

Explore the Grand Region:

A Community Parks and Recreation Plan in Northwest Ottawa County

2025-2029

Encompassing the Communities of:
City of Ferrysburg
City of Grand Haven
Grand Haven Charter Township
Spring Lake Township
Village of Spring Lake

Draft Document for Public Review
November 25, 2024



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Explore the Grand Region: A Community Parks and Recreation Plan in Northwest Ottawa County

2025-2029

Participating Communities

City of Ferrysburg

City of Grand Haven

Grand Haven Charter Township

Spring Lake Township

Village of Spring Lake

Ferrysburg City Council

Richard Carlson, Mayor
William Montgomery, Mayor Pro-Tem
Michael DeWitt
Debbie Murdoch
Bill Cate
Jake Stearley
Jerry Sias

Grand Haven Charter Township Board

Mark Reenders, Supervisor
Laurie Larsen, Clerk
William Kieft, III, Treasurer
Howard Behm
Andrea Dumbrell
Joy Gaasch
Bob Wagenmaker

Grand Haven City Council

Robert Monetza, Mayor
Kevin McLaughlin, Mayor Pro-tem
Michael Fritz
Karen Lowe
Vacant

Spring Lake Township Board of Trustees

Jerry Rabideau, Supervisor
H. Carolyn Boersma, Clerk
Jim Koster, Treasurer
Boni Norwood
Cathy Pavick
Ernie Petrus
Ande Scherf

Village of Spring Lake Council

Mark Powers, Village President
Joel TePastte, President Pro-Tem
Dan Abbott
Michael Duer
Susan Petrus
Patrick Roggenbau
Lesley Van Leeuwen-Vega

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Introduction

This plan, *Explore the Grand Region: A Community Parks and Recreation Plan in Northwest Ottawa County, 2025-2029*, replaces the previous plan, with the same title for the years 2019-2024. The plan has been created as a joint community recreation plan which covers the five communities located in the northwest corner of Ottawa County, City of Ferrysburg, City of Grand Haven, Grand Haven Charter Township, Spring Lake Township, and Village of Spring Lake. In addition to their locations, these communities also share similar natural resources of the Grand River basin which flows into Lake Michigan, the Lake Michigan Dune ecosystems, and other natural features. The communities are linked by a unique system of bridges over the Grand River, thereby the Grand River providing a common feature to all of the communities, while also a point of geographic separation.

There are many potential benefits to coordinated recreational planning for multiple community governmental agencies including increased efficiencies in providing park and recreation opportunities, access to increased funding sources, greater protection and identification of natural resources, greater potential for identifying creative ways of accomplishing recreation goals, public media coverage, expanded public support, economic advantages, and shared long-term vision and goals.

To facilitate the planning process, the five communities established a Joint Recreation Plan Development Committee in which each community assigned one representative. The five communities determined that the best way to complete a joint recreation plan was to retain a recreation consultant to assist in the plan development. The five communities again jointly retained the firm of PM Blough, Inc. to assist in the development of the recreation inventory, public input, the planning process, and the writing of the plan document. The Committee oversaw the planning effort, and the Committee members served as liaisons between the Committee and their respective communities.

The comprehensive inventory has been updated of the recreational facilities within the five governmental jurisdictions. The results of this inventory are included in the Recreation Inventory section of this document and are broken into resources by each governmental unit as well as summarized as a whole community. The overall regional mapping of public parks into one map and the creation of an updated unified park facilities inventory chart, were updated as well. Individual Park sheets are included for each park in a unified manner which can also be used for additional uses beyond the plan such as local websites and informational handouts.

During the planning process, the community input was gathered through the implementation of a scientific based survey conducted by the Frost Research Center of Hope College. Public input was gathered by a formal survey which included a total of 547 resident surveys through on-line responses and phone interviews. The results were presented for both the Community as a whole, as well as broken down by each governmental unit. Further in-depth stakeholder surveys were conducted with advocates/program staff representing aging adults, residents with disabilities and coaches/program staff. The full results of the survey are included within the Appendix Section of this plan. The results were utilized by the planning team to identify future recreational projects, potential deficiencies, and overall public responses to where, when, and how the community desires to recreate.

The document is based on the format provided by the State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources for community recreation planning. It contains plan sections that include the Community Description, Administrative Structure, Recreation Inventory, Goals and Objectives, and Action Plan, and Planning Process. It is the intent of this document to provide a foundation for recreational planning and development within the Community. The communities are not bound by an authority, but rather are jointly approving this plan individually.

Community Description

Jurisdiction of the Plan

This plan provides a cooperatively developed plan for the communities of the City of Ferrysburg, City of Grand Haven, Grand Haven Charter Township, Spring Lake Township, and the Village of Spring Lake, all located within northwest Ottawa County. These communities all share a common link to the Grand River, and a focus on its connecting waters of Spring Lake, adjacent bayous, and Lake Michigan. Together, these communities comprise approximately 62.2 square miles and a consolidated population of roughly 49,760 people based on the 2020 US Census.

<u>Community</u>	<u>Total Area in Square Miles</u>
City of Ferrysburg	3.6 Square Miles
City of Grand Haven	7.4 Square Miles
Grand Haven Charter Township	29.5 Square Miles
Spring Lake Township	20.0 Square Miles
<u>Village of Spring Lake</u>	<u>1.74 Square Miles</u>
Total Area:	62.2 Square Miles

Historically the community developed as three separate cities, Grand Haven, Spring Lake, and Ferrysburg with each of these communities located independently on different sides of the Grand River and Spring Lake. As development and modern construction developed, the communities were connected with bridges, making access between them quick and easy. Over time, the communities have grown together as well as outward into the neighboring townships of Spring Lake Township and Grand Haven Charter Township. Many of the recreational activities, festivals, and programs are offered as community wide opportunities. This cooperative atmosphere continues to grow and thrive. As a result, in 2015, these communities determined it would be best to expand this to planning for the future vision collectively for the northwest Ottawa County region, being referred to here as the Grand Region.

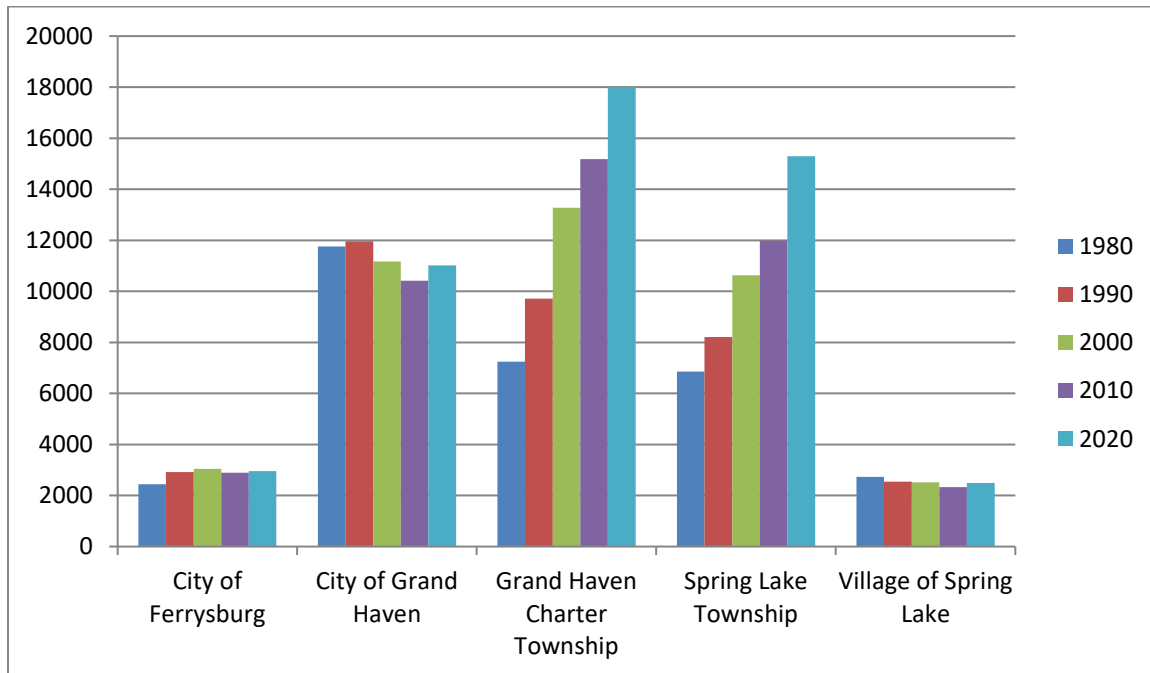
This Recreation Plan has been developed to provide for cooperative planning regarding recreational facility needs and development.

Community Population

Northwest Ottawa County overall continues to show growth, with an area wide rate of 16% over the last decade. The greatest growth was seen in Grand Haven Charter Township and Spring Lake Township with modest growth for the City of Ferrysburg, City of Grand Haven, and the Village of Spring Lake. Based on the 2020 US Census data, the combined population of the five communities is:

<u>Community</u>	<u>Number of Persons</u>
City of Ferrysburg	2,952 persons
City of Grand Haven	11,011 persons
Grand Haven Charter Township	18,004 persons
Spring Lake Township	15,296 persons
<u>Village of Spring Lake</u>	<u>2,497 persons</u>
Total for 2010 US Census	49,760 persons

Comparison of Total Population by Community 1980-2020

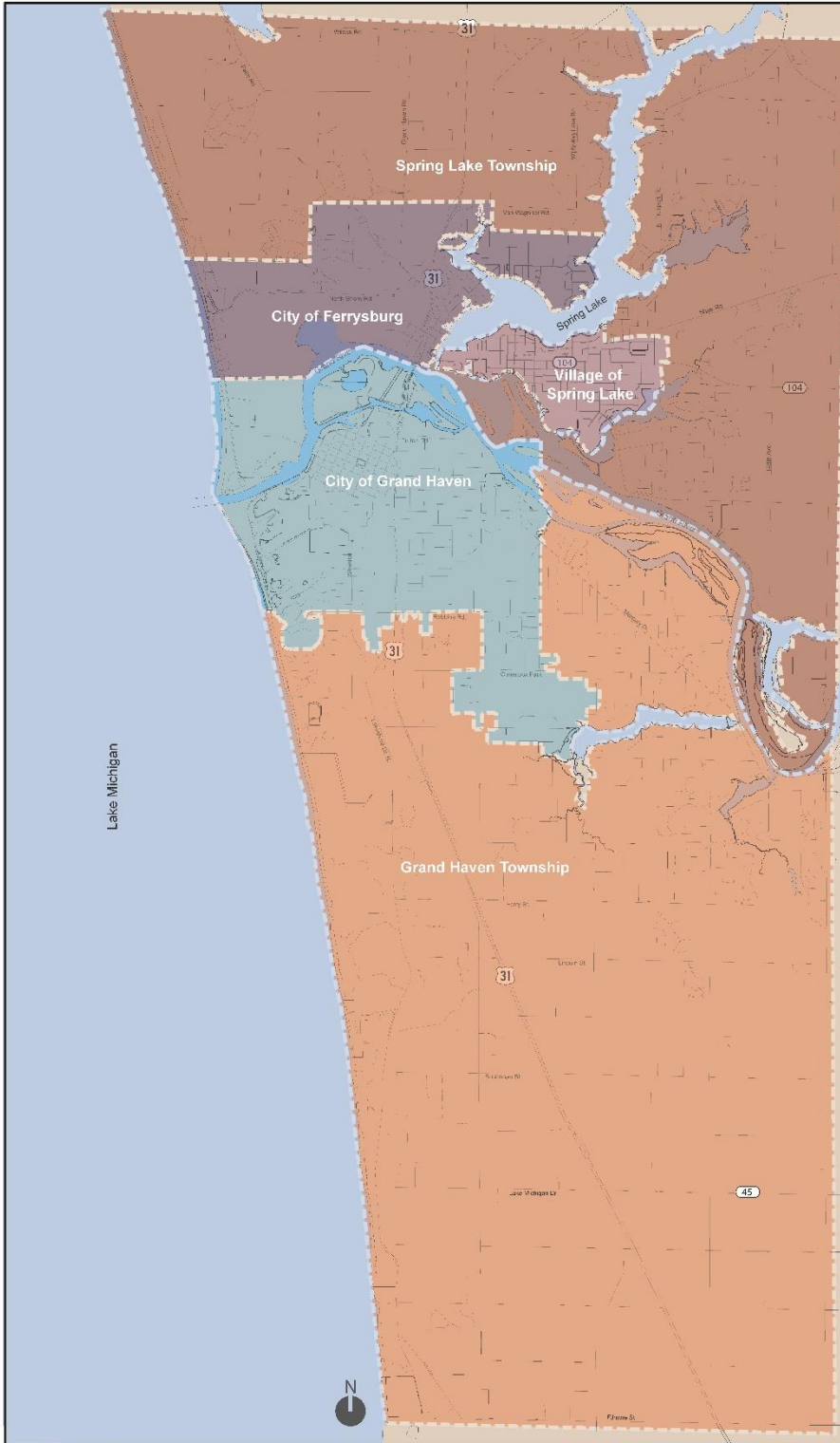


Grand Region Jurisdictional Area

A map showing the Grand Region jurisdictional area is shown on the following page.

Grand Region Plan Jurisdiction Area

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- City of Ferrysburg
- City of Grand Haven
- Grand Haven Township
- Spring Lake Township
- Village of Spring Lake

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City of Ferrysburg Administrative Structure

Administrative Structure

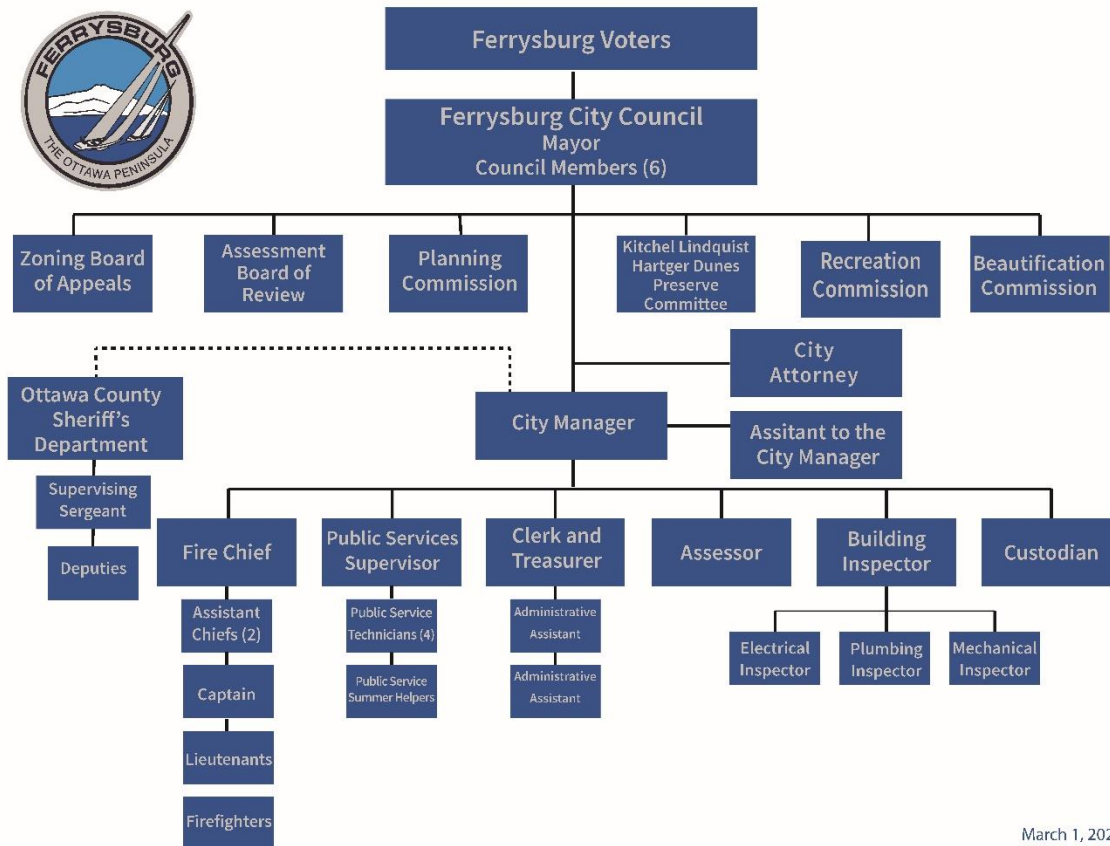
The City of Ferrysburg is administered by a seven-member City Council led by the mayor. The Mayor’s term is for two years and City Council Member terms are for four years. Regarding parks and recreation, the City Council approves the yearly budget, acquisition of lands, oversight of capital development projects, approval of City acceptance of grants, and establishment of park policies and ordinances.

City Staff and Administration

The daily operation of the City and oversight of the City staff is the responsibility of the City Manager who is appointed by the City Council. The city parks are administered by the Public Services Department with five full-time and two seasonal employees who are assigned to parks and recreation facility maintenance.

Organization Chart

An organization chart of the City Structure follows:



March 1, 2020

Recreation Commission

The Ferrysburg City Council established, by ordinance, a seven-member Recreation Commission that advises the City Council regarding parks and recreation matters. The Recreation Commission meets as needed to provide guidance to the planning, development, and operation of the parks within the City. The Michigan Enabling Legislation for the establishment of a Recreation Commission is 1929 PA312 Metropolitan District Act which provides for Charter Commissions.

Funding for Parks

Funding for the development and maintenance of the parks is provided by the City's General Fund which has a 2024-2025 parks budget of \$248,500 for park operation and a capital development budget of \$300,000 for park improvements. The General Fund includes an additional budget item of \$11,187 for programming as a contribution to the Northwest Ottawa Recreation Authority.

Northwest Ottawa Recreation Authority (NORA)

The City of Ferrysburg is a member of the Northwest Ottawa Recreation Authority (NORA), an authority that provides recreational programming for the member communities included within the Grand Haven Area Public Schools boundaries including the City of Ferrysburg, City of Grand Haven, Grand Haven Township, and Robinson Township, and Port Sheldon Township. The Grand Haven Area Public Schools is also a supporting entity through the use of school facilities. Funding for the Authority is provided by member communities, revenues generated from the programs, and various grants and sponsorships. Member agencies also provide park athletic facilities for use by the NORA programs, as well as other local non-profits.

Local Non-profits & Volunteers

Local Non-profit organizations providing recreational programming are included in the Recreation Inventory Section of the Plan as they encompass the entire community.

City of Grand Haven Administrative Structure

Administrative Structure and City Council

The City of Grand Haven, by charter, operates under a Council-Manager form of government. The Grand Haven City Council is comprised of a Mayor and four Council members elected at large who serve two and four year terms respectively. The City Council appoints a Chief Administrative Officer (City Manager) whose responsibility is to carry out priorities and goals of the City Council including the fiscal budgeting for parks operation and maintenance, park capital development, land acquisition, grant acceptance and recreation within the community. Park rules and policies are set by the City Council as part of the City Ordinances with recommendations from the Parks and Recreation Board.

Parks and Recreation Board

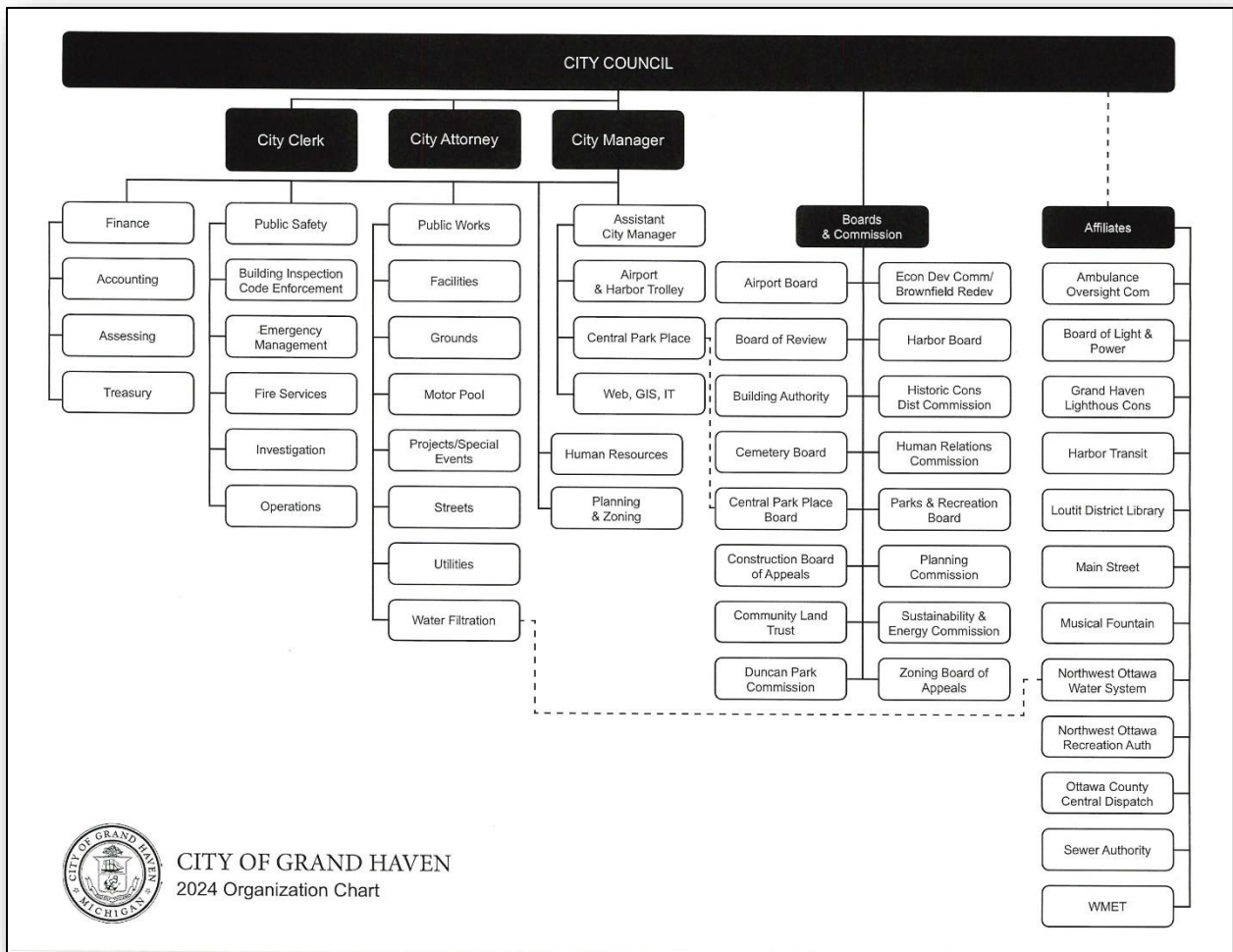
The City Charter “affords citizen participation in the affairs of the city government for the purpose of determining community needs and means of meeting such needs through the government of the city.” (City charter Section. 7.14) The Parks and Recreation Board is one of the boards listed in the Charter and is comprised of five Grand Haven citizen volunteers who are appointed by the City Council for a term of five years. The establishment of the Parks and Recreation Board is allowed through the Michigan enabling legislation 1917 PA 156 Recreation and Playgrounds. The Parks and Recreation Board meets monthly to provide guidance regarding the planning, development, and operation of the City’s parks by making recommendations to the City Council for final approval.

City Staff

The parks are maintained and operated by the Grounds Service Area and the Maintenance Service Area of the Department of Public Works with four full time employees and up to fifteen summer seasonal employees dedicated to the parks, as well as one half SWAP crew. These employees assist with community volunteers and maintain the parks infrastructure year-round. The Public Works Director assigns the Special Projects Manager as the staff liaison to the Parks and Recreation Board.

Organization Chart

An organization chart depicting the functions and lines of authority is shown on the following page.



Funding for Parks and Recreation

Funding for the development and maintenance of the parks is provided by the City's General Fund, with a 2024 budget for park operation and maintenance of \$1,030,940 and a capital development budget of \$735,000. The General Fund includes a budget of \$35,000 for programming as a contribution to the Northwest Ottawa Recreation Authority.

Northwest Ottawa Recreation Authority (NORA)

The City of Grand Haven is a member of the Northwest Ottawa Recreation Authority (NORA), an authority that provides recreational programming for the member communities within the Grand Haven Area Public Schools boundaries including the City of Ferrysburg, City of Grand Haven, Grand Haven Township, and Robinson Township, and Port Sheldon Township. The Grand Haven Area Public Schools are supporting the entity through the use of school facilities. Funding for the Authority is provided by member communities, revenues generated from the programs, and various grants and sponsorships. Member

agencies also provide park athletic facilities for use by the NORA programs, as well as other local non-profits.

Local Non-profits & Volunteers

Local Non-profit organizations providing recreational programming are included in the Recreation Inventory Section of the Plan as they encompass the entire community.

Grand Haven Charter Township Administrative Structure

Township Board

The Grand Haven Charter Township Board is the main legislative body of the Township. It is comprised of a supervisor, clerk, treasurer, and four trustees elected at large. Each of the officials is elected to serve four-year terms. The role of the Board is to develop legislative policies which include the adoption of all planning documents and the establishment of the yearly fiscal budget. In regard to Parks and Recreation, the Township Board approves all park planning documents, policies and financial budgets as well as capital development. One member of the Township Board serves on the Parks and Recreation Committee.

Township Planning Commission

The Planning Commission is comprised of nine members who are appointed by the Township Board. One member is a member of the Township Board, and a second member is a Zoning Board of Appeals member. The Planning Commission reviews and makes formal recommendations to the Township Board regarding planned unit developments, planning policies, ordinances, and master plans. One member of the Planning Commission serves on the Parks and Recreation Committee to provide insight to the committee and provide a liaison to the Commission regarding recreational planning and interface of park properties with surrounding land uses. At the direction of the Township Board, the Planning Commission reviews the plan and provides a recommendation to the Township Board, prior to Township Board approval.

Parks and Recreation Committee

The Parks and Recreation Committee members are appointed by the Township Board. The committee was formed in 1988 to involve the community in the development of Mercury Park. Since that time, the Committee has continued to assist in the overall direction and development of the entire park system. The Committee acts in an advisory role to the Township Board and includes one Township Board member. The Committee provides review and recommendation of the plan to the Township Board regarding adoption of the plan.

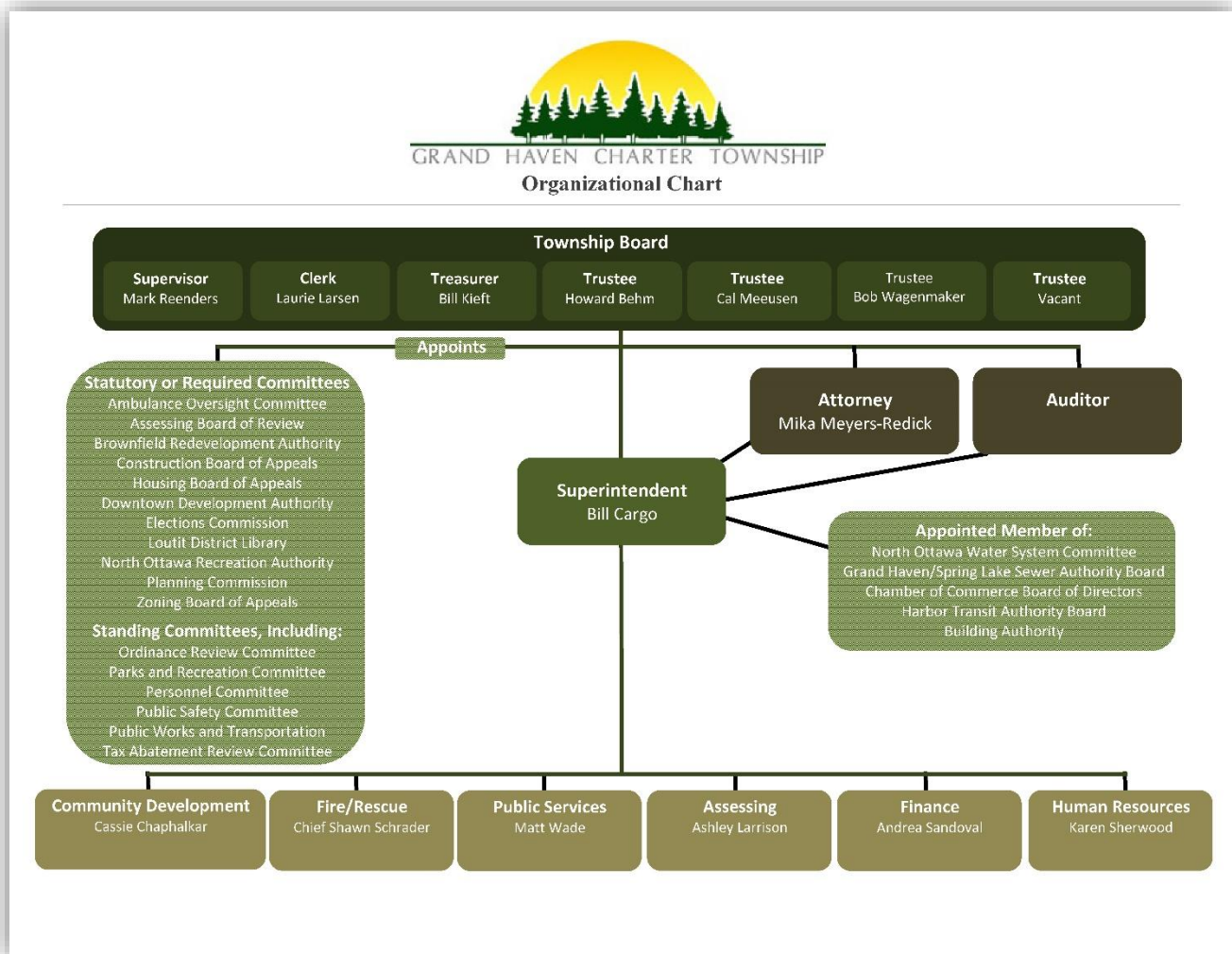
Township Staff and Organization

Administration of the Township's operations is the responsibility of the Township Superintendent. The Superintendent is contracted as an employee by the Township Board. The Superintendent implements the board's legislative policies through the day-to-day operations. The Township has sixty-one staff persons involved in the day-to-day operations including the Township public services, parks, finances, building and zoning, as well as public safety.

The care of the parks is by one full-time employee assigned to the maintenance of the parks who is assisted by four part-time employees. The Public Services Department provides additional assistance for year-round maintenance such as mowing, repairs to facilities, and cleaning. Public Services are also responsible for overseeing the development of capital improvement projects. The Public Services Director serves as a staff person to the Park and Recreation Committee. The Ottawa County Sheriff and the Township Fire/Rescue Department provide security for the parks. The non-motorized pathway system, considered separate from the parks system, has one full-time staff person assigned to the care and maintenance of the 30 miles of pathways.

Township Organization Chart

An organization chart depicting the functions and lines of authority is shown below.



Parks and Recreation Funding

Funding for the care and development of the parks is located via the General Fund. In the 2025 Fiscal Year, the projected annual expenditures for parks are \$735,040. Expenses against these funds are projected at \$241,040 for full-time and seasonal employees and administration. \$61,000 is the Township's contribution to the Northwest Ottawa Recreation Authority Program.

The development phase of the Township's Non-Motorized Pathway System was funded by an initial ten-year 0.90 mil levy, which was approved by the voters in 1990. The second phase was approved by Township voters in 1998, when the Township proposed a \$1,732,000 general obligation unlimited tax bond. The second debt rate expired in 2008. Construction was completed based on the initial bond sales. In 2016 voters approved a millage in the amount of 0.45 mils, for a total bond amount of \$4,500,000. Construction of the additional ten miles of pathway was completed in 2019. The new millage of 0.42 for the Pathway System is to be levied in late 2024.

Northwest Ottawa Recreation Authority (NORA)

The Grand Haven Charter Township is a member of the Northwest Ottawa Recreation Authority (NORA), an authority that provides recreational programming for the member communities included within the Grand Haven Area Public Schools boundaries including the City of Ferrysburg, City of Grand Haven, Grand Haven Township, and Robinson Township, and Port Sheldon Township. The Grand Haven Area Public Schools is also a supporting entity through the use of school facilities and oversight of the NORA staff and funds. Funding for the Authority is provided by member communities, revenues generated from the programs, and various grants and sponsorships. Member agencies also provide park athletic facilities for use by the NORA programs, as well as other local non-profits.

Local Non-profits & Volunteers

Local Non-profit organizations providing recreational programming are included in the Recreation Inventory Section of the Plan as they encompass the entire community.

Spring Lake Township Administrative Structure

Township Board and Administrative Structure

Spring Lake Township is a General Law Township incorporated in 1849 that is led by a seven-member elected Board of Trustees comprised of a supervisor, clerk, treasurer, and four trustees elected at large. Each of the officials is elected to four-year terms. The role of the Board is to develop legislative policies which include the adoption of all planning documents and the establishment of the yearly fiscal budget. The Board employs a Township Manager that serves as liaison between the Township staff and Board. In regard to Parks and Recreation, the Township Board approves all park planning documents, policies and financial budgets as well as capital development.

Parks and Recreation Committee

The Parks and Recreation Committee is comprised of seven volunteer members of the community appointed by the Township Board who serve in an advisory role. The Committee is assisted by the Township Community Development Director and Parks Department. The Parks and Recreation Committee provides input to the Township Board and staff regarding planning and development for the parks and community policies.

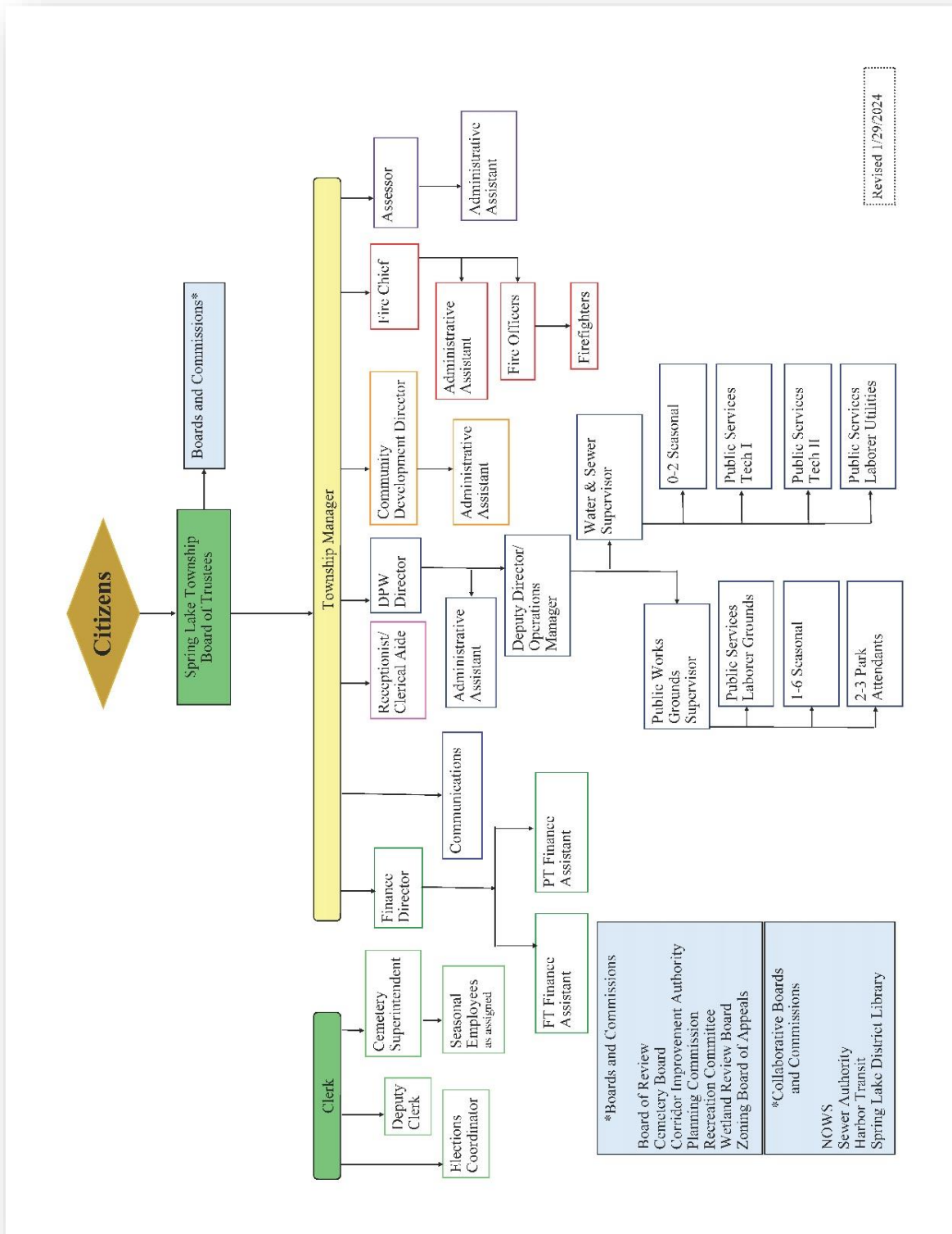
Township Staff for Park Operation

The care and operation of the parks are under the care of the Department of Public Works, which includes full-time Grounds Maintenance staff as well as seasonal assistance which are dedicated to the care of the parks. The Township has six full-time parks and recreation staff and three part-time/seasonal staff.

Organization Chart

An organization chart of the Township staff appears on the following page.

Organization Chart



Revised 1/29/2024

General Fund Recreation Budget

The Spring Lake Township Recreation budget is funded through the General Fund of the Township. The budget for the fiscal year 2024-2025 for the Township General Fund includes \$651,800 for Parks and Recreation, with \$120,400 earmarked for operations and maintenance. Funding for capital improvements for several parks' accounts for \$223,000 of the noted total budget for this budget period.

Bicycle Path Millage

The first bike path millage was passed in the 1980's by the Spring Lake Township residents, followed by a second and third millage in 2004 and 2014. 2024 saw the Bicycle Path Renewal Millage passed for a fourth time for another 10 years until 2034. These funds have been used to create over 26 miles of bike paths throughout the Township over the last 15 to 20 years. The bike path millage is currently used to pay back bonds at a rate of approximately \$367,000 per year. A second Millage for the Bicycle millage at 0.50 mills was also passed in 2024. This millage will also extend for 10 years and will provide funding for the planning and construction of additional biking and walking paths.

Spring Lake Area Recreation Commission

The Greater Spring Lake Area Recreation Commission was established in cooperation with the contributing entities listed below. When established the entities felt it was in the best interest of their citizens to establish the commission to plan, promote, coordinate, and operate programs of indoor and outdoor public recreation. Over the many years the Commission has been able to offer these programs at low cost to the citizens. The Commission offers a variety of programs, including many sports camps, swim lessons, computer classes, theater programs as well as new and varied programs. This fund also provides funding for summer employees at Rycenga Park to ensure compliance with park rules and assist with organizing shelter rentals. Funding is provided by contributions from Crockery Township, Spring Lake Public Schools, and Spring Lake Township, as well as user fees, and donations.

Village of Spring Lake Administrative Structure

Administrative Structure and Village Council

The Village of Spring Lake is a duly incorporated municipal subdivision of the State of Michigan with operations of the Village controlled by State enabling legislation and the Village Charter. The Village Council is comprised of six councilmembers elected at-large to four-year terms, and a Village President who serves a two-year term. The Village Council oversees the development of the Village budget, including that of the parks for operation and maintenance, capital development, acquisition, acceptance of grants, and programming. The Village Council retains the Village Manager to oversee the day-to-day operation of the Village.

Village Parks and Recreation Board

The Village Parks and Recreation Board was instituted by Village Council resolution on January 16, 1979, to assist the Village Manager with the planning, development, and operation of park and recreation facilities and programs. The Parks and Recreation Board is comprised of seven members appointed by the Village Council for two-year terms. The Committee serves in an advisory capacity to the Village Manager and Village Council.

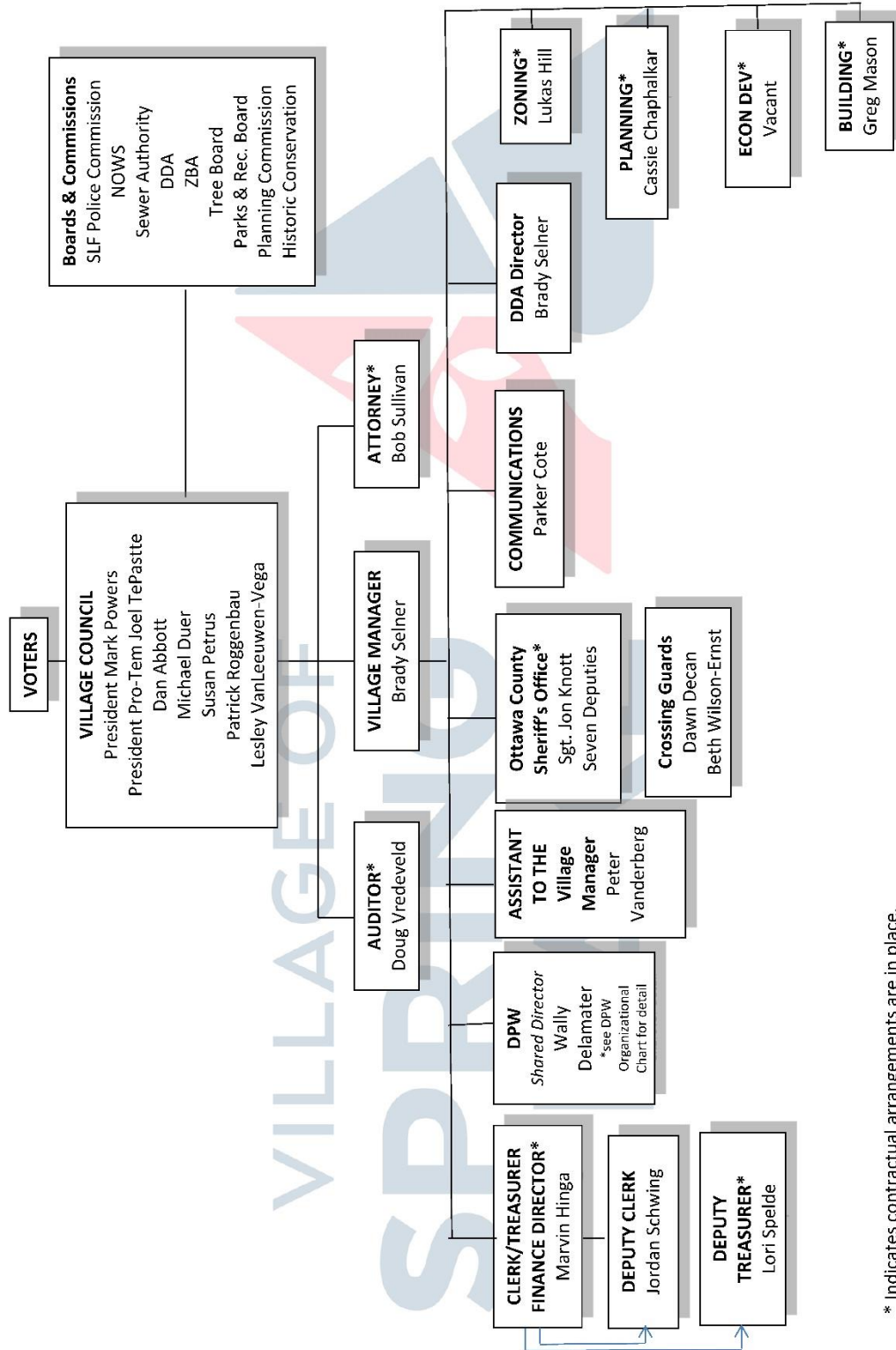
Village Staff

In March 2019, the Village merged their Department of Public Works with Spring Lake Township Department of Public Works. The two communities now share a DPW Director and staff, who oversee the operation of the parks within both jurisdictions. Thus, there are eight full-time staff along with 4 part-time seasonal staff members dedicated to parks operations and maintenance. Security within the parks is provided by the Ottawa County Sheriff's Office.

Organization Chart

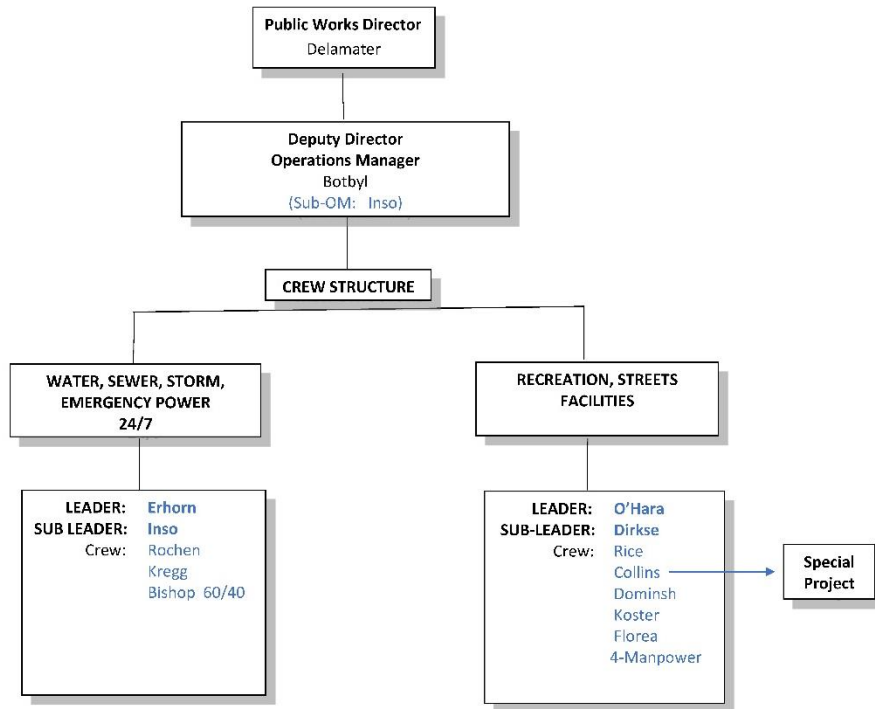
An organization chart appears on the following page which provides information regarding administrative roles and responsibilities within the Village.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



* Indicates contractual arrangements are in place.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART – DPW 2024



Funding

Funding for parks is provided through the Village’s General Fund. For 2024-2025, \$211,648 is budgeted for parks maintenance/operation and forestry. In addition, the Village has a 2024-2025 Pathways budget of \$87,000 for maintenance of pathways and sidewalks in the Village. The Pathways Fund receives much (\$47,000) of its funding from the Spring Lake Township Pathways millage with the balance of \$40,000 coming from a transfer from the General Fund.

