

DRAFT

Bay County

Area Recreation Plan: 2014-2018

DRAFT



A multi-jurisdictional plan
for

City of Auburn
Bay County
Bangor Township
Beaver Township
City of Essexville
Frankenlust Township

Fraser Township
Garfield Township
Gibson Township
Hampton Township
Kawkawlin Township

Merritt Township
Monitor Township
Mount Forest Township
Portsmouth Township
Williams Township

prepared by

Bay County and Spicer Group

Bay County

Area Recreation Plan: 2014-2018

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City of Auburn
Bay County
Bangor Township
Beaver Township
City of Essexville
Frankenlust Township

Fraser Township
Garfield Township
Gibson Township
Hampton Township
Kawkawlin Township

Merritt Township
Monitor Township
Mount Forest Township
Portsmouth Township
Williams Township

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Table of Contents

I.	Introduction.....	1
II.	Community Description	4
III.	Administrative Structure	7
IV.	Recreation & Resource Inventory	15
V.	Community Input	23
VI.	Goals & Objectives.....	30
VII.	Action Plan	36
VIII.	Summary of the Planning Process & Adoption	41
IX.	Participating Community Plans	43
	City of Auburn.....	44
	Bangor Township	52
	Beaver Township.....	60
	City of Essexville	65
	Frankenlust Township	71
	Fraser Township.....	76
	Garfield Township	81
	Gibson Township.....	86
	Hampton Township	91
	Kawkawlin Township	102
	Merritt Township.....	108
	Monitor Township	114
	Mount Forest Township	119
	Portsmouth Township.....	123
	Williams Township.....	128

Appendix A – SGMA 2012 Sports and Fitness Participation Report

Appendix B – Community Input Survey Results

Appendix C – Great Lakes Bay Regional Trail Map

Appendix D – Potential Funding Sources for Parks and Recreation Projects

Appendix E – Advertisements and Adoption Documentation



I. Introduction

With rich natural features including 30 miles of Saginaw Bay shoreline, Bay County has abundant opportunities for recreation. The natural features and shoreline are a regional tourism draw and serve as an important component and contributor to the County's economy and overall quality of life.

According to the National Park and Recreation Association, parks and recreation have three values that make them *essential services* to communities:

1. *Economic value*

- Parks improve the local tax base and increase property values. It is proven that private property values increase the closer such land is to parks. This increase in private property value due to the proximity to parks increases property tax revenues and improves local economies.
- Parks and recreation programs and facilities provide significant indirect revenues to local and regional economies from sports tournaments and special events such as arts, music, and holiday festivals. Economic activity from hospitality expenditures, tourism, fuel, recreational equipment sales, and many other private sector businesses

is of true and sustained value to local and regional economies. This indirect economic value is in addition to direct revenues that are gained from park facilities and programs.

2. *Health and Environmental benefits*

- Parks are the places that people go to get healthy and stay fit.
- Parks and recreation programs and services contribute to the health of children, youth, adults, and seniors.
- Parks and protected public lands are proven to improve water quality, protect groundwater, prevent flooding, improve the quality of the air we breathe, provide vegetative buffers to development, produce habitat for wildlife, and provide a place for children and families to connect with nature and recreate outdoors together.

3. *Social importance*

- Parks are a tangible reflection of the quality of life in a community. They provide identity for citizens and are a major factor in the perception of quality of life in a given community. Parks and recreation services are often cited as one of the most important factors in surveys of how livable communities are.
- Parks provide gathering places for families and social groups, as well as for individuals of all ages and economic status, regardless of their ability to pay for access.
- Parks have a value to communities that transcend the amount of dollars invested or the revenues gained from fees. Parks provide a sense of public pride and cohesion to every community.

Geographically, Bay County is well-positioned to exemplify these benefits. Bay County is located within a unique and diverse ecological area within Michigan. It is part of the Saginaw Bay watershed – its rich resources support agriculture, manufacturing, tourism, outdoor recreations, and a vast variety of wildlife. The Saginaw Bay watershed is Michigan's largest watershed (8,709 square miles), including a part of 22 counties and it contains a large contiguous freshwater coastal wetland system. The watershed drains approximately 15% of Michigan's total land area.

Recognizing the importance of regional recreation, community officials from across the County have led an effort to develop a Parks and Recreation Plan aimed at improving and developing recreational resources in Bay County.

In accordance with the State recommended five-year cycle for recreation planning, this updated plan covers the five-year period 2014-2018. The content and process follow requirements of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for a community recreation plan.

This document is intended to serve as a guide in the planning for future park and recreation opportunities, services and implementation. Population shifts, new development and changing attitudes towards leisure have added additional pressures to the community's existing parks and recreation system, thus increasing the need for both short and long range planning.

Recommendations such as land acquisition, and facility expansions and construction, and even the design of a neighborhood park improvement, will require additional study or involvement of residents in order to address the site-specific details. This plan lays the foundation upon which these activities can build.

Implementation strategies are identified over the next five years, at which time the plan will again be updated. The delineation of these improvements will aid Bay County and the other communities participating in the plan in grant solicitation from the DNR and other granting agencies, as well as with long range capital improvement budgeting. Additionally, during the next five years, it is important for Bay County and the participant communities to reference the plan and make appropriate priority adjustments as conditions change and funding opportunities arise.



II. Community Description

Bay County is located in east central lower Michigan along the mouth of the Saginaw Bay. The County is largely rural with the majority of the land being used for agricultural purposes. There are 444 square miles in Bay County and approximately 36 miles of Saginaw Bay/Lake Huron shoreline. Bay City is the county seat of Bay County and it serves as the commercial and employment center of the County.

According to the 2010 Census, Bay County has a population of 107,771 in 44,603 households, giving it an average household size of 2.38 persons. This shows a slight decline in the population since 2000, when the county had 110,157 people. The median age of residents in Bay County is 41.7 years. This is almost two years greater than the median for Michigan, which is 38.9 years. Figure 1 shows some of the significant demographic data regarding the residents of Bay County as it compares to Michigan and the United States.

	Bay County	Michigan	United States
Median Age	41.7	38.9	37.2
Average Household Size	2.38	2.49	2.58
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	18.3%	25.3%	28.2%
All parents in family in labor force	75.1%	66.8%	71.2%
Median household income	\$45,962	\$48,669	\$52,762
Per capita income	\$23,642	\$25,482	\$27,915
Disabled	15.4%	13.7%	12.1%

Figure 1 – Selected demographic statistics show that Bay County's population is older, less well educated, and earns less money than that of the population of Michigan or the United States. These facts are important when considering the recreational needs of the community. Source: US Census, 2010, and the American Community Survey (ACS), 2011 & 2012

Bay County led the effort to complete this recreation plan. Fifteen of the governmental jurisdictions within Bay County have also participated in this multi-jurisdictional recreation plan.

Those 15 governmental jurisdictions include 13 townships and two cities:

- City of Auburn
- Bangor Charter Township
- Beaver Township
- City of Essexville
- Frankenlust Township
- Fraser Township
- Garfield Township
- Gibson Township
- Hampton Charter Township
- Kawkawlin Township
- Merritt Township
- Monitor Charter Township
- Mount Forest Township
- Portsmouth Charter Township
- Williams Charter Township

Figure 2 shows a map of Bay County and the communities that are participating in the recreation plan.

The plan is an update of the 2008 Recreation Plan that included Bay County and fourteen constituent communities.

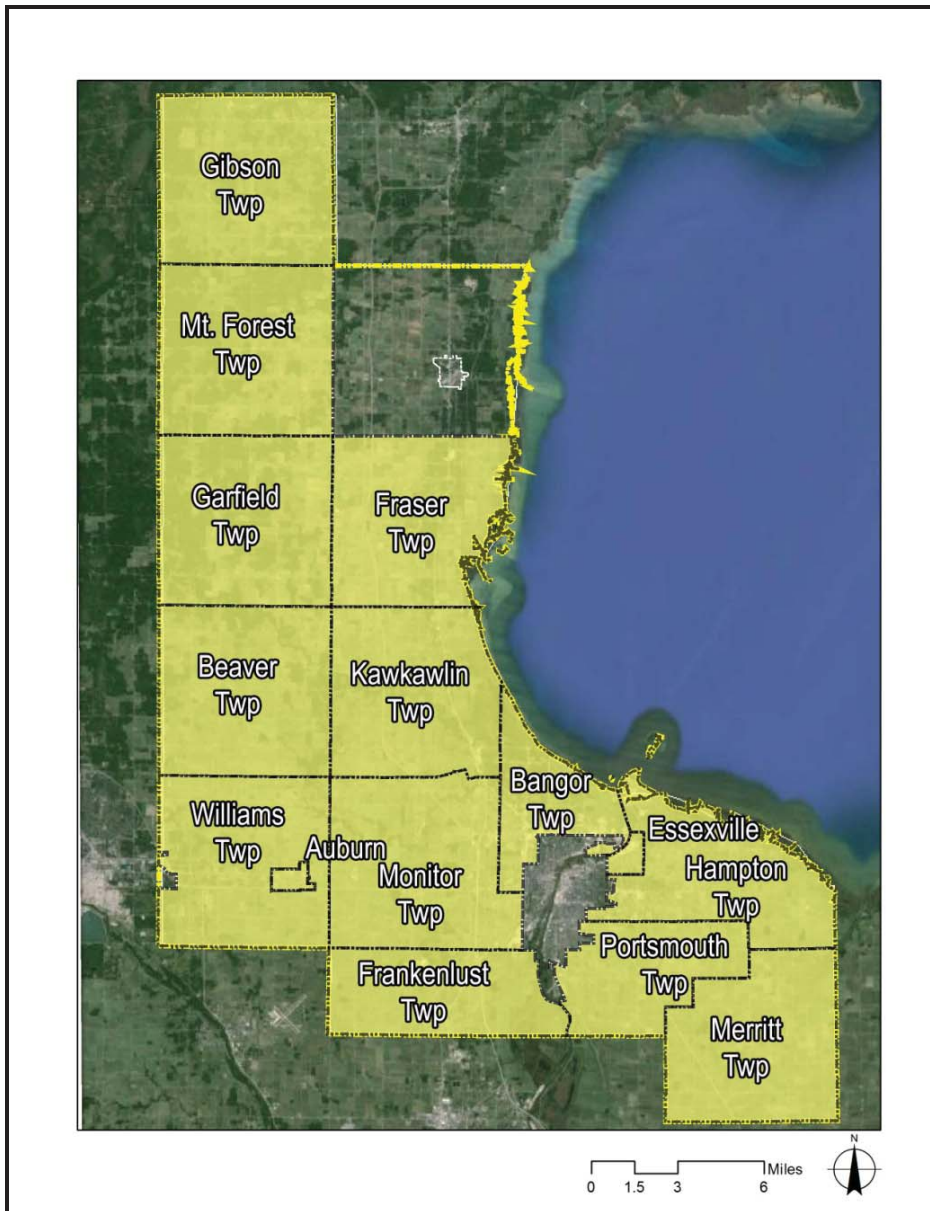


Figure 2 – Bay County and the communities that are participating in the multi-jurisdictional recreation plan.

The document is organized so that Sections I through VIII address the overall Bay County portion of the plan. Section IX covers each of the other individual communities. Please note that the various methods of Public Input described in Section V cover all of the participants in the plan.



III. Administrative Structure

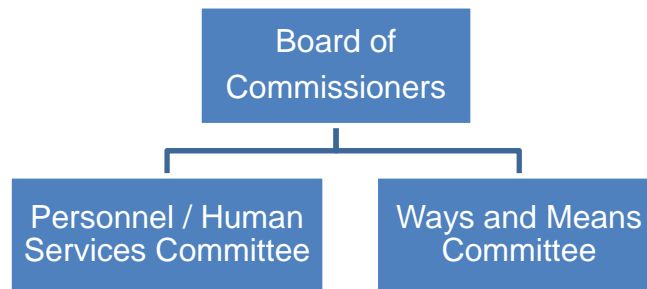
Board of Commissioners

A nine member elected Board of Commissioners governs the County of Bay. As the elected governing body, the Board of Commissioners is responsible for establishing countywide policy, articulating priorities, and adopting an annual operating and capital improvement budget. Through its policy setting functions, the Board of Commissioners establishes recreational opportunities through land and facility use decisions and funding appropriations for programs. The Board of Commissioners is organized into several different committees. Recreation planning and programming generally falls into two of these committees. The Personnel/Judicial and Human Services Committee, formerly existing as two distinct entities, has been combined into one Personnel/Human Services Committee. Specifically, the Personnel/Human Services Committee reviews recommendations made by the County Executive for personnel matters, including staffing and filling of vacancies and other planning functions. Budget appropriations,

authorizations for grant applications, the establishment of fees and other financial matters are the responsibility of the Ways and Means Committee.

County Executive

In 1978, Bay County voters approved the optional unified form of County government as specified by PA 139 of 1973, with an elected County Executive. The County Executive is responsible for the administrative oversight of recreational facilities and programming, community planning and economic development. Day to day management decisions affecting recreational facilities and activities is the responsibility of the facility manager and Recreational Facilities Director. Broad community recreational planning, including non-motorized trails, Saginaw Bay shoreline access and land use improvements is under the direction of the Environmental Affairs and Community Development Director. An employee Organizational Chart for the Bay County Recreation and Administrative Services Department is included at the end of this Section.



Administrative Structure **Bay County Recreation**

Programming

Bay County offers a variety of programs in its park facilities and it cooperates with other communities and school districts to expand those offerings.

At the Civic Arena

The Bay County Civic Arena, established in 1997, provides ice skating opportunities in the form of figure skating, speed skating, and hockey. These programs provide opportunities for skaters of all ages. Non profit collaboration occurs with the Bay County Speed Skating Club, the Bay County Hockey Association, local school districts and others.

A youth training camp is offered each summer, and learn-to-skate is available on a year-round basis. The Bay County Civic Arena serves as the home ice for the Bay City Public Schools, Bay City Wolves, and the Bay Area Thunder.

Recent efforts have resulted in skating programs for youngsters located throughout the County in the Pinconning Area Schools, Bangor Township Schools, Essexville-Hampton Public Schools, and the Bay City Public Schools. Students at local charter, private and parochial schools are also offered opportunities to participate. Partial funding is provided through an endowment established when the Civic Arena was constructed and held by the Bay Area Community Foundation.

At the Community Center

Bay County owns and operates the Bay County Community Center, located within Veterans Memorial Park (which is owned by the City of Bay City) at 800 John F. Kennedy Drive. Constructed in the 1950's, the Community Center is home for the county operated summer youth recreation programs during June, July and August each year. It also serves as the home of the Bay County Sports Hall of Fame. An outdoor swimming pool is operated each summer at the Community Center site. Programs for young people and families are offered, as well as use by BAYS, the Bay Area Youth Swim team.

The Community Center became the primary site for the Bay County Walk Michigan Program, offered in collaboration with the Michigan Recreation and Parks Association, along with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan. Walks are actually occurring at various parks and sites throughout Bay County. The Community Center is also used by Men's Basketball, Coed Volleyball, and Church League Basketball groups.

At the Golf Course

Bay County owns and operates an 18-hole public golf course established in 1966, which serves as a host site for local high school golf programs, and is home to many leagues as well as open golf opportunities for the public. The course is home to group golf outings for businesses and a variety of tournaments.

The Bay County Golf Course has worked extensively on programming in response to needs of disabled golfers, including golf clinics and learning opportunities in partnership with

Michigan Sports Unlimited. An accessible mobility cart is owned by the course and available to disabled golfers.

At the Bay County Fairgrounds

Bay County owns and operates the Bay County Fairgrounds, located at 800 Livingston Avenue. This multi-use facility serves as home to the Bay County Fair and Youth Exposition each year in early August. Other activities include use of the handicapped accessible grand stands for shows and events such as tractor pulls and demolition derbies and others, a canteen building used for events, rented for private parties and used as a congregate nutrition site for Senior Citizens operated by the Bay County Division on Aging, rental stables for private horse owners, a hard surfaced walking/jogging extension of the Bay County Rail Trail Systems, picnic pavilions, playgrounds, Bay County's only dog park, and open green space.

The Fairgrounds is also home of the Bay County Parks & Recreation crew of the Buildings & Grounds Division, as well as the Bay County Animal Shelter and Mosquito Control operations. Bay County works cooperatively with the Bay County Fair Board, Humane Society of Bay County, and other groups on programs offered at this location.

Other Cooperative Programs

Bay County works collaboratively with the Bay County Softball Association to provide softball league play using the lighted diamonds in Veterans Memorial Park. These diamonds are owned by the City of Bay City but maintained by the Bay County Parks and Recreation maintenance staff.

Current Funding Sources and Budgets

Sources of revenues for Parks and Recreation in Bay County include the county general fund, user fees, rental fees and donations. Revenues and expenditures are shown in Figures 3 and 4.

Figure 3 BAY COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETED REVENUES		
	2012	2011
User Fees	\$821,927	\$780,321
Rental Fees	\$585,061	\$584,938
Donations	\$16,331	\$9,512
Other Revenues	\$11,737	\$45,905
Federal or State Grants	\$137,052	\$133,000
TOTAL	\$1,580,108	\$1,553,676

A breakdown of two years of budget data is shown below.

Figure 4 BAY COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETED EXPENDITURES		
	2012	2011
Operation & Maintenance	\$1,871,495	\$2,101,048
Programming (leagues, special events, etc.)	NA	NA
Capital Expenditures	\$141,593	\$79,456
TOTAL	\$2,013,088	\$2,180,504

Role of Volunteers and Relationships with School Districts, Other Public Agencies, or Private Organizations

The County of Bay serves the population within the geographical and political boundaries of Bay County. To serve its citizens, elected officials and staff seek out the input and involvement of others. On-going communication with citizen groups, other elected officials and staff of the surrounding municipalities, schools, private non-profit organizations, and private sector assures a coordinated effort. Although the community does not have a formally recognized recreational advisory group, several other groups of citizens fulfill essentially comparable responsibilities.

These other groups including associations, collaborations, and fund-raising efforts, provide countless volunteer hours developing, maintaining and providing recreational opportunities for the citizens of Bay County. The Bay County Volleyball Association and Basketball Association

of Bay County, meet with staff at a minimum, twice each year. Similarly, meetings with Golf League Secretaries and the Bay County Softball Association occur at season opening and closure. Efforts are directed at developing programming. These efforts are fostered by strong relationships with the local schools and non-profit community that provides access to other facilities and programming. Activities also occur on a weekly basis with the Division on Aging, which is located on the north side of the Community Center.

In addition to the County operated summer recreation program, Bay County provides funding for similar programs operated by the Bay City Public Schools (VIP Program) and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Bay County with site locations in Bay City, Essexville, and Pinconning; as well as offering financial assistance to the Auburn Williams Summer Recreation program for transportation for field trips to the Civic Arena, swimming pool and other locations. In 2013, funding for these programs was \$13,000. Several hundred children are served each year.

Outside the Community Center, Bay County operates beach volleyball courts and lighted softball diamonds which are owned by the City of Bay City. This City-County collaboration at this location has been a long standing arrangement for many years.

At the Bay County Fairgrounds, the County works in concert with the Bay County Fair Board, MSU Extension and 4-H, and the Humane Society of Bay County. In 2006, the County established a dog park at the site with funding provided by the Humane Society and labor by the County staff.



The dog park at the Bay County Fairgrounds is popular park feature in Bay County.

Recreation Policies and Procedures

Generally, policies and procedures fall into two categories. First, there are those established by the Board of Commissioners and County Executive that apply to all county departments. For example, the County purchasing policy, annual budget, and schedule of fees. The Assistant County Executive for Recreation and Administrative Services, in concert with department heads and other county administrators, develops other department specific policies and procedures. Examples of these policies include fee waivers, rules of facility use, and cash handling practices.

Recognizing the County's limited financial resources, the organization has adopted a policy that prioritizes lower or no cost opportunities for youth while adult opportunities generally require payment. Adult sports activities such as softball are responsible to cover all program cost through user fees.

In general, when planning recreational opportunities, programs always provide opportunities for the needs and the skills of each individual enrolled. Programs are broad based, and every effort is made to provide updated programs to meet the changes in recreational trends. Programs are planned and offered for the following:

- Elementary, Middle School, High School & Adults
- Senior Citizens 60 and above
- Individuals with disabilities

Seminars, classes and other planned activities will involve well-trained and educated instructors to provide the participant with the best possible experience. The program will involve opportunities for everyone educationally and recreationally. Opportunities for team competition will be programmed. Currently, adult basketball and volleyball are played at the Community Center. Additional athletics will be planned where interests exist and when facilities are available for planning. Bay County programming will always strive to improve the physical and social well-being of the individual.

Bay County has recently begun to focus on wellness activities for county employees, as well as county residents. Under this initiative, employees will be offered incentives to utilize county recreation facilities for physical activities which promote good health and wellness.

Bay County Recreation and Facilities Management

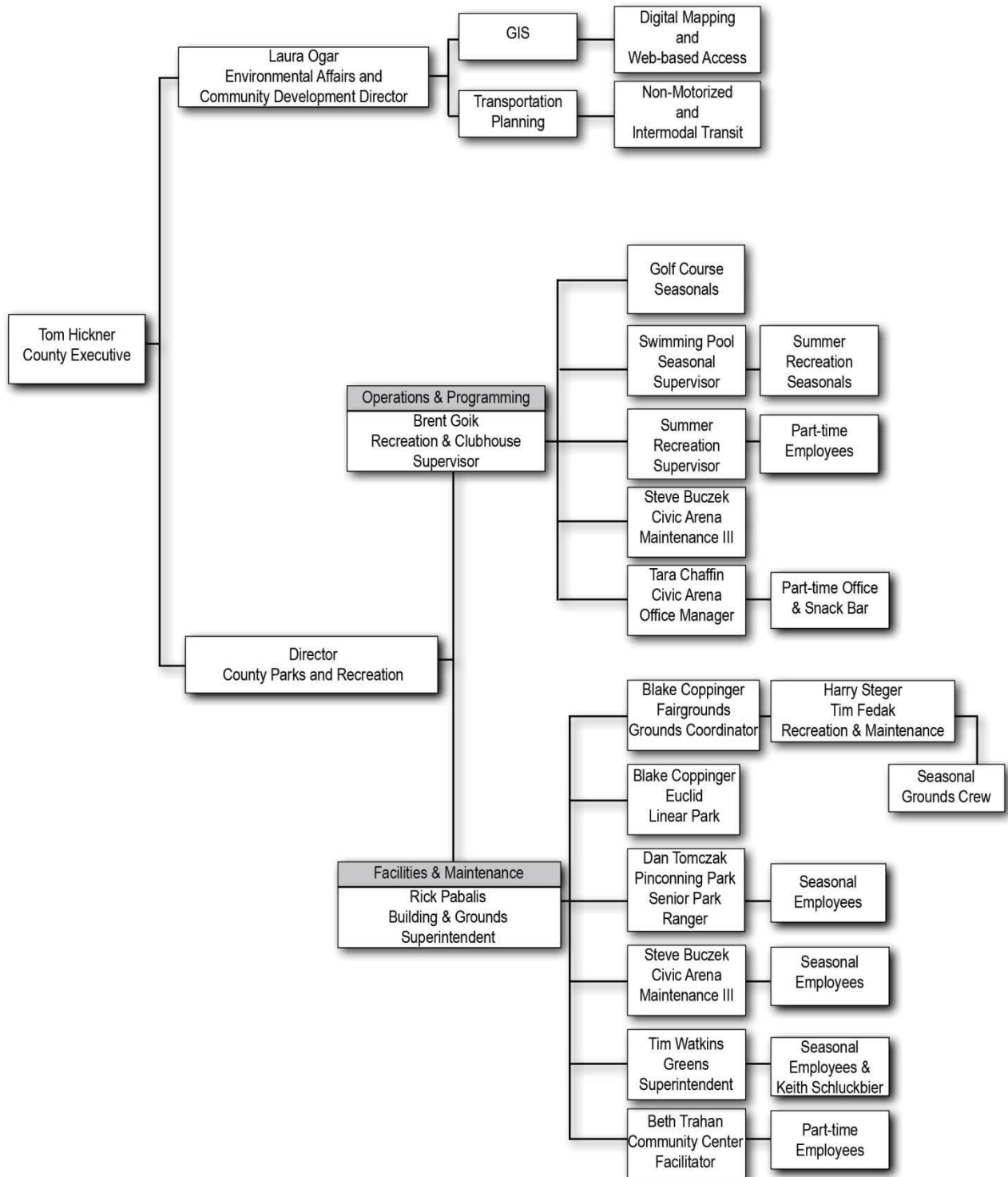


Figure 5 – Organizational Chart for Bay County Parks and Recreation.



IV. Recreation & Resource Inventory

In order to plan for parks and recreation in the future, communities need to examine the types of facilities that currently exist in Bay County. It is also helpful to compare these existing facilities to various standards as one measure of the adequacy of the parks and recreation facilities in the community. The inventory was completed by updating the inventory used in the previous plan. The consultant and County staff worked together to complete any updates or revisions. They also completed an accessibility review of each park's facilities.

The Recommended Classification System for Local and Regional Open Space from the Michigan defines seven types of parks that may be applicable to parks within Bay County.

A **Mini-Park** is less than one acre in size and is less than 1/4 mile from a residential setting. It is used to address limited, isolated or unique recreational needs. **Neighborhood Parks** are generally 5 - 10 acres in size and they serve as the recreational and social focus of a neighborhood. Their service area is generally 1/4 to 1/2 mile. **School-Parks** can combine parks with school sites to help meet the recreational space needs for the community. **Community Parks** serve a broader purpose than Neighborhood Parks. They have more amenities and usually serve two or more neighborhoods within 1/2 to three miles and are generally 30 - 50 acres in size.



Bay County Linear Park

Neighborhood Parks, Mini-Parks and Community Parks tend to be provided by local governing jurisdictions. This can be seen in the inventories of many of the communities that are included in this plan. Their parks are smaller and tend to meet the needs of the local community.

A **Special Use** facility is oriented toward single-purpose use. The Bay County Community Center/Swimming Pool, the County Golf Course, and the Civic Arena are all classified as Special Use Parks in Bay County. A **Natural Resource Area** is land set aside for preservation of significant natural resources, remnant landscapes, open space, and visual aesthetics/buffering. The Keit Wetland Preserve/Euclid Linear Park is a Natural Resource Area. A **Large Urban Park** is typically 50 to 75 acres and its focus is on meeting community-based recreational needs, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces. In Bay County, the County Fairgrounds and the Pinconning Park are classified as Large Urban Parks. A **Park Trail** is located within a greenway, park, or natural resource area and its focus is upon recreational value and harmony with the natural environment. The Euclid Linear Park is a Park Trail in Bay County.

The Bay County recreation inventory chart (Figure 7) and a map showing the location of Bay County parks are shown at the end of this section.

Accessibility

Creating a park system that is safe, accessible and usable to all individuals within the community, including those with disabilities, is essential. Bay County has done considerable work to meet the requirements of the ADA and provide barrier free access to many of its facilities. Among its efforts includes a review of all buildings and programs.

A grading system has been developed by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to easily identify those parks and facilities which are most and least handicap accessible and usable, based on the ADA guidelines. The accessibility grading system uses a five point system ranging from one, none of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines, to five, the entire park was developed/renovated using the principals of universal design.

MDNR Accessibility Grading System for Parks and Recreational Facilities	
Accessibility Grade	Definition
1	None of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines.
2	Some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines.
3	Most of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines.
4	The entire park meets accessibility guidelines.
5	The entire park was developed/renovated using the principles of universal design.

An Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance assessment of Bay County's parks was conducted during the spring of 2008 and reviewed again in 2013. The assessment consisted of a visual inspection of each park in regards to access and circulation in relation to the park facilities. This was done so that the Recreation and Administrative Services Department would have a basis when considering any physical improvements to make park facilities more readily usable by persons of all abilities. As noted in the inventory listing, some of the parks do not meet all criteria for handicap accessibility. The County Board of Commissioners will continue its efforts

towards improving accessibility at each of the parks when improvements are made. This includes accessible parking, paths, restrooms, activity areas, amenities and signage.

Comparison to Standards

General recreation industry standards suggest a minimum of 5 to 10 acres of regional park land per 1,000 citizens. With 110,157 citizens, this translates to approximately 550 to 1,110 acres for the Bay County community. Bay County owns 410 acres of park land, indicating a possible

deficit of 140 to 600 acres. However, it should be noted that there are other large regional parks in Bay County that add considerable acreage to the total. These include the Bay City State Recreation Area, Crow Island State Game Reserve, and Nayanquing Point State Wildlife Area.



The Kawkawlin River is a significant natural resource in Bay County.

More recent park guidelines indicate that one must also consider the “Level of Service” desired by the community. If Bay County residents’ needs are met with the existing amount of park land and facilities, then that amount is sufficient. However, there may be additional needs based upon the unique recreational demands of this community. This is why the community input portion of a recreation plan is so important. The County needs to understand the wishes of the community it serves in order to provide the Level of Service desired by the residents.

As a supplement to the recommended standards for park acreage, data from the Sporting Goods Manufacturers Association (SGMA) is another way to help understand recreation trends. It is important to be aware of national recreation trends to be able to anticipate activities which will incorporate a large number of participants and those which show the greatest growth in popularity. The SGMA conducts an annual survey that analyzes the size of sports product markets in order to determine sports participation trends. Results of the 2012 Sports and Fitness Participation Report are given in the Appendix.

Natural Resource Inventory

A resource inventory can be used to identify open space areas that may be desirable for protection and/or public access through acquisition or other means. In Bay County, the most significant natural resource is the Saginaw Bay and shoreline. The Bay and the adjacent shoreline and wetlands provide habitat for large populations of waterfowl, birds, and more than 90 fish species. The Bay provides a wide variety of year round recreational activities and these comprise an important component of the Bay County economy. The Saginaw River and the Kawkawlin River are two large rivers in Bay County that drain into Saginaw Bay. These rivers and the wetlands that surround them are also significant natural resources in Bay County. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources controls significant natural resource lands in Bay County, most of which are along the bay and river shorelines. These are shown in Figure 6. Bay County and all of the communities that contain bay or river shoreline should take care to preserve and protect these unique resources so they can be enjoyed for generations to come.

There are woodlands scattered across Bay County that can also be considered significant natural resources. These may be worthy of public preservation, especially if there is concern that they may be lost due to development or agricultural use.

Grant History

According to data supplied by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Bay County has received the following grants for park improvements:

26-00075	Pinconning County Park Acquisition	\$44,000
26-00809	Pinconning County Park Day Use Development	\$33,845
TF00-354	Bay County Wetlands Improvements	\$88,226
TF95-255	Keit Linear Park Acquisition	\$375,000
TF88-110	Pinconning Park Improvements	\$60,000
TF01-087	Bay County Trail Improvements	\$22,000
BF92-311	Pinconning Park Boat Launch	\$71,900
CM00-164	Pinconning Park Cabins	\$95,538
TF09-027	Pinconning Park Improvements	\$259,000

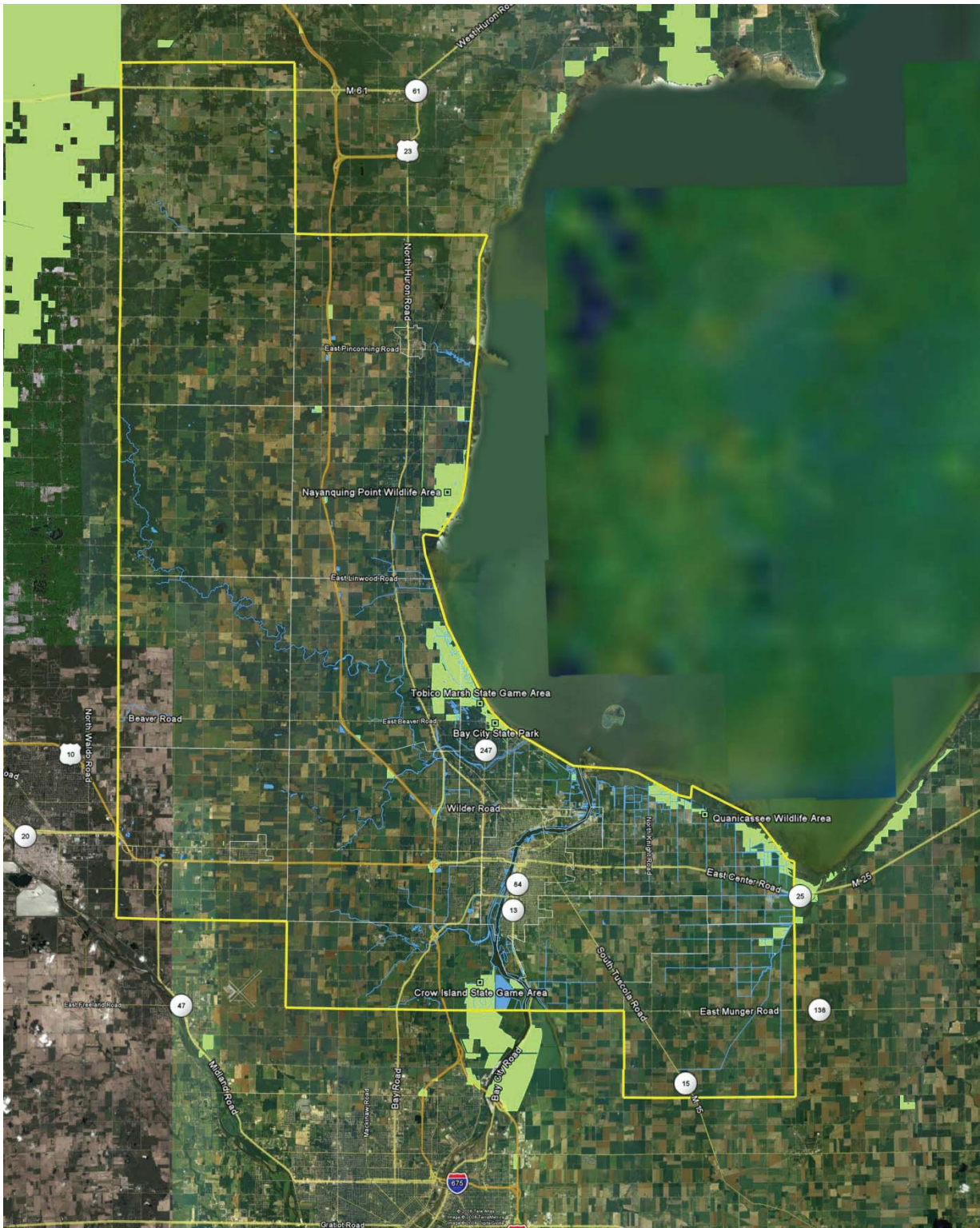


Figure 6 – Some of the significant Natural Resource lands in Bay County are protected by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Source: Nature Conservancy Conservation and Recreation Lands Database

Figure 7

BAY COUNTY RECREATION INVENTORY

	Bay County Community Center/Pool	Golf Course	Civic Arena	County Fairgrounds	Pinconning Park	Keit Nature Preserve & Euclid Linear Park***
Park Type*	SU	SU	SU	LUP	LUP	SU
Acreage	4	145	5	42	205	9
Accessibility**	4	4	4	4	3	4
Service Area	Entire County	Entire County	Entire County	Entire County	Entire County & Beyond	Entire County
Basketball Court					yes	
Boat Launch					yes	
Multi-use Path			yes	yes	yes	yes
Camping				42 sites	50 sites 6 cabins	
Outdoor Pool	yes					
Gymnasium	2					
Golf		18 holes				
Pavilion		yes		yes	2	
Picnic Area				yes		
Playground				yes	yes	
Playfield (open space)				yes		
Ice Skating			2 indoor	yes		
Horseshoe Pits					yes	
Sledding				yes		
Dog Park				yes		
Waterfront Property					yes	
Others	Meeting rooms, weight room & kitchen	Pro-shop & snack shop	Equipment shop, snack shop, and arcade	Barns, canteen, racetrack	Wildlife Observation Tower	

* CP = Community Park; LUP = Large Urban Park; NRA = Natural Resource Area; SU = Special Use; PT = Park Trail,
MP = Mini-Park, NP = Neighborhood Park, SP = School-Park

** See Page 18 for Accessibility explanation

*** Euclid Linear Park has been leased to the Saginaw Bay Land Conservancy for 10 years beginning in 2013.

Bay County Recreation Facilities



Map Produced By:
 Bay County Department of Environmental Affairs &
 Community Development - GIS Program
 Data Source: Bay County GIS, State of Michigan CGI

DISCLAIMER This map is intended for general planning purposes only. The information has not been verified, and was compiled from very generalized information and therefore, **SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR ANY SITE SPECIFIC PURPOSES.** Bay County shall not be responsible for any direct or consequential damage resulting from any use of this information.



V. Community Input

To comply with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources' Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation Open Space and Greenway Plans, Bay County provided two public input opportunities – an online survey and an advertised public meeting held prior to adoption of the plan. The online survey as its primary method for community input. The survey was developed with general questions that gathered information regarding county and local recreation. Each participating community was also offered the opportunity to add two questions to the survey that would be seen only by those respondents that indicated they lived in that community. The survey was primarily distributed online. Paper copies were also developed for those communities who indicated a need for paper copies.

The survey was available from September 30, 2013 until October 25, 2013. It was publicized with a variety of methods:

- Bay County Website
- Bay County Facebook Page

- Bay 3 TV
- County Executive Tom Hickner's monthly e-mail newsletter
- Advertisement in Bay City Times
- Participating community websites
- E-mail blasts from Bay County and participating communities
- Via the Environment Report on Delta College Q-90.1 FM radio
- Fliers that were distributed to all local communities for posting in public places
- Postcards for distribution

WE WANT YOUR OPINION!

The communities of Bay County are updating the county's Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Please take a few minutes to **take our online survey** so we know what you think about parks and recreation in our communities. It will help us plan for the future!

Go to **www.BayRecSurvey.com**






Smart phone users, scan here!

Notifications about the survey included a QR code that could be scanned by mobile device users.

The survey received 342 responses. A compilation of all survey responses is given in the Appendix. Highlights of the survey are described in the paragraphs below.

Bay County Parks

Respondents were asked which Bay County park facilities they had visited in the past year. The Bay County Fairgrounds was the most popular response with over 50% of the respondents indicating they had visited that facility in the past year. The second most popular facility was the

Bay County Community Center/Pool with 43% of the respondents having visited the facility. It is also worth noting that 27% of the survey respondents did not answer this question which indicates that those respondents had not visited any of the Bay County Recreation Facilities in the last year. See Figure 8.

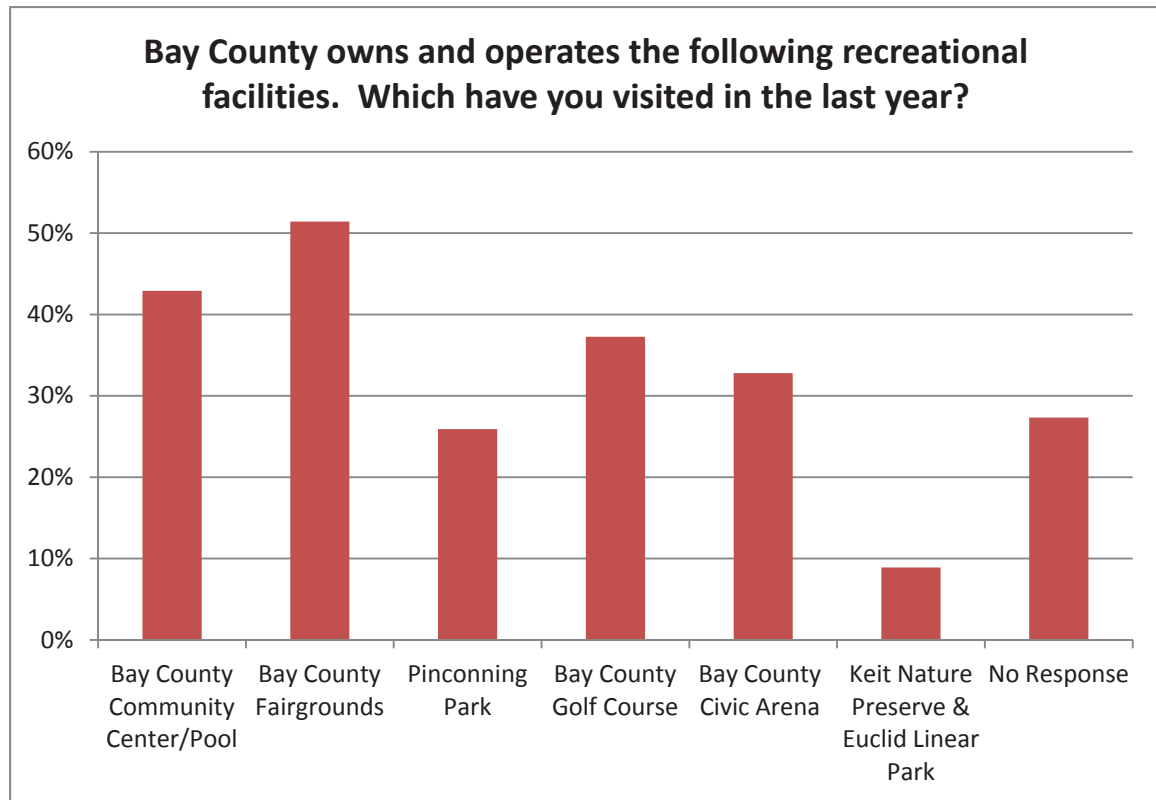


Figure 8- The Bay County Fairgrounds was the most popular Bay County Park Facility among survey respondents.

Reasons for Visiting Parks

Respondents were offered 11 potential reasons for visiting Bay County or local parks during the past year and asked to choose all responses that applied. The three most popular responses were enjoying nature, informal fitness activities, and playgrounds/children's activities. Respondents could also fill in responses for "other". Those reasons included golf and biking. See Figure 9 for all responses.

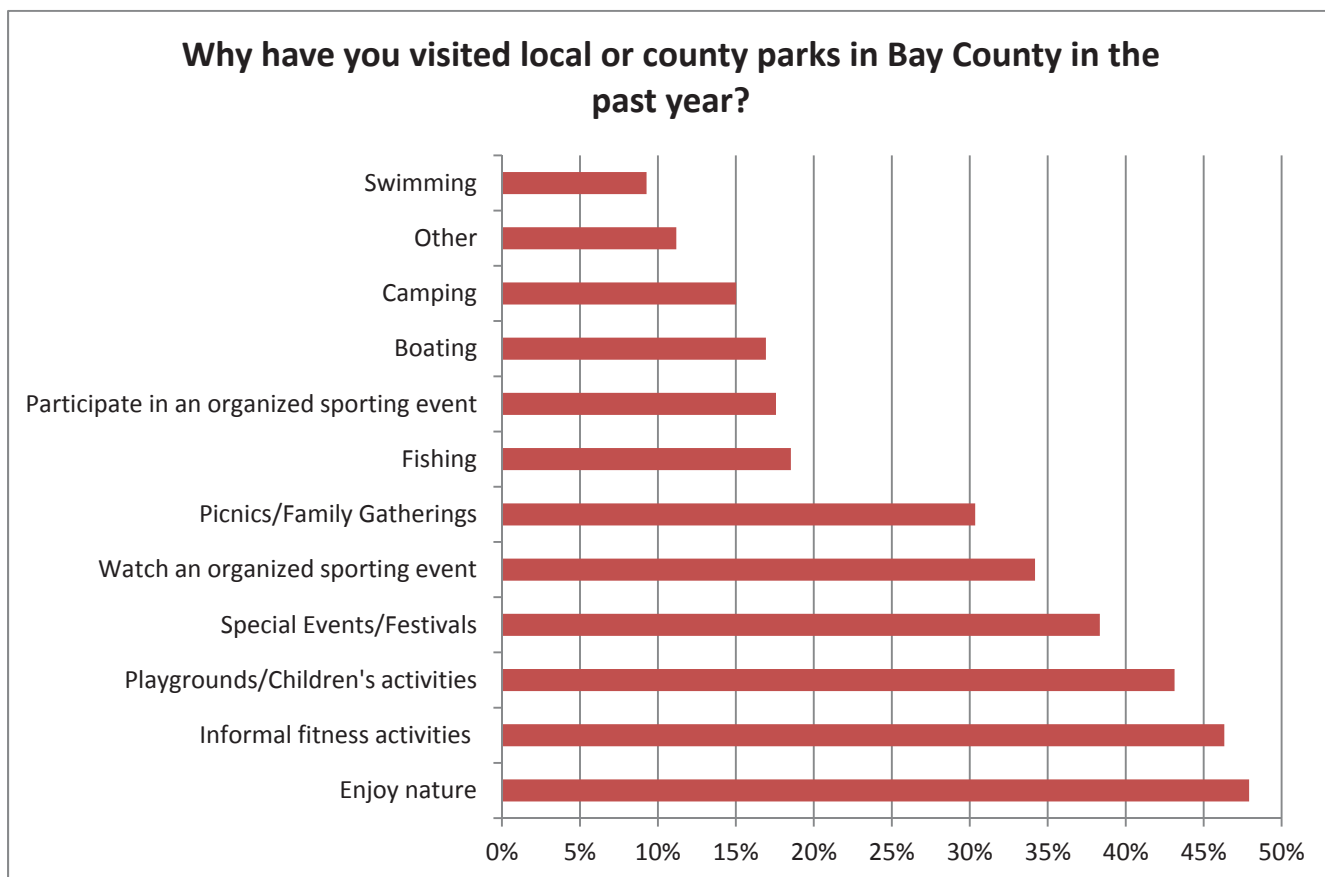


Figure 9 – According to survey respondents, the most popular reasons for visiting parks in Bay County are to enjoy nature, participate in informal fitness activities, and for playgrounds/children's activities.

