider Mill.*



COMING SOON...

The *Historic Homes of Oakland Township* features original photographs and historical details for 30 homes and 15 landmarks.



We are saddened to inform our members that Sue Fox died suddenly on August 1st, 2026. Sue has served as Secretary, Treasurer and our archivist of the Oakland Twp Historical Society for many years. **A memorial service is planned for September 12th, 11 AM at Cranberry Lake Farm.**

WANT TO LEARN MORE? Whether you are a long-time resident or have just settled in, we hope you will join us. **The best history isn't just remembered—it's the one we write together!**



Series of Train Photos - Taken by Tom Wolf, Thanksgiving 1972

My brother and I grew up in the city, where both our parents were teachers. Once they had finished teaching summer school, our family would go “Up North” for two weeks, where we’d stay in a rented cabin. As years went by, our parents thought of buying a place close to friends near the tip of the Leelanau Peninsula, but my father hated driving and wanted a place much closer to home so that we could go there on weekends. By amazingly good luck, in 1964 they became aware of a five-acre property in Lake Orion abutting Paint Creek, the other side of which was the old Penn Central railway line. My parents were able to buy it only because there was no house

on it, given how tight money was then. By the end of 1966, when both my older brother and I had graduated from college and I was about to go to Kenya with the Peace Corps, a small house and garage had been built.



In 1972, I returned to the U.S. for a year to work on my Master’s Degree, and was able to visit my family over the Thanksgiving weekend. By this time, my parents were well aware of the train’s schedule: it typically ran from Detroit up to Bay City on Thursday afternoons. So, on that Thursday, I grabbed my camera and crossed the very rickety bridge my dad had built over

Paint Creek, where I could get a good view of the train as it passed by. Before long it appeared. I took a number of photos, starting with the locomotive (notice that the locomotive engineer is waving at me!). Repositioning myself to try to get the best angles, I photographed a number of the other cars as they passed. Each rail car was interesting in its own right, as illustrated by the markings on their sides. My last photo was of the caboose, but the rear brakeman apparently did not see me as he was focused on his job, looking straight ahead. Sometime later, I had five of those photos framed, starting with the locomotive and ending with the caboose.

My family still owns this home and, when I am in town, I place the framed images on the window ledge overlooking the old rail line. As I gaze at it, I am reminded of those early days that our family was in Lake Orion, of how much our parents loved this place, the Paint Creek, Bald Mountain Recreation Area, and the railway bed that has become the Paint Creek Trail.

About 10 years ago, I decided to have a duplicate made of the framed photos so that I could donate it to the Paint Creek Trailways Commission. It is a reminder of the former days when this ribbon of land served to transport people and goods across our state. I continue to enjoy hiking and biking the trail which, I believe, was the first rails-to-trails conversion in the entire country.

Trail Manager’s note: Many thanks to Tom Wolf for sharing this history. His framed photos hang proudly in the Paint Creek Trailways Commission’s office.



Bridge 31.7 Ribbon Cutting Celebration

The new bridge at mile marker 31.7, located just north of the Ludlow/Woodward crossing in the City of Rochester, is complete and open for everyone to enjoy! A structural inspection of the nearly 100-year-old bridge had revealed extensive decay of its structural components, compromising the safety of the bridge and necessitating its replacement. Over the winter, the bridge contractor removed the old bridge and replaced it with this new bridge. The new single-span design will not only eliminate the problem of log jams, but will allow for the free passage of brown trout in the Paint Creek, which is recognized by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources as a high quality, cold water stream. At approximately 14 feet wide and 70 feet long, the new bridge will improve accessibility for trail users, and it will accommodate emergency and maintenance vehicles. Thank you to everyone for your patience during this necessary project. Everyone is invited to attend the grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony, which will be held on **Thursday, September 24th at 1:00 p.m.** I hope to see you on the trail!



Labor Day Bridge 5K Run and Walk

The Labor Day Bridge Walk is back for 2026! Join us on **Monday, September 7th** at the Kiwanis Pavilion in Rochester Municipal Park for this family-friendly event. Check-in is at 8:00 a.m., and step-off is at 9:00 a.m. Watch the website for details.
www.paintcreektrail.org

Contact Us:

Trail Manager Ingrid R. Kliffel: manager@paintcreektrail.org

Trail Office Phone: (248)651-9260

Web: paintcreektrail.org

The office is located at the **Paint Creek Cider Mill, 2nd Floor, 4480 Orion Road, Rochester, MI 48306.**