The Village does not provide any recreational programs. Capital upgrades to parks have been funded by grants, private donations, and contributions from the Spring Lake Downtown Development Authority (DDA) for parks located within the DDA.

Relationship with Spring Lake Recreation Authority (SLARA)

In 2014, Council elected to discontinue funding of SLARA. As residents of Spring Lake Township, the elected officials felt that funding from Spring Lake Township General Fund covered the entire township including the Village.

Local Non-profits & Volunteers

Local non-profit organizations providing recreational programming are included in the Recreation Inventory Section of the Plan as they encompass the entire community.

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Recreation Inventory

The Recreation Inventory section of the plan documents the existing recreational resources available within the Grand Region Consolidated Plan Area, as well as neighboring areas. This section includes descriptions of the facilities within the five municipalities and neighboring public facilities. A review of the parks in consideration of the Americans with Disabilities Act is included for each park within the Plan Area.

Consolidated Plan Area Parks

The Consolidated Plan area includes 58 parks of the participating agencies covering approximately 1,445 acres of parkland. The name and location of each of the parks is shown on the Park Location Map and Park Facilities Chart on the following pages. Descriptions and additional information for each of the parks is provided on individual park inventory sheets.

Public Recreation Lands and Facilities

The Recreation Inventory focuses on public recreation facilities. Public recreation facilities are defined as recreational facilities which are owned by governmental agencies such as the local cities, village, townships, Ottawa County, and the State of Michigan. These facilities have rules and regulations regarding public usage which are established by the unit which owns the facility.

Public School Lands and Facilities

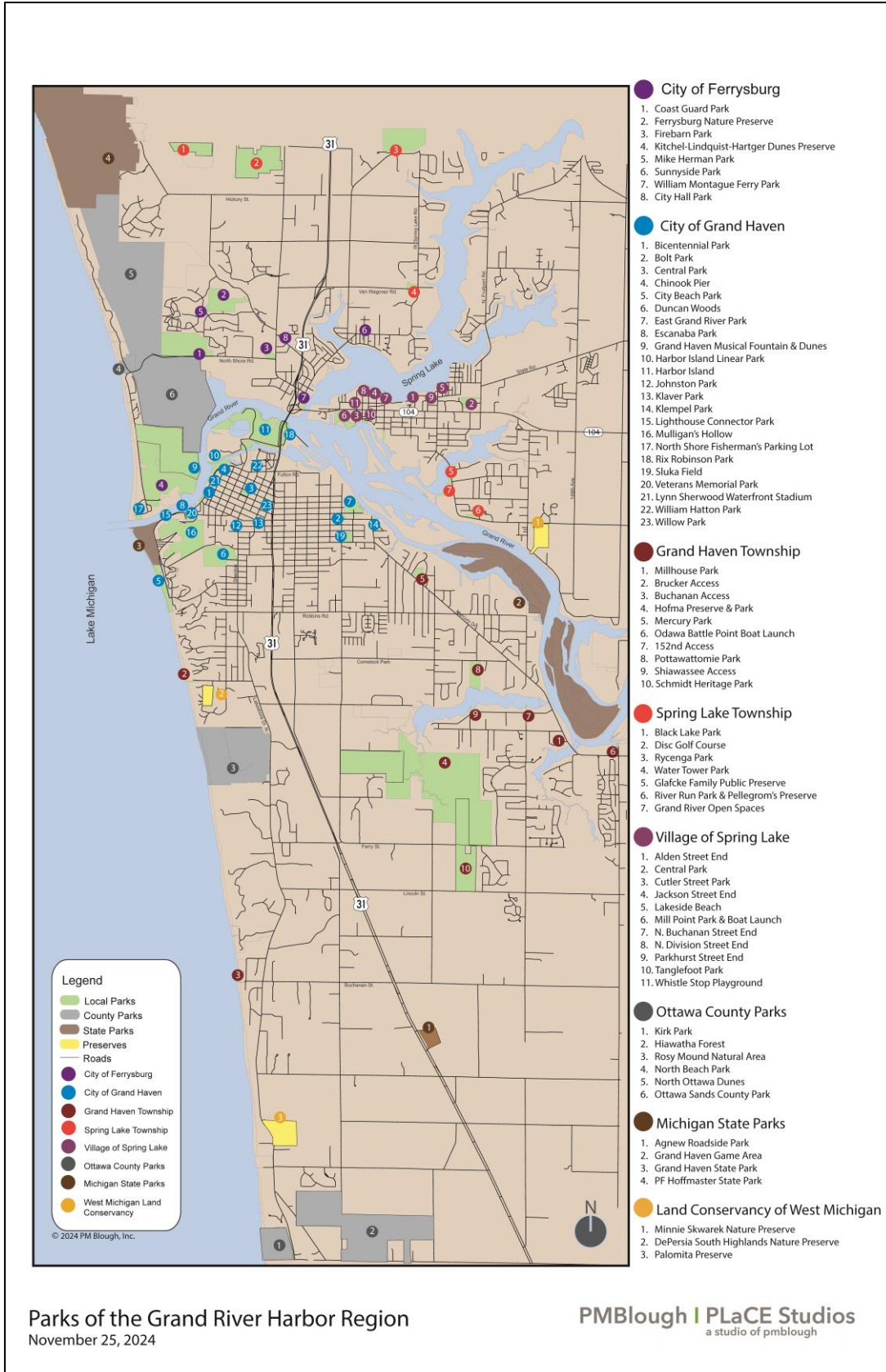
The public-school facilities owned by the Grand Haven Area Public Schools and Spring Lake Public Schools are sometimes available for public recreation use on a limited basis. The primary use of these facilities is for education and athletics sponsored by the schools. The districts maintain full control and scheduling of these facilities. Private and religious based schools are not considered public schools although they may choose from time to time to offer facilities on a limited basis.

Non-Profit Lands and Facilities

Lands owned or under the control of non-profit organizations such as Boy Scouts, land conservancies and preserves, church camps, religious organizations, gun clubs, and other non-profits, who may choose to offer lands and/or facilities for public use or may choose to limit use to their own membership. These lands often provide for undeveloped green space within the community, but use is subject to the permission and rules of the organization.

Private For-Profit Recreation Facilities

Private for-profit recreation facilities are privately owned facilities that charge a fee for usage. Examples of these might be golf courses, campgrounds, bowling alleys, etc. These have not been inventoried within this document.



Grand Region Park Facilities Chart

Park Facilities Chart											November 25, 2024	
Community	Park Name	acreage	Restrooms	Playground	Picnic Pavilion	Ballfield	Soccer Field	Pickleball Courts	Dog Park	Trailhead	Water Access	Additional Opportunities
City of Ferrysburg	City Hall Park	7.25		1								Community Garden
City of Ferrysburg	Coast Guard Park	80	1	1	1	1	2	4	1	1		Tennis Courts/Volleyball
City of Ferrysburg	Ferrysburg Nature Preserve	40										Nature Trails
City of Ferrysburg	Firebarn Park	5	1	1							1	Bike Path/Tennis/Basketball
City of Ferrysburg	Kitchel-Lindquist-Hartger Dunes Preserve	112			1						1	Trails/Outdoor Classroom
City of Ferrysburg	Mike Herman Park	1.75	1			1						Tennis/Basketball
City of Ferrysburg	Sunnyside Park	0.5	1	1								
City of Ferrysburg	William Montague Ferry Park	1.8	1	1	1							Spring Lake Waterfront Walkway
Total Acreage		248										
City of Grand Haven	Bicentennial (Riverview) Park	3.2	1								Grand River	Art/Shops/Restaurants/River Viewing
City of Grand Haven	Bolt Park	0.95										Stone Memorial/East Town Market
City of Grand Haven	Central Park	2.4										Downtown Historic Fountain/Memorials
City of Grand Haven	Chinook Pier	7	1	1							Grand River	Shops/Mini Golf/Commercial Dock/Train
City of Grand Haven	City Beach Park	19.6	1								Lake Michigan	Beach/Dog Beach/ADA Beach Access
City of Grand Haven	Duncan Woods	37.8								1		Paved and Nature Trails
City of Grand Haven	East Grand River Park	5.5	1	1	1	1	1	1			Grand River	Boat Launch/Basketball/Dock
City of Grand Haven	Escanaba Park	0.92										Coast Guard Interpretive Exhibits and Memorials
City of Grand Haven	North Shore Dunes, Dewey Hill & Musical Fountain	142									Grand River	Lighting Systems/Fountain
City of Grand Haven	Harbor Island Linear Park	5.5			1						Grand River	Paved Pathway/Boardwalk/Fishing Decks
City of Grand Haven	Harbor Island	23	1								Grand River	Boat Launch/Open Field/Fishing Docks
City of Grand Haven	Johnston Park	0.11										Green Space
City of Grand Haven	Klaver Park	0.23										Green Space
City of Grand Haven	Klempel Park	0.17										Green Space
City of Grand Haven	Lighthouse Connector Park	4	1								Grand River	Art/Boardwalk/Shops/Restrooms at State Park
City of Grand Haven	Mulligan's Hollow	80.5	1	1	1	1	1	6				Skate Park/Ski Hill/Basketball/Lodge/Ice Rink
City of Grand Haven	N. Shore Fisherman's Parking Lot	1.7	1								Grand River & Lake Michigan	Northshore Pier
City of Grand Haven	Rix Robinson Park	5.5							1		Grand River	Paved Pathway/Foot Bridge
City of Grand Haven	Sluka Field	5.5	1	1		1	1					Ice Rink (Winter)
City of Grand Haven	Veterans Memorial Park	1.14										Eternal Flame Memorial
City of Grand Haven	Waterfront Stadium	0.53									Grand River	Events and Riverfront Seating
City of Grand Haven	William Hatton Park	0.88		1	1							Pavilion
City of Grand Haven	Willow Park	0.022										Green Space
Total Acreage		348										
Grand Haven Township	Brucker Access	0.5									Lake Michigan	Limited Beach Access
Grand Haven Township	Buchanan Access	0.5									Lake Michigan	Limited Beach Access
Grand Haven Township	Hofma Park & Preserve	566	2	2	2	1	1				Bayou	Trails/Basketball/Boardwalk
Grand Haven Township	Mercury Park	7	1	1		1	1					
Grand Haven Township	Millhouse Park	0.5									Millhouse Bayou	Shady Picnic Tables/Bench
Grand Haven Township	Odawa Battle Point Park	2.5	1								Grand River	Boat Launch
Grand Haven Township	152nd Access	0.25									Bayou	Pathway
Grand Haven Township	Pottawattomie Park	21	1	2	3	1					Bayou	Volleyball/Beach/Canoe & Kayak/Fishing Pier
Grand Haven Township	Schmidt Heritage Park	73.8	1		2	2	6	12	1		Bayou	Public Viewing Access
Grand Haven Township	Shiawassee Access	0.25									Bayou	Public Viewing Access
Total Acreage		672.3										
Spring Lake Township	Black Lake Park	30	1								Black Lake	Canoe/Kayak Launch
Spring Lake Township	Disc Golf Course	40.24										18 Hole Disc Golf
Spring Lake Township	Glafcke Family Public Preserve	1.56										
Spring Lake Township	Grand River Open Spaces	10.5										River Edge Preservation
Spring Lake Township	River Run Park & Pellegrum's Preserve	2.67			1							Pathway/Views of Grand River
Spring Lake Township	Rycenga Park	80	1	1	4	2	2					Trails/Basketball/Volleyball
Spring Lake Township	Water Tower Park	5.33	1									2 Tennis Courts/Practice Field
Total Acreage		170										
Village of Spring Lake	Alden Street End	0.06									Spring Lake	
Village of Spring Lake	Central Park	8.4	1	2	2	2		6	1			
Village of Spring Lake	South Cutler Street Overlook	0.2									Grand River	Fishing/Viewing
Village of Spring Lake	Jackson Street End	0.06									Spring Lake	Fishing Deck
Village of Spring Lake	Lakeside Beach	1	1								Spring Lake	Beach/Deck
Village of Spring Lake	Mill Point Park & Boat Launch	4.5	1	1	1						Grand River	Floating Boat Docks/Boat Launch
Village of Spring Lake	N. Division Street End	0.08									Spring Lake	
Village of Spring Lake	N. Buchanan Street End	0.06									Spring Lake	Beach
Village of Spring Lake	Parkhurst Street End	0.2									Spring Lake	
Village of Spring Lake	Tanglefoot Park	1.4	1		1						Grand River	Splash Pad, Multi-use Pavilion with Catering Kitchen
Village of Spring Lake	Whistle Stop Playground	0.3		1	1							Lakeside Trail
Total Acreage		16.26										
Total Grand Region Acreage		1455										
Non-Motorized Pathways												
Non-Motorized Pathways	Grand Haven Township Pathways	36 mi										Grand Haven Township
Non-Motorized Pathways	Grand Haven Waterfront Trail	2.5mi										Grand Haven
Non-Motorized Pathways	Lakeshore Connector Path	20mi										Grand Haven to Holland
Non-Motorized Pathways	Spring Lake Lakeside Trail	25.9mi										Ferrysburg/Spring Lake/Fruitport
Non-Motorized Pathways	Linear Trail Park	16.9mi										Grand Haven
Non-Motorized Pathways	North Bank Trail	3.3mi										Spring Lake Township

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City of Ferrysburg Parks and Facilities

City Hall Park

City of Ferrysburg
17520 Ridge Avenue
7.25 Acres



Overview

City Hall Park is located adjacent to the City of Ferrysburg City Hall. Park facilities include a youth baseball field, community gardens, play area and shared parking with City Hall.

Amenities and Facilities

- Ballfield (1)
- Playground Equipment
- Picnic Tables
- Community Garden

ADA Accessibility

The facilities currently are not ADA accessible.

Coast Guard Park

City of Ferrysburg
18161 North Shore Road
80 Acres



Overview

Coast Guard Park is located on North Shore Road, one mile west of 174th Avenue. It is Ferrysburg's primary community park located on land which until 1973 was owned by the United States Coast Guard as a shooting range. The park also serves as a trail head for the North Ottawa Dunes Ottawa County Park. Coast Guard Park is a short ½ mile from the shores of Lake Michigan with access provided by the Idema Explorers Trail. Facilities include a balance of active sports, picnic facilities, and passive nature trails.

Amenities and Facilities

- Ballfield (1)
- Soccer Fields (2)
- Lighted Basketball Courts (2)
- Picnic Tables
- Lighted Pickleball Courts (4)
- Restrooms
- Lighted Sand Volleyball Courts (2)
- Play Area
- Lighted Tennis Courts (2)
- Dog Park
- Picnic Pavilion
- One-half mile of lighted paved trail

ADA Accessibility

Many of the facilities in the park are ADA accessible including the new North Ottawa Dunes County Park trailhead, picnic pavilion, parking, basketball and pickleball and tennis courts; while others were constructed prior to the current ADA codes require upgrades such as the restrooms and athletic fields. The Dog Park also requires additional upgrades to be accessible.

Ferrysburg Nature Preserve

City of Ferrysburg
Dogwood Dr.
40.18 Acres



Overview

The L-Shaped Preserve is bordered to the east by Dogwood Drive, to the south by Mohawk Drive, to the west by Hiawatha Drive, and to the north by the Spring Lake Township boundary. The park consists of 40.18 acres of undeveloped dune property. The site is a public accessible green-space preserve. Parking is available on Chief Street, at Ferrysburg Church, and near the trailhead at Mike Herman Park.

Amenities and Facilities

- Informal hiking trails

ADA Accessibility

There are currently no facilities at the Nature Preserve other than informal natural surface trails.

Fire Barn Park

City of Ferrysburg
North Shore Rd at 174th Ave
5 Acres



Overview

The park is located adjacent to the City's Fire Barn, at the corner of 174th Avenue and North Shore Drive and at the junction of the USBR-35 and the regional Idema Explorers Trail. In 2023, a new park master plan was completed providing a future vision and basis for redevelopment. The first phase will be completed in 2025 providing a new parking area and trailway connector behind the Fire Barn. The new development will provide a trailhead along the trails.

Amenities and Facilities

- Tennis Courts (2)
- Basketball Court
- Fire Station Themed Playscape
- Soccer/Ball Field
- Restrooms
- Drinking Fountain

ADA Accessibility

The 2025 project will expand opportunities with new ADA and Universal accessible parking and paved connector pathway. The project will also provide ADA and Universal accessible access to the restroom, playground and basketball courts. The new drinking fountain will be ADA accessible as well. The tennis courts are not currently accessible.

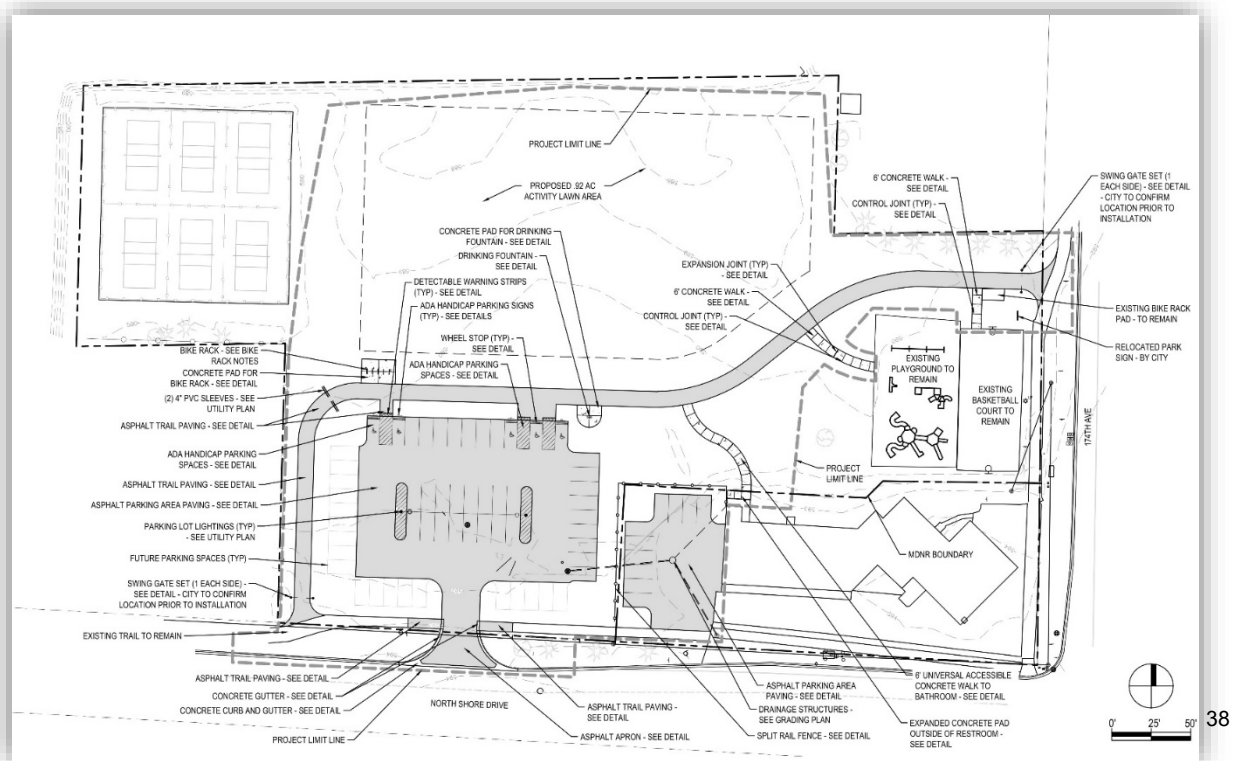
Fire Barn Park

City of Ferrysburg
North Shore Rd at 174th Ave
5 Acres

Fire Barn Park Master Plan

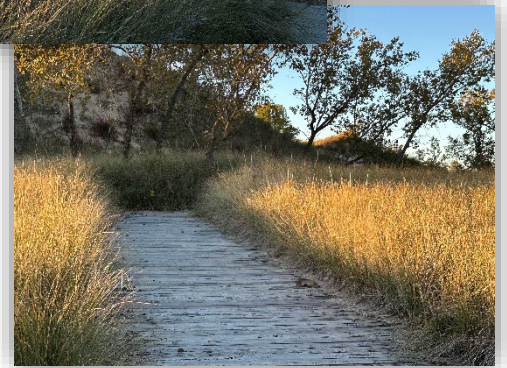


Fire Barn Park 2025 Project Site Plan



Kitchel-Lindquist-Hartger Dunes Preserve

City of Ferrysburg
20001 Berwyck Street
115 Acres



Overview

The Kitchel-Lindquist-Hartger Dunes Preserve is a natural dune area located just south of the City and East of North Shore Drive within the City of Grand Haven. The property is characterized by primary dunes undergoing active dune formation, secondary dunes covered with mature hardwoods, and interdunal areas of rolling sand. Restrictions in the deeds that conveyed the land to the City require tit to maintain the preserve in its current natural state as a natural, aesthetic and educational resource. Existing facilities include an entrance identification sign, a small, paved parking area, an outdoor classroom structure with restrooms and marked trails.

Amenities and Facilities

- Outdoor Classroom Structure
- Paved Parking Area
- Marked Trails
- Restrooms (Open for Special Events Only)

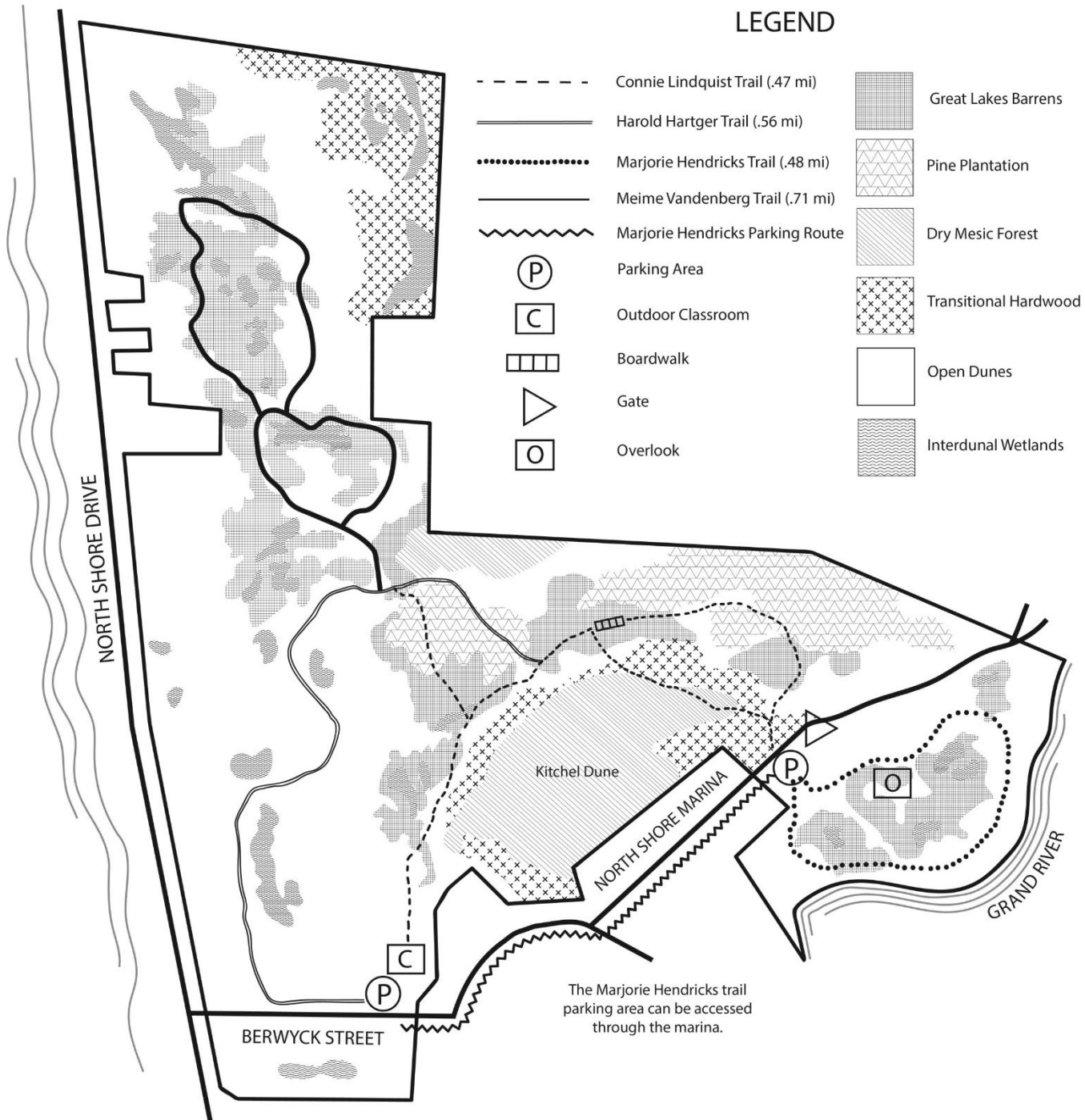
ADA Accessibility

The parking, restrooms, and outdoor classroom structure are accessible. The trails are natural dune and woodland surfaces and would not be considered accessible.

Kitchel-Lindquist-Hartger Dunes Preserve

City of Ferrysburg
20001 Berwyck Street
115 Acres

Trail Map



Mike Herman Park

City of Ferrysburg
17742 Hiawatha Drive
1.75 Acres



Overview

Tragically, in November 2005 a fifteen year old boy named Mike Herman perished in a car accident. Mike was a very active young man, who participated in many different sports, and spent many hours practicing at this field. In honor of Mike's life and passion for sports, the community came together to renovate the local field and neighborhood park. Ferrysburg Nature Preserve can be accessed through this park.

Amenities and Facilities

- Ballfield/Soccer Field
- Tennis Court/Basketball Hoops
- Informal Street Parking
- Portable Toilet

ADA Accessibility

The park is currently not accessible.

Sunnyside Park

City of Ferrysburg
17200 Valley City Avenue
0.5 Acres



Overview

Sunnyside Park is a pretty half-acre park located on the southwest corner of West Spring Lake Road and Valley City Avenue, in the east side of the city. Sunnyside Park is a small community park that provides the immediate neighborhood a park they can walk to, and where children can play safely. By being set adjacent to the bike path that runs along West Spring Lake Road, the park is accessible to residents that do not live in the immediate area and serves as a trail rest stop.

Amenities and Facilities

- Large Play Structure
- Swing Set
- Benches
- Picnic Table
- Restroom
- Parking (3 Spaces)

ADA Accessibility

ADA accessible parking is available. However, the park does not have accessible walks, picnic tables or benches. The play area has engineered mulch but lack an accessible walkway connection. The restroom is accessible from the bike path.

William Montague Ferry Park

City of Ferrysburg
110 Pine ST
1.8 Acres



Overview

William Montague Ferry Park is located on the Spring Lake waterfront in the City of Ferrysburg, north of the M-104 off-ramp. The park occupies a highly visible location at a major entryway to the City. Its importance also lies in its provision of public access to the waterfront. In 2024 a new sea wall and lakefront walkway were constructed. William Montague Ferry Park is conveniently connected to USBR-35 and the Pine Street/West Spring Lake Road Bike Path providing access to the Village of Spring Lake and City of Grand Haven.

Amenities and Facilities

- Restroom
- 400ft of Waterfront Walkway
- Picnic Shelter
- Picnic Tables
- Play Area
- Paved Parking Lot

ADA Accessibility

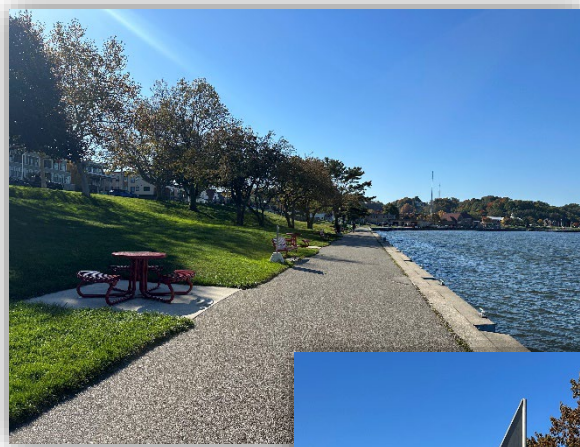
The Park includes accessible parking, picnic pavilion and tables, and lakefront walkway. Additional connecting walkways would improve accessible connectivity. The restrooms do not meet modern codes and require renovation to bring them up to code.

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City of Grand Haven Parks and Facilities

Bicentennial (Riverview) Park

City of Grand Haven
Harbor Avenue (Franklin St to Howard St)
3.2 Acre



Overview

Located along the Grand River Channel on Harbor Drive, Bicentennial Park is a linear linkage park along the Grand River waterfront. The park includes a riverfront walkway with benches, picnic tables, boat tie-offs, a retail/food vendor area with rooftop viewing deck and restroom, public art and linkages to curbside parking along Harbor Drive. The lawn area is a popular informal sitting and blanket picnic area.

Amenities and Facilities

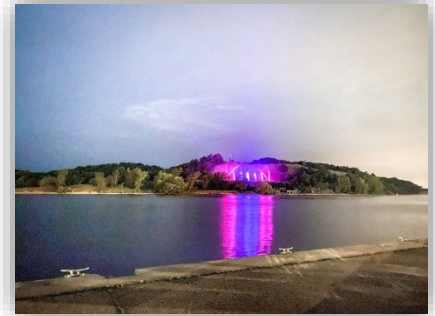
- Walkways
- Benches and Picnic Tables
- Food Shops
- Restrooms
- Art Sculptures
- Viewing Deck
- Connected to Grand Haven Waterfront Trail

ADA Accessibility

Most areas are accessible including the main riverfront walkway, seating, picnic tables and the public restrooms.

North Shore Dunes, Dewey Hill & Musical Fountain

City of Grand Haven
142 Acres



Overview

North Shore Dunes are 142 acres of natural dunes and forests with natural surface hiking trails. The dunes are connected to the Kitchel-Lindquist-Hartger Dunes Preserve and the Ottawa Sands County Park. Dewey Hill is 3.7 acres of natural sand dune ecosystem within the North Shore Dunes which includes the Musical Fountain. The lighted musical fountain performs nightly during the summer months each evening with prime viewing from the Riverfront Stadium and adjacent waterfront parks. The fountain works are not accessible to the public.

Amenities and Facilities

- Musical Fountain
- Flagpole
- Natural hiking trails

ADA Accessibility

Park land within the fountain area is utilized for staging and mechanics of the musical fountain and is not open to the public. Parking is not provided and natural trail surfaces are not accessible.

Duncan Woods

City of Grand Haven
Sheldon Road & Duncan Ct.
37.8 Acres



Overview

Located off Sheldon Road, Duncan Woods is a beautifully wooded nature preserve of white pine, beech, and hemlock trees. The park is enjoyed extensively throughout the year. A portion of the paved drive has been closed from car access which provides a primary walking area through the forested back dune. The park is popular year round.

Amenities and Facilities

- Paved Parking & Drive
- Paved Walking Trail
- Natural Surface Hiking Trails
- Scattered Picnic Tables
- Connected to trails in Mulligans Hollow

ADA Accessibility

The park is undeveloped other than the paved parking and drives, making ADA access limited. The portion of the paved roadway closed to vehicles, that is used by pedestrians and bicyclists, has slopes which exceed 5%. An ADA picnic table and parking are provided.

East Grand River Park – Flahive Boat Launch

City of Grand Haven
End Franklin St and Eastern Ave
5.5 Acres



Overview

East Grand River Park is located along the Grand River in the northeast area of the City. The park provides shoreline, wetland, and dock access to the Grand River.

The Flahive Boat Launch is located within East Grand River Park. The launch is very popular with residents and visitors alike. Flahive Boat Launch is one of only two public boat launches in the City and the only launch for smaller boats (20 feet or less) without paying a fee.

Amenities and Facilities

- Boat Launch
- Restrooms
- Picnic Shelter with Grill
- Lighted Parking
- Children's Play Area
- Picnic tables
- Benches
- Raised Wetland Walkway
- Floating Fishing Dock and River Observation
- Baseball field
- Basketball Court
- Small Soccer Field
- Fenced, Off-Leash Large & Small Dog Areas

ADA Accessibility

The park facilities which are accessible include the picnic shelter, play area, picnic tables and benches, wetland walkway, fishing dock, Dog Park and parking. The remaining facilities of the ball field, soccer field, basketball court and second play area are not accessible. The Flahive Boat Launch does not meet current ADA standards as it was constructed prior to the current codes.

Escanaba Park

City of Grand Haven
Harbor Avenue (within Lighthouse Connector Park)
0.92 Acres



Overview

Escanaba Park is incorporated within Lighthouse Connector Park on the Grand River Channel. It is a designated historic site and memorial to the men and women that have served in the U.S. Coast Guard. There are walks, interpretive exhibits, commemorative plaques and memorials.

Amenities and Facilities

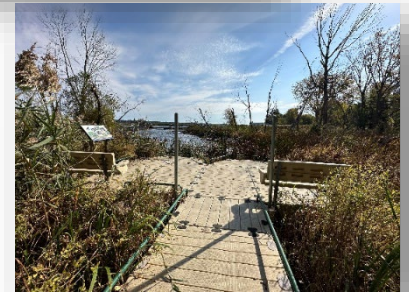
- Walks
- Historic Exhibits
- Connected to Grand Haven Waterfront Trail
- Drinking Fountain

ADA Accessibility

The plaza and exhibits are accessible. The ramped walkway from S. Harbor Dr. exceeds a 5% grade. Access along the channel from the south is accessible.

Flahive Boat Launch

City of Grand Haven
End Franklin St and Eastern Ave
0.5 Acres



Overview

The Flahive Boat Launch located within East Grand River Park is very popular with residents and visitors alike. East Grand River Park is located along the Grand River in the northeast area of the City. The park provides shoreline, wetland, and dock access to the Grand River. Flahive Boat Launch is one of only two public boat launches in the City and the only launch for smaller boats (20 feet or less) without paying a fee.

Amenities and Facilities

- Boat Launch
- Restrooms
- Picnic Shelter with Grill
- Lighted Parking
- Children's Play Area
- Picnic tables
- Benches
- Raised Wetland Walkway
- Floating Fishing Dock and River Observation
- Baseball field
- Basketball Court
- Small Soccer Field
- Fenced, Off-Leash Large & Small Dog Areas

ADA Accessibility

The park facilities which are accessible include the picnic shelter, play area, picnic tables and benches, wetland walkway, fishing dock, Dog Park and parking. The remaining facilities of the ballfield, soccer field, basketball court and second play area are not accessible. The Flahive Boat Launch does not meet current ADA standards as it was constructed prior to the current codes and standards.

Grand Haven Municipal Marina

City of Grand Haven
101 N. Harbor Dr.
2 Acres



Overview

The Municipal Marina is located on the Grand River in the heart of the City near Chinook Pier. Grand Haven is a favorite destination of sailors and power boaters who want access to and from Lake Michigan, the Grand River, and Spring Lake. This is the closest public marina to Lake Michigan on the Grand River.

Amenities and Facilities (Please refer to description of Chinook Pier for additional amenities)

- Water and electrical hookups for each dock
- Marina guest-only restrooms and showers
- Fish cleaning station
- Grills/picnic tables
- On-demand public transportation to shopping, laundry and marine supply stores within and beyond the City limits.

ADA Accessibility

The public spaces, docks, and restrooms are accessible.

Harbor Island

City of Grand Haven
Beacon Blvd/US-31 and Coho Dr.
23 Acres



Overview

Harbor Island is located along US-31 and Coho Drive near the Northwest edge of the City. Given its location along the Grand River and South Channel, along with the wide-open spaces, this 23 acre area provides many recreational opportunities. The north side of the island includes a boat launch and transfer dock facilities with access to Lake Michigan, the Grand River and Spring Lake. The wide-open spaces allow for community events, local organized football and soccer, as well as a multitude of other special events. A paved bicycle/pedestrian path loops from one end of the island to the other, while various bodies of water provide barrier free observation platforms for viewing the wildlife. Bird watching of migratory birds is also very popular in the park.

Amenities and Facilities

- Boat Launch with vehicle/trailer parking lot
- Boat transfer dock
- Open Field utilized for festivals and soccer/football
- Viewing and Fishing Docks
- Paved Bicycle/Pedestrian Path connected to Grand Haven Waterfront Trail
- Pond
- Grand River public access
- Restroom Building

Harbor Island

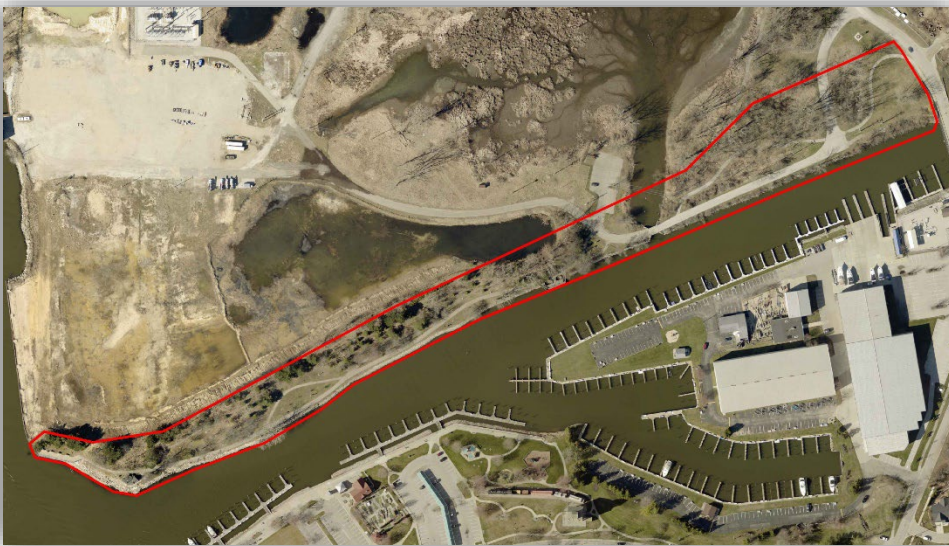
City of Grand Haven
Beacon Blvd/US-31 and Coho Dr.
23 Acres

ADA Accessibility

Facilities within the park are predominantly ADA accessible including the restroom building. Accessible access into boats is limited. Some of the facilities are not accessible due to the age of the facilities. The asphalt pathway is nearing the age requiring reconstruction which will improve overall accessibility.

Harbor Island Linear Park

City of Grand Haven
Franklin St & Third St.
5.5 Acres



Overview

Linear Park includes a paved pathway along the Grand River South Channel. Facilities include a trailhead with a paved parking lot, fishing decks, and a small picnic shelter. The park is located across the channel from the Grand Haven Municipal Marina. It is popular for walking, river viewing, fishing, and informal picnics. In 2023, the park became the focused location for several art sculpture installations along the riverfront.

Amenities and Facilities

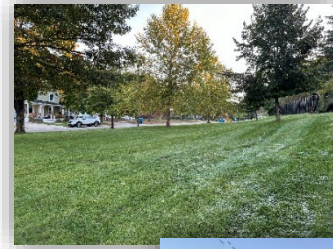
- Bike Path
- Picnic Shelter
- Benches
- Fishing Decks
- Connected to Grand Haven Waterfront Trail
- Art Sculptures

ADA Accessibility

The park was constructed prior to current ADA standards and many of the facilities have limited access.

Johnston Park

City of Grand Haven
Pennoyer Ave. & Sheldon Rd.
0.11 Acres



Overview

Johnston Park, located on the east and west sides of Sheldon Road, is an open green space for the surrounding neighborhood. It is popular for tossing a football or Frisbee and accommodates many users who view the annual Coast Guard Parade.

Amenities and Facilities

- Bench seating
- Lawn and Trees

ADA Accessibility

Adjacent public sidewalks are available to the public but are not ADA accessible.

Klaver Park

City of Grand Haven
Pennoyer Ave. & S. Seventh St.
0.23 Acres



Overview

Klaver Park is located at the corner of Pennoyer Avenue and South Seventh Street. It is considered a green lawn space for the neighborhood.

Amenities and Facilities

- Bench seating
- Lawn, trees and a flower bed

ADA Accessibility

Adjacent sidewalks are available which are ADA accessible.

Klempel Park

City of Grand Haven
Pennoyer Ave. & Grant St.
0.17 Acres



Overview

Located on the corner of Pennoyer Avenue and Grant Street, Klempel Park serves the surrounding neighborhood as a green space.

Amenities and Facilities

- Lawn and Tress

ADA Accessibility

No public facilities are provided within the green space.

Lighthouse Connector Park

City of Grand Haven
Harbor Avenue
1,700 L.F. (+/- 4.0 Acres)



Overview

Lighthouse Connector Park, 1,700 feet in length, is located along the Grand River between Harbor Drive and the channel, providing a connection between Bicentennial Park and the Lake Michigan South Pier. The primary function is a linear walkway which is active with a mix of walkers, joggers and bicyclists. Benches are popular for resting and channel views. A few parking spaces are located along Harbor Drive which all have views of the channel, making them popular year round.

Amenities and Facilities

- Lighted Walkways
- Ice Cream Shops
- Benches
- Art Sculpture
- Connected to Grand Haven Waterfront Trail

ADA Accessibility

The entire walkway is ADA accessible. Benches are user friendly with arms and backs, located on concrete and wood deck sections. Accessible parking is signed. Parking is located at the MDNR Fishermen's Parking Area adjacent to the campground and a few spaces along Harbor Drive with a ramp to the boardwalk.

Mulligan's Hollow Park

City of Grand Haven
Mulligan Drive
80.5 Acres



Overview

Mulligan's Hollow is a popular recreational area which includes the Tri-Cities YMCA. Winter facilities include the Mulligan's Hollow Ski Bowl with lodge, fire pit, two rope tows and an outdoor ice skating rink. Non-winter activities include an adult softball diamond, soccer field, an all-inclusive 10,000 square foot Imagination Station play space, two basketball courts, picnic area, two tennis courts, six pickle ball courts, in-ground skate park, and parking.

City Amenities and Facilities

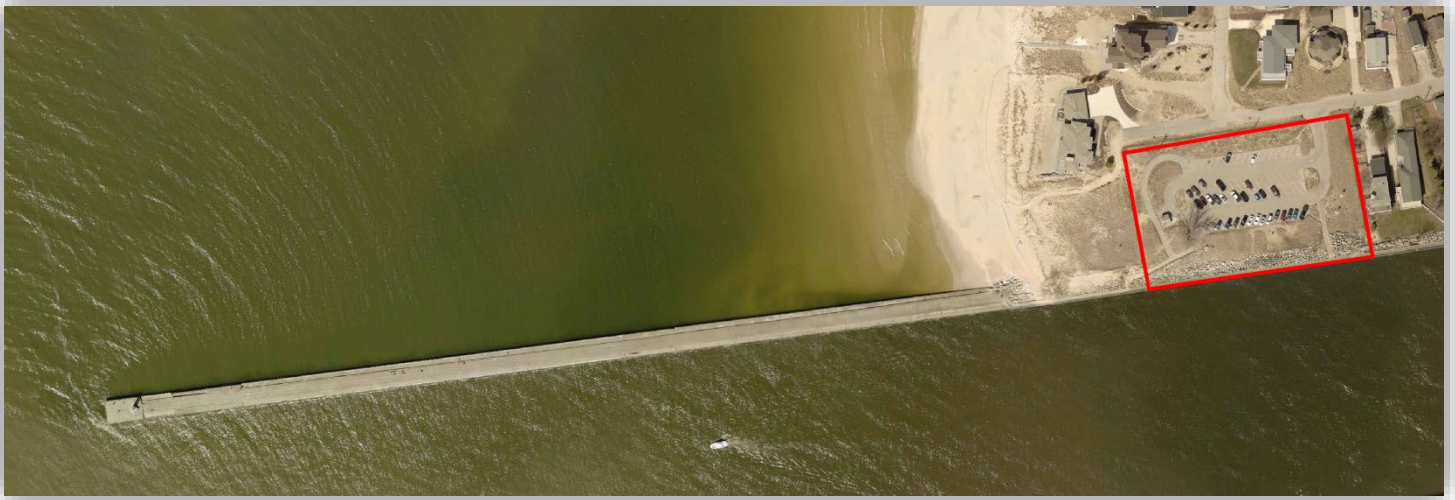
- Skate Park
- Ice Rink in Winter
- Softball Field
- Ski Hill with Tow Ropes
- Imagination Station Play Space
- Two Basketball Courts
- Lodge with Restrooms and Fire pit
- Off Leash Dog Area
- Tennis Courts/Pickleball Courts
- Trails connected to trails in Duncan Woods
- Picnic Area
- Grills
- Sitting Areas
- Pickle Ball Courts (6)
- Five Mile Hill Deck

ADA Accessibility

The lodge, fire pit, skate park, basketball, Imagination Station, tennis and pickleball courts, and parking are accessible. The hiking trails and off-leash dog areas are not accessible.