What's Missing?

Respondents were asked to select from 11 potential park improvements for the kinds of facilities they would like to see added to local or county parks in Bay County. The most popular response was walking and biking trails/paths, with nearly 60% of the respondents indicating a need for this type of facility. This response is very typical of parks and recreation surveys across the country. First and foremost, walking and biking are recreational activities that appeal to a broad range of users. Secondly, people increasingly want to walk and bike in scenic and park like settings. Third, people see a need to walk and bike on paths that are designed specifically for that use.

The second most popular response to this question was a public beach, with over 40% of respondents indicating a need for this facility. It was quite apparent when looking at this response, the nature and water responses, and the open ended responses that survey respondents feel a need to access the Saginaw Bay in Bay County and that current access is lacking. See Figure 10 for all response regarding what park facilities are needed in Bay County.

Some of the responses that were written in for “other” include:

- Splash park
- Nature trails
- Tennis courts

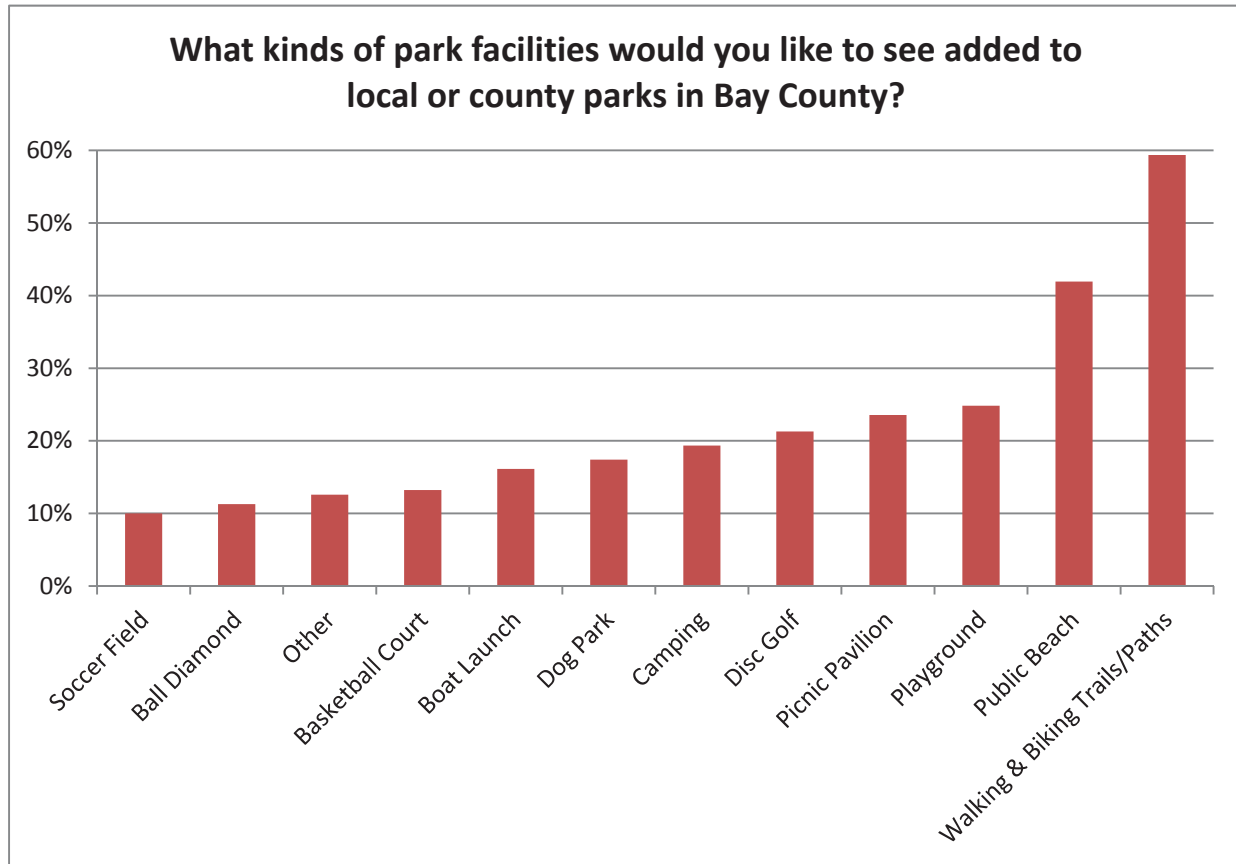


Figure 10 - Survey respondents are looking for walking and biking trails and public beaches in Bay County.

Satisfaction with Parks

Survey respondents were asked their opinion regarding satisfaction with **county** parks and recreation facilities in Bay County and with **local** parks and recreation in their communities. In general, the majority of respondents were satisfied with the county and local parks.

Approximately 56% of the respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the statement that they were satisfied with county parks. Approximately 62% of the respondents agreed or strongly agreed that they were satisfied with local parks. Approximately 30% of respondents were neutral regarding county parks and 24% were neutral regarding city parks. Approximately 11% of respondents disagreed with the statement for both county and local parks. See Figure 11.

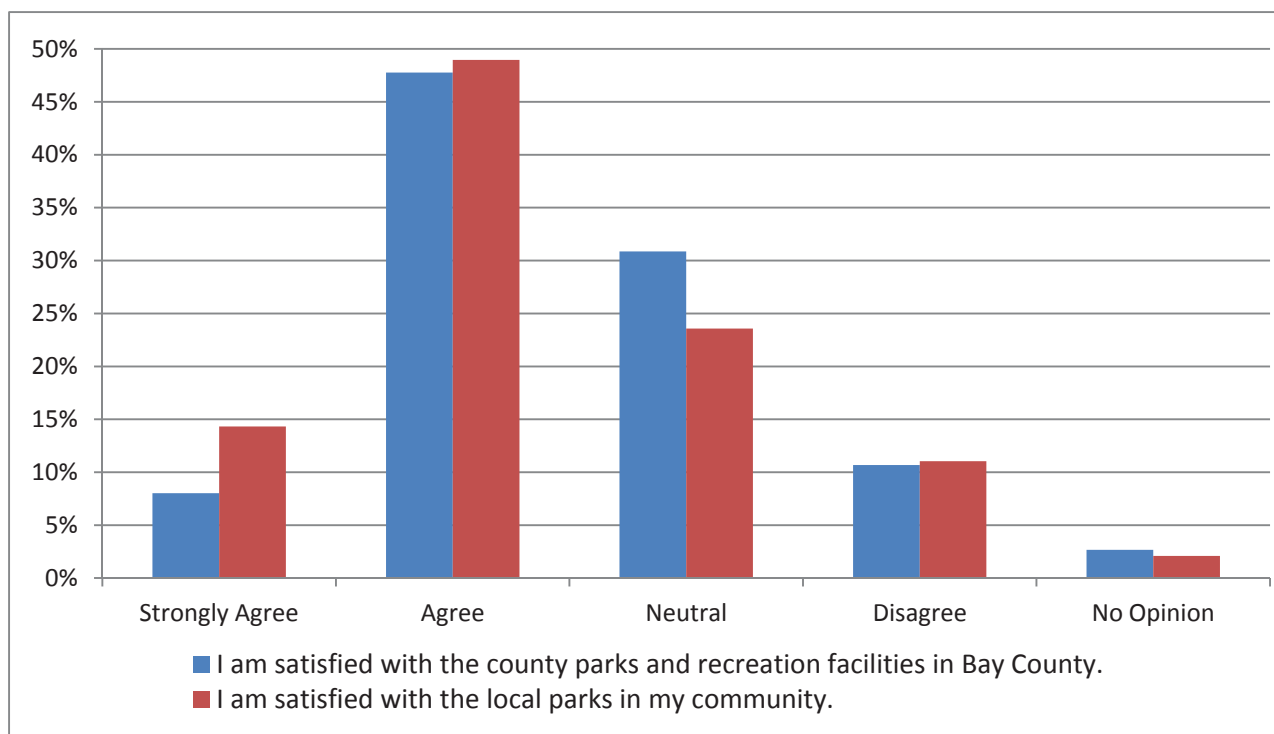


Figure 11 - In general, survey respondents are satisfied with local and county parks in Bay County.

Nature and Water are Important

Respondents were asked their opinion regarding two statements regarding natural areas and water access in Bay County. Their responses indicate that the preservation of natural areas and water resources is important to them as well as improving and enhancing access to the Saginaw Bay and Saginaw River.

Nearly 85% of respondents strongly agreed or agreed with the statement that “The preservation of natural areas and water resources in our community has a positive effect on the quality of my life.” Nearly 90% strongly agreed or agreed with the statement that “It is important to improve access to and enhance the natural resources and recreational opportunities on the Saginaw Bay and Saginaw River” with nearly 60% leaning toward strongly agree.

See Figure 12.

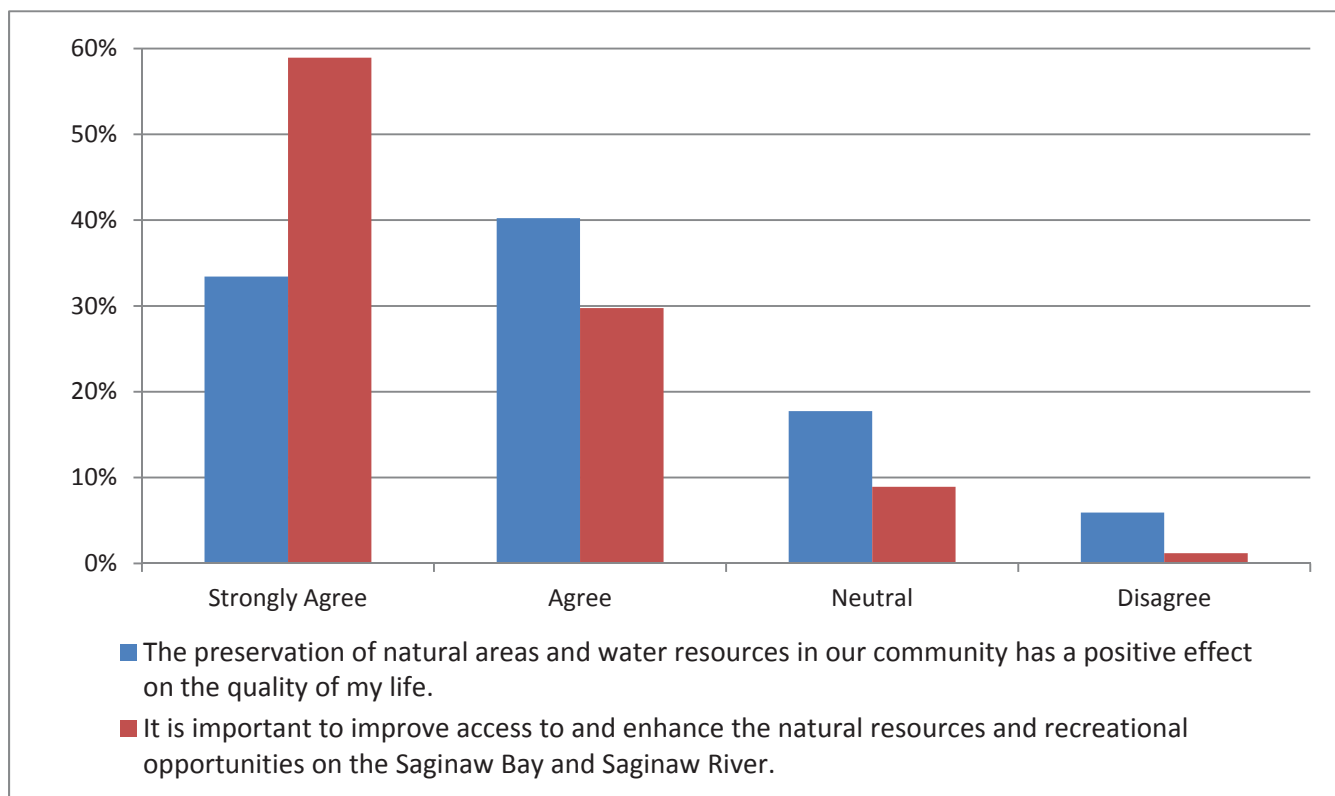


Figure 12- Respondents felt that preserving natural features and access to the Saginaw Bay and Saginaw River were important.

Open Ended Questions

Respondents were asked two open ended questions where they could write in responses. The first question was “What do you like best about the parks in your community?” One hundred sixty-nine respondents offered a response. Common responses included:

- Safety
- Easily accessible
- Well maintained/cleanliness
- Free
- Close to home

The second open ended question asked respondents “What could be done to improve parks and recreation in your community?” One hundred ninety-two respondents offered a response.

Common answers included:

- Additional trails
- Clean up the beach (Usually in reference to the State Recreation Area.)
- More water access
- More play equipment



VI. Goals and Objectives

Developing goals and objectives is an important part of the recreation planning process. The overall goal of a parks and recreation department is to provide recreation opportunities for the community and/or region it serves. More specific goals must be based on the demographic characteristics of the population served, the physical and environmental characteristics of the area, and the input of the community.

Goals are the broadest level. They are overreaching and general. Objectives carry out the purpose of the goal. The Action Program is the last level and it identifies specific projects, acquisitions, and programs. The Action Program can include organizational, staffing, programming, public information, and operation and maintenance actions. Bay County formulated the following goals and objectives based upon the characteristics of the overall community, the input received at the community input sessions and the survey. These goals are applicable for Bay County parks and recreation and many of them also apply for the individual participating communities.

GOAL 1

Retain public land for future generations.

Objectives

1. Retain existing parkland and acquire new public lands to meet the recreational needs of the community.
2. Promote and enhance the financial stability of Bay County's Parks and Recreation Division.
3. Preserve and protect open space and significant natural features in Bay County.
4. Increase access to the Great Lakes shoreline.

Comments and justification

Residents of Bay County are proud of their parks and recreational facilities. They realize they are part of the quality of life in the area. New parcels of land may need to be acquired so specific facilities can be added or so that special natural features can be preserved.

GOAL 2

Provide quality leisure time activities with special consideration given to activities improving health and fitness.

Objectives

1. Provide passive and active programming for a variety of ages and abilities of the population.
2. Continue to work with existing recreation partners in the community to provide programs, leagues, and special events.
Explore options for new and expanded partnerships to provide additional recreational opportunities.

Comments and justification

Due to limited resources and staffing, recreational programming and facilities in Bay County are provided by several different organizations and entities.

Some of them work with the County in some capacity. The County wishes to



Trail improvements at Pinconning Park

continue facilitating and enhancing these relationships, where feasible, so as to meet the needs of

residents without offering duplication of services. One successful example from recent years is the Great Lakes Bay Regional Trail group which is working together with Bay County to establish trail connectivity across Bay, Saginaw, and Midland Counties.

GOAL 3

Provide safe, broad, community-based recreation opportunities that improve the overall quality of life for all residents of Bay County.

Objectives

1. Continue to add amenities to Bay County park facilities based upon community input and need.
2. Maintain and existing facilities to provide park facilities that inspire a sense of community pride.

Comments and justification

The county will use community input along with recreational trend data to formulate recreational capital improvement plans for the future. It will also work to improve and maintain existing facilities to keep them current, functional, and efficient.

GOAL 4

Provide trails and multi-use paths for recreational and transportation use.

Objectives

1. Update the Bay County non-motorized trail plan.
2. Where possible, connect trails to regional trails and destinations.
3. Where feasible, encourage the County Road Commission to provide easements for trails and trail corridors that will connect to regional trails and destinations.

Comments and justification

All forms of non-motorized transportation are becoming increasingly important across the United States. Multi-use paths, trails, and bike lanes are used for recreation and transportation. Paths can be used for active and passive recreation and they are just one of many ways that can increase the health and fitness of a community. As mentioned above, the Great Lakes Bay Regional Trails group is actively planning for a trail that will link Saginaw, Bay, and Midland Counties. Bay County is a vital part of this regional planning effort and it wishes to be part of future regional path development efforts. A proposed Tri-County Regional Path Map is shown in the Appendix.

GOAL 5

Make Bay County a better place to live for seniors and people with disabilities.

Objectives

1. Promote the development of an inventory of services and opportunities in our community that promote the independence and quality of life for older adults and the disabled.
2. Initiate partnerships with other units of government and recreation providers to promote the development of senior friendly community amenities.
3. Provide recreational opportunities for people with disabilities, developing improvements and upgrades to park facilities that are handicap accessible.
4. Continue program development for special needs populations.

Comments and justification

According to the 2010 Census, the median age of Bay County residents is 41.7 years. That is nearly three years greater than that of the State of Michigan at 38.9 years and 4.5 years greater than the median age of the United States which is 37.2 years. As the baby boom population continues to age, there will be increased demand for recreational facilities and services that meet the needs of aging adults. Further, Figure 1 shows that the 15.4% of County residents have a disability. This population also has special needs in terms of recreational facilities.

Bay County is attentive to the needs of its senior citizens and all those who have some diminished capacity that may limit their access to recreational resources in the community. Designs will incorporate the philosophies and principals of “universal design” and they will address “Communities for a Lifetime” goals.



Pinconning Park shoreline improvements

GOAL 6

Provide youth development programming and expand recreational facilities for such in Bay County.

Objectives

1. Encourage new sports leagues in Bay County based upon community input, recreation trends and general need.
2. Encourage the addition of one-day recreation events for youth in the community.
3. Provide a mechanism to assist youths with financial need to participate in County recreational activities.

Comments and justification

Recreational opportunities for youth in Bay County are both numerous and diverse. The inventory of recreational resources substantiates both diverse recreational opportunity and geographic distribution of youth recreational facilities. This recreation plan supports the inclusion of new and emerging new youth recreational projects and facilities, like the skate park constructed in Bay City, that further diversify the types of recreation in which youth can engage and/or expand the geographic distribution of existing recreational opportunities in Bay County.

GOAL 7

Develop recreation opportunities that focus upon and take advantage of Bay County's natural assets.

Objectives

1. Develop public fishing opportunities in Bay County.
2. Develop public hunting/shooting range opportunities in Bay County.
3. Develop opportunities, alone or in partnership with others, to educate citizens about natural resources and environmental stewardship in Bay County.
4. Develop recreation opportunities that take place along the Great Lakes Shoreline.
5. Continue to work to develop the Saginaw Bay blueways water trail.

Comments and justification

Bay County has some unique natural resources and habitats. It is part of the Mississippi and Atlanta flyway for migratory birds. The Saginaw Bay provides a shoreline wetland habitat and a great location for sport fishing – especially walleye. Woodlands provide habitat for deer, raccoons, muskrat, squirrels, rabbits, and other small game. Bay County wishes to incorporate these features into its parks and recreation program. Further, it wishes to educate the public about the unique environments in Bay County.

GOAL 8

Promote community awareness for all the recreation opportunities that Bay County has to offer.

Objectives

1. Work with the local convention and visitors bureau to promote recreation opportunities in Bay County.
2. Keep the county web site and recreation database updated regarding recreation opportunities in Bay County.
3. Use social media to promote recreation opportunities in Bay County.

Comments and justification

In order for citizens to take advantage of recreation opportunities, the community must be aware of them. Several survey respondents commented that they were not sure of what recreational opportunities were available in the

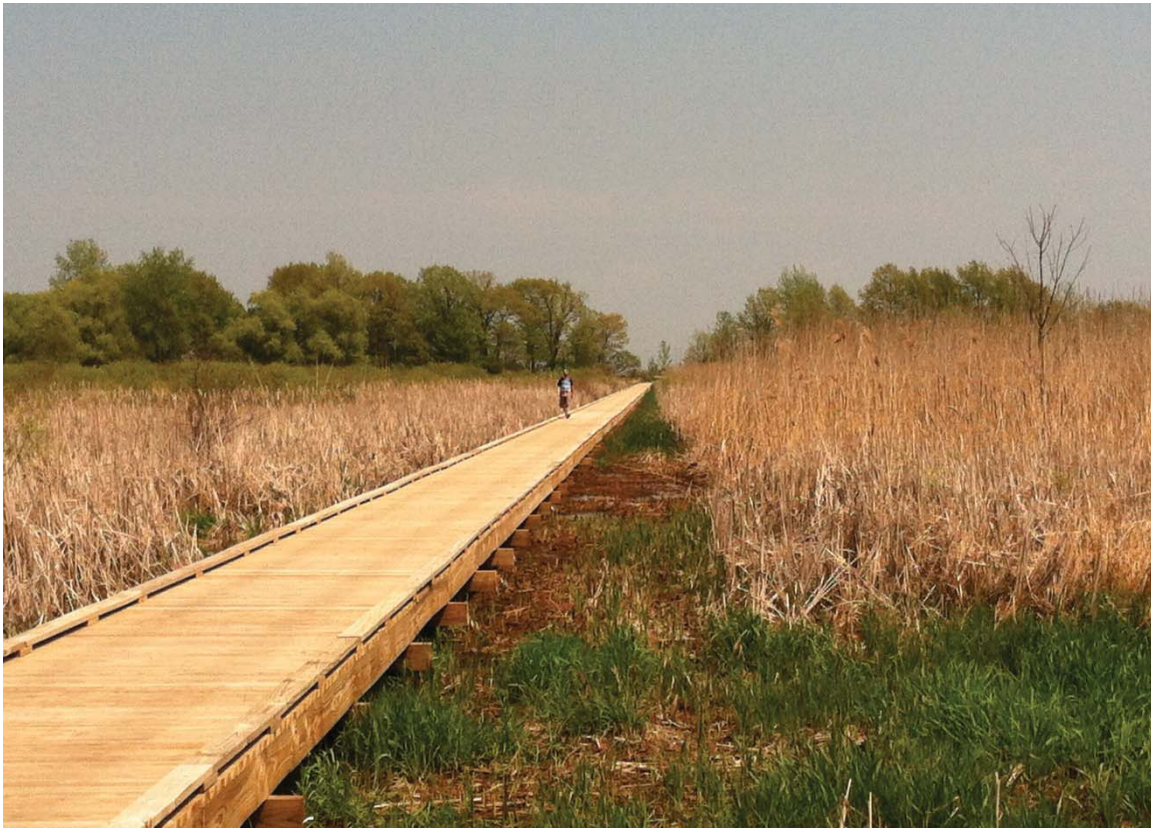
County. As improvements and upgrades are undertaken, the County and its constituent communities need to celebrate their accomplishments and share their successes at meetings, on web sites, and with the media.

Further, since Bay County has abundant shoreline and unique natural resources, it attracts recreational tourists and visitors from

across the state, creating the secondary economic benefits talked about earlier in this document. The county needs to continue to promote all that it has to offer across the state.



The County recently installed a dry floor at the County Civic Arena to make the facility useful for other events.



VII. Action Plan

With goals and objectives in place, Bay County was able to develop a 5-year action program to work toward accomplishing the goals and objectives. The Action Program details the direction the community wishes to take over the next five years in order to maintain and improve the quality and diversity of area park and recreation opportunities.

Potential projects were assigned a priority of 1 through 5 with 1 being most important and 5 being least important. Each action item relates to one or more of the numbered goals from Section VI. Potential capital improvements described in this Plan have been established not only to provide a framework for decision makers but also to enable the County to apply for grant funding for these proposed projects.

The project list is not a fixed element and it is neither all inclusive or exclusive. The schedule reflects the results of the input received from the online survey, County staff, and the community open house. Future circumstances, especially availability of funding, may change priorities or require reprioritization of items.

The action program is shown in the table at the end of this section.

Financing Potential Improvements

Funding for parks and recreation capital improvements can come from a range of local, state, and federal programs. Grant funding is available for parks and recreation projects. However, applicants need to target potential funding agencies and programs very carefully so as to meet the specific criteria required. Appendix C contains a current listing of programs and agencies that can provide funding for parks and recreation projects.

Bay County Recreation Plan Action Items			
Action Item	Priority	Relates to Goal	Justification
Pinconning Park			
ADA accessible kayak launch	1	2,3,5,7	Increase water access.
Low voltage electrical lighting	5	1, 3, 5	Improves park safety & access for those with disabilities.
Add locational, informational, and interpretive signage	1	3, 5	Increases usability of parks.
Viewing tower roofs	5	3, 5	Provides protection from sun and birds.
Floating walkway and fishing pier	1	1, 3, 5, 7	Community input requested shore fishing.
Basketball area	5	2, 6	Provides an additional recreational opportunity.
Additional ADA parking spaces	5	5	To make facilities more accessible.
ADA bathhouse updates	1	3, 5	To make facilities more accessible and functional.
Fencing	2	3	Increases safety.
Viewing telescopes	4	3, 7	To enjoy unique natural resources.
Concession stand/interpretive building.	2	1, 7	Adds income source for park and adds educational element.
Add a dog park/beach.	1, 2, 3	3, 5	Additional facility for park users
Audio interpretive displays	3	3, 7	To enjoy unique natural resources.
Add spray park	3	3,6	Mentioned in community input

Bay County Recreation Plan Action Items			
Action Item	Priority	Relates to Goal	Justification
Bay County Fairgrounds			
Improve existing facilities such as bleachers, grandstand, track and stables.	1	2, 3, 5	Facilities are outdated, old, and unsafe.
Additional ADA parking spaces	1	5	To make facilities more accessible.
Universal Access playscape area with fitness area, playscape, surfacing, water fountain, fencing, signage, benches and picnic tables.	1	3, 5, 6	Existing playground equipment is old and outdated.
Civic Arena			
Pavilion and pathway	3	3, 4, 5, 6	To add a new amenity at this facility.
Improve existing facility	1	2, 3, 5	For increased use
New seating with universal accessibility	1	3, 5	Improves functionality and accessibility.
Replace two zambonis.	1	2, 3, 5	Improve maintenance and ice condition
Euclid Linear Park			
Audio interpretive displays	3	3, 7	To enjoy unique natural resources.
Viewing telescopes	4	3, 7	To enjoy unique natural resources.
Small pavilion	2	3, 5	Adds new feature to park, allows for small gatherings or meeting spot.
Parking lot lighting	1	3, 5	Improves safety, functionality, and accessibility.
Community Center & Pool			
Outdoor equipment (lifeguard umbrellas starting block covers)	1	3	Improve functionality.
Shower and locker replacement in pool locker room	1	3, 5, 6	Existing is old and outdated.
New gym floor in small and large gym	1	3, 6	Existing is old and outdated.
New bleachers for large gym	1	3, 5	Existing is old, outdated, unsafe.
Spray Park	1	3, 6	Mentioned in community input.
Improve existing facilities, pool, and amenities.	2	2	Existing equipment is old and outdated.
Add promotional signage to increase use and awareness of facility	1	8	Community is not aware of what is offered here.

Bay County Recreation Plan Action Items			
Action Item	Priority	Relates to Goal	Justification
Community Center and Pool (cont)			
Add an outdoor recreation experience.	2	2, 3	Additional amenity. Take advantage of outdoor space.
Accessible tables	1	3, 5	Improves accessibility.
Golf Course			
Construct new pavilion with light and power.	3	3, 5	To allow for group gatherings.
2nd ADA cart	2	5	Improves accessibility.
Pathway to pavilion	1	5	Improves accessibility.
Additional parking	1	3, 5	Need additional spaces.
Picnic tables	1	3, 5	For picnickers.
Accessible greens	1	3, 5	Improves accessibility.
Consider offering cross-country skiing.	3	2, 3	Adds a winter recreational activity.
Remodel existing restrooms.	3	3, 5	Improve accessibility.
Netting	1	3	Improves safety in driving range.
Two fairway mowers	1	3	Maintain existing course condition.
New tractor and greens mower	2	3	Maintain existing course condition.
New golf carts	2		Replace old and outdated.
Programming			
Explore programming for senior citizens and disabled by forming partnerships with applicable groups such as MI Sports Unlimited and Bay County Division on Aging.	1	2, 3, 5	Adding programs not currently available.
Explore offering hunter safety classes.	2	6, 7	Mentioned in community input.
Develop partnership with local community recreation and tourism providers.	1	2, 3, 6	Adding programs not currently available.
Promote Bay County recreational opportunities, especially Saginaw Bay access.	1	8	Community is not aware of what is available. Tourism and economic growth opportunities.
Develop a partnership with local community education providers for programming at county facilities.	1	2, 3, 6	Adding programs not currently available.

Bay County Recreation Plan Action Items

Action Item	Priority	Relates to Goal	Justification
Miscellaneous			
Develop outreach brochure that describes parks in Bay County	1	1, 8	To communicate with residents and visitors about facilities offered.
Develop interactive web site to communicate with residents regarding parks and recreation.	2	1, 8	To communicate with residents and visitors about facilities offered.
Begin a Parks & Recreation Endowment fund.	1	1	To provide financial stability for the Parks and Recreation functions in Bay County.
Develop an inventory of significant open space and natural resources in Bay County.	3	2, 7	So as to document potential sites for preservation and/or acquisition.
Explore opportunities for environmental education in the parks.	2	2, 7	To educate youth and adults and provide a different type of recreational opportunity.
Develop swimming access points in Bay County	1	3, 7	Requested by residents on community input survey; takes advantage of unique natural resource.
Convene local public sector recreation providers to implement a joint purchasing program for recreation suppliers	2	1	Cost saving measure.
Provide an opportunity for archery. Explore the "Archery in the Schools" program with local schools and businesses.	2	6	No public archery facilities available in the county.
Explore expanded volleyball opportunities in the community with the Bay County Volleyball Association.	2	2, 3	Requested in community input.
Develop an additional disc golf course in Bay County.	2	3	Requested in community input survey; takes advantage of current recreational trend.
Continue to purchase lands for cultural opportunities, including the Naval Ship Museum and Bay City Boat Lines.	1	1, 7	To meet need for specific cultural opportunities.
Continue to invest in community enhancement and recreational features.	1	1 - 7	To meet community needs
Acquire lands to develop and enhance shoreline access and amenities to access the Saginaw Bay, including shorebased fishing opportunities.	1	1, 7	To meet need for specific recreational opportunities and to preserve significant natural resources.



VIII. Summary of the Planning Process & Adoption

In its continuing effort to provide quality recreational opportunities for its citizens, Bay County has developed a Community Parks and Recreation Master Plan as a tool to guide the development of community park and recreational facilities and locations over the next five years. This plan is the latest effort by Bay County and 15 of its constituent communities to establish recreational goals and objectives for recreation across the County. The plan will also provide the County and the participating communities with eligibility for grants from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to assist the community in reaching its recreational goals.

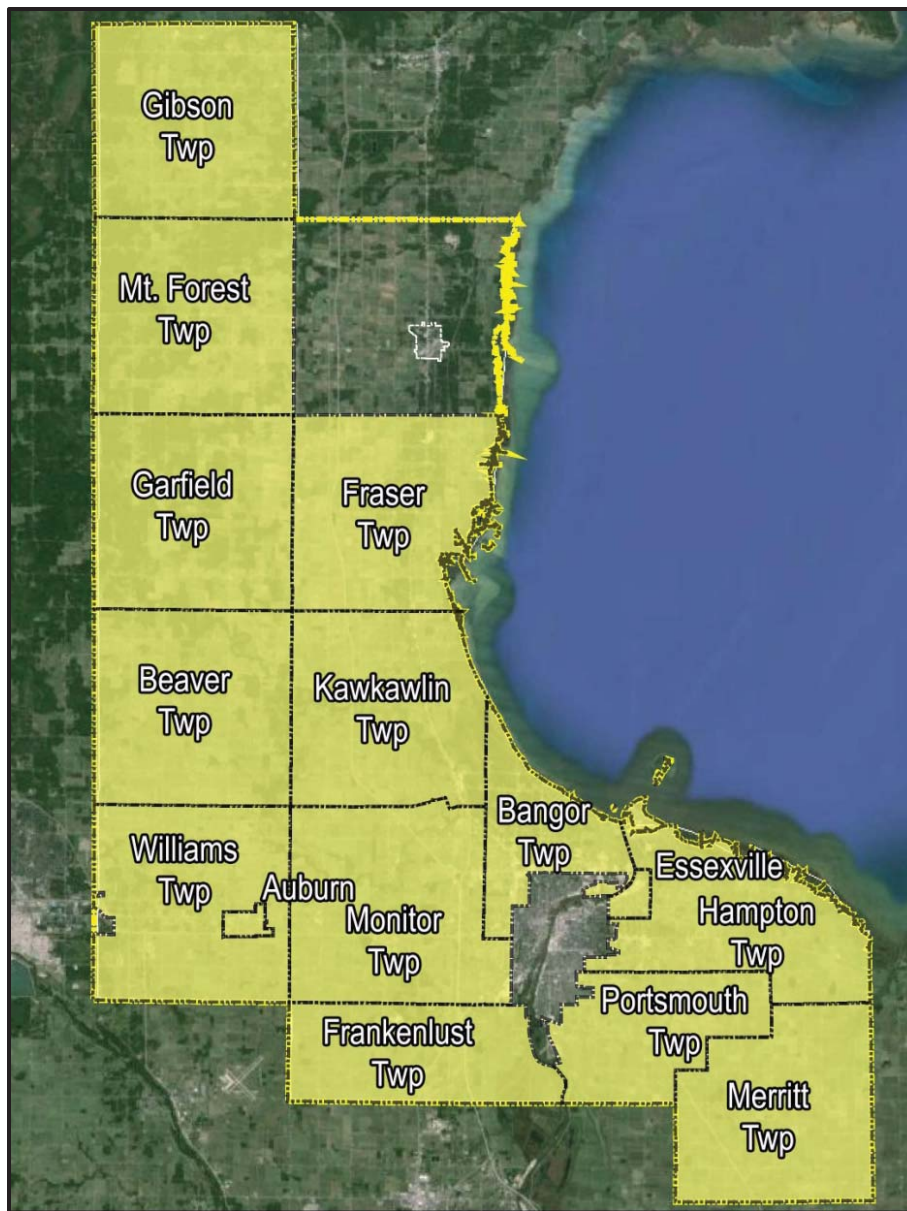
Bay County contracted with Spicer Group of Saginaw, Michigan, to assist them with completion of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Spicer worked with Bay County staff members to develop a format and schedule for completing the plan. Four meetings were held with representatives from the participating communities during the course of preparing the plan.

Data was collected about the participating communities including maps, demographics, park information and an inventory of existing facilities. This data was collected from a number of

resources such as: forms completed by the participating communities, county staff, the existing Bay County Recreation Plan, Bay County GIS Department, various web sites and through field observations.

Community input was collected during the fall of 2008 via an online survey. Based upon the existing information and the community input, each community developed goals and objectives for parks and recreation in their community Bay County. Each community also planned for an action program to accomplish the goals and objectives of the plan.

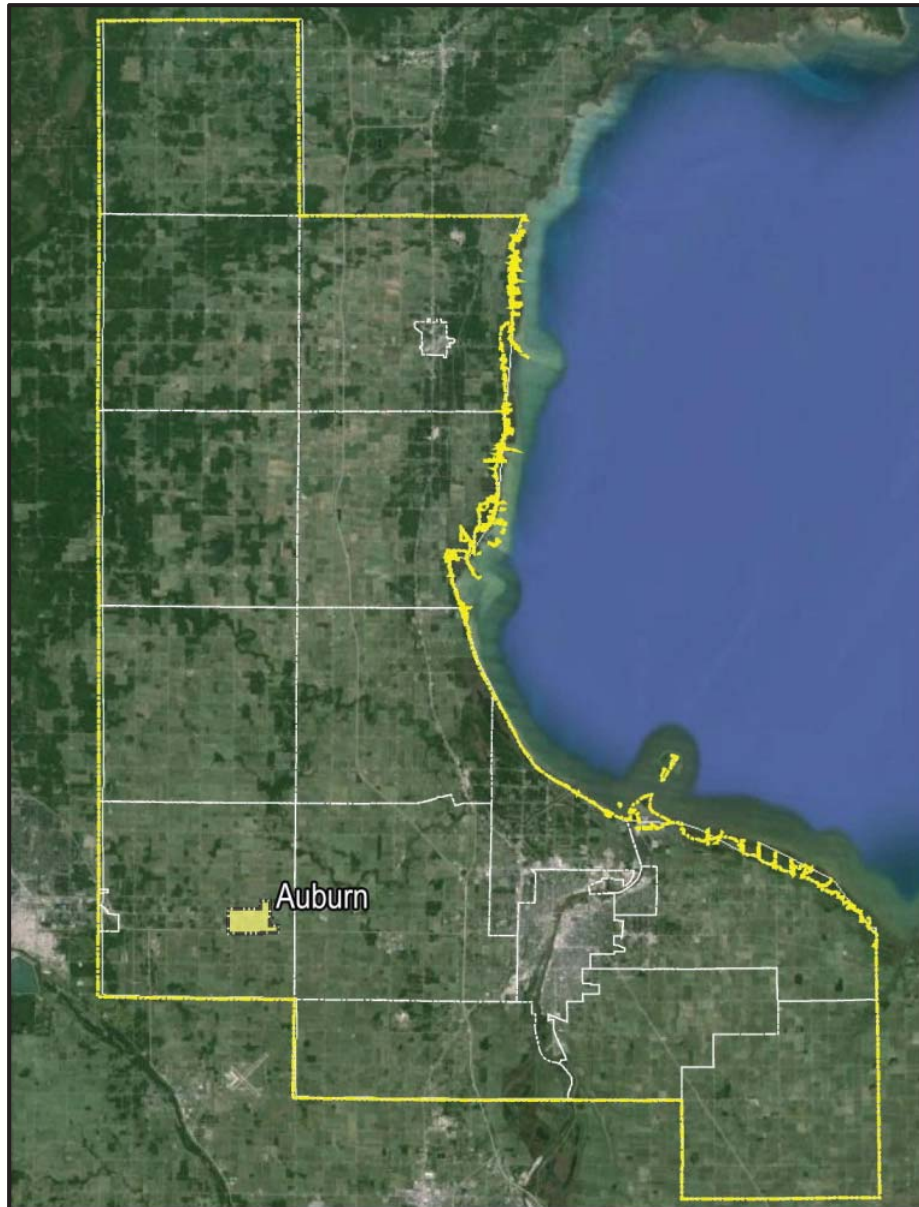
The consultant completed the draft Parks and Recreation Master Plan document and it was made available for review at the Bay County Building and four of the branches of the Bay County public library for at least 30 days in January 2014. A PDF file of the draft was also available on the Bay County web site. The reviewing opportunities were advertised in the Bay City Times, the Democrat Legal, and the Pinconning Journal. The final opportunity for community input occurred at the advertised public meeting held prior to adoption of the plan. This meeting was held on January 21, at 4:30 p.m. at the County Building. In the weeks following the public hearing, each participating community adopted the joint recreation plan via resolution. Communities with parks and recreation committees or commissions had that body pass a resolution recommending adoption prior to the governing body's adoption. Copies of those resolutions are included in the Appendix.



V. Participating Community Plans

This section contains specific recreation information for each of the 15 communities that have participated with Bay County in completing the plan. Each community completed its own administrative structure, recreation inventory, goals and objectives and action plan. Much of the information contained in the previous sections can also be applied to the individual communities. For example, the community input was received across the County and it was a consideration for all the communities when determining goals and objectives and action plans.

City of Auburn



Community Description

The City of Auburn is located in western Bay County, east of Midland. It is surrounded by Williams Township. Auburn largely serves as a bedroom community for people who work in the nearby cities of Midland, Bay City, and Saginaw. According to the 2010 Census, Auburn has a population of 2,087.

Administrative Structure

The City Commission and the Auburn-Williams Recreation Board are responsible for all parks and recreation functions of the City, including the City parks. The Auburn-Williams Recreation Board is composed of twelve members representing the City of Auburn and Williams Township. As the administrative head of the City, the City Administrator carries out the policies that are made by the Commission and directs and coordinates the work of all City departments. It is the City Administrator's job to keep the Commission informed of the conditions and needs of the City and to make recommendations for action as the need arises. The City Administrator also prepares the annual budget for Commission recommendation and upon its enactment sees that its provisions are upheld.

Maintenance activities for parks and recreation are implemented by the Auburn Department of Public Works (DPW) and designated work is contracted with private service companies. Three full-time employees of the DPW currently carry out maintenance activities at the parks.

Programming, Volunteers, and Cooperative Relationships

The City of Auburn/Williams Township Recreation Board administers recreational activities. This is a joint 12 member recreation board with equal representation from both units of government, each having 6 members on the board. Five of the Auburn representatives on the board are at-large members appointed by the City Commission and the sixth member is appointed from the City Commission. Each unit provides \$8,500 a year for planning and implementation of recreational activities. The board currently provides organized baseball/softball activities, organized gun range programs, summer day-camp program and organized outings. The recreation board also provides recommendations for recreational facilities, maintenance and improvements to the City's administrative staff.

Volunteers assist the parks through coaching, the gun range programs, and flower bed maintenance throughout the year. The Auburn Chamber of Commerce and the Auburn Jaycees own a 20-acre piece of property adjacent to the Auburn Community Park. They sponsor the annual Auburn Corn Festival which uses their property and the Community Park property. Soccer fields were added to the Jaycees property in 2013. The City of Auburn and Williams

Charter Township have strong relationships through the school district and civic organizations that help to facilitate recreational activities in the area.

Budgets

The sources of funding for parks and recreation in Auburn are the city general fund, park rental fees, and donations. The current and next year parks and recreation budgets are shown below.

Figure 13 AUBURN PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETS		
	2014 (Proposed)	2013 (Actual)
Operation & Maintenance	\$64,854	\$63,873
Programming (leagues, special events, etc.)	\$8,500	\$8,500
Capital Expenditures	\$0	\$0
Total	\$73,354	\$72,373



Kayaking at Auburn Park.

Recreation Inventory

The planning consultant supplied inventory forms for each participating community to complete as part of the overall Bay County Recreation Plan. The inventory data as compiled from those forms is shown below.

Figure 14 AUBURN RECREATION INVENTORY			
	Auburn Community Park	Auburn Recreation Area	Auburn Shooting Range**
Park Type*	Community Park	Neighborhood Park	Special Use Park
Acreage	20	4	
Accessibility*	4	4	
Service Area	Auburn / Williams Twp.	Auburn / Williams Twp.	Auburn / Williams Twp.
Ball Diamond	2		
Multi-use Path	1 mile		
Pavilion	3		
Picnic Area	Yes		
Ice Skating	Yes		
Horseshoes	12		
Sledding		Yes	
Archery/Gun Range			Yes
Pond/Observation Docks	Yes		
Restrooms	Yes		
Playfield (open space)	Yes		
Soccer Fields	2		
Fishing Dock	Yes		

*See County inventory section on pages 17 and 18 for definitions of park type and accessibility.

** The Auburn Shooting Range is located north of the City of Auburn on the east side of 9-Mile Road south of W. Wheeler Road. See the Williams Township Map for exact location.

Goals and Objectives

The City of Auburn developed the following goals and objectives for parks and recreation.

GOAL 1

Continue to improve and upgrade the City of Auburn's recreational and support facilities in order to offer parks and recreational activities the community can be proud of.

Objectives:

1. Retain and maintain the existing Auburn City Park and acquire new public lands to fulfill the recreational needs of the city and local community.
2. Provide multi-use recreational opportunities at park facilities.
3. Make active and passive park facilities available to as many individuals as possible.
4. Ensure that improvements and upgrades to the Auburn City Park are handicap accessible.
5. Provide adequate maintenance of all City parks and recreational facilities.
6. Consider the long-term or on-going maintenance costs of all future park improvements to City recreational facilities prior to making such improvements.
7. Utilize volunteers to assist with special events and maintenance opportunities.

GOAL 2

Promote coordination of recreational facilities, programs and activities with other recreation providers to avoid duplication and use City resources wisely.

Objectives:

1. Provide facilities that complement those of Bay County, Williams Township, the school district and other groups.
2. Cooperate and contribute to community wide recreation projects.
3. Seek active participation in the planning of recreation facilities and/or opportunities that affect the City and Williams Township residents.
4. Initiate interaction and cooperation with the school system.
5. Develop and formalize an agreement to jointly share and support mutually beneficial facilities.
6. Work with the schools to improve the recreational facilities available to the community at the school sites, particularly elementary schools.