WHAT'S NEW in the PARKS

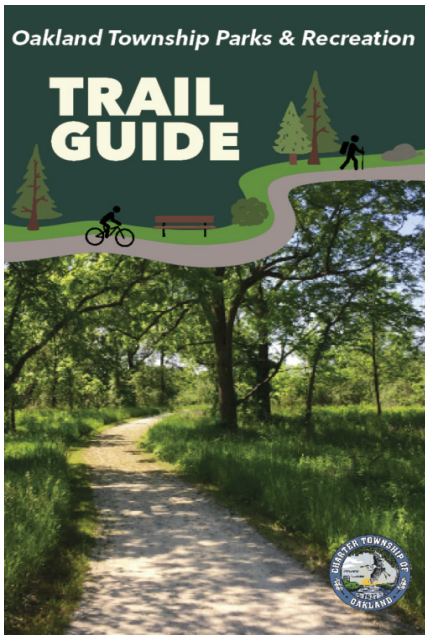
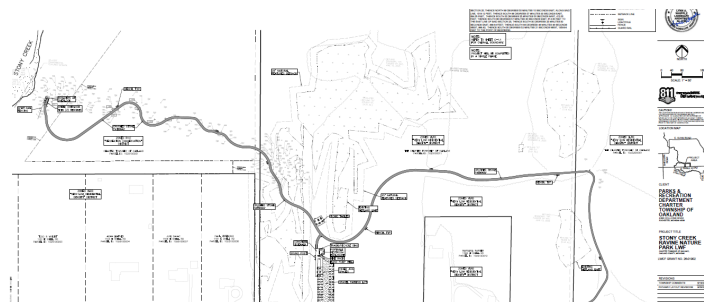
Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park Construction

We've been working all summer at Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park to complete the long awaited development project to democratize access of it's beautiful natural areas to more visitors than ever before.

A new parking lot and trailhead off Snell Road, complete with essential amenities, will give visitors a proper gateway into the park's unique natural areas for the first time. From there, a universally accessible crushed lime-stone trail winds through the oak forest to a stream overlook above the West Branch of Stony Creek: one of the most peaceful vantage points in the Township. A new trail connection to the south links directly into Stony Creek Metropark, opening a continuous natural corridor for hiking, birding, and exploration.

Construction by The Alan Group is underway now, with completion expected by November — made possible through a federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant and the Township's Land Preservation mill-age.

Keep an eye out for a reopening announcement as we approach project completion this fall!