North Shore Fishermen's Parking Lot

City of Grand Haven
Main Street
1.7 Acres



Overview

Located at the end of Main Street off North Shore Road on the north side of the Grand River Channel, the North Shore Fishermen's Parking Lot provides paved parking for visitors to fish, bird watch or visit the north pier head.

Amenities and Facilities

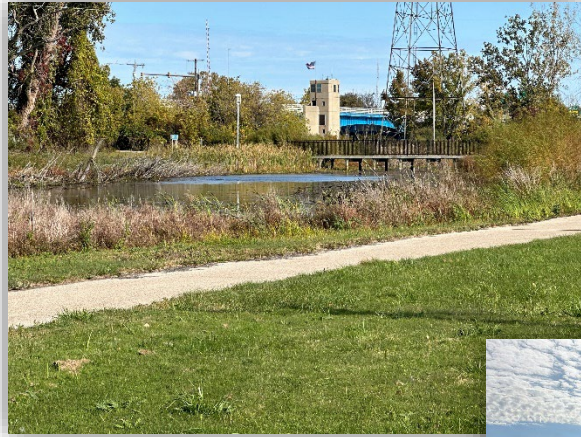
- Parking Area
- Vault Toilets
- Channel and Pier Walkway

ADA Accessibility

The parking lot is asphalt pavement and the pier is constructed of concrete surfaces. There are un-level surfaces and raised edges as the pier was not constructed for pedestrian use but it is allowed. Restroom facilities are accessible.

Rix Robinson Park

City of Grand Haven
Grand Isle Dr. & Harbor Island Dr.
5.5 Acres



Overview

Located along Harbor Island and Grand Isle Drive, Rix Robinson Park is a historic site. 5.5 acres in size, the park has a foot bridge, pond, and open lawn area. The Tri-Cities connector pathway traverses the park on the south side of the bascule bridge, linking pedestrian and bicycle traffic between Grand Haven, Spring Lake, and Ferrysburg as well as part of the national USBR-35.

Amenities and Facilities

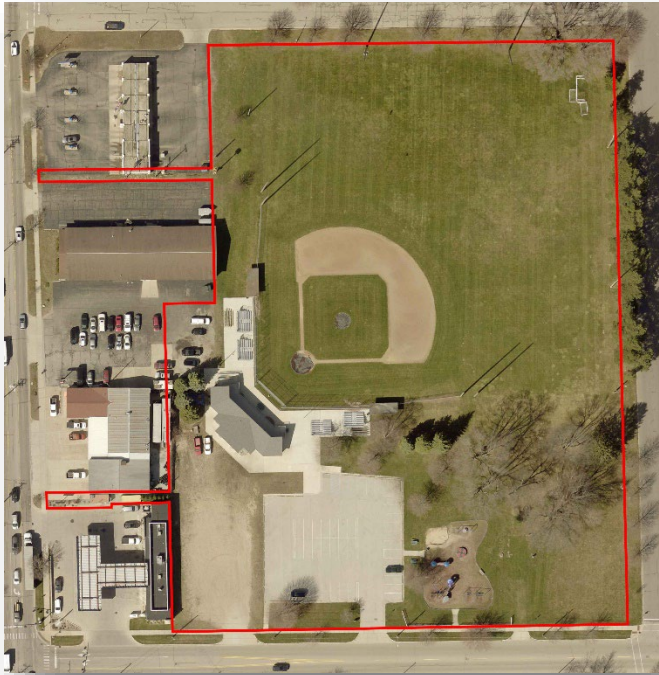
- Paved Bicycle/Pedestrian Path connected to the Grand Haven Waterfront Trail. Main connection point over the bascule bridge to connect to the 25.9 mile Lakeside Trail and Harbor Island.
- Lawn
- Pond

ADA Accessibility

The existing pathway and bridge are accessible. No other facilities are present.

Sluka Field

City of Grand Haven
Waverly Ave. & Beechtree St.
5.5 Acres



Overview

Sluka Field is a full size baseball facility, utilized by Tri-Cities Kids League and Young Buc's travel baseball programs. The outfield fence is temporarily installed in the spring for baseball and is removed each summer so the outfield area can be utilized by organized soccer as a full-sized soccer field. A neighborhood play area and green space is provided. A new bathroom, concession and storage facility was recently completed. In 2025, new dugouts and parking area improvements will be completed.

Amenities and Facilities

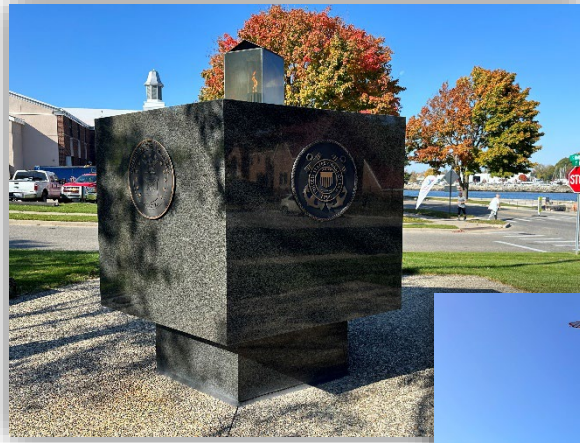
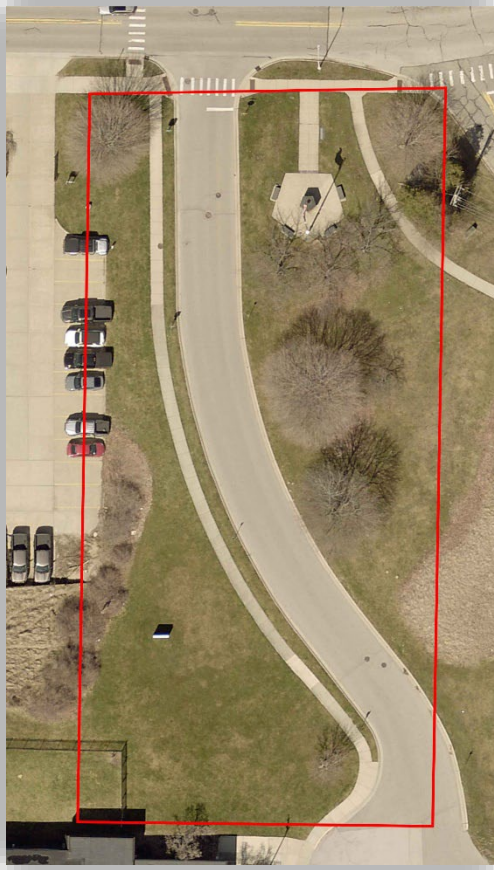
- High School Regulation Baseball Field with Grandstand, Restroom, and Concessions
- Soccer Field (Fall)
- Parking Area
- Play Area

ADA Accessibility

The new grandstand and restrooms constructed in 2023 are accessible with connecting walkways to accessible parking.

Veterans Memorial Plaza

City of Grand Haven
Harbor Dr.
1.14 Acres



Overview

Located along Harbor Drive with views of the Grand River channel, Veterans Memorial Plaza with an eternal flame, honors American Veterans of all wars and branches of service.

Amenities and Facilities

- Memorial
- Benches

ADA Accessibility

The memorial area is accessible.

Lynne Sherwood Waterfront Stadium

City of Grand Haven
Harbor Drive & Washington Ave.
0.53 Acres



Overview

Located on Harbor Drive in the downtown area, the Waterfront Stadium provides a riverfront performing arts venue and seated viewing of the Musical Fountain. This stadium is used daily throughout the summer for a wide range of Musical Fountain performances, concerts, shows, memorials, and other significant community events. Restrooms are available in the adjacent Depot building.

Amenities and Facilities

- Spectator Seating
- Waterfront Pathway
- Connected to Grand Haven Waterfront Trail
- Stage

ADA Accessibility

The performance area within the stadium is accessible.

William Hatton Park

City of Grand Haven
Jackson Street
0.88 Acres



Overview

William Hatton Park is a neighborhood green space which provides a small park and buffer between the railroad tracks and the neighborhood. The park is an attractive addition with a gazebo, play area and open lawn.

Amenities and Facilities

- Gazebo
- Benches
- Picnic Tables
- Play Area

ADA Accessibility

The park facilities were constructed prior to ADA requirements and are not accessible. This can be improved as the park is renovated.

Willow Park

City of Grand Haven
Franklin St & Seventh St.
0.022 Acres (967 Sq. Ft.)



Overview

Willow Park is a green space located at the corner of Franklin Street and Seventh Street.

Amenities and Facilities

- Lawn and Trees
- Bench

ADA Accessibility

The adjacent sidewalks are accessible.

Bolt Park

City of Grand Haven
Pennoyer Ave. and Beechtree St.
0.95 Acres



Overview

Bolt Park is a central park in the East Town of Grand Haven with large shade trees and flower beds. The park provides a much needed green space with the community. During the spring, summer, and fall the weekly East Town Market is held with local vendors selling produce and local goods.

Amenities and Facilities

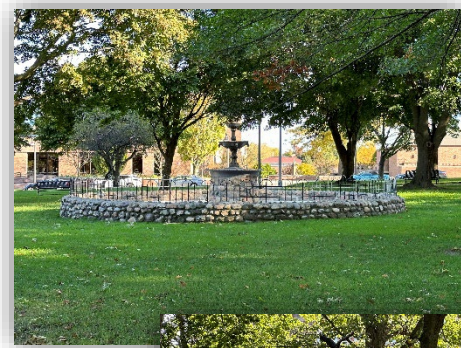
- Lawn and Trees
- Bench Seating
- Home to the East Town Market
- Parking

ADA Accessibility

The public parking and sidewalks are accessible. No other facilities are located within the public greenspace.

Central Park

City of Grand Haven
Washington Ave. & Fifth St.
2.4 Acres



Overview

Central Park is located on Washington Avenue in the center of the City providing a traditional downtown public green. Significant features include a central fountain and two memorials. As the central green, it is a focus for numerous events, including weekly summer music concerts, art fairs, and holiday events. Daily the park is enjoyed as a cool shady space to walk through and sit. The park is located adjacent to the Loutit District Library, Grand Haven Central Park Place, Ottawa County Courthouse, and U.S. Post Office. The park and fountain are also a popular location for weddings.

Amenities and Facilities

- Pathways
- Benches
- Historic Fountain
- Veterans Memorials

ADA Accessibility

The park is predominately ADA accessible.

Chinook Pier

City of Grand Haven
N. Harbor Avenue & First St.
7.0 Acre



Overview

Located along Harbor Avenue on the Grand River channel, Chinook Pier is approximately one acre in size. Within the park is a commercial fishing marina with a fish cleaning station and restrooms. An “old fashioned” miniature golf facility is operated by the City in the summer. The Chamber of Commerce manages the Farmer’s Market which is open Saturdays and Wednesdays, generally from May through November. Within the park the historic steam train Engine No. 1223 is on exhibit. A play area, splash pad, and picnic pavilion are also very popular.

Amenities and Facilities

- Public Restroom Building
- Farmers Market
- Miniature Golf
- Children’s Play Area
- Splash Pad
- Commercial Boat Marina with Charter Boats
- Fish Cleaning Station
- Historic Steam Train
- Connected to Grand Haven Waterfront Trail

ADA Accessibility

The main walkways, restrooms, Farmer’s Market, splash pad, and marina areas are generally ADA accessible. Some of the facilities which were built prior to the current ADA standards, such as the Fish Cleaning station and pavilion, are not accessible for all persons.

City Beach Park

City of Grand Haven
Harbor Drive south of State Park
19.6 Acres



Overview

Located along Harbor Drive south of Grand Haven State Park on Lake Michigan, City Beach Park is approximately 19.6 acres. This is a public beach along approximately 3,250 lineal feet of Lake Michigan shoreline. Leashed dogs are allowed on the City owned beach during allowed hours and locations. Dogs are not allowed north of the southernmost swim buoy during the summer for limited daytime hours. Many special events are held in the park, including sand castle building contests, kite events, pole vaulting, and beachfront weddings. The City Beach parking area is also a prime Lake access point for swimmers, surfers, kite surfers, paddle boards and kayaks.

Amenities and Facilities

- Sand Beach
- Buoy Marked Swim Area
- Parking
- Restroom and Concession Building
- Connected to Grand Haven Waterfront Trail via Grand Haven State Park
- ADA Beach Access Walkway
- Viewing Deck and Stairway
- Leashed Dogs in Established Areas
- Picnic Table

ADA Accessibility

Accessible parking, restrooms and concessions building, and picnic tables are provided. An accessible walkway within the sand beach is provided to within several feet of the water. Due to extensive sand, some activities are limited for those with disabilities.

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Grand Haven Charter Township Parks and Facilities

152nd Access & Shiawassee Access

Grand Haven Township
152nd Ave & Shiawassee Drive
0.25 Acres Each



Shiawassee Access



152nd Access

Overview

These access sites are located at the end of 152nd Avenue and Shiawassee Drive providing public access to Pottawattomie Bayou. Neither site has designated parking, although parking is allowed within the public right-of-ways along the streets. These two sites predominately serve the adjacent neighborhoods and persons utilizing the nearby Non-Motorized Pathway system. Both provide ADA accessible walkways, benches and bayou viewing.

Amenities and Facilities

- Pottawattomie Bayou Access

ADA Accessibility

Accessible walkways, benches, and bayou viewing.

Brucker St & Buchanan St Access

Grand Haven Township
Brucker St & Buchanan St
0.5 Acres Each

Buchanan St. Access



Brucker St. Access



Overview

These two small sites, of approximately one-half acre each are public right-of-way land areas at the end of Brucker and Buchanan Streets that extend into Lake Michigan. These road ends provide public access within the road right-of-ways to the sandy beach along Lake Michigan. These two sites predominately serve the adjacent neighborhoods and persons utilizing the nearby Non-Motorized Pathway along Lakeshore Drive and Buchanan Street.

Amenities and Facilities

- Lake Michigan Access

ADA Accessibility

Hofma Preserve and Park

Grand Haven Township
15581 Ferris Street (16295 Sleeper St)
566 Acres



Overview

Hofma Park and Hofma Preserve are located adjacent to each other on the Pottawattomie Bayou encompassing approximately 566 acres.

The Ferris Street entrance provides access and parking areas for the active sports area. A trailhead is located at the north end of the parking lot providing access to the Preserve. The second parking area and trailhead at Hofma Preserve are accessed via Sleeper Street. A new third entrance is located on 168th Avenue. All entrances have direct access to the Non-motorized Pathway System.

With its extensive size and quality of natural areas, the park serves a regional population and is not limited to Township residents. The Park and Preserve contain several miles of trails, including a boardwalk which traverses Pottawattomie Bayou and surrounding wetlands. The trail system allows visitors to enjoy a variety of wetland meadow and upland wooded ecosystems.

Hofma Preserve and Park

Grand Haven Township
15581 Ferris Street (16295 Sleeper St)
566 Acres

Amenities and Facilities

Hofma Park

- Soccer Field (used for league play)
- Adult Softball Field (used for league play)
- Picnic Tables & Benches
- Play Equipment
- Basketball Court
- Restrooms
- Nature Trails
- Picnic Pavilion

Hofma Preserve

- Picnic Tables
- Play Equipment
- Restrooms
- Nature Trails
- Boardwalk
- Picnic Pavilion

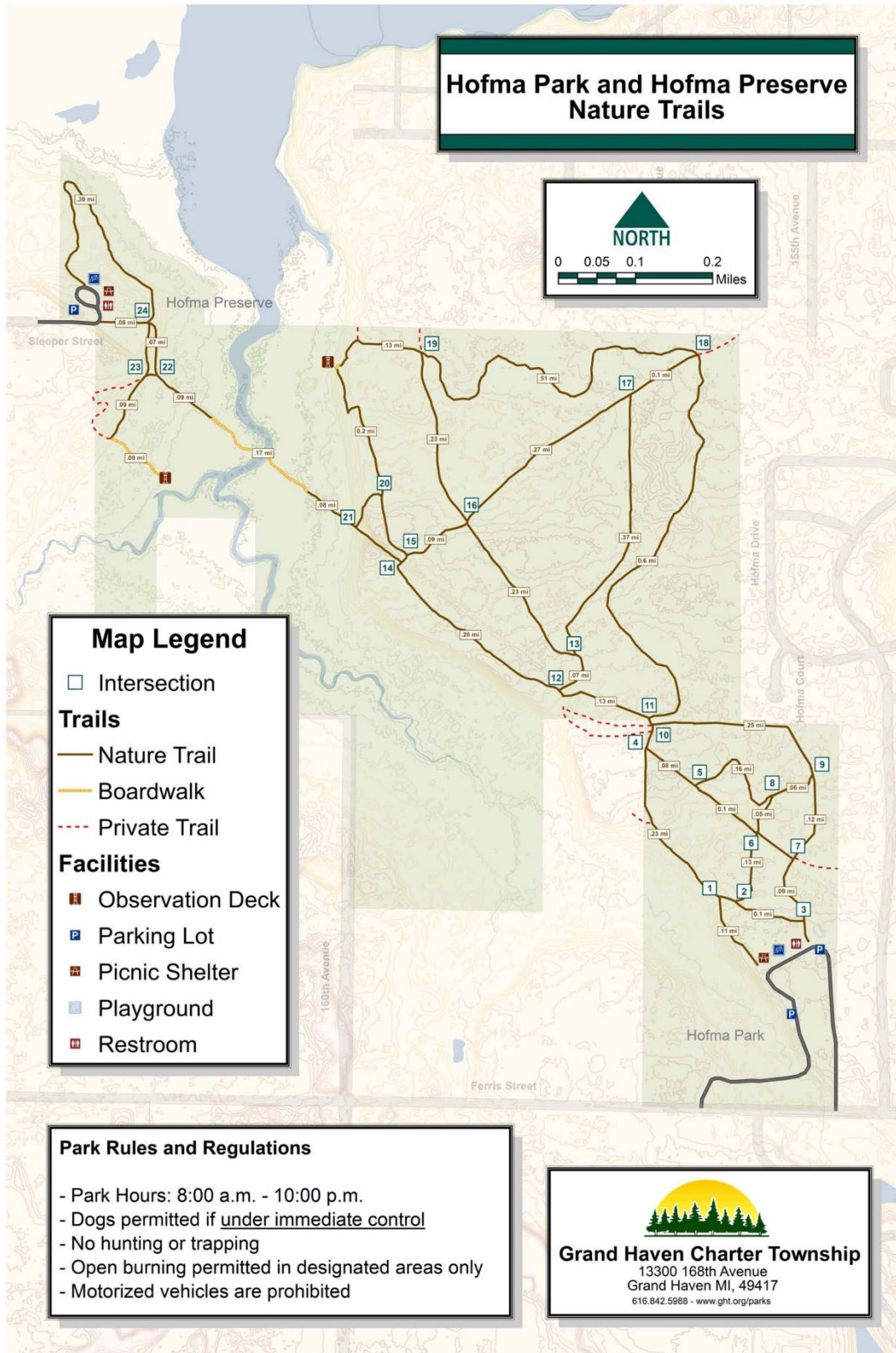
ADA Accessibility

The public parking, restrooms, picnic and play areas, and a section of nature trails in the Park are all accessible. The remaining trails are natural materials and not fully accessible for all persons. The ball diamonds and soccer field were constructed prior to ADA accessibility considerations and are not accessible for play but are accessible for most viewing options. The newest facilities located off from the 168th Avenue entrance provide a Universal Accessible parking area, trailhead, and paved trail.

Hofma Preserve and Park

Grand Haven Township
15581 Ferris Street (16295 Sleeper St)
566 Acres

Trail Map



Mercury Park

Grand Haven Township
16715 Mercury Drive
6.71 Acres



Overview

Mercury Park, nearly seven acres in size, is the oldest Township Park located on the northern edge of the Township adjacent to the City of Grand Haven. It serves the adjacent residential neighborhood and has a regional draw for the softball field. The park facilities include a softball field and multi-purpose grass field, both can be used for league and open play. The park also includes a restroom building, play equipment, picnic tables, and a parking area. The park has direct access to the Non-Motorized Pathway System.

Amenities and Facilities

- Multi-Purpose Grass Field
- Softball Field
- Playground
- Restrooms

ADA Accessibility

Most of the park's facilities are accessible including parking, walkways and seating area at the softball field, and restrooms. The play area surfacing is not accessible.

Millhouse Park

Grand Haven Township
Bignell Drive
0.5 Acres



Overview

Millhouse Park is a small one-half acre access park located on the Millhouse Bayou of the Grand River. Although small, the park provides public access to the bayou. As the park provides informal access to the bayou, its service area includes the entire Township and neighboring City of Grand Haven.

The access is undeveloped with informal pull-off parking from the street with room for three to four cars. The area of the park at street level is approximately 15' above Millhouse Bayou with a sloping bank to the water's edge. The park is currently utilized by ice fishermen in the winter and for passive viewing of the bayou. This access is 100 yards west of the Township's Non-Motorized Pathway System which is an accessible walkway.

Amenities and Facilities

- Undeveloped with Picnic Tables
- Millhouse Bayou Access
- Informal Parking

ADA Accessibility

The informal parking is not accessible.

Odawa/Battle Point Boat Launch

Grand Haven Township
14091 144th Avenue
2.5 Acres



Overview

This 2.5 acre park is located on the Grand River. The boat launch facilities include two launches, vehicle and trailer parking, and a restroom facility. The Grand River provides waterway access to Lake Michigan to the west, or towards Grand Rapids to the east. The launch is a very busy site and attracts boaters from throughout the West Michigan area. The launch site has direct access to the Non-Motorized Pathway System.

Amenities and Facilities

- Boat Launch
- Restroom

ADA Accessibility

Parking and restroom facilities are ADA accessible. The launch facilities do not meet the newest ADA boat launch design accessibility requirements.

Pottawattomie Park

Grand Haven Township
15600 Comstock Street
20.83 Acres



Overview

Pottawattomie Park is a 21 acre park located on the Pottawattomie Bayou of the Grand River. The park serves as a neighborhood and regional park. The park provides pavilion facilities for large gatherings, fishing, wading, kayak launching, and active recreation such as volleyball and soccer. The Non-Motorized Path was extended into the park from Comstock Street to link the park with the pathway network.

Amenities and Facilities

- Picnic Pavilions (3)
- Restrooms
- Boardwalk
- Fishing Pier
- Small Wading Beach
- All Purpose Field
- Interpretive Signage
- Maintenance Building
- Canoe & Kayak Launch
- Play Equipment
- Parking
- Sand Volleyball (2 Courts)
- Horseshoes
- Picnic Tables

ADA Accessibility

New renovations have significantly increased the ADA accessibility to the picnic and waterfront areas.

Schmidt Heritage Park

Grand Haven Township
15704 Ferris Street
73.8 Acres



Overview

In 2019, the Township received a donation of nearly 75 acres of land. This land is located directly south of the Hofma Park and Preserve. The Schmidt Heritage Park is named after the donor and must be dedicated to active recreation.

The first phase includes 12 pickleball courts, 1 baseball diamond, 1 softball diamond, 2 youth soccer fields, 2 multi-purpose fields, an 8-foot wide crushed limestone "JoJo Jogging Trail," a restroom facility, parking areas, and the main entrance to the new park.

Future phase of development includes 2 youth baseball diamonds, 2 softball/baseball diamonds, 1 basketball court, restrooms, pavilions, and eventually a historic barn for large gatherings such as weddings and family reunions.

Schmidt Heritage Park

Grand Haven Township
15704 Ferris Street
73.8 Acres

Amenities and Facilities

- Picnic Shelter
- Pickleball Courts (12)
- Soccer Fields (2)
- Baseball/Softball Fields (2)
- Multi-Purpose Fields (2)
- Restroom
- Trailhead
- Trails
- Boardwalk

ADA Accessibility

Facilities are universal accessible.

Spring Lake Township Parks and Facilities

Black Lake Park

Spring Lake Township
Wilson Rd
30 Acres



Overview

Black Lake Park is the newest park to the Township and is being developed in cooperation with the City of Norton Shores. Facilities include a gravel entrance drive and parking, canoe/kayak launch, and picnic table.

Amenities and Facilities

- Canoe/Kayak Launch
- Aggregate Parking Area
- Portable Toilet
- Picnic Table
- Benches

ADA Accessibility

The canoe/kayak launch is universal accessible. It is accessed by an aggregate surface parking area and concrete walkways. Benches and tables are currently not accessible. Portable Toilet is accessible.

Disc Golf Course

Spring Lake Township
Wilson Rd
40.2 Acres



Overview

Located at 925 Wilson Road, the site includes a small gravel parking area and an eighteen hole disc golf course.

Amenities and Facilities

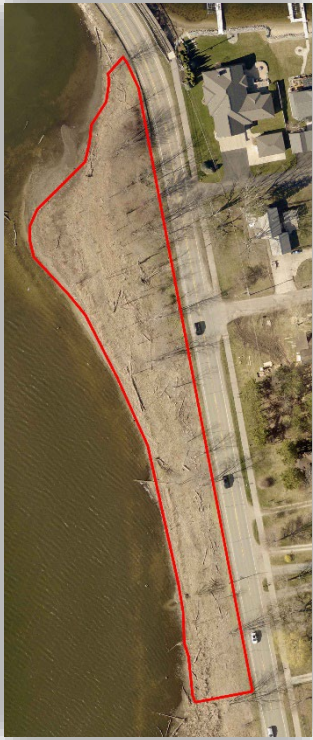
- Gravel Parking Area
- 18 Hole Disc Golf Course

ADA Accessibility

The parking and course are not ADA accessible.

Glafcke Family Public Preserve

Spring Lake Township
Van Wagoner Rd & W Spring Lake Rd
1.56 Acres



Overview

The Glafcke Family Public Preserve is located between Leonard Road and the Grand River riverfront. The park protects the natural edges of the riverbank and serves to protect the views of the Grand River. Parking is not available at this natural greenway.

Amenities and Facilities

- Preservation of views

ADA Accessibility

No current facilities.

Grand River Open Spaces

Spring Lake Township
Van Wagoner Rd & W Spring Lake Rd
10.5 Acres



Overview

Grand River Open Spaces are open green spaces for the preservation of the Grand River natural areas.

ADA Accessibility

No current facilities.

River Run Park & Pellegrom's Preserve

Spring Lake Township
Leonard Road
2.76 Acres



Overview

River Run Park is located on Leonard Road adjacent to the River Run Subdivision with Pellegrom's Preserve providing public viewing access to the Grand River. This park includes a section of the Leonard Road Bike Path that extends from the Village of Spring Lake to Jeffers Elementary School at the Township's eastern border.

Amenities and Facilities

- Pavilion with river views
- Non-motorized Pathway
- Demonstration Rain Garden

ADA Accessibility

The existing pathway and pavilion are ADA accessible.

Rycenga Park

Spring Lake Township
16401 Hemlock Drive
80 Acres



Overview

Rycenga Park is located within both Spring Lake Township and Fruitport Township along Hemlock Road. The park was developed by Spring Lake Township on 40 acres gifted to the Township by John Rycenga, with 40 acres leased to the Township by Fruitport Community Schools. Rycenga Park is the focus for active recreational activities for Township residents. A new Rycenga Park Draft Master Plan was developed in 2024 which when complete will guide future developments.

Amenities and Facilities

- 2 Baseball/Softball Diamonds
- 4 Picnic Shelters
- Nature Trails
 - 0.75 gravel nature trail with boardwalks
 - 1.25 mile woodchip nature pathways
- 4 Basketball Courts
- Play Area
- 2 Soccer Fields
- Parking and Restrooms
- 2 Sand Volleyball Courts

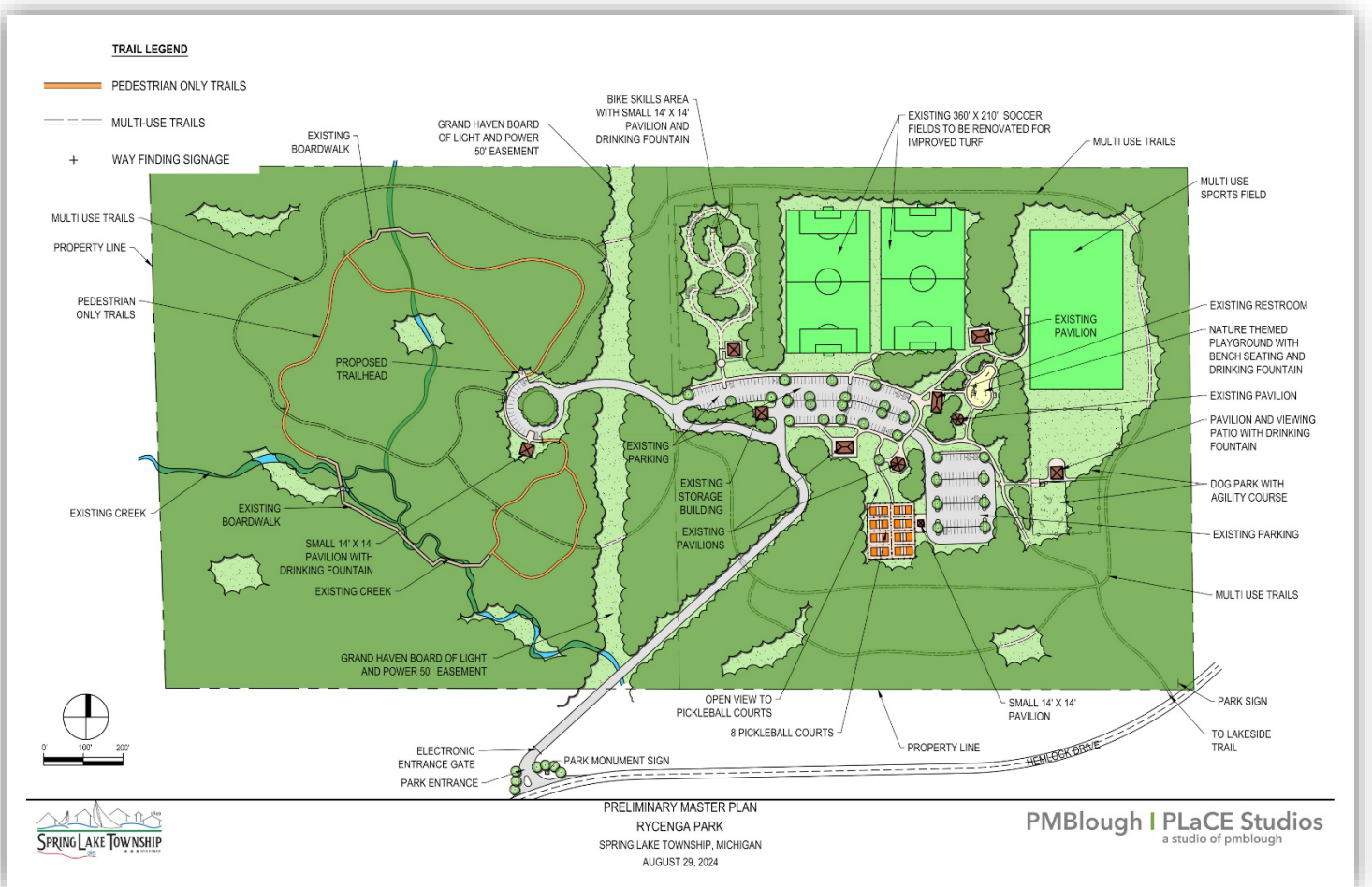
Rycenga Park

Spring Lake Township
16401 Hemlock Drive
80 Acres

ADA Accessibility

Most all of the park facilities are ADA accessible. Additional connecting walkways will improve circulation access to facilities. Nature trails are not accessible. The new 2024 Master Plan will, when adopted, expand accessibility as improvements are completed.

2024 Rycenga Park Draft Master Plan



Water Tower Park

Spring Lake Township
Van Wagoner Rd & W Spring Lake Rd
5.33 Acres



Overview

Water Tower Park is located at the intersection of Van Wagoner Road and West Spring Lake Road across West Spring Lake Road from the Lakeside Trail pathway to the east and new Township pathway parallel to Van Wagoner Road to the south. The park functions as a neighborhood green space including pick-up games of soccer and for exercising dogs.

In 2024 the first phase of redevelopment was completed based on a new park master plan. The first phase included a new entrance, parking area, access walkways, drinking fountain, picnic table, bench and portable toilet.

Amenities and Facilities

- Open Lawn/Practice Field
- Two Tennis Courts
- Paved Parking
- Picnic Table
- Drinking fountain
- Seating Area
- Portable Toilet

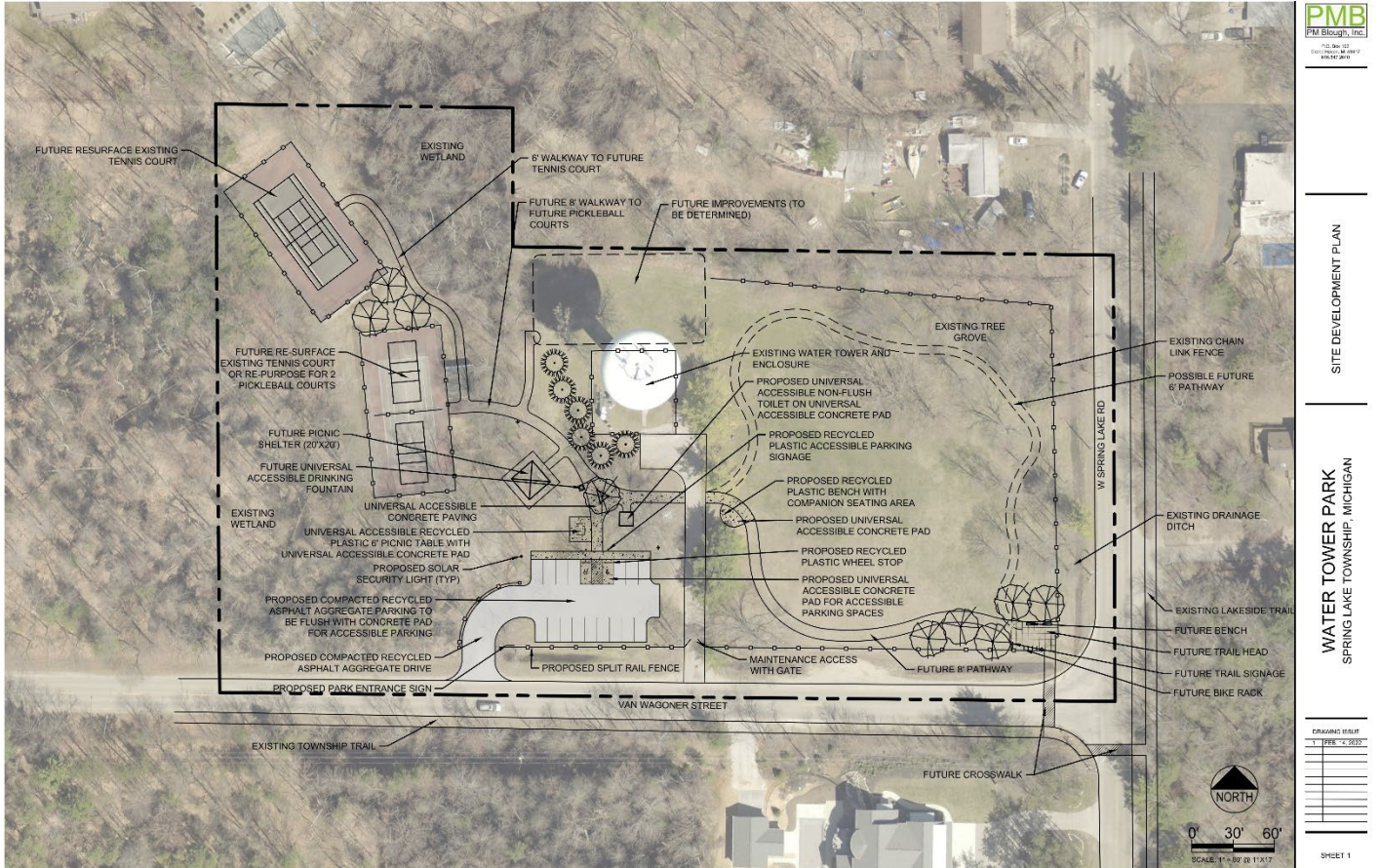
ADA Accessibility

With the completion of the first phase of improvements, all park facilities are universal accessible except the tennis courts.

Water Tower Park

Spring Lake Township
 Van Wagoner Rd & W Spring Lake Rd
 5.33 Acres

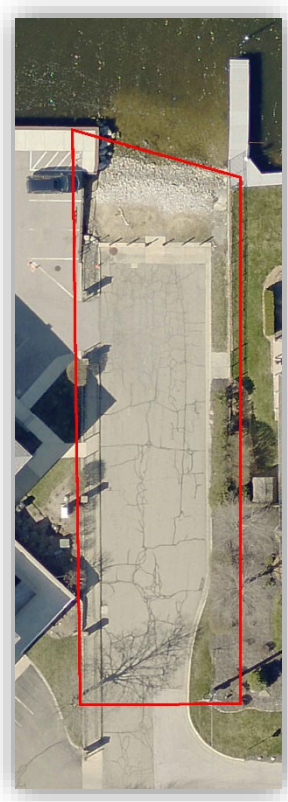
Master Plan



Village of Spring Lake Parks and Facilities

Alden Street End Park

Village of Spring Lake
End Alden Street
0.06 Acre



Overview

This street end located on Spring Lake provides public access to the lake edge. Bollard lights mark the street. Drop-in kayak launching is allowed.

Amenities and Facilities

- Lake Viewing
- Drop-in Kayak and Canoe Launching

ADA Accessibility

No facilities are provided.

Central Park

Village of Spring Lake
East of Fruitport Rd Via Central Ave, North of M-104
8.4 Acres



Overview

Central Park is the largest park within the Village of Spring Lake. The park is a focus for active recreation. Central Park has direct access on the south via Rotary Drive from M-104 and on the East of N. Fruitport Road via Central Avenue. It is also adjacent to and accessible by pedestrians and bicyclists from the Lakeside Trail Linear Park. A new master plan for redevelopment was complete in 2024.

Amenities and Facilities

- Picnic Tables
- Play Areas
- Restroom
- Shelter/Storage Building
- Large Shelter
- Pickleball (6)
- Adult and Youth Softball/Baseball Diamonds (2)
- Basketball Courts (2)
- Dog Park

ADA Accessibility

Central Park facilities have been constructed over several decades with many prior to the current ADA accessibility codes and standards. The park does have accessible parking, access to the pickleball and basketball courts, restroom building, and to the adjacent Lakeside Trail Linear Park. The play areas, ball diamonds, picnic tables, and other facilities are not considered ADA accessible. As the park is updated through renovations, these facilities will be updated and brought up to current codes.

Central Park

Village of Spring Lake
East of Fruitport Rd Via Central Ave, North of M-104
8.4 Acres

Central Park Master Plan

CENTRAL PARK MASTER PLANNING - PARK OVERVIEW



South Cutler Street Overlook

Village of Spring Lake
End S. Cutler St.
0.2 Acres



Overview

South Cutler Street right-of-way provides fishing access and viewing of the Grand River. This site is east of and contiguous with Mill Point Park with a pathway connecting to Tanglefoot Park. A paved access drive and parking area serve the site. An existing fishing and river observation deck provides excellent views of the Grand River. The parking area also has electric vehicle charging stations.

Amenities and Facilities

- Paved Parking Area
- Viewing Deck/Fishing

ADA Accessibility

Currently the facilities are not fully accessible.

North Jackson Street Dock

Village of Spring Lake
End Jackson Street
0.06 Acres



Overview

North Jackson Street Dock is a public street end. In 2024, this aging public access was redesigned and includes new sheet pile wall and decking. Construction is anticipated in early 2025. The new deck will provide picnic, fishing, and lake viewing opportunities.

Amenities and Facilities

- Viewing/Fishing Deck
- Picnic Tables
- Boat Tie-Ups

ADA Accessibility

The facilities were constructed to be ADA accessible in 2003. The new replacement deck will meet current 2025 ADA and Universal access standards.

Lakeside Beach

Village of Spring Lake
Corner of N. Lake St and Beach Drive
1 Acre



Overview

This public swimming beach, about one acre in size, is located at the northwest corner of Lake Street and Beach Avenue. This facility is the main public beach on Spring Lake. Sidewalks along Lake Street provide good pedestrian access to the park site. Parking at this location is provided along the adjacent street. The beach provides public swimming during the summer and fishing and viewing access the remainder of the year. Residents also access the beach during non-summer months for drop-in kayak access.

Amenities and Facilities

- Sand Beach
- Restrooms
- Picnic Tables
- Benches
- Deck overlooking Spring Lake

ADA Accessibility

The walkways, picnic tables, and overlook deck are ADA and Universal accessible. The restroom building is partially accessible. The swimming beach water access has not been made accessible, although the adjacent walkway and tables are.

Mill Point Park & Boat Launch

Village of Spring Lake
School St & Exchange St
13.5 Acres



Overview

This waterfront park contains 13.5 acres of land with Grand River frontage and wetland. The park is the site of the “Music at the Point” summer concert series, festivals, fireworks during the annual Spring Lake Heritage Festival, and the annual Spring Lake Wooden Boat Show. The boat launch has dual launch ramps with floating docks. Once the update is complete, parking will be available for 44 truck & trailer combinations, as well as 31 autos, 7 ADA accessible. Facilities include public restrooms, a boardwalk, and viewing/fishing decks. The Rotary Clubs Centennial Band Shell provides a performance venue. A nine-acre wetland preserve provides a nature walk and direct access to Savidge Street. In 2024 the boat launch and parking areas were redesigned with construction scheduled to be complete before the end of 2024. The improvements also include new lighting and security cameras.

Amenities and Facilities

- Restrooms and Venue Shelter
- Picnic Tables and Grills
- Benches
- Deck overlooking the Grand River
- Play Area
- Wetland Boardwalk
- Boat Launch and Small Marina
- Floating Boat Dock

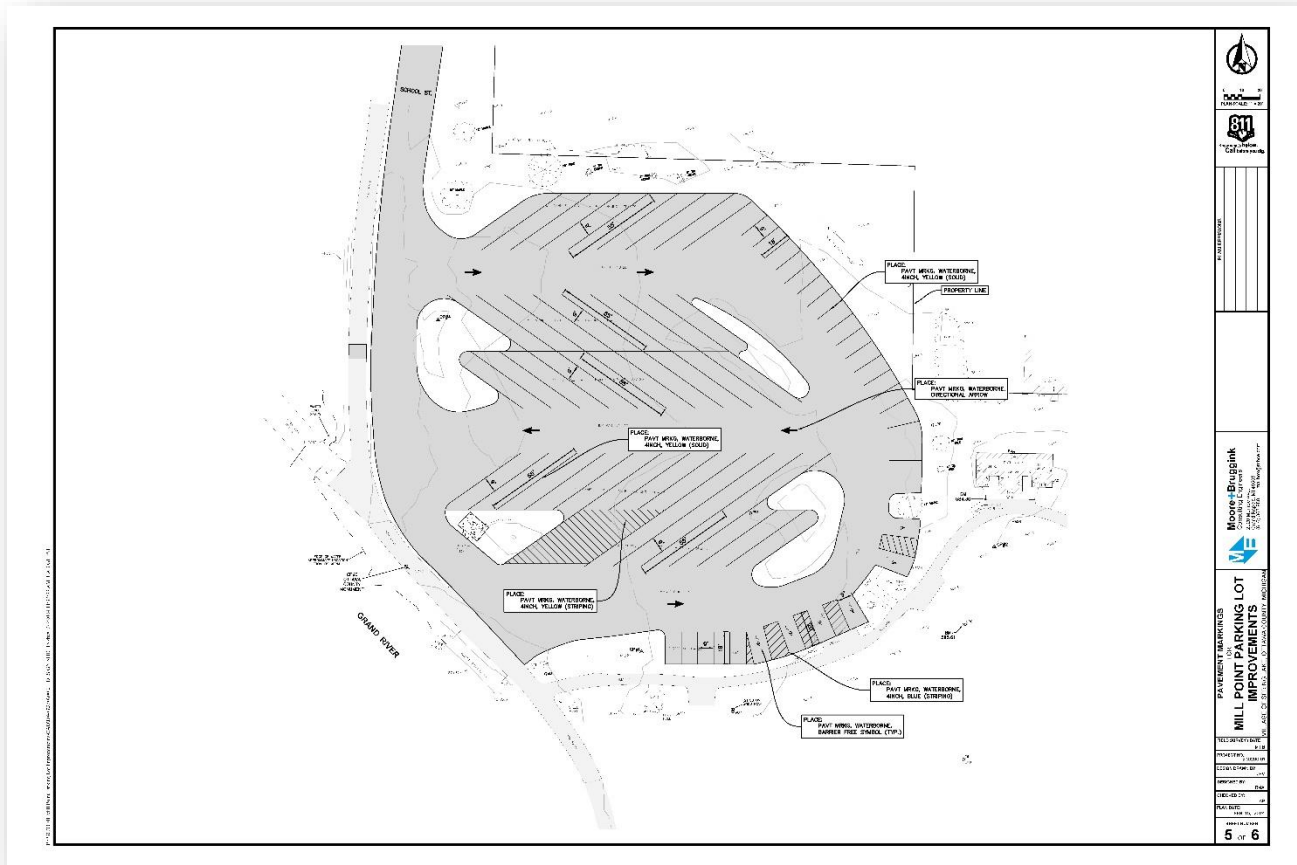
ADA Accessibility

Most of the facilities within the park are ADA accessible.