7. Engage in joint purchasing with other governmental units when feasible with the goal of saving tax dollars.

GOAL 3

Provide quality recreational opportunities to improve health and fitness with extra emphasis placed on organized youth activities.

Objectives:

1. Provide organized programs and activities for a variety of ages with an emphasis on youth programs through the Auburn-Williams Recreation Board.
2. Continue to partner with existing recreational partners to provide recreation programs, events, and leagues.

GOAL 4

Develop a recreation system that will be responsive to, and effective in, meeting the present and future needs of residents.

Objectives:

1. Update the recreation plan as needed and entirely review the plan every five years.
2. Develop an interactive web site to communicate with residents regarding park and recreation opportunities.
3. Explore marketing services and sponsoring special events.
4. Use the City newsletter to identify what is happening, what's available, who to talk to, and to seek community input.
5. Use local newspaper to highlight recreation news whenever possible.

GOAL 5

Provide access trails and multi-use recreational paths.

Objectives:

1. Cooperate and participate in intergovernmental efforts to establish a non-motorized greenway and trail system connecting Midland County to Bay County.
2. Coordinate possible routes, methods, and funding to connect non-motorized greenway and trail systems in Bay and Midland Counties to the Auburn City Park.
3. Identify possible non-motorized routes, methods, and funding to connect Auburn City Park with the Williams Township Park.

GOAL 6

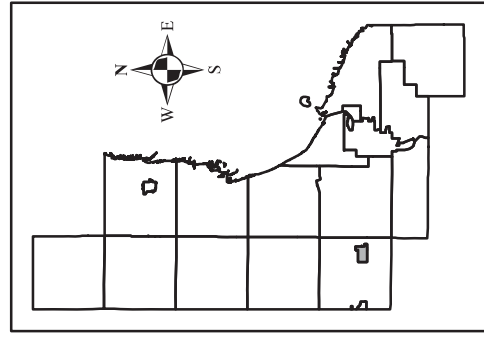
Develop methods to meet future recreational needs in the City.

Objectives:

1. Pursue a variety of possible funding sources, including state and federal grant programs.
2. Explore a means for evaluating and accepting private donations of land, time and monies.
3. Budget funds for a recreational capital improvement program each year to improve recreational facilities and eliminate deficiencies.

Action Plan

1. Develop a basketball/in-line skating area with utilization of the facility in the winter as an ice rink.
 - The objective of this project would be to design and construct a multi-purpose recreational facility to meet the recreational needs of the residents within the Auburn area. The rink would provide a safe place for young children to rollerblade. Although the Auburn area has two basketball courts within close proximity, these facilities are heavily used.
2. Update the playground equipment near the ball diamonds with handicap accessible equipment.
 - This will ensure a safe place for children to play.
3. Install a fountain in the City park pond for not only aesthetic purposes but also for beneficial aeration.
 - This project would enhance the existing fishing docks.
4. Due to the heavy use of the park, a second pavilion with picnic tables, grills and electricity was another facility identified as needed within the park.
 - This will provide a sheltered area for families to use.
5. Installation of hockey boards is identified as the next step for improving the basketball/rollerblade ice rink facility.



Auburn

Park & Trail Locations

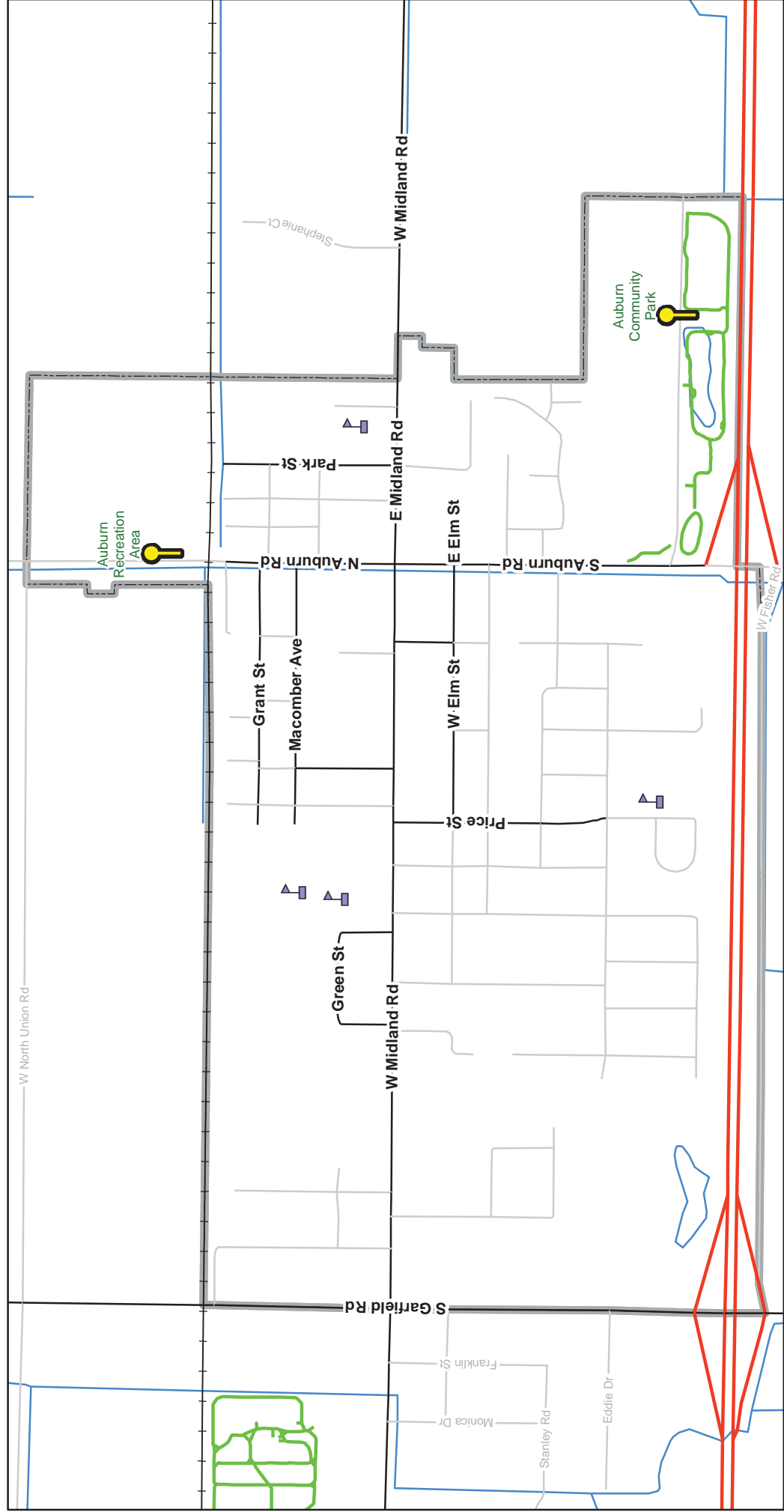


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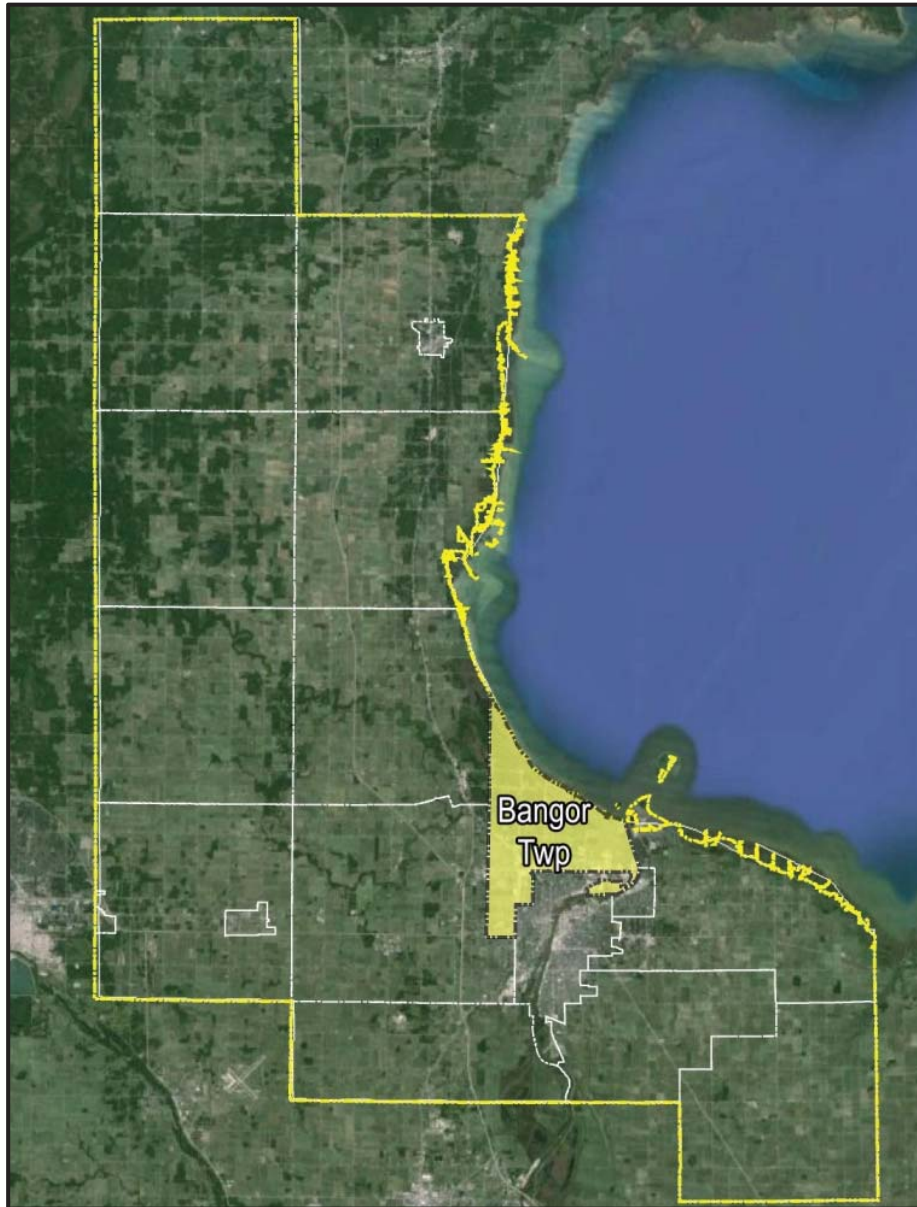
- Parks
- Golf Courses
- Schools
- Boat Ramps
- Existing Trails
- Local Roads
- State Trunklines
- Major Roads
- Railroad
- Streams & Drains
- Township City Boundaries
- Saginaw Bay

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Bangor Charter Township



Community Description

Bangor Township is located north of the cities of Bay City and Essexville. Founded in 1859, the Township has large areas of woodlands, wetlands and industrial areas. Bangor is the third oldest Township in Bay County. Residential uses are clustered in various areas, most of which are near Bay City and the Bay City State Park in the northern part of the Township. According to the 2010 Census, Bangor Township has 14,641 people.

Administrative Structure

Parks and recreation functions in Bangor Township are administered by the seven-member Township Board. The Township Maintenance Department has one full-time employee responsible for maintenance and two part-time seasonal employees work at the boat launch. Bangor Township pays Bangor Township Schools to run a very limited sports program for the Township. Two volunteers facilitate many activities at parks and recreation facilities in Bangor Township. These include mowing the lawn at the park and rail trail and maintaining the flowers.

Budgets

The source of funding for the park and recreation budget in Bangor Township is the township donations. The current and prior year parks and recreation budgets are shown below. Operation and maintenance and programming each receive \$3,000 in each of the next two budget years, while no funds are set aside for capital expenditures.

Figure 15		
BANGOR TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETS		
	2014	2013
Operation & Maintenance	\$3,000	\$3,000
Programming (leagues, special events, etc.)	\$3,000	\$3,000
Capital Expenditures	\$0	\$0
Total	\$6,000	\$6,000

Recreation Inventory

The planning consultant supplied inventory forms for each participating community to complete as part of the overall Bay County Recreation Plan. Bangor Township has three traditional parks and one park trail. Together, they comprise 35 acres and 5.6 miles of trail. They are inventoried in the chart on the following page.

Figure 16
BANGOR TOWNSHIP RECREATION INVENTORY

	Bayside Park	Independence Boat Launch	Rail Trail
Park Type*	Undeveloped	Special Use	Park-Trail
Acreage	30	5	5.6 miles
Accessibility*	NA	5	5
Service Area	NA	Bay County	Bay County
Boat Launch		Yes	
Pavilion			Yes
Picnic Area			Yes
Restrooms		Yes	
Waterfront Property		Yes	

* See County inventory section on pages 17 and 18 for definitions of park type and accessibility.

Goals and Objectives

The establishment of realistic and agreed upon goals and objectives are essential to the formulation of attainable long-range plans. Goals serve as guidelines for the development of policies and plan recommendations. The primary goal implicit in all other secondary goals is the desire of the officials and citizens of Bangor Township to develop and maintain an attractive, pleasant, clean, healthful and economically stable community environment.

GOAL 1

Seek means of expanding recreation programs and facilities designed to serve the needs of all segments of Bangor's population.

Objectives

1. Foster cooperation with adjacent communities and other recreation providers.
Coordinate Bangor's recreation plans with those adjoining communities and the County as a whole to help avoid costly depreciation and to create a greater variety of recreation opportunities.
2. Cooperate in the coordination of land use planning efforts and in the provision of area wide recreation services, facilities, and programs.

3. Encourage joint use of school site and buildings.
4. Stimulate interest among established groups, such as P.T.A.'s and business service organizations, to assist the Township in developing recreation areas in Bangor.

GOAL 2

Assure the preservation of sufficient open space and the development of recreation facilities to adequately serve the needs of Bangor's present and anticipated population.

Objectives

1. Encourage the acquisition of land and a conservation measure to protect specific natural features.
2. Encourage cooperation with Federal, State, County and Local agencies in the preservation of open space as a natural resource. Work closely with the County, State and Local recreation authorities in developing interregional recreation open space areas.
3. Encourage, wherever possible, the development of future public open spaces on a scale large enough to allow the implementation of a multiple use concept of recreation services.
4. Encourage a Township-wide development pattern that will provide for convenient and ample recreation areas throughout the Bangor community.
5. Encourage subdividers to provide recreational areas in new residential developments.
6. Encourage a diversity of both public and private recreational facilities.
7. Preserve floodplains and wetlands for recreation use wherever possible.
8. Coordinate efforts of land subdividers and school officials in developing recreation areas and facilities.
9. Encourage the use of drainage courses and utility easements for recreation purposes.
10. Develop design standards which permit drains to be incorporated as an integral part of a recreation area.
11. Wherever feasible, develop pedestrian pathways and bicycle paths following public and utility corridors.
12. Seek involvement in all State and Federal programs which can assist the Township in providing improved services and facilities to residents.

Action Plan

Based on the goals, objectives, and community input, Bangor Township has identified the following items to be part of its action plan. Local funding would come from the general fund of the Township or the Township Schools. Some funds for additions to the Linear Park may be available through the Bay Area Community Foundation. Expanded descriptions of some of the projects are found in the paragraphs following the five items below.

1. Add amenities to the existing rail trail such as parking and restrooms.
2. Develop a community park that would connect to the rail trail.
3. Add a small boat launch for fishing boats and non-motorized watercraft on the Kawkawlin River. Develop the property so as to make it a picnic waypoint on the rail trail.
4. Add spurs and connections to the existing rail trail.
5. Work with the school system to expand active recreational facilities at John Glenn High School and West Central School.

BANGOR RAIL TRAIL

The proposed Bangor Trail would build on a successful effort ongoing in Bay County to develop a trail system. Trails completed to date are heavily utilized and it is expected that an effort to connect spurs to the Trail will ultimately compliment the Trail throughout the Township. The Township will work closely with the Bay Area Community Foundation to establish the trail. The Foundation has been instrumental in the development of current trails in Bay County.

There are several options for a trail system that follow. Formal proposals have not been advanced, and not all individuals who have interest in the property have been contacted. Aside from the usual issues of the establishment of spurs on the trail, specific logistical concerns must be addressed such as where the trail will connect with the City of Bay City's trail. Alternatives have been established to provide flexibility and to provide options for these issues. Specific descriptions of the options are being plotted into maps that will be available in the near future.

Possible rail trail spurs or connectors

- Option I - Start at the southeast corner of the Bay City Mall plat, then go north along the easterly and northerly curb of the mall's drive and parking area to the east side of State Road, cross State Road, and continue north along and within the right-of-way of State Road to the

Dow pipeline property, then go westerly on the Dow pipeline property to State Park Drive, cross State Park Drive, and continue north along and within the right-of-way of State Park Drive to the vacated railroad right-of-way and connect with the Rail Trail in place.

- Option II - A connector from the Bay City Mall. Start at the southeast corner of the Bay City Mall plat, then go north along the easterly and northerly curb of the mall's drive and parking area to the east side of State Road, then continue north within the State Road right-of-way to the Dow pipeline property. Then go east on the Dow pipeline property, crossing Bangor Road and continue until crossing Patterson Road and connect to Option III.
- Option III - Start at the "new" Bangor boat ramp located on the north side of the Saginaw River, just east of the Independence Bridge, and follow the railroad to Norwich Street. Continue North within the Norwich right-of-way to the south side of Wilder Road, cross Wilder Road, follow the railroad right-of-way northwesterly to Patterson Road. Then connect to the Trail Head on Patterson.

PROPOSED COMMUNITY PARK

It is proposed that a park be established along the linear trail within the planning period. It would provide parking and service facilities for the trail and serve as a standalone community park. The park would contain the following types of facilities:

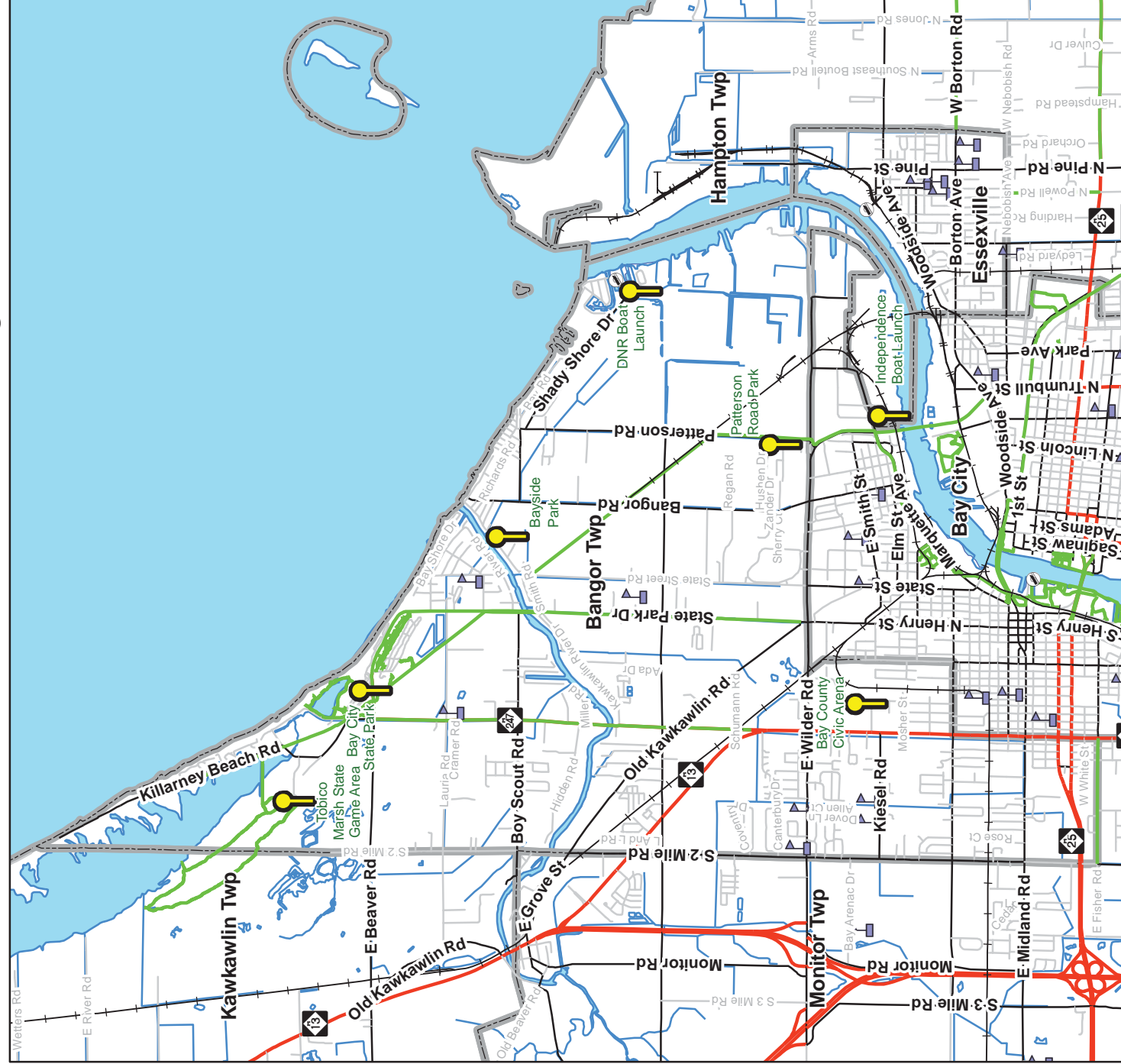
- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| ▪ Picnic tables and grill | ▪ Soccer Fields |
| ▪ Pavilion | ▪ Open space for beach volleyball, etc. |
| ▪ Restrooms | ▪ Tennis courts |
| ▪ Landscaping | ▪ Horseshoes |
| ▪ Fencing | ▪ Shuffleboard |
| ▪ Parking facilities | ▪ Jogging trail |
| ▪ Playground equipment | ▪ Physical fitness exercise stations |
| ▪ Basketball courts | |
-

Steps and general estimates of cost for improvements are as follows:

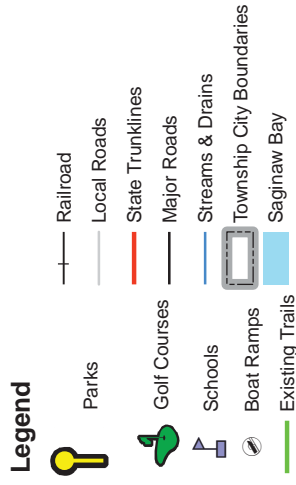
<u>OBJECTIVE</u>	<u>COST</u>
<i>Linear Park</i>	
Trail & complimenting facilities design	\$30,000
Trail development	\$120,000
<i>John Glenn High School</i>	
Jogging Trail	\$25,000
Four mini basketball courts off block parking lot	\$7,000
<i>West Central School</i>	
Playground equipment	\$25,000
Upgrade ball diamonds	\$15,000
Mini basketball courts	\$7,000

Bangor Twp

Feb 10, 2009

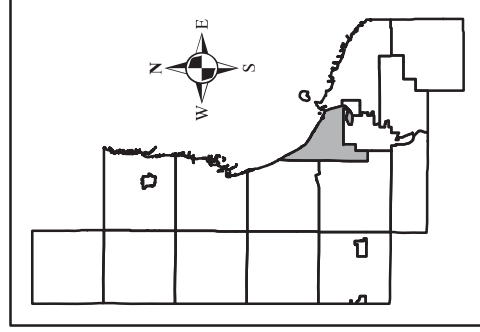


Park & Trail Locations

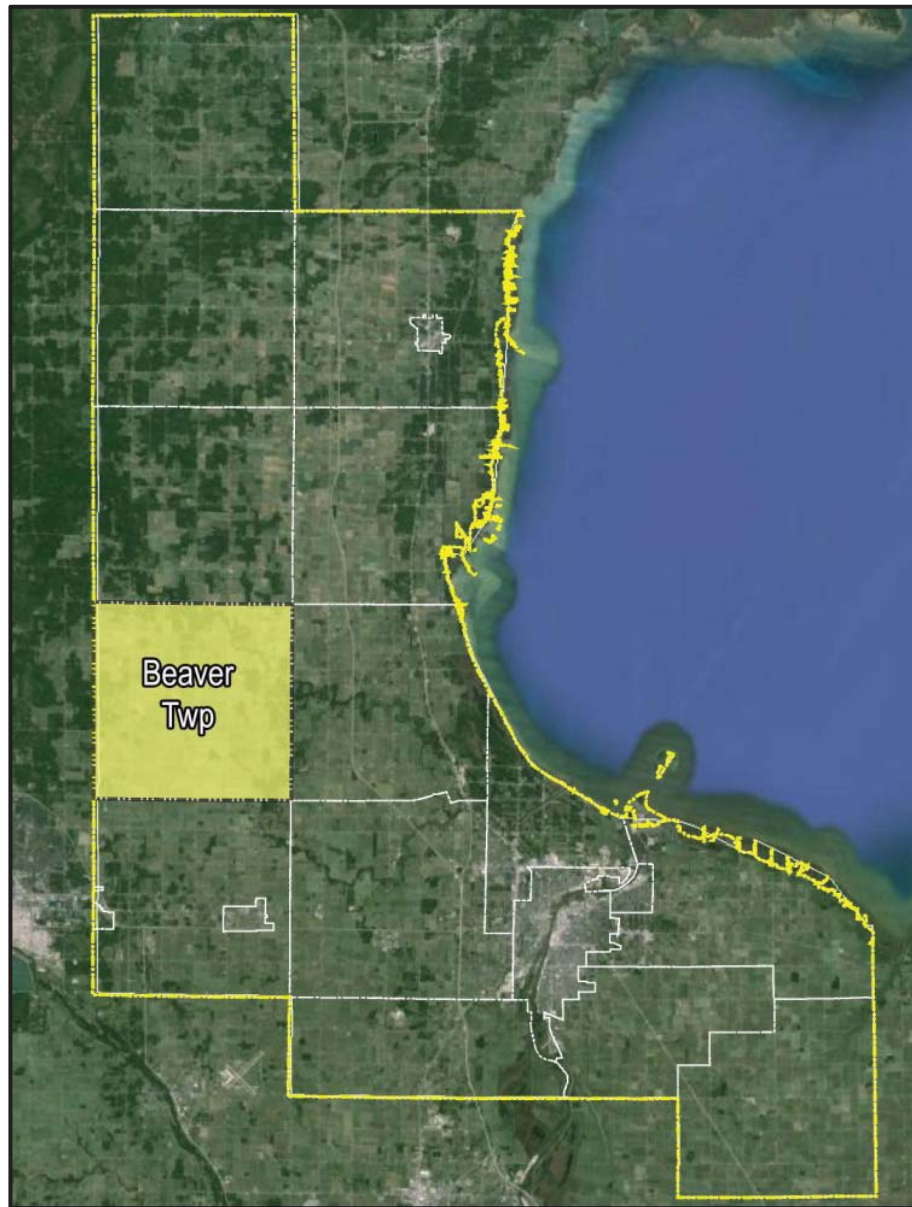


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Beaver Township



Community Description

Beaver Township is a rural township located approximately 10 miles northwest of Bay City. The land in the Township is used largely for agricultural purposes. The Kawkawlin River flows across the northeast portion of the Township. According to the 2010 Census, Beaver Township has 2,885 people.

Administrative Structure

The Beaver Township Board is responsible for all parks and recreation functions in Beaver Township. Beaver Township formed a Parks and Recreation Committee in 1979 which oversees parks and recreation functions in the community. Three people serve on the committee.

Budgets

Beaver Township is home to one township park. The Township does not provide any recreation programming. It has a small budget allocation for parks and recreation. Operation and maintenance of the park is funded by the general fund of the Township. There is no funding in place for programming or capital expenditures. Volunteers occasionally serve the parks in the capacity of activities such as grass mowing.

Figure 17
BEAVER TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETS

	2014	2013
Operation & Maintenance	\$10,000	\$10,000
Programming (leagues, special events, etc.)	\$0	\$0
Capital Expenditures	\$0	\$0
Total	\$10,000	\$10,000



Pavilion at Beaver Township Park.

Recreation Inventory

Beaver Township has one park. The park has a pavilion, a horseshoe pit, a playscape, a nature trail, and an open field for playing baseball or soccer. A portable restroom is available from spring to fall. The park is inventoried in the table below.

Figure 18 BEAVER TOWNSHIP RECREATION INVENTORY	
	Beaver Township Park
Park Type*	Community Park
Acreage	15
Accessibility*	2
Service Area	Beaver Township
Horse Shoe Pits	Yes
Parking Facilities	Front and Rear Parking Lots
Pavilion	Yes
Picnic Tables	4
Restrooms	Port-a-John only (Handicap-Accessible)
Swing Set	Yes
Walking Trail	1

* See County inventory section on pages 17 and 18 for definitions of park type and accessibility.



Trunk or Treat at Beaver Township Park.

Goals and Objectives

Beaver Township developed the following goals and objectives for parks and recreation in the community.

GOAL 1

Continue to promote the park and its facilities.

Objectives

1. Establish and maintain contacts with the public, residents, local schools and organizations encouraging the use of the park.
2. Preserve and protect open space and significant natural features in the Township and the park.

GOAL 2

Provide safe, broad, community-based recreation opportunities that improve the overall quality of life for the area residents.

GOAL 3

Develop recreational facilities that provide accessibility for people of all abilities.

Action Plan

Based on the goals, objectives, and community input Beaver Township has identified the following items to be part of its action plan.

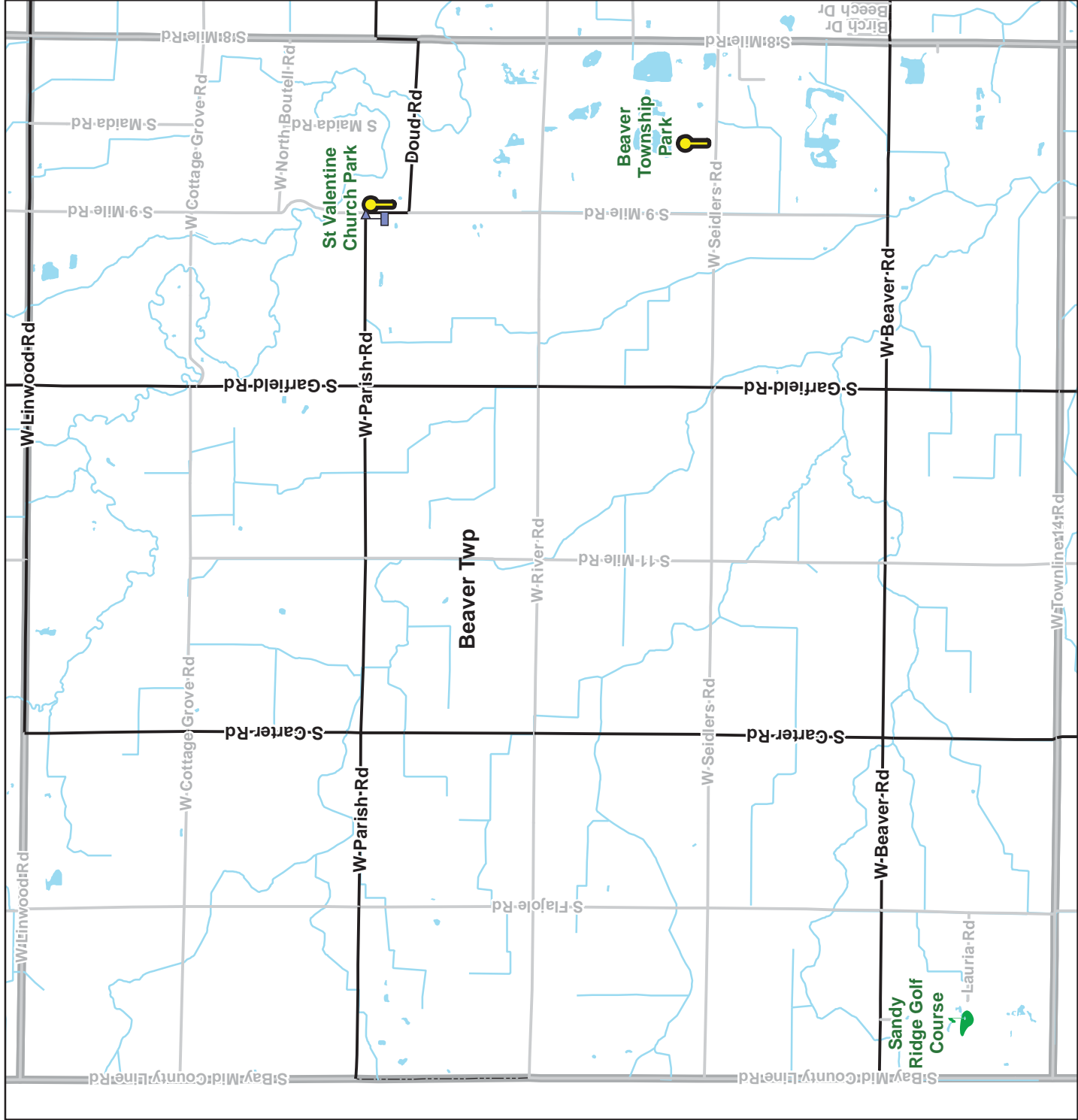
1. Hold at least one annual community based event (i.e. Trunk or Treat) at the park
2. Provide electricity for future updates.



Playscape at Beaver Township Park.

Beaver Twp

Date: 12/18/2013



Park & Trail Locations

Legend

- Park
- Golf Course
- Schools
- Boat Ramps
- Existing Trails
- State Trunkline
- Major Roads
- Minor Roads
- Railroads
- Streams and Drains
- Municipalities
- Waterbodies



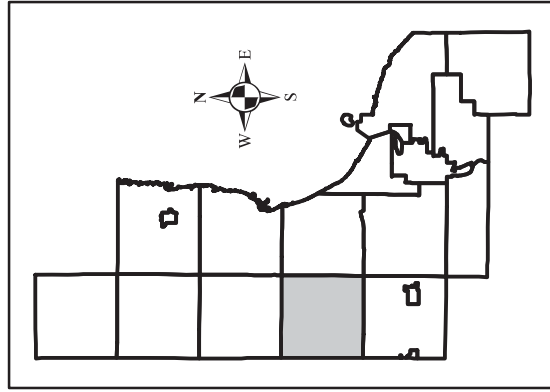
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Bay County Dept. of Environmental Affairs &

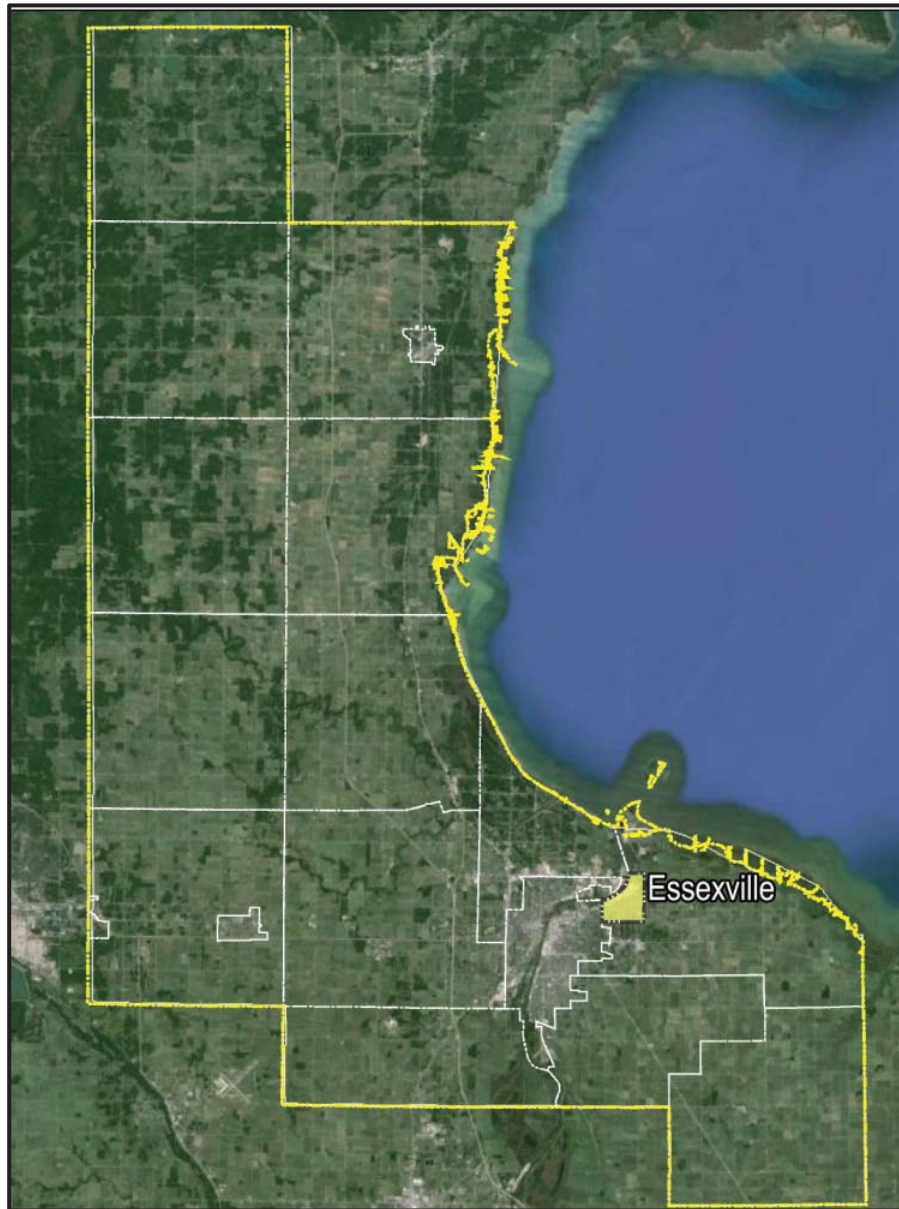
Community Development - GIS Program

Data Source: Bay County GIS, State of Michigan CGI

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City of Essexville



Community Description

The City of Essexville is located east of Bay City and west of Hampton Charter Township. The City contains approximately 900 acres and most of the land is developed for residential use. There are significant industrial uses along the 1.4 mile stretch of the Saginaw River frontage in Essexville. According to the 2010 Census, Essexville has a population of 3,478.

Administrative Structure

The City of Essexville operates and maintains its municipal facilities under the auspices of the City Manager, in conjunction with the Department of Public Works. The Department of Public Works is responsible for park maintenance. Recreation facility planning is done with the assistance of the Recreation Committee. The Recreation Committee is composed of community residents who are appointed by the City Council. This committee reviews plans that the City is proposing in regards to recreation and makes suggestions to the city administration. The City of Essexville does not provide any recreation programming and its recreation expenditures are used for capital improvements and maintenance.

Programming, Volunteers, and Cooperative Relationships

The Essexville Little League Association sponsors baseball and softball programs for youth.

Budgets

The source of funding for parks and recreation in Essexville is the City general fund. The current and next year parks and recreation budgets are shown below.

Figure 19		
ESSEXVILLE PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETS		
	2012-2013	2011-2012
Operation & Maintenance	\$21,273	\$25,630
Programming (leagues, special events, etc.)	NA	NA
Capital Expenditures	\$0	\$0
Total	\$21,273	\$25,630

Recreation Inventory

Essexville has 7.80 acres of parkland. The recreation inventory was completed from the existing recreation master plan and updated as necessary by City staff. It should be noted that Essexville-Hampton School facilities are also used for local public recreation. The inventory is depicted on the following page.

Essexville received one DNR Trust Fund grant in 1992. This grant, designated TF 91-254, was assigned for the development of Smith Park (\$69,000).

Figure 20
ESSEXVILLE RECREATION INVENTORY

	Smith Park	Municipal Park	Main Street Boat Launch	Veterans Memorial Park	Woodside Right-of-Way Park	Woodside / Borton Plaza Park	Youth Memorial Park	Hughes Field**
Park Type*	NP	MP	MP	MP	MP	MP	MP	NP
Acreage	2.04	0.1	0.77	0.12	0.2	0.1	0.38	4.09
Accessibility	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3
Service Area	City	City	City	¼ mile	¼ mile	¼ mile	¼ mile	City
Basketball Court	Yes	Yes						
Multi-use Path				Yes			Yes	
Pavilion	Yes							
Picnic Area	Yes							
Sand Volleyball	Yes							
Boat Launch	Yes		Yes					
Grills	Yes		Yes					
Restrooms	Yes							

*NP = Neighborhood Park, MP = Mini Park, See County inventory section on pages 17 and 18 for definitions of park type and accessibility.

** This park property was recently acquired by the City and has had no improvements as of December 2013.

Goals and Objectives

The City of Essexville developed the following goals and objectives for parks and recreation in the community.

GOAL 1

Increase recreation opportunities along the Saginaw River.

Objectives:

1. Develop a marina.
2. Develop shore fishing and viewing areas.
3. Link recreational opportunities with multi-use paths.
4. Add a boat launch.

GOAL 2

Provide recreation opportunities for senior citizens and the disabled.

Objectives:

1. Insure that all future improvements are ADA accessible.

GOAL 3

Improve the quality of Neighborhood Parks.

Objectives:

1. Provide more active recreational opportunities in Essexville.
2. Work on cooperative agreements with the school district to enhance outdoor recreation on existing school facilities.

GOAL 4

Provide recreation facilities in known recreation deficient zones.

Objectives

1. Acquire additional park/open space acreage to develop as a neighborhood park facility on the western side of the City.
2. Promote the redevelopment of vacated lands for recreational use where appropriate.

GOAL 5

Provide more citywide recreation opportunities.

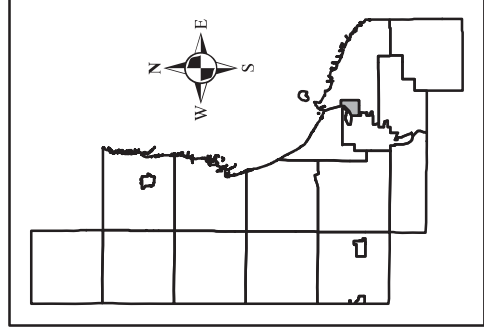
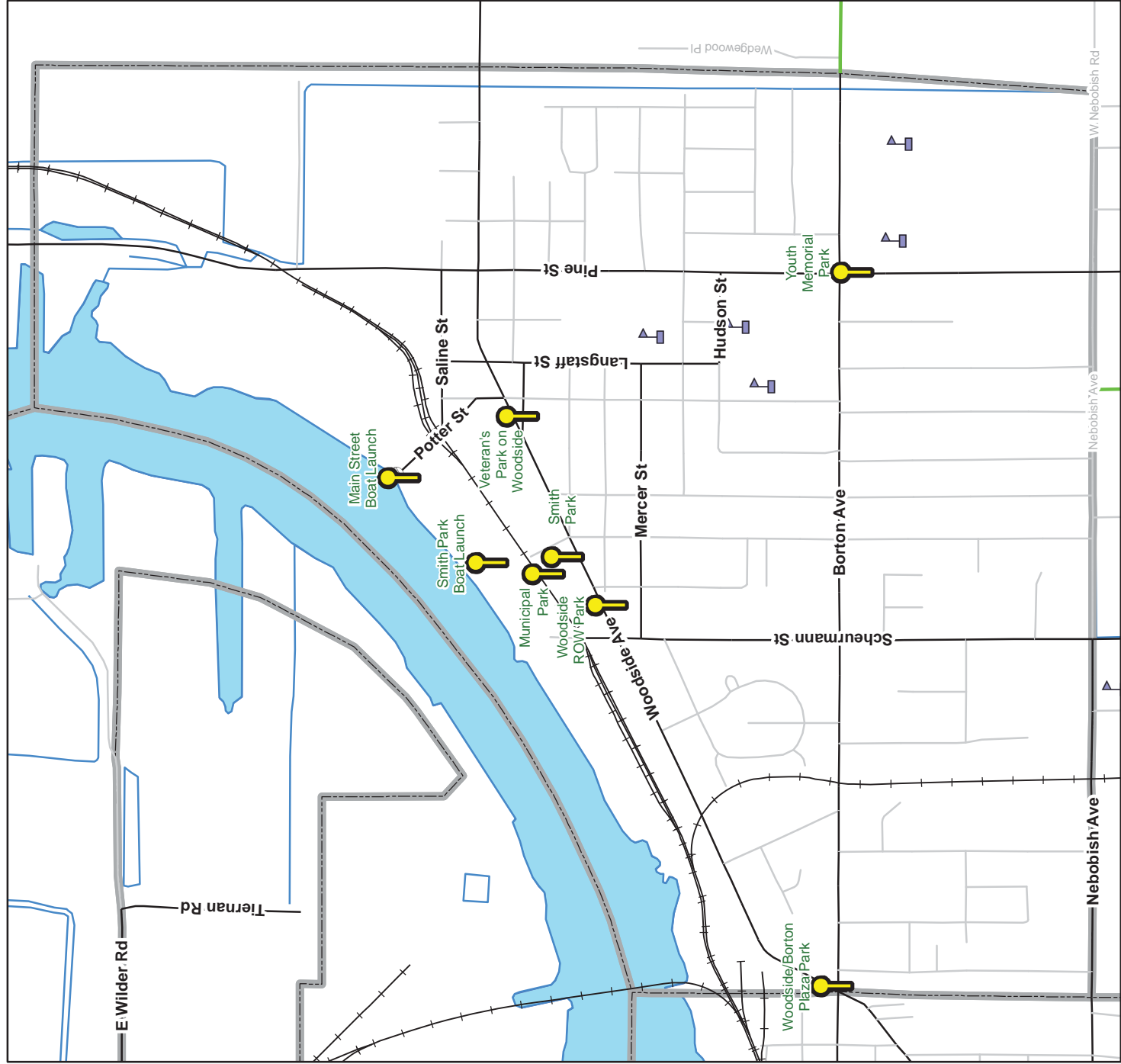
Objectives:

1. Add multi-use paths, focusing on areas near the Saginaw River and paths that will provide a linking trail network across the City.
2. Develop an inline skating and roller hockey rink facility.
3. Develop outside gathering areas at the various municipal parks.