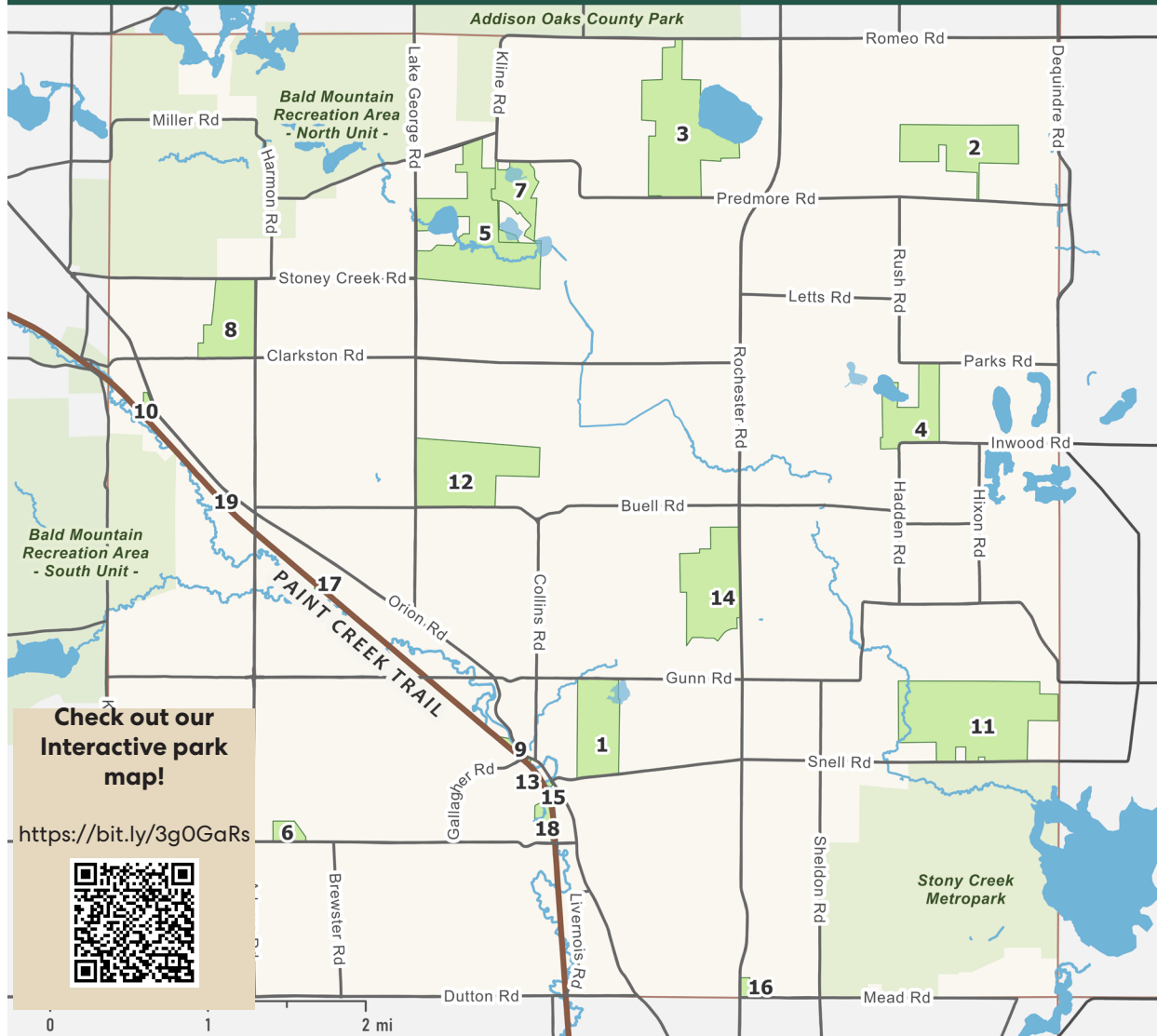
Check out our NEW Trail Guide

We're excited to announce that our Trail Guide is now available! Whether you're looking to explore scenic trails, discover your local parks, or plan your next outdoor adventure, our guide is the perfect companion for enjoying Oakland Township's beautiful natural spaces.

The Trail Guide is available to view online anytime on our website, making it easy to access maps, trail information, and helpful tips before you head out. If you prefer a printed copy, you can pick one up at one of Oakland Township Parks & Recreation events, the Township Hall, or stop by our office at the Paint Creek Cider Mill.

Grab your guide, lace up your hiking shoes, and get outside to experience everything your parks and trails have to offer. We hope the Trail Guide inspires you to explore somewhere new and enjoy the beauty of the every season on the trail!

OAKLAND TOWNSHIP PARKS & RECREATION



Check out our
Interactive park
map!

<https://bit.ly/3gOGaRs>



Community Parks and Recreation Areas

1. Bear Creek Nature Park
2. Charles Ilsley Park
3. Cranberry Lake Park
4. Draper Twin Lake Park
5. Fox Nature Preserve
6. Gallagher Creek Park
7. Lost Lake Nature Park
8. Marsh View Park
9. Mill Race Trail
10. Paint Creek Junction
11. Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park
12. Watershed Ridge Park
13. Paint Creek Cider Mill (Parks Office)

Conservation Areas

Greenspace with no parking, trails, or amenities

14. Blue Heron Environmental Area
15. Mill Creek Crossing
16. O'Connor Nature Park
17. Paint Creek Heritage Area: Fen
18. Paint Creek Heritage Area: Wet Prairie
19. Paint Creek Trail Parcel

For a full map of the Paint Creek
Trail, scan here or visit
paintcreektrail.org/trails/maps



oaklandtwpmi.gov/parks-recreation

Parks Office: (248) 651-7810
4480 Orion Rd, Rochester, MI 48306

Parks and Recreation Commission
Charter Township of Oakland
4393 Collins Road
Rochester, MI 48306-1670

Phone: (248) 651-7810
Fax: (248) 601-0106
oaklandtwpmi.gov

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**THE
RETURN
OF THE**

**7:00-
8:30pm**

**GREAT
PUMPKIN
BOWL**

**16th
October
LOST LAKE
NATURE PARK**

See page 12 for
more details

The poster features a large orange pumpkin in the center with the text "GREAT PUMPKIN BOWL" written across it. To the left of the pumpkin is a single orange maple leaf, and to the right is another. The background is a light yellow gradient. At the bottom, there is a green grassy field with several small pumpkins and a blue recycling symbol. The text "THE RETURN OF THE" is in the top left, "7:00-8:30pm" is in the top right, and "16th October LOST LAKE NATURE PARK" is in the bottom left. A small brown box in the bottom right says "See page 12 for more details".