Mill Point Park & Boat Launch

Village of Spring Lake
School St & Exchange St
13.5 Acres

2024 Improvement Plan



North Division Street End

Village of Spring Lake
End N. Division Street
0.08 Acres



Overview

This site includes a small sand area on Spring Lake. The site slopes downward from the street approximately eleven feet in elevation to the water's edge. A bench is provided at the water's edge.

Amenities and Facilities

- Water access

ADA Accessibility

The facilities are not ADA accessible.

North Buchanan Street End

Village of Spring Lake
End N. Buchanan Street
0.06 Acre



Overview

This street end provides a small passive water access area.

Amenities and Facilities

- Water access to Spring Lake

ADA Accessibility

As the site is informally developed, the site does not provide ADA or Universal accessibility from the street edge to the water's edge.

Parkhurst Street End

Village of Spring Lake
End Parkhurst Street
0.2 Acre



Overview

Access to Spring Lake is by a bituminous walkway from the intersection of Buena Vista and Parkhurst.

Amenities and Facilities

- Water access

ADA Accessibility

The pathway to the waterfront is accessible.

Tanglefoot Park

Village of Spring Lake
312 W Exchange St
1.4 Acres



Overview

Tanglefoot Park has recently been redeveloped to provide better community access to the Grand River and a new community gathering place.

Amenities and Facilities

- Outdoor Fireplace
- Indoor/Outdoor Pavilion Catering Kitchen and Restrooms
- Parking Area
- Splash Pad
- Fishing Pier
- Seasonal and Transient Boat Slips
- Kayak/Canoe Launch with Self Service Kayak Rental Kiosk

ADA Accessibility

All facilities are Universal Accessible.

Whistle Stop Playground

Village of Spring Lake
Grand Trunk Trail, Between Cutler St & Park St
0.3 Acres



Overview

Whistle Stop Playground is part of the Lakeside Trail Linear Park and is located between Cutler Street and Park Street. The park has a play area, a focus on public art, including a mural, and educational landscaping utilizing native plant materials,

Amenities and Facilities

- Playground
- Pavilion
- Water Fountain

ADA Accessibility

The park is ADA and Universal accessible. The play area surfacing requires some repairs that the Village has identified in their capital improvement budget.

ADA Accessibility Assessment of Existing Park Facilities

The *Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plans* prepared by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Grant Management Division requires the completion of an Accessibility Assessment. This Plan includes the following areas directed to the identification and planning for ADA and Universal Accessibility.

ADA Park Review and Assessment

This assessment was completed in each park during the individual park tours and the information has been incorporated into the planning process.

Individual Park Inventory Sheets

A brief description of the accessibility of each park is included for public information on the individual park inventory sheets within the Recreation Inventory section of the plan. These sheets will be available for public viewing and use on the community websites.

ADA Accessibility Assessment Chart

An ADA accessibility Assessment Chart is included in this section which summarizes the accessibility of the parks within the five communities based on the MDNR Accessibility Ranking System further discussed below.

Goals and Objectives

Each of the communities included future Goals and Objectives for improving ADA accessibility within the parks through renovation and future development projects. These are included in the Goals and Objectives Section.

Action Plan and Future Projects

Each of the communities embraces the commitment to make the parks more accessible. As they renovate and improve the existing parks the facilities are being upgraded and made more accessible. New facilities are incorporating the principles of Universal Design from the initial design through construction. These projects are being accomplished as funding is available for park improvements.

MDNR ADA Accessibility Ranking System

The MDNR planning booklet provides a ranking system that was updated in November of 2018 to the following to be utilized in evaluating public parks and open spaces. This ranking system is based on the following:

- 1= None of the facilities meet 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design
- 2= Some facilities meet 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design
- 3= Most facilities meet 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design
- 4= The entire park meets 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design

- 5= The entire park was developed using the Principals of Universal Design.

Appendix D. Barrier Free Accessibility Requirements for Parks, within the guideline's booklet, provides the following written comments regarding parks and accessibility.

“Recreational areas, facilities, and programs play an important role in the life of the community; therefore, it is essential that people with disabilities have an equal opportunity to enjoy these areas and any programs provided. Federal and state laws prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability, and these laws apply to parks and other recreation lands and programs controlled and operated by local units of government. The DNR has a strong commitment to barrier free recreational opportunities in our department-managed programs and facilities. This commitment extends to those communities that receive recreation grants.

Under the state Utilization of Public Facilities by the Physically Limited Act (Public Act 1 of 1966, as amended) all facilities, including improved areas used for recreation, must meet the barrier free design requirements contained in the state construction code. Under this act, the administration and enforcement related to barrier free design requirements are vested in the local or state government agency responsible for issuing a building permit. If the project does not require a building permit, administration and enforcement of barrier free design requirements are vested in the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs.

Any request for an exception to the barrier free design requirements of the state construction code must be submitted to the Barrier Free Design Board, within the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs. (517-241-9328). The Barrier Free Design board has the responsibility to receive, review, and process requests for exceptions to barrier free design specifications; require appropriate equivalent alternatives when exceptions are granted; and receive, process, and make recommendations for barrier free design rules.

The Department of Justice published revised regulations for Titles II and III of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 “ADA” in the Federal Register on September 15, 2010. These regulations adopted revised, enforceable accessibility standards called the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design, “2010 Standards or Standards”. The 2010 Standards set minimum requirements—both scoping and technical—for newly designed and constructed or altered state and local government facilities, public accommodations, and commercial facilities to be readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities. The Federal Standards have precedence over State codes.

Adoption of the 2010 Standards also established a revised reference point for Title II entities (public entities-State or local government) that choose to make

structural changes to existing facilities to meet their program accessibility requirements and it establishes a similar reference for Title III entities (places of public accommodation) undertaking readily achievable barrier removal.

Because the state construction code and 2010 Standard does not apply to many recreation facilities, it is essential that you also be aware of and understand the existing federal guidelines covering these types of facilities. On September 26, 2013, The Federal Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board (known as the Access Board) issued updated guidelines, entitled the Accessibility Guidelines for Outdoor Developed Areas. These guidelines are enforceable under the Architectural Barriers Act (ABA) Standards for federal agencies on November 26, 2013. They should eventually be adopted as enforceable standards for Title II and III agencies, but until that occurs, the existing ADA Standards must be followed when the two conflict.

Included in the Outdoor Guidelines are technical provisions for the number and types of recreation facilities including camping facilities, picnic facilities, viewing areas, trails and beach access routes. While none of these guidelines has yet been adopted for Title II and Title III agencies, they represent the best information available on developing barrier free recreation facilities. Questions regarding 2010 ADA standards and the Accessibility Guidelines for Outdoor developed Areas should be directed to the Department of Justice ADA Technical Assistance, 800-514-0301 (voice) or 800-514-0383 (TTY)."

ADA Accessibility Assessment Chart

The ADA Accessibility Assessment Chart is included on the following page.

ADA Accessibility Assessment Chart

November 25, 2024

Municipality	Park Name	1	2	3	4	5	Key: MDNR Ranking System
City of Ferrysburg	City Hall Park						1 = None of the Facilities Meet 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design
City of Ferrysburg	Coast Guard Park						2 = Some of the Facilities Meet 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design
City of Ferrysburg	Ferrysburg Nature Preserve						3 = Most of the Facilities Meet 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design
City of Ferrysburg	Fire Barn Park						4 = The Entire Park Meets 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design
City of Ferrysburg	Kitchel-Lindquist-Hartger Dunes Preserve						5 = The Entire Park Was Developed Using the Principals of Universal Design
City of Ferrysburg	Mike Herman Park						
City of Ferrysburg	Sunnyside Park						
City of Ferrysburg	William Montague Ferry Park						
City of Grand Haven	Bicentennial (Riverview) Park						
City of Grand Haven	Bolt Park						
City of Grand Haven	Central Park						
City of Grand Haven	Chinook Pier						
City of Grand Haven	City Beach Park						
City of Grand Haven	Duncan Woods						
City of Grand Haven	East Grand River Park						
City of Grand Haven	Escanaba Park						
City of Grand Haven	Grand Haven Musical Fountain						
City of Grand Haven	Harbor Island Linear Park						
City of Grand Haven	Harbor Island						
City of Grand Haven	Johnston Park						
City of Grand Haven	Klaver Park						
City of Grand Haven	Klempel Park						
City of Grand Haven	Lighthouse Connector Park						
City of Grand Haven	Mulligan's Hollow						
City of Grand Haven	N. Shore Fisherman's Parking Lot						
City of Grand Haven	Rix Robinson Park						
City of Grand Haven	Sluka Field						
City of Grand Haven	Veterans Memorial Park						
City of Grand Haven	Lynne Sherwood Waterfront Stadium						
City of Grand Haven	William Hatton Park						
City of Grand Haven	Willow Park						
Grand Haven Township	Brucker Access						
Grand Haven Township	Buchanan Access						
Grand Haven Township	Hofma Preserve & Park						
Grand Haven Township	Mercury Park						
Grand Haven Township	Millhouse Park						
Grand Haven Township	Odawa Battle Point Boat Launch						
Grand Haven Township	152nd Access						
Grand Haven Township	Pottawattomie Park						
Grand Haven Township	Schmidt Heritage Park						
Grand Haven Township	Shiawassee Access						
Spring Lake Township	Black Lake Park						
Spring Lake Township	Disc Golf Course						
Spring Lake Township	Glafcke Family Public Preserve						
Spring Lake Township	Grand River Open Spaces						
Spring Lake Township	River Run Park & Pelegraom's Preserve						
Spring Lake Township	Rycenga Park						
Spring Lake Township	Water Tower Park						
Village of Spring Lake	Alden Street End						
Village of Spring Lake	Central Park						
Village of Spring Lake	Cutler Street End						
Village of Spring Lake	Jackson Street End						
Village of Spring Lake	Lakeside Beach						
Village of Spring Lake	Mill Point Park & Boat Launch						
Village of Spring Lake	N.Buchanan Street End						
Village of Spring Lake	N. Division Street End						
Village of Spring Lake	Parkhurst Street End						
Village of Spring Lake	Tanglefoot Park						
Village of Spring Lake	Whistle Stop Playground						
Trails	Grand Haven Waterfront Trail						
Trails	Grand Haven Township Non-Motorized						
Trails	Lakeshore Connector Path						
Trails	Lakeside Trail						
Trails	Linear Trail Park						
Trails	North Bank Trail						

Area Trail & Pathway Maps

The Grand Region has significant water resources for use of the Grand River and Lake Michigan as water trail routes. There are also extensive non-motorized trail resources in existence with many more miles being planned that link the communities, parks, schools, natural resources, neighborhoods, and key community locations such as shopping districts and service facilities.

These include, but are not limited to the following:

Grand River Heritage Water Trail

Grand Haven, Spring Lake, Ferrysburg Pathways

Grand Haven Township Non-Motorized Pathways

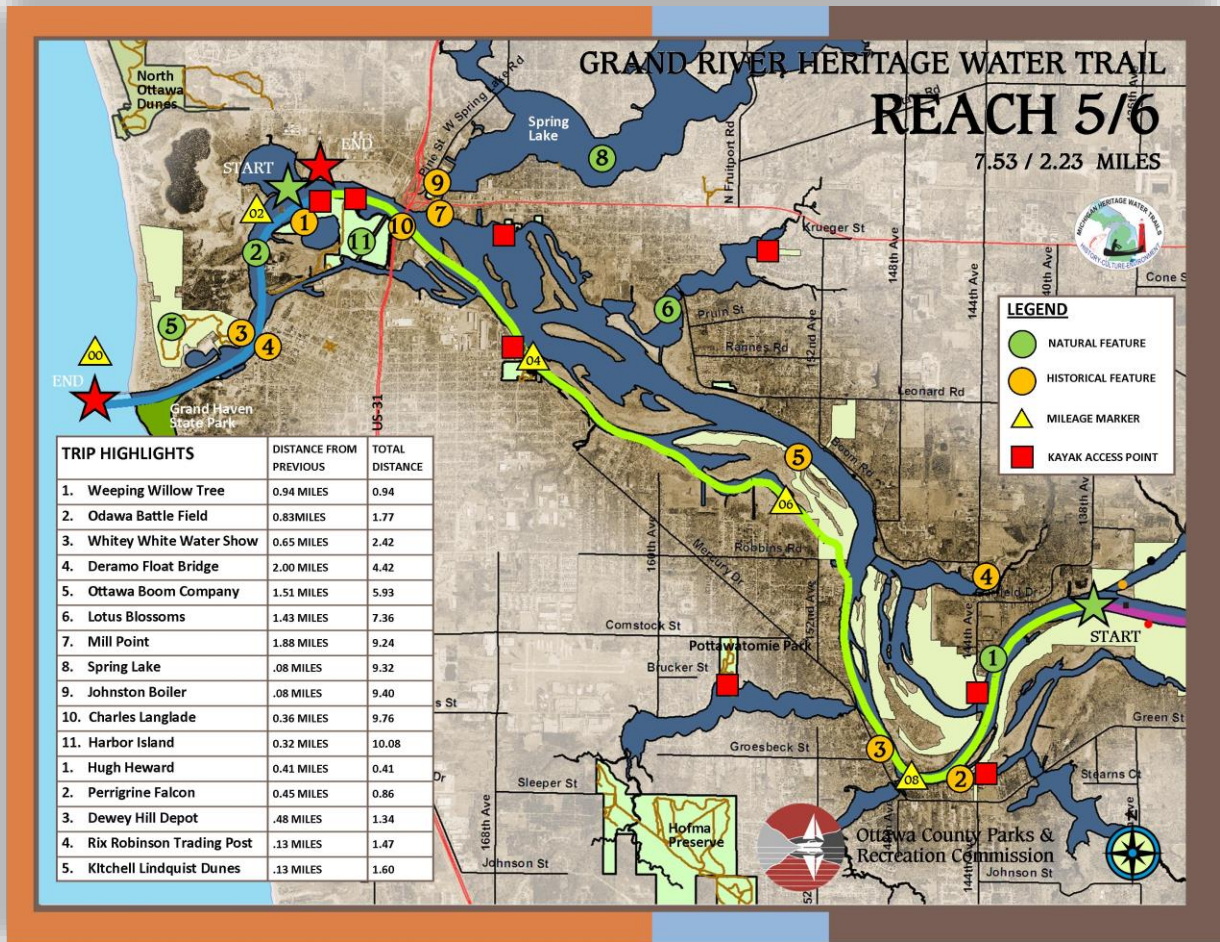
North Bank Trail

Lighthouse Connector Trail in Grand Haven along Channel

Idema Explorers Trail


USBR-35 (US Bicycle Route 35)

Grand River Heritage Water Trail (Reaches 5 and 6)



Grand Haven, Spring Lake, Ferrysburg Pathways


Ottawa County, Michigan




Holland & Grand Haven

Bike

Grand Haven/Spring Lake/Ferrysburg





Western Ottawa County

Bicycle The Lakeshore


Stretching for 30 miles along the coast of Lake Michigan, Ottawa County's extensive network of bike paths offers a wide range of cycling excursions. Routes include miles of shoreline, impressive sand dunes, quiet rural roads, woodlands, farms and unique area attractions. Whether you're looking for a rigorous workout or a leisurely ride, Ottawa County has the perfect route for you.

Safety first

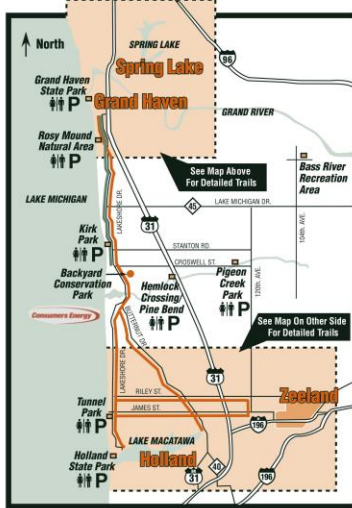
Please be aware that some routes included in this brochure include sidewalks or widened shoulders on busy roads that may not be appropriate for all riders. If you have questions about specific paths, please contact the Ottawa County Parks & Recreation Commission at 616-738-4810.

The J.H. Campbell Complex Backyard Conservation Park

Consumers Energy has created a Corporate Lands for Learning site halfway between Grand Haven and Holland on the Lakeshore Connector Path. This 1-acre park identifies habitat-friendly plants you can add to your home landscape to benefit local birds, insects and other wildlife.



Count on Us

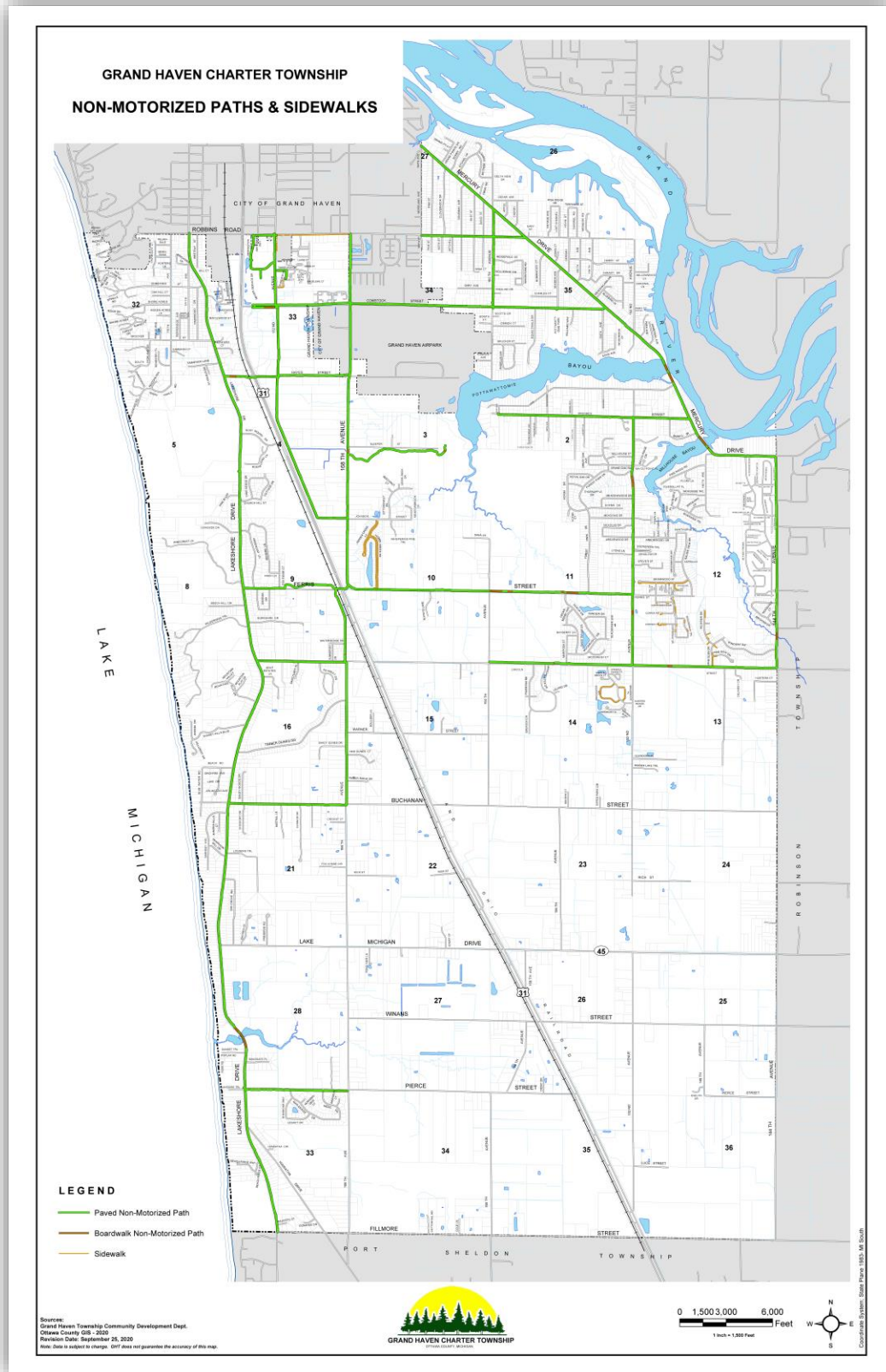


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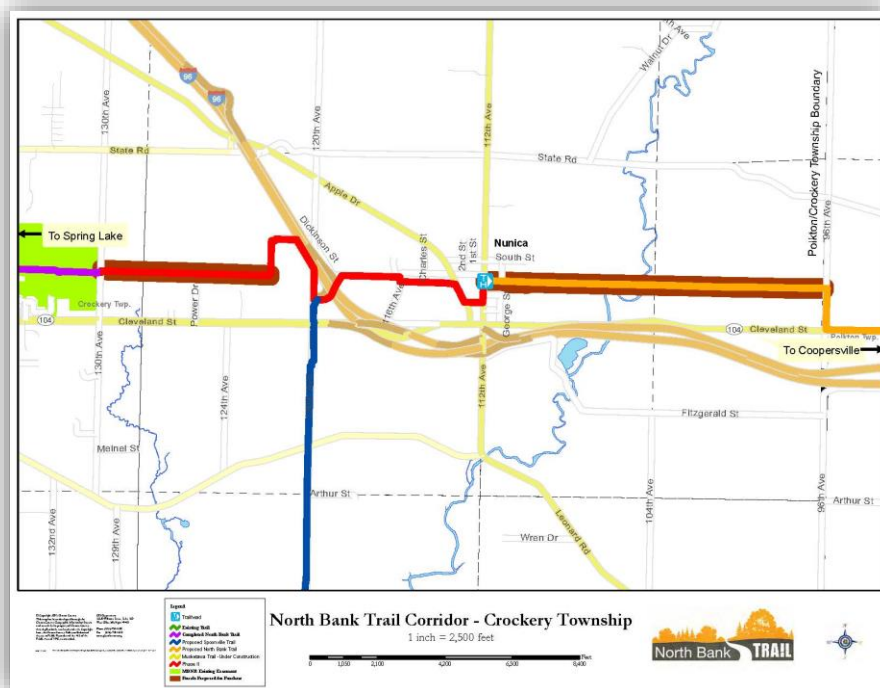
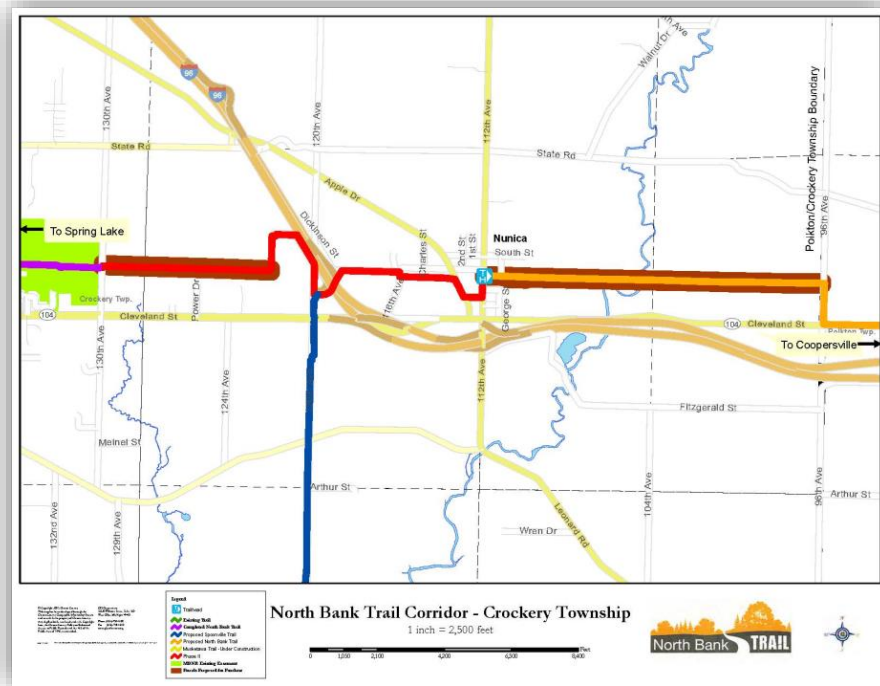
Bike Path	Restrooms	Rest Stop
Widened Road Shoulder	Parking	= 1 Mile

Ottawa County Parks & Recreation Council
75 E. 8th Street
Holland, MI 49423


Grand Haven Township Non-Motorized Pathways



North Bank Trail in Spring Lake Township with Connection to the Village of Spring Lake to West




Idema Explorers Trail-Grand River Greenway



**EXPLORE FOR A DAY.
EXPLORE FOR A LIFETIME.**

Constructed in 2017, this 9.9-mile segment of trail between Connor Bayou and Riverside Park and a trailhead at the M-231 bridge are part of the Idema Explorers Trail. The trail is the culmination of a 30-year vision to protect high quality recreational and natural lands along the Grand River Greenway and connect these lands to each other and to neighboring communities. Along with multiple partners and the assistance of the Ottawa County Parks Foundation, Ottawa County Parks will construct 27 miles of new, multi-use pathway over the next five years, creating a continuous trail from the City of Grand Haven to the Kent County border.

When the Idema Explorers Trail is integrated with the Grand River Greenway Trail Network, the 45-mile route will extend from the Grand Haven pier to downtown Grand Rapids. Between the two cities there is 8,500 acres of public land to explore including major destination parks such as Millennium Park, the Bass River Recreation Area, Grand Haven State Park, Grand Ravines, and Connor Bayou.



TO GRAND HAVEN PIER
10.25 Miles

TO DOWNTOWN GRAND RAPIDS
34.75 Miles

EAST TO M-231 TRAILHEAD
0.75 Miles

TO RIVERSIDE PARK
3.5 Miles


CONNOR BAYOU ACCESS SITE

The Idema Explorers Trail is named in honor of Bill and Bess Idema and in recognition of the contributions of the Idema family to the Grand River Greenway. The Idema family's support, along with the support of many other project partners, has helped create a trail that will provide a safe, scenic, recreational, and cultural experience with thousands of acres of land and miles of riverfront to explore.

This segment of the Explorers Trail was made possible through a grant-making \$25 million public-private partnership between the City of Grand Haven, the Ottawa County Parks Foundation and Grand River Greenway Campaign Committee.

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Ottawa County Parks & Recreation Commission
www.Ottawa.org/Parks

Ottawa County Parks and Recreation Commission

The Ottawa County Parks and Recreation Commission has an extensive system of parks which is funded through public millages, fees, donations, and grants. The list below does not include all of the County Parks but does include parks located in surrounding Townships and Cities, which are used most frequently by the Region's residents.

Kirk Park- (Within Grand Haven Charter Township)

Kirk Park is located in the southern region of Grand Haven Township. The 68-acre park is located on Lake Michigan with 1,850 lineal feet of Lake Michigan beach. The land is comprised of beach front, sand dunes and wooded back dune areas. Facilities include a picnic pavilion, playground, restrooms, Kirk Park Lodge, open picnic areas, swimming beach, hiking trails and un-groomed cross country ski trails, and horseshoe pit. New to the park is an off-leash dog beach.

Hiawatha Forest (Within Grand Haven Charter Township)

Hiawatha Forest, located on Fillmore, is a 365-acre flat natural site with both hardwood stands and red pine plantations with a very limited, unmarked trail system. A small parking area and information kiosk is the only developed facilities. Off-trail hiking and cross-country skiing is allowed as well as both on or off leash dog use.

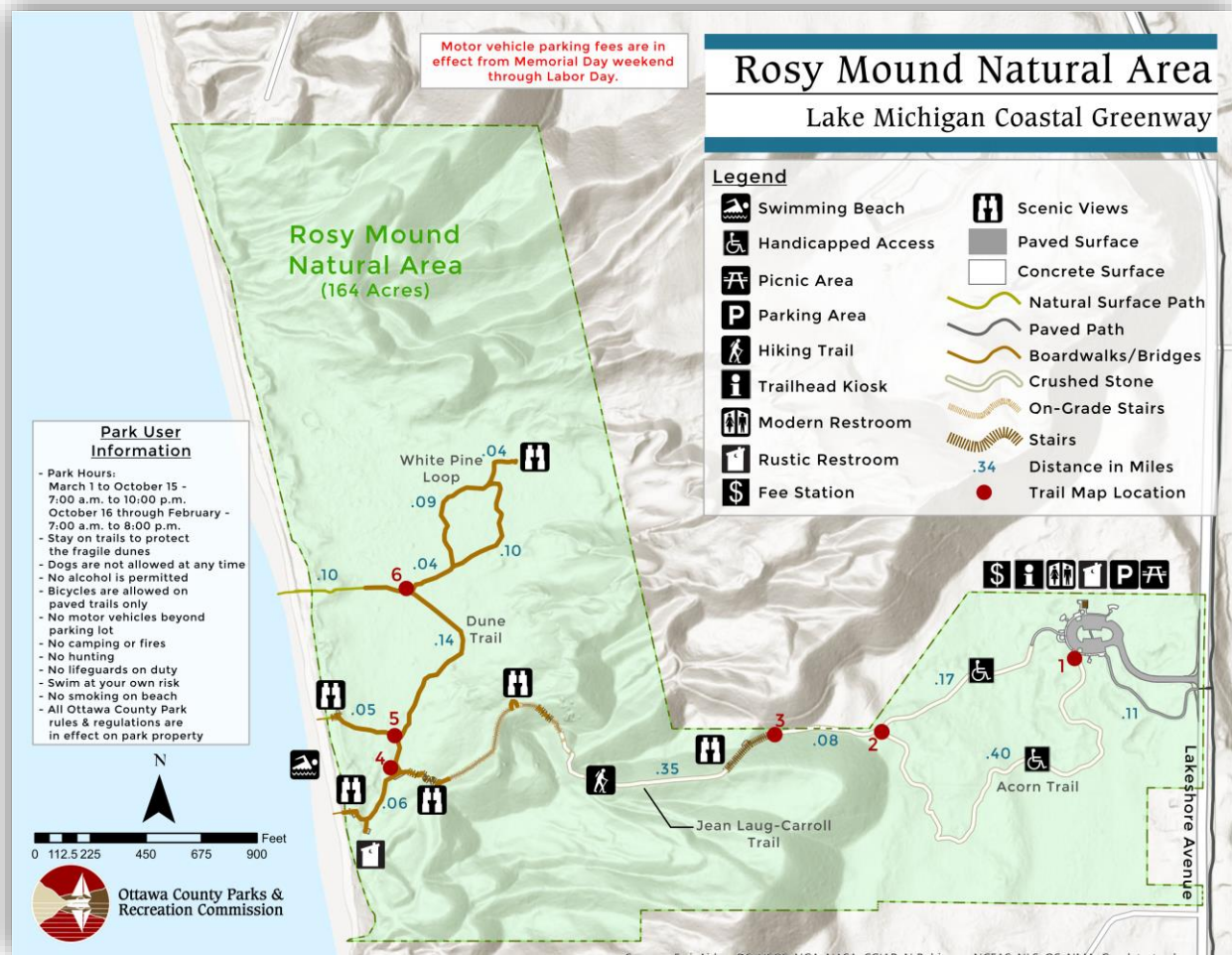
Rosy Mound Natural Area- (Within Grand Haven Charter Township)

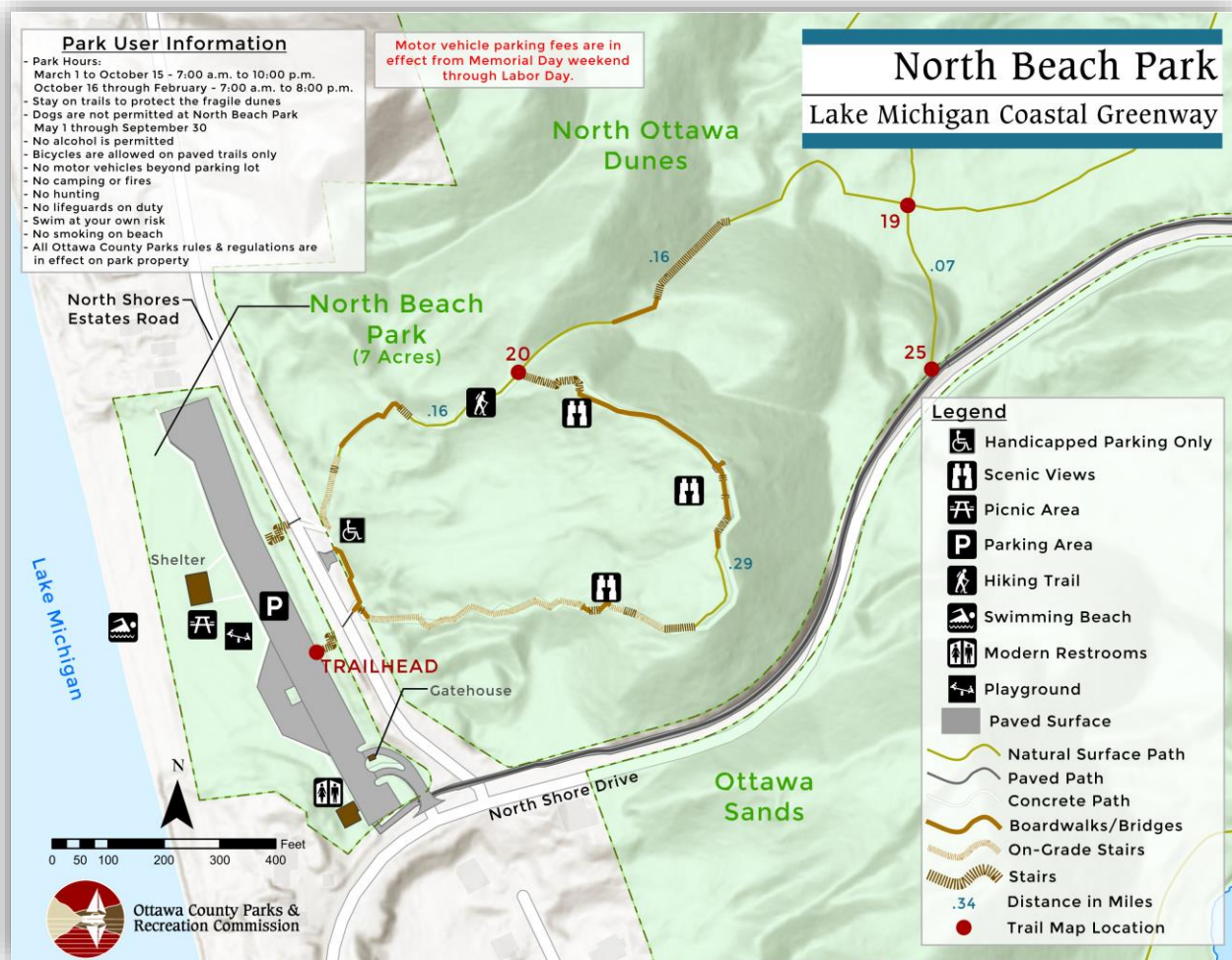
Rosy Mound Natural Area is 276 acres of unique sand and wooded dunes with .65 miles of Lake Michigan shoreline. Facilities include extensive walkways and stairways within the dunes and woodlands to Lake Michigan, picnic facilities, restrooms near the parking area and beach, a unique shade canopy near the beach, interpretive signs, and parking. The park is connected along Lakeshore Drive to the Township's Non-Motorized Pathway System.

North Beach Park- (Within the City of Ferrysburg)

North Beach Park is a popular seven-acre park located north of the Grand River channel in the City of Ferrysburg. The park includes 745 lineal feet of Lake Michigan beach with a large natural dune formation with a dune stairway and observation platform for lake viewing. The beach is open for swimming and public access. Park facilities also include a large picnic shelter, barrier free beach walkway, seasonal vending concession, play area, sand volleyball court, picnic tables and grills, and restrooms.







North Ottawa Dunes (Located in the City of Ferrysburg)

The North Ottawa Dunes encompasses 593 acres of natural dunes areas between the Grand River and the southern boundary of P.J. Hoffmaster State Park. Ten miles of hiking trails provide access to the dunes as well as North Ottawa Beach Park, P.J. Hoffmaster State Park, Ferrysburg's Coast Guard Park, and other undeveloped land owned by Spring Lake Township. Access to the dunes ten miles of informal trails is through the trailhead and parking at Coast Guard Park with trailhead facilities including picnic tables, restrooms, and hiking trails.

Ottawa Sands Park (Located in the Cities of Ferrysburg and Grand Haven)

The 345-acre property sits between green space preserves and natural areas owned by the cities of Grand Haven and Ferrysburg and North Ottawa Dunes County Park. The park is newly acquired, and master planning of the site is expected in 2020. The property includes forested dunes, an 80-acre inland lake, and riverfront land with wetlands.

Olive Shores

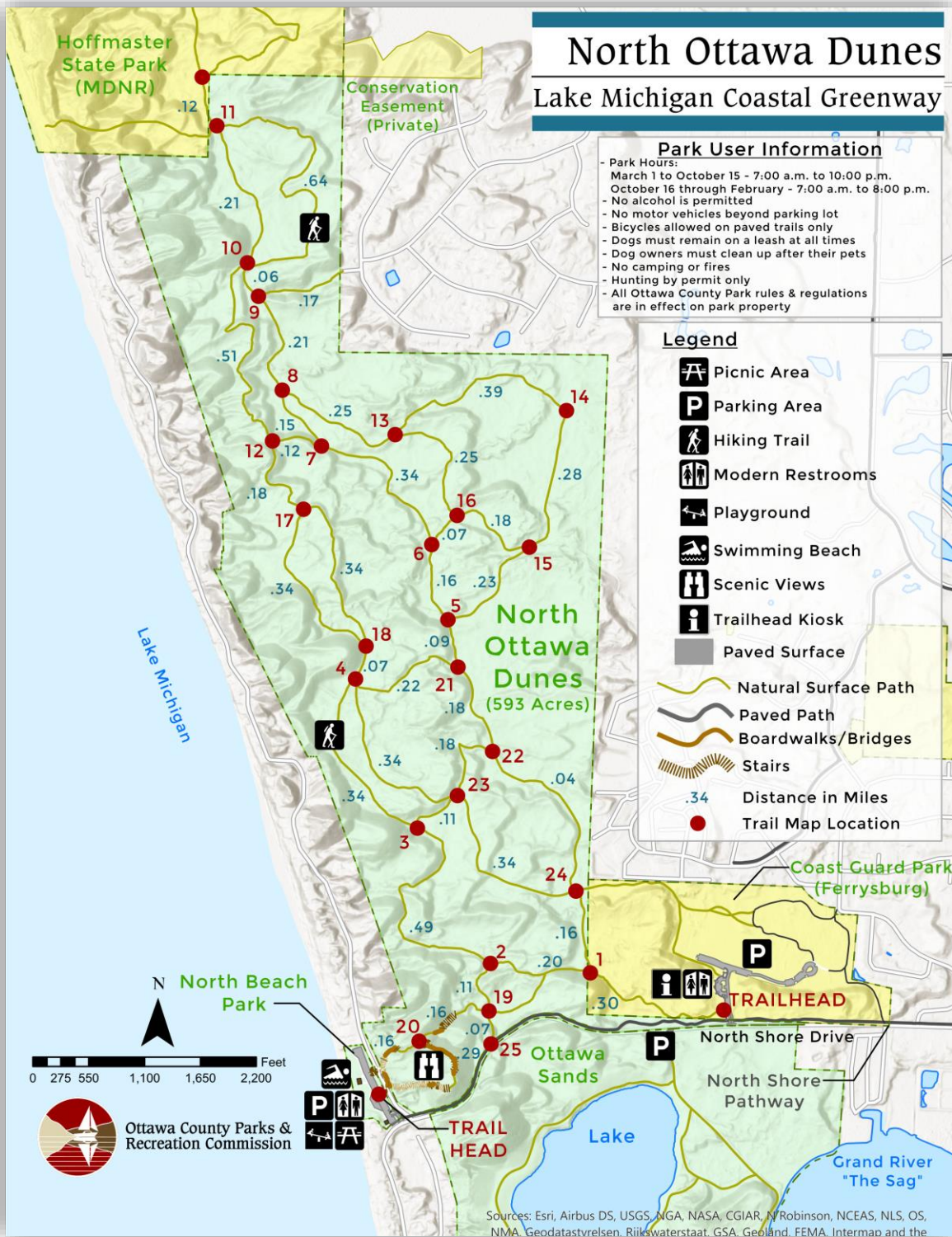
The mostly wooded 20-acre site includes a steep sand dune formation with 738' of Lake Michigan frontage. Facilities include a parking area, restrooms, picnic tables, a barrier free trail loop, and a boardwalk through the dunes with overlooks of Lake Michigan and beach access including swimming.

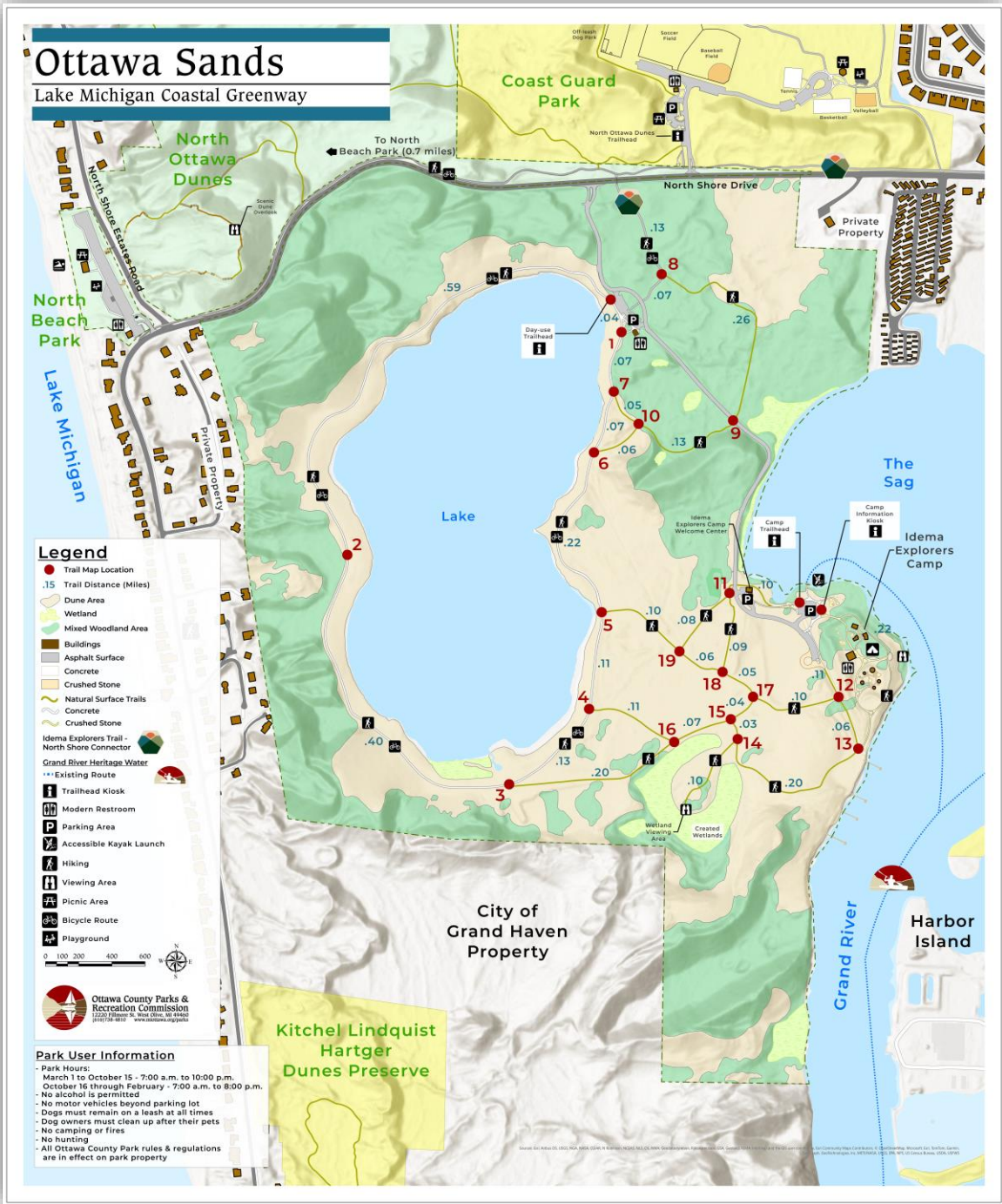
Tunnel Park

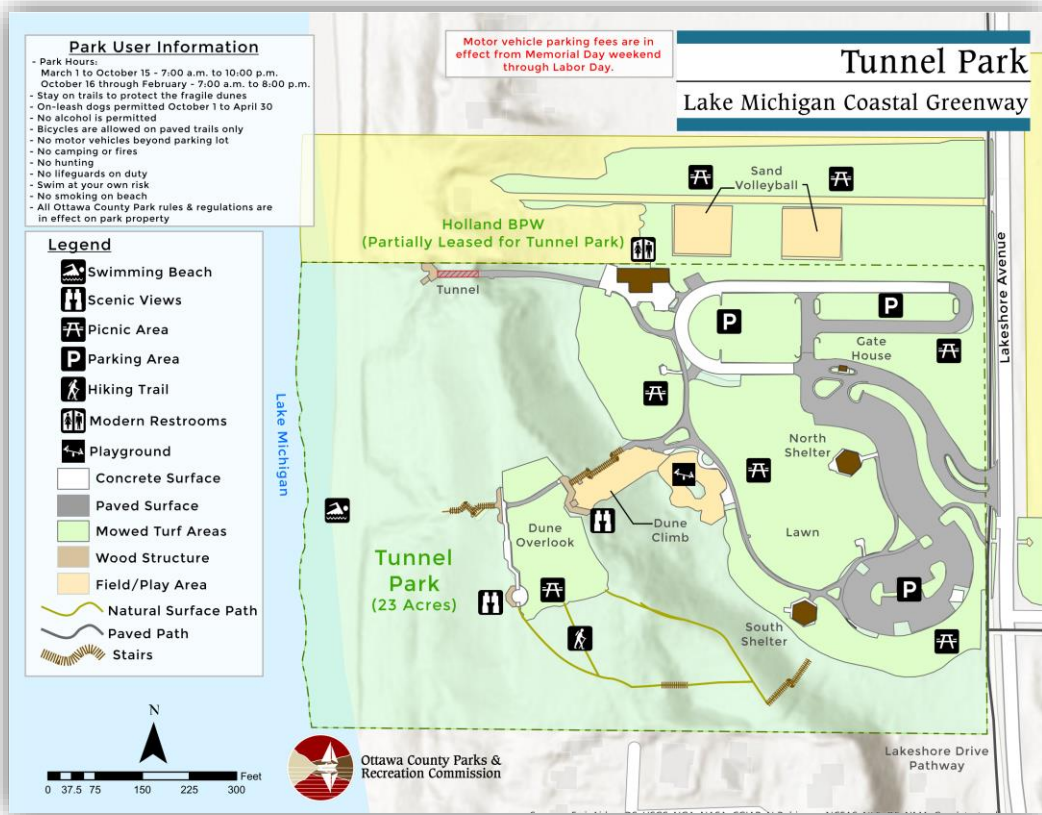
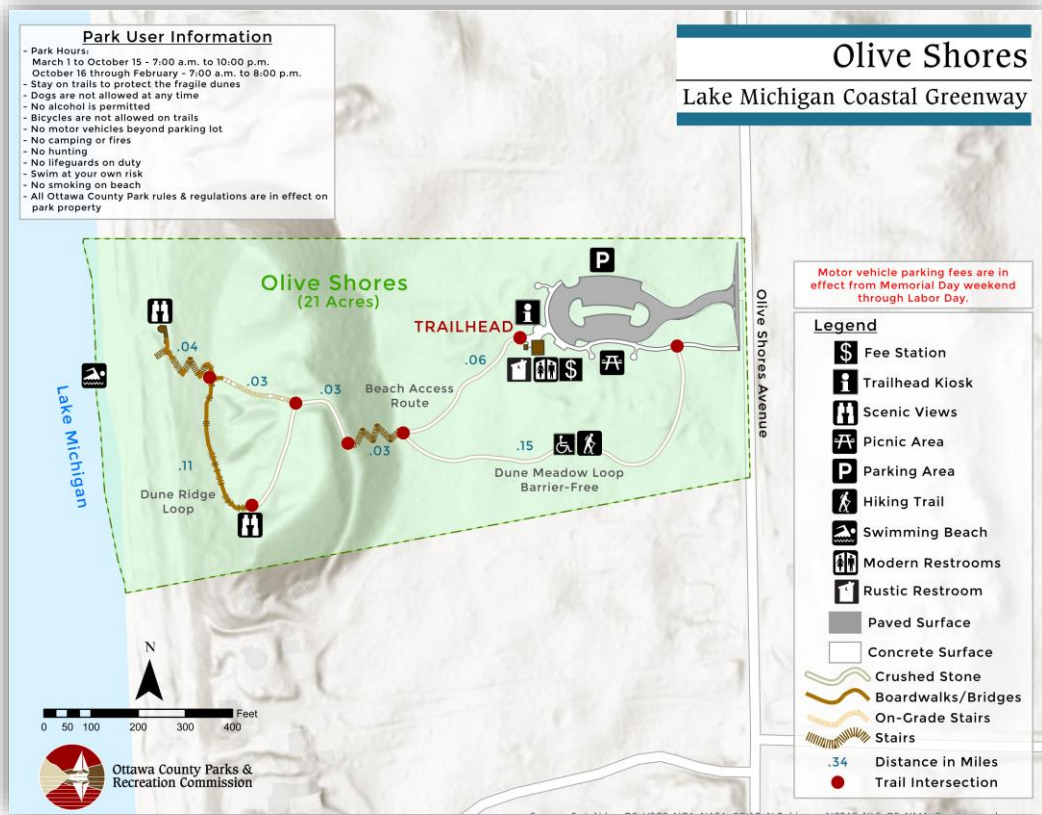
Tunnel Park is a 22-acre park located south of the Township on Lake Michigan. It offers beach swimming, picnic facilities, restroom building, four sand volleyball courts, two picnic shelters, playground, horseshoe pit, and dune stairway. A unique tunnel provides access to the Lake Michigan beach.