ACTION PLAN

1. Main Street Overlook and Fishing Pier - Redevelopment of Main Street street-end to include a boat launch and ADA accessible fishing pier and viewing platform.
2. Smith Park - Renovation of Smith Park to include fishing pier, expanded boat launch and park improvement.
3. Hughes Field – Continue to develop the elementary school property as a neighborhood park.
4. Investigate the availability of additional land on the west side of the City to develop into a neighborhood park.
5. Develop a seawall and fishing platform at Smith Path.
6. Develop an outdoor auditorium at Smith Park.

Essexville



Frankenlust Township



Community Description

Frankenlust Township is located in southern Bay County, southwest of Bay City. The majority of the land in the Township is used for agricultural purposes. There are a significant amount of wetlands in the southeast portion of the Township near the Saginaw River. According to the 2010 Census, Frankenlust Township has 3,562 people.

Administrative Structure

In Frankenlust Township, the Parks Committee and the Township Board handle the parks and recreation functions. The Parks Committee is made up of 8 to 10 township residents. Their decisions are subject to approval by the Frankenlust Township Board. These residents also serve as volunteers who perform parks maintenance activities. The Township Fire Department provides for the physical maintenance of the Township owned recreational facilities.

Budgets

Funding for Parks and Recreation functions in Frankenlust Township come from the township general fund and donations. Budgets for the current year are shown in the chart below.

Figure 21 FRANKENLUST TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETS		
	2013-2014	2012-2013
Operation & Maintenance	\$1,000	\$2,000
Programming (leagues, special events, etc.)	\$0.	\$0
Capital Expenditures	\$0.	\$5,680
Total	\$1,000	\$7,680

* This expenditure is for improvements to the Nature Park to be implemented in 2014.

Recreation Inventory

Frankenlust Township owns two parks, the Frankenlust Township Park and the Frankenlust Nature Park. Frankenlust Township completed the inventory by updating the data from the previous recreation plan. The inventory is detailed on the following page. A location map for the parks is found at the end of this section.

Figure 22
FRANKENLUST TOWNSHIP RECREATION INVENTORY

	Frankenlust Township Play Park	Nature Park
Park Type*	Neighborhood Park	Community Park
Acreage	7.9	23
Accessibility*	3	3
Service Area	Entire Township	Entire Township
Basketball Court	Yes	
Nature Trail	Yes	Yes
Pavilion	Yes	
Picnic Area	Yes	
Waterfront Property		Yes (2 ponds)
Playground	Yes	
Playfield (open space)	Yes	

* See County inventory section on pages 17 and 18 for definitions of park type and accessibility.

Goals and Objectives

Frankenlust Township developed the following goals for parks and recreation in the community.

GOAL 1

Provide safe, broad, community based recreation opportunities that improve the overall quality of life for all residents of Frankenlust Township.

GOAL 2

Develop the Township Park into a family friendly active use park.

GOAL 3

Develop the Nature Park into a quiet, natural, passive park.

Action Plan

1. Add electricity to pavilion at Play Park.
2. Rebuild dam between hatching pond and main pond at Nature Park.
3. Widen and pave handicap walkway at Play Park.
4. Add bathroom to pavilion at Play Park.
5. Add more benches around Nature Park.
6. Make the Nature Park more handicap-accessible.
7. Possibly add a gazebo on the hill at the Nature Park.
8. Make a map of all the trails with names and lengths of paths (trails).
9. Identify different plants and trees at the Nature Park.



Frankenlust Township Nature Park.



Frankenlust Township Nature Park.

Frankenlust Twp

Park & Trail Locations

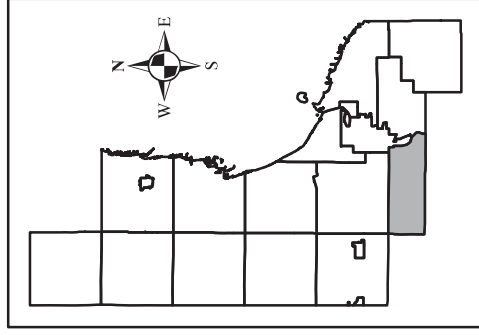
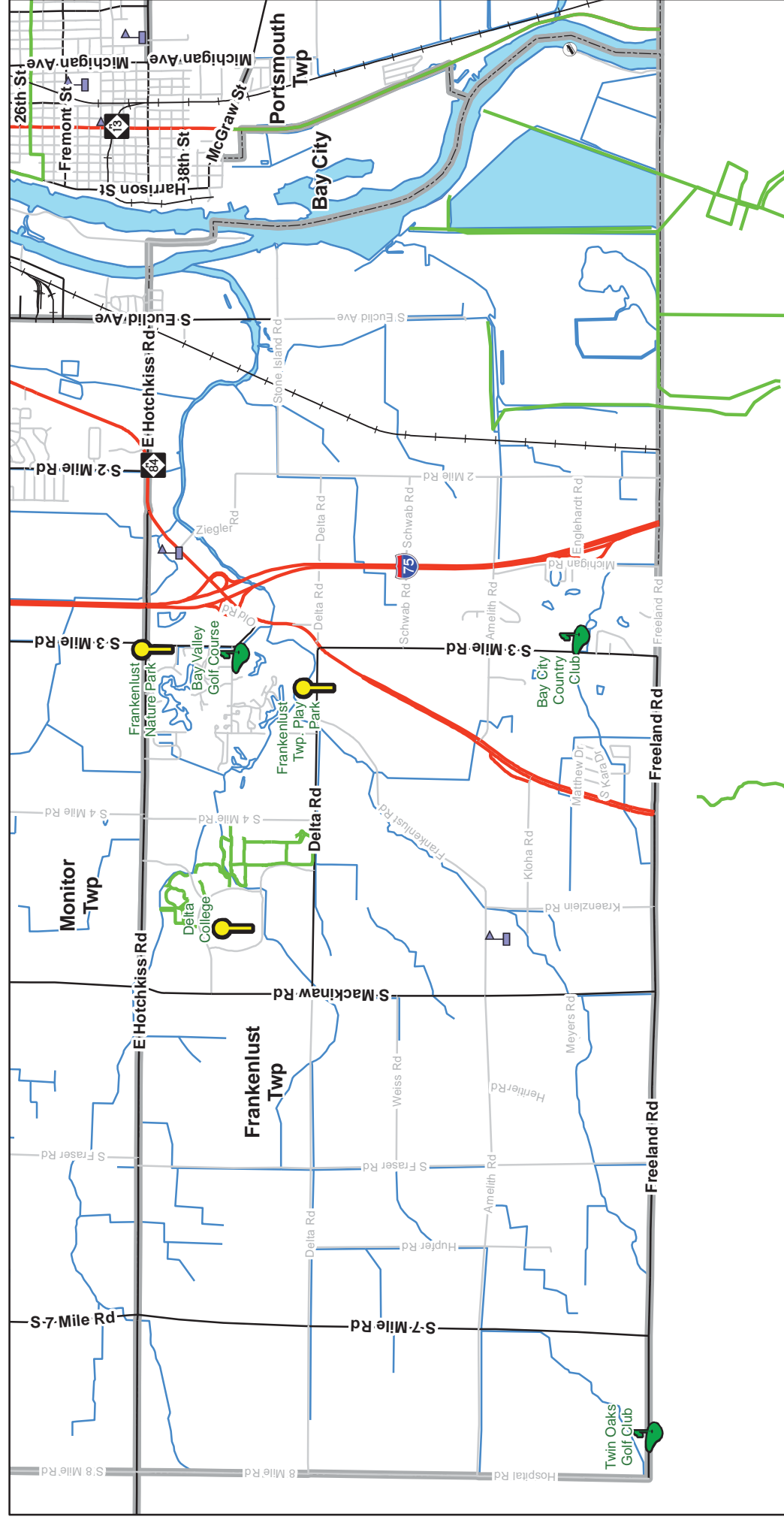


Legend

- Parks
- Golf Courses
- Schools
- Boat Ramps
- Existing Trails
- Local Roads
- State Trunklines
- Major Roads
- Railroad
- Streams & Drains
- Township City Boundaries
- Saginaw Bay

Map Produced By:
Bay County Department of Environmental Affairs &
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Fraser Township



Community Description

Fraser Township is located on Saginaw Bay approximately 10 miles north of Bay City. It contains the northern portion of the community of Linwood. The Township lands are largely used for agricultural purposes. According to the 2010 Census, Fraser Township has 3,192 people.

Administrative Structure

Parks and recreation functions in Fraser Township are administered by the Township Board. It contracts out grass cutting for the Township Park. The Township has no recreation programming of its own. Volunteers coach the soccer teams in the community. The local school district uses soccer fields at the Township Park for practice. The Township Park also serves as a storage area for football equipment for Pinconning Linwood Area Youth Football.

Budgets

The source of funding for the park and recreation budget in Fraser Township is the township general fund. Current and prior year parks and recreation budgets are shown below.

Figure 23 FRASER TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETS		
	2013	2012
Operation & Maintenance	\$7,500	\$7,500
Programming (leagues, special events, etc.)	NA	NA
Capital Expenditures*	NA	NA
Total	\$7,500	\$7,500

* The Township has \$10,000 to \$15,000 available for capital expenditures.

Recreation Inventory

The planning consultant supplied inventory forms for each participating community to complete as part of the overall Bay County Recreation Plan. Fraser Township has two parks which are inventoried in the chart below. It should be noted that the Linwood Road Scenic Park is owned partly by Fraser Township and partly by Kawkawlin Township. The portion north of Linwood Road belongs to Fraser Township and the portion south of Linwood Road belongs to Kawkawlin Township. A location map for the parks is contained at the end of this section.

Figure 24
FRASER TOWNSHIP RECREATION INVENTORY

	Township Park	Linwood Road Scenic Park
Park Type*	Community Park	Special Use Park
Acreage	80	.8
Accessibility*	4	N.A.
Service Area	Entire Township	Bay County
Boat Launch		Yes
Football/Soccer Fields	Yes	
Ball Diamonds	2	
Pavilion	Yes	
Grills	2	
Horseshoes	2	
Picnic Area	Yes	
Restrooms	2	
Playground	Yes	
Playfield (open space)	Yes	
Waterfront Property		Yes (500')

* See County inventory section on pages 17 and 18 for definitions of park type and accessibility.

Goals and Objectives

Fraser Township developed the following goals and objectives for parks and recreation in the community.

GOAL 1

Provide a safe place for children to play.

Objective

1. Maintain recreational playground equipment for children aged 2 – 12 that complies with current safety standards.

GOAL 2

Improve existing park facilities so as to provide recreational facilities that the entire community can be proud of and thereby increase usage.

Objective

1. Improve and upgrade existing ball fields.

GOAL 3

Improve the health and fitness of Township residents.

Objective

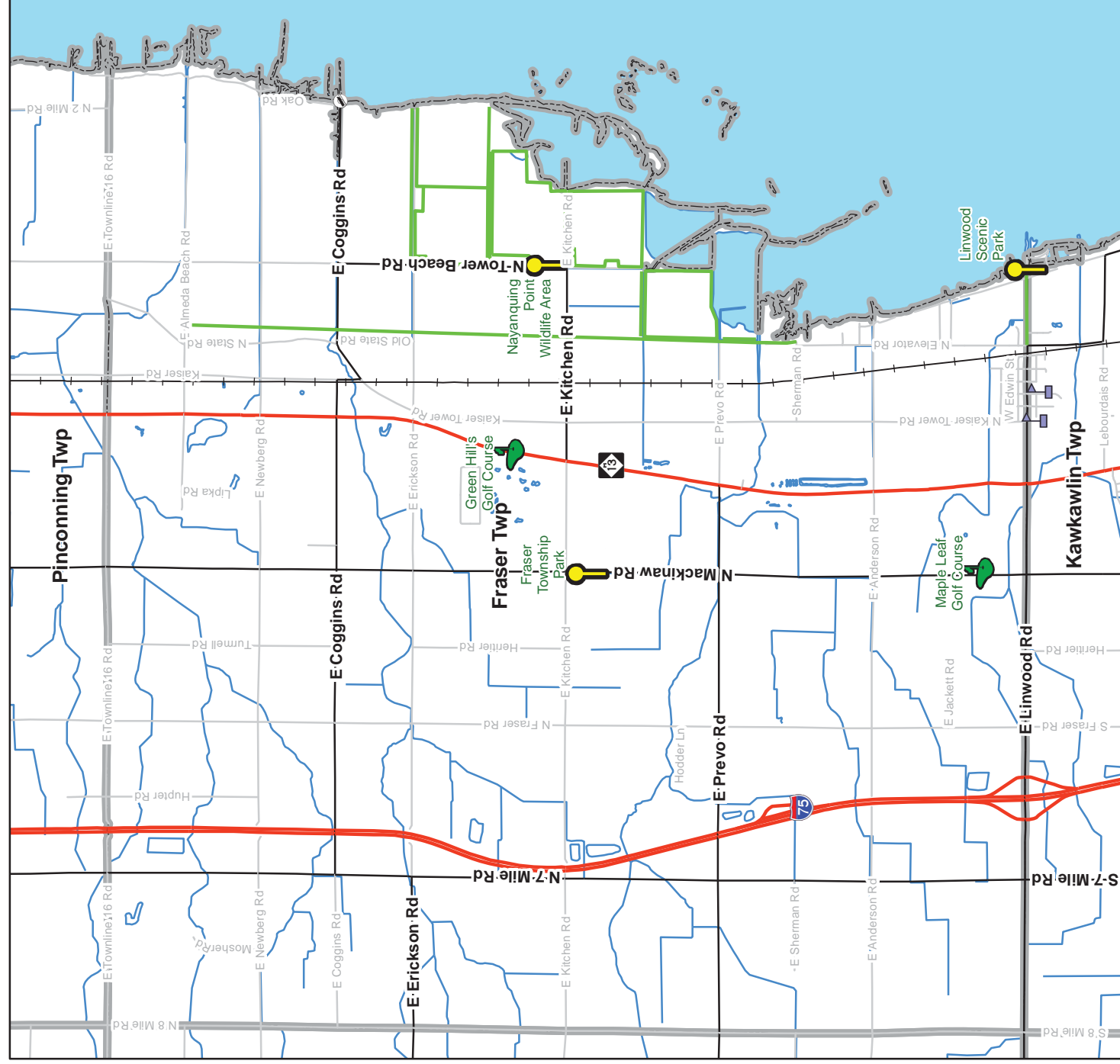
1. Add multi-use paths within the Township.

Action Plan

1. Develop a non-motorized trail network on the Township's 80-acre parcel and make the entire park more accessible.
2. Upgrade ball diamonds by tilling and grading.
3. Install a basketball court.













Fraser Twp

Feb 10, 2009



Park & Trail Locations

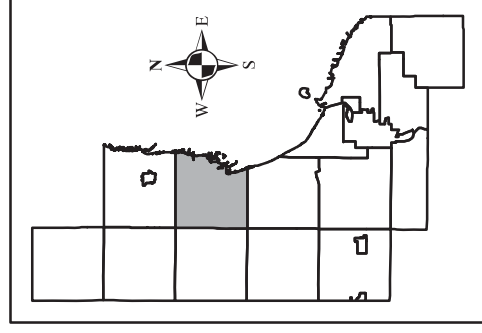
Legend

-  Parks
-  Golf Courses
-  Schools
-  Boat Ramps
-  Existing Trails
-  Railroad
-  Local Roads
-  State Trunklines
-  Major Roads
-  Streams & Drains
-  Township City Boundaries
-  Saginaw Bay

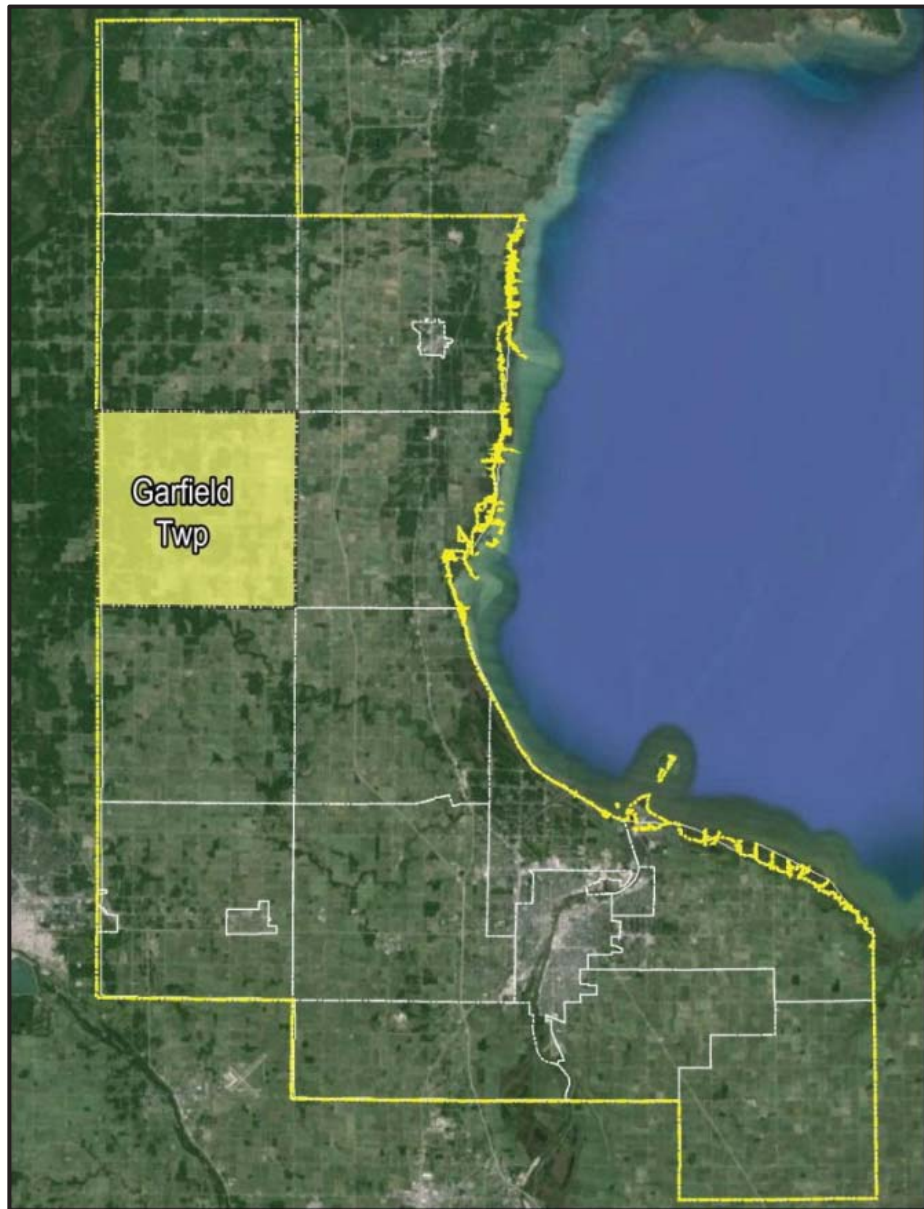


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Garfield Township



Community Description

Garfield Township is a rural Township located approximately 16 miles northwest of Bay City. Lands in the Township are largely used for agricultural purposes. The Kawkawlin flood plains run across the northwest portion of the Township. The Crump drain is located in the southeastern portion of the Township. According to the 2010 Census, Garfield Township has 1,743 people.

Administrative Structure

Parks and recreation functions in Garfield Township are administered by the Township Board.

Budgets

The source of funding for the park and recreation budget in Garfield Township is the township general fund. The current year's parks and recreation budgets are shown on the next page.

Budgets are not yet available for 2014.

Figure 25 GARFIELD TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETS		
	2014	2013
Operation & Maintenance	N.A.	\$6,500
Programming (leagues, special events, etc.)	N.A.	N.A.
Capital Expenditures	N.A.	N.A.

Recreation Inventory

The planning consultant supplied inventory forms for each participating community to complete as part of the overall Bay County Recreation Plan. Garfield Township has one park which is inventoried in the chart on the following page. A location map for the park is contained at the end of this section.

Figure 26
GARFIELD TOWNSHIP RECREATION INVENTORY

	Garfield Township Park
Park Type*	Community Park
Acreage	10
Accessibility*	3
Service Area	Entire Township
Slides and Swingsets	2 Each
Merry-Go-Round and Monkey Bars	1 each
Fishing Pond w/ Deck	Yes
Ball Diamonds	2
Bleachers	4
Pavilion	Yes
Grills	2
Basketball Court	Yes (Half Court)
Picnic Area	Yes
Picnic Tables	20
Restrooms	NA
Playscape (with rubber ground surface)	Yes
Volleyball Court	Yes
Sledding Hill	Yes
Walking Path	Yes

* See County inventory section on pages 17 and 18 for definitions of park type and accessibility.

Goals and Objectives

Garfield Township developed the following goals and objectives for parks and recreation in the community.

GOAL 1

Provide safe, broad, community-based recreation opportunities that improve the overall quality of life for the area residents.

Objectives

1. Add recreational features and programs that reflect the needs and abilities of the surrounding community.
2. Develop programs for special needs area individuals and groups.

GOAL 2

Develop recreational facilities that provide open accessibility for people of all abilities.

Objective

1. Continue to develop, promote, and facilitate the public use of Garfield Township and its park systems for people of all abilities.

GOAL 3

Offer appropriate access and opportunities for our special needs population.

Objective

1. Add more special needs equipment to the park and playground.

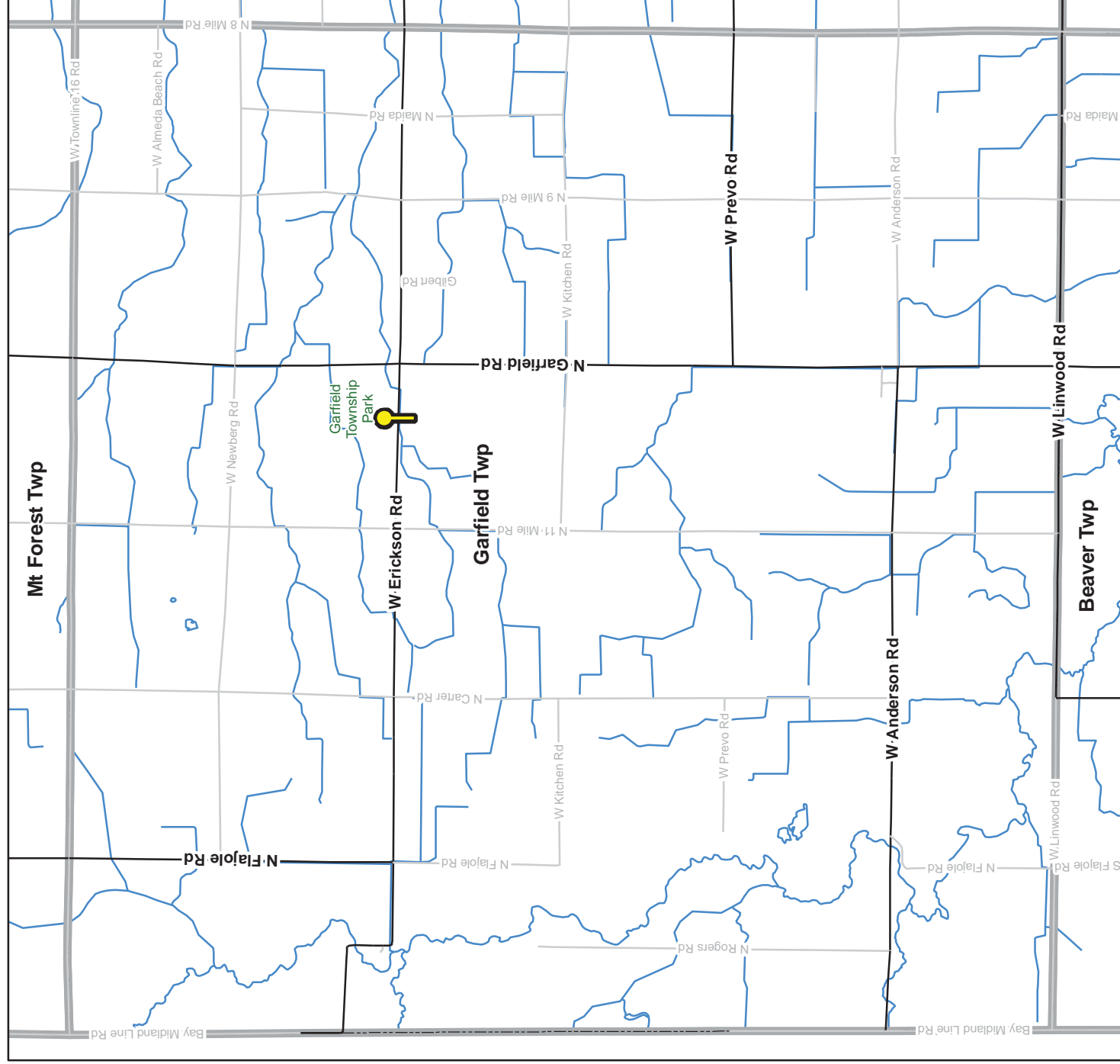
GOAL 4

Enhance the natural beauty of Garfield Township Park.

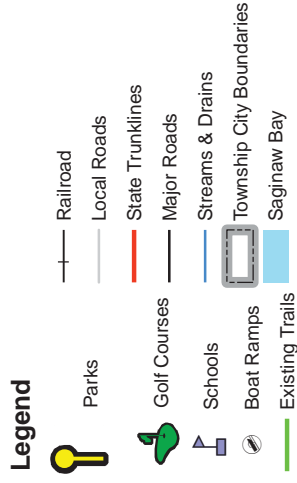
Action Items

1. Pave current ½ mile walking path.
2. Add new sand to the existing volleyball court.
3. Build an additional pavilion in the park.

Garfield Twp

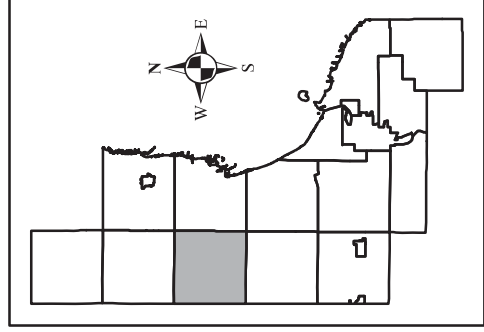


Park & Trail Locations

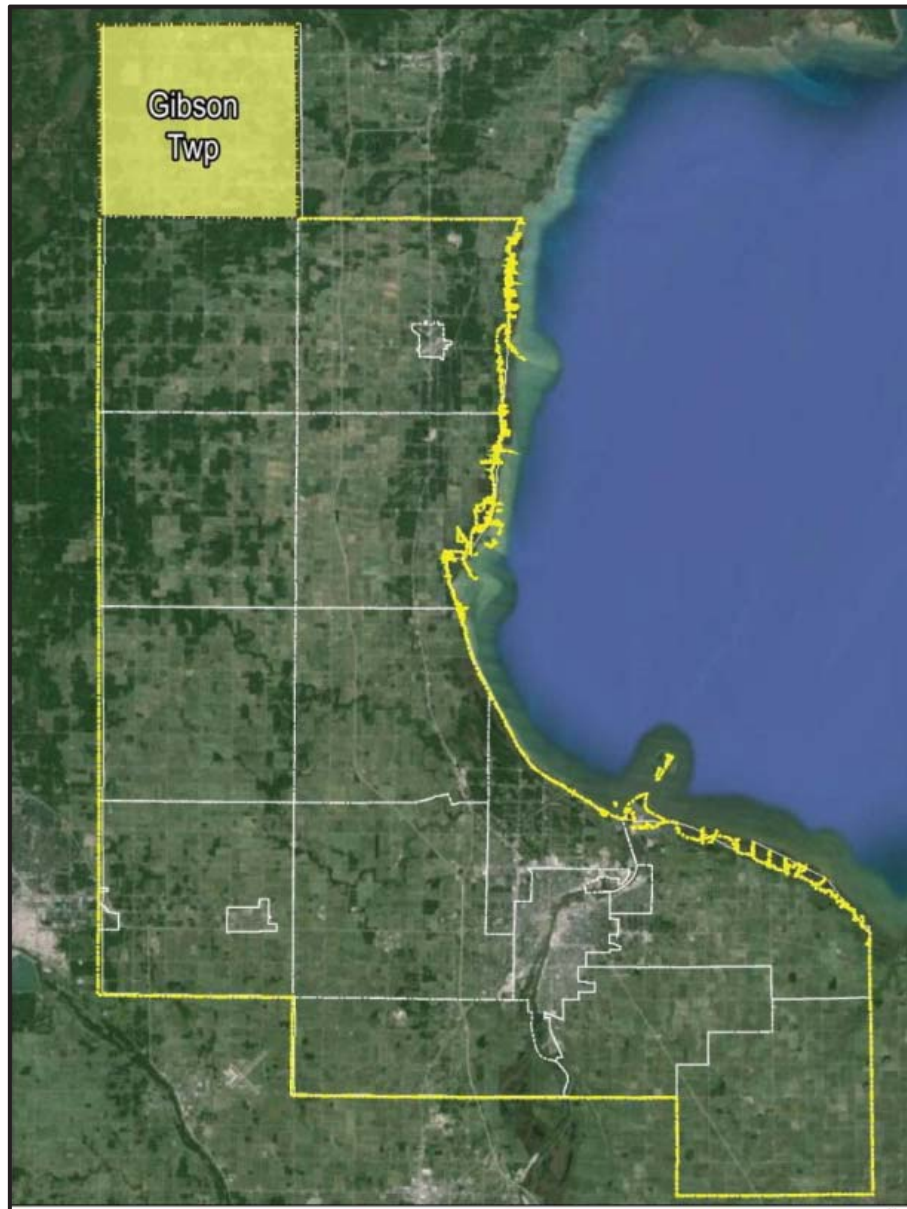


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Gibson Township



Community Description

Gibson Township is a rural township located approximately 25 miles northwest of Bay City and six miles west of Standish. The majority of the land in the Township is used for agricultural purposes but there are also significant tracts of woodlands scattered across the Township. According to the 2010 Census, Gibson Township has 1,210 people.

Administrative Structure

Parks and recreation functions in Gibson Township are administered by the Township Board, with the Township Supervisor acting as director of recreation. Maintenance operations are contracted out. An adult and youth recreational softball program is run by volunteers. Maintenance services in Gibson Township are contracted and not provided by the Township. While no formal recreation programming occurs in Gibson Township, a local softball team uses the ball diamonds at Gibson Township Park for their games, through which some residents volunteer as coaches.

Budgets

The 2013 total budget for recreation in Gibson Township is \$15,000. The source of funds for parks and recreation in Gibson Township is the Township general fund.

Figure 27 GIBSON TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETS		
	2013	2012
Operation & Maintenance	\$15,000**	\$15,000**
Programming (leagues, special events, etc.)	NA	NA
Capital Expenditures / Improvements	NA**	NA**

** Gibson Township contributes \$15,000 from its general fund toward parks and recreation annually. These funds are used for operation and maintenance as well as for capital expenditures / improvements.

Recreation Inventory

Gibson Township contains one park. The planning consultant supplied inventory forms for each participating community to complete as part of the overall Bay County Recreation Plan. The inventoried data as compiled from those forms is shown below. A location map is shown at the end of this section.

Figure 28 GIBSON TOWNSHIP RECREATION INVENTORY	
	Gibson Township Park
Park Type*	Neighborhood Park
Acreage	13.2 Acres
Accessibility*	1
Service Area	Entire Township
Ball Diamonds	Yes
Basketball Court	Yes
Playground	Yes
Horseshoe Pits	Yes
Pavilion	Yes
Restroom	Portable Toilet

* See County inventory section on pages 17 and 18 for definitions of park type and accessibility.

Goals and Objectives

Gibson Township developed the following goals, objectives, and action items for parks and recreation in the community.

GOAL 1

Provide a Park that is attractive, safe and accessible.

Objectives

1. Ensure Gibson Township Park has a visible presence in the community.
2. Ensure Gibson Township Park is safe, well maintained and clean.

Actions

1. Provide signage marking entrance, parking and park rules.
2. Restructure parking area to a new location within the park to ensure safety for children and other residents.
3. Install playground equipment with shock absorbing materials at base.
4. Construct ADA restrooms at the park.

GOAL 2

Provide safe, broad, community-based recreation opportunities that improve the overall quality of life for the area residents.

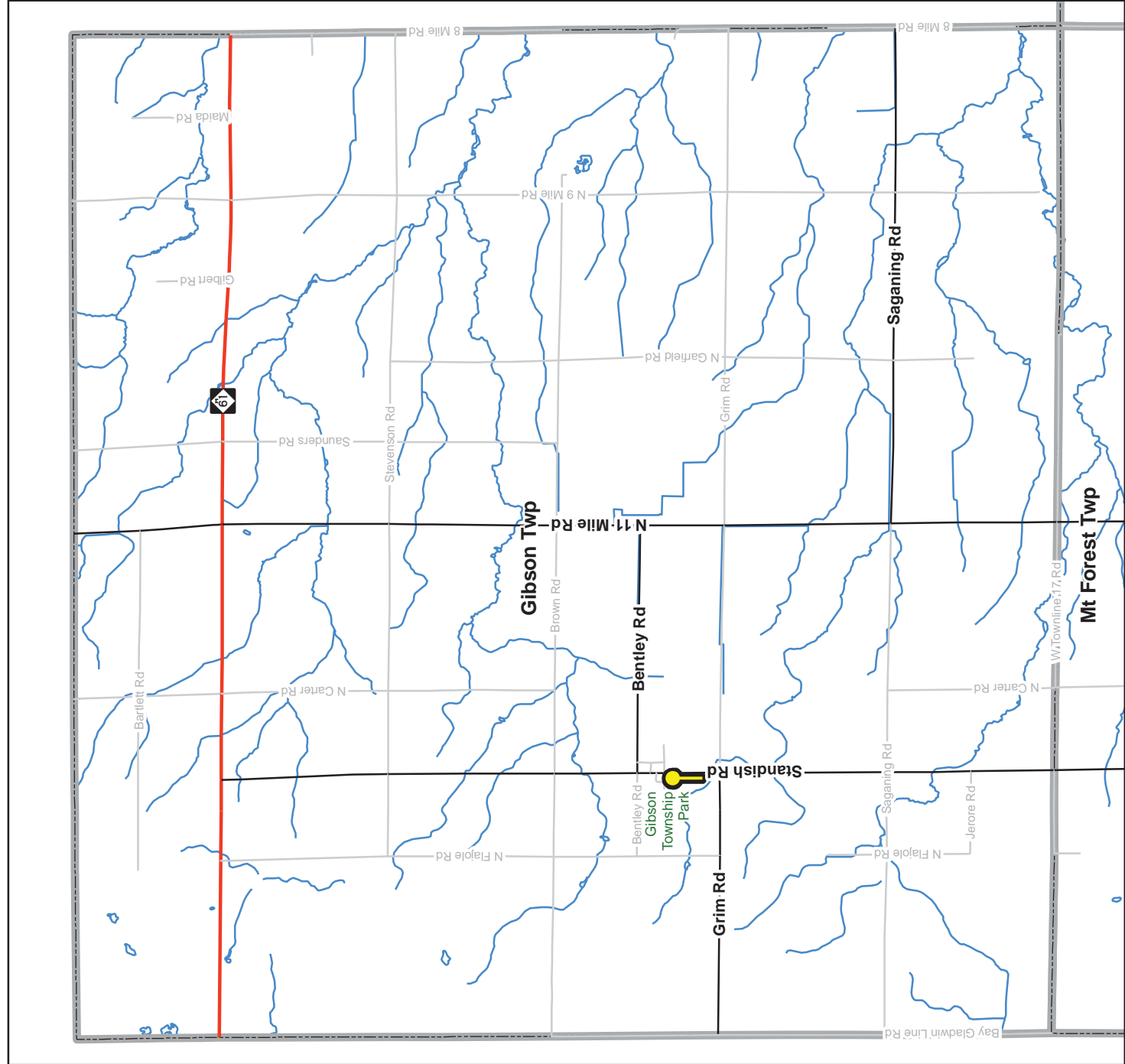
Objectives

1. Expand and add recreational features that reflect the needs and abilities of the community.

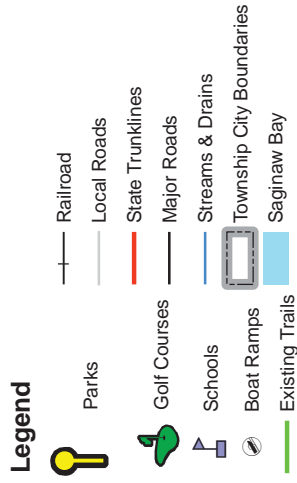
Actions

1. Install the playground equipment the Township has obtained.
2. Develop a walking path.
3. Add a picnic area.

Gibson Twp

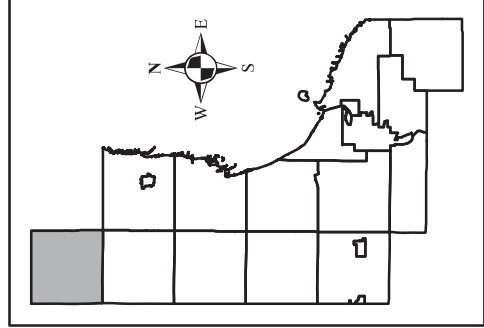


Park & Trail Locations

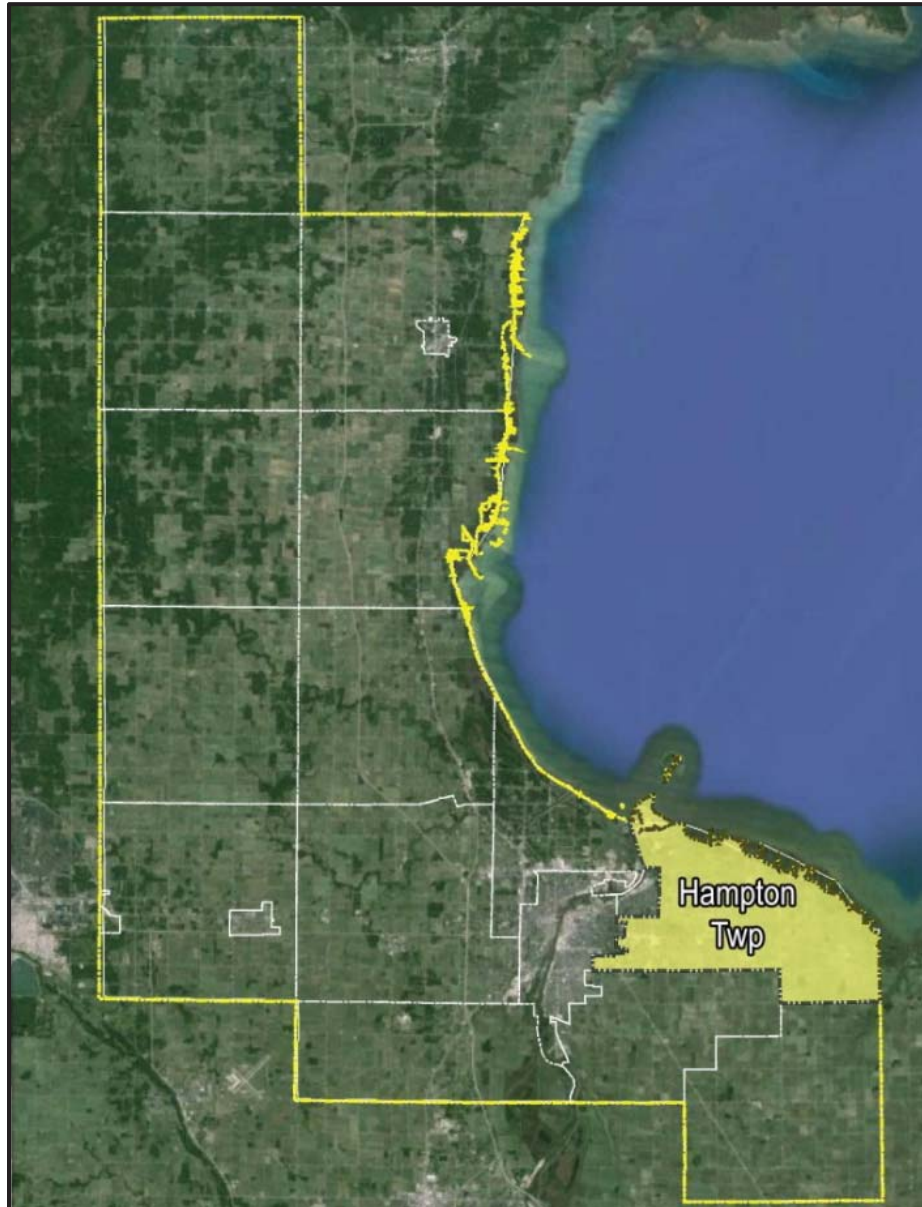


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Hampton Charter Township



Community Description

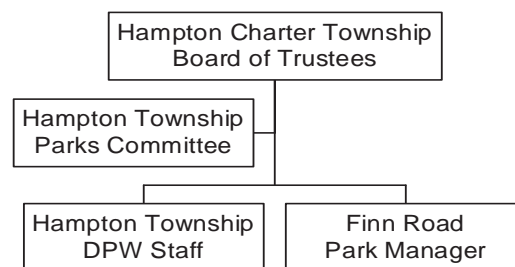
Hampton Charter Township is located in southern Bay County, east of Bay City and Essexville. It contains approximately 9 miles of Saginaw Bay shoreline and 1.5 miles of Saginaw River frontage. The eastern portion of the Township is known for its rich agricultural lands. The western portion of the Township is more densely populated resembling a suburban setting. M-25 is the major roadway in the Township. It runs east to west across the southern portion of the Township and it carries the majority of the traffic in and through the community.

According to the 2010 Census, Hampton Charter Township has a population of 9,652. The 2000 population for Hampton Charter Township was 9,902, indicating that there was an estimated loss of 250 residents between 2000 and 2010.

Administrative Structure

The Township Department of Public Works (DPW) is responsible for the parks and recreation function in Hampton Charter Township. The current parks and recreation department functions are operated under the DPW, and are carried out by three full-time DPW workers.

Hampton Township Parks and Recreation
Organizational Chart



The ten-member Department of Public Works staff is responsible for operating and maintaining the parks in Hampton Charter Township. Additionally, a full time manager is hired for Finn Road Park during the summer months.

Relationships with Other Agencies

Hampton Charter Township has a good working relationship with the Essexville-Hampton School District in terms of parks and recreation facilities. The Hampton Charter Township DPW staff grooms the four ball diamonds at Verellen School for the Little League program. They also maintain the fields at Pondside Park for practice fields. The school district has used Pondside Park for High School Cross-Country meets.

Hampton Charter Township has representation on the Bay County Riverwalk / Railtrail Committee. This committee is an initiative of the Bay Area Community Foundation and it deals with issues relating to operating, maintaining, and improving and extending the existing Riverwalk / Railtrail. The group focuses on visioning and fundraising as well. Membership includes representatives from various governmental units, governmental agencies (i.e. Road

Commission, Bay County Transportation Planning Department), the community at-large and the Bay Area Community Foundation.

Budgets

The sources of funding for parks and recreation in Hampton Charter Township are the Township general fund, campground fees, Finn Road Boat Launch fees, and pavilion rentals. The current and previous year parks and recreation budgets are shown below.

Figure 29 HAMPTON CHARTER TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETS		
	2013	2012
Operation & Maintenance	\$105,000	\$95,000
Programming (leagues, special events, etc.)	0	0
Capital Expenditures	\$60,000	\$56,000
Total	\$165,000	\$151,000

Recreation Inventory

Hampton Charter Township currently owns six recreational facilities. A seventh parcel at the end of Callahan Road has been acquired by the Township but has not yet been developed. At this site, several improvements are underway including the addition of stones to mitigate sinkholes caused by vehicles and habitat restoration methods. The planning consultant supplied inventory forms for each participating community to complete as part of the overall Bay County Recreation Plan. The parks inventoried for Hampton Charter Township are found on the following pages.