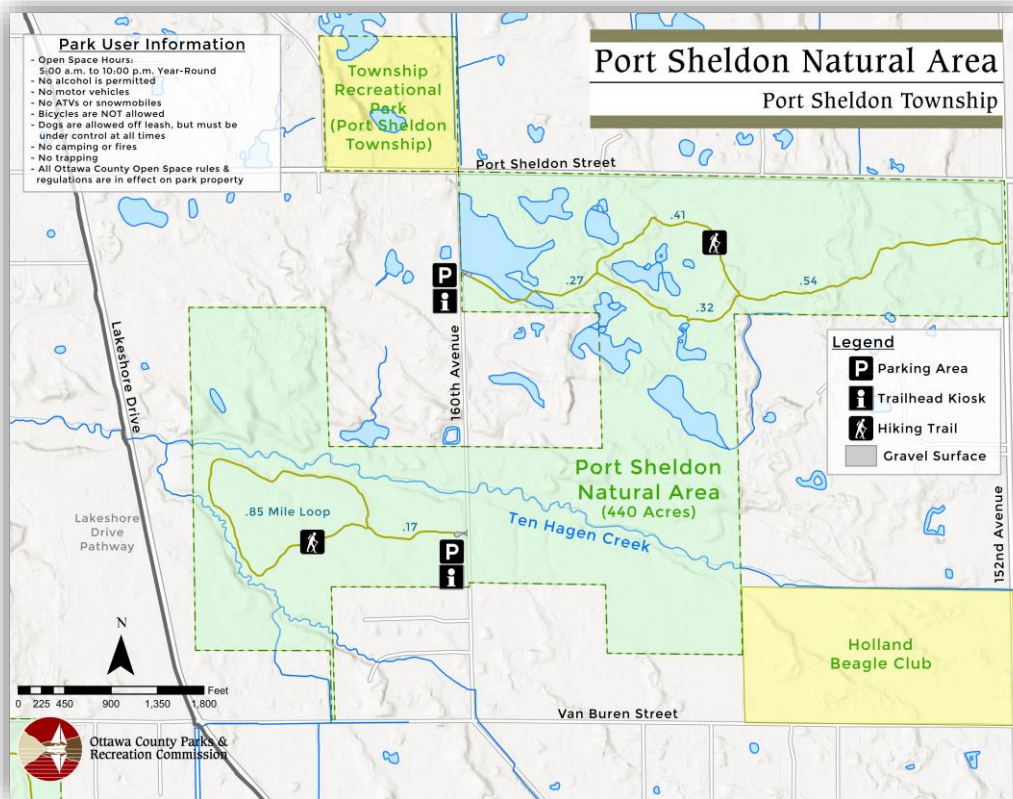
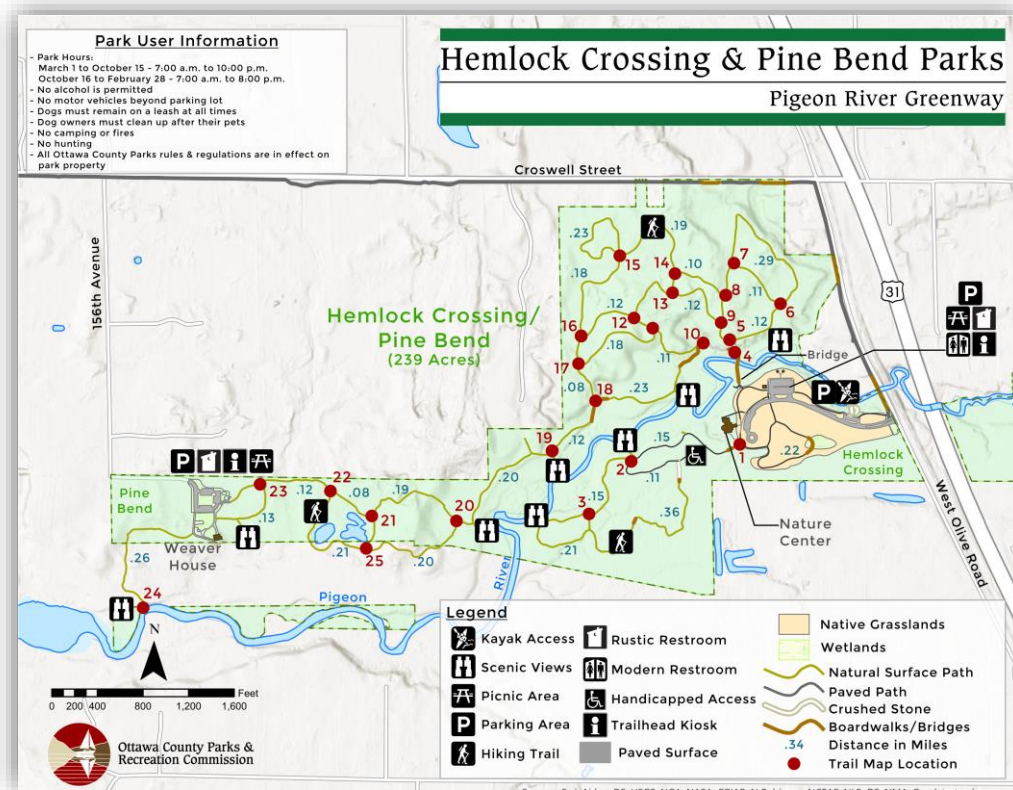
Hemlock Crossing and Pine Bend

Hemlock Crossing and Pine Bend are a combined 239 acres of woods and wetlands along the Pigeon River. The parks offer over 6 miles of trails for hiking and cross-country skiing. Facilities include parking, a Nature Education Center, a unique pedestrian bridge, scenic overlooks along the trails, two small picnic shelters with tables and grills, modern restrooms, hiking, and a canoe and kayak launch. The adjacent Pine Bend Park offers additional parking, picnic tables and grills, the Weaver House, historic interpretation, rustic toilets and trails.









Port Sheldon Lake Michigan Property

Located in Port Sheldon Township, this is a small 6.68 acres of land located on Lake Michigan with 200 feet of shoreline. The park land is forested dune land and is currently undeveloped.

Riverside Park

This is a 64-acre park located in Robinson Township on the Grand River with approximately 4,350 feet of waterfront. Facilities include a boat launch, picnic shelter, fishing docks, and rustic toilets.

Connor Bayou Property

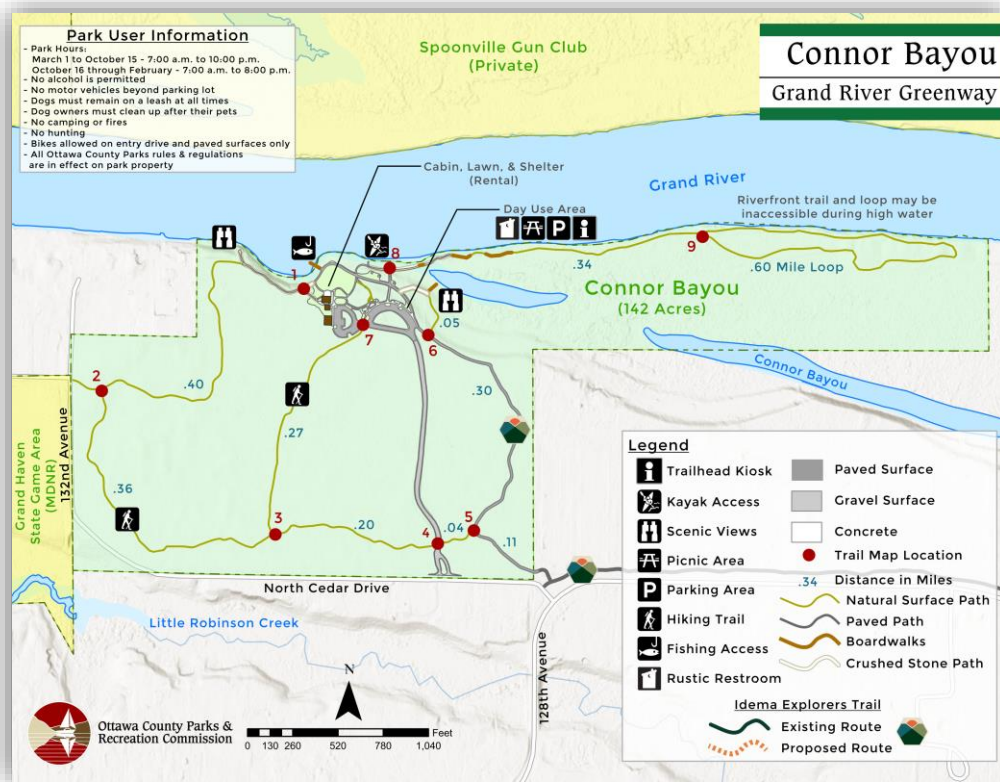
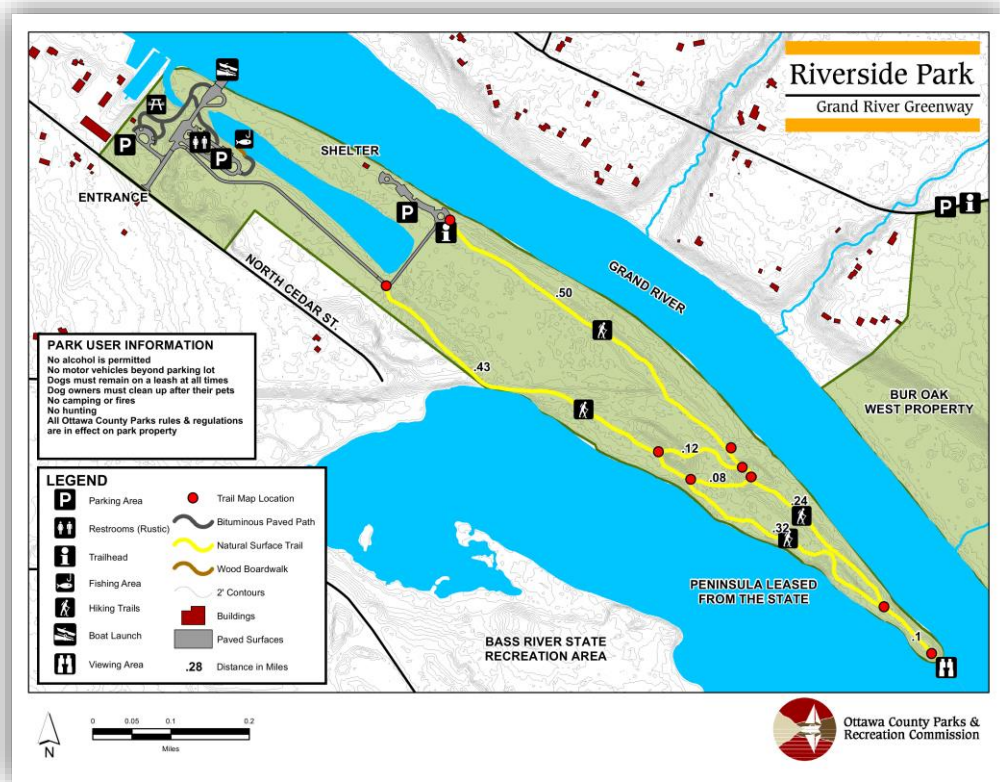
This parcel of land has nearly a mile of Grand River frontage within 142 acres of land. Facilities include a Woodland Cabin, parking areas, ADA accessible walkways, rustic toilets picnic tables, hiking trails and boardwalks, kayak and canoe launch, rover overlook decks and fishing dock.

Pigeon Creek Park

Pigeon Creek is a 282-acre natural area along Pigeon Creek with another 130 adjacent acres of County Open Space land. The natural areas include over ten miles of trails through the wooded and wetland areas. The trail system includes designated trails for hiking, biking, and equestrian use, and a 0.9-mile trail barrier free trail loop. Winter sports include trails groomed for classic and ski skating, and a sledding hill. Three miles of the trails are lighted for winter night use. A large indoor Pigeon Creek Lodge provides for programming, ski rental, and serves as a winter warming building. A group camping area can be reserved by recognized organizations.

Deer Creek

Deer Creek is a two-acre public site located on the Grand River. A boat launch for small fishing boats, canoes, and kayaks with picnic tables and rustic toilets are the available facilities.



Pigeon Creek Park

Pigeon River Greenway

Legend

- Trail Map Location
- 15 Trail Distance (Miles)
- Buildings
- Gravel Surface
- Paved Surface
- Wood Surface (Boardwalk or Stairs)
- Hiking Only
- Hiking & Equestrian Only
- Hiking & Biking Only
- Open Field
- Mixed Woodland Area
- Trailhead Kiosk
- Rustic Restroom
- Modern Restroom
- Parking Area
- Group Camp

Park User Information

- Park Hours:
March 1 to October 15 - 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
October 16 through February - 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- No alcohol is permitted
- No motor vehicles beyond parking lot
- Dogs must remain on a leash at all times
- Dog owners must clean up after their pets
- No camping or fires
- No hunting
- All Ottawa County Park rules & regulations are in effect on park property

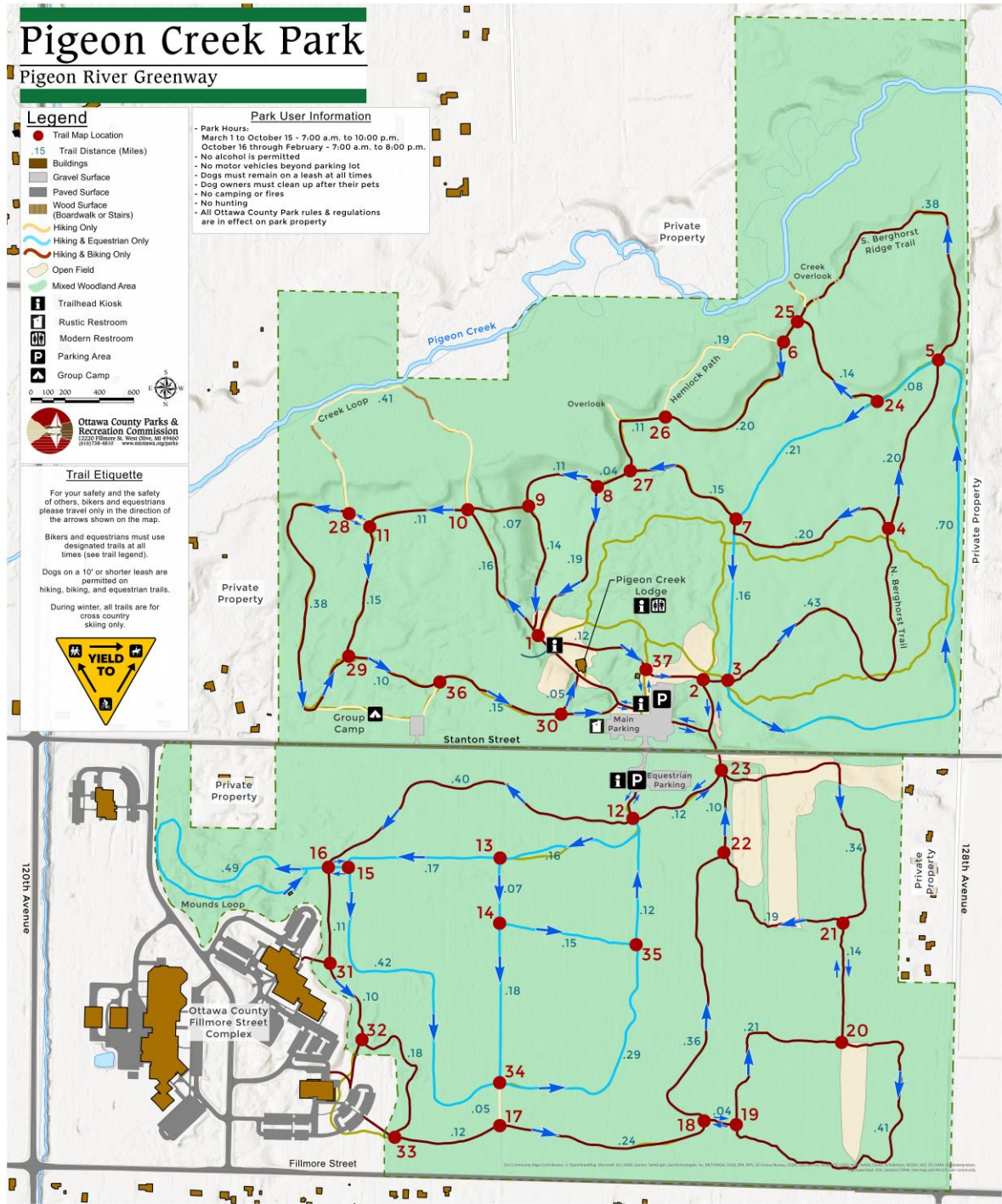
Trail Etiquette

For your safety and the safety of others, bikers and equestrians please travel only in the direction of the arrows shown on the map.

Bikers and equestrians must use designated trails at all times (see trail legend).

Dogs on a 10' or shorter leash are permitted on hiking, biking, and equestrian trails.

During winter, all trails are for cross country skiing only.



Pigeon Creek Park

Pigeon River Greenway

Legend

- Trail Map Location
- 0.15 Trail Distance (Miles)
- Building
- Gravel Surface
- Paved Surface
- Wood Surface (Boardwalk or Stairs)
- Lighted Trail Skating & Tracked Lane
- Tracked Lane
- Ungroomed Trail
- Skating & Tracked Lane
- Snowshoe Trail
- Trailhead Kiosk
- Rustic Restroom
- Modern Restroom
- Parking Area
- Sledding Hill
- Group Camp
- Snowshoe Trail

Cross Country Ski Info



Be Safety Conscious

Level of difficulty symbols are provided on maps and signs to aid you in selecting a trail to suit your abilities. These national standard signs indicate the relative difficulty for cross country ski trails located at Pigeon Creek Park. Choose your route accordingly and always ski within your ability. Always travel in the direction of the arrows.



Park User Information

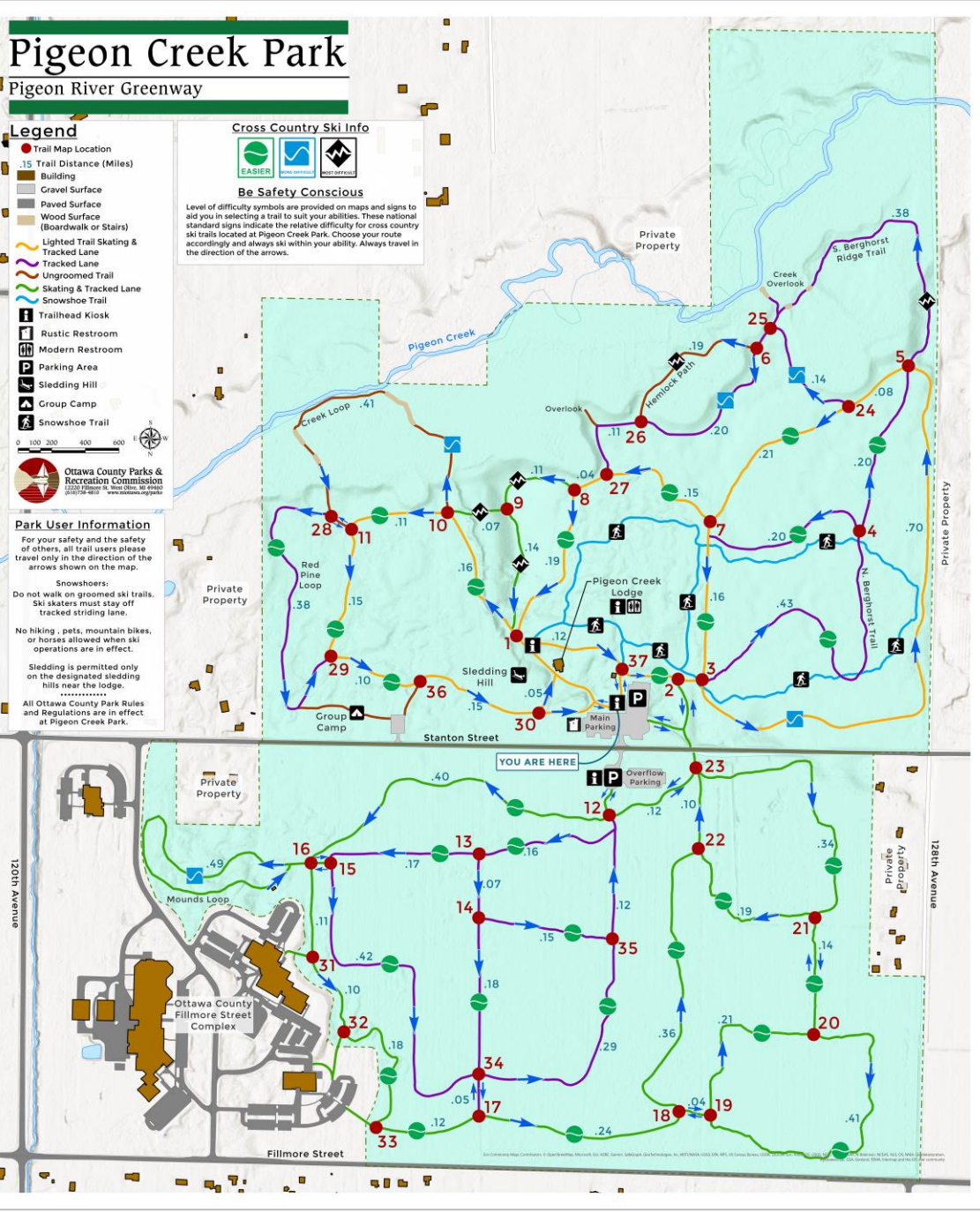
For your safety and the safety of others, all trail users please travel only in the direction of the arrows shown on the map.

Snowshoers:
Do not walk on groomed ski trails. Ski skaters must stay off tracked striding lane.

No hiking, pets, mountain bikes, or horses allowed when ski operations are in effect.

Sledding is permitted only on the designated sledding hills near the lodge.

All Ottawa County Park Rules and Regulations are in effect at Pigeon Creek Park.



Michigan Department of Natural Resources Parks & Lands

The State of Michigan owns several acres of land that provide recreational resources within the regional area. They include the following:

Grand Haven State Park

Grand Haven State Park is located on the south side of the channel at the mouth of the Grand River as it enters Lake Michigan. The park is located within the City of Grand Haven and includes 160 camping spaces directly on the beach as well as a large public beach. The park is very popular and is filled to capacity almost daily in the summer months for beach use, picnics, swimming, and sand volleyball.

P.J. Hoffmaster State Park

Hoffmaster State Park is located five miles north of Grand Haven directly on the shores of Lake Michigan. The park is unique and features environmentally sensitive sand dunes. The park facilities include hiking trails, camping, a large beach and picnic facility. Of interest is the E. Genevieve Gillette Sand Dune Interpretive Center offering both static and changing exhibits featuring the formation of Michigan sand dunes, plant life, and wildlife.

Grand Haven State Game Area

Several hundred acres of natural area located within and along the Grand River at the north edge of Grand Haven Charter Township.

Agnew Roadside Park

This is a small roadside park located along M-31 and serves mostly motorists traveling the highway. The park includes picnic facilities and rustic restrooms.

West Michigan Land Conservancy

The West Michigan Land Conservancy has three preserves with Northwest Ottawa County: Palomita Reserve (40 acres), DePersia South Highlands Nature Preserve (13 acres), and Minni Skwark Nature Preserve (26 acres). The locations and more information can be found on the Conservancy's website.

Duncan Woods Private Land Trust

Duncan Woods is a private trust of wooded, natural land located within the City of Grand Haven. The trust provides for public use and enjoyment of the woods and is open and operated by a private trust fund board.

North Ottawa Rod and Gun Club

The North Ottawa Rod and Gun Club is located at 13064 160th Avenue within Grand Haven Township. The non-profit club provides opportunities for skeet and trap fields, an outdoor rifle range, a 3-D archery course, and an indoor pistol range. The public and members are invited to utilize these facilities based on club fees. The Club provides classes in youth and hunter safety, concealed carry CCW/CPL, outdoor education instruction for Grand Haven Area Public Schools, Saturday youth programs, and shooting opportunities for area residents.

School Facilities within the Planning Area

The following public-school facilities are located within the City of Ferrysburg, City of Grand Haven, Grand Haven Township, Spring Lake Township & Village of Spring Lake. The recreation facilities that are available are noted.

Spring Lake Junior High

Village of Spring Lake, 21 Acres

Facilities include two soccer fields, Football and training field, one adult and one children's ball field.

Spring Lake High School

Spring Lake Township

Facilities include 8 tennis courts, a large field, baseball field, and Spring Lake Community and Aquatic Center.

Holmes Elementary School

Village of Spring Lake, 6.6 Acres

Facilities include a large playground, tennis courts, small ball field and low basketball hoops.

Jeffers Elementary School

Spring Lake Township

Facilities include a playground and basketball court.

Lake Hills Elementary School

Spring Lake Township

Facilities include a large playground. The school is also adjacent to 100 acres of Township owned dune land.

Grand Haven High School

Grand Haven Township

The High School on 129 acres is located centrally in the Township and opened in September of 1997. The building houses a gymnasium field house for 3,000 spectators, an aquatic center with a pool open for community use, and a large performing arts auditorium as well as other inside gymnasiums and facilities. The outside facilities include eight tennis courts, a soccer & lacrosse stadium, a football stadium with track facilities, a football practice field, two baseball diamonds, two softball fields, and a cross-country trail.

Peach Plains Elementary School

Grand Haven Township

Peach Plains Elementary School is located in the northeastern region of the Township on 14 acres of land. The recreational facilities include a playground, combined basketball/tennis courts, a play field, and a softball field. Indoor facilities include a gymnasium.

Rosy Mound Elementary School

Grand Haven Township

Rosy Mound Elementary School is located along Lakeshore Drive in the western regions of the Township. The school is located on a smaller school site with 10 acres of land. The school facilities available for recreation include a playground, basketball courts, a softball field, outdoor shelter, exercise course and a play field. Indoor facilities include a gymnasium.

Lakeshore Middle School

City of Grand Haven

Facilities include a football and track field, tennis courts, shared tennis/basketball courts, and two open fields.

Ferry Elementary School

City of Grand Haven

Facilities include a large playground, two softball fields, and basketball courts.

Mary A. White Middle School

City of Grand Haven

Facilities include two softball fields, basketball courts and a playground.

White Pines Middle and Griffin Elementary School

City of Grand Haven

Facilities include tennis courts, combined football/soccer/track facility, two baseball fields and a large playground area.

Previous Michigan Department of Natural Resources Recreation Grants Documentation

Each of the communities have received previous Michigan Department of Natural Resources Recreation Grants which are listed below. These projects have been vital additions to recreation within the community and are enjoyed daily. The communities have completed the required Post Completion Self Certification forms which are available separately.

City of Ferrysburg Previous Grants

City of Ferrysburg-Grant History and Inventory

Year	Number	Project Title	Project Scope	Grant Amount	Status
1972	26-00345	Municipal Park	Develop 4.8 acres with 1 ball damond, 2 tennis courts, parking, fencing, landscaping and site improvements.	\$ 19,500.00	Closed
1983	TF717	North Shore Dune	Acquisition of large forested sand dune within the Grand Haven city limits and is adjacent to an existing Cernral Michigan University natuer preserve, locally known as Kitchel dunes.	\$300,000.00	Closed
1993	BF93-291	Coast Guard Park Development	Coast Guard Park entrance improements, sie prepartiaon, drives, parking, walks, paved walkway, basketball court, sand volleyball courts, picnic shelter, play area, site furniture, and landscaping.	\$ 150,000.00	Closed
1999	CM99-259	Coast Guard Park	Tennis courts with lighting, basketball courts with lighting, 3 volleyball court s with lighting, paved walkway, walkway lighting, paved driveway and parking area with lighting.	\$ 172,500.00	Closed
Total Amount of Grant Funds Awarded				\$ 642,000.00	

City of Grand Haven Previous Grants

City of Grand Haven- Grant History and Inventory

Year	Number	Project Title	Project Scope	Grant Amount	Status
1973	26-00391	Grand River Boat Launch Area	Land acquisition of 3.25 land on the Grand River	\$ 24,151.45	Closed
1977	26-01023 S	Eastern Park Development	Picnic area, picnic shelter with benches, playground, restroom, and walkways.	\$ 35,257.54	Closed
1985	26-01438	Chinook Pier Park	Irrigation system, landscaping, paved walkway, picnic shelters, play equipment, site furniture/benches/drinking fountain, signs, site preparation/grading/removal, street construction/curb/work/tops oil and seeding.	\$ 64,095.39	Closed
1993	BF93-262	Mulligan's Hollow	Ballfield improvements, clearing/ removals/grading, Five Mile Hill Overlook, parking area, picnic tables, resurface tennis courts, signage, topographic survey, topsoil, and seeding.	\$ 110,000.00	Closed
1998	BF98-100	Harbor Island Observation Deck	Floating observation deck, connector paths, construction of natural trails, observation deck ADA compliant, site amenities and signage, site preparation.	\$ 26,680.00	Closed

2004	26-01639	Mulligan's Hollow Skate Park	Development of a concrete skate park and utilities within Mulligan's Hollow Park.	\$ 178,800.00	Closed
2008	TF08-076	East Grand River Park Improvements	Development will include barrier-free boardwalk with fishing piers along the Grand River, playground, and gazebos.	\$ 300,000.00	Closed
2009	TF09-099	City Beach Improvements	Development to include a family facility, picnic tables and sidewalk to link bathroom facility to existing barrier-free walk to Lake Michigan.	\$ 115,200.00	Closed
2010	TF10-003	Eagle Ottawa Riverfront Acquisition	Acquisition of two parcels of water frontage to enable the city to develop a linear park and trail to connect the city's east and west sides.	\$ 181,000.00	Withdrawn

2010	TF16-0042	Waterfront Stadium Park Renovation	Development to improve the Grand River waterfront at Waterfront Stadium Park, removing the current concrete pad and bleacher seating used to view the musical fountain, fireworks and the Grand River and replacing it with an outdoor amphitheater which will include a grassy area for volleyball and ice rink use to expand on the site's year round use. New ramps will increase access to viewing and river enjoyment for all mobility levels. With this renovation, the City will be one step closer to its goal of expanding the waterfront area to full recreational use by the public.	\$ 280,000.00	Closed
2016	TF16-0043	Mulligan's Hollow Parking Improvements	A development project that will create a new parking area of approximately one acre 134 spaces in Mulligan's Hollow Park. Parking in Mulligan's Hollow has been stretched to the limit and the current 125 spaces available no longer meet demand. The new parking	\$ 280,000.00	Closed
2017	TF17-0062	Sluka Field Restroom/Concession Building Renovation.	Access pathways, recycle bins, restroom building, and utilities.	\$ 300,000.00	Closed

2019	26-01827	Mulligan's Hollow Park Improvements	Access pathway 6' wide or more, basketball court, benches, fence, landscaping, paved parking area, picnic tables, and recycle bins.	\$ 258,300.00	Closed
2023	26-01888	Sluka Field Renovations	Bleachers, dugouts, fence, landscaping, lighting, and paved parking area.	\$ 293,900.00	Open
Total Amount of Grant Given				\$ 2,447,384.38	

Grand Haven Charter Township Previous Grants

Grand Haven Township- Grant History and Inventory

Year	Number	Project Title	Project Scope	Grant Amount	Status
1973	26-00429	Mercury Drive Park Acquisition	Acquisition of 6.9 acres to develop Mercury Park.	\$ 32,812.79	Closed
1976	26-00777	Hofma Nature Park	Two restrooms, water well, parking, trails with benches, and LWCF sign.	\$ 23,697.56	Closed
1984	26-01358	Hofma Trust Park Development	Acquisition of 100 acres for Hofma Park.	\$ 164,161.73	Closed
1989	BF89-483	Hofma Park Recreation	Development of Hofma Park including soccer field, picnic areas, playgrounds, outdoor basketball court, paved entrance road and parking.	\$ 112,000.00	Closed
1990	TF90-254	Pottawattomie Park	Development of a floating pier, playgrounds, picnic area, volleyball courts, drives and parking, signage, lighting and a restroom on Pottawattomie Bayou of the Grand River.	\$ 300,000.00	Closed
1994	TF94-258	Pottawattomie Park	Development of the second phase of a 21 acre Township park to address recreational deficiencies including soccer, trails, and fishing/water access.	\$ 100,000.00	Closed
1997	TF97-112	Odawa/Battle Point Launch (Formerly 144th Avenue Land Acquisition)	Acquisition of 1.58 acres of property on the Grand River adjacent to the 144th Avenue road end. An additional 0.56 acres of road right-of-way will be relinquished by the Ottawa County Road Commission.	\$ 123,500.00	Closed

1999	TF99-048	Odawa/Battle Point Launch (Formerly 144th Avenue Boat Launch)	Development of a boat launch on the Grand River near Lake Michigan and numerous bayous including 57 parking spaces, two tie-down areas, four ramps with skid piers, a restroom, security camera, utilities, and wood fencing.	\$ 275,000.00	Closed
2014	TF14-0117	Hofma Park and Preserve Land Acquisition Project	A 40 acre land acquisition that is adjacent to and abutting the existing 427 acre Hofma Park and Preserve.	\$ 276,500.00	Closed
2020	TF20-0148	Hofma Park and Preserve Land Acquisition	Acquisition of 15 acres adjacent to the existing Hofma Park and Preserve. The acquisition allows for the future northern entrance to Hofma Park and Preserve as well as direct access to the non-motorized trail system.	\$ 246,300.00	Closed
2020	TF20-0154	Hofma Park & Preserve-Trail Expansion & Universal Design	Development of a new trail network at the 566 -acre Hofma Park and Preserve. Improvements include nearly 3 miles of multi-use and hiking rails, boardwalk, parking, native landscaping and observation deck within an area noted as shaving a high probability ranking per the Michigan Natural Features Inventory. The trails interconnect and expand an existing rail network in the park.	\$ 300,000.00	Closed
Total Amount of Grant Given				\$ 1,953,972.08	

Spring Lake Township Previous Grants

Spring Lake Township-Grant Inventory

Year	Number	Project Title	Project Scope	Grant Amount	Status
1993	BF93-268	Rycenga Recreational Park	Nature Trails, overlooks, soccer and softball fields, play area and shelters.	\$ 250,000.00	Closed
2000	CM00-112	Rycenga Recreational Park	Boardwalks, tables, bassetball courts, parking and irrigation	\$ 280,000.00	Closed
2009	TF09-112	North Bank Trail Development	1.5 miles of paved pathway	\$ 231,500.00	Closed
2010	TF10-165	Glafcke Family Public Preserve Acquisition	Acquisition of 1.83 acres of land for a view shed and habitat protection on the Grand River .	\$ 61,200.00	Closed
2011	TF11-048	Pellegrom Property Acquisition	Acquisition of 4 acres of land for a view shed and habitat portection on the Grand River.	\$ 30,000.00	Closed
2012	TF12-064	Rycenga Park Picnic Shelter & Improvements	New picnic shelter, concrete walks and apron, and playground improvements	\$ 46,500.00	Closed
2012	TF13-104	Hines Property Acquisition (Little Black Lake)	Acquisition of 30 acres adjacent to the Little Black Lake and Black Lake Park including approximately 650 linial feet of frontage on Little Black Lake.	\$ 94,900.00	Closed
Total Amount of Grant Given				\$ 994,100.00	

Village of Spring Lake Previous Grants

Village of Spring Lake-Grant History and Inventory

Year	Number	Project Title	Project Scope	Grant Amount	Status
1975	26-00576	Central Park	Develop site improvements, parking and access road, 3 tennis courts, 6 shuffleboard, picnic area, and a LWCF sign.	\$ 15,000.00	Closed
1977	26-00850	Central Park	Develop 2 acres for toilet building, relocate and upgrade tot lot, landscaping, and LWCF sign.	\$17,000.00	Closed
1988	TF88-112	Spring Lake Bikeway	Construction of 1.5 mile, 9-foot wide paved bicycle/pedestrian trail.	\$ 128,000.00	Closed
1997	TF97-267	Community Boardwalk	Construction of 1,650 linear feet of boardwalk, 736 linear feet of concrete pathway, 374 linear feet of bituminous pathway, and public access to the Village's waterfront for fishing and observation.	\$ 64,360.00	Closed
1999	CM99-439	Central Park Renovation	Renovation of the Central Park ballfield including regrading, reseeding, lighting, fencing and new bleachers.	\$ 47,480.00	Closed
2000	TF00-136	Lakeside Beach Acquisition	Acquisition in fee simple of approximately one-half acre of property on the shore of Spring Lake to expand the Lakeside Beach Park.	\$ 122,550.00	Closed

2009	TF09-015	Grand River Greenway Non-Motorized Trail	Development of a trail within the Village of Spring Lake and recreation facilities including 16 new boat slips, restroom, canoe/kayak launch, and four wildlife viewing/fishing areas along the Grand River and the Grand River Marsh.	\$ 465,000.00	Closed
2009	TF09-064	Grand River Greenway Trail Acquisition	Acquisition of .43 Acres to connect to Tanglefoot Park to downtown Spring Lake, South St. sidewalk, intermediate and middle schools, and sports complex fields	\$ 88,700.00	Withdrawn
2010	TF10-154	Grand River Greenway Non-Motorized Trail	Acquisition of 35.56 acres for a continuation of the Grand River Greenway Non-Motorized Trail	\$ 330,000.00	Withdrawn
2012	TF12-041	Mill Point Park Expansion	Acquisition of .61 acres to provide green space and short-term parking for Mill Point Park.	\$ 93,000.00	Withdrawn

2020	TF20-0082	Tanglefoot Park UA Waterfront Redevelopment	Redevelopment of Tanglefoot Park including splash park, concrete patio and fireplace, access pathways 6' wide or more, dog waste station, benches, bike racks, dumpster enclosure, canoe/kayak launch, drinking fountain, landscaping, lighting, overlook, parking area, signage, and trash bins.	\$ 300,000.00	Closed
Total Amount of Grant Funds Awarded				\$ 1,671,090.00	

Planning Process

The Planning Process section of the plan provides a description of the process completed by the community in developing the plan. It includes descriptions of each of the steps, important meeting summaries and minutes, public advertisements, copies of the adoption resolutions, and Michigan Department of Natural Resources submittal information.

Continued Regional Joint Planning Effort

Since the original plan was adopted in 2015, the overall community has seen numerous impacts from the regional recreational planning efforts. These have included successful land acquisitions, regional planning on linear parks and pathways, increased funding opportunities, greater knowledge of the regional facilities available, public awareness to recreational opportunities, and overall economic development for the region. In striving to continue from the success of the first plan, this update for the years 2020-2024 seeks to continue what was started and continue to expand public opportunities.

Community Recreation Plan Committee

The five communities established a Joint Recreation Plan Development Committee in which each community assigned one representative to act as the liaison between the Committee and their respective communities. The Committee met and oversaw the development of the planning document. The five communities determined that the best way to complete a joint recreation plan was to retain a recreation consultant to assist in the plan development. The five communities jointly retained the firm of PM Blough, Inc. to assist in the development of the recreation inventory, public input, the planning process, and the writing of the plan document

Recreation Inventory and ADA Assessments

A comprehensive inventory was completed of the recreational facilities within the five governmental jurisdictions. The results of this inventory are included in the Recreation Inventory Section of this document and are broken into resources by each governmental unit as well as summarized as a whole community. As with past plans, the overall regional public park map and the unified park facilities inventory chart has been updated. These tools continue to be very useful and popular for the public and planning purposes. Individual park sheets were updated for each park in a unified manner which can also be used for additional uses beyond the plan such as local websites and informational handouts.

Development of Goals & Objectives

As each of the five communities are independent and uniquely different, they each developed a series of Goals and Objectives for providing for parks and recreation within their communities. These goals and objectives were updated for this plan which reflect

both the individual characteristics of each governmental unit as well as characteristics and wording from community to community which further emphasizes the unity felt within the expanded community in providing the best opportunities for the residents and visitors. The Goals and Objectives for each of the communities are shown in the Goals and Objectives Section of this plan.

Development of the Action Program

Independent Action Plans were developed for each community through processes which included staff, community, and elected official input. These resulted in the development of a consolidated community wide Potential Property Acquisition List and a Consolidated Potential Project List, as well as individual Action Plans for each community. The consolidated lists allow for the communities to readily view the thoughts and planning for recreation on a community-wide basis.

Development and Review of Draft Plan

A draft plan document was written and compiled for public review and comment prior to formal adoption by the local units of government.

Support from Recreational Boards, Commission and Committees

Each governmental unit has an individual recreation board or advisory committee. Each of these played an active role in reviewing and providing recommendations to their Councils and Boards for the proposed Action Plan for their agency. Minutes and/or resolutions are included in the following pages from each of the five governments.

Public Input Process

Early Public Input Community Survey

As part of the planning process to gather public input, a public survey was again developed and implemented by the Frost Research Center of Hope College to obtain opinions of community residents on existing recreation programs, park facilities, and future priorities. This extensive scientific based survey collected responses from a total of 598 residents via internet and telephone surveys as well as further in-depth stakeholder surveys conducted with advocates and program staff representing aging adults, residents with disabilities, and coaches/program staff. The survey results were compiled by the region, as well as, broken down for each of the five governmental units. The survey report, *Northwest Ottawa Parks 2024 Recreation Survey*, which includes the full survey report and results are included in Appendix A of this document.

Thirty Day Public Comment Period

Once the draft document was completed, the plan was made available for not less than thirty days for public review by all of the residents in all five of the communities. This was made possible by a joint public notice in the local Grand Haven Tribune newspaper and placement on local governmental public notice posting sites. Draft copies of the plans were made available at all five governmental offices and electronic copies were available on city, village, and township websites.

Public Hearings and Plan Adoption Minutes

Public Hearings were held at each of the five governmental units prior to adoption of the plan. Minutes of each of the public hearings are provided in the following pages. The Minutes are currently in draft format and will be finalized in _____ 2025.

Resolutions of Adoption of the Plan by the Five Governmental Units

The plan was adopted by all five governmental units in the month of December 2024 with the final community approving the plan on _____, 2025 completing the adoption process. Copies of all of the resolutions are included within this document.

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City of Ferrysburg Goals and Objectives

The Goals and Objectives provide overall guidance and vision for the future of parks and recreation within the community and are based on the recreation inventory, data, and public input collected throughout the planning process. The Action Plan section of this plan determines proposed projects that help to meet these Goals and Objectives. These Goals are not given in a priority order, with the numerical numbering provided for identification only.

Goal Number 1: *To provide multi-generational recreational opportunities within the community as the City is comprised of persons of all ages.*

Objectives:

- a. To provide park facilities and recreational opportunities for all persons of multiple generations, extended family groups, and large groups to universally enjoy the parks.
- b. To provide a variety of picnic opportunities with adequate restroom facilities.

Goal Number 2: *To provide recreational facilities for persons of all abilities.*

Objectives:

- a. Renovate existing facilities, that will expand recreational opportunities for all residents that will meet or exceed the American with Disabilities Act, (ADA), and provide for Universal Accessibility when possible.

Goal Number 3: *To increase parking capacity to accommodate increased use of the parks.*

- a. Provide necessary improvements to provide parking meeting or exceeding ADA and Universal Accessibility standards for the parks.

Goal Number 4: *The City will continue to provide and expand diversified recreational and natural experiences for the residents.*

Objectives:

- a. To enhance additional cultural, recreational, and natural parklands where possible.

- b. To develop individual site utilization plans for each park property.

Goal Number 5: *To continue to provide, as much as possible, free use of the parks and facilities.*

Objectives:

- a. To continue to allow for open use of the park lands and to not charge admission into the facilities to provide public recreational opportunities for all residents regardless of economic status.
- b. To minimally charge, if necessary, for special events, facility usage and athletic field maintenance to keep the facilities available for public use.

Goal Number 6: *To continue the development of the Trail System within the City for the purpose of providing for healthy lifestyles through exercise, enjoyment of the environment, and as a Trail System linking homes, schools, parks, and commercial areas.*

Objectives:

- a. To continue to expand the Trail System providing additional linkages to Coast Guard Park, North Ottawa Dunes, The Sands County Park, and North Beach Park via the Idema Explorers Trail and the U.S. Bicycle Route System Route 35. Create future linkages whenever possible to the above and other planned Ottawa County and regional non-motorized systems.
- b. To maintain a master plan for pathway development which includes both the City pathways and regional proposed pathways.
- c. To improve orientation, route and information signage along the pathways.
- d. To create additional trailhead parking locations, linkages, and small rest parks along the pathways.

Goal Number 7: *To seek cooperative efforts with adjoining governmental units in providing the public with parks, recreation facilities, and programming.*

Objectives:

- a. To continue to support the Northwest Ottawa Recreation Authority, NORA, which provides public recreation programming for the community.
- b. To continue to seek new and support existing cooperative agreements with adjoining local governmental units for the development and operation of parks and recreation facilities.
- c. To encourage and participate in the development of the Grand River Heritage Water Trail along the Grand River including kayak launches, signage of public access points along the river from both land and water sides, as well as water route maps.
- d. To continue to support the efforts of the Ottawa County Road Commission in the development of end of road access points to the Grand River and bayous, as well as non-motorized transportation facilities.
- e. To encourage the discussion of expanding regionally based public recreation for facilities, programs, and special events in order to facilitate the best opportunities for residents for the most reasonable expense.

Goal Number 8: ***To increase public awareness and knowledge of the recreational opportunities which exist for the City residents and visitors.***

Objectives:

- a. To increase promotion and awareness of parks and public recreation opportunities.

Goal Number 9: ***To be a community that celebrates and promotes recreational tourism.***

Objectives:

- a. To encourage the public use of facilities for special recreational events.
- b. To encourage promotion of recreational bicycle and water trail tourism.

City of Grand Haven Goals and Objectives

The Goals and Objectives provide overall guidance and vision for the future of parks and recreation within the community and are based on the recreation inventory, data, and public input collected throughout the planning process. The Action Plan section of this plan determines proposed projects that help to meet these Goals and Objectives. These Goals are not given in a priority order, with the numerical numbering provided for identification only.

Goal Number 1: *To provide multi-generational recreational opportunities within the community as the City is comprised of persons of all ages.*

Objectives:

- a. To provide facilities and open park lands for recreational opportunities for all ages.
- b. To allow for persons of multiple generations, extended family groups, and large groups to universally enjoy nature preserves, parks, and recreational facilities and programming.

Goal Number 2: *To provide recreational facilities for persons of all mental and physical abilities.*

Objectives:

- a. To renovate existing facilities and develop new facilities that meet or exceed the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Universal Accessibility Guidelines to expand recreational opportunities for all residents.
- b. To renovate existing facilities that integrate accessible accommodations to be used seamlessly by all community users and not cause a separation of users based on abilities.

Goal Number 3: *As growth continues with and surrounding the City, our public outdoor areas continue to grow in significance and usage. The City will continue to provide diversified outdoor experiences for the residents.*

Objectives:

- a. The City will retain all dedicated park lands for the use and enjoyment of community users. The City will not convert existing park lands into non-recreational uses.
- b. The City will continue to protect and plan for the best usage of natural areas including woodlots, natural vegetation, and river and lake frontage.
- c. The City will purchase, or receive as gifts, additional park lands as deemed appropriate to continue to expand recreational lands for the use of City residents.

Goal Number 4: To continue to provide, as much as possible, maximum use of the parks and facilities by residents.

Objectives:

- a. To continue to allow for open use of the park lands and to not charge admission to the facilities.
- b. To provide for general public recreational opportunities for all community users regardless of economic status.
- c. To minimally charge for special events, private events and athletic field maintenance in order to keep the facilities available for general public use.

Goal Number 5: To seek cooperative efforts with adjoining governmental units in providing the public with parks, recreation facilities, and programming.

Objectives:

- a. To continue to support public recreation programming for the community through the Northwest Ottawa Recreation Authority (NORA).
- b. To continue to seek new and support existing cooperative agreements with adjoining local governmental units for the development and operation of parks and recreation facilities.

- c. To support the efforts of the Ottawa County Parks and Recreation Commission for the acquisition and development of parklands including the Grand River Greenway along the Grand River and the North Coastal Greenway along Lake Michigan.
- d. To encourage the development of The Grand River Heritage Water Trail along the Grand River including signage of public access points along the river from both land and water sides, as well as water route maps.
- e. To continue to support the efforts of the Ottawa County Road Commission in the development of end of road access points to the Grand River and bayous.
- f. To encourage the discussion of expanding regional based public recreation for facilities, programs, and special events in order to facilitate the best opportunities for residents for the most reasonable expense.
- g. To encourage the development of the Non-Motorized Pathway, Sidewalk, and On-Street Systems within the City and surrounding communities for the purpose of facilitating healthy lifestyles through exercise and enjoyment of the environment, as well as link neighborhoods, schools, parks, and commercial areas.

Goal Number 6: *To support, as appropriate, non-profit organizations and citizens who choose to provide recreational facilities and programming for the residents.*

Objectives:

- a. To provide a balance of programming for all ages, cultures and abilities within the community.
- b. To provide programming to address social concerns such as senior and preschool populations, after school programs, and community health.
- c. To continue to support programs and special events which are jointly supported by public schools, non-profits, and civic organizations.
- d. To encourage recreational and cultural events which also support economic development within the community.

- e. To encourage and support park facility development within the parks by citizens and non-profits organizations.

Grand Haven Charter Township Goals and Objectives

The Goals and Objectives section of the plan provides goals for the future of parks and recreation within the community. These goals have been written for the plan based on public input for current and future recreational opportunities. Each goal is further defined by the Objectives that follow. The Action Plan section of this plan determines proposed projects that help to meet these goals. These goals are not given in a priority order, and the numerical numbering is for identification only.

Goal Number 1: *To provide safe multi-generational recreational opportunities within the community as the Township is comprised of persons of all abilities and ages.*

Objectives:

- a. To provide activities for each of the major age and activity groups.
- b. To provide for activities and experiences that can be enjoyed together with persons of multiple ages.
- c. To allow for all persons of multiple generations, extended family, and large groups to universally gather and enjoy the parks.
- d. Continue adding security measures to parks such as surveillance cameras, and lighting.

Goal Number 2: *To provide Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accessible and Universal Accessible recreational facilities for all people, regardless of age, disability or other factors.*

Objectives:

- a. To develop new facilities that will expand recreational opportunities for all residents.
- b. To develop and upgrade new and existing facilities that will meet or exceed the Americans with Disabilities Act, (ADA) and Universal Accessibility.
- c. To develop new, and upgrade existing, facilities that integrate Universal Design in such a way that they are seamlessly used by all residents within

the community and to not cause separation of users based on abilities or their need to use a stroller, wagon, cart, etc.

- d. Incorporate Universally Accessible designed amenities to existing parks such as benches, drinking fountains, artwork, refuse containers, pet waste disposal stations, bike racks, shaded areas, cooling stations, etc.
- e. Upgrade bathroom facilities and incorporate Universal Design.

Goal Number 3: *To retain all existing park lands for the use and enjoyment of residents.*

Objectives:

- a. To retain existing recreational lands for recreational use or to preserve open space.
- b. To maintain and upgrade the existing park facilities.
- c. Enhancements and upgrades made to the parks should be supported by the Community Recreation Plan.
- d. Whenever possible, natural methods should be used, such as stabilizing a shoreline via natural plantings with native species.
- e. Create volunteer opportunities for the community to help maintain the parks by picking up trash or removing invasive species.

Goal Number 4: *As residential growth continues within the Township, the natural areas owned by the Township continue to grow in significance and face increased public usage. The Township will continue to provide diversified natural experiences for the residents.*

Objectives:

- a. Revisit and update the Hofma Vision.
- b. The future of parks and recreation should support the Resilient Master Plan and vice versa. For example, utilizing rain gardens for stormwater disposition and incorporating native plantings in stormwater basins to filter runoff before it recharges the groundwater.

- c. Support future ballot initiatives for long-term maintenance, development of the Schmidt Heritage Park, and other park and recreation related expenses.
- d. Whenever feasible, incorporate pollinator habitats by way of wildflower fields and milkweed to help the declining populations of honey bees and monarch butterflies.
- e. To protect and plan for the best usage of natural areas within all of the Township's parks, recreational facilities, and natural preserves.
- f. To consider property acquisitions in order to expand the existing parks, recreation facilities, and natural preserves within the Township as long as the property abuts an existing park or is waterfront, particularly along Lake Michigan, the Grand River or its bayous.
- g. Encourage gifts of land to the Township or the Land Conservancy of West Michigan for potential future park lands and preserves.
- h. Potential donations and acquisitions will all be reviewed and considered carefully based on the circumstances present at the time.

Goal Number 5: *To continue to provide free use of the parks and facilities, as much as possible.*

Objectives:

- a. To continue to allow for open use of the park lands and to not charge admission into the facilities to provide public recreational opportunities for all residents regardless of economic status.
- b. To minimally charge, as required, for the boat launch operation, special events, facility usage and athletic fields to keep the facilities maintained and available for public use.

Goal Number 6: *To continue the planning for the development of the Non-Motorized Pathway System within the Township for the purpose of providing healthy lifestyles through exercise, enjoyment of the environment, and as a non-motorized transportation system linking homes, schools, parks, and commercial areas.*

Objectives:

- a. To continue to expand the system providing additional linkages.
- b. To link the system whenever possible to other planned county and regional non-motorized systems including linkages shown on the Ottawa County Non-Motorized Pathway Study prepared by the Ottawa County Planning and Grants Department in 2008. The study shows proposed regional routes along Lake Michigan Drive, and Mercury Drive along the Grand River as well as more newly proposed US-35 Bicycle Route from Sault Ste. Marie, MI to Natchez Trace, MS.
- c. To support future ballot issues for additional funding for pathway system development and maintenance.
- d. For future pathway expansions, create a master plan for pathway development which includes both the Township System and regional proposed pathways.
- e. Create an “Adopt-a-Pathway” program to enable volunteer groups to be responsible for caretaking and of a pathway segment.
- f. Ensure the community is aware that all mobility-related equipment is allowed on the pathway system. For example, motorized wheelchair, electric scooter, or Other Power-Driven Mobility Devices designed primarily for use by an individual with a mobility disability, for the main purpose of both indoor and outdoor recreation.

Goal Number 7: To continue to support Northwest Ottawa Recreation Authority (NORA) which is jointly supported by the regional governmental agencies and public schools. Encourage non-profit organizations to provide recreational programming, maintenance and special events within the community.

Objectives:

- a. To assist, as funds allow, the non-profit organizations through the development and maintenance of recreational facilities that support recreational programming and special events.
- b. Support NORA and its mission statement, goals and objectives, programming, and coordination with the surrounding communities.

Goal Number 8: *Seek cooperative efforts with adjoining governmental units in providing public parks and recreation facilities.*

Goal Number 9: *To support the efforts of the Ottawa County Parks and Recreation Commission and continue to nurture the relationship between the Township and the County.*

Objectives:

- a. To support the County’s acquisition and development of public recreation lands along Lake Michigan known as the North Coastal Greenway. Within Grand Haven Charter Township, these parks currently include Rosy Mound Natural Area and Kirk Park. The County parks along Lake Michigan provide lake access to all Township residents as well as attract users from throughout the larger West Michigan community.
- b. To support the County’s acquisition and development of public recreation lands along the Grand River known as the Grand River Greenway and the Grand River Heritage Water Trail.
- c. To support the County efforts to retain Hiawatha Forest, a 365 acre site east of Kirk Park, as a natural area with hardwoods and pines.
- d. Support efforts to protect thousands of acres of natural lands, creating green infrastructure, developing new recreational opportunities and connecting communities, specifically, linking the Bass River State Recreation Area to Grand Haven in order to complete the Grand River Greenway Project.

Goal Number 10: *To support and encourage the discussion of an expanded regional recreation authority with neighboring cities, townships, and school districts to participate in cooperative efforts.*

Objectives:

- a. To plan and provide for active and passive recreational facilities based on regional need and use through the authority.
- b. To continue providing programming staff and community recreation programs through a regional recreation authority.
- c. To promote NORA’s effort to be self-sustaining through a millage proposal.

Goal Number 11: *To increase public awareness and knowledge of the recreational opportunities which exist for the Township residents and visitors.*

Objectives:

- a. Develop promotional brochures and materials with information on the parks, including their amenities, locations, etc.
- b. Utilize the Township's website to provide access to electronic versions of information.
- c. Utilize the Township's social media presence on Facebook.
- d. Add interpretive signage to Township parks.

Goal Number 12: *To be a community that celebrates and promotes recreational tourism.*

Objectives:

- a. To encourage the public use of facilities for special recreational events.
- b. To encourage promotion of recreational non-motorized pathways and water trail tourism.
- c. To promote special events, such as sports tournaments, festivals and community special events. Integrate food truck food service opportunities and develop regulations to support the events.

Spring Lake Township Goals and Objectives

The Goals and Objectives provide overall guidance and vision for the future of parks and recreation within the community and are based on the recreation inventory, data, and public input collected throughout the planning process. The Action Plan section of this plan determines proposed projects that help to meet these Goals and Objectives. These Goals are not given in a priority order, with the numerical numbering provided for identification only.

Vision: *Spring Lake Township strives to be the location of choice to live, learn, work, and recreate.*

Goal Number 1: *To provide multi-generational recreational opportunities within the community as the Township is comprised of persons of all ages and abilities.*

Objectives:

- a. To provide opportunities for each of the major age and activity groups.
- b. To provide opportunities and experiences that can be enjoyed together with persons of multiple ages.
- c. To allow for all persons of multiple generations to universally enjoy the parks.
- d. To develop new facilities that will expand recreational opportunities for all residents utilizing universal design.
- e. To develop new facilities, and renovate existing facilities, that will meet or exceed the Americans with Disabilities Act, (ADA) and Universal Accessible Guidelines in a manner that allows seamless use by all residents.

Goal Number 2: *To retain all existing park lands for the use and enjoyment of residents.*

Objectives:

- a. To maintain the park facilities at a level consistent to the uses and desires of the community.
- b. To make improvements to the parks based on the Community Recreation Plan.

Goal Number 3: *The Township will develop a strategy to ensure that recreational needs are met as residential growth continues within the Township.*

Objectives:

- a. To acquire additional cultural, recreational, and natural parklands.
- b. To develop individual site utilization plans for each park property.
- c. To develop a plan, consistent with the *Spring Lake Township Resource Inventory*, that will encourage gifts of land to the Township or the Land Conservancy of West Michigan for additional parklands and preserves.
- d. To create and maintain a Green Infrastructure Plan based, in part, on a natural features inventory.
- e. To continue to seek out opportunities to enhance waterfront access to Spring Lake, Lake Michigan, Little Black Lake, and the Grand River, including the concept of pocket parks.
- f. To collaborate with other governmental agencies to better serve Township residents and the region as well.

Goal Number 4: *To continue to provide, as much as possible, free use of the parks and facilities.*

Objectives:

- a. To continue to allow for open use of the park lands and to not charge admission into the facilities to provide public recreational opportunities for all residents.
- b. To minimally charge, as necessary, for special events, facility usage and athletic field maintenance to keep the facilities available for public use.

Goal Number 5: *To continue the development and maintenance of the Non-Motorized Pathway System within the Township for the purpose of providing for healthy lifestyles through exercise, enjoyment of the environment, and as a non-motorized transportation system linking homes, schools, parks, and commercial areas.*

Objectives:

- a. To maintain the pathway system in a manner to assure the safety of all users and enhance the longevity of the investment.
- b. To continue to expand the system providing additional linkages as determined by the Spring Lake Township pathway map approved by the Recreation Committee and Township Board.
- c. To link the system whenever possible to other planned county and regional non-motorized systems including linkages shown on the Ottawa County Non-Motorized Pathway Study prepared by the Ottawa County Planning and Grants Department. The study shows proposed regional routes for the North Bank Trail and the US 35 Bicycle Route System from Sault Ste. Marie, MI to Natchez Trace, MS.
- d. To maintain a master plan for pathway development and maintenance, which includes both the Township System and regional proposed pathways.
- e. To improve orientation, route and information for the pathways through signage and utilization of the latest available technology.
- f. To create additional trailhead parking locations, linkages, and small rest parks along the pathways.
- g. To consider participating in the “Trail Towns” philosophy that enhances the experience of the trail user through collaboration with local businesses.

Goal Number 6: *To seek cooperative efforts with adjoining governmental units in providing the public with parks, recreation facilities, and programming.*

Objectives:

- a. To continue to support the Spring Lake Area Recreation Commission, who provides public recreation programming for the community.
- b. To continue to seek new and support existing cooperative agreements with adjoining local governmental units for the development and operation of parks and recreation facilities.
- c. To support the efforts of the Ottawa County Parks and Recreation Commission for the acquisition and development of parklands that mutually benefit our region.

- d. To encourage the development of the Grand River Heritage Water Trail system along the Grand River including signage of public access points along the river from both land and water sides, as well as water route maps.
- e. To continue to work cooperatively with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources regarding state owned recreation properties within the Township.
- f. To encourage the discussion of expanding regional based public recreation for facilities, programs, and special events to facilitate the best opportunities for residents for the most reasonable expense.

Goal Number 7: *To increase public awareness and knowledge of the recreational opportunities which exist for the township residents and visitors.*

Objectives:

- a. To promote parks with the Township through utilization of various means including newsletters, website, brochures and materials with information on the parks.
- b. To enhance information related to parks that have Universal and ADA design features.

Goal Number 8: *To be a community that celebrates and promotes recreational tourism.*

Objectives:

- a. To encourage the public use of facilities for special recreational events.
- b. To encourage promotion of recreational bicycle and water trail tourism.

Village of Spring Lake Goals and Objectives

The Goals and Objectives provide overall guidance and vision for the future of parks and recreation within the community and are based on the recreation inventory, data, and public input collected throughout the planning process. The Action Plan section of this plan determines proposed projects that help to meet these Goals and Objectives. These Goals are not given in a priority order, with the numerical numbering provided for identification only.

Goal Number 1: *To provide multi-generational recreational opportunities within the community as the Village is comprised of persons of all ages.*

Objectives:

- a. To provide activities for each of the major age and activity groups.
- b. To provide for activities and experiences that can be enjoyed together with persons of multiple ages.
- c. To allow for all persons of multiple generations, extended family groups, and large groups to universally enjoy the parks.

Goal Number 2: *To provide recreational facilities for persons of all abilities both mentally and physically.*

Objectives:

- a. To develop facilities that will expand recreational opportunities for all residents.
- b. To renovate existing facilities, that will meet or exceed the Americans with Disabilities Act, (ADA) and Universal Accessibility Guidelines.
- c. To integrate ADA accommodations in all new facilities in such a way that they are seamlessly used by all residents within the community and to not cause separation of users based on abilities.

Goal Number 3: *To retain and maintain all existing park lands for the use and enjoyment of residents.*

Objectives:

- a. To retain existing recreational lands for recreational use.

- b. To maintain the park facilities at a level consistent to the uses and desires of the community.
- c. To make improvements to the parks based on the Community Recreation Plan.

Goal Number 4: *To seek cooperative efforts with adjoining governmental units in providing the public with parks, recreation facilities, and programming.*

Objectives:

- a. To continue to support public recreation programming for the community.
- b. To continue to seek new and support existing cooperative agreements with adjoining local governmental units for the development and operation of parks and recreation facilities.
- c. To support the efforts of the Ottawa County Parks and Recreation Commission for the acquisition and development of parklands including the Grand River Greenway along the Grand River, and the North Coastal Greenway along Lake Michigan.
- d. To encourage the development of the Grand River Heritage Water Trail system along the Grand River including signage of public access points along the river from both land and water sides, as well as water route maps.
- e. To continue to support the efforts of the Ottawa County Road Commission in the development of end-of-road access points to the Grand River and bayous, as well as non-motorized transportation facilities.
- f. To encourage the discussion of expanding regional based public recreation for facilities, programs, and special events to facilitate the best opportunities for residents for the most reasonable expense.

Goal Number 5: *To increase public awareness and knowledge of the recreational opportunities which exist for the Village residents and visitors.*

Objectives:

- a. Maintain and improve the Village website and social media presence with information on the parks.
- b. Utilize technology to provide access to and promote recreational opportunities.

Goal Number 6: *To be a community that celebrates and promotes recreational tourism.*

Objectives:

- a. To encourage the public use of facilities for special recreational events.
- b. To encourage promotion of recreational bicycle and water trail tourism.

Goal Number 7: *To provide a sustainable funding plan for ongoing operation and maintenance of Village park infrastructure.*

Objectives:

- a. To consider a variety of funding options to ensure continued maintenance of Village park infrastructure.

Action Program

The Action Program section provides the intended direction for making improvements towards accomplishing the Goals and Objectives. The Action Plan includes specific projects, desired land acquisitions, as well as other larger planning and organizational actions that have been identified through the planning process. The projects given within this Section are the ones that have been best identified at the time of the writing of this plan, however, it is very likely that additional projects or means of accomplishing goals will become apparent as time progresses. Therefore, this document is meant as a guide, and it is the overall Goals and Objectives that will continue to provide the framework in the future.

Within this document, an Action Program is provided for each of the five communities which includes a Capital Improvement Schedule of projects as well as other relevant action items for the communities.

Consolidated Land Acquisition List

A consolidated list of potential desired land acquisitions has been prepared and included on the following pages. These are also included individually within each of the five community Action Plans.

Consolidated Capital Improvement Project List

A consolidated list of potential capital improvement projects has been prepared and is included on the following pages. These projects are also included individually within each of the five community Action Plan sections.

Grand River Harbor Park Location Map

The Grand River Harbor Park Location Map has been re-included within this section of the plan in order to provide a reference map for proposed project locations.

Community Potential Property Acquisitions List

The community has identified several pieces of property that are desired to expand recreational resources and opportunities. Some of these are very specific parcels, such as parcels adjacent to existing parks, while others are desired resources without specific parcels identified. This list consolidates all the parcels allowing them to be viewed as a whole in hopes that through expanded knowledge, greater opportunities and awareness for acquisition may be gained.

City of Ferrysburg

Hartger Parcel located within the boundaries of the Kitchel-Linquist-Hartger Dunes Preserve, to convert the privately held in-holding into preserve land.

Residential property west of Fire Barn Park for improved access, parking and expansion of green space and enhanced use areas and facilities. This property would enlarge the boundaries of the existing park, resolve conflicts between activities at the park and the residential use, and provide additional recreational opportunities.

Public access site for a boat launch on the Grand River or Spring Lake at a location to be determined.

City of Grand Haven

The City continues to seek additional parkland in the southeast part of the City as there is limited public park property in the vicinity.

Grand Haven Charter Township

Grand Haven Charter Township continues to focus on the acquisition of lands adjacent to Hofma Park and Hofma Preserve in order to expand the natural based recreational resources within this unique and naturally rich area of the Township.

Parklands in the southwest quadrant of Township are desired as the Township currently does not own any parklands in this area of the Township. As this area is currently the least developed, it is anticipated that overtime demand for greenspace in this southwest area will increase.

Spring Lake Township

Fruitport Eagles Campground on Little Black Lake for additional waterfront park land and a possible public campground. The land is contiguous with the park properties of Spring Lake Township and the City of Norton Shores.

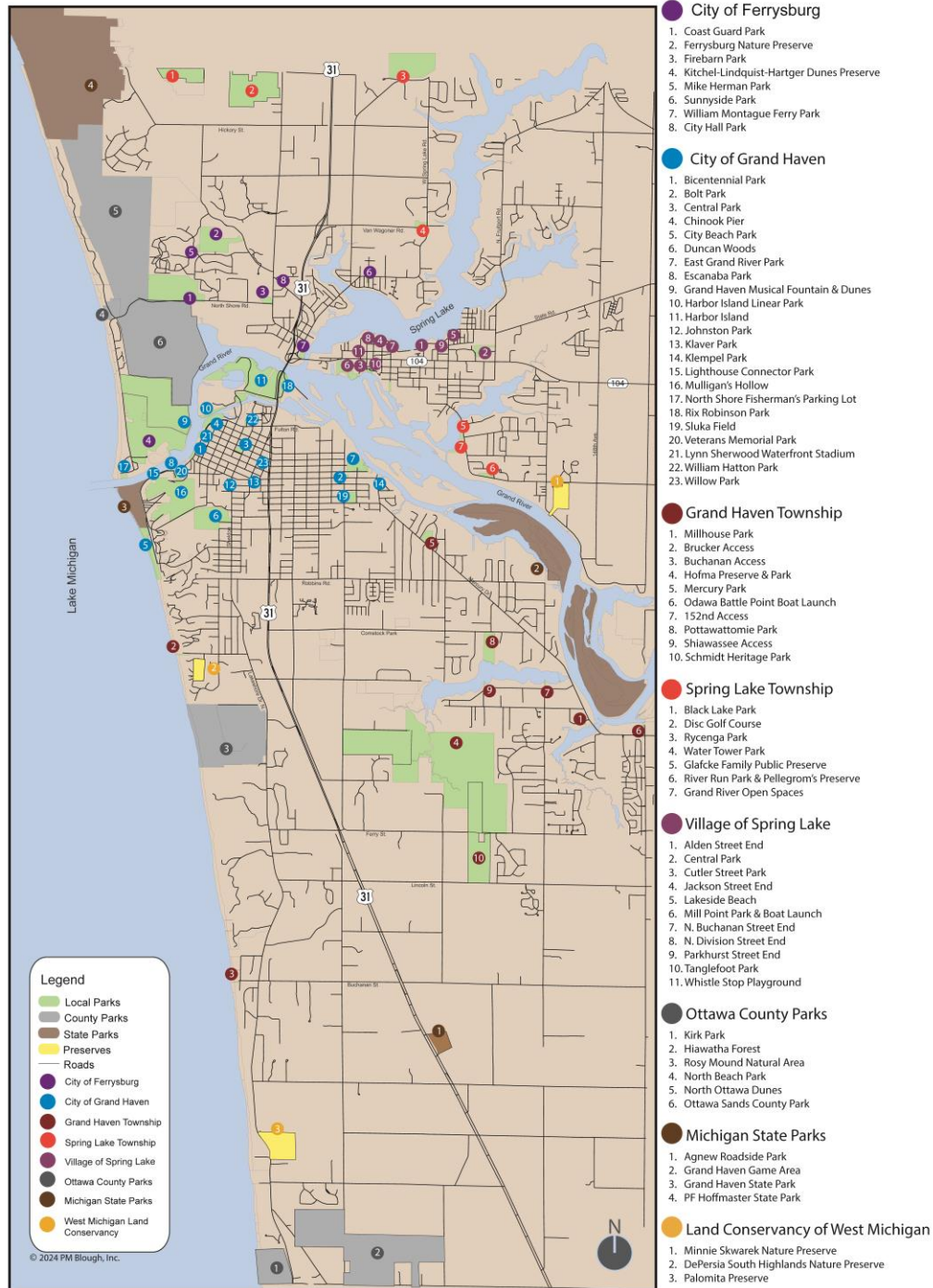
Explore acquisition of 16-acre site located along the Rail Trail for use for Mountain Biking and potential Sledding Hill known as the Sanaco Landfill Site.

Land parcels, such as the Prelwitz property and others, to be determined along the Grand River, Spring Lake and it's Bayous and Black Lake to provide additional waterfront access and pocket park opportunities along the multipurpose pathways.

Village of Spring Lake

The Village of Spring Lake is currently not seeking to purchase additional park lands as they are currently focusing on a program of redevelopment within their existing parks.

Park Location Map for Reference with Action Programs



Parks of the Grand River Harbor Region
November 25, 2024

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Community Potential Projects List

The following pages contain the potential projects lists for the five communities that allow for viewing the projects on a community-wide basis.

Action Program Chart of Priority Projects
City of Ferrysburg

Park Name	Proposed Action	Project Description
Fire Barn Park		
Fire Barn Park	Additional Parking and Pathways	Implement the 2024 plans for constructing the new parking area, internal non-motorized connector, and Universal Accessible walkways to basketball court, play area, and restroom.
Fire Barn Park	Small Picnic Shelter	Add a new picnic shelters to provide shaded seating and picnicking near the basketball court and play area.
Fire Barn Park	Splash Pad	Add new active splash pad as included in the master plan.
Fire Barn Park	Pickleball Development	Renovate the tennis court surface to provide new pickleball courts and small shaded seating area.
Fire Barn Park	Lighting Improvements	Update park lighting for safety and security.
Coast Guard Park		
Coast Guard Park	Entrance Improvements	Implement entrance area improvements per the master plan.
Coast Guard Park	Phase II Improvements of Master Plan	Construct new amphitheater, splash pad and park equipment.
Non-Motorized Path		
Non-Motorized Path	Benches	Add benches along non-motorized pathway.
Non-Motorized Path	Van Wagoner Pathway	Expand pathway along Van Wagoner Road.

Ferrysburg Nature Preserve		
Ferrysburg Nature Preserve	Parking and Trails	Provide vehicular entrance from Dogwood Drive and small parking area. Develop trail system through wooded preserve.
Street End Improvements		
Street End Improvements	Spring Lake Access	Improve public access to Spring Lake at nine identified street ends.
Kayak and Canoe Launch		
Kayak and Canoe Launch	Acquisition of new parkland	Acquire a site with adequate frontage along Spring Lake or the Grand river for a new kayak & Canoe launch.
City Hall Park		
City Hall Park	New Play Area	Implement new play area per 2023 Master Plan.
City Hall Park	Connecting Accessible Walks and Benches	Provide new connecting walkways to parking, ballfield, community gardens, and proposed play area.
City Hall Park	Lawn Play Area	Provide a new lawn play area near the proposed play area.
City Hall Park	Ball Field Renovation	Renovate existing baseball field including field equipment, fencing, and spectator areas.

**Action Program Chart of Priority Projects
City of Grand Haven**

Park Name	Proposed Action	Project Description
East Grand River Park	New ADA Accessible Restroom & Parking	Replace the existing restroom building with a new ADA accessible restroom as the 1977 constructed restroom does not meet current standards.
Flahive Boat Launch (East Grand River Park)	Launch, Drive and Parking Improvements	Update the existing boat launch facilities to provide for better launching and ADA accessibility. The launch is used year round for recreational boating, duck hunting, fishing, and ice fishing.
Harbor Island	Pathway Improvements and Native Landscaping	The pathways constructed in 1988 require reconstruction and Universal Accessibility improvements.
Harbor Island	Redevelopment Plan	Coordinate the redevelopment of Harbor Island parklands with the Harbor Island Visioning efforts.
Linear Park (South Channel)	Renovate pathway, picnic pavilion, picnic areas, and seating.	Replace existing pathway system, improve Universal Accessibility, and refurbish picnic areas due to age of existing facilities.
Mulligan's Hollow Park	Trail Improvements and Wayfinding Signage.	Provide trail improvements to formalize the informal trails through the wooded forest within the City to provide for better forest conservation and wayfinding signage.

Mulligan's Hollow Park	Softball Field Lighting	Add lighting (potentially solar) to the existing softball field
Mulligan's Hollow Park	Sidewalks	Add sidewalk on side of softball field adjacent to service area.
Sluka Field	Universal Accessible Play Area	Renovate the existing play area to provide for Universal Accessible playground, surfacing, access walks, and parking.
Sluka Field	Field Lighting	Add lighting to field and entire park area.
Grand Haven Musical Fountain and Dunes	Nature and Hiking Trails	Provide parking to expand public access and trail signage.
William Hatton Park	Lighting and Site Amenities	Update park with Universal Accessible walkways, lighting, benches and picnic tables.
Klemple Park/Grant St.	Topographic Survey and Overlook Deck	Construct a new overlook of the Grand River at the end of Grant St.
Johnston Park	Park Identification	Park Sign
Hayes St./Hofma Preserve	Grand River Access	New parking, canoe/kayak launch, walkways, restrooms, nature trails, and wayfinding signage.
Off Leash Dog Parks	Additional Dog Parks	Provide additional fenced dog parks in the south and north areas of the City.
Chinook Pier	Improvements	Update Play Area.
Mulligan's Hollow Skate Park	Skate Park Expansion	Add lighting, security improvements and bowl improvements.
Johnston Park	Park Sign	Park identification and beautification
Rix Robinson Park	Improvements	Park Beautification and pollinator plants.
Willow Park	Park Sign	Park identification and beautification
Bolt Park	Park Sign	Park identification and beautification

Action Program Chart of Priority Projects Grand Haven Charter Township

Park Name	Proposed Action	Project Description
All	Park Trees	Replace trees with Native Species when planting. Continue to monitor the forests for invasive pests and treatment.
Hofma Park		
Hofma Park	Artwork and/or Sculptures	Provide additional artwork and sculptures within the park.
Hofma Park	Renovate Restrooms	Renovate the existing restroom building.
Hofma Park & Preserve		
Hofma Park & Preserve	Overlay Drive and Parking Areas	Renovate older parking areas within the park and preserve areas.
Hofma Park & Preserve	Trails, Recreation, and Overlooks, etc.	Renovate as needed existing trails, trailheads, and signage.
Hofma Park & Preserve	Update Hofma Vision Plan	Update the Hofma Vision Plan to reflect newer developments and plan for the future.
Hofma Park & Preserve	Replace Well with Water Service	Provide public water service to the Ferris St. entrance to eliminate the well.
Hofma Preserve		
Hofma Preserve	Update Grills	Update Grills to include Universal Accessibility
Hofma Preserve	Larger Sign at Sleeper Entrance	Provide new and larger signage to indicate the Sleeper St. Entrance.
Hofma Preserve	Interpretive Signage	Continue to expand interpretive signage throughout the preserve.
Hofma Preserve	New Restrooms	Construct Restrooms at 168th Avenue entrance

Hofma Preserve	Groesbeck Entrance	New park entrance, parking, entrance sign, and trailhead signage
Hofma Preserve	Witteveen Property Area	Continue to naturalize the site from previous agricultural uses.
Hofma Preserve	Nature Based Play Area	Provide a new nature based play area.
Hofma Preserve	Winter Trailhead	Construct new trailhead at 168th Avenue with emphasis on winter recreation.
Mercury Park		
Mercury Park	Play Area Replacement	Replace the existing play area and improve ADA and Universal accessibility.
Mercury Park	Update Park Entrance Sign	Update the park entrance sign to match the newer park signs.
Mercury Park	Splash Pad	Provide a neighborhood splash pad near the restroom building.
Non-Motorized Path		
Non-Motorized Path	Lakeshore Drive from Little Pegin South to Fillmore St.	New development
Non-Motorized Path	Ferris St. West of the Highway	Renovation
Non-Motorized Path	Pave Shoulder on M-45	Lakeshore Drive east to US-31
Non-Motorized Path	Install Benches and Water Fountains	Provide additional benches and water fountains at key locations.
Non-Motorized Path	Create an "Adopt a Pathway" program	Encourage non-profit and "friends" adoption for areas of the pathway.
Non-Motorized Path	Other Power-Driven Mobility Devices	Amend the policy, inform the public and add signage.
Pottawattomie Park		
Pottawattomie Park	Municipal Water Service	Replace the water well with a municipal water service.

Pottawattomie Park	Overlay Drive and Parking Areas	Renovate the existing drive and parking areas.
Schmidt Herritage Park		
Schmidt Herritage Park	Construction of Phase 2	Includes basketball court, parking and additional ball fields.
Schmidt Herritage Park	Realign JoJo Jogging Trail	Realign trail for better circulation around Red Barn.
Schmidt Herritage Park	Planning and Acquisition of Red Barn and five acres	Acquisition of the Red Barn as a community events space with five additional acres of parkland.
Schmidt Herritage Park	Provide Access from Lincoln St.	Provide an additional access from Lincoln St.

Action Program Chart of Priority Projects Spring Lake Township

Park Name	Proposed Action	Project Description
Black Lake Park		
Black Lake Park	Development of Trails	Develop trails within the 30 acres of park land plus the adjacent City of Norton Shores 80 acres to the north.
Black Lake Park	Watershed Management Plan	Partner with Ottawa County Conservation District in the planning efforts.
Rycenga Park		
Rycenga Park	Pickleball Courts and Pavilion	Construct multiple pickleball courts with a pavilion for shaded seating near courts
Rycenga Park	New Multi-use Sports Field	Remove existing baseball fields and replace with a new multi use sports field.
Rycenga Park	New Dog Park and Agility Course	Remove sand volleyball courts and ballfield to replace with new dog park with agility course.
Rycenga Park	Replace Play Area	New nature themed play area with improved ADA and Universal Accessibility.
Rycenga Park	ADA/UA Connecting Walkways	Construct additional Universal Accessible walkways connecting all existing and new park elements.
Rycenga Park	Update Parking Area	Repair and resurface parking areas as needed.
Rycenga Park	Trailhead Improvements and New Pavilion	Upgrade nature trail trailhead plaza and amenities, Add a new small pavilion at trailhead. Provide a shorter looped Universal Accessible trail.
Rycenga Park	Trail Renovation	Renovate existing park trails and update wayfinding signage to identify "pedestrian only" and "mixed use" trails.
Rycenga Park	Bicycle Skills Area	Construct a bicycle skills area, including trails, jumps and new small pavilion.
Rycenga Park	Park Entrance Improvements	Improve the park entrance visibility with new signage, landscaping, and lighting.

River Run Park		
River Run Park	Play Area	Provide a play area at River Run park adjacent to neighborhoods and the non-motorized pathway.
Non-Motorized Pathway		
Non-Motorized Pathway	New Pathway Segments	New pathway segments to be determined through community engagement in 2025 to expend new development millage funds.
Non-Motorized Pathway	Wayfinding Signage	Trailhead signs and maps
Non-Motorized Pathway	Drinking Fountain and Benches	Provide additional drinking fountains and benches at key locations along the pathways.
Non-Motorized Pathway	Resurfacing and Repairs	Ongoing based on maintaining plan with Funding on Bike Path Maintenance Plan.
Non-Motorized Pathway	Lighting	Add lighting in key areas to enhance safety and security for increased year round usage.
Water Trails and Access		
Water Trails	Water Access & Canoe/Kayak Launches	Support the development of access to the Grand River Heritage Water Trail, Lake Michigan, and Spring Lake and Bayous through the acquisition of properties and providing supporting facilities.
Water Tower Park		
Water Tower Park	Court Replacement	Replace tennis courts with a new combination of court sources to be determined.
Land Aquisition		
Lakeside Park	Aquire 0.58 Acre Parcels	Pursue funding to aquire lakeside property to improve public access to lake.
All Parks		
All Parks	ADA/Universal Accessibility Improvements	Support the redevelopment of all parks and trailways to be as ADA and Universal Accessible as possible.
All Parks and Trailways	Invasive Species Management Plan	Prepare, maintain, and implement an invasive species management program for all Township parks and trailways.

Other Spring Lake Township Recreational Planning Items

Annual Joint Meeting with the Village of Spring Lake Recreation Committee

Spring Lake Township and the Village of Spring Lake are located adjacent to each other and continue to jointly share in providing services for residents where it is mutually beneficial, it is a goal to annual hold a joint meeting to discuss recreational goals and objectives, as well as share information regarding future parks and recreational efforts.

Green Infrastructure Plan

Complete the development of a Green Infrastructure Plan complete with a Natural Features Inventory to identify important natural elements within the Township for the purpose of making better decisions regarding land acquisitions, parks, land development, and greenway preservation.

Multi-purpose Pathways and Bike Lanes

The Recreation Committee identified multi-purpose pathways and bike lanes as priorities within the community. The Committee emphasized that safety, density served, and linkages are critical factors to determine the most important bike path improvements.

Rannes Road-Separated multi-purpose pathway (High Priority).

Support Regional Non-Motorized Transportation Routes

Continue to support adjacent governmental agencies to complete the regional non-motorized pathway systems that link to the Township's pathways and provide benefits to the community.

**Action Program Chart of Priority Projects
Village of Spring Lake**

Park Name	Proposed Action	Project Description
Central Park-Implementation of New Master Plan		
Play Area	New play area	Replacement of the existing play area with a new larger themed and universal accessible play experience.
Pavilion, Restrooms, and Lawn	New pavilion with restrooms and lawn area.	Development of a new pavilion with restrooms and community gathering space to focus on a new large activity lawn area.
Dog Park	Renovation and relocation of Dog Park	Renovation and relocation of the existing dog park to provide for larger areas and more diverse dog related activities.
Parking Areas	Renovation of parking areas.	Redesign and construction of new parking areas relating to the new park Master Plan.
Bocci Ball Area	New Bocci Ball Area	Development of new bocci ball courts, seating, and league play area.
Sledding Hill	New Sledding Hill	Creation of a sledding hill within the park to provide for winter sledding in the community.
Lakeside Trail Trailhead	New Lakeside Trailhead Facilities	Provide a stronger connection to the Lakeside Trail with better trail access, parking, bike repair station and Trailhead Signage.
Mill Point Park		
Improve ADA Accessibility	Connecting walkways, picnic facilities, and ADA improvements	Small park projects to improve ADA and Universal Accessibility within the park.
Whistle Stop Play Area		
Whistle Stop Play Area	Renovation of rubberized play surface	Replacement of rubberized surface sub-base, drainage and surface.
Lakeside Trail		
Lakeside Trail	Drinking Fountain	Add drinking fountain with water bottle filler.

Street Ends		
Spring Lake Street Ends	Improve St. Ends Shoreline Protection	Provide greater shoreline protection of the natural shoreline at Village owned street ends to protect the shoreline, improve overall appearance, reduce yearly maintenance, and provide greater community access to the lake edge.
Tanglefoot Park		
Tanglefoot Park	Shade Shelter	Add Shade Structure to provide shade for the splash pad and adjacent areas.
Other		
General	Bocce Ball	Provide open space for Bocce Ball use

Supplemental Documentation

Transmittal Letters to Regional Planning and Ottawa County

Public Hearing Minutes and Plan Adoption Resolutions

Certification Checklists

Appendix A: Frost Research center Survey for the *Explore the Grand Region Plan*

**Northwest Ottawa Parks
2024 Recreation Survey
October 2024**



Executive Summary

The Frost Research Center contracted with PM Blough to conduct a recreation survey for Northwest Ottawa Parks. Two primary methodologies were implemented. First, we launched an online survey by inviting residents from the City of Ferrysburg, the City of Grand Haven, Grand Haven Charter Township, Spring Lake Township, and the Village of Spring Lake. Second, we called residents whose email addresses were not available. In total, we received 598 responses, of which 531 were completed online and 67 were completed via telephone. Of these, 547 respondents confirmed they were 18 years of age or older and lived in one of the five municipalities, and so were included in the final analyses. In the report that follows, we report all available data for each item.