Hampton Township Hall and its surrounding area.

Figure 30
HAMPTON CHARTER TOWNSHIP RECREATION INVENTORY

	Bay-Hampton Rail Trail	Ridge Road Park	Pondside Park	Finn Road Campground	Jones Road Park	Nature Trail	Callahan Road Property
Park Type*	Park-Trail	Neighborhood Park	Community Park	Special Use	Special Use	Park-Trail	Undeveloped
Acreage /Distance	Yes mile	6 acres	30 acres	12 acres	3 acres	2 miles	2.5 acres
Accessibility*	4	3	3	3	2	2	NA
Service Area	Entire Cnty.	Neighborhoods within 2 miles	Entire Twp.	Entire Twp. & beyond	Entire Twp. & beyond	Entire Twp.	Entire Twp.
Ball Diamond		Yes	2				
Multi-use Path	Yes			Yes – 5' wide		Yes	
Pavilion		2	Yes	Yes			
Tennis Courts			4 (lighted)				
Playground		Yes	Yes	Yes			
Basketball Court		Yes / 2	Yes				
Sledding Hill		Yes	Yes				
Picnic Area		Yes		Yes			
Restrooms	Yes**	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Open Playfield		Yes	Yes	Yes			
Campground				52 spaces			
Boat Launch				Yes	Yes		
Overlook Platform				Yes	Yes		
Open Playfield							
Saginaw Bay Access				Yes	Yes		Yes
Other	Benches	Grills, Horseshoes	Pond	Grills, Benches			

* See County inventory section on pages 17 and 18 for definitions of park type and accessibility.

** Portable restrooms only.

Hampton Charter Township received five grants from the State of Michigan DNR:

- An acquisition grant in 1997 (TF97-167) for \$130,000 for the expansion of Finn Road Park.
- A Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant (26-00460) for 10 acres for a boat launch ramp and parking at Hampton Township Park.
- A LWCF grant (26-00801) for 4 lighted tennis courts and other features at Pondside Park.
- A LWCF grant (26-01464) for 30 rustic campsites and other features at Wildhaven Nature Area.
- A Bond Fund grant (BF90-041) for a multi-purpose trail on a rail right-of-way for walking, jogging, and bicycling.

Aerial views of Pondside Park, Finn Road Park, Wildhaven Nature Area and the Rail Trail are included on the following pages. A location map for the parks is included at the end of the Hampton Charter Township section.

Comparison to Standards

General park guidelines suggest that a community should have five to ten acres of community parkland per 1,000 residents. This suggests that Hampton Charter Township should have between 50 and 99 acres of parkland for its 9,900 residents. Currently, the Township has approximately 54.5 acres of parkland and 2.5 acres of additional open space. This indicates that Hampton Charter Township is within acceptable guidelines for park land. However, there are several reasons whereby this may not be sufficient:

- Existing land is not sufficient to add new amenities that the citizens desire.
- Certain geographic areas of the Township are underserved in terms of park land.
- There are unique natural resources that the Township wishes to preserve and protect.



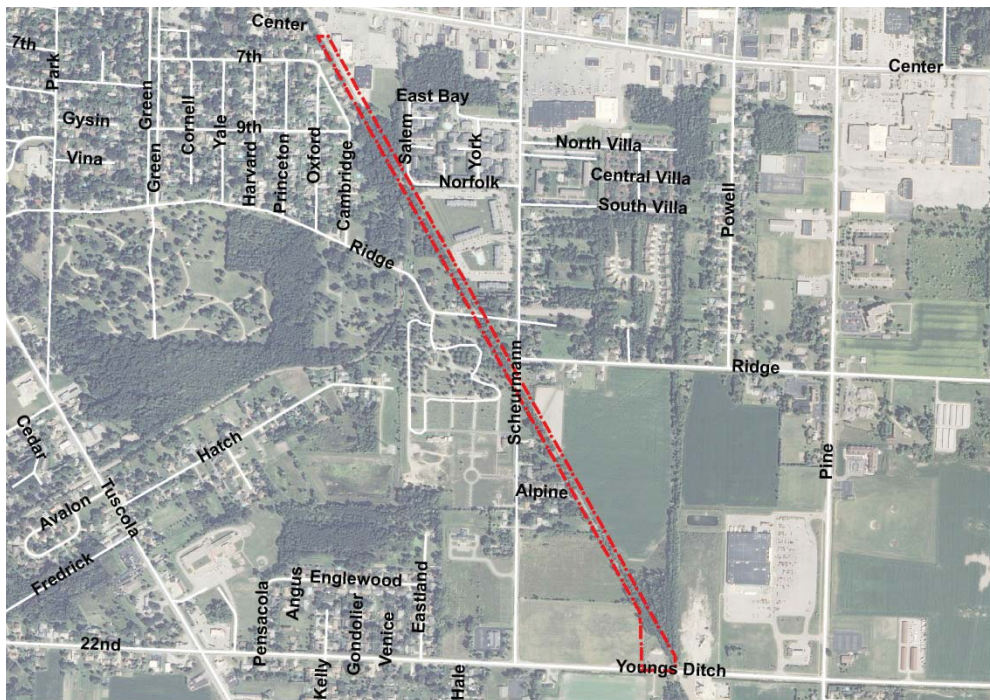
Wildhaven Park improvements.



Finn Road Park expansion.



Pondsides Park.



Rail Trail extension in Hampton Charter Township.

Goals and Objectives

Developing goals and objectives is an important part of the recreation planning process. The overall goal of a parks and recreation department is to provide recreation opportunities for the community and/or region it serves. More specific goals must be based on the demographic characteristics of the population served, the physical and environmental characteristics of the area, and the input of the community.

Goals are the broadest level. They are overreaching and general. Objectives carry out the purpose of the goal. The Action Program is the last level and it identifies specific projects and programs. The Action Program can include organizational, staffing, programming, public information, and operation and maintenance actions.



Jones Road boat launch and dock

The Hampton Charter Township Parks Committee formulated the following goals and objectives in 2008 based upon the characteristics of the overall community and the input received from the Bay County community input survey. The goals were reviewed for the 2014 plan along with updated community input results. The Township is generally satisfied with continuing to pursue 2008 goals.

GOAL 1

Provide safe broad community-based recreation opportunities that improve the overall quality of life for all residents of Hampton Charter Township.

GOAL 2

Provide recreational opportunities for people with disabilities.

Objectives

1. Develop programs for special needs population.
2. Ensure that improvements and upgrades to parks are handicap accessible.

GOAL 3

Develop a non-motorized trail network in Hampton Charter Township.

Hampton Charter Township currently has two separate trails – the unpaved Nature Trail and a portion of the paved Bay County Railtrail / Riverwalk. Based on community input, the Township would like to expand its trail system and develop a network of trails for residents and visitors.



Tennis Courts at Pondsides Park

GOAL 4

Acquire more park land as needed and as it becomes available.

GOAL 5

Improve communication with residents regarding parks and recreation facilities and programming.

Objectives

1. Improve the Township's Parks and Recreation web site to communicate with residents regarding park and recreation.
2. Develop a brochure that describes the parks in Hampton Charter Township.

GOAL 6

Provide recreational facilities that take advantage of the water based natural resources in Hampton Charter Township.

Objectives

1. Add shore fishing facilities in Hampton Charter Township.
2. Develop swimming access points in Hampton Charter Township.

GOAL 7

Provide quality leisure time activities with special consideration given to activities improving health and fitness.

Action Plan

With goals and objectives in place, Hampton Charter Township was able to develop a 5-year Action Plan to work toward accomplishing the goals and objectives. The Action Plan details the direction the community wishes to take over the next five years in order to maintain and improve the quality and diversity of area park and recreation opportunities.

Each action items relates to one or more of the numbered goals from the previous section. Potential capital improvements described in this Plan have been established to provide a framework for decision makers and to enable the Township to apply for grant funding for the proposed projects.

Action Item	Relates to Goal
Develop a fitness course.	1, 7
Improve tennis courts at Pondside Park.	1
Develop dog walks at Parks.	1
Complete segment of Nature Trail between Jones Road & Wagner Road.	1, 2, 3, 7
Add interpretive signs on Nature Trail.	1, 2, 5
Add a boardwalk through the mud flats for nature observation.	1, 2, 6, 7
Add educational nature programs such as hunting safety and fishing.	1
Improve parking at parks.	1
Begin to develop improvements at Callahan Road end property.	1, 2, 6

Hampton Twp

Park & Trail Locations

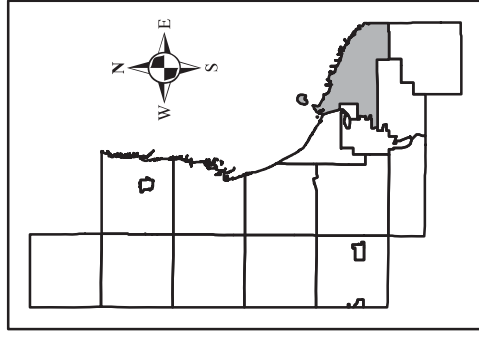
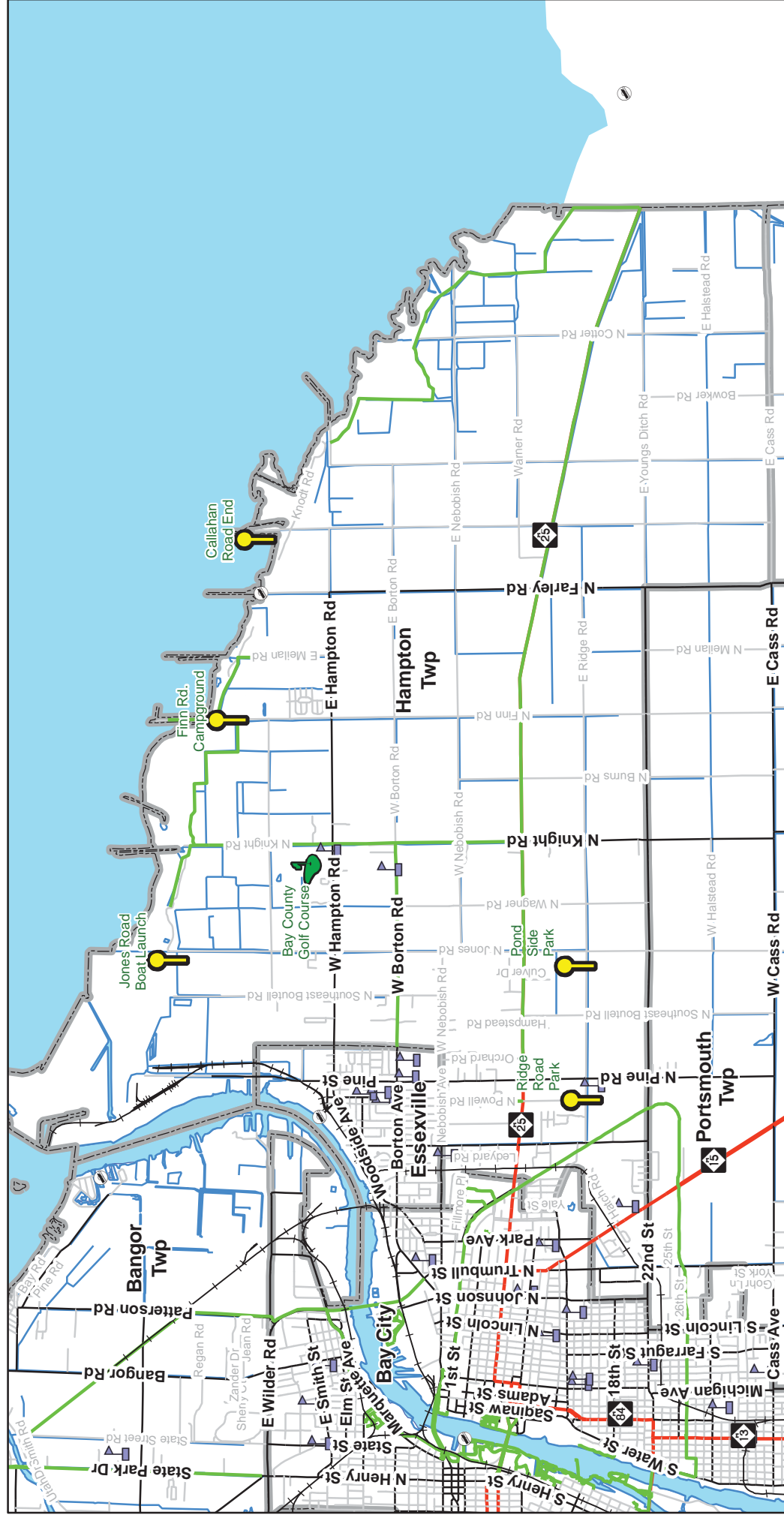


Legend

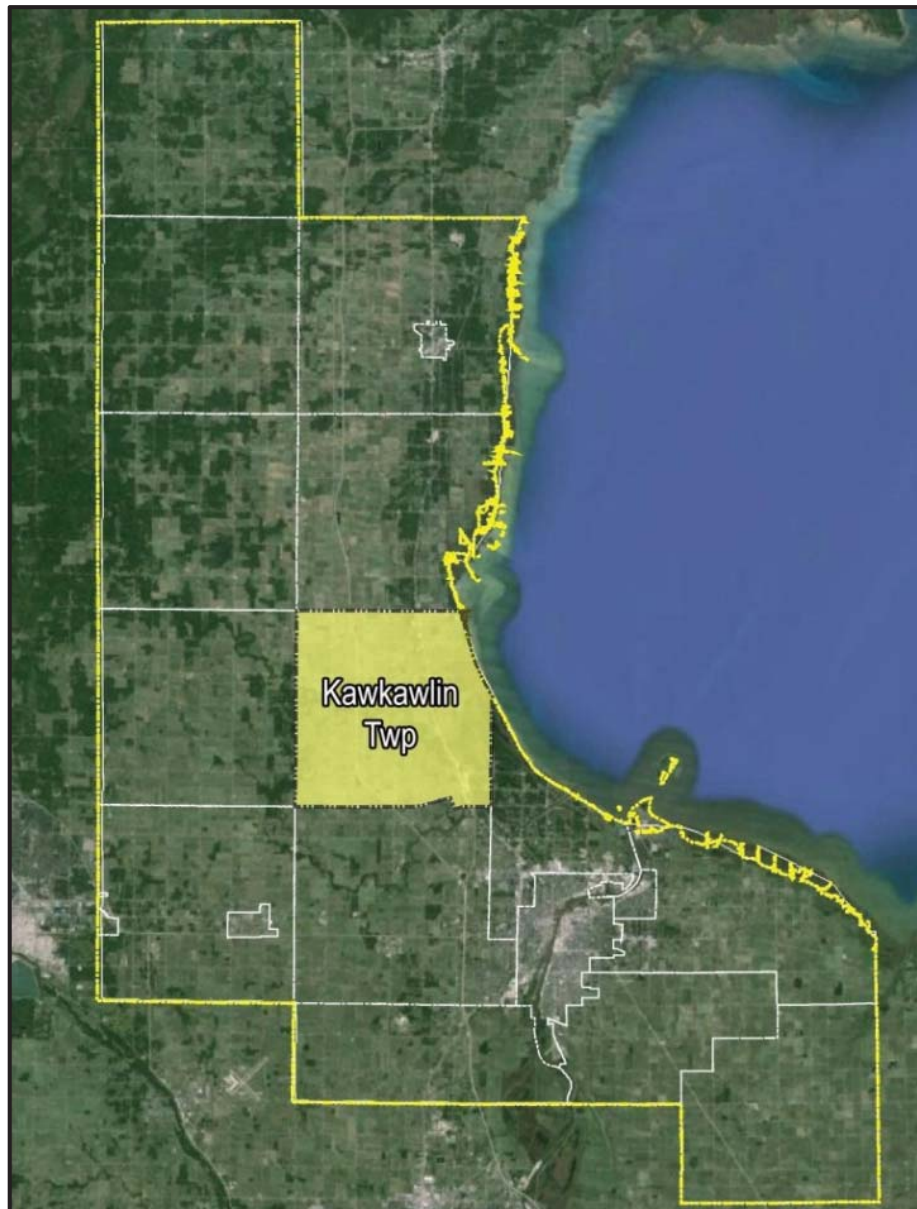
- Parks
- Golf Courses
- Schools
- Boat Ramps
- Existing Trails
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Kawkawlin Township



Community Description

Kawkawlin Township is located north of Bay City and Monitor Township along Saginaw Bay. Lands within the Township are largely agricultural with some woodlands and wetlands located near the Bay and along the Kawkawlin River. According to the 2010 Census the population of Kawkawlin Township is 4,848.

Administrative Structure

The Township Board is responsible for the function of parks and recreation in Kawkawlin Township. The Township contracts the responsibilities of grass cutting and parks maintenance each year. One part time employee monitors the pavilion at Kawkawlin Park. Volunteers assist with several parks and recreation programs in Kawkawlin. Volunteers serve as coaches and work in the concession stand for the youth baseball league. Volunteers who participate in the Kawkawlin youth ball league maintain the township's four ball diamonds. Volunteers also work in the Township's Archery program as instructors. There are about 40 to 50 volunteers who assist with Parks and Recreation programs in Kawkawlin.

There are many examples of ongoing relationships with community organizations in the facilitation of parks and recreation in Kawkawlin. Bay Area Soccer Association (BASA) teams use the Township soccer field for practice. During the Linwood Pickle Fest, the ball fields are used for a tournament, and the township hall is used for a pageant.

Budgets

Funding for the park and recreation budget in Kawkawlin Township mainly comes from the Township general fund, with a small amount of support coming from fundraisers and donations. The current and prior year parks and recreation budgets are shown below.

Figure 31		
KAWKAWLIN TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETS		
	2014	2013
Operation & Maintenance	\$21,000	\$21,000
Programming (leagues, special events, etc.)	\$2,500	\$2,500
Capital Expenditures	\$40,000	\$0
Total	\$63,500	\$23,500

Recreation Inventory

The planning consultant supplied inventory forms for the each participating community to complete as part of the overall Bay County Recreation Plan. Kawkawlin Township owns one traditional park, Kawkawlin Park. It owns a portion of Linwood Scenic Park. The portion of Linwood Scenic Park on the north side of Linwood Road is owned by Fraser Township and the

portion of the south side of Linwood Road Is owned by Kawkawlin Township. Kawkawlin Township also owns four Saginaw Bay waterfront access points. Those include a small beach park knows as Brissette Beach and three road end easements. Another important park in the community is Linwood Bicentennial Park, owned by the Pinconning School District. The parks are inventoried in the chart below. A park location map is included at the end of this section.

Figure 32
KAWKAWLIN TOWNSHIP RECREATION INVENTORY

	Kawkawlin Park	Linwood Scenic Park	Brissette Beach Park	Road End Easements**
Park Type*	Community Park	Special Use Park	Special Use Park	Special Use Park
Acreage	53	0.8	0.2	
Accessibility*	4	4		
Service Area	Entire Township and community of Linwood	Fraser Twp & Kawkawlin Twp		
Archery Equipment	Yes			
Ball Diamonds	4			
Football/Soccer Fields	2			
Boardwalk		Yes		
Playground Equipment	2			
Tennis Courts	2			
Open playfield	Yes			
Pavilion	Yes			
Grills	3			
Restrooms	Portable			
Waterfront Access		Yes	Yes	Yes
Swimming Beach			Yes	
Boat Launch		Yes		

* See County inventory section on pages 17 and 18 for definitions of park type and accessibility.

** This refers to a 66' wide area located at the end of Boutell Road, Cottage Grove Road & Lebourdais Road

Kawkawlin Township has received two grants from the Michigan DNR:

- A Trust Fund development grant (TF95-253) to provide a public access site for Saginaw Bay at Linwood Road with a small boat launch.
- A Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) development grant (26-00829) to develop 2 tennis courts and other features at the Kawkawlin Township Park.

Goals and Objectives

The Township developed the following goals and objectives for parks and recreation in the community.

GOAL 1

Encourage community health and fitness while promoting “the community” for all groups.

GOAL 2

Provide safe and enjoyable recreational activities.

GOAL 3

Offer appropriate access and opportunities for our special needs population.

Objective

1. Add more ADA accessible equipment and amenities to the parks and other recreational facilities.

GOAL 4

Enhance the natural beauty of our parks.

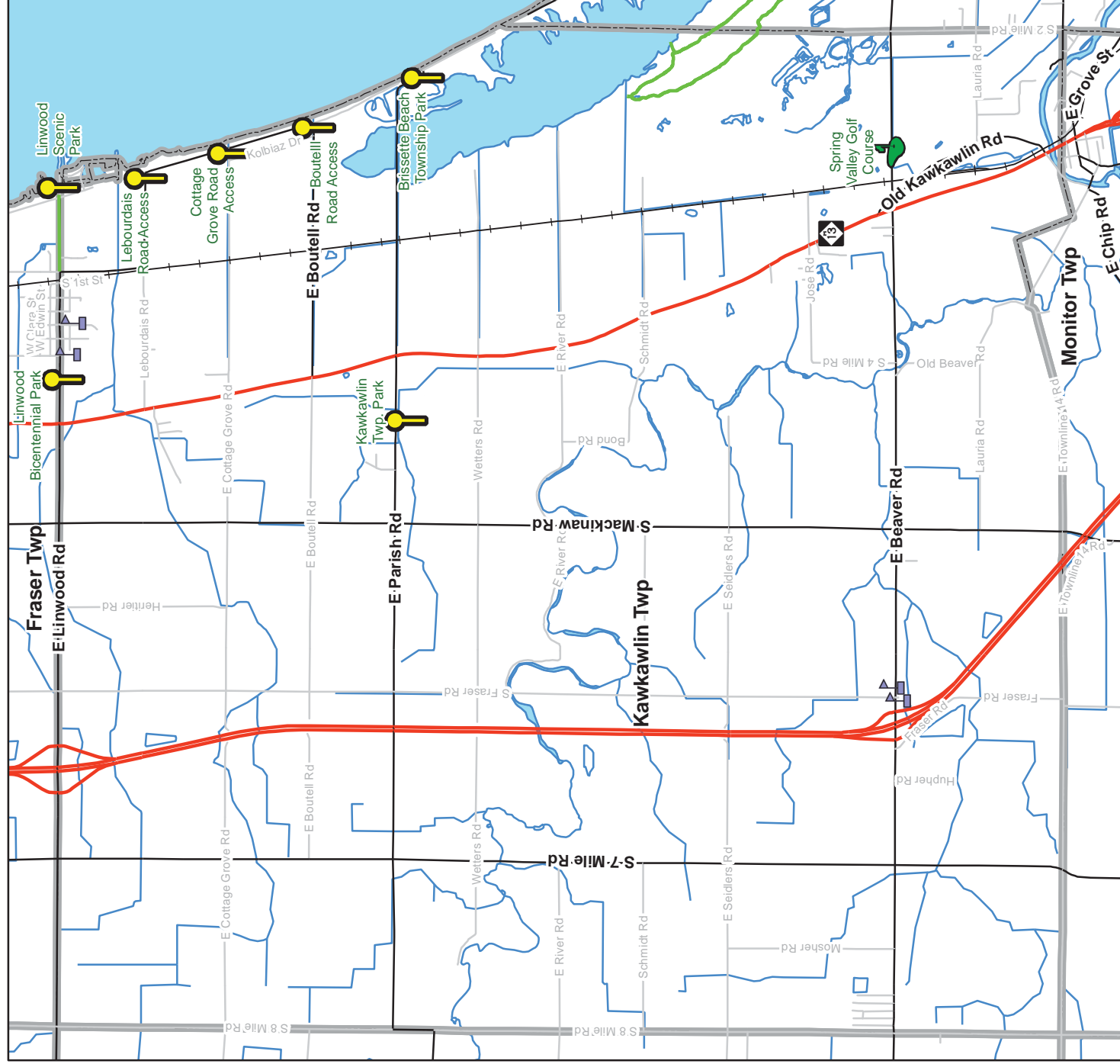
GOAL 5

Strengthen recreationally related social opportunities within the community.

Action Plan

1. Design and dig a pond for swimming and fishing activities.
2. Design and develop a walking path in park and through the wooded area.
3. Create beach volleyball courts.
4. Create horse shoe pits.
5. Create sledding hill.
6. Provide a splash park.
7. Add a skate park.
8. Construct a new smaller building for recreational and community use with bathrooms that are accessible from inside and outside.

Kawkawlin Twp



Park & Trail Locations

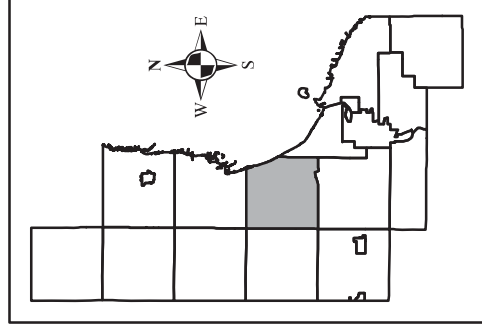
Legend

- Parks
- Golf Courses
- Schools
- Boat Ramps
- Existing Trails
- Railroad
- Local Roads
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- Streams & Drains
- Township City Boundaries
- Saginaw Bay

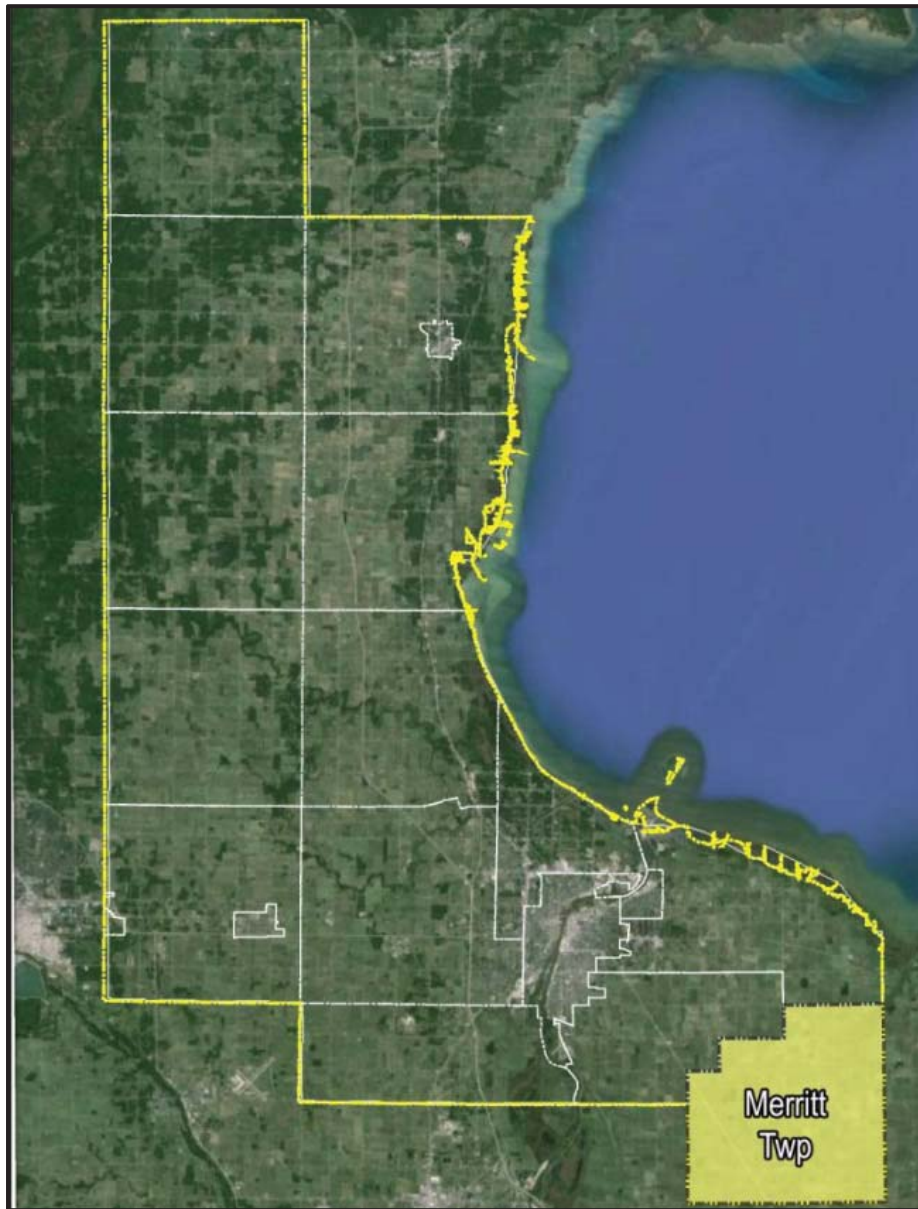
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Merritt Township



Community Description

Merritt Township is located at the southeast corner of Bay County, south of Hampton Charter Township and southeast of Portsmouth Township. It contains the unincorporated community of Munger. The land in Merritt Township is largely rural and agricultural. According to the 2010 Census, Merritt Township has 1,441 people.

Administrative Structure

Parks and recreation functions in Merritt Township are administered by the Township Board. They are assisted by the Munger Volunteer Fireman Corporation which assists with many functions including administering the summer ball program for boys and girls. The Park is maintained by Township staff. Approximately 20 to 25 volunteers assist with the youth ball program each year.

Budgets

The source of funding for the park and recreation budget in Merritt Township is the township general fund, donations, and the Munger Volunteer Fireman Corporation. The current and prior year parks and recreation budgets are shown below.

Figure 33 MERRITT TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETS		
	2013-14	2012-13
Operation & Maintenance	\$3,640	\$3,640
Programming (leagues, special events, etc.)	NA	NA
Capital Expenditures	\$1,360	\$1,360
Donations	\$0	\$251,559
Total	\$5,000	\$256,559



Children playing at Merritt Township Park.

Recreation Inventory

The planning consultant supplied inventory forms for each participating community to complete as part of the overall Bay County Recreation Plan. Merritt Township has one park, Merritt Township Park. It is inventoried in the chart below.

Figure 34 MERRITT TOWNSHIP RECREATION INVENTORY	
	Merritt Township Park
Park Type*	Neighborhood
Acreage	18
Accessibility*	2
Service Area	Entire Township
Ball Diamond	2
Multi-use Path	$\frac{3}{4}$ mile
Pavilion	Yes
Picnic Area	Yes
Restrooms	Yes
Playfield (open space)	Yes

* See County inventory section on pages 17 and 18 for definitions of park type and accessibility.



Play equipment at Merritt Township Park.

Goals and Objectives

Merritt Township developed the following goal for parks and recreation in the community.

GOAL 1

Provide a park that the community can be proud of.

GOAL 2

Provide a safe trail system which will promote health and fitness for Township residents.

GOAL 3

Provide family friendly activities in the park.

GOAL 3

Provide safe equipment for youth participating in activities.

Action Plan

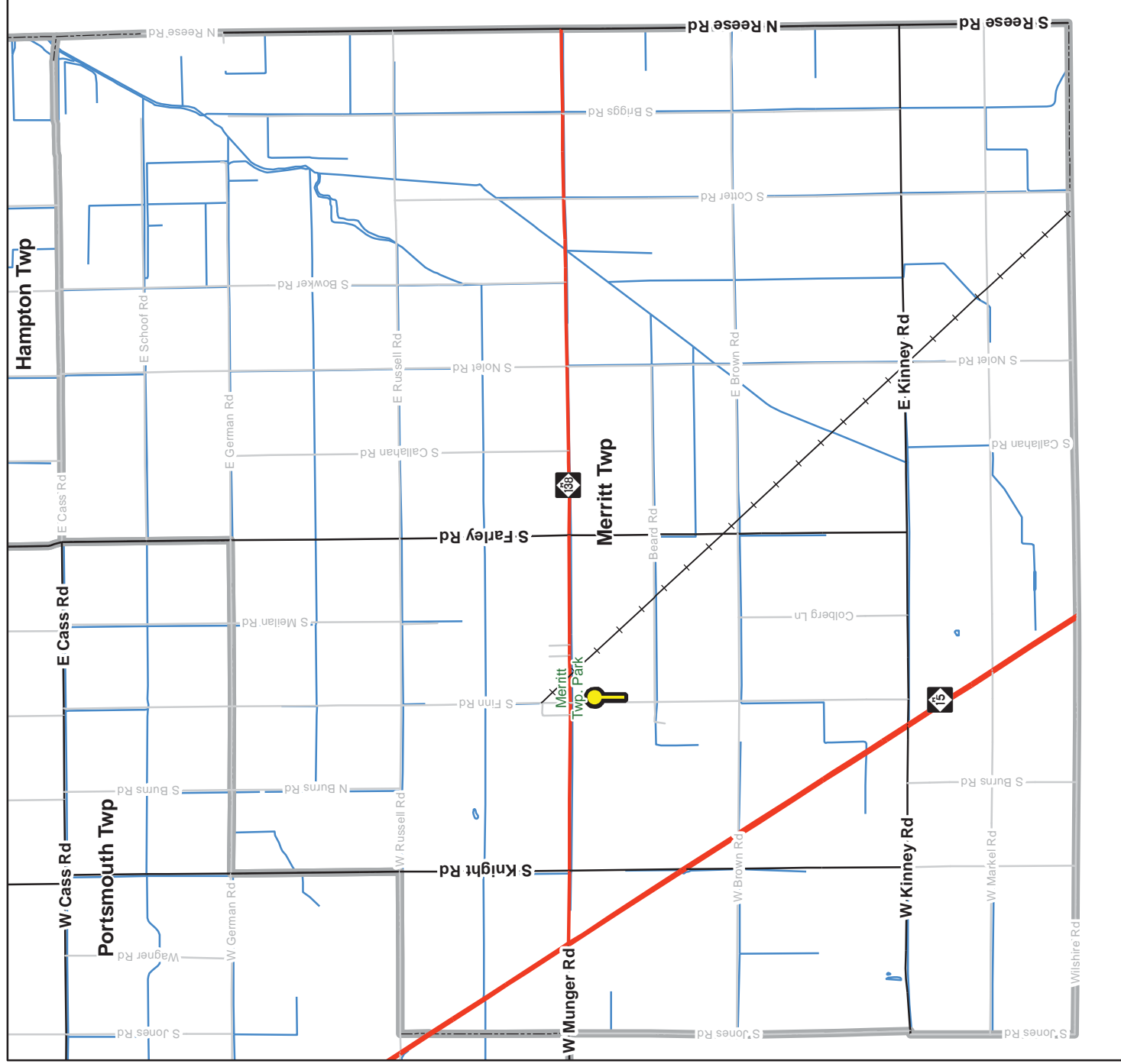
1. Provide a non-motorized walking trail between Reese and Munger.
2. Provide a non-motorized walking trail between Munger and Bay City.
3. Update playground equipment in the park.
4. Update youth softball equipment.
5. Upgrade restroom facilities.
6. Provide grills.
7. Provide a basketball area.
8. Upgrade tennis courts.



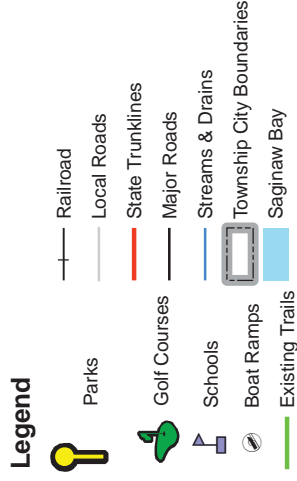
Taking advantage of Merritt Township recreational facilities: Playing on a slide, running, and softball.



Merritt Twp

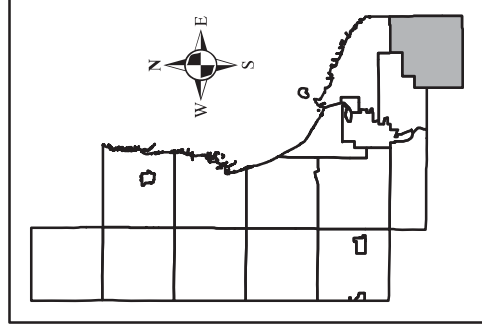


Park & Trail Locations

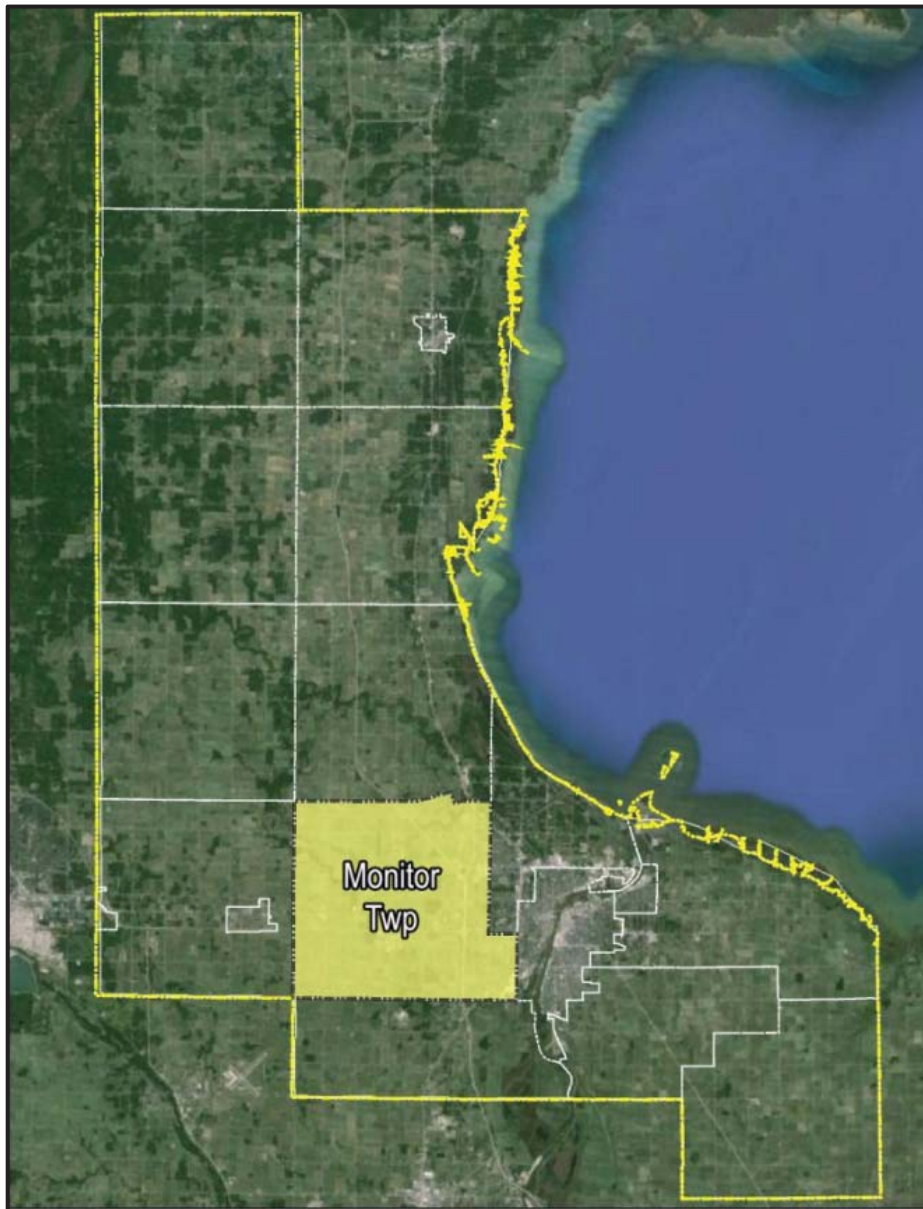


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Monitor Township



Community Description

Monitor Township is located west of the City of Bay City and Bangor Township. It is largely rural and agricultural in nature, with more dense residential and commercial lands located on the east side of the Township. According to the 2010 Census, Monitor Township has 10,735 people.

Administrative Structure

Parks and recreation functions in Monitor Charter Township are administered by the seven-member Township Board. One part-time employee maintains the two parks in the Township. This employee performs custodian and grounds maintenance work at both parks and reports to the Township Supervisor. Approximately 35-40 volunteers assist the township parks and recreation programs each year through coaching. The Monitor Township Softball League uses the four ball diamonds at Monitor Park for their games.

Budgets

The source of funding for the park and recreation budget in Monitor Township is the Township general fund. The current and prior year parks and recreation budgets are shown below.

Figure 35		
MONITOR TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETS		
	2013	2012
Operation & Maintenance	\$15,500	\$13,000
Programming (leagues, special events, etc.)	NA	NA
Capital Expenditures	\$19,000	\$10,700
Total	\$34,500	\$23,700

Recreation Inventory

The planning consultant supplied inventory forms for the each participating community to complete as part of the overall Bay County Recreation Plan. Monitor Township has two parks that comprise 22.5 acres. They are inventoried in the chart on the following page.

Figure 36
MONITOR TOWNSHIP RECREATION INVENTORY

	Monitor Park	Steih Park
Park Type*	Community Park	Special Use
Acreage	21.25	1.24
Accessibility*	2	2
Ball Diamonds	2	
Non-Regulation Ball Diamonds	2	
Canoe Launch		Yes
Grills	3	
Horseshoe Pits	4	
Pavilion	Yes	
Picnic Area	Yes	Yes
Playfield	Yes	Yes
Playground Equipment	Yes	
Restrooms	Yes	
Universally Accessible Path with Fitness Stations	Yes	
Waterfront Property		Yes

* See County inventory section on pages 17 and 18 for definitions of park type and accessibility.

Monitor Township received a Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant (26-01705) for a new walking trail, exercise stations, and handicap accessible restrooms at the Township Park. This project was completed in 2012.

Goals and objectives

Monitor Township developed the following goals and objectives for parks and recreational facilities in the Township.

GOAL 1

Continue to improve and upgrade Monitor Township's recreational facilities so as to have parks the Township can be proud of.

GOAL 2

Develop Steih Park to increase its use.

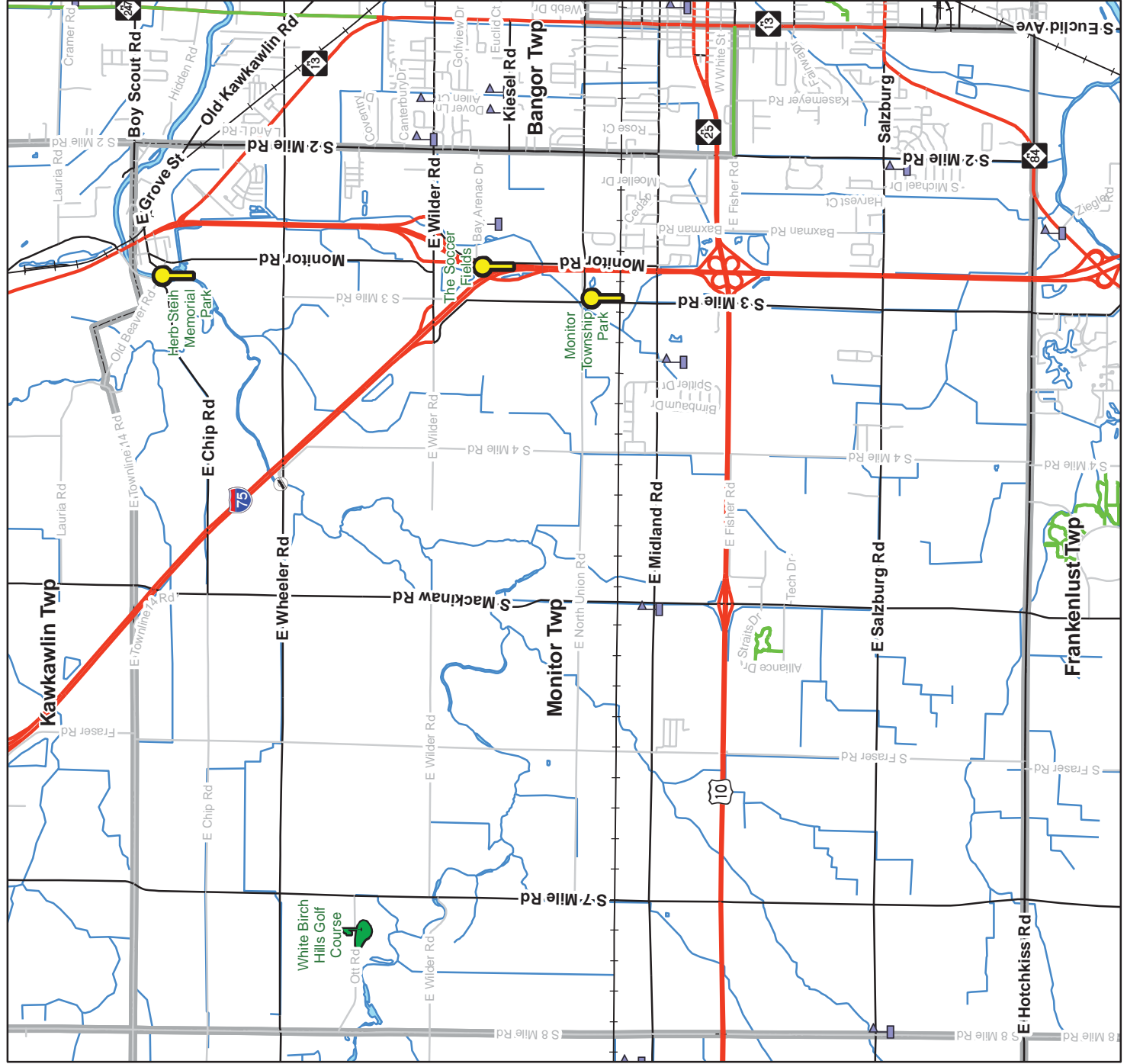
GOAL 3

Make existing parks more user-friendly.

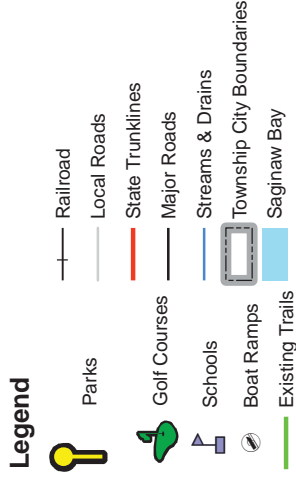
Action Plan

1. Add additional electrical service to the pavilion and play area in Monitor Park.
2. Add picnic tables and grills to Steih Park.
3. Build a pavilion at Steih Park.
4. Pave the roadway at Monitor Park.
5. Add lighting around ball diamonds, playground area, and parking areas at Monitor Park.
6. Make Monitor Park useable all year round.

Monitor Twp

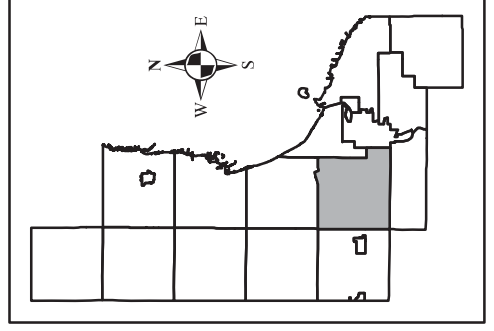


Park & Trail Locations

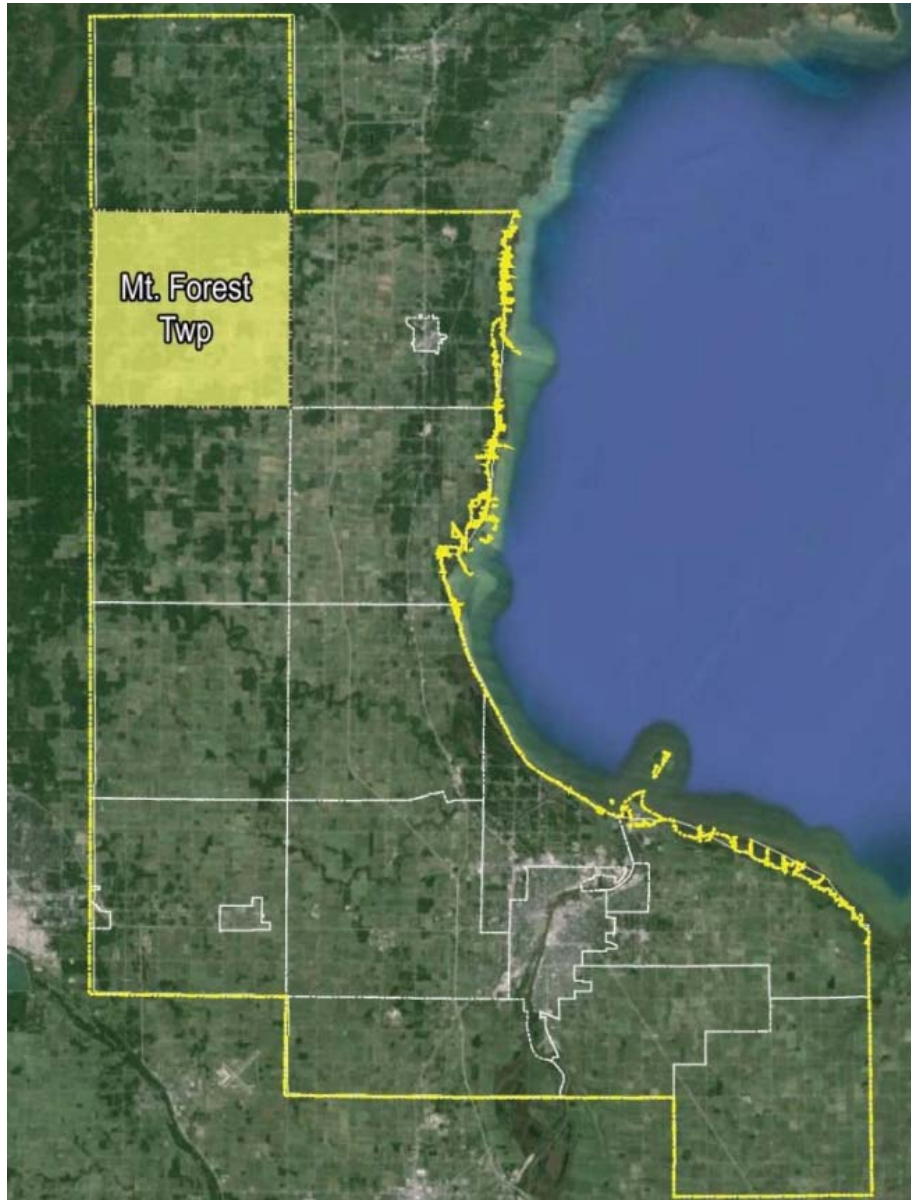


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Mount Forest Township



Community Description

Mount Forest Township is located west of Pinconning Township and south of Gibson Township. It is largely rural and agricultural in nature. According to the 2010 Census, Mount Forest Charter Township has 1,392 people.

Administrative Structure

Parks and recreation functions in Mount Forest Township are administered by the Township Board. The Township has an ongoing relationship with four equestrian clubs which use park space for their programs. Mount Forest Township handles its maintenance activities through two contractors. One of these contractors performs mowing at the Township Park, while the other does more general maintenance work.

Budgets

The source of funding for the park and recreation budget in Mount Forest Township is the Township general fund. The current and prior year parks and recreation budgets are shown in the chart below.

Figure 37 MOUNT FOREST TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETS		
	2013	2012
Operation & Maintenance	\$1,000	\$1,000
Programming (leagues, special events, etc.)	NA	NA
Capital Expenditures	NA	NA
Totals	\$1,000	\$1,000

Recreation Inventory

The planning consultant supplied inventory forms for the each participating community to complete as part of the overall Bay County Recreation Plan. Mount Forest Township has one park that is 40 acres. It is inventoried in the chart on the following page.

Figure 38
MOUNT FOREST TOWNSHIP RECREATION INVENTORY

	Mount Forest Township Park
Park Type*	Community Park
Acreage	40
Accessibility*	3
Ball Diamonds	Yes
Horse Arena	Yes
Playground Equipment	Yes
Restrooms	Yes
Waterfront Property	No

* See County inventory section on pages 17 and 18 for definitions of park type and accessibility.

Goals and Objectives

Mount Forest Township developed the following goals and objectives for parks and recreational facilities and in the Township.

GOAL 1

Provide safe, broad, community-based recreation opportunities that improve the overall quality of life for the area residents.

GOAL 2

Develop recreational facilities that provide opportunities for people of all abilities.

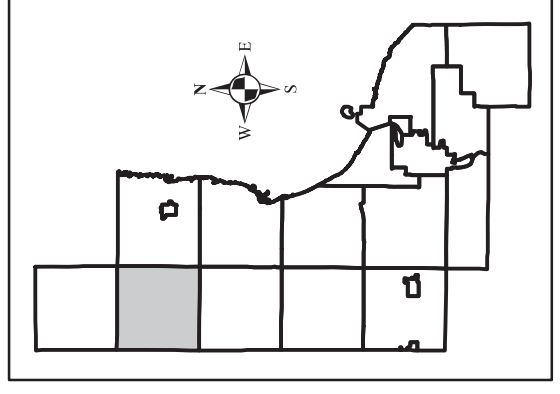
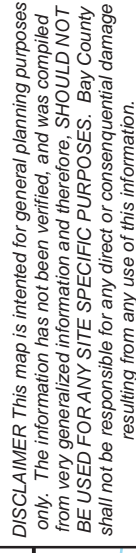
Action Plan

1. Develop a walking path connected to Mount Forest Township Park.
2. Add an updated playground and playscape to Mount Forest Township Park.

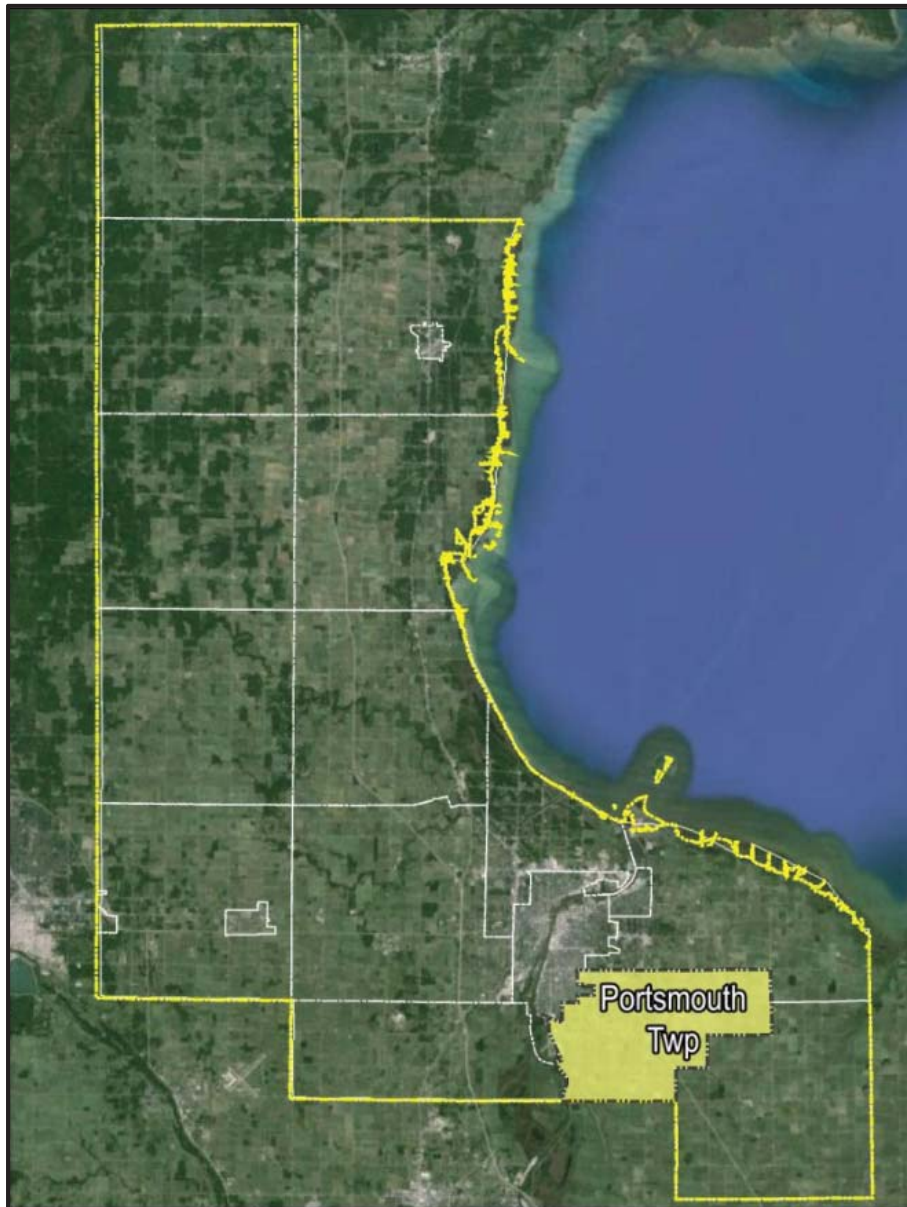
Legend



Waterbodies



Portsmouth Township



Community Description

Portsmouth Township is located in the southern Bay County, east of Bay City and south of Hampton Charter Township. The land within the Township is largely agricultural with some more densely populated residential lands on the west side near the City of Bay City. According to the 2010 Census the population of Portsmouth Township is 3,306.

Administrative Structure

Parks and recreation functions in Portsmouth Township are administered by the Township Board. Portsmouth Township has part-time seasonal employees who perform tasks such as mowing and trimming. The Railtrail Committee has also adopted pocket parks which are maintained by citizens. The Bay Area Community Foundation performs the adoption process for these pocket parks. Volunteers serve the township parks and recreation by maintaining pocket parks.

Budgets

The source of funding for the park and recreation budget in Portsmouth Township is the township general fund. The Township does not have a specific budget line for parks and recreation activities. Recreation funding is included as part of the overall Building and Grounds budget. The current and prior year parks and recreation budgets are shown below.

Figure 40 PORTSMOUTH TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETS		
	2014	2013
Operation & Maintenance	\$20,000	\$1,000
Programming (leagues, special events, etc.)	NA	NA
Capital Expenditures	\$0	\$0
Total	\$20,000	\$1,000

Recreation Inventory

Portsmouth Township owns Portsmouth Township Park and a portion of the area rail-trail. The Township Supervisor provided the information to complete the current inventory. The inventory of amenities in the parks is shown on the following page. A location map is at the end of the section.

Figure 41
PORTSMOUTH TOWNSHIP RECREATION INVENTORY

	Portsmouth Township Park	Rail-Trail
Park Type*	Community Park	Park-Trail
Acreage	3.5	2 miles
Accessibility*	3	4
Service Area	Entire Township	Entire County
Beach Volleyball	Yes	
Playground Station, including slide, etc.	Yes	
Basketball court	Yes	
Horseshoe Pits	Yes	
Pavilion	Yes	
Restrooms	Yes	
Merry-go-Round	Yes	
Swing set	Yes	

* See County inventory section on pages 17 and 18 for definitions of park type and accessibility.

Portsmouth Township received a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant in 1995 (TF95-200) for \$102,300 for development of the Township Rail Trail.

Goals and Objectives

Portsmouth Township has developed the following goals and objectives for parks and recreation.

GOAL 1

Retain public land for future generations.

Objectives

1. Retain existing parkland and, if the opportunity becomes available, acquire new public lands to meet future needs of the community.
2. Preserve existing recreational facilities and acquire new public lands to enhance and expand those facilities.

GOAL 2

Provide quality leisure time activities with special consideration for improving health and fitness.

Objectives

1. Provide new features and upgrade facilities with consideration for health and safety.
2. Continue to work with existing recreation partners in the community to provide programs and facilities for special events, if needed.

GOAL 3

Provide safe, broad, community-based recreation opportunities that improve the overall quality of life for all residents of Portsmouth Township and Bay County.

Objectives

1. Continue to add amenities to Portsmouth Township Park based upon community input, need, and funding.
2. Partner with other units of government and recreation providers to further promote broad-based recreation where available in Portsmouth Township.

GOAL 4

Enhance and improve the existing Rail Trail (Portsmouth Township section) for recreational use.

Objectives

1. Where possible, connect existing rail trail to regional trails and destinations.
2. Where feasible, encourage the Bay County Road Commission to provide easements for trails and possibly help with maintenance and improvement projects.
3. Develop and enhance existing features of the rail trail to ensure that it is accessible to the greatest number of people and meets existing and future safety concerns.

Action Plan

1. Network with area realtors regarding potential lands that may become available for future development opportunities.
2. Continue to maintain and upgrade existing facilities by utilizing a Township maintenance person, who has a background in safety training. Continue to utilize work crews from the Department of Corrections to maintain and improve facilities at the Township Hall.
3. Start and maintain a dialogue with neighboring townships, Bay County, and Bay City so as to be included in any broad-based recreation opportunities.
4. Apply for any state and/or federal grants that could be used to enhance and improve the existing section of the Rail Trail that runs through Portsmouth Township. Also work with Rail Trail Committee to utilize its 'maintenance endowment fund' to maintain trail.

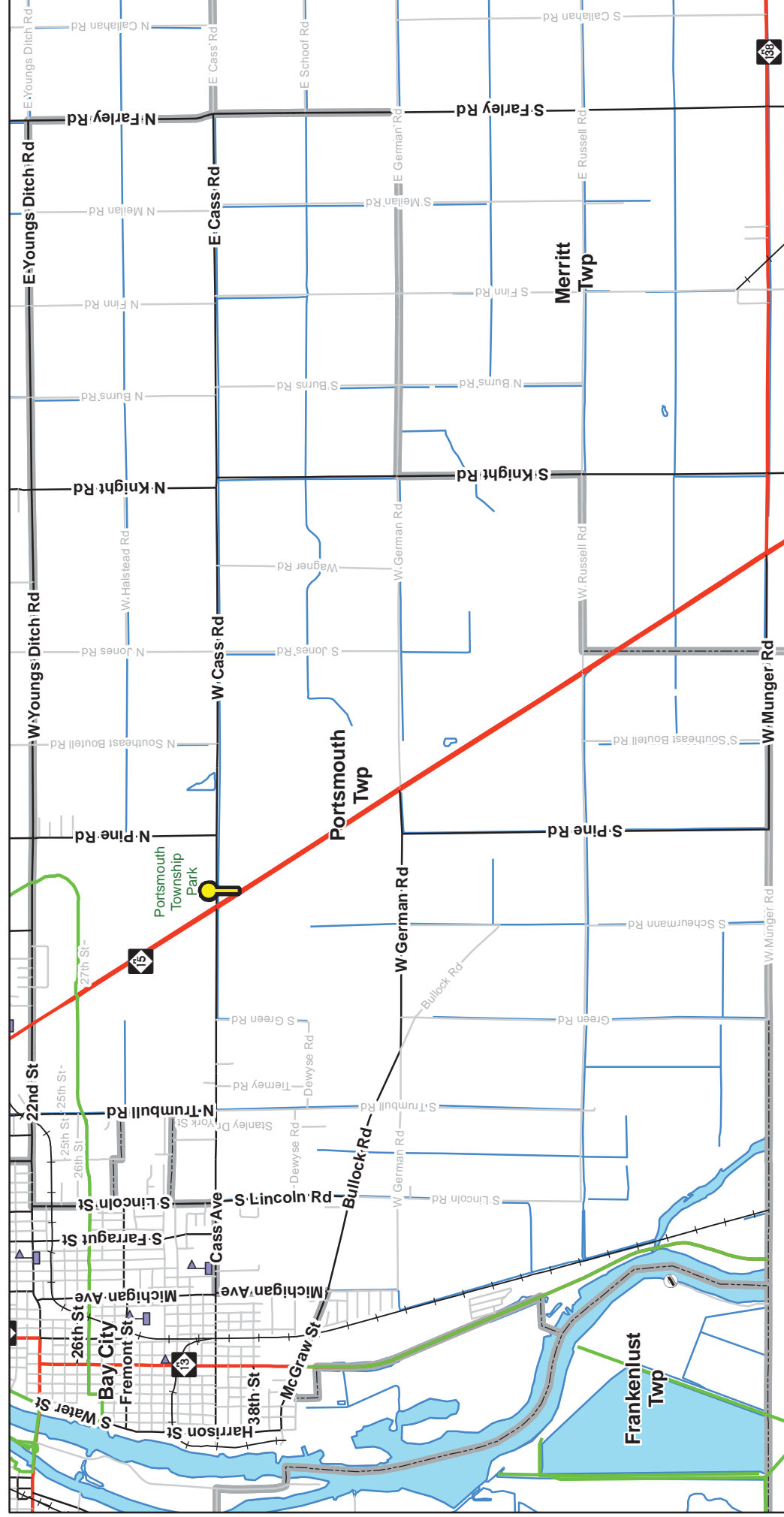
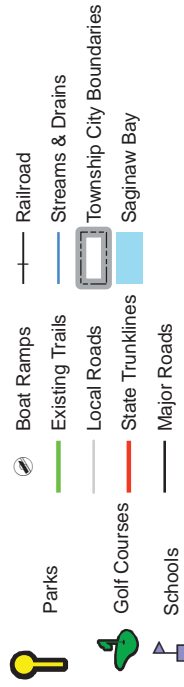
Portsmouth Twp

Park & Trail Locations

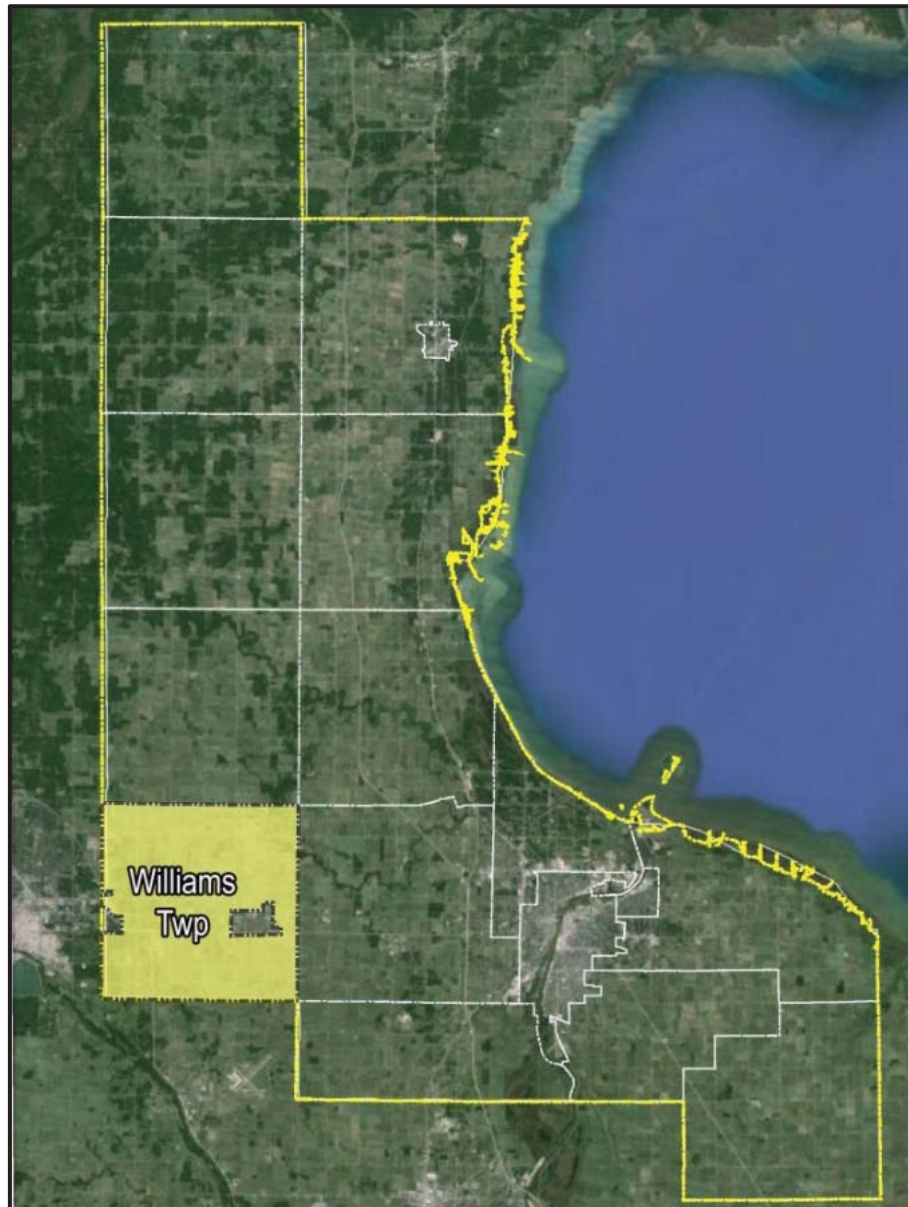


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Williams Township



Community Description

Williams Township is located in the southwest corner of Bay County, east of the City of Midland. The City of Auburn is located in Williams Township. The land within the Township is largely agricultural with some more densely populated residential areas around Auburn. According to the 2010 Census the population of Williams Township is 4,772, which is a 6.2% increase over its 2000 population of 4,492.

Administrative Structure

Parks and recreation functions in Williams Township are administered by the Township Board. Operation and Maintenance of the Township Park is handled by the Department of Public Works, which consists of one full time and one part-time seasonal employee.



Williams Township works with the City of Auburn and the Auburn-Williams Recreation Association to coordinate some recreation programming. This includes activities such as youth baseball, summer recreation, and soccer coordination. The Summer Recreation program is a six-week program for children 5 to 12 years old.

Budgets

The sources of funding for the park and recreation budget in Williams Township are the Township's general fund, grants, and donations. The current and prior year parks and recreation budgets are shown below.

Figure 42		
WILLIAMS TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETS		
	2014	2013
Operation & Maintenance	\$22,000	\$19,000
Programming (leagues, special events, etc.)*	\$8,500	\$8,500
Capital Expenditures**	\$20,000	\$20,000
Total	\$50,500	\$47,500

* These figures represent the Summer Recreation Program, administered by the Auburn - Williams Recreation Association. The City of Auburn and Williams Township each provide \$8,500 per year toward programming to include youth baseball, softball, and soccer.

** Approximately \$20,000 was spent in 2013 for equipment upgrades, including a Rock Climbing Wall, stationary spring-style toys, swings and swing parts, and playscape and sand volleyball court edging.

Recreation Inventory

Williams Township owns one park, Williams Township Park. To complete the current inventory, the Township Board reviewed and updated the inventory from their previous recreation plan.

The inventory of amenities in the park is shown below. A location map for the park is shown at the end of this section.

Williams Township has received two past Michigan DNR grants. A Trust Fund acquisition grant (TF 913) in the amount of \$6,000 was received for the expansion of three acres of woodland on Township Park property. A Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) development grant (26-01376) was also received for improvements to the Township Park including basketball courts.

Figure 43	
WILLIAMS TOWNSHIP RECREATION INVENTORY	
	Williams Township Park
Park Type*	Community Park
Acreage	18
Accessibility*	3
Service Area	Entire Township and the City of Auburn
Basketball Courts	1
Volleyball Courts	Yes
Football/Soccer Fields	1
Playground Equipment	Yes
Ball Diamonds	2
Horseshoe Pits	2
Pavilion	1
Restrooms	Yes
Grills	12
Multi-Use Paths	1.25 miles
Fitness Course	Yes
Picnic Area	Yes

* See County inventory section on pages 17 and 18 for definitions of park type and accessibility.

Goals and Objectives

Williams Township developed the following goals and objectives for parks and recreation in the community.

GOAL 1

Continue to improve and upgrade Williams Township recreational and support facilities in order to offer parks and recreational activities the community can be proud of.

Objectives:

1. Retain and maintain the existing Williams Township Park and acquire new public lands to fulfill the recreational needs of the township and local community.
2. Preserve and protect open space for recreational activities and programs.
3. Provide adequate maintenance of the Williams Township Park and recreational facilities.

GOAL 2

Provide quality recreational opportunities to improve health and fitness with extra emphasis placed on organized youth activities.

Objectives:

1. Provide organized programs and activities for a variety of ages with an emphasis on youth programs through the Auburn-Williams Recreation Association.
2. Continue to partner with existing recreational partners to provide programs, events, and leagues.
3. Identify new recreational partners to meet the township's current and future recreational needs, goals, and objectives.

GOAL 3

Provide safe, community based recreation opportunities that improve the quality of life for all Williams Township and Auburn Area residents.

Objectives:

1. Continue to add features to Williams Township Park as identified by public input, the Auburn-Williams Recreation Association, and the Township Board of Trustees as needed.
2. Continue to maintain and provide recreational opportunities for people with disabilities.

3. Ensure that improvement and upgrades to the Township Park are accessible.

GOAL 4

Develop and provide access to trails and multi-use recreational paths.

Objectives:

1. Cooperate and participate in intergovernmental efforts to establish a non-motorized greenway and trail system connecting Bay, Midland, and Saginaw counties.
2. Coordinate possible routes, methods, and funding to connect non-motorized greenway and trail systems in Bay, Midland, and Saginaw Counties to Williams Township Park.
3. Identify possible non-motorized routes, methods, and funding to connect Williams Township Park with Auburn City Park.

GOAL 5

Develop a recreation system that will be responsive to and effective in meeting the present and future needs of residents.

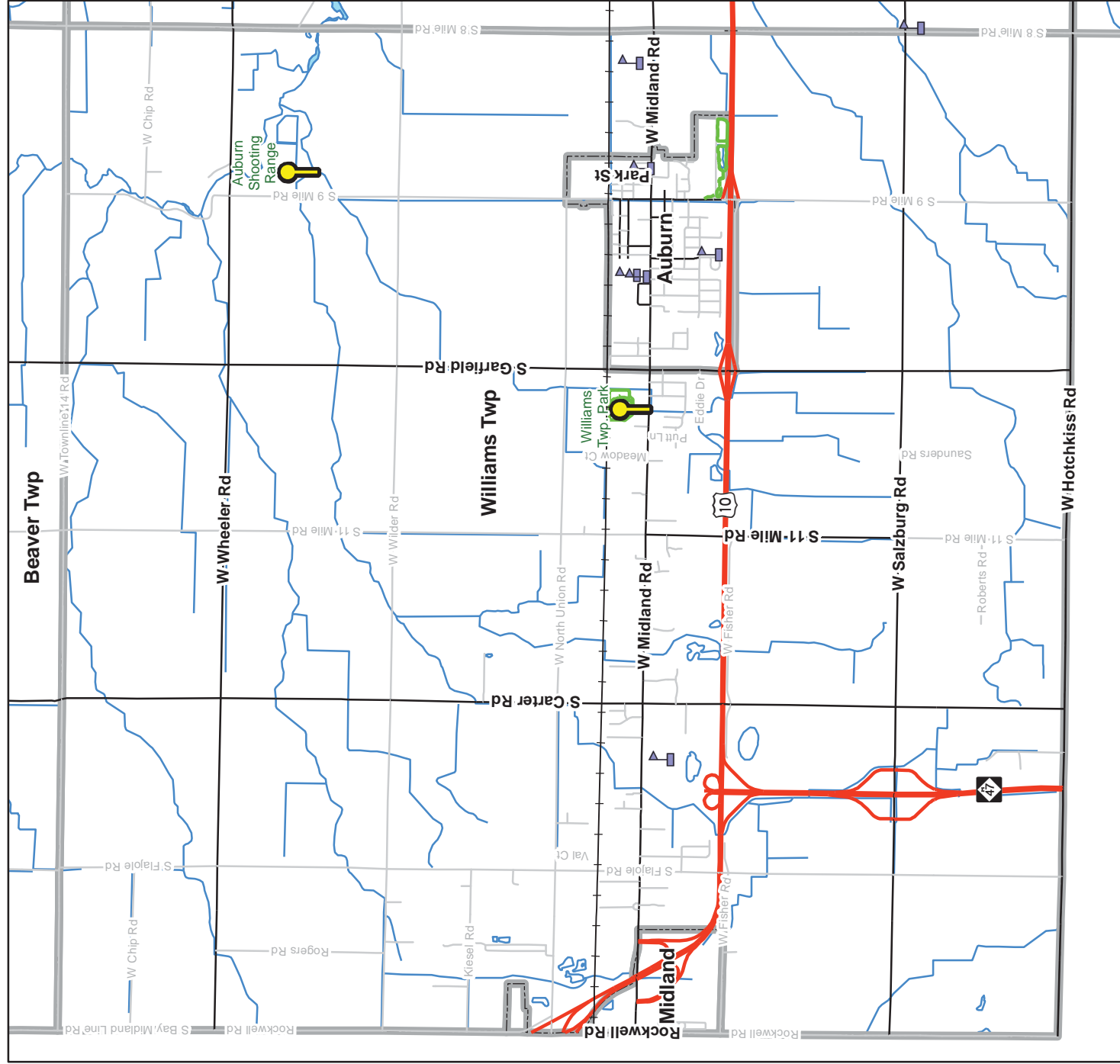
Objectives:

1. Review the recreation plan as needed and update it every five years.

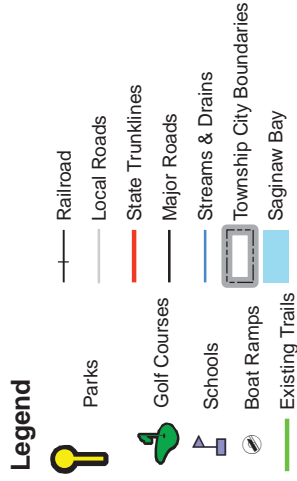
Action Plan

1. Resurface or reseal walking paths as needed.
2. Install fencing in northeast corner of park by Dell Creek Drain and railroad track and configure to prevent prohibited vehicles from entering the park.
3. Improve baseball fields by replacing backstop fencing, adding dugouts, adding outfield fencing, and other pertinent features.
4. Add a spray park type water feature.
5. Install a video security system to promote safety and protect facilities at Township parks.
6. Complete projects for the improvement of drainage throughout the Township parks.
7. Connect park via pathways or sidewalks to the non-motorized greenway and trail system when available in Williams Township.
8. Acquire additional property adjacent to the park when available at a reasonable cost.
9. Expand non-motorized features including sidewalks between Williams Township and Auburn City Park and streetscape lighting.

Williams Twp

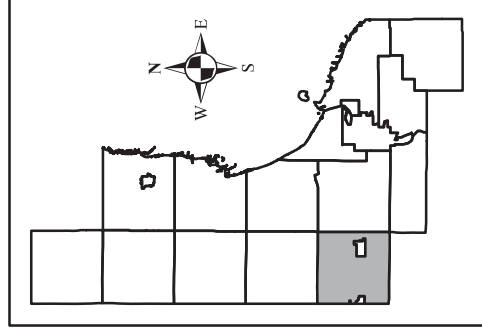


Park & Trail Locations



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Appendix A
SGMA 2012 Sports and Fitness Participation Report

Methodology

How the 2012 report research was conducted

Method for the Participation Topline Report

This Overview Report from the Sporting Goods Manufacturers Association (SGMA), is produced by a partnership of six of the major trade associations in US sports, fitness and leisure industries. This report includes a high level of detail when it comes to sports, fitness and leisure activity participation as well as topline information from the Physical Activity Council (PAC) Report. The overall aim of this report is to establish levels of activity and identify key trends in sports, fitness and recreation participation in the US. For more detailed information about each sport, please contact sgmaresearch@sgma.com

During January and February of 2012, a total of 38,172 online interviews were carried out with a nationwide sample of individuals and households from the US Online Panel of over one million people operated by Synovate. A total of 15,113 individual and 23,059 household surveys were completed. The total panel is maintained to be representative of the US population for people ages 6 and older. Over sampling of ethnic groups took place to boost response from typically under responding groups.

The 2011 participation survey sample size of 38,172 completed interviews provides a high degree of statistical accuracy. All surveys are subject to some level of standard error — that is, the degree to which the results might differ from those obtained by a complete census of every person in the US. A sport with a participation rate of five percent has a confidence interval of plus or minus 0.21 percentage points at the 95 percent confidence level. This translates to plus or minus four percent of participants.

A weighting technique was used to balance the data to reflect the total US population ages six and above. The following variables were used: gender, age, income, household size, region and population density. The total population figure used was 285,753,000 people ages six and older.

In this year's report we have adopted a slightly revised projection methodology that provides an even higher degree of accuracy. The technique of using a "two-year rolling average" measurement is commonly used in research as a way to effectively double the sample size to provide a stable base for all projections that derive from the data. This is particularly beneficial for the sports with participation rates of less than one percent. Consequently, with this change, we have gone back and re-projected all participation totals beginning with the 2008 participation collection to reflect this change.

If you have specific questions regarding this change in methodology, please get in touch with Sports Marketing Surveys USA at usa@sportsmarketingsurveysusa.com or (561) 427-0647.



Sports Participation Data

A breakdown of participation in all measured sports

Aerobic Activities

	Definition	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	1 year change	2 year change
Aerobics (High impact)								
Total participation	1+ times	11,287	11,780	12,771	14,567	15,755	8.2%	23.4%
Casual	1-49 times	5,004	5,385	5,850	6,699	7,282	8.7%	24.5%
Regular	50-99 times	2,156	2,228	2,479	2,937	3,281	11.7%	32.4%
Frequent	100+ times	4,127	4,168	4,442	4,931	5,192	5.3%	16.9%
CORE	50+ times	6,283	6,395	6,921	7,868	8,473	7.7%	22.4%

Aerobics (Low impact)								
Total participation	1+ times	22,397	23,283	24,927	26,431	25,950	-1.8%	4.1%
Casual	1-49 times	9,341	10,181	11,028	11,725	11,826	0.9%	7.2%
Regular	50-99 times	4,523	4,794	5,189	5,663	5,448	-3.8%	5.0%
Frequent	100+ times	8,533	8,308	8,711	9,043	8,677	-4.1%	-0.4%
CORE	50+ times	13,056	13,102	13,899	14,706	14,124	-4.0%	1.6%

Aerobics (Step)								
Total participation	1+ times	8,528	9,423	10,551	11,034	10,273	-6.9%	-2.6%
Casual	1-49 times	4,454	5,238	5,748	5,839	5,642	-3.4%	-1.9%
Regular	50-99 times	1,647	1,769	2,116	2,316	2,007	-13.3%	-5.1%
Frequent	100+ times	2,427	2,417	2,688	2,880	2,625	-8.8%	-2.3%
CORE	50+ times	4,074	4,186	4,803	5,195	4,632	-10.8%	-3.6%

Aquatic Exercise								
Total participation	1+ times	9,757	9,512	8,965	8,947	9,042	1.1%	0.9%
Casual	1-49 times	5,993	5,894	5,411	5,345	5,598	4.7%	3.5%
Regular	50-99 times	1,789	1,799	1,831	1,767	1,627	-7.9%	-11.1%
Frequent	100+ times	1,975	1,820	1,723	1,835	1,817	-1.0%	5.5%
CORE	50+ times	3,764	3,619	3,554	3,602	3,444	-4.4%	-3.1%

Boot Camp Style Cross-Training								
Total participation	1+ times					7,706		
Casual	1-49 times					4,818		
Regular	50-99 times					1,345		
Frequent	100+ times					1,543		
CORE	50+ times					2,888		

Cardio Kickboxing								
Total participation	1+ times	4,812	4,905	5,500	6,287	6,488	3.2%	18.0%
Casual	1-49 times	2,987	3,130	3,422	4,020	4,411	9.7%	28.9%
Regular	50-99 times	905	838	1,019	1,152	1,058	-8.2%	3.8%
Frequent	100+ times	920	937	1,059	1,115	1,020	-8.6%	-3.7%
CORE	50+ times	1,825	1,775	2,078	2,267	2,077	-8.4%	0.0%

Cross-Country Ski Machine								
Total participation	1+ times	3,696	3,593	3,294	3,091	2,913	-5.7%	-11.6%
Casual	1-49 times	1,857	1,919	1,747	1,633	1,706	4.5%	-2.3%
Regular	50-99 times	688	618	559	551	502	-9.0%	-10.2%
Frequent	100+ times	1,151	1,056	989	907	706	-22.2%	-28.6%
CORE	50+ times	1,839	1,674	1,547	1,458	1,208	-17.2%	-21.9%

*All participation figures are in 000s for the US population ages 6+

Aerobic Activities (cont.)

	Definition	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	1 year change	2 year change
Elliptical Motion Trainer								
Total participation	1+ times	23,586	24,435	25,903	27,319	29,734	8.8%	14.8%
Casual	1-49 times	10,972	11,350	11,907	12,724	13,999	10.0%	17.6%
Regular	50-99 times	4,968	5,216	5,407	5,611	6,300	12.3%	16.5%
Frequent	100+ times	7,646	7,869	8,590	8,985	9,436	5.0%	9.8%
CORE	50+ times	12,614	13,085	13,996	14,595	15,736	7.8%	12.4%
Other Exercise to Music								
Total participation	1+ times	22,294	22,094	21,969	22,503	23,610	4.9%	7.5%
Casual	1-49 times	9,661	9,583	9,622	10,428	11,447	9.8%	19.0%
Regular	50-99 times	4,560	4,590	4,522	4,513	4,821	6.8%	6.6%
Frequent	100+ times	8,073	7,921	7,826	7,562	7,342	-2.9%	-6.2%
CORE	50+ times	12,633	12,511	12,347	12,075	12,163	0.7%	-1.5%
Running/Jogging								
Total participation	1+ times	41,064	41,097	42,511	46,650	50,061	7.3%	17.8%
Casual	1-49 times	16,824	17,276	18,031	20,039	21,409	6.8%	18.7%
Regular	50-99 times	8,237	8,333	8,771	9,220	9,644	4.6%	10.0%
Frequent	100+ times	16,003	15,489	15,710	17,392	19,008	9.3%	21.0%
CORE	50+ times	24,240	23,821	24,481	26,612	28,651	7.7%	17.0%
Stair Climbing Machine								
Total participation	1+ times	13,521	13,863	13,653	13,269	13,409	1.1%	-1.8%
Casual	1-49 times	7,107	7,562	7,511	7,233	7,559	4.5%	0.6%
Regular	50-99 times	2,651	2,677	2,642	2,549	2,430	-4.7%	-8.0%
Frequent	100+ times	3,763	3,624	3,501	3,487	3,421	-1.9%	-2.3%
CORE	50+ times	6,414	6,301	6,143	6,035	5,850	-3.1%	-4.8%
Stationary Cycling (Recumbent)								
Total participation	1+ times	10,818	11,104	11,299	11,459	11,933	4.1%	5.6%
Casual	1-49 times	5,261	5,641	5,785	5,848	6,176	5.6%	6.8%
Regular	50-99 times	2,331	2,211	2,160	2,328	2,322	-0.3%	7.5%
Frequent	100+ times	3,226	3,253	3,354	3,283	3,435	4.6%	2.4%
CORE	50+ times	5,557	5,463	5,514	5,611	5,757	2.6%	4.4%
Stationary Cycling (Group)								
Total participation	1+ times	6,314	6,504	6,762	7,854	8,738	11.3%	29.2%
Casual	1-49 times	3,371	3,620	3,844	4,536	5,088	12.2%	32.3%
Regular	50-99 times	1,221	1,150	1,197	1,436	1,584	10.3%	32.3%
Frequent	100+ times	1,722	1,735	1,721	1,883	2,066	9.7%	20.0%
CORE	50+ times	2,943	2,884	2,918	3,318	3,650	10.0%	25.1%
Stationary Cycling (Upright)								
Total participation	1+ times	24,531	24,918	24,916	24,578	24,409	-0.7%	-2.0%
Casual	1-49 times	11,581	12,117	12,224	12,183	12,187	0.0%	-0.3%
Regular	50-99 times	5,210	4,974	4,918	4,843	4,745	-2.0%	-3.5%
Frequent	100+ times	7,740	7,827	7,775	7,552	7,477	-1.0%	-3.8%
CORE	50+ times	12,950	12,801	12,692	12,395	12,222	-1.4%	-3.7%

*All participation figures are in 000s for the US population ages 6+

Aerobic Activities (cont.)

	Definition	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	1 year change	2 year change
Swimming (Fitness)								
Total participation	1+ times					21,517		
Casual	1-49 times					14,065		
Regular	50-99 times					3,794		
Frequent	100+ times					3,658		
CORE	50+ times					7,453		
Treadmill								
Total participation	1+ times	50,073	49,722	50,395	52,275	53,260	1.9%	5.7%
Casual	1-49 times	20,891	21,077	21,161	21,896	22,642	3.4%	7.0%
Regular	50-99 times	10,728	10,541	10,462	10,756	11,035	2.6%	5.5%
Frequent	100+ times	18,454	18,105	18,772	19,623	19,583	-0.2%	4.3%
CORE	50+ times	29,182	28,646	29,234	30,378	30,617	0.8%	4.7%
Walking for Fitness								
Total participation	1+ times	108,740	110,204	110,882	112,082	112,715	0.6%	1.7%
Casual	1-49 times	31,903	33,598	34,520	34,538	34,569	0.1%	0.1%
Regular	50-99 times	20,045	20,105	20,031	20,044	20,107	0.3%	0.4%
Frequent	100+ times	56,792	56,502	56,331	57,500	58,040	0.9%	3.0%
CORE	50+ times	76,837	76,606	76,362	77,544	78,146	0.8%	2.3%

Conditioning Activities

	Definition	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	1 year change	2 year change
Abdominal Machine/Device								
Total participation	1+ times	20,426	20,172	19,691	18,978	18,721	-1.4%	-4.9%
Casual	1-49 times	7,625	7,782	7,448	7,383	7,549	2.2%	1.4%
Regular	50-99 times	4,319	4,272	4,294	4,031	3,698	-8.2%	-13.9%
Frequent	100+ times	8,482	8,118	7,949	7,565	7,474	-1.2%	-6.0%
CORE	50+ times	12,801	12,390	12,243	11,596	11,172	-3.7%	-8.8%
Calisthenics								
Total participation	1+ times	8,629	8,888	9,127	9,097	8,787	-3.4%	-3.7%
Casual	1-49 times	2,041	2,539	3,131	3,182	2,996	-5.9%	-4.3%
Regular	50-99 times	1,787	1,904	1,924	1,877	1,799	-4.2%	-6.5%
Frequent	100+ times	4,801	4,440	4,067	4,039	3,993	-1.1%	-1.8%
CORE	50+ times	6,588	6,344	5,991	5,915	5,791	-2.1%	-3.3%
Pilates Training								
Total participation	1+ times	9,192	9,039	8,770	8,404	8,507	1.2%	-3.0%
Casual	1-49 times	5,085	5,217	5,077	4,863	5,191	6.8%	2.3%
Regular	50-99 times	1,920	1,718	1,678	1,672	1,522	-9.0%	-9.3%
Frequent	100+ times	2,187	2,105	2,016	1,869	1,794	-4.0%	-11.0%
CORE	50+ times	4,107	3,823	3,694	3,541	3,316	-6.4%	-10.2%

**All participation figures are in 000s for the US population ages 6+*

Conditioning Activities (cont.)