Results at a Glance:



547 Respondents

More than half were age 55+ and didn't have kids at home



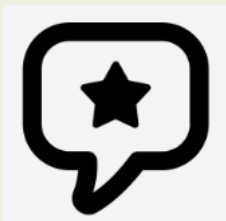
Parks are safe

92% say parks are safe or very safe



Volunteers want to

1. Pick up trash or
2. Remove invasive species



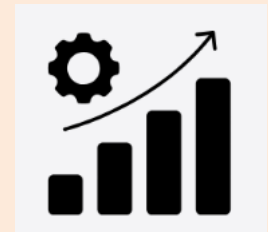
Most Important Features

1. Nature trails for hiking
2. Walking / biking trails
3. Beach / swimming access



Most Needed Facilities

1. Nature trails for hiking
2. Updated bathroom facilities
3. Paved walking / biking paths



Most Needed Park Updates

1. Updated bathroom facilities
2. More shaded areas
3. Drinking fountains

Findings Summary:

The following summarizes the study's findings:

- **Respondents.** Most respondents (58%) were over 55 years of age, and two-thirds did not have children living at home. The sample was evenly split between males and females.
- **Park Engagement.** The most visited parks were Coast Guard Park (22%), North Beach Park (19%), Ottawa Sands Park (13%), and North Ottawa Dunes (13%). Respondents mostly visited 1-2 times per week (41%) or 1-2 times per month (32%).
- **Park Activity.** The two biggest decisions about deciding whether to visit a park are natural areas and location. The two biggest barriers to visiting a park were time and weather.
- **Perceived Safety.** Most respondents (92%) viewed the parks as safe or very safe.
- **Transportation.** Most participants (76%) drove themselves to parks, followed by walking / running (13%) or biking / skateboarding (9%).
- **Volunteering.** Those willing to volunteer were most likely to want to pick up trash (34%) or remove invasive species (23%).
- **Park Accessibility.** Fifteen percent of respondents reported a disability or condition (mostly mobility; 76%) making it challenging to enjoy public spaces, and such respondents wanted social activities to serve the disabilities in their family.
- **Park Satisfaction and Improvements.**
 - The three most important features in parks were:
 1. Nature trails for hiking
 2. Walking / biking trails
 3. Beach / swimming access

The least important factors are sports fields (e.g., disc golf, volleyball, baseball or basketball).

- The three most needed outdoor public recreation facilities are:
 1. Nature trails for hiking
 2. Updated bathroom facilities
 3. Paved walking and biking paths
- The top three needed park updates are:
 1. Updated bathroom facilities
 2. More shaded areas
 3. Drinking fountains

The full written responses for open-ended questions are provided in the Appendix that follows this report.

Participant Demographics

In which municipality do you live?

City of Ferrysburg	38
City of Grand Haven	90
Grand Haven Charter Township	170
Spring Lake Township	169
Village of Spring Lake	80

How many years have you been a resident of Northwest Ottawa County?

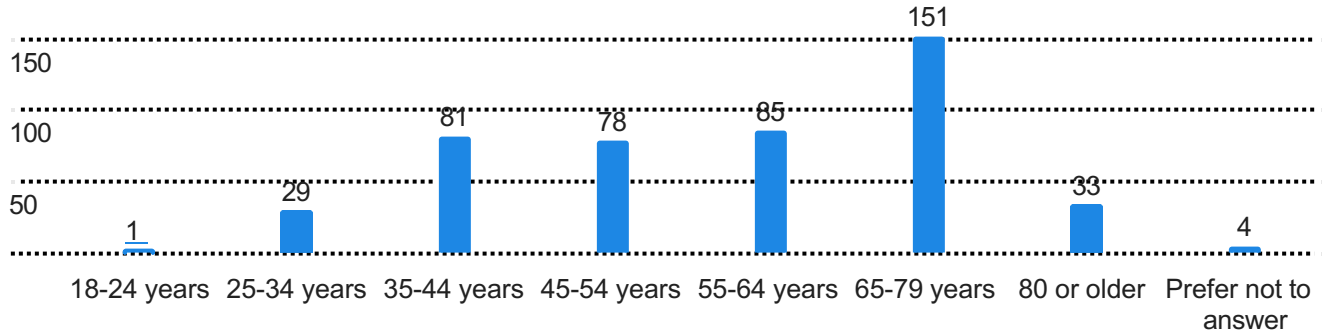


- Less than a year
- 1 to 4 years
- 5 to 10 years
- Over 10 years

Length of Residence by Municipality

	City of Ferrysburg	City of Grand Haven	Grand Haven Charter Township	Spring Lake Township	Village of Spring Lake	Total
Less than 1 year	3% (1)	20% (6)	30% (9)	27% (8)	20% (6)	30
1 to 4 years	10% (12)	13% (16)	35% (42)	28% (33)	13% (16)	119
5 to 10 years	5% (6)	22% (29)	41% (54)	20% (26)	13% (17)	132
Over 10 years	7% (18)	15% (39)	24% (63)	39% (102)	15% (40)	262

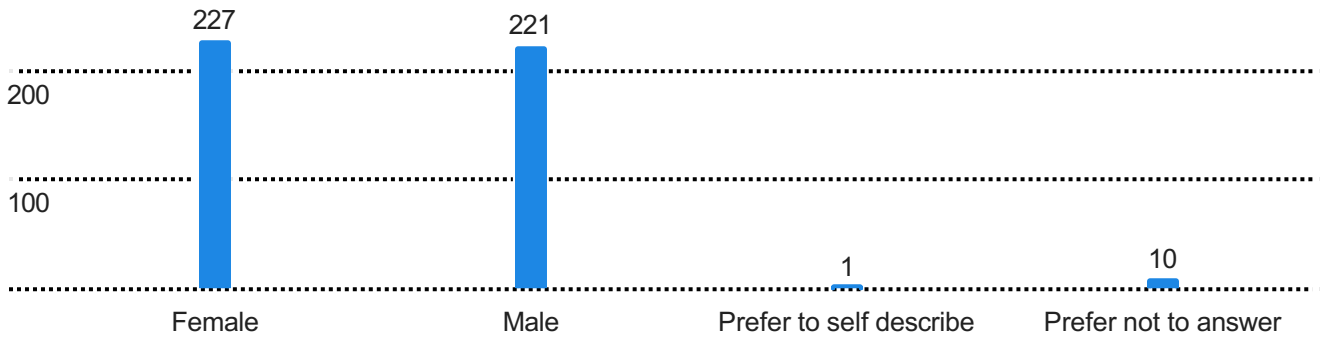
What is your age?



What is your age: breakout with what municipality do you live

	City of Ferrysburg		City of Grand Haven		Grand Haven Charter Township		Spring Lake Township		Village of Spring Lake		Total
18-24 years	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	100%	1	0%	0	1
25-34 years	7%	2	34%	10	31%	9	17%	5	10%	3	29
35-44 years	2%	2	16%	13	49%	40	20%	16	12%	10	81
45-54 years	10%	8	18%	14	38%	30	26%	20	8%	6	78
55-64 years	5%	4	18%	15	24%	20	38%	32	16%	14	85
65-79 years	11%	16	13%	19	28%	43	36%	55	12%	18	151
80 or older	0%	0	9%	3	9%	3	52%	17	30%	10	33

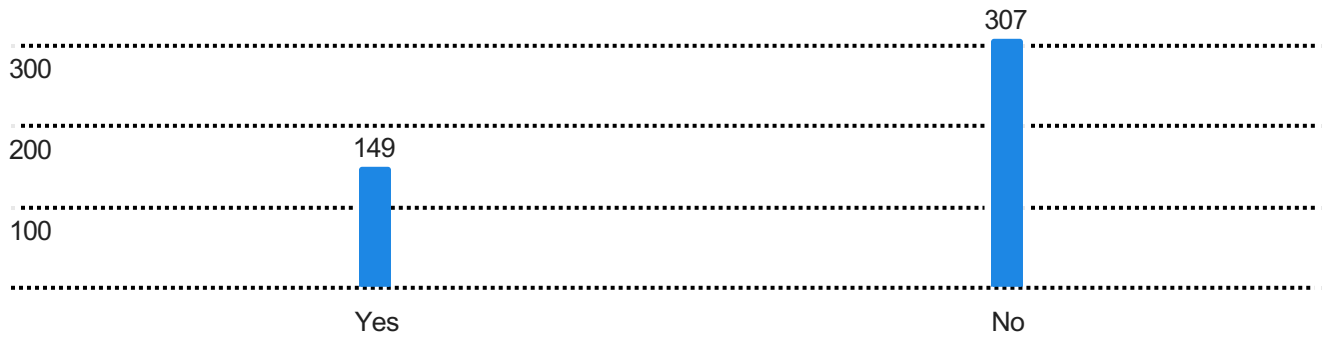
What is your gender?



What is your gender?

Field	City of Ferrysburg		City of Grand Haven		Grand Haven Charter Township		Spring Lake Township		Village of Spring Lake		Total
Female	7%	16	18%	40	30%	67	34%	77	12%	27	227
Male	7%	16	14%	32	34%	75	29%	65	15%	33	221
Prefer to self describe	0%	0	100%	1	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	1
Prefer not to answer	0%	0	20%	2	30%	3	30%	3	20%	2	10

Do you have children in your household?



Do you have children in your household?

	City of Ferrysburg	City of Grand Haven	Grand Haven Charter Township	Spring Lake Township	Village of Spring Lake	Total
Yes	5% 7	16% 24	42% 63	26% 39	11% 16	149
No	8% 24	16% 50	26% 81	35% 106	15% 46	307

Park Engagement

Parks visited in each community in the past 12 months

Ferrysburg (select all that apply)

Coast Guard Park	21.56%	299
North Beach Park	19.18%	266
Ottawa Sands	13.41%	186
North Ottawa Dunes	13.12%	182
William Ferry Park	6.06%	84
Kitchel-Linquist-Hartger Dunes Preserve	5.98%	83
Fire Barn Park	5.70%	79
Ferrysburg Nature Preserve	4.11%	57
Waterfront Street Ends	3.97%	55
None	3.68%	51
Sunnyside Park	1.87%	26
Mike Herman Memorial Field	1.37%	19
Total		1387

Grand Haven (select all that apply)

Grand Haven State Park	10%	350
Lynne Sherwood Waterfront Stadium	9%	289
Chinook Pier Park	8%	285
Mulligan's Hollow	8%	284
City Beach Park	8%	277
Grand Haven Musical Fountain & Dunes	7%	250
Lighthouse Connector Park/Boardwalk	7%	250
Central Park	7%	222
Duncan Woods Park	6%	216
North shore Fisherman's Parking Lot	5%	170
Harbor Island and Launch	4%	134
Non-motorized trails	3%	101
Escanaba Park	3%	101
Bicentennial Park	3%	100
Bolt Park	2%	69
Sluka Field	2%	68

East Grand River Park	2%	67
Riverside Park	2%	65
None	0%	16
William Hatton Park	0%	15
Johnston Park	0%	14
Klempel Park	0%	4
Klaver Park	0%	4
Willow Park	0%	3
Total		3354

Grand Haven Township (select all that apply)

Rosy Mound Natural Area	18%	257
Hofma Park	15%	208
Pottawattomie Park	13%	183
Hofma Preserve	13%	181
Kirk Park	11%	149
Non-motorized trails	6%	80
Mercury Park	5%	67
Buchanan Access	4%	56
None	3%	48
Brucker Access	3%	45
Odawa/Battle Point Boat Launch	3%	43
Hiawatha Forest	3%	36
152nd Access	1%	20
Bignell Access	1%	13
Shiawassee Access	1%	11
Total		1397

Spring Lake Township (select all that apply)

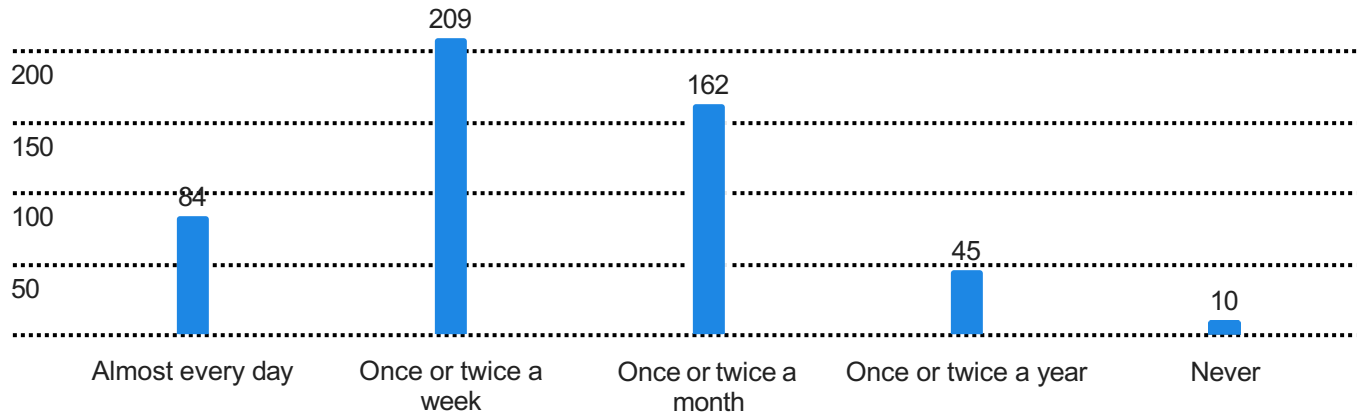
Rycenga Park	29%	145
None	22%	110
Non-motorized trails	21%	107
Black Lake Park	8%	42
Water Tower Park	8%	41

River Run Park	8%	39
Disc Golf Course	4%	18
Glafcke Family Public Reserve	1%	5
Total		507

Spring Lake (select all that apply)

Tanglefoot Park	16%	195
Mill Point Park & Boat Launch	16%	194
Central Park	15%	178
Lakeside Trail	10%	125
Whistle Stop Playground	9%	114
Lakeside Beach	9%	111
None	5%	64
Spring Lake Community Park	5%	59
Alden Street End	4%	48
N Buchanan Street End	3%	38
Cutler Street Kayak Launch	2%	29
Jackson St Dock	2%	27
N Division Street End	2%	21
Parkhurst Street End	2%	20
Total		1223

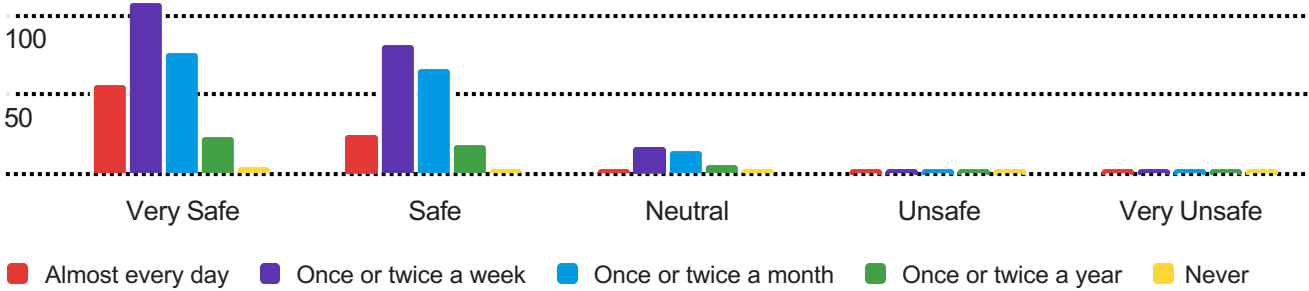
How often do you visit a local park?



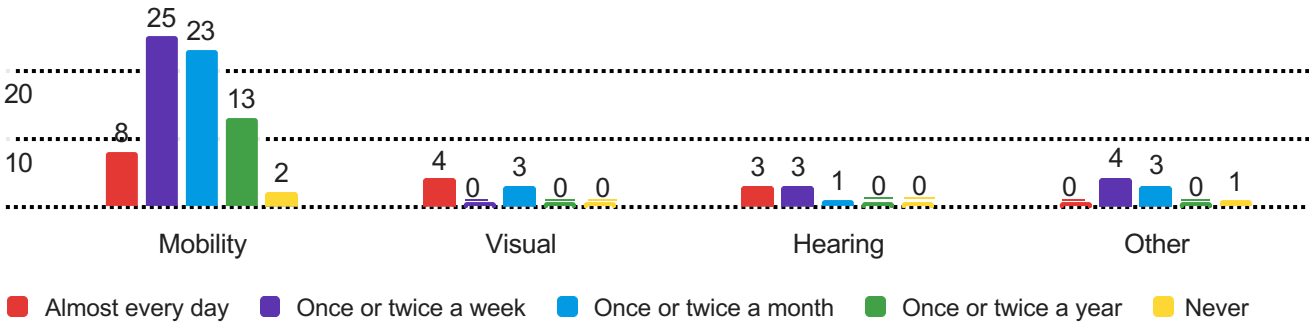
Park Visits by Municipality

	City of Ferrysburg	City of Grand Haven	Grand Haven Charter Township	Spring Lake Township	Village of Spring Lake	Total
Almost every day	4% (3)	19% (16)	21% (18)	35% (29)	21% (18)	84
1-2 times a week	9% (18)	17% (35)	33% (68)	27% (56)	15% (32)	209
1-2 times a month	7% (11)	12% (20)	39% (63)	34% (55)	8% (13)	162
1-2 times a year	7% (3)	16% (7)	24% (11)	36% (16)	18% (8)	45
Never	0% (0)	40% (4)	10% (1)	40% (4)	10% (1)	10

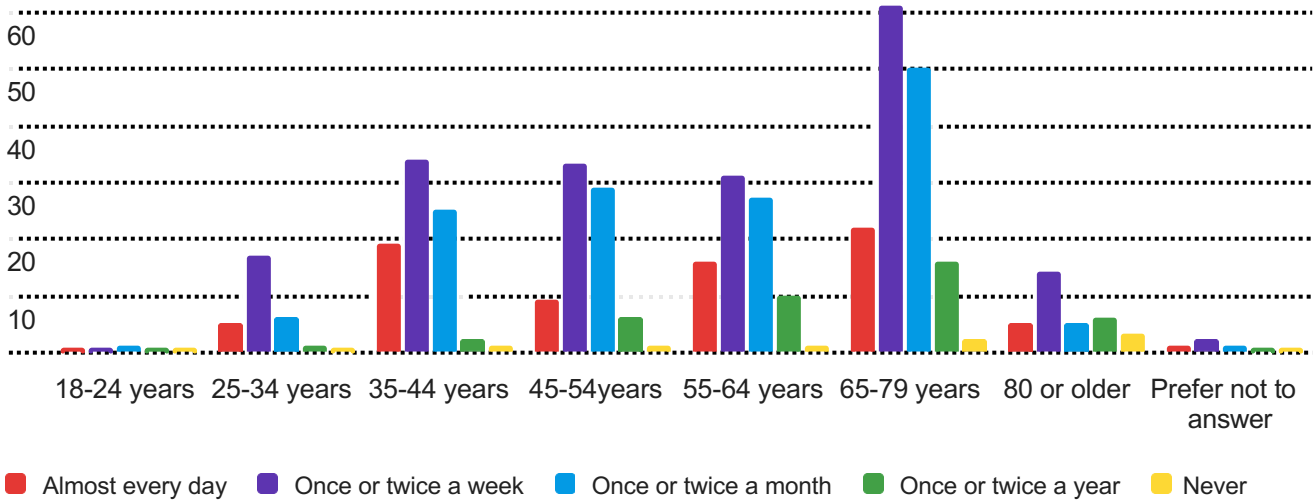
How often do you visit a local park: breakdown with perceived safety



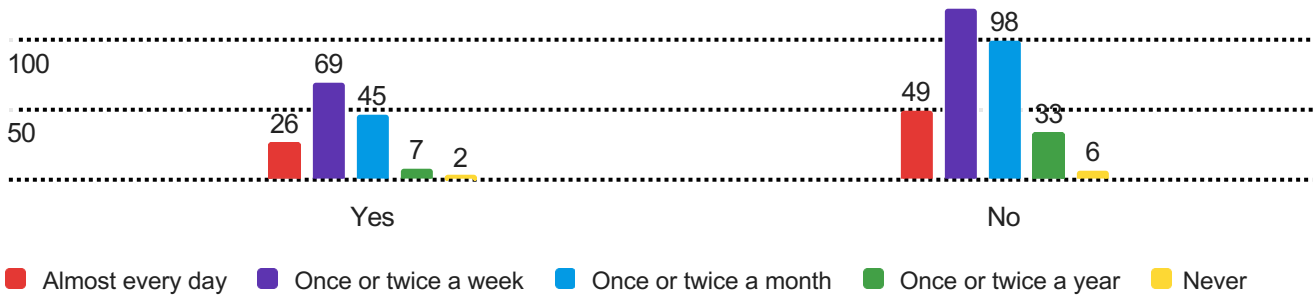
How often do you visit a local park: breakdown with any disabilities



How often do you visit a local park: breakdown with age

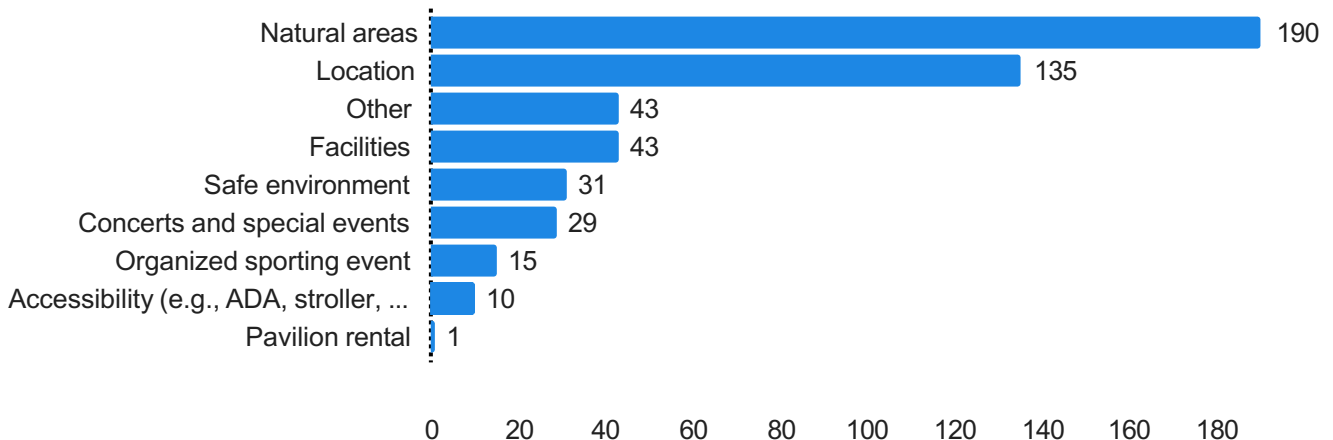


How often do you visit a local park: breakdown with children



Park Activity

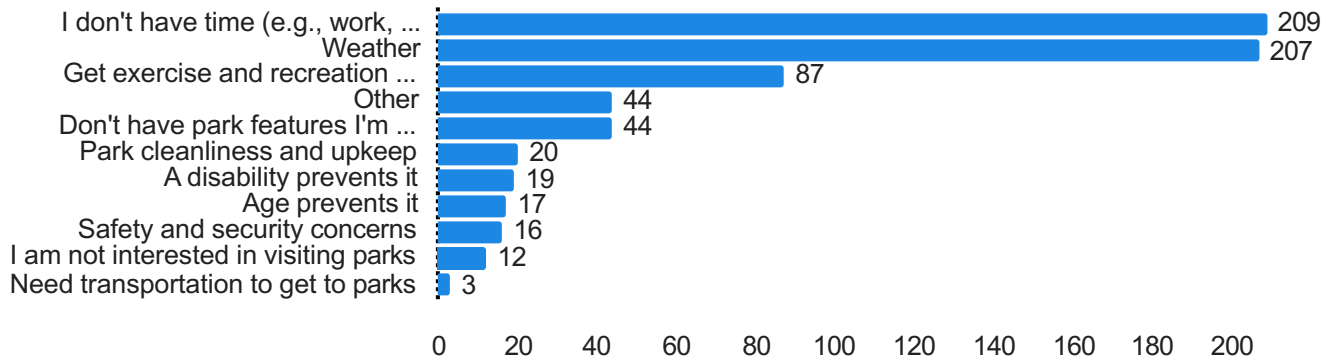
Which of the following is the biggest factor impacting your decision to visit a park in the last year?



Which of the following is the biggest factor impacting your decision to visit a park in the last year?

Field	City of Ferrysburg	City of Grand Haven	Grand Haven Charter Township	Spring Lake Township	Village of Spring Lake	Total
Location	7% 9	12% 16	29% 39	33% 44	20% 27	135
Facilities						
Pavilion rental	7% 3	9% 4	44% 19	30% 13	9% 4	43
Concerts and special events	0% 0	0% 0	100% 1	0% 0	0% 0	1
Natural areas						
Organized sporting event	7% 14	19% 36	32% 61	30% 57	12% 22	190
Accessibility (e.g., ADA, stroller, etc.)	0% 0	7% 1	53% 8	20% 3	20% 3	15
Safe environment	10% 1	30% 3	40% 4	20% 2	0% 0	10
Other	6% 2	6% 2	32% 10	35% 11	19% 6	31
	9% 4	26% 11	26% 11	33% 14	7% 3	43

If you don't go to a park often or when your typical routine of visiting the parks is interrupted, what are the reasons for not going? (select all that apply)

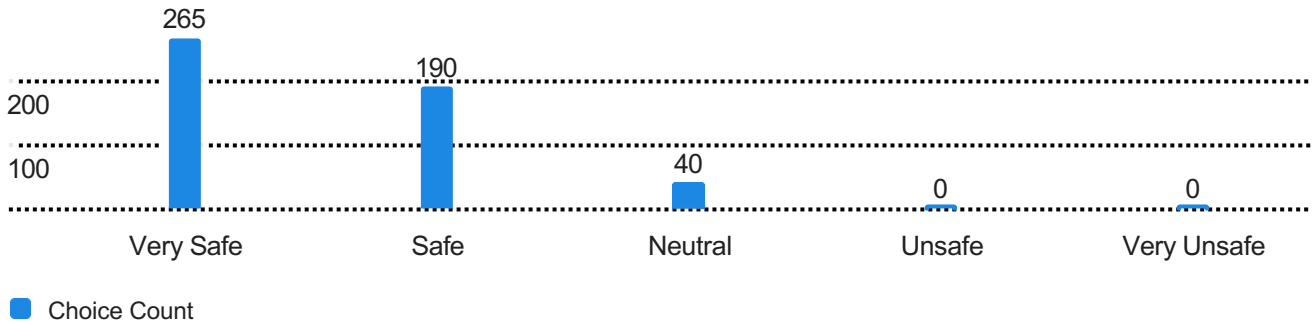


If you don't go to a park often or when your typical routine of visiting the parks is interrupted, what are the reasons for not going? (select all that apply)

	City of Ferrysburg		City of Grand Haven		Grand Haven Charter Township		Spring Lake Township		Village of Spring Lake		Total
Don't have park features I'm interested in	2%	1	20%	9	32%	14	36%	16	9%	4	44
A disability prevents it	11%	2	26%	5	21%	4	37%	7	5%	1	19
Age prevents it	0%	0	12%	2	24%	4	47%	8	18%	3	17
Need transportation to get to parks	0%	0	33%	1	33%	1	33%	1	0%	0	3
Get exercise and recreation through other sources, e.g., private gym or club	3%	3	20%	17	33%	29	30%	26	14%	12	87
I don't have time (e.g., work, children, family, other obligations)	10%	20	18%	38	34%	72	25%	53	12%	26	209
Safety and security concerns	0%	0	25%	4	50%	8	13%	2	13%	2	16
Park cleanliness and upkeep	0%	0	20%	4	25%	5	30%	6	25%	5	20
Weather	5%	10	20%	41	31%	65	30%	62	14%	29	207
I am not interested in visiting parks	0%	0	25%	3	17%	2	58%	7	0%	0	12
Other	14%	6	11%	5	23%	10	36%	16	16%	7	44

Perceived Safety

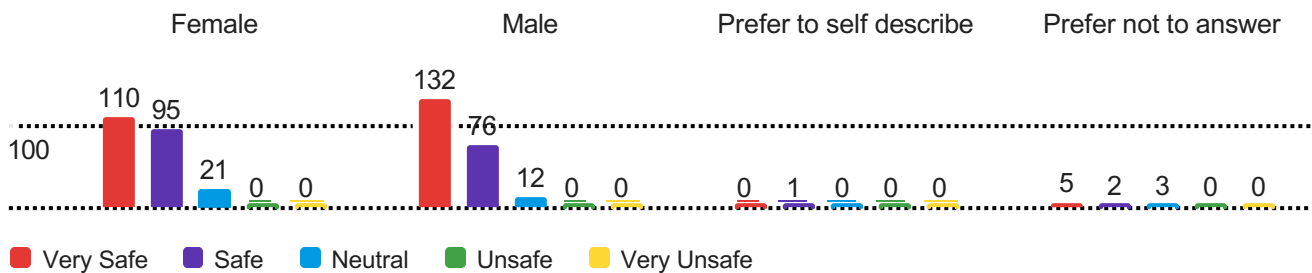
What is your perceived level of safety at Northwest Ottawa Parks?



What is your perceived level of safety at Northwest Ottawa Parks?

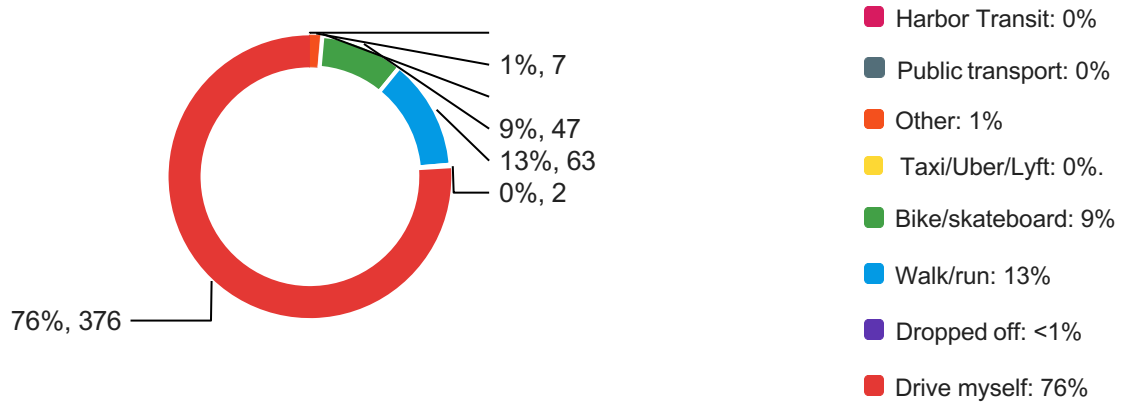
	City of Ferrysburg		City of Grand Haven		Grand Haven Charter Township		Spring Lake Township		Village of Spring Lake		Total
Very Safe	6%	17	18%	47	29%	76	32%	86	15%	39	265
Safe	8%	15	14%	26	33%	62	33%	63	13%	24	190
Neutral	3%	1	20%	8	45%	18	20%	8	13%	5	40
Unsafe	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0
Very Unsafe	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0

What is your perceived level of safety at Northwest Ottawa Parks: breakout with gender



Transportation

What mode of transportation do you most often use to travel to a park?

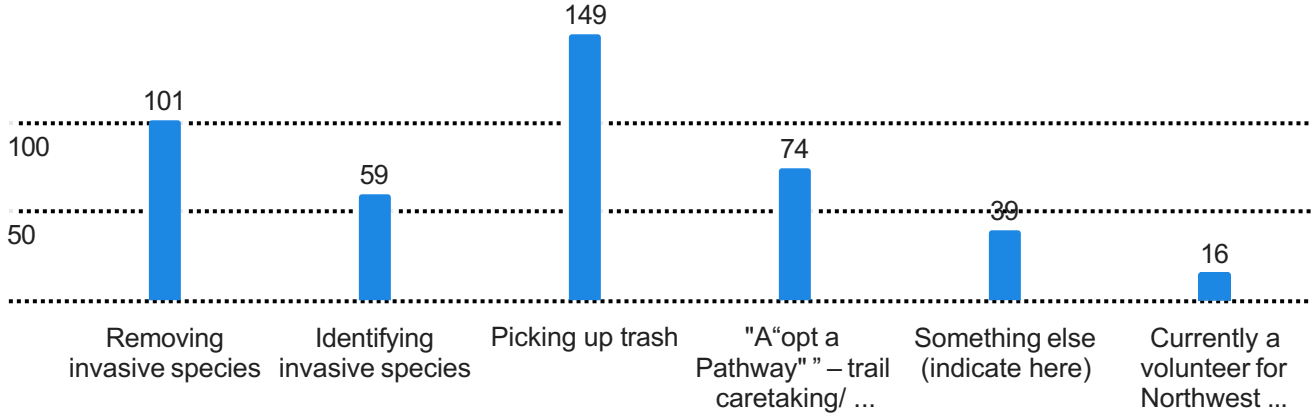


What mode of transportation do you most often use to travel to a park?

	City of Ferrysburg		City of Grand Haven		Grand Haven Charter Township		Spring Lake Township		Village of Spring Lake		Total
I drive myself	7%	25	14%	51	35%	130	33%	124	12%	46	376
I get dropped off	0%	0	0%	0	50%	1	50%	1	0%	0	2
Walk / run	10%	6	33%	21	16%	10	21%	13	21%	13	63
Public transportation	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0
Bike / skateboard	4%	2	9%	4	32%	15	36%	17	19%	9	47
Harbor Transit	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0
Taxi / Uber / Lyft	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0
Other	14%	1	71%	5	0%	0	14%	1	0%	0	7

Volunteering

Would you, or a group you belong to, be interested in the following volunteer opportunities? (select all that apply)



Would you, or a group you belong to, be interested in the following volunteer opportunities? (select all that apply)

Field	City of Ferrysburg		City of Grand Haven		Grand Haven Charter Township		Spring Lake Township		Village of Spring Lake		Total
Removing invasive species	7%	7	16%	16	27%	27	34%	34	17%	17	101
Identifying invasive species	12%	7	15%	9	31%	18	27%	16	15%	9	59
Picking up trash	6%	9	16%	24	32%	48	30%	45	15%	23	149
"A"opt a Pathway" – trail caretaking/ maintenance program	7%	5	8%	6	38%	28	32%	24	15%	11	74
Currently a volunteer for Northwest Ottawa Parks	6%	1	31%	5	25%	4	19%	3	19%	3	16
Something else (indicate here)	31%	12	18%	7	15%	6	21%	8	15%	6	39

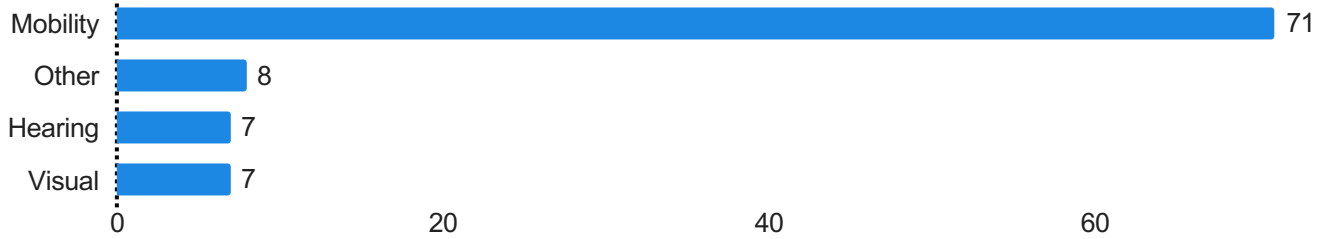
Park Accessibility

Do you or a household member have a disability or condition that makes it challenging to enjoy public spaces?

Yes	15% (75)
No	85% (417)

	City of Ferrysburg		City of Grand Haven		Grand Haven Charter Township		Spring Lake Township		Village of Spring Lake		Total
Yes	16%	12	13%	10	15%	11	37%	28	19%	14	75
No	5%	22	16%	68	35%	145	31%	128	13%	54	417

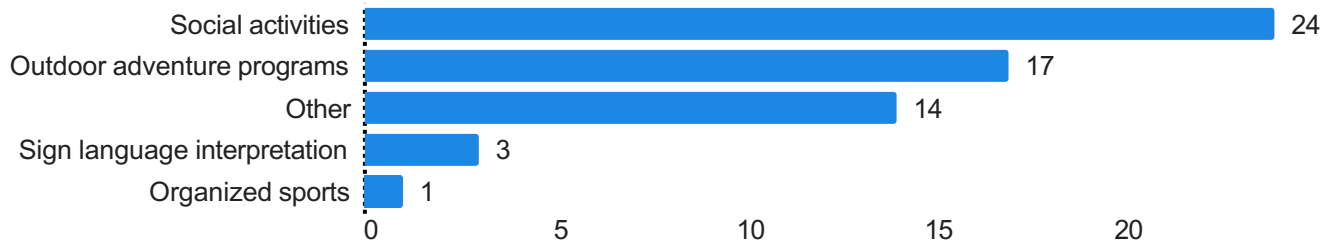
Please indicate the type of disability or condition (Check all that apply):



Please indicate the type of disability or condition (Check all that apply):

Field	City of Ferrysburg		City of Grand Haven		Grand Haven Charter Township		Spring Lake Township		Village of Spring Lake		Total
Mobility	15%	11	14%	10	13%	9	38%	27	20%	14	71
Visual	14%	1	0%	0	14%	1	29%	2	43%	3	7
Hearing	14%	1	0%	0	29%	2	14%	1	43%	3	7
Other	13%	1	25%	2	25%	2	25%	2	13%	1	8

What types of programs are needed to serve people with disabilities in your family? (Check all that apply):



**What types of programs are needed to serve people with disabilities in your family?
(Check all that apply)**

Field	City of Ferrysburg		City of Grand Haven		Grand Haven Charter Township		Spring Lake Township		Village of Spring Lake		Total
Organized sports	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	100%	1	1
Social activities	13%	3	4%	1	8%	2	54%	13	21%	5	24
Outdoor adventure programs	12%	2	6%	1	18%	3	53%	9	12%	2	17
Sign language interpretation	33%	1	0%	0	33%	1	0%	0	33%	1	3
Other	29%	4	29%	4	14%	2	14%	2	14%	2	14

Do you or a household member use items such as strollers, wagons or other types of equipment at parks that may present challenges with barriers at parks?

Yes	21% (99)
No	79% (377)

Do you or a household member use items such as strollers, wagons or other types of equipment at parks that may present challenges with barriers at parks?

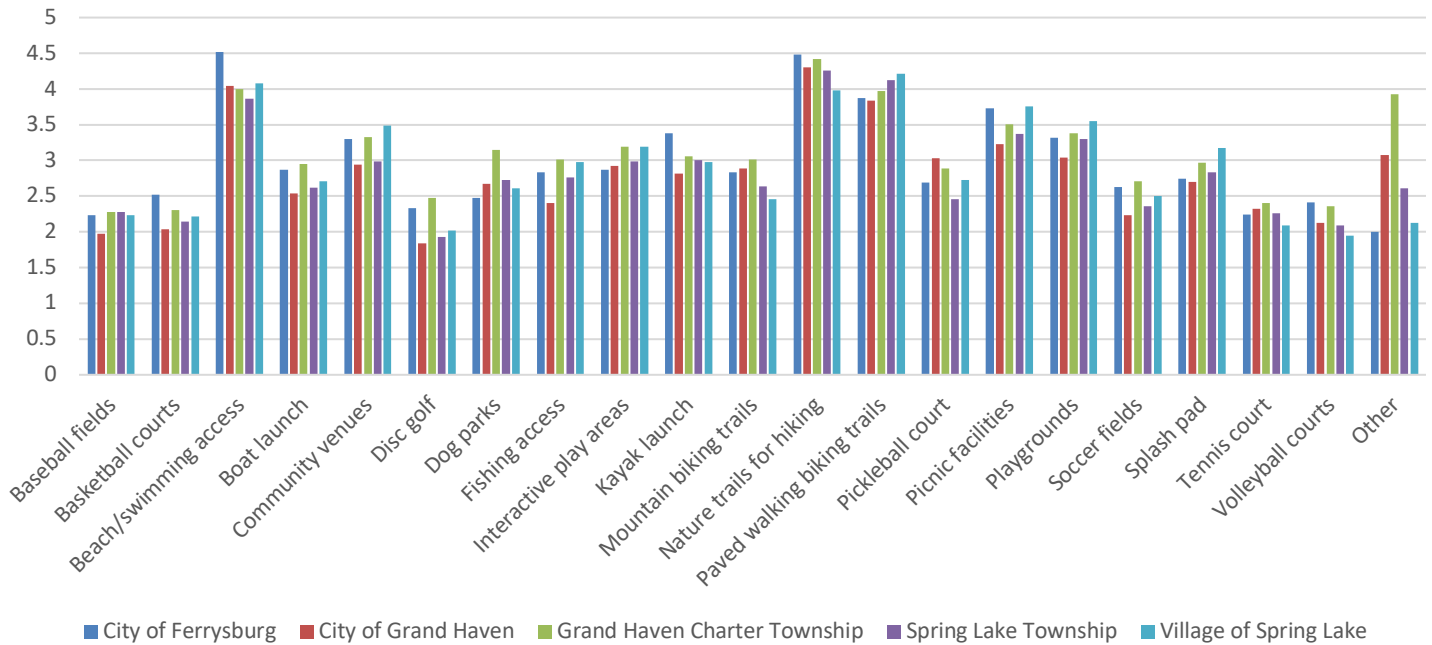
Field	City of Ferrysburg		City of Grand Haven		Grand Haven Charter Township		Spring Lake Township		Village of Spring Lake		Total
Yes	4%	4	19%	19	28%	28	30%	30	18%	18	99
No	7%	28	15%	57	33%	125	32%	121	12%	46	377

Park Satisfaction and Improvements

When imagining the facilities available through community parks and recreation, how important are the following to you and your family on a scale of 1-5?

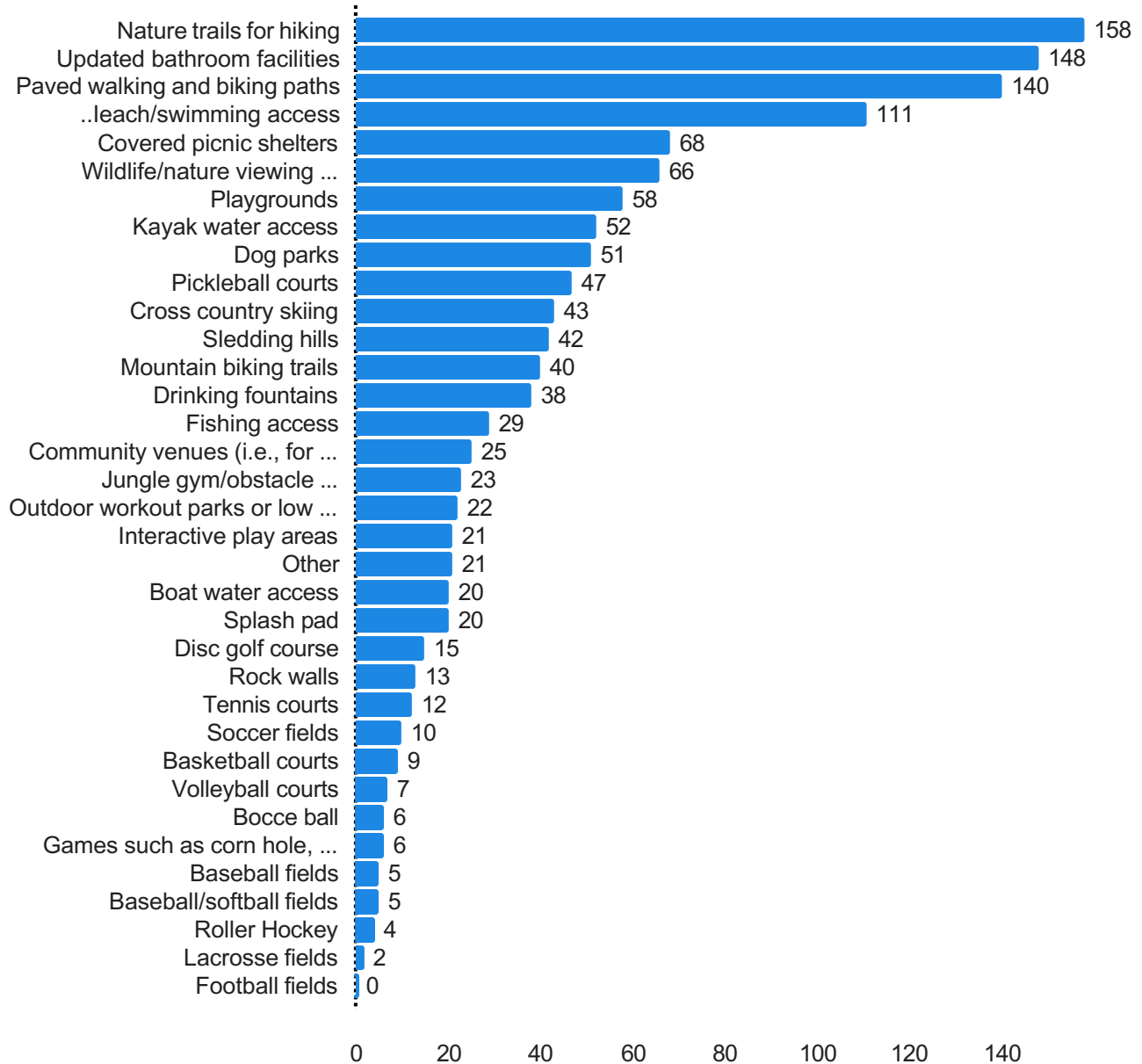
	Average	Min	Max
Nature trails for hiking	4.30	1.00	5.00
Paved walking biking trails (non-motorized)	4.02	1.00	5.00
Beach/swimming access	4.01	1.00	5.00
Picnic facilities (table, covered pavilion)	3.47	1.00	5.00
Playgrounds	3.32	1.00	5.00
Community venues (i.e., for reunions, receptions, etc.)	3.18	1.00	5.00
Interactive play areas	3.06	1.00	5.00
Kayak launch	3.01	1.00	5.00
Other	2.98	1.00	5.00
Splash pad	2.89	1.00	5.00
Fishing access	2.82	1.00	5.00
Dog parks	2.82	1.00	5.00
Mountain biking trails	2.79	1.00	5.00
Pickleball court	2.74	1.00	5.00
Boat launch	2.74	1.00	5.00
Soccer fields	2.49	1.00	5.00
Tennis court	2.29	1.00	5.00
Basketball courts	2.22	1.00	5.00
Baseball fields	2.22	1.00	5.00
Volleyball courts (court, sand)	2.19	1.00	5.00
Disc golf	2.14	1.00	5.00

Average Rankings breakout with Municipality



Amenities	City of Ferrysburg	City of Grand Haven	Grand Haven Charter Township	Spring Lake Township	Village of Spring Lake
Baseball fields	2.23	1.97	2.28	2.28	2.23
Basketball courts	2.52	2.04	2.31	2.14	2.22
Beach/swimming access	4.52	4.04	4.00	3.86	4.08
Boat launch	2.87	2.54	2.95	2.62	2.71
Community venues	3.3	2.94	3.33	2.99	3.49
Disc golf	2.33	1.84	2.48	1.93	2.02
Dog parks	2.48	2.67	3.15	2.73	2.61
Fishing access	2.83	2.4	3.01	2.76	2.98
Interactive play areas	2.87	2.92	3.19	2.99	3.19
Kayak launch	3.38	2.82	3.06	3	2.98
Mountain biking trails	2.83	2.89	3.01	2.64	2.46
Nature trails for hiking	4.48	4.30	4.42	4.26	3.98
Paved walking biking trails	3.87	3.84	3.97	4.12	4.21
Pickleball court	2.69	3.03	2.89	2.46	2.73
Picnic facilities	3.73	3.23	3.51	3.37	3.76
Playgrounds	3.32	3.04	3.38	3.3	3.55
Soccer fields	2.63	2.23	2.71	2.36	2.5
Splash pad	2.74	2.7	2.97	2.83	3.17
Tennis court	2.24	2.32	2.40	2.26	2.09
Volleyball courts	2.41	2.13	2.36	2.09	1.95
Other	2.00	3.08	3.93	2.61	2.13

We are interested in learning what you think are the top THREE most needed outdoor public recreation facilities in the Northwest Ottawa Area.