	Definition	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	1 year change	2 year change
Rowing Machine								
Total participation	1+ times	8,782	8,902	9,098	9,469	9,765	3.1%	7.3%
Casual	1-49 times	4,451	4,614	4,751	5,023	5,359	6.7%	12.8%
Regular	50-99 times	1,609	1,730	1,828	1,693	1,657	-2.1%	-9.4%
Frequent	100+ times	2,722	2,559	2,519	2,754	2,749	-0.2%	9.1%
CORE	50+ times	4,331	4,288	4,347	4,446	4,406	-0.9%	1.4%
Stretching								
Total participation	1+ times	36,181	36,235	36,299	35,720	34,687	-2.9%	-4.4%
Casual	1-49 times	7,863	8,266	8,727	8,578	8,165	-4.8%	-6.4%
Regular	50-99 times	5,906	6,006	6,106	5,968	5,765	-3.4%	-5.6%
Frequent	100+ times	22,412	21,963	21,467	21,174	20,757	-2.0%	-3.3%
CORE	50+ times	28,318	27,969	27,573	27,142	26,522	-2.3%	-3.8%
Tai Chi								
Total participation	1+ times		3,424	3,315	3,193	2,975	-6.8%	-10.3%
Casual	1-49 times		1,827	1,835	1,819	1,641	-9.8%	-10.6%
Regular	50-99 times		520	505	534	562	5.2%	11.3%
Frequent	100+ times		1,077	975	841	773	-8.1%	-20.8%
CORE	50+ times		1,597	1,480	1,374	1,334	-2.9%	-9.8%
Yoga								
Total participation	1+ times		17,758	18,934	20,998	22,107	5.3%	16.8%
Casual	1-49 times		10,736	11,143	12,045	12,548	4.2%	12.6%
Regular	50-99 times		2,808	3,297	3,802	4,065	6.9%	23.3%
Frequent	100+ times		4,214	4,494	5,151	5,494	6.7%	22.3%
CORE	50+ times		7,022	7,791	8,953	9,559	6.8%	22.7%

Strength Activities

	Definition	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	1 year change	2 year change
Free Weights (Barbells)								
Total participation	1+ times	25,499	25,821	26,595	27,194	27,056	-0.5%	1.7%
Casual	1-49 times	8,181	8,454	8,528	9,072	9,345	3.0%	9.6%
Regular	50-99 times	4,950	5,176	5,436	5,368	5,367	0.0%	-1.3%
Frequent	100+ times	12,368	12,191	12,631	12,754	12,345	-3.2%	-2.3%
CORE	50+ times	17,318	17,367	18,067	18,122	17,711	-2.3%	-2.0%
Free Weights (Dumbbells)								
Total participation	1+ times	32,371	33,381	35,068	36,566	36,470	-0.3%	4.0%
Casual	1-49 times	10,797	11,306	11,633	12,478	12,944	3.7%	11.3%
Regular	50-99 times	6,594	6,796	7,332	7,829	7,622	-2.6%	4.0%
Frequent	100+ times	14,980	15,280	16,103	16,259	15,904	-2.2%	-1.2%
CORE	50+ times	21,574	22,076	23,435	24,088	23,526	-2.3%	0.4%

*All participation figures are in 000s for the US population ages 6+

Strength Activities (cont.)

	Definition	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	1 year change	2 year change
Free Weights (Hand Weights)								
Total participation	1+ times	43,821	43,409	44,466	45,928	46,944	2.2%	5.6%
Casual	1-49 times	15,635	15,853	15,817	16,396	17,676	7.8%	11.8%
Regular	50-99 times	8,819	8,852	9,223	9,609	9,853	2.5%	6.8%
Frequent	100+ times	19,367	18,705	19,426	19,924	19,416	-2.6%	-0.1%
CORE	50+ times	28,186	27,557	28,649	29,533	29,268	-0.9%	2.2%
Home Gym Exercise								
Total participation	1+ times	25,823	25,169	24,638	24,672	25,083	1.7%	1.8%
Casual	1-49 times	9,577	9,591	9,610	9,637	9,948	3.2%	3.5%
Regular	50-99 times	5,313	5,110	4,875	4,752	4,826	1.6%	-1.0%
Frequent	100+ times	10,933	10,468	10,154	10,284	10,310	0.3%	1.5%
CORE	50+ times	16,246	15,578	15,029	15,035	15,136	0.7%	0.7%
Weight/Resistance Machines								
Total participation	1+ times	39,290	38,844	39,075	39,185	39,548	0.9%	1.2%
Casual	1-49 times	14,555	14,742	14,411	14,484	15,287	5.5%	6.1%
Regular	50-99 times	8,012	8,038	8,223	8,091	8,145	0.7%	-0.9%
Frequent	100+ times	16,723	16,064	16,442	16,610	16,116	-3.0%	-2.0%
CORE	50+ times	24,735	24,102	24,665	24,701	24,261	-1.8%	-1.6%

Individual Sports

	Definition	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	1 year change	2 year change
Adventure Racing								
Total participation	1+ times	698	809	1,005	1,214	1,202	-1.0%	19.7%
Casual	1 time	257	221	343	434	337	-22.5%	-1.9%
Regular	2-9 times	215	343	450	458	458	0.0%	1.7%
Frequent	10+ times	226	245	212	322	408	26.5%	92.9%
CORE	2+ times	441	588	662	700	738	5.4%	11.6%
Archery								
Total participation	1+ times	5,950	6,180	6,368	6,323	6,471	2.3%	1.6%
Casual	1-25 times	4,839	5,070	5,336	5,387	5,546	3.0%	3.9%
Regular	26-51 times	687	618	541	537	558	3.9%	3.1%
Frequent	52+ times	424	493	491	399	368	-7.9%	-25.2%
CORE	26+ times	1,111	1,110	1,032	936	926	-1.1%	-10.3%
Billiards/Pool								
Total participation	1+ times	51,089	50,054	46,012	41,195	36,831	-10.6%	-20.0%
Casual	1-12 times	30,795	31,318	29,572	26,560	24,700	-7.0%	-16.5%
Regular	13-24 times	6,824	6,324	5,699	5,218	4,340	-16.8%	-23.8%
Frequent	25+ times	13,470	12,413	10,742	9,418	7,792	-17.3%	-27.5%
CORE	13+ times	20,294	18,736	16,440	14,635	12,132	-17.1%	-26.2%

*All participation figures are in 000s for the US population ages 6+

Individual Sports (cont.)

	Definition	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	1 year change	2 year change
Bowling								
Total participation	1+ times	60,184	59,417	57,972	56,585	53,906	-4.7%	-7.0%
Casual	1-12 times	44,762	44,965	44,582	43,732	42,423	-3.0%	-4.8%
Regular	13-24 times	5,225	4,842	4,426	4,342	3,953	-9.0%	-10.7%
Frequent	25+ times	10,197	9,611	8,964	8,511	7,531	-11.5%	-16.0%
CORE	13+ times	15,422	14,452	13,389	12,853	11,483	-10.7%	-14.2%
Boxing for Fitness								
Total participation	1+ times				4,788	4,631	-3.3%	
Casual	1-12 times				2,495	2,228	-10.7%	
Regular	13-24 times				605	649	7.3%	
Frequent	25+ times				1,688	1,754	3.9%	
CORE	13+ times				2,293	2,404	4.8%	
Boxing for Competition								
Total participation	1+ times				855	747	-12.6%	
Casual	1-12 times				598	516	-13.8%	
Regular	13-24 times				104	87	-16.3%	
Frequent	25+ times				153	145	-5.6%	
CORE	13+ times				257	232	-9.9%	
Darts								
Total participation	1+ times	24,709	24,080	21,737	19,070	17,249	-9.6%	-20.6%
Casual	1-12 times	16,106	15,845	14,433	12,667	11,707	-7.6%	-18.9%
Regular	13-24 times	2,951	2,884	2,552	2,160	2,010	-6.9%	-21.2%
Frequent	25+ times	5,652	5,351	4,753	4,243	3,532	-16.8%	-25.7%
CORE	13+ times	8,603	8,235	7,304	6,403	5,541	-13.5%	-24.1%
Golf (9/18 Hole Course)								
Total participation	1+ times	29,528	28,571	27,103	26,122	25,682	-1.7%	-5.2%
Horseback Riding								
Total participation	1+ times	12,098	11,457	10,286	9,782	9,335	-4.6%	-9.2%
Casual	1-12 times	8,330	7,857	7,134	6,927	6,813	-1.6%	-4.5%
Regular	13-24 times	1,029	1,000	867	796	685	-13.9%	-21.0%
Frequent	25+ times	2,739	2,600	2,285	2,060	1,837	-10.8%	-19.6%
CORE	13+ times	3,768	3,600	3,152	2,855	2,522	-11.7%	-20.0%
Ice Skating								
Total participation	1+ times	11,430	11,215	10,964	11,477	11,626	1.3%	6.0%
Casual	1-12 times	9,514	9,556	9,480	9,817	9,898	0.8%	4.4%
Regular	13-24 times	770	663	612	674	731	8.5%	19.4%
Frequent	25+ times	1,146	996	873	986	997	1.1%	14.3%
CORE	13+ times	1,916	1,659	1,485	1,660	1,728	4.1%	16.4%

*All participation figures are in 000s for the US population ages 6+

Individual Sports (cont.)

	Definition	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	1 year change	2 year change
Martial Arts **								
Total participation	1+ times	6,865	6,818	6,643	6,002	5,037	-16.1%	-24.2%
Casual	1-12 times	1,366	1,431	1,435	1,424	1,171	-17.7%	-18.4%
Regular	13-24 times	691	657	591	513	443	-13.7%	-25.1%
Frequent	25+ times	4,808	4,731	4,618	4,066	3,423	-15.8%	-25.9%
CORE	13+ times	5,499	5,388	5,209	4,579	3,866	-15.6%	-25.8%
Mixed Martial Arts for Competition								
Total participation	1+ times				910	713	-21.7%	
Casual	1-12 times				528	419	-20.7%	
Regular	13-24 times				124	93	-25.4%	
Frequent	25+ times				258	202	-21.9%	
CORE	13+ times				382	294	-23.0%	
Mixed Martial Arts for Fitness								
Total participation	1+ times				1,745	1,697	-2.8%	
Casual	1-12 times				577	536	-7.1%	
Regular	13-24 times				219	207	-5.7%	
Frequent	25+ times				949	955	0.6%	
CORE	13+ times				1,168	1,162	-0.6%	
Roller Skating (2x2 Wheels)								
Total participation	1+ times	8,921	8,388	8,001	8,137	7,851	-3.5%	-1.9%
Casual	1-12 times	7,004	6,648	6,324	6,289	6,311	0.4%	-0.2%
Regular	13-24 times	675	566	501	561	507	-9.7%	1.1%
Frequent	25+ times	1,242	1,175	1,176	1,287	1,034	-19.7%	-12.1%
CORE	13+ times	1,917	1,741	1,677	1,848	1,540	-16.7%	-8.2%
Roller Skating (Inline Wheels)								
Total participation	1+ times	10,814	10,211	8,942	8,128	7,451	-8.3%	-16.7%
Casual	1-12 times	6,094	6,002	5,572	5,257	5,055	-3.9%	-9.3%
Regular	13-24 times	1,365	1,297	1,159	1,105	920	-16.7%	-20.7%
Frequent	25+ times	3,355	2,913	2,212	1,767	1,477	-16.4%	-33.2%
CORE	13+ times	4,720	4,210	3,371	2,871	2,397	-16.5%	-28.9%
Scooter Riding (Non-Motorized)								
Total participation	1+ times	6,782	6,588	5,729	4,963	4,829	-2.7%	-15.7%
Casual	1-12 times	2,971	2,569	1,922	1,716	1,642	-4.3%	-14.6%
Regular	13-24 times	927	972	850	730	735	0.7%	-13.6%
Frequent	25+ times	2,884	3,050	2,960	2,517	2,452	-2.6%	-17.2%
CORE	13+ times	4,460	4,346	3,810	3,247	3,187	-1.8%	-16.4%
Skateboarding								
Total participation	1+ times	8,429	8,118	7,580	7,080	6,318	-10.8%	-16.7%
Casual	1-25 times	4,589	4,332	4,006	3,832	3,420	-10.8%	-14.6%
Regular	26-51 times	1,491	1,468	1,287	1,159	1,147	-1.1%	-10.9%
Frequent	52+ times	2,349	2,319	2,287	2,089	1,751	-16.2%	-23.5%
CORE	26+ times	3,840	3,787	3,574	3,248	2,897	-10.8%	-18.9%

*All participation figures are in 000s for the US population ages 6+

** The Martial Arts category has been split up into 4 additional categories, which accounts for the large drop in participation.

Individual Sports (cont.)

	Definition	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	1 year change	2 year change
Trail Running								
Total participation	1+ times	4,216	4,537	4,845	4,985	5,373	7.8%	10.9%
Triathlon (Non-Traditional/Off Road)								
Total participation	1+ times	483	543	634	798	819	2.7%	29.2%
Casual	1 time	121	205	254	206	167	-19.0%	-34.3%
Regular	2-9 times	219	208	241	360	400	11.0%	65.8%
Frequent	10+ times	143	130	139	232	253	9.0%	81.4%
CORE	2+ times	362	338	380	570	612	7.2%	60.8%
Triathlon (Traditional/Road)								
Total participation	1+ times	798	943	1,148	1,593	1,686	5.8%	46.9%
Casual	1 time	248	300	374	496	519	4.6%	38.6%
Regular	2-9 times	375	436	508	594	655	10.3%	28.8%
Frequent	10+ times	175	207	265	504	513	1.7%	93.2%
CORE	2+ times	550	643	774	1,005	1,047	4.2%	35.2%

Racquet Sports

	Definition	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	1 year change	2 year change
Badminton								
Total participation	1+ times	7,057	7,148	7,469	7,645	7,135	-6.7%	-4.5%
Casual	1-12 times	4,785	4,937	5,123	4,973	4,687	-5.8%	-8.5%
Regular	13-24 times	910	908	999	1,039	912	-12.2%	-8.7%
Frequent	25+ times	1,362	1,304	1,347	1,634	1,536	-6.0%	14.0%
CORE	13+ times	2,272	2,211	2,346	2,672	2,448	-8.4%	4.3%
Cardio Tennis								
Total participation	1+ times		830	1,004	1,340	1,293	-3.5%	28.8%
Racquetball								
Total participation	1+ times	4,229	4,611	4,784	4,603	4,357	-5.3%	-8.9%
Casual	1-12 times	2,292	2,603	2,807	2,754	2,587	-6.1%	-7.8%
Regular	13-24 times	544	597	644	616	640	3.9%	-0.5%
Frequent	25+ times	1,393	1,412	1,334	1,233	1,131	-8.3%	-15.2%
CORE	13+ times	1,937	2,008	1,978	1,849	1,772	-4.2%	-10.4%
Squash								
Total participation	1+ times	612	659	796	1,031	1,112	7.8%	39.7%
Casual	1-7 times	323	389	512	689	725	5.1%	41.6%
Regular	8-14 times	66	82	119	107	97	-9.3%	-18.5%
Frequent	15+ times	223	187	165	235	290	23.4%	75.9%
CORE	8+ times	289	269	284	342	387	13.1%	36.2%

*All participation figures are in 000s for the US population ages 6+

Racquet Sports (cont.)

	Definition	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	1 year change	2 year change
Table Tennis								
Total participation	1+ times	15,955	16,578	18,251	19,374	18,561	-4.2%	1.7%
Casual	1-12 times	10,865	11,530	12,773	13,245	12,963	-2.1%	1.5%
Regular	13-24 times	1,787	1,840	1,950	2,088	1,985	-4.9%	1.8%
Frequent	25+ times	3,303	3,208	3,528	4,041	3,613	-10.6%	2.4%
CORE	13+ times	5,090	5,048	5,478	6,129	5,598	-8.7%	2.2%
Tennis								
Total participation	1+ times	16,940	17,749	18,546	18,719	17,772	-5.1%	-4.2%

Team Sports

	Definition	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	1 year change	2 year change
Baseball								
Total participation	1+ times	16,058	15,539	14,429	14,198	13,561	-4.5%	-6.0%
Casual	1-12 times	4,493	4,674	4,639	4,640	4,212	-9.2%	-9.2%
Regular	13-24 times	2,780	2,601	2,387	2,335	2,210	-5.4%	-7.4%
Frequent	25+ times	8,785	8,265	7,403	7,223	7,140	-1.1%	-3.5%
CORE	13+ times	11,565	10,866	9,790	9,558	9,350	-2.2%	-4.5%
Basketball								
Total participation	1+ times	25,961	26,108	25,131	25,156	24,790	-1.5%	-1.4%
Casual	1-12 times	7,956	8,269	8,070	8,094	8,118	0.3%	0.6%
Regular	13-24 times	4,279	4,138	3,979	3,995	3,980	-0.4%	0.0%
Frequent	25+ times	13,726	13,701	13,082	13,067	12,692	-2.9%	-3.0%
CORE	13+ times	18,005	17,839	17,061	17,062	16,672	-2.3%	-2.3%
Cheerleading								
Total participation	1+ times	3,279	3,192	3,070	3,134	3,049	-2.7%	-0.7%
Casual	1-25 times	1,144	1,251	1,309	1,462	1,487	1.7%	13.6%
Regular	26-51 times	649	687	687	616	530	-14.0%	-22.9%
Frequent	52+ times	1,485	1,254	1,075	1,057	1,032	-2.3%	-4.0%
CORE	26+ times	2,135	1,940	1,761	1,672	1,562	-6.6%	-11.3%
Field Hockey								
Total participation	1+ times	1,127	1,122	1,092	1,182	1,147	-3.0%	5.0%
Casual	1-7 times	550	560	493	539	536	-0.5%	8.8%
Regular	8-14 times	62	113	168	213	178	-16.2%	6.0%
Frequent	15+ times	515	449	432	432	434	0.5%	0.5%
CORE	8+ times	577	562	600	644	611	-5.1%	1.9%

**All participation figures are in 000s for the US population ages 6+*

Team Sports (cont.)

	Definition	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	1 year change	2 year change
Football (Flag)								
Total participation	1+ times		7,310	6,932	6,660	6,325	-5.0%	-8.7%
Casual	1-12 times		4,001	3,776	3,623	3,501	-3.4%	-7.3%
Regular	13-24 times		1,169	1,237	1,265	1,167	-7.8%	-5.7%
Frequent	25+ times		2,140	1,919	1,772	1,658	-6.4%	-13.6%
CORE	13+ times		3,309	3,156	3,037	2,825	-7.0%	-10.5%
Football (Touch)								
Total participation	1+ times		10,493	9,726	8,663	7,684	-11.3%	-21.0%
Casual	1-12 times		6,199	5,650	5,024	4,614	-8.2%	-18.3%
Regular	13-24 times		1,562	1,482	1,227	942	-23.2%	-36.4%
Frequent	25+ times		2,732	2,595	2,413	2,128	-11.8%	-18.0%
CORE	13+ times		4,294	4,077	3,639	3,069	-15.7%	-24.7%
Football (Tackle)								
Total participation	1+ times	7,939	7,816	7,243	6,850	6,448	-5.9%	-11.0%
Casual	1-25 times	3,700	3,585	3,291	3,060	2,691	-12.1%	-18.2%
Regular	26-51 times	1,578	1,659	1,473	1,228	1,234	0.4%	-16.2%
Frequent	52+ times	2,661	2,572	2,480	2,562	2,523	-1.5%	1.8%
CORE	26+ times	4,239	4,230	3,952	3,790	3,757	-0.9%	-4.9%
Gymnastics								
Total participation	1+ times	4,066	3,975	3,952	4,418	4,824	9.2%	22.1%
Casual	1-49 times	2,262	2,321	2,461	2,734	2,991	9.4%	21.6%
Regular	50-99 times	822	813	785	838	884	5.4%	12.5%
Frequent	100+ times	982	841	707	846	949	12.2%	34.3%
CORE	50+ times	1,804	1,654	1,492	1,684	1,832	8.8%	22.8%
Ice Hockey								
Total participation	1+ times	1,840	1,871	2,018	2,140	2,131	-0.4%	5.6%
Casual	1-12 times	558	724	918	1,006	957	-4.9%	4.3%
Regular	13-24 times	254	234	260	267	280	4.9%	7.7%
Frequent	25+ times	1,028	914	841	867	895	3.2%	6.4%
CORE	13+ times	1,282	1,148	1,101	1,134	1,174	3.5%	6.6%
Lacrosse								
Total participation	1+ times	1,058	1,092	1,162	1,423	1,501	5.5%	29.1%
Casual	1-12 times	349	456	543	637	701	10.0%	29.2%
Regular	13-24 times	127	155	142	150	148	-1.3%	4.0%
Frequent	25+ times	582	482	477	636	652	2.5%	36.6%
CORE	13+ times	709	637	619	786	800	1.8%	29.1%
Paintball								
Total participation	1+ times	5,476	5,167	4,705	4,104	3,606	-12.1%	-23.3%
Casual	1-7 times	3,195	3,062	2,886	2,739	2,579	-5.8%	-10.6%
Regular	8-14 times	735	760	793	582	386	-33.6%	-51.3%
Frequent	15+ times	1,546	1,345	1,027	784	642	-18.1%	-37.5%
CORE	8+ times	2,281	2,105	1,820	1,365	1,028	-24.7%	-43.5%

*All participation figures are in 000s for the US population ages 6+

Team Sports (cont.)

	Definition	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	1 year change	2 year change
Roller Hockey								
Total participation	1+ times	1,681	1,569	1,427	1,374	1,237	-9.9%	-13.3%
Casual	1-12 times	950	959	902	926	834	-9.9%	-7.6%
Regular	13-24 times	187	148	144	110	133	20.9%	-7.3%
Frequent	25+ times	544	461	381	338	271	-20.0%	-29.0%
CORE	13+ times	731	609	524	448	404	-9.9%	-23.0%
Rugby								
Total participation	1+ times	617	654	720	940	850	-9.6%	18.0%
Casual	1-7 times	301	351	420	599	544	-9.1%	29.4%
Regular	8-14 times	71	61	76	92	80	-13.1%	4.4%
Frequent	15+ times	245	242	223	250	226	-9.6%	1.2%
CORE	8+ times	316	303	300	342	306	-10.5%	2.0%
Soccer (Indoor)								
Total participation	1+ times	4,237	4,487	4,825	4,920	4,631	-5.9%	-4.0%
Casual	1-12 times	1,866	1,983	2,051	2,156	2,120	-1.6%	3.4%
Regular	13-24 times	805	826	947	936	794	-15.1%	-16.1%
Frequent	25+ times	1,566	1,679	1,828	1,829	1,717	-6.1%	-6.1%
CORE	13+ times	2,371	2,505	2,775	2,765	2,511	-9.2%	-9.5%
Soccer (Outdoor)								
Total participation	1+ times	13,708	13,966	13,957	13,883	13,667	-1.6%	-2.1%
Casual	1-25 times	7,342	7,542	7,545	7,418	7,314	-1.4%	-3.1%
Regular	26-51 times	3,536	3,592	3,512	3,460	3,401	-1.7%	-3.2%
Frequent	52+ times	2,830	2,832	2,901	3,006	2,953	-1.8%	1.8%
CORE	26+ times	6,366	6,424	6,413	6,466	6,353	-1.7%	-0.9%
Softball (Fast Pitch)								
Total participation	1+ times	2,345	2,331	2,476	2,513	2,400	-4.5%	-3.1%
Casual	1-25 times	1,013	1,055	1,166	1,317	1,235	-6.2%	5.9%
Regular	26-51 times	570	549	555	522	471	-9.9%	-15.1%
Frequent	52+ times	762	727	756	675	696	3.1%	-7.9%
CORE	26+ times	1,332	1,276	1,310	1,197	1,166	-2.5%	-11.0%
Softball (Slow-Pitch)								
Total participation	1+ times	9,485	9,660	9,180	8,477	7,809	-7.9%	-14.9%
Casual	1-12 times	3,415	3,672	3,659	3,493	3,281	-6.1%	-10.3%
Regular	13-24 times	2,121	2,113	2,001	1,849	1,635	-11.6%	-18.3%
Frequent	25+ times	3,949	3,876	3,521	3,136	2,894	-7.7%	-17.8%
CORE	13+ times	6,070	5,988	5,522	4,985	4,528	-9.2%	-18.0%
Swimming (Competition)								
Total participation	1+ times					2,363		
Casual	1-49 times					840		
Regular	50-99 times					641		
Frequent	100+ times					882		
CORE	50+ times					1,523		

*All participation figures are in 000s for the US population ages 6+

Team Sports (cont.)

	Definition	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	1 year change	2 year change
Track and Field								
Total participation	1+ times	4,691	4,604	4,480	4,383	4,341	-0.9%	-3.1%
Casual	1-25 times	1,977	2,091	2,175	2,007	1,830	-8.8%	-15.8%
Regular	26-51 times	1,152	1,099	1,047	1,030	1,094	6.2%	4.5%
Frequent	52+ times	1,562	1,415	1,258	1,346	1,417	5.3%	12.6%
CORE	26+ times	2,714	2,513	2,305	2,376	2,511	5.7%	8.9%
Ultimate Frisbee								
Total participation	1+ times	4,038	4,459	4,636	4,571	4,868	6.5%	5.0%
Casual	1-12 times	2,720	3,120	3,320	3,175	3,391	6.8%	2.2%
Regular	13-24 times	470	467	454	530	530	0.0%	16.6%
Frequent	25+ times	848	872	862	866	947	9.3%	9.8%
CORE	13+ times	1,318	1,339	1,316	1,396	1,476	5.8%	12.2%
Volleyball (Beach)								
Total participation	1+ times	3,878	4,025	4,324	4,752	4,451	-6.3%	2.9%
Casual	1-12 times	2,439	2,765	3,153	3,372	3,163	-6.2%	0.3%
Regular	13-24 times	625	527	489	583	600	2.8%	22.5%
Frequent	25+ times	814	732	681	798	689	-13.6%	1.1%
CORE	13+ times	1,330	1,205	1,171	1,381	1,289	-6.7%	10.1%
Volleyball (Court)								
Total participation	1+ times	6,986	7,588	7,737	7,315	6,662	-8.9%	-13.9%
Casual	1-12 times	2,930	3,211	3,394	3,261	2,754	-15.5%	-18.9%
Regular	13-24 times	1,182	1,194	1,161	1,122	1,241	10.6%	6.9%
Frequent	25+ times	2,874	3,184	3,182	2,933	2,668	-9.0%	-16.2%
CORE	13+ times	4,056	4,378	4,343	4,055	3,909	-3.6%	-10.0%
Volleyball (Grass)								
Total participation	1+ times	4,940	5,013	4,970	4,714	4,211	-10.7%	-15.3%
Casual	1-12 times	3,280	3,560	3,699	3,359	2,958	-12.0%	-20.0%
Regular	13-24 times	771	589	496	515	439	-14.7%	-11.6%
Frequent	25+ times	889	864	774	840	814	-3.1%	5.2%
CORE	13+ times	1,660	1,453	1,271	1,355	1,253	-7.5%	-1.4%
Wrestling								
Total participation	1+ times	3,313	3,335	3,170	2,536	1,971	-22.3%	-37.8%
Casual	1-25 times	1,736	1,806	1,817	1,362	915	-32.8%	-49.7%
Regular	26-51 times	596	626	557	469	469	0.0%	-15.7%
Frequent	52+ times	981	903	797	705	587	-16.7%	-26.3%
CORE	26+ times	1,458	1,469	1,354	1,174	1,056	-10.1%	-22.0%

**All participation figures are in 000s for the US population ages 6+*

Outdoor Sports

	Definition	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	1 year change	2 year change
Backpacking Overnight - More Than 1/4 Mile From Vehicle/Home								
Total participation	1+ times	6,637	7,252	7,757	7,998	7,722	-3.5%	-0.5%
Bicycling - BMX								
Total participation	1+ times	1,887	1,896	1,858	2,090	1,958	-6.3%	5.4%
Casual	1-12 times	750	756	743	865	807	-6.8%	8.6%
Regular	13-24 times	169	232	219	164	230	40.2%	5.3%
Frequent	25+ times	968	909	897	1,062	922	-13.1%	2.8%
CORE	13+ times	1,137	1,140	1,115	1,226	1,152	-6.0%	3.3%
Bicycling (Mountain/Non-Paved Surface)								
Total participation	1+ times	6,892	7,242	7,367	7,152	6,989	-2.3%	-5.1%
Casual	1-12 times	3,051	3,271	3,393	3,386	3,218	-5.0%	-5.2%
Regular	13-24 times	1,003	1,139	1,145	1,078	1,050	-2.7%	-8.3%
Frequent	25+ times	2,838	2,833	2,829	2,688	2,722	1.3%	-3.8%
CORE	13+ times	3,841	3,971	3,974	3,705	3,705	0.0%	-6.8%
Bicycling (Road/Paved Surface)								
Total participation	1+ times	38,940	38,527	39,127	39,730	39,834	0.3%	1.8%
Casual	1-25 times	17,789	17,977	18,535	18,965	19,127	0.8%	3.2%
Regular	26-51 times	8,669	8,563	8,724	8,854	8,991	1.6%	3.1%
Frequent	52+ times	12,482	11,988	11,868	11,911	11,717	-1.6%	-1.3%
CORE	26+ times	21,151	20,551	20,592	20,728	20,644	-0.4%	0.3%
Birdwatching More Than 1/4 Mile From Home/Vehicle								
Total participation	1+ times	13,476	13,938	13,847	13,317	13,067	-1.9%	-5.6%
Camping (Recreational Vehicle)								
Total participation	1+ times	16,168	16,343	16,977	16,651	16,282	-2.2%	-4.1%
Casual	1-7 times	7,942	7,981	8,401	8,464	8,250	-2.5%	-1.8%
Regular	8-14 times	3,032	3,254	3,416	3,116	3,197	2.6%	-6.4%
Frequent	15+ times	5,194	5,108	5,160	5,072	4,836	-4.6%	-6.3%
CORE	8+ times	8,226	8,362	8,576	8,187	8,033	-1.9%	-6.3%
Camping Within 1/4 Mile of Vehicle/Home								
Total participation	1+ times	31,375	32,531	34,012	32,667	31,961	-2.2%	-6.0%
Climbing (Sport/Indoor/Boulder)								
Total participation	1+ times	4,514	4,642	4,541	4,542	4,445	-2.1%	-2.1%
Climbing (Traditional/Ice/Mountaineering)								
Total participation	1+ times	2,062	2,175	2,062	2,017	1,904	-5.6%	-7.7%
Fishing (Fly)								
Total participation	1+ times	5,756	5,849	5,755	5,523	5,581	1.0%	-3.0%
Casual	1-7 times	2,923	3,018	3,099	3,022	3,123	3.3%	0.8%
Regular	8-14 times	975	1,071	1,068	961	890	-7.4%	-16.7%
Frequent	15+ times	1,858	1,760	1,588	1,540	1,568	1.8%	-1.3%
CORE	8+ times	2,833	2,831	2,656	2,501	2,457	-1.8%	-7.5%

*All participation figures are in 000s for the US population ages 6+

Outdoor Sports (cont.)

	Definition	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	1 year change	2 year change
Fishing (Freshwater-Other)								
Total participation	1+ times	43,859	42,095	40,646	39,911	38,864	-2.6%	-4.4%
Casual	1-7 times	20,145	19,531	19,499	19,577	19,363	-1.1%	-0.7%
Regular	8-14 times	8,262	7,825	7,421	7,350	7,408	0.8%	-0.2%
Frequent	15+ times	15,452	14,740	13,727	12,984	12,093	-6.9%	-11.9%
CORE	8+ times	23,714	22,565	21,147	20,334	19,501	-4.1%	-7.8%
Fishing (Saltwater)								
Total participation	1+ times	14,437	14,121	13,054	12,056	11,896	-1.3%	-8.9%
Casual	1-7 times	8,460	8,438	7,866	7,138	7,119	-0.3%	-9.5%
Regular	8-14 times	2,169	2,110	1,896	1,847	1,932	4.6%	1.9%
Frequent	15+ times	3,808	3,574	3,293	3,071	2,845	-7.4%	-13.6%
CORE	8+ times	5,977	5,683	5,188	4,918	4,777	-2.9%	-7.9%
Hiking (Day)								
Total participation	1+ times	29,965	31,238	32,542	32,534	33,494	3.0%	2.9%
Hunting (Bow)								
Total participation	1+ times	3,818	3,770	3,974	4,067	4,271	5.0%	7.5%
Casual	1-7 times	1,718	1,730	1,937	1,972	1,883	-4.5%	-2.8%
Regular	8-14 times	596	625	720	857	918	7.1%	27.5%
Frequent	15+ times	1,504	1,415	1,317	1,239	1,471	18.7%	11.7%
CORE	8+ times	2,100	2,040	2,037	2,096	2,388	13.9%	17.2%
Hunting (Handgun)								
Total participation	1+ times	2,595	2,734	2,575	2,493	2,690	7.9%	4.5%
Casual	1-7 times	1,572	1,674	1,614	1,581	1,613	2.1%	0.0%
Regular	8-14 times	449	472	401	403	471	17.0%	17.6%
Frequent	15+ times	574	588	561	510	606	18.9%	8.1%
CORE	8+ times	1,023	1,060	961	912	1,078	18.1%	12.1%
Hunting (Rifle)								
Total participation	1+ times	10,635	10,490	10,729	10,632	10,479	-1.4%	-2.3%
Casual	1-12 times	6,960	6,959	7,507	7,676	7,338	-4.4%	-2.3%
Regular	13-24 times	1,742	1,795	1,780	1,628	1,653	1.5%	-7.2%
Frequent	25+ times	1,933	1,736	1,442	1,328	1,488	12.1%	3.2%
CORE	13+ times	3,675	3,530	3,222	2,956	3,140	6.2%	-2.5%
Hunting (Shotgun)								
Total participation	1+ times	8,545	8,638	8,611	8,276	8,370	1.1%	-2.8%
Casual	1-7 times	4,171	4,322	4,620	4,489	4,244	-5.4%	-8.1%
Regular	8-14 times	1,797	1,816	1,735	1,712	1,746	2.0%	0.6%
Frequent	15+ times	2,577	2,500	2,256	2,076	2,380	14.6%	5.5%
CORE	8+ times	4,374	4,316	3,991	3,788	4,126	8.9%	3.4%

*All participation figures are in 000s for the US population ages 6+

Outdoor Sports (cont.)

	Definition	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	1 year change	2 year change
Shooting (Sport Clays)								
Total participation	1+ times	4,115	4,199	4,232	4,291	4,296	0.1%	1.5%
Casual	1-7 times	2,596	2,685	2,724	2,808	2,866	2.1%	5.2%
Regular	8-14 times	525	589	599	637	731	14.7%	22.0%
Frequent	15+ times	994	926	910	847	701	-17.2%	-23.0%
CORE	8+ times	1,519	1,514	1,509	1,484	1,431	-3.6%	-5.2%
Shooting (Trap/Skeet)								
Total participation	1+ times	3,376	3,523	3,519	3,489	3,453	-1.0%	-1.9%
Casual	1-7 times	2,051	2,132	2,192	2,293	2,208	-3.7%	0.7%
Regular	8-14 times	462	537	516	461	547	18.5%	5.9%
Frequent	15+ times	863	855	811	736	699	-5.0%	-13.9%
CORE	8+ times	1,325	1,391	1,327	1,197	1,245	4.1%	-6.2%
Target Shooting (Handgun)								
Total participation	1+ times	11,736	12,551	12,919	12,485	13,638	9.2%	5.6%
Casual	1-7 times	6,222	6,764	7,279	7,345	8,135	10.7%	11.8%
Regular	8-14 times	2,090	2,216	2,114	1,905	2,082	9.3%	-1.5%
Frequent	15+ times	3,424	3,571	3,526	3,235	3,421	5.7%	-3.0%
CORE	8+ times	5,514	5,787	5,640	5,140	5,504	7.1%	-2.4%
Target Shooting (Rifle)								
Total participation	1+ times	12,436	12,769	12,916	12,637	13,032	3.1%	0.9%
Casual	1-7 times	6,743	7,071	7,465	7,604	7,823	2.9%	4.8%
Regular	8-14 times	2,097	2,077	1,956	1,903	2,068	8.6%	5.7%
Frequent	15+ times	3,596	3,621	3,496	3,130	3,142	0.4%	-10.1%
CORE	8+ times	5,693	5,699	5,452	5,033	5,209	3.5%	-4.5%
Wildlife Viewing More Than 1/4 Mile From Home/ Vehicle								
Total participation	1+ times	22,974	23,544	22,702	21,158	21,495	1.6%	-5.3%

Winter Sports

	Definition	2006/2007 season	2007/2008 season	2008/2009 season	2009/2010 season	2010/2011 season	1 year change	2 year change
Skiing (Alpine/Downhill)								
Total participation	1+ times	10,362	10,354	10,633	11,212	10,853	-3.2%	2.1%
Skiing (Cross-country)								
Total participation	1+ times	3,530	3,689	4,003	4,344	4,424	1.9%	10.5%
Skiing (Freestyle)								
Total participation	1+ times	2,817	2,764	2,831	3,299	3,644	10.5%	28.7%
Snowboarding								
Total participation	1+ times	6,841	7,000	7,290	7,809	7,888	1.0%	8.2%

*All participation figures are in 000s for the US population ages 6+

Winter Sports (cont.)

	Definition	2006/2007 season	2007/2008 season	2008/2009 season	2009/2010 season	2010/2011 season	1 year change	2 year change
Snowmobiling								
Total participation	1+ times	4,811	4,736	4,729	4,957	4,908	-1.0%	3.8%
Casual	1-7 times	2,814	2,866	2,956	3,086	3,301	7.0%	11.7%
Regular	8-14 times	799	670	701	785	660	-15.9%	-5.8%
Frequent	15+ times	1,198	1,200	1,072	1,086	947	-12.8%	-11.7%
CORE	8+ times	1,997	1,870	1,773	1,871	1,607	-14.1%	-9.4%
Snowshoeing								
Total participation	1+ times	2,400	2,661	3,177	3,627	3,967	9.4%	24.9%
Telemarking (Downhill)								
Total participation	1+ times	1,173	1,304	1,459	1,652	1,960	18.7%	34.4%

Water Sports

	Definition	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	1 year change	2 year change
Boardsailing/Windsurfing								
Total participation	1+ times	1,118	1,213	1,218	1,373	1,384	0.8%	13.7%
Casual	1-7 times	796	883	917	946	941	-0.5%	2.7%
Regular	8-14 times	121	122	117	216	200	-7.6%	70.5%
Frequent	15+ times	201	209	184	211	244	15.4%	32.3%
CORE	8+ times	322	331	302	428	444	3.7%	47.1%
Canoeing								
Total participation	1+ times	9,797	9,866	9,997	10,306	10,170	-1.3%	1.7%
Jet Skiing								
Total participation	1+ times	8,055	7,935	7,770	7,739	7,574	-2.1%	-2.5%
Casual	1-7 times	4,919	5,027	5,138	5,203	5,400	3.8%	5.1%
Regular	8-14 times	1,217	1,127	1,077	1,097	927	-15.5%	-13.9%
Frequent	15+ times	1,919	1,781	1,556	1,439	1,248	-13.3%	-19.8%
CORE	8+ times	2,727	2,703	2,632	2,536	2,174	-14.3%	-17.4%
Kayaking (Recreational)								
Total participation	1+ times	5,070	5,655	6,226	6,339	7,347	15.9%	18.0%
Kayaking (Sea/Touring)								
Total participation	1+ times	1,485	1,633	1,776	1,958	2,087	6.6%	17.5%
Kayaking (White Water)								
Total participation	1+ times	1,207	1,225	1,306	1,606	1,694	5.5%	29.8%
Rafting								
Total participation	1+ times	4,340	4,496	4,485	4,389	4,141	-5.7%	-7.7%

**All participation figures are in 000s for the US population ages 6+*

Water Sports (cont.)

	Definition	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	1 year change	2 year change
Sailing								
Total participation	1+ times	3,786	4,006	4,284	4,106	3,797	-7.5%	-11.4%
Casual	1-7 times	2,264	2,452	2,687	2,604	2,470	-5.2%	-8.1%
Regular	8-14 times	696	665	650	611	516	-15.6%	-20.6%
Frequent	15+ times	826	890	948	891	812	-8.9%	-14.3%
CORE	8+ times	1,421	1,503	1,598	1,502	1,328	-11.6%	-16.9%
Scuba Diving								
Total participation	1+ times	2,965	3,091	2,970	2,938	2,866	-2.5%	-3.5%
Casual	1-7 times	1,947	2,065	2,015	2,014	2,027	0.7%	0.6%
Regular	8-14 times	445	494	464	438	424	-3.1%	-8.6%
Frequent	15+ times	573	532	491	488	416	-14.8%	-15.3%
CORE	8+ times	1,018	1,026	955	925	840	-9.2%	-12.0%
Snorkeling								
Total participation	1+ times	9,294	9,795	9,827	9,332	9,312	-0.2%	-5.2%
Casual	1-7 times	7,168	7,568	7,716	7,329	7,272	-0.8%	-5.8%
Regular	8-14 times	1,142	1,187	1,169	1,154	1,184	2.6%	1.2%
Frequent	15+ times	984	1,040	942	850	857	0.9%	-9.0%
CORE	8+ times	1,919	2,124	2,111	2,003	2,041	1.9%	-3.3%
Stand-Up Paddling								
Total participation	1+ times				1,050	1,146	9.1%	
Surfing								
Total participation	1+ times	2,206	2,407	2,505	2,585	2,481	-4.0%	-1.0%
Casual	1-7 times	1,256	1,408	1,429	1,423	1,462	2.7%	2.3%
Regular	8-14 times	402	333	331	440	414	-5.9%	25.3%
Frequent	15+ times	548	667	746	722	605	-16.2%	-18.9%
CORE	8+ times	950	999	1,077	1,162	1,019	-12.3%	-5.3%
Wakeboarding								
Total participation	1+ times	3,521	3,532	3,561	3,611	3,517	-2.6%	-1.2%
Casual	1-7 times	2,405	2,409	2,418	2,462	2,378	-3.4%	-1.7%
Regular	8-14 times	451	494	534	550	515	-6.3%	-3.5%
Frequent	15+ times	665	630	609	601	625	4.1%	2.6%
CORE	8+ times	1,116	1,124	1,143	1,150	1,141	-0.8%	-0.2%
Water Skiing								
Total participation	1+ times	5,918	5,756	5,228	4,849	4,626	-4.6%	-11.5%
Casual	1-7 times	3,811	3,796	3,545	3,278	3,094	-5.6%	-12.7%
Regular	8-14 times	805	825	801	797	756	-5.2%	-5.6%
Frequent	15+ times	1,302	1,134	883	774	776	0.3%	-12.1%
CORE	8+ times	2,107	1,959	1,683	1,571	1,532	-2.5%	-9.0%

*All participation figures are in 000s for the US population ages 6+

Appendix B
Community Input Survey Results

Choices and Comments – Bay County Recreation Survey

Bay County owns and operates the following recreational facilities. Which have you visited in the last year? Please check all that apply.

	Count	Percentage	
Bay County Community Center/Pool	106	42.91%	<div></div>
Bay County Fairgrounds	127	51.42%	<div></div>
Pinconning Park	64	25.91%	<div></div>
Bay County Golf Course (on Hampton in Essexville)	92	37.25%	<div></div>
Bay County Civic Arena (Ice Rink/Weight Rooms near Wilder and Euclid)	81	32.79%	<div></div>
Keit Nature Preserve & Euclid Linear Park	22	08.91%	<div></div>
	247		

How many times have you visited a local (Township or City) park in your community in the last year?




	Count	Percentage	
Not at all	34	10.15%	<div></div>
1 - 3	104	31.04%	<div></div>
4 - 9	75	22.39%	<div></div>
10 or more	122	36.42%	<div></div>
	335		

Why have you visited local or county parks in Bay County in the past year? Please check all that apply.

	Count	Percentage	
Participate in an organized sporting event	55	17.57%	<div></div>
Watch an organized sporting event	107	34.19%	<div></div>
Boating	53	16.93%	<div></div>
Fishing	58	18.53%	<div></div>
Playgrounds/Children's activities	135	43.13%	<div></div>
Enjoy nature	150	47.92%	<div></div>
Informal fitness activities (walking, jogging, pick-up games, etc.)	145	46.33%	<div></div>
Swimming	29	09.27%	<div></div>
Picnics/Family Gatherings	95	30.35%	<div></div>

Choices and Comments – Bay County Recreation Survey

Why have you visited local or county parks in Bay County in the past year? Please check all that apply. (cont).

	Count	Percentage	
Camping	47	15.02%	
Special Events/Festivals	120	38.34%	
Other	35	11.18%	
	313		

Other

State Park Water Park

golf

Golf Outing

Golf

biking

work

n/a

Dog Park

walks

Biking

Golf

photography

Essexville Smith Park for Tall Ships

Mtn Biking

CoFair

Golf

New employee and was taken on a tour of these places, so I could see what Bay County offered for employee's and citizens of the county.

Bay County Fair

biking

cornfest

bird watching

Ball Diamonds

Kids Fishing













Tall ship veiwing party - Smith Park-Essexville 2013

cub scout meeting

Bathrooms

Hunting

What kinds of park facilities would you like to see added to local or county parks in Bay County?

	Count	Percentage	
Walking and Biking Trails/Paths	184	59.35%	
Disc Golf	66	21.29%	
Dog Park	54	17.42%	
Playground	77	24.84%	
Ball Diamond	35	11.29%	
Soccer Field	31	10.00%	
Picnic Pavilion	73	23.55%	
Boat Launch	50	16.13%	
Public Beach	130	41.94%	
Camping	60	19.35%	
Basketball Court	41	13.23%	
Other	39	12.58%	
	310		

Choices and Comments – Bay County Recreation Survey

Other

Ice Rink	sticks,pucks
<i>Water Parks</i>	<i>groomed public beaches</i>
lighted tennis courts	None-Don't take care of what they have.
<i>splash park</i>	<i>all of the above</i>
Moderate Sized Wooded area.	Tennis Courts
<i>bike trails to connect them</i>	<i>Tennis</i>
Food court	Golf
<i>Spray park at Williams twp</i>	<i>swimming pools</i>
ATV Park/area	Nature trails
<i>Tennis</i>	<i>more golf</i>
Boat Launches need to be constructed to accommodate boats larger than 16-18 ft.!	increase/upgrade current facilities
<i>zip lines, climbing walls, etc</i>	<i>launch for small fishing boats</i>
refreshment opportunities / food truck area's	better restrooms
<i>kayak/canoe rental</i>	<i>snowshoeing trails</i>
sandy beach	Pull up bars/dip station
<i>Amusement Park</i>	<i>Electricity</i>
fishing pier	Spray park
<i>Mtn Biking Trails</i>	<i>Splash Park</i>
outdoor ICE SKATING prohibiting hockey	Shooting range

Which of the following recreational programs has your family participated in during the past year? Please check all that apply.

	Count	Percentage	
Youth sports leagues	121	54.02%	<div></div>
Adult sports leagues	68	30.36%	<div></div>
Fitness Classes	80	35.71%	<div></div>
Youth special events (Easter Egg Hunt, Daddy-Daughter Dance, etc.)	57	25.45%	<div></div>
Instructional Classes (Golf, Hunter Safety, etc.)	45	20.09%	<div></div>
	224		

Who provides the recreational programs that you participated in above? Please check all that apply.

	Count	Percentage	
Bay County	110	45.08%	<div></div>
My local community recreation department	77	31.56%	<div></div>
A specific recreational organization (Bay Area Soccer, YMCA, etc.)	90	36.89%	<div></div>
A for-profit private facility (Curves, Planet Fitness, etc.)	51	20.90%	<div></div>
School District/Community Education	84	34.43%	<div></div>
	244		

Please rate your feelings regarding the following statements concerning parks in Bay County.

I am satisfied with the county parks and recreation facilities in Bay County.






	Count	Percentage	
Strongly Agree	27	08.01%	<div></div>
Agree	161	47.77%	<div></div>
Neutral	104	30.86%	<div></div>
Disagree	36	10.68%	<div></div>
No Opinion	9	02.67%	<div></div>
	337		

I am satisfied with the local parks in my community.






	Count	Percentage	
Strongly Agree	48	14.33%	<div></div>
Agree	164	48.96%	<div></div>
Neutral	79	23.58%	<div></div>
Disagree	37	11.04%	<div></div>
No Opinion	7	02.09%	<div></div>
	335		

Choices and Comments – Bay County Recreation Survey

The preservation of natural areas and water resources in our community has a positive effect on the quality of my life.

	Count	Percentage	
Strongly Agree	113	33.43%	
Agree	136	40.24%	
Neutral	60	17.75%	
Disagree	20	05.92%	
No Opinion	9	02.66%	
	338		

It is important to improve access to and enhance the natural resources and recreational opportunities on the Saginaw Bay and Saginaw River.

	Count	Percentage	
Strongly Agree	198	58.93%	
Agree	100	29.76%	
Neutral	30	08.93%	
Disagree	4	01.19%	
No Opinion	4	01.19%	
	336		

What do you like best about the parks in your community?

They are well kept and maintained.

Safe and well maintained

Accessibility (close to home) and how nicely it's maintained.

The access to picnic tables, gazebo for small gatherings

General Maintenance

Clean, easy to access, and safe

Easily accessible.

close proximity

There are many and each offer different things.

Free Entry

Those on the River and Bay

They are prevelant and well maintained for the most part.

A place to enjoy the environment with family and friends. A good visual to our community. An opportunity to show off the river to my out of town family. They think our area is beautiful.

The pool and the variety of parks in Bay City.

That that are kept clean and accessible to everyone in the community

That they are being used by the public

Choices and Comments – Bay County Recreation Survey

NEED SAFE ELDER WALKING AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES

They keep the non motorized trails out of my back yard and off my property

That they have become more user friendly for activities such as walking and hiking.

The wide variety of recreational opportunities. Clean facilities that are kept up.

Easy access. Lots of room. Somewhat Clean.

The Number, and Decent opportunities in each. Disk golf, Laser Tag ect.

They are nice place to relax.

In Beaver Township we have a beautiful park surrounded by trees and the scenery is beautiful it is peaceful and well maintained.

spray park and newer playgrounds

nice facilities

That they are free to go to

easily accessible

Walking trails, playgrounds

Always seem to be improving. Staffs are helpful, lot of activities to do at the some of the parks

easy access can use anytime

Safe areas for children to play and just get out and enjoy nature. Picnic areas for families.

EVERYTHING: THE BEAUTY OF THE TREES AND VEGETATION AND THE TRAILS, ETC.

Close by.

The locations, and that they have maintained.

There is a place where the kids can play on the playscape and swim.

They are kept clean

The 5 k walks that you sponsor.

Most of the parks and facilities are well maintained.

that they are clean, maintained. I like it for my grandchildren.

Walking trails, and the playground. Pavilion picnic area

Availability, size, location, amenities

I love the Williams Township park and out of town visitors always express jealousy that I have such a wonderful place to do my daily runs. The maintenance crew is fantastic. They always acknowledge my presence in a way that makes me feel safe and will momentarily pause machinery when people move through their work area. I've lived in areas where the maintenance crew seemed to forget that the parks are meant to be used and would continue mowing or cutting down trees regardless of people, even children, being in the area. I have never had such an issue with the crew here. Plus, they still obviously do their job well because the park is always clean, mowed and the paths are unobstructed.

They're free and relatively well maintained.

The availability, cleanliness and general upkeep.

natural surroundings

upkeep is great, walkway

Close to home

easy access

They seem safe for all activities.

Walking path and playground equipment.

Most are easy to get to and are usually well maintained.

Very clean - well maintained!

Choices and Comments – Bay County Recreation Survey

Clean, safe place that you can enjoy with your family.

Proximity to my home. Historical significance to the community (i.e. Birney Park and Carroll Park).

Williams Twp. Park and the Auburn parks are WONDERFUL as is.

pretty landscaping

Lots of them - most are nice

Well Maintained

It brings people together and it is local and easily accessed by all! The physical fitness portion is huge but even larger than that is the fact that people are brought together! Close communities are safe communities!!

Location to where I grew up and currently live

Its a safe place to take my children.

That they are clean.

They are quiet, natural, and well-kept

Access to the water, things to do near the water.

accessibility. I like that we have a number of parks that are accessible to the neighborhoods around them.

accessibility

Well maintained and lots of area for walking and enjoying the outdoors

That we have them and the location

The playground

My county owns them.

Accessibility for all. Our parks are open to all citizens most of the time - except for special events.

I like the fact that they are protected and have walking/biking paths within the nature areas.

trees along with community access.

SAFETY is the most important factor. Being able to take the dog. Playscape in Auburn is very nice and needs to be regularly maintained, the pond in Auburn is a nice water feature. Williams Township park is also nice.

Natural preserve

I like that their is a place to go and enjoy with family

They seem to be well maintained - but there are not enough summer activities for children. A day camp program would be wonderful.

Cleanliness and updated facilities

that there are limited restrictions to use them

Very accessible.

location of community center facilities on JFK Drive. Well kept neat appearance.

Convenience

peaceful

Clean and promote fitness oriented activities.

paved biking trails, easy access

Playgrounds

availabilty for walking and playing with grandchildren

That there is opportunity for diverse activities

Walking Path

The rail trails

They provide a sense of community.

I think the Splash By The Bay is a nice thing, but it's too small to suit the citizen's needs.

Choices and Comments – Bay County Recreation Survey

Walking path, ball diamonds, pavilion, children's playground, beautiful landscaping

The mature trees in the parks.

The opportunity to use pathways to walk or run or ride bikes with my family without worrying about the possibility of a car hitting us.

Camping at Pinconning Park

I love to walk and I love nature, so for me, the best part of any park is just that - a safe, clean place to appreciate just being outdoors.

Well maintained.

Golf and play grounds for kids.

Safe

They seem to be well cared for. They are also places where families & friends can gather for many recreational and/or leisure times.

The landscape near the water.

Don't really have a "likes Best" comment. Softball wise, we used the Monitor Twp fields which the quality of the fields infield wise was very gravelly and risky to bad bounces that can cause injury as well as the need to slide to avoid contact also put the slider at risk for significant injury so tough choice there.

They are for the most part clean and well kept. easily accessible and close to home.

They are all well situated/located across the county. Generally clean and safe.

the golf coarse is taken care of very well.. probably one of the top 5 in this area.

Natural settings

State Park in Bay City - like the splash park and the nature building - allows kids to learn about local animals.

How well they are manicured and the offerings they have for children.

easy access and pretty.

Rail Trail

They are beautiful and accessible.

Clean, safe place for the community to use for outdoor activities.

Walking paths/ camping

It's important that a community have a usable park to keep the inhabitants healthy and active.

The location, it is close by our home. It has a playground equipment, picnic area-pavilion with electricity

large green area, to relax in

Great trails, clean well-maintained park, kayaking, safe area for family events, natural environment for birds & animals, excellent camping spot for visitors to the area

being able to walk or ride bikes

Playgrounds, biking and walking trails

nature

Kid friendly. Kept up and clean.

We love the parks that are on the river or the Bay because we enjoy looking at the water

Space

clean friendly areas

walking trails

There are quite a few to chose from inn our area so the kids get a variety!!

Riverwalk Rail Trail, Open green spaces, community beautification gardens

I like the locations. There is a park close by no matter where you are.

Hampton Township does an excellent job with their park.

Choices and Comments – Bay County Recreation Survey

Easy Access.

Well Maintained

There is a good variety of amenities that the parks offer.

Easily accessible and well-maintained.

They are close by.

Playgrounds

Clean.

Fishing.

Cleaness

Not crowded.

Nature

I use the Delta College nature walk. It gets me out into a wild area without a lot of driving.

Close to get to, beautiful, not costly to use/enter.

The easy access.

clean safe envirement

Nature trails, & walking trails & boat launch.

Boat watching & fishing.

local clean well maintained

Good to stay fit

Rail trail - walking - bike paths

Trails, baseball, park, fairgrounds

Safe clean.

Rail trail.

Availability, walking path, and play area

Great places for family reunions and such.

Plenty of parking and available space for family reunions.

Easy access.

Availability, new improvements.

The trail along the Bay and Hampton Townships hiking trail.

Well Maintained

Location to home.

The new rail trail from Jones to Finn is amazing.

Clean they are.

For the most part, clean, neat and plenty of space

Auburn/Williams Township have nice parks.

I enjoy coming down and watching organized events.

What could be done to improve parks and recreation in your community?

It would be nice to have a walking Trail.

Better law enforcement to reduce vandalism

available bathrooms

Think they are fine. Hire a competent B & G Director.

Completing any trail to connect to the other rail trails if not already done. Adding a basketball court area for outdoor

Choices and Comments – Bay County Recreation Survey

use. Providing shade structures, with picnic facilities.

Add more outdoor, organized recreational programs.

more picnic tables, trash receptacles

More frequent trash pick up/cleaning.

I think the County Employees should be able to golf for free or atleast 1/2 price at ANY time, not just Friday and Sunday afternoon's.

More swimming, no muck.

The public ice skating hours at the Civic Arena during the week are almost useless. There needs to be some after work hours so people with a 9-5 job can make use of the facility. Even the Stick & Puck times are almost over by the time kids get out of school, and obviously done by the time parents are out of work.

added access.

I would like to see updates made to the Hampton Twp walking trails, lights, etc for security.

improve the appearance....lighting, plants, trees, fountains, art/sculptures....

Get more non profits, city and county to collabrate in mainitaining and more PR on all this community offers.

Speed up the clean beach project.

I would like to see new and updated equipment in our local park.

better playground and upkeep/maintence of playground equipment

I think more bathrooms should be provided. Maintenance of the bathrooms and park equipment could be much better. Several times I have taken my children to play at playgrounds only to find shards of glass mixed in with mulch. It makes it a very undesirable place to go.

clean up trash after events.

TRAILS FOR EASY & SAFE WALKING, RUNNUNG

CLEAN UP THE BEACH IT USE TO BE A FAVORITE PLACE FOR ME WHEN I WAS A CHILD. IT DREW A LOT OF PEOPLE TO OUR COMMUNITY

The Beaches in Bangor Township are terrible, including the State Park

Keep them in the city and not in the township.

We need more access to the Saginaw Bay and Saginaw River. We live near the water with no access to use the water. It's very frustrating.

Adding a disc golf range in Bay City area, locker room improvements at Community Center.

Grass cut more frequently. A little up keep on ball diamonds fences and bleachers especially on little fields. Splash park for kids. Dog park for pets.

I would like more Pick-up opportunities to meet new people.

Clean the beach area to promote use by people, not just wildlife.

Would like to see a walking path out there, a one mile circle would be perfect.

Update wooden equipment at Vet's Park

I would like to see a rail trail in Williams Township for biking, running and walking.

a better beach at state park to swin in.

They can be taken care of little better.

bike path connector between bay & midland

Pinconning Park used to be a very nice place to go and camp. It now has become nothing more then a trailer park with all the seasonal campers that have made residence. I realize they make the county money but feel the park isnt big enough to allow so many seasonal spots and they are in some of the more sought after spots for those camping. Not to mention it has become very trashy looking with some of the trailers not very well kept. I havent been back to the park now in a few years because of this and currently have no intentions to go back after being there recently to walk the trails and see that it still looks very trashy

Choices and Comments – Bay County Recreation Survey

Additional playground equipment for children of all ages, not just grade school age children.

Some updates that are more to the times of now. Some things are just outdated and don't draw the people anymore because they are boring

More walking trails/paths

Better restrooms in some areas

more volunteers

Clean rest room facilities near picnic areas.

CLEAN UP THE BEACH AT STATE PARK SO THAT PEOPLE CAN SIT OR LIE ON THE BEACH AND ENJOY THE VIEW. AND EVEN BETTER, CLEAN UP THE WATER SO THAT PEOPLE CAN ACTUALLY WADE OR SWIM!!! THIS WOULD DRAW HUGE AMOUNTS OF PEOPLE IN THE AREA, AND FROM OTHER AREAS, AS THERE ARE NO DECENT BEACHES OR WATH TO SWIM IN ANYWHERE AROUND HERE.

Add Tennis Courts.

Soccer Field and Horse shoe pits.

Have access to swimming.

I wish there were bike lanes but I understand that the community is probably not large enough or high traffic enough to need such a thing.

the walkways plowed in the winter months-or a part of the walkway

Add a spray park

More walking/biking trails.

Clean up beaches and provide for more public boat access points

I think the railtrail needs safety upgrades, ie. permanent signage to inform users (which includes people from out of the area), about calling 911 in an emergency. The trail should be coded by townships and city sectors and coded in some way to let 911 operators know where a person may be on the trail if there is an emergency. For example, the section of trail in Portsmouth Township could be coded "PT-1" for the first mile of the trail in that township, "PT-2" for the second mile and so on in a clockwise rotation. This would give the 911 operators an idea of a persons location on the trail using a cell phone to call 911. Signs could be placed every 1/4 mile or so on 4x4 posts.

The dog park could be made larger with an "natural" area.

The State Park is a disaster due to "preservation of natural areas ...". I remember when the Park was a wonderful place to go with the family for boating and swimming, now you have to wade through muck and weeds to get to a nice area for the family.

I think the beach at State Park needs to be cleaned up. Refuse to let my grandchildren swim there. I live in Linwood.

Trash emptied in a timely manner

Enlarge; add equipment (swings, toys, ball diamonds, etc.)

Would love to see a rail trail system in Auburn/Williams Township - connecting to Midland and or Bay City's trails

I understand it is a long and difficult process but continuing to make the Saginaw Bay an attractive location would be beneficial for all.

Update playground equipment at parks. Increase walking access to waterfront/riverfront parks.

Connect the walking paths to the "rail trail"

Update playground equipment , make a family friendly area

Additional trials. More natural areas.

Pinconning park needs to update its sites. They are now getting too expensive for what they provide.

Reactivate our township parks and recreation committee. They did a GREAT job in the past and I can only imagine that even more improvements could be made under their leadership.

More playgrounds in local parks and community activities

Res rooms/ Vets Park in particular

No Opinion

Choices and Comments – Bay County Recreation Survey

The beach would be cleaner.

Making sure they are kept clean & keep down on the graffiti.

Better handicap access

maintenance

Improve trails for biking/walking/running

Keep the pool open for the kids to learn/maintain strong swim skills

Boat launches need to be constructed to accommodate boats larger than 16 or 18 ft. A large number of boaters in Bay County struggle to use County or State funded facilities because they cannot accommodate our boats. Our local economy suffers from local boaters who go elsewhere for better facilities.

variety. perhaps partner with special interest groups to provide more activities or events in the parks. ie running races, bike races or gatherings, nature hikes with local conservancies etc

Add more camping facilities at the Fairgrounds and update the electricity. Cover the grandstands at the fairgrounds to help with future events there.

Would like to see more community involvement; neighborhood involvement; Would love to have a interval exercise type walkway with stations that people could use independently, perhaps having stations which incorporate walking; running, hills/inclines, short runs between stations, stationary exercise according to their own level of fitness

More water parks

Keep the Grass cut and Garbage picked up

There is limited access, parks are closed certain times of the year.

Improve the saginaw bay beach at the Bay City State Park.

Include the Auburn area into the rail trail systems somehow. Currently we have to travel to Midland or Bay City for a nice biking / walking trail. Also, nice lighting for safety and appeal, sidewalks and benches to enhance appeal. The walkway around Auburn pond gets flooded and is difficult to walk during wet seasons--that should be corrected

Clean up our beach!!!!!!

we're the 'BAY' area---sure would be nice to have more public access to the river and the bay. Especially a nice beach. Wanted to show visitors to our area a 'Great Lake' and we had to decide whether to drive to Caseville or AuGres/Tawas to show them.

Create more parks and exclude fees. We should not have to pay again for something we already pay for in our county operating taxes. Increase the operating taxes if you need operating monies!!! You can't own a home (or park) without an income (operating expenses). If operating expenses exceed income SELL IT!!! o brainer there. The ARENA should be sold and the POOL should be filled in . We have spent to much money on only a few swimmers and skaters. Money and effort should be spent to help clean up the shoreline and river for the enjoyment for every person who lives and or visits the Bay County PARKS!

The biggest improvement to our parks and community would be to have a usable beach again - i.e. at State Park. We have such a wonderful resource with the Saginaw Bay - but clean-up and preservation should be a top priority - to bring it back to the beauty and use our community used to enjoy.

Need to have more programs at local township and our fair grounds. Need to promote the camping opportunities at the county fair ground.

I would like to see the fairground have some updates done to it!

Would prefer a good swimming beach and have State Park Beach are more accessible - it is much to far to walk. Put it back where it was in the 1960s.

I think adding kayaking areas and canoe areas and having rentals would help improve the parks and recreation

continue to improve beach conditions at Bay City State Park. Return the turn around at the end of State Park Drive for viewing access to the Saginaw Bay.

enlarge parking lots on JFK Drive by eliminating some grassy areas.

The bike trails have too many stop signs and traffic

pave the walking path

Choices and Comments – Bay County Recreation Survey

Add more Mtn Bike trails - much like the Midland City Forest or Pine Haven in Sandford. You will attract more visitors and supporters of the parks.

hire someone who cares enough and knows enough

the State park has a beautiful sand beach until you get to the water's edge. Anything that we can do to improve the water's edge of the beach would be fantastic and increase activity at the beach. I believe Bay County could improve our tourism use of the area if we could continue to develop our river front from the city to the Bay by replacing the industry with Parks, boat launches, marinas, water accessible restaurants, & nature. In addition, if we could update the Community Center it would attract more organized athletic events.

More walking trails

they are great the way they are. no need for additional acquisitions

Make sure that funds remain allocated so that park grounds and buildings may always be available. Maintain "No/low cost" activities sponsored by the community. Adding Disc golf (or other activities as they become popular)

Paved Walking Path

Offer townships grants to maintain rail trails

Clean up the State Park and enhance the park in Auburn.

I think MANY parks need updating. One park in particular is Ridge Road park in Hampton Township. Everything is rusted, and a few of the slides are not safe for young children. I call it "Tetanus City".

Tennis Courts

Install a disc golf course.

Another pavilion

More handicap facilities like bathrooms. Some parks don't have handicap port a potties.

I'm not sure

Bike trails should be more clearly mapped and marked. The non motorized vehicle lanes on N Euclid and State Park drive should be better maintained and marked, links to the State Park and railtrail that are vastly underutilized.

Offer more things to do like better tennis court

Create bike and jogging paths in local parks.

Better access to natural areas, Saginaw Bay & River

Don't charge.

I know money is always an issue, but just simply keeping parks mowed, weeded, mulched, etc. could go a long way to improvement. They so often just look messy - even at their main entry points.

Pool should be cheaper allowing for more to be able to enjoy it. A spray park in vet's park or wenonah park.

Get rid of those that lose money.

Would love to have State Park Beach be a beach that one can actually swim in.

Diligent effort to clean the water and eliminate the bad odor in the water.

Would like some walking trails out in the country - northern Bay County.

Updated equipment in some of the parks.

Better upkeep. Good to hear that the Community Center Swimming Pool should be able to operate next season.

There is a lot that could be done to improve the offerings at the pool. For example: 1) Longer season (Memorial Day to Labor Day); 2) Operate every day of the week, open 1- 9 pm to the public; 3) Not closing down for the whole day when a cloud passes over; 4) Expand lap swim hours. Have designated lap swim times. Plymouth Park in Midland has 17 one hour lap swim slots per week! Some pools have lap swim available all day long. All that needs to be done is to leave a couple lane lines in. 5) Get the pools operating times out to the public. It's like it's kept a secret!

Lighting down at the ball fields and a better drainage system

Softball wise, we used the Monitor Twp fields which the quality of the fields infield wise was very gravelly and risky to bad bounces that can cause injury as well as the need to slide to avoid contact also put the slider at risk for significant injury so tough choice there. Nature wise the more access including nature type trails and the ability for some to fish

Choices and Comments – Bay County Recreation Survey

more than just walking to the shoreline would be nice.

added features such as skate parks, boat launches and handicap accessibility to the outlying township areas

Would like to see the beach cleaned up!

Vet's park could use a face lift. Lightening and paving along the RW/RT could you use some attention.

I wish swimming was a more viable option at the State Recreation Area.

Update equipment and picnic tables.

Increase the number of miles of biking trails

nothing

Advertise them

More parks and recreation areas.

General maintenance and upkeep.

Add to or upgrade current facilities. Maybe a pier or upgrade boat launching areas

Bay County needs more walking trails (paved).

Would like to see our park used more, perhaps more equipment and programs planned for the park

better parking

Continue to remove the phragmites, continue to maintain beach areas, provide launch area for small fishing boats

better restrooms / concession stands

Develop a decent beach on the Bay that we can take our children swimming at.

concentrate on providing more youth oppertunities

Would love to have access to a beach for swimming.

more parks on the Bay

better, cleaner beaches

clean up the beach at bay city state park!

More community involvement in upkeep, gardens, Need to get rid of poor quality proplem trees and shrubs and replace with healthy ones. Some equipment, like benches are in poor shape

Bathrooms need to be better attended and hand sanitizer would be nice.

No fees for use.

More and new playground equipment.

More playground equipment (ours is outdated)

Most need repair/replacement of equipment - old & outdated.

General maintenance and upgrades as they are a little worn.

More modern and safer playground facilities such as a playscape and a walking/jogging trail.

More childrens play equipment or new stuff where it is worn out.

Update play equipment for safety monitor park

More up to date equipment.

More waste receptacles, built in iron benches, tables.

Add camping, add trees, improve facilities.

The Bay.

I like them as they are.

More awareness of the parks & activities offered.

Asphalt Walking Trails.

Add another nature walk.

Organized family activities.

Choices and Comments – Bay County Recreation Survey

Larger areas and a dog park.

More boat launches

Get rid of the goose droppings.

More trees & landscaping - new seawall and park accessibility.

add more toys

Walking path

make a beach that we can actually swim in near bay city

Develop parks & trails more.

walking trail on township property

Increase the budget for the golf course. The condition of the course has fallen off in the past few years. also, the Pro Shop needs to be supplied with merchandise. What a shame that more money can't be directed toward the Parks and Recreations only "Cash Maker".

Picnic areas - tables, walking paths, trees, water areas, spray parks

I'm still hoping we can have Monitor Township connected to the Rail Trail System.

Personally I do not use. I would like some bike trails - roads are too dangerous.

"Public beach" - We have to go to another town to find beaches for swimming. It would be nice to stay in our own town for beach recreation.

Encourage more usage getting people of all ages outside.

Clean up (remove) the phragmites in Bay City State Recreation Area and replace with native species.

Keep them going.

Upgrade playground equipment.

Update playground equipment.

I'm enclosing a sample of some activities Saginaw County Parks have in place for possible samples.

Possibly add a boat launch at Jones road.

New playground equipment.

Let some private food service open coffee shop or lunch place.

Beaver township park has too many bugs and does not offer much.

Better management at the Civic Arena, very poor organization at the Arena.

Have Government get out of the way

How many people are in your household?

	Count	Percentage	
1	24	07.19%	<div></div>
2	147	44.01%	<div></div>
3 - 5	146	43.71%	<div></div>
6 or more	17	05.09%	<div></div>
	334		

Choices and Comments – Bay County Recreation Survey

What is your age?

	Count	Percentage	
Under 18	1	00.30%	
18 - 30	28	08.33%	<div></div>
31 - 45	93	27.68%	<div></div>
46 - 65	173	51.49%	<div></div>
Over 65	41	12.20%	<div></div>
	336		

Where do you live?

	Count	Percentage	
Auburn	11	03.23%	<div></div>
Bay City	74	21.70%	<div></div>
Bangor Township	39	11.44%	<div></div>
Beaver Township	11	03.23%	<div></div>
Essexville	14	04.11%	<div></div>
Frankenlust Township	22	06.45%	<div></div>
Fraser Township	6	01.76%	<div></div>
Garfield Township	5	01.47%	<div></div>
Gibson Township	0	00.00%	
Hampton Township	35	10.26%	<div></div>
Kawkawlin Township	13	03.81%	<div></div>
Merritt Township	10	02.93%	<div></div>
Monitor Township	29	08.50%	<div></div>
Mt. Forest Township	6	01.76%	<div></div>
Pinconning	5	01.47%	<div></div>
Pinconning Township	0	00.00%	
Portsmouth Township	24	07.04%	<div></div>
Williams Township	29	08.50%	<div></div>
None of the Above	8	02.35%	<div></div>
	341		

FOR KAWKAWLIN TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS ONLY

What recreational facilities would you rank as the most needed in Kawkawlin Township? Please check up to three responses.

	Count	Percentage	
Skate Park	3	23.08%	<div></div>
Disc Golf	4	30.77%	<div></div>
Walking Trail	9	69.23%	<div></div>
Boat Ramp	3	23.08%	<div></div>
Fishing Pond	3	23.08%	<div></div>
Dog Park	4	30.77%	<div></div>
Spray Park	2	15.38%	<div></div>
Other (Please Specify)	3	23.08%	<div></div>
	13		

Other (Please Specify)

Volley Ball

Along with the fishing pond idea it was discussed that the fill dirt be used to build a nice sledding hill for the winter months. Nate Doan Park in Bay City has a simple hill and it's fun time during all the months of the year, but especially in the winter!! As for a "spray" park - a few spray options would be enough. Getting wet is getting wet whether it's one, three or more! The idea years back was to have different groups sponsor one as they each reach into the thousands of dollars per piece.

UPGRADED BASEBALL/SOFTBALL COMPLEX









For GIBSON TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS ONLY

What kinds of park facilities would you like to see added to the Gibson Township Park? Please check all that apply.

	Count	Percentage
Expanded playground	0	00.00%
Skate park	0	00.00%
Soccer Field	0	00.00%
Picnic area with grills	0	00.00%
Walking paths	0	00.00%
Restroom	0	00.00%
	0	

FOR BEAVER TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS ONLY





What kinds of park facilities would you like to see added to the Beaver Township Park or available in Beaver Township? Please check all that apply.

	Count	Percentage	
Walking path with fitness stations at intervals	9	90.00%	
Soccer field	1	10.00%	
Improved nature trail	7	70.00%	
More playground equipment	3	30.00%	
Park benches	8	80.00%	
Tennis court	0	00.00%	
Basketball court	1	10.00%	
Volleyball court	1	10.00%	
Other	3	30.00%	
	10		

Other

Electricity
Pool
Disc Golf

How many times do you plan to use Beaver Township Park or Beaver Township recreational facilities in the UPCOMING YEAR (2014)?

	Count	Percentage	
20 or more (especially if more amenities are added)	4	40.00%	
10 or more	1	10.00%	
4-9	3	30.00%	
1-3	0	00.00%	
Not at all	2	20.00%	
	10		

FOR HAMPTON TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS ONLY

What type of recreational facilities would you like added to Hampton Township parks? Please check all that apply.

	Count	Percentage	
Updated playground equipment	16	59.26%	<div></div>
Walking/biking paths	16	59.26%	<div></div>
Picnic pavilions	4	14.81%	<div></div>
Disc golf	4	14.81%	<div></div>
Dog park	2	07.41%	<div></div>
Basketball Court	4	14.81%	<div></div>
Ball Diamond	2	07.41%	<div></div>
Soccer field	5	18.52%	<div></div>
Other (Please specify)	6	22.22%	<div></div>
	27		

Other

Water Park

would love to have an indoor walking facility available for inclement weather

snowshoeing trails

bay beach

Spray Park Playscape

Another State Park

What are your feelings regarding access to the Saginaw Bay in Hampton Township?

Public access to the Saginaw Bay in Hampton Township is important to me and my family.

	Count	Percentage	
Agree	24	88.89%	<div></div>
No Opinion	3	11.11%	<div></div>
Disagree	0	00.00%	
	27		

Public access to the Saginaw Bay in Hampton Township needs to be improved.

	Count	Percentage	
Agree	21	77.78%	<div></div>
No Opinion	6	22.22%	<div></div>
Disagree	0	00.00%	
	27		

FOR WILLIAMS TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS ONLY

Where would you like an additional park to be located in Williams Township?

Nearer to Midland/Dow Corning area. But a dedicated rail trail next to the railroad tracks would add so much to our community in terms of travel and fitness! Without sidewalks on Midland Road, it is dangerous to take family walks or bike rides. With a rail trail safely away from the busy road, our family could ride from our home off Midland Road (Briarwood Court) and travel into Auburn for exercise as well as shopping, dining, ice cream, etc. It would be a really simple project that could really benefit many families, individuals and business owners.

Additional bike trails with connections to the surrounding/existing trails

its good were it is.

Perhaps on the northern side of the township.

need bike trails in wms township, subdivisions are too isolated. midland rd is too dangerous for children to ride bikes on.

the one we have is great

We don't need a third park in the area.

I think we are pretty good with the parks

Am ok with current location.

Midland Rd. corridor area.

I don't think we need another park - as we have two very nice parks already. A rail trail system would be a wonderful addition to Auburn/Williams Township and the Bay community.

NOT adjoined to the current park!! The residents whose property shares the boundaries (us being one of them) will NOT support that or sell any property to the twp.

South of the Us 10 highway, hopefully a dog park!!!!

We have two beautiful parks, if a farmer wanted to donate some land, I am sure the residents in the rural areas would like a park where the kids can play and not worry about traffic.




Across from or adjacent to existing Auburn Park OR do something with that dilapidated hotel / halfway house and surrounding property on Garfield by US-10; anywhere along the US-10/Garfield area to make Auburn more appealing from the highway

I want no additional parks or additions to existing parks in Williams Township. We have a wonderful park. Additional purchases takes land from the tax base and increases our maintenance cost.

Don't need another park

bike paths by the railroad

Which of the following statements best describes your feelings about expanding the park system in Williams Township?

	Count	Percentage	
Williams Township should purchase suitable park land as soon as it becomes available.	9	31.03%	
Williams Township should purchase additional land for a park sometime in the future.	7	24.14%	
Williams Township does not need additional park land.	13	44.83%	
	29		

Appendix C
Great Lakes Bay Regional Trail Map

Tri-County Regional Path Study

Bay,
Midland
and
Saginaw
Counties

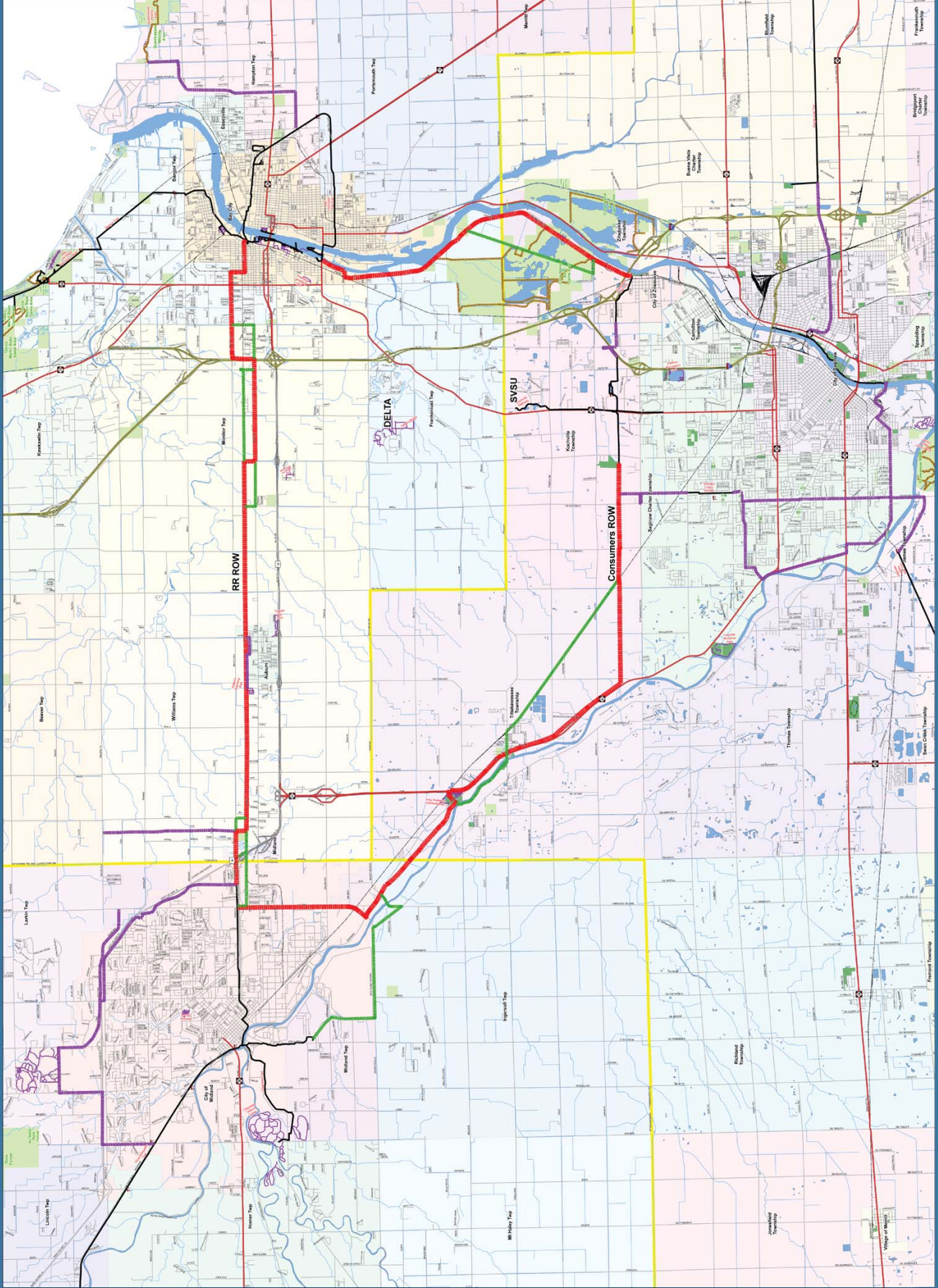


- Legend**
- Proposed Routes**
 - Preferred Route
 - Alternate Route
 - Linkage Route
 - Existing Trails**
 - Trail Path
 - Unimproved Multi-Use Trail
 - Unimproved Multi-Use Trail
 - Unimproved Multi-Use Trail
 - Other Features**
 - County Boundary
 - Down Chemical Property
 - Parks
 - Public Land



(989) 754-4717

February, 2009
11/12/05/2008



Appendix D
Potential Funding Sources for Parks and Recreation Projects

SOURCES OF RECREATION GRANT FUNDING IN MICHIGAN

Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF)

- Match requirement – minimum of 25%
- Development grants
 - Minimum Grant Request \$15,000
 - Maximum Grant Request \$300,000
- Acquisition grants
 - No minimum or maximum
- Goals of MNRTF Board
 - Resource Protection – very important
 - Water Access
 - Community Recreation
 - Urban Recreation
 - Economic Development
- Due annually on April 1
- www.michigan.gov/dnr

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

- Administered by MNRTF
- 50% match required
- Minimum grant request \$30,000 (\$60,000 project total)
- Maximum grant request \$100,000 (\$200,000 project total)
- Funds a wide variety of outdoor recreation projects
- Applications due annually on April 1
- www.michigan.gov/dnr

Michigan Recreation Passport Grant

- Administered by MNRTF
- Focus is on improving and renovating existing parks
- Minimum Grant Request - \$7,500, Maximum \$45,000
- Applications due on April 1
- For outdoor *and indoor* recreation projects
- www.michigan.gov/dnr

Michigan Department of Transportation - Transportation Alternatives Program

- For non-motorized transportation (paths) and rehabilitation and operation of historic transportation buildings, structures, or facilities (bridges, railroad depot, etc.)
- 20% minimum match required, 40% recommended
- Eligible applicants include county road commissions, cities, and villages. Other organizations may *sponsor* applications (i.e. County Road Commission or local MDOT office sponsors a township application)
- Rolling on-line application process
- www.michigan.gov/mdot Go to “Projects and Programs”.

Great Lakes Fisheries Trust (GLFT)

- Objective – improve or create shore-based Great Lakes recreational access.
- Must be located on the Great lakes or lower portions of major tributaries
- Matching funds not required but projects with local funding will be favored.
- Relatively simple application form and requirements
- Due in August/September
- www.glft.org

Michigan Coastal Management Grants

Objectives

- Protect, manage and restore coastal communities and habitats
- Restore historic structures
- Revitalize urban waterfronts
- Increase recreational opportunities along Michigan's Great Lakes coast
- Applicant must be a coastal unit of government
- Maximum grant request - \$50,000
- Match requirements – 50% (some flexibility in match for non-construction projects that result in changes to local master plans or zoning ordinances, regional greenways, or include conservation planning)
- Eligible projects
 - Studies, Designs and Land Use Plans – must have a direct connection to coastal planning and/or resource protection.
 - Construction – boardwalks, trails, lighthouse preservation, habitat restoration, scenic overlook, etc.
- Due annually on May 1
- www.michigan.gov/deqcoastal

Other grant programs to consider:

Coastal Program – Great Lakes – US Fish and Wildlife Service

- Grants to conserve fish and wildlife and their habitats and to support healthy coastal ecosystems
- Rolling application process
- www.fws.gov/midwest/greatlakes/apply.htm

Specific sports and sports foundations

- United States Tennis Association (USTA)
 - funding for tennis courts and programs
 - www.usta.com
- Major League Baseball
 - Baseball Tomorrow Fund
 - www.baseballtomorrow.com
- United States Soccer
 - www.ussoccerfoundation.org

Safe Routes to School

- For projects near elementary and middle schools:
 - Sidewalks
 - Traffic calming and speed reduction
 - Pedestrian and bicycle crossing improvements
 - On-street and off-street bicycle facilities
 - Off-street pedestrian facilities
 - Traffic diversion improvements in the vicinity of schools
- Need to complete the safe routes planning process to apply
- www.saferoutesmichigan.org

Trust for Public Land (TPL)

- Conservation Transactions
TPL helps structure, negotiate, and complete land transactions that create parks, playgrounds, and protected natural areas. TPL serves as an independent agent, buying land from willing landowners and then transferring it to public agencies, land trusts, or other groups for protection. In some instances, TPL will protect land through conservation easements, which restrict development but permit traditional uses such as farming and ranching.
- www.tpl.org

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Grants

- Must be part of a watershed management plan
- Projects aimed at reducing nonpoint source pollution (streambank and shoreline stabilization, rain gardens, erosion control, conservation easements)
- 25% match required
- www.michigan.gov/deq - Go to "Water", then "Surface Water" and then to "Non-point Source Pollution".

Community Foundations

Private Foundations and Endowments

Wickes Foundation
Strosacker Foundation
Gerstacker Foundations
Consumers Energy

KEEP IN MIND...

- Match requirements can usually be in-kind services, donations, or cash,
- Most grants are provided on a reimbursable basis.
- Barrier free accessibility is usually required for improvement projects,
- Multiple partners, multiple jurisdictions can be viewed favorably – think "regional" projects.
- Grant applications can be complicated, detailed and competitive. Make sure your grant writer is familiar with the grant and funding source. Learn as much as possible ahead of time to know if your project has potential for funding.

Appendix E
Advertisements and Adoption Documentation

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
County of Bay

ss. Shirley Sattop

Being duly sworn deposes and say he/she is Principal Clerk of



THE BAY CITY TIMES DAILY EDITION

a newspaper published and circulated in the County of Bay and otherwise qualified according to Supreme Court Rule; and that the annexed notice, taken from said paper, has been duly published in said paper on the following day(days) _____

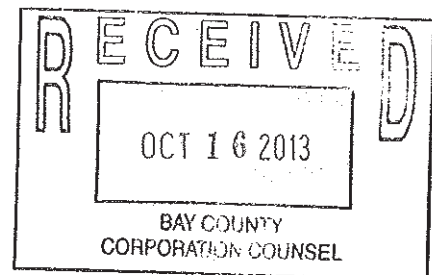
October 6 A.D. 20 13

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 9th day of October 20 13

Janice M. Ringler

JANICE M. RINGLER
Notary Public, State of Michigan
County of Kent
My Commission Expires: 10/03/2014
Acting in the County of Kent

THE COMMUNITIES OF BAY COUNTY are drafting an update to their five year parks and recreation master plan. We need your input to help us plan for the future of parks and recreation in Bay County. Please visit www.bayrecsurvey.com or www.baycounty-mi.gov to take our brief survey. Your input is important to us. Hard copies of the survey will also be available at the Bay County Building, 515 Center Avenue, 4th floor. The survey will run until October 23, 2013.



Sent up from Clerk