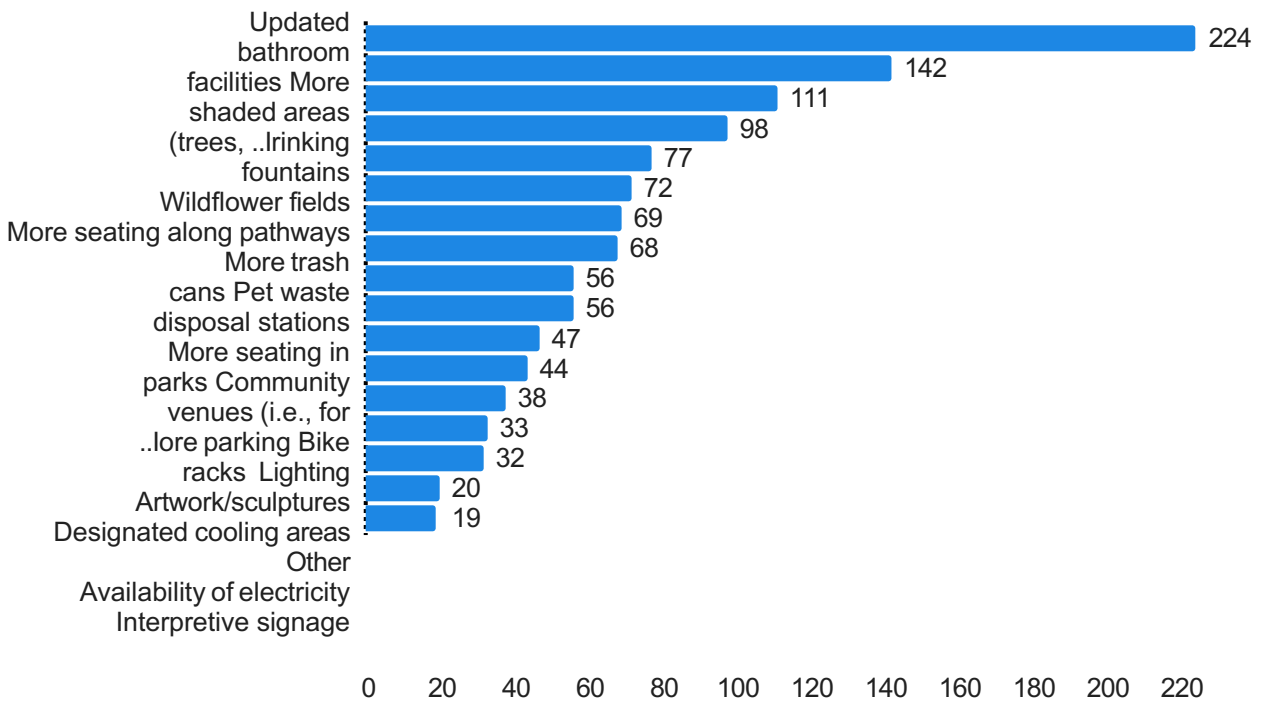


We are interested in learning what you think are the top THREE most needed outdoor public recreation facilities in the Northwest Ottawa Area.

	City of Ferrysburg	City of Grand Haven	Grand Haven Charter Township	Spring Lake Township	Village of Spring Lake	Total
Covered picnic shelters	4% 3	15% 10	22% 15	37% 25	22% 15	68

Basketball courts	0%	0	11%	1	56%	5	11%	1	22%	2	9
Tennis courts	8%	1	25%	3	25%	3	33%	4	8%	1	12
Pickleball courts	6%	3	26%	12	28%	13	32%	15	9%	4	47
Volleyball courts	14%	1	14%	1	43%	3	29%	2	0%	0	7
Playgrounds	9%	5	19%	11	33%	19	33%	19	7%	4	58
Boat water access	0%	0	10%	2	45%	9	40%	8	5%	1	20
Kayak water access	10%	5	13%	7	37%	19	29%	15	12%	6	52
Disc golf course	7%	1	0%	0	60%	9	27%	4	7%	1	15
Football fields	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0
Baseball/softball fields	20%	1	20%	1	40%	2	0%	0	20%	1	5
Paved walking and biking paths (non-motorized trails)	5%	7	14%	19	29%	40	36%	50	17%	24	140
Mountain biking trails	8%	3	23%	9	33%	13	28%	11	10%	4	40
Nature trails for hiking	10%	16	16%	26	30%	47	34%	53	10%	16	158
Dog parks	4%	2	10%	5	43%	22	35%	18	8%	4	51
Soccer fields	0%	0	0%	0	40%	4	30%	3	30%	3	10
Lacrosse fields	0%	0	0%	0	50%	1	0%	0	50%	1	2
Splash pad	5%	1	15%	3	55%	11	25%	5	0%	0	20
Sledding hills	0%	0	14%	6	50%	21	24%	10	12%	5	42
Cross country skiing	0%	0	16%	7	51%	22	26%	11	7%	3	43
Drinking fountains	13%	5	11%	4	32%	12	26%	10	18%	7	38
Updated bathroom facilities	9%	14	21%	31	24%	36	31%	46	14%	21	148
Beach/swimming access	9%	10	19%	21	25%	28	30%	33	17%	19	111
Fishing access	3%	1	3%	1	24%	7	55%	16	14%	4	29
Games such as corn hole, foosball, etc	17%	1	50%	3	17%	1	17%	1	0%	0	6
Roller Hockey	0%	0	0%	0	50%	2	25%	1	25%	1	4
Jungle gym/obstacle course/ropes course	4%	1	13%	3	39%	9	30%	7	13%	3	23
Bocce ball	0%	0	17%	1	50%	3	33%	2	0%	0	6
Rock walls	8%	1	23%	3	31%	4	31%	4	8%	1	13
Outdoor workout parks or low impact exercise stations	5%	1	27%	6	27%	6	36%	8	5%	1	22
Wildlife/nature viewing areas/overlooks	5%	3	12%	8	36%	24	30%	20	17%	11	66
Baseball fields	0%	0	0%	0	80%	4	20%	1	0%	0	5
Community venues (i.e., for reunions, receptions, etc)	0%	0	12%	3	24%	6	44%	11	20%	5	25
Interactive play areas	0%	0	24%	5	38%	8	19%	4	19%	4	21
Other	19%	4	29%	6	10%	2	33%	7	10%	2	21

Please indicate the top THREE most needed park updates in the Northwest Ottawa Area:

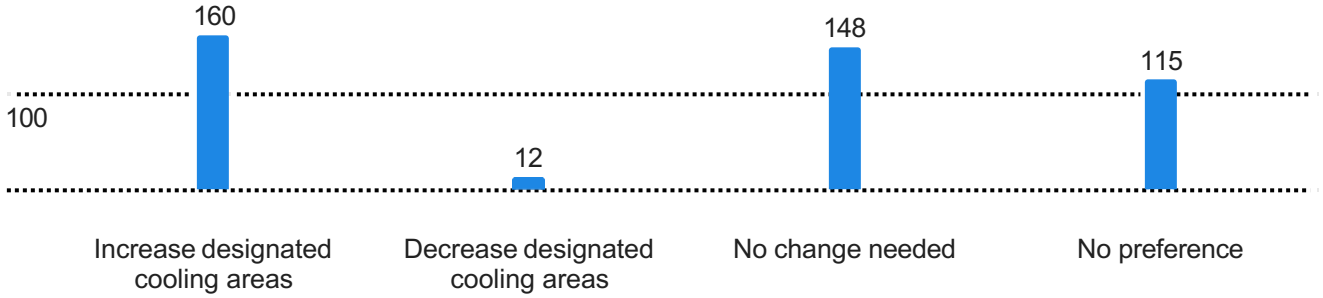


Please indicate the top THREE most needed park updates in the Northwest Ottawa Area:

	City of Ferrysburg		City of Grand Haven		Grand Haven Charter Township		Spring Lake Township		Village of Spring Lake		Total
Artwork/sculptures	11%	4	13%	5	21%	8	34%	13	21%	8	38
More seating in parks	4%	3	15%	10	32%	22	37%	25	12%	8	68
More seating along pathways	8%	6	14%	11	34%	26	30%	23	14%	11	77
Drinking fountains	6%	7	16%	18	41%	45	25%	28	12%	13	111
Updated bathroom facilities	4%	10	17%	38	33%	73	33%	73	13%	30	224
Designated cooling areas	3%	1	6%	2	52%	17	30%	10	9%	3	33
More trash cans	14%	10	11%	8	29%	21	29%	21	17%	12	72
More shaded areas (trees, shelters, sun shades, etc.)	6%	8	15%	21	29%	41	39%	55	12%	17	142
More parking	14%	8	13%	7	32%	18	27%	15	14%	8	56
Pet waste disposal stations	4%	3	26%	18	25%	17	39%	27	6%	4	69
Interpretive signage	5%	1	16%	3	26%	5	37%	7	16%	3	19
Bike racks	6%	3	21%	10	34%	16	23%	11	15%	7	47
Lighting	2%	1	9%	4	30%	13	39%	17	20%	9	44
Availability of electricity	0%	0	15%	3	45%	9	25%	5	15%	3	20
Wildflower fields	4%	4	15%	15	33%	32	35%	34	13%	13	98

Community venues (i.e., for reunions, receptions, etc.)	5%	3	13%	7	46%	26	21%	12	14%	8	56
Other	16%	5	34%	11	9%	3	28%	9	13%	4	32

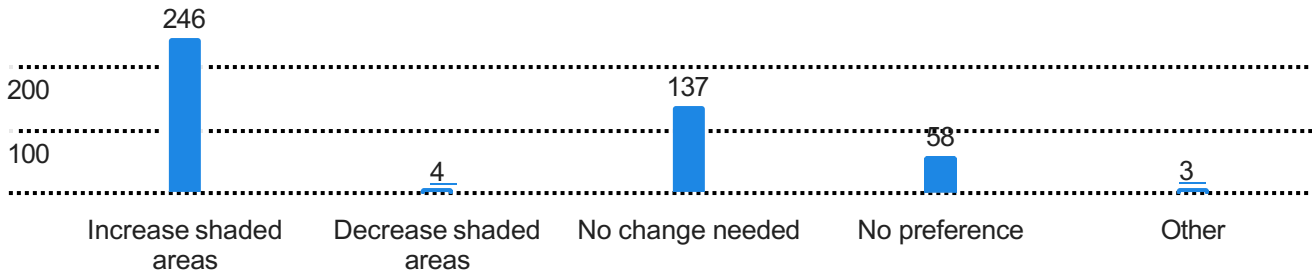
What is your preference for designated cooling areas such as splash pads at Northwest Ottawa Parks?



What is your preference for designated cooling areas such as splash pads at Northwest Ottawa Parks?

	City of Ferrysburg		City of Grand Haven		Grand Haven Charter Township		Spring Lake Township		Village of Spring Lake		Total
Increase designated cooling areas	5%	8	14%	22	41%	65	30%	48	11%	17	160
Decrease designated cooling areas	8%	1	17%	2	17%	2	58%	7	0%	0	12
No change needed	10%	15	20%	29	22%	33	34%	51	14%	20	148
No preference	3%	4	16%	18	36%	41	30%	35	15%	17	115
Other	17%	1	17%	1	0%	0	50%	3	17%	1	6

What changes regarding shaded areas are needed at Northwest Ottawa Parks?



What changes regarding shaded areas are needed at Northwest Ottawa Parks?

Field	City of Ferrysburg		City of Grand Haven		Grand Haven Charter Township		Spring Lake Township		Village of Spring Lake		Total
Increase shaded areas	6.91%	17	15.45%	38	30.49%	75	32.93%	81	14.23%	35	246
Decrease shaded areas	0.00%	0	25.00%	1	0.00%	0	75.00%	3	0.00%	0	4
No change needed	7.30%	10	16.06%	22	37.23%	51	29.20%	40	10.22%	14	137
No preference	5.17%	3	18.97%	11	27.59%	16	31.03%	18	17.24%	10	58
Other	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	100.00%	3	0.00%	0	3

Appendix: Written Responses

Are there other parks that you have visited in your community in the past 12 months that are not listed above?

City of Ferrysburg:

PJ Hoffmaster, beach wood, rosie mount, rising dust
Holland Shores, Grand Haven State Park, Grand Valley Ravine
kirk park, duncan woods, cow park
Levington Park
muskegon state park
North Shore Beach
Pigeon Creek
pj hoffmaster, north shore beach, lake harbor
State park

City of Grand Haven:

Imagination Station in Grand Haven
Quincey Park
Riley Trails, Holland State Park
Schmidt Heritage Park

Grand Haven Charter Township:

Bass River, Conner, Strens,
Connor Bayou
Connor's Bayou
Hemlock
Hemlock Crosings
Hemlock Crossing
Hoffmaster state park
Hoffmaster State Park, Pigeon Creek Park and trails
Keow Park
Kirk Park. Hemlock Park
No
pigeon creek hemlock crossings
Riverside Park, Conner Creek, Stearns Park
Robinson Forest, Stearns Creek
Schmidt
Schmidt field
Schmidt heritage
Schmidt Heritage Park
Schmidt Heritage park

Schmidt Heritage Park GH Township
Schmidt Heritage Park, plus Stearns Bayou and Connor Bayou in Robinson Township
Schmidt Park (new one)
Schmitt park
Stearns Bayou
The bike trails in all areas
Windsnest beach

Spring Lake Township:

Coastguard park
Crockery Hall
hawk master
Hoffmaster State Park, Muskegon State Park
I live here but spend my time on Mona Lake.
Marvs bark park
None
None
Not that I can think of.
Pettys Bayou Boat Launch,
pigeon creek, hemlock crossings
PJ Hoffmaster
Tunnel Park, Lakeshore

Village of Spring Lake:

Dino park in spring lake township — ICE rink in Central Park —. Docks at Lakeside Beach —
holland state park. tunnel park. grand haven state park
Muskegon State Park
Spring Lake Yacht Club Area is a park in Village of Spring Lake
The purple & green playground at Kinderkirk / Presbyterian church in Spring Lake.

Which of the following is the biggest factor impacting your decision to visit a park in the last year? (Other)

City of Ferrysburg:

Exercise
not enough time
playgrounds
relaxation

City of Grand Haven:

Dog friendly
Dog Friendly

Dog walking ability
Exercise
EXERCISE IN SAFE PUBLIC OUTDOOR AREAS
If I can bring dog, if I can have dog off leash or not.
Location, safe environment, lake view, natural areas
Playground equipment
playgrounds and/or kid friendly
Running/walking trails
Water

Grand Haven Charter Township:

Playground
No dog allowed
MTB trails
Kids activities
Hiking trails
Dog walking
dog friendly
bicycling, hiking, stewardship
Athletic Fields

Spring Lake Township:

Ability to walk dog
Bike access
Bike riding destinations, events and nature!
Lake and other water activities
Off leash dogs has deterred me from going to several parks. I have a dog but really feel we need a patrol to ticket owners for not being responsible with their pets off leash.
Playground for grandkids
recreation
weather
Weather
whether its dog friendly or not

Village of Spring Lake:

Walkways (I have a bad foot). BATHROOMS (young kids). Playground equipment/ things to do - beach/water/fishing
Pickleball
Natural areas, location, and safety

If you don't go to a park often or when your typical routine of visiting the parks is interrupted, what are the reasons for not going? (Other)

City of Ferrysburg:

life in general
i had cancer
i dont know
Facility too crowded
everythings closed - ottawa sand entrance closed
because im lazy, some of them are really crowded

City of Grand Haven:

location
Not enough parking, too crowded.
Out of Area

Grand Haven Charter Township:

Too many people there
Temporarily was injured
Dogs not permitted
Busy work schedule
Bugs

Spring Lake Township:

Unleaded dogs are a big problem
tore achilles tendon, so can't play pickleball
Senior citizen parks are not always accessible
Not closer need one in walking distance.
Need to walk my dog off leash and many parks prohibit this
Just committing to doing it. We have beautiful parks around here and I don't visit them enough.
i have natural beauty at home
I don't make time for it. My bad.
dogs, if its heavily populated
Bike trails not safe over HW31...not enough connector trails to locations.

Village of Spring Lake:

Number of people and number of benches
if they are crowded then i tend to avoid them

What mode of transportation do you most often use to travel to a park? (Other)

City of Ferrysburg:

walking or biking

City of Grand Haven:

Walk, Bike, Drive
Don't go to parks
Both walk and drive
boat

Grand Haven Charter Township:

<no responses>

Spring Lake Township:

equal walk and bike

Village of Spring Lake:

<no responses>

Would you, or a group you belong to, be interested in the following volunteer opportunities? (Something else)

City of Ferrysburg:

not right now
not interested
not interested
no but my wife is really into invasive species
no
no
no
no
i would be willing but i dont like that they shoot the deer so in protest i dont want to volunteer
i cant do it at this time
i am interested but i dont have time

City of Grand Haven:

The last time I volunteered I was asked to sign a release so didn't do it and Have not volunteered since
not sure, can't really do work outside, have health issues
I will need to think about this
i dont have time

Grand Haven Charter Township:

Would love to be trained to do nature walks
Will be interested once I'm retired. We spend 4-5 months here and work throughout that time.
Not at this time
hadn't thought about it. maybe yes
Ball field maintenance

Spring Lake Township:

Wetland clean up
we have helped with the removing invasive species and had a great time
volunteer for other community ministries
Possibly
not interested
Monitor dog parks?
i would be interested in reading some information first

Village of Spring Lake:

<no responses>

Please indicate the type of disability or condition. (Other)

City of Ferrysburg:

Autistic

City of Grand Haven:

<no responses>

Grand Haven Charter Township:

Irritable Bowel Syndrome

Spring Lake Township:

Cognitive
Brain cancer

Village of Spring Lake:

<no responses>

What types of programs are needed to serve people with disabilities in your family? (Other)

City of Ferrysburg:

Paved pathways for walkers and wheelchairs
none
likes the bird feeder program in robinson township

City of Grand Haven:

Informed source presentation
autism awareness and mobility access

Grand Haven Charter Township:

Cleaned, stocked and functional bathrooms.

Spring Lake Township:

Inexpensive opportunities for swimming

Village of Spring Lake:

Boardwalk to water

What updates need to be done at your local park so that people with disabilities in your family can fully engage and use the park facilities?

City of Ferrysburg:

We have difficulty walking any distance and use our bikes to travel (not electric). We now need paved surfaces to enjoy the natural surroundings and posted/enforced speed limits as the electric bikes are getting fearfully dangerous on the trails.
Our parks are pretty good, maybe add more walking paths
I think they're pretty good
Harbor transit is pretty good.
Always need more paths and more benches. We really enjoy the paths at North beach.

City of Grand Haven:

Specialized access for physical use
Paved walkways. The ones I have seen are pretty good
Pathways to accommodate wheelchairs
Not all playgrounds are handicap accessible or safe for a child who is unsteady on their feet
Grand Haven needs more playground equipment throughout the city, trails, and township. Swings, slides, climbing structures, forts, etc
Accessibility: level paths, sturdy guardrails, good stairs

Grand Haven Charter Township:

Wheelchair/Walker accessible pathways
Most are very well accessible and maintained
I just have bad knees/hips from serving in the Army and when I get out of work, they usually can't handle much more physical activity.
Honestly restrooms are mostly, fine. Just please keep this in mind for any expansion / renovations. Just minor things like making sure door locks work on stalls, spiders /insects are kept in check, etc.

Spring Lake Township:

Unpaved or in need of repairs
The small park areas in the Village are in need of attention. Those living near the areas aren't welcoming-feels as though you are intruding
The North Ottawa Park was too hard to get to the water since it was filled in with sand due to erosion. The distance to the water's edge was just too far to get there, especially on a hot day and my age. I gave up going. It just did not feel welcoming to sit by the water's edge.
Ramps
Parking close
Parking
More level ground for people with walking issues or in wheelchairs
make walking from the parking lot easy
Less uneven ground

It's hard for me to walk in the soft sand even though I absolutely love it. If there were more plastic walk ways to use to get to the water, that would be very helpful
Hard pack and/or boardwalk surfaces in at least 33% of the park. Definitely the beginning of the trail and other locations being close to the trailhead. I don't need to move through the entire park.
Enough space for parking
Easy access trails
As long as I can get around with a walker, I'm good.
Accessibility

Village of Spring Lake:

All of our parks need to be barrier free. No bark, areas that are easy for all to use.
--

What suggestion do you have for improving your experience at the park with a stroller, wagon, etc.?

City of Ferrysburg:

Paved pathways to restrooms, beach front, and increased disabled parking spots
Its nice when they have handicap parking, and also when they put the parking barrier, they put them too close together so you can't get a stroller or wheelchair out of the car

City of Grand Haven:

Walker/cane- hard surface observation points
The parks we typically frequent are pretty accessible
Smooth, wide walkways and gates
Pathways so pulling or pushing is easier.
none
never had an issue
Maybe have walkways wide enough for a double stroller plus pedestrians. Others going fast on a sidewalk on skates, bikes or scooters can be a challenge when walking with a stroller. Having a good place to park a stroller is sometimes a challenge. Keeping young children safe in parking lots is a challenge.
Keep paved walkways in good condition, i.e. if a sidewalk is provided then keep it smooth and not all broken/cracked.
having paths that are wide enough for a stroller
Ensure that areas are safe to navigate with walkers, wheelchairs, etc.
Curb cuts and gravel
Paths

Grand Haven Charter Township:

Wagon for beach supplies
Upkeep of trails. Blacktop or crushed gravel

Trail systems that are accessible with strollers so parents can include children in activities. Bike paths that are not cracked, have holes, etc.
Stroller/wagon
Stroller parking. Stroller trail through the park.
Paved or gravel trails within Hofma
None
Mother's parking
More paved paths
I like the foam flooring for parks
Flat concrete, no inclines/declines
Fine the way it is.
always have a ramp option for strollers

Spring Lake Township:

Walker
Wagons , coolers and stroller
Use a walker /cane - smooth surface pathways
The portable sidewalk at beaches
Stroller
stroller
Smooth sidewalks - limited bumps, breaks, etc.
Having pathways to the things at the park beyond just the sidewalk (I.e. a path that leads to the dog park fence)
Ramps in place of some stairs
More level and smoother paths to the amenities in each park. With no barriers.
More flat surface walkways down to the water
Mobility scooter or trike access
Make sure walking paths are maintained, smooth, and level
Less uneven ground
Its just difficult to put them together
I haven't really found it to be a problem

Village of Spring Lake:

Walkways down to the water
Ramps instead of stairs to make it easier to move around the space & not lifting strollers / wagons up or down stairs. Shaded or covered areas so strollers (& all of the stuff in it) don't sit in hot sun or rainy weather.
Pour in place is easiest. Whistle Stop is a great place that includes all types of people. My parents are older and it is easiest to walk in level areas.
Paved pathways
Pathway from water to bathrooms
Paddle board/kayak trailer, bikes, & wagon
just a trail that can be used with a wagon at some of the bigger parks...not all is necessary
For the most part I have been able to access all parks with a stroller, and for hikes we use a backpack carrier and it goes well!
but there is no challenges
signage suggesting to keep strollers out of the way while not in use might be helpful

When imagining the facilities available through community parks and recreation, how important are the following amenities to you (or members of your family)? (Other)

City of Ferrysburg:

Natural areas undisturbed by "improvement"s

City of Grand Haven:

Water park
Want swimming pool
Trail markers
Swimming
Secure bike rack
good bathrooms
equestrian trails, lake front with accessibility for dogs
cross country ski trails
Accessibility

Grand Haven Charter Township:

We need more tennis!!
Water fountains
Updated playground equipment
Softball fields
Running Track
Restrooms (I am amazed this isn't included)
Restroom facilities
Outdoor Hockey Rink
indoor walking track
Hunting
Free parking
Better maps on trails
Benches and overlooks to observe nature and wildlife - photography
Badminton courts
Areas for senior exercises

Spring Lake Township:

Water views
there are so many parks = that having the mix of trails, playground, splash pad, beach is an awesome part of our community
Pool
Pets allowed
Native plants identified
Mix of shade and sun, water
I am more interested in great facilities for families than for myself.

Downtown parking gh and sl
Community pool (less expensive)
Bike paths throughout community
Bathroom
3D Archery Course

Village of Spring Lake:

Nature trails that appear mostly undisturbed. We love the flowers, plants and wildlife.
Dock and seating. The Alden Street End park was destroyed in the flood and I would like it back. We enjoyed taking food done there to eat and enjoy the view. We also enjoyed the ability to launch kayak's there.
bike paths
Amphitheater

We are interested in learning what you think are the top THREE most needed outdoor public recreation facilities in the Northwest Ottawa Area. (Other)_

City of Ferrysburg:

trash cans
Parking and maintenance at Ferrysburg lake accesses along Lakeview and Cecelia
parking
more space

City of Grand Haven:

Water Park
Swimming pool
Off leash dog walking areas
equestrian trails
Bocce is a sport. Bocce is played with Bocce Balls.

Grand Haven Charter Township:

We have enough already

Spring Lake Township:

restrooms
no rules and regulations about where you can take your dog
Increase parking
Community pool

Bike repair stations / dog clean-up stations
Archery Range

Village of Spring Lake:

Nature Scapes/Nature Playgrounds
Concert events

Please indicate the top THREE most needed park updates in the Northwest Ottawa Area. (Other)

City of Ferrysburg:

more trash pick up on trails
more park security/patrol
more drinking fountains
i dont have anything
entrance way (cant get motor homes through the gate)

City of Grand Haven:

The parks I visit are great right now.
Recycling
More parking
Make paths assault instead of gravel. Difficult for powerchairs
Make city beach and Duncan woods dog friendly
i dont know
Hard surfaces/paved
dont need any updates
Don't need any updates
accessibility and upkeep

Grand Haven Charter Township:

Youth baseball needs to be played on regulation fields with pitching mounds and grass infield. Teaching kids to pitch without a mound and field balls in dirt is putting our community's kids at a huge disadvantage.
More appropriate enviroment waste removal systems
Improve existing baseball/softball fields

Spring Lake Township:

Unfortunately more officers on trails ticketing dog owners not leashing their dogs
recycling
Pet beach areas
more picnic areas
more availability to bring your dogs around
I think they are great.
Dark sky outdoor lighting
Clean up goose poop!

Village of Spring Lake:

Repairs to existing structures
Recycling options
i dont have anything
Bumps, cracks in bike paths

What is your preference for designated cooling areas such as splash pads at Northwest Ottawa Parks? (Other)

City of Ferrysburg:

one per park

City of Grand Haven:

Swimming pool

Grand Haven Charter Township:

<no responses>

Spring Lake Township:

The ones we have are uninteresting to my kids.
One in our neighborhood
add one or two cooling areas

Village of Spring Lake:

I love that we now have splash pads in spring lake and grand haven. Don't know that we need more, but not opposed if there was space for one in ferrysburg area.
--

What changes regarding shaded areas are needed at Northwest Ottawa Parks? (Other)

City of Ferrysburg:

<no responses>

City of Grand Haven:

<no responses>

Grand Haven Charter Township:

<no responses>

Spring Lake Township:

Natural Shade areas
more trees
Beach shaded areas would be nice

Village of Spring Lake:

<no responses>

Please use the space below to share any additional comments that can assist the region in improving the parks, trails, open space, recreation facilities, programs, or services.

City of Ferrysburg:

we are paying too much taxes, they keep raising the taxes, there is a lot of stuff that we don't need that comes out of our pocket and we dont have a choice. i really feel like the government owns you, if you dont pay your bills, theyll take your house away. do we need all of these parks? the playgrounds for children are real nice but do they need that? the government just takes from us. they take 20% of the fairs and the big festivals. i like the parks but the thing is, were paying for those. theyre making money off of the city, and its very corrupt. I think its very corrupt. in 1913 they didnt have taxes and now they just keep adding more taxes.
the biggest thing is more facilities with trash cans, especially the state parks
North Beach Park needs more parking.

No
Making them accessible for everyone, basically free parking, its important for a lot of people to enjoy the space
Leave the natural spaces alone,. Work on parking, paved paths, water fountains that work, sheltered ares/shade. Not every park need to be a playground, sportcourt, or boat access. Keep some parks simple and quiet. Our parks are over developed. Parks should focus on the enjoyment of the natural features primarily.
In summary, the speed of electric motorized vehicles (bikes, scooters, and boards) is a huge safety concern on the lakeside trails. Also the Ferrysburg public lake access sites are miserable and unfortunately not accessible at all due to lack of parking and overgrowth.
I think Ottawa county is doing a great job with parks, I wouldn't change much, I would just keep going
I think making things more accessible to people with disabilities is a pretty important thing to do, everything else is pretty excellent. I really love the parks
holding people accountable for their dogs (leashes and waste), carry the bag to the trash can instead of leaving the bag to the side of the trail. enforcement of some kind would nice. dog walking off leashes
designated hammock areas with hooks and such

City of Grand Haven:

Yes! Please do care for and increase the availability of third space in Ottawa County. The availability of these places to come together and be outside is one of the very best things about living here.
We need more mountain bike and singletrack trails for running/hiking around that are fun and challenging.
There should be more work to prevent erosion
Thanks for taking such good care of our public spaces!
Here are some thoughts: I've been using the trails in the Hofma Preserve/Park on 168th for trail running. I get lost regularly - many trails are not marked and it's not always obviously which way is the "main trail."
Maybe some trees could be planted in the new parking. There's not much for shade except if you stand near the map. And no where to lock up your bike. ;)
Finally, I can't find this park entrance on a map. I was trying to meet a friend there (was their first time), and Google Maps wanted to take them to the Ferris St entrance.
Thanks again! :)
Quiet reading areas.
Public service announcements about improvements, additions of programs, services, etc.
Our parks are plentiful & beautiful ! Job well done
More off leash areas for dogs please
Love the parks! Thank you!
I haven't used all the parks. It would be nice if all the larger parks had public bathroom facilities; drinking fountains; and accessibility for wheelchairs, walkers and strollers. Landscaping for shade is becoming increasingly important. Splash pads are nice for cooling, but they are likely too expensive to provide more than a few in the area. We often picnic on the back of an SUV so don't have to have picnic tables.
hard to choose from these lists, all are important. Splash pads bring park traffic and ad value to a park/neighborhood, definitely increase parking! , drinking fountains are a must just for the basic need of water, paved walking for older folk, more advertising to know where all these places are, I had no idea there were all these parks until I read the list on the survey
Definitely more parking and non donated seating in Grand Haven Park More public beach access that doesnt require a fee to park or a parks sticker.
Allow more camping if possible

Grand Haven Charter Township:

Would love more parks to be dog friendly
While we don't use parks often (we live elsewhere 5 months a year), we are very interested in seeing the park system expand.
We have many playgrounds but the equipment, particularly the slides, gets so hot in the sun it is hazardous to children. Surely there is some material that does not get so hot??
We are losing tennis courts rapidly to pickleball courts!!!! My daughter is a Sophomore at Grand Haven High School and this past 2024 spring season, 80...yes! 80 girls went out for the tennis team! 65 girls went out last year, and that is not even including the boys program. The tennis program keeps growing and there is NO WHERE for them to practice in the fall, winter, spring especially since the Sport House took over and made all tennis courts into B-ball and V-ball. Hope college now has to negotiate courts between 12 high schools and that is AFTER their college teams get court time. The schools in Fruitport, Spring Lake, Norton Shores don't even practice in the Fall, Winter, Spring because there is no where for any of them to go! When we go to other communities i.e. Hudsonville, Holland, Grand Rapids, Chicago- they absolutely put Grand Haven to shame with not only the outside Tennis accommodations and availability, but the inside access to courts as well-which could easily be used as pickle ball courts during the day when schools are not using them. This issue needs to be addressed immediately as it has never been thought through or addressed!!! I have to travel to Holland and Grand Rapids for my daughter to get court time, and that is ridiculous.
Treat the hemlocks HWA and oak wilt.
Stop growing the park system
Have user fees, not using taxes for parks.
Thank you for the wonderful work you do with parks and trails. I have lived in 7 countries and visited dozens, and several USA States and I think you keep the trails in excellent condition. We as a family appreciate the effort. I would recommend more work with the community when it comes to promoting them. One way of attracting could be nature walks, bird watcher clubs, or to facilitate the information on where these groups are.
Stop paving trails and rely on natural conditions. Paved trails often aren't maintained after feel good ribbon cutting but impede wildlife
Please keep the baseball field at the Fire Barn park, it is ONLY one of two baseball fields in Ottawa county with a 54' mound used by Tri-Cities little league 12-13 year olds
Our family loves Ottawa Parks- especially parks that allow leashed dogs. I think leash laws need to be reinforced and also cleaning up after dogs. Perhaps by ticketing or banning dogs of non respectful owners.
Open Rosy Mound to dogs
More shade at playgrounds
More playgrounds for Children.
More dog parks and dog programs
Many of the parks are run down and not safe for the kids to play at. The Cho Cho train park has roots all over it and dirt with little to no mulch
Lower capital cost by spending less
Kids need to play baseball on regulation baseball fields. They play on dusty softball fields without pitching mounds or grass on infields. Home plate and the pitching mound rubber are always sunken below ground level and it's dangerous. It's a joke that we don't have little league regulation fields in the area. They need outfield fences as well.
Just overall up keep of the parks. We are so fortunate to have so many parks to choose from. We enjoy them all each one offers something different. Thank you for continuing to upgrade & maintain our parks.
In the last five years, I have noticed most tennis courts have been taken over by pickleball courts. While I do appreciate pickleball, I hate to see less and less places for tennis. Please don't let tennis courts become a thing of the past. In addition, I believe this area is in desperate need of a good mountain bike trail system.
Improved bike trail connections. attempt to provide safer US 31 crossings as bike trails are used
I typically walk alone and honestly if I feel nervous I don't know what you could do, unless there were security cameras along the trail, which assumes you would have to hire people to watch them. I lived my whole life until retirement in SE MI so This contributes to my attitude. Hopefully I'll learn to relax more on the trails because we have beautiful parks.
I really like our parks. It would be great to have a guide to our local parks as some of the ones mentioned I had never heard of. I would like to visit each one in a year.
I live walking distance from Potawatomi park. I'd like an exercise facility installed for working out

I am so thankful for the paved biking/walking trails around Grand Haven TWP. It is a huge drive to stay active and be outside rain/shine/winter/summer/all the time. Thank you for helping us be healthy, active and mobile while living in this amazing area. We have an abundance of natural resources and I love that you are thinking about making things better.
Grand Haven boardwalk should be used for pedestrian traffic only. Bikes, skateboards, scooters, etc should be banned or make a specific "lane" for them.
For the most part, I think county wise are very well maintained, and the guys were hard to keep it that way
Emailed programs would be nice, I'm never sure what's going on.
Being so close to the coast it is important for dog accessibility to be the largest issue addressed next. Beach access is already very abundant, but beach access for dogs is limited and lacking greatly. The most important things to me would be beach access, natural, unpaved trails, nice playground, updated bathrooms and bonus for splash pads in more frequented areas. ALL of these places should allow dogs at the very least on leash in addition to more off leash options throughout the entire day, no black out times in the middle of the day. Pet owners also want to bring their furry family to parks in the middle of the day, it's not a people only want/need. This aspect is currently extremely lacking.
Absolutely love our parks! Most days we go twice - for morning and afternoon walks. Greatly appreciate all our township and county administrators have done to build these fantastic recreational facilities in our community!
A safe indoor walking track is needed, especially for seniors during the fall, winter, and spring months. This should be free to the community. Perhaps courts for basketball and pickleball on the ground level, and the walking track circling above the courts could be devised.

Spring Lake Township:

Trails and bike paths to remain safe for walkers. Not interested in BMX and electric bikes flying by. Not safe for older adults, children and pets or anyone for that matter.
Too bad the County messed up North Ottawa Sands with yurts and overnight camping.
Tighten enforcement of dog leash rules. Too many unleashed dogs on the trails, often allowed to run ahead of the trail. I was actually bitten while hiking at Hemlock.
The SW Michigan parks are amazing! We love it here. Moved from Southern Calif where parks were not safe, no hiking trails, hot, not enough parking or water access without fighting traffic and crowds.
The school practice facilities football, track, lacrosse, soccer fields, indoor basketball etc. should not be locked to the taxpayer. We pay for this and should be able to use them including children to practice their sport of choice. Hire someone to supervise these facilities.
The parks need a public pools.
Please bring back benches/seating areas that were destroyed with the flooding several years ago of the lakes. Especially the North street ends in Spring Lake Village.
Plant identification, more flowers
Parks should be a place where people go to escape the hustle of "city life". Places where people can go to host a get-together or cookout with friends and family while allowing all ages of the group a safe place to play. We don't need to complicate it by catering to every intricate desire for specific recreational activities such as bocce ball or shuffle boards, but offer things such as tennis/pickle ball, basketball, softball, and playground equipment. Rental fees for covered areas should be reasonable and affordable to all members of the community. If we are truly offering parks as places of recreation for the community, the activities should be affordable by everyone.
Organize to cut off invasive species.
New to the area and haven't been to all of the parks, but am impressed with the ones I've seen.
My suggestions: clear the weeds along the bike paths both in Central Park and along the bike path along 152nd ave. Second: somehow enforce the leash and dog poop cleanup laws along the Central Park bike paths. Post some signs at the entrances and along the bike paths as a reminder.
My favorite is the disc golf course for hiking and playing
My #1 wish would be to have a community pool. The one at high school is prohibitively too expensive for families (even if they are the taxpayers who helped finance it)
Mulch spread on trails is very helpful in wet areas. Some of our current parks need updating with play equipment and restrooms before more park areas are created. Thanks for the survey!
Most parks I'm aware have, but it's nice to have a good pedestrian/bicycle path to get to the parks.
more portable bathrooms during winter months.

More nature programs for kids. There is no nature center near my home in Spring Lake with indoor/outdoor programs available. Green box in the summer. We had this in Ohio for kids. More interesting playgrounds-Spring Lake Central Park would be a great place for an upgraded playground. Story Walk through the woods that takes more than 5 minutes. Organized community foot races. Community Pool and water park would be amazing. We also had one in Ohio. (Avon Lake) each town had their own.

We like the chess board at SL central but last week it was too dirty to sit at and no chess pieces. Picnic tables were dirty too.

We love the bike paths! Thank you for maintaining them!

The wooden causeway /bikepath on the Lloyds Bayou Bridge on Leonard needs to be replaced. It's probably 35 years old. It's time. The safety is compromised and the vegetation has taken over. Thank you!

Maps - especially of trails. Or easy to follow signage.

Increase the area for parks and decrease the area for new construction.

Improve the baseball fields. Some of the worst baseball fields I've ever been around, embarrassing. A nicely manicured baseball field can add a lot of appeal to a park.

I would really love to designated mountain biking in the area. I believe bass river is the only spot and it's pretty far away from where I live near holiday hills.

I love our parks! We use them regularly and vary them up based on our "mood". It would be nice if water tower park had a playground. It would also be nice if people would clean up dog poop!! Water tower park is horrible for this, along with the bike paths. I think weekly we get dog poop from one of those locations on someone's shoes... It would be nice to see recycling cans available. I would also love to see more volunteer opportunities for helping at the parks for the whole family. It is good to teach the kids to take care of the space they use.

Get people to pick up their dog feces

Fix bumps and cracks in paved walking biking trails. Some are killer on the balls.

Extra pavilion . If it is rented, there is no place to sit and read in the shade. The beach is now too far away to get to the water's edge. to cool off or enjoy the sun and breeze.

E-bikes have become commonly used and pose safety hazard for many pedestrians using the multi-use paths. Please develop and enforce guidelines for safety

don't increase taxes

Definitely more drinking fountains or water refill stations available, along with trash cans and poop bag stations, but even more important than the increase of some of these , is the UPKEEP of them! Many of them just need to be refilled more often, and cleaned more often.

Concern about lack of signage regarding if mountain bikes are allowed on trails. It is dangerous if a bike is on a non-bike trail. If bikes are allowed there should be directional signs (clockwise or counter-clockwise). Clear signs on whether bikes are allowed would be nice. Or have additional trails that are specific area for bikes only. It can be dangerous to have walkers and bikers on same trails. Thank you for considering.

Better trail maintenance; Low tree branch removal, shrub and grass cut from sides of trails and driveways for safety. Car&bike accidents are on the rise!

Better signage in Kitchel-Lindquist Dune Preserve. Also, unlock the bathrooms!

Bathroom in Central Park need to he updated.

Accessible kayak launches are amazing and we could use more of them. I frequently kayak with a friend with disabilities and it makes a huge difference in her life and allows her to go places she hadn't been able to previously. Also just better facilities in general would be great--bathrooms with flush toilets, having drinking fountains available even at small parks, and clear signage (both directional and interpretive) would be great. Love the parks in this area--thank you for doing this survey!

A refreshment place is needed at the Nunica trailhead

A mountain bike trail is one of the major missing nature pieces for Ottawa county. Other local counties have them, although these are rather sparse in West Michigan. It would keep people local rather than having to travel and support other counties!

Village of Spring Lake:

We use so many of these facilities regularly and really appreciate the value they add to our Village. It is the primary reason we chose to live here in the Village.

We love our parks and paths but dislike the current attitudes of boards "my way or the highway attitude.

Trees keep a park inviting, NOT CEMENT! Keep it natural as much as possible.
The Alden Street End park was destroyed in the flood and hasn't been replaced. We enjoyed being able to take a meal there and enjoy the view. We also enjoyed launching our kayaks from there. Please replace that park. Thank you.
Please add more dog parks, sitting areas in parks. It would be great to see more pickleball courts in a non residential space.
Our parks are beautiful, but some are dated. The cost is extremely high and Northwest Ottawa County Leaders need to find a way to keep them updated. Most of our taxes go into infrastructures for clean water, better roads. Our leaders need to figure out how to work together to brainstorm how to find funding to help maintain the wonderful parks that we do have.
It might be fun to see some nature scape playgrounds. Holland has a couple and they are so fun. I also have always been bummed that many parks that use to have ice rinks when I was younger are now abandon or no longer in use.
Improve safety features/call stations.
Developing another small beach for families like Lakeside beach would be really nice since it has begun to get crowded. Preserving areas for people who don't want to be around dogs at parks, enforcing rules regarding dogs in these areas.
Completion of the Spoonville Trail to Grand Haven Extension of the Northbank trail beyond Nunica
At least one restroom or port-o-san open in the late fall and winter months—and maintained— even if it's once a week or once every other week. We do need to urinate occasionally on long walks/hikes, even in the winter, you know.
Also, I don't know if this would be under the aegis of the P&R, but why in the world does the tri-cities not have a river taxi/gondola service during the summer season? Why does GH not have a pedicab service in the summer, and why do you make it so difficult to have food trucks at Chinook Pier in the summer? I don't have a food truck, but these are things I've wondered since moving here three years ago, and things I've wondered about since we were regular tourists for a dozen years.