



TOWNSHIP

**Parks, Recreation & Land Preservation
Advisory Board Meeting**

Thursday, March 20th 2025 8:30am

**Roselle Park Resource Building
(1010 Grand River Drive, Ada MI. 49301)**

Agenda

1. Call to order/Roll Call
2. Approval of agenda
3. Minutes of the PRLP Advisory Board meeting held February 20th
(enclosed – approval requested)
4. Financial Report
 - a) Revenue/Expense Report as of 2/28/25
5. Unfinished Business - None
6. New Business
 - a) Parks, Recreation & Land Preservation Millage Discussion
7. Committee Reports & Updates
 - a) Stewardship
 - b) Programs & Facilities
 - c) Trails
8. Director's Report
9. Board Member Comments
10. Public Comments
11. Adjournment



**Parks, Recreation & Land Preservation
Advisory Board Meeting
Thursday, February 20th 2025; 8:30am
Roselle Park Resource Building
(1010 Grand River Drive, Ada MI. 49301)
Minutes**

1. Call to order/Roll Call

- **Board Members Present:** Korth, Crosby, Levick, Hulst, Schmottlach, Terwilliger, Kollig
- **Board Members Absent:** Heule, VandenBerge, Hurwitz
- **Township Staff Present:** Marek, Deason, Engel, Said, Austin
- **Guest Presenters:** Mike Oezer & Pete Lazdins – Progressive Companies
- **Public:** Bernie Veldkamp

2. Approval of agenda

- *Motion to approve the agenda was made by Terwilliger and seconded by Schmottlach.*

**3. Minutes of the PRLP Advisory Board meeting held January 16th
(enclosed – approval requested)**

- *Motioned to approve the minutes was made by Terwilliger and seconded by Levick.*

4. Financial Report

a) Revenue/Expense Report as of 1/31/25

- *Director Deason presented the total revenues at 94% and noted we still have half the millage tax funds to collect. We will run a surplus this year.*

5. Unfinished Business

a) Covered Bridge Park Design Update & Proposal (enclosed – approval requested)

- *Chair Hulst discussed the work that has gone into producing a 30% design for Covered Bridge Park over the past several months, noting this has been a multi-stage process of continued refinement. Hulst shared that he was happy to introduce Mike Oezer and Pete Lazdins from Progressive Companies who will be presenting their work and sharing the next steps for this project.*
- *Mike Oezer began by discussing the design highlights for Covered Bridge Park North which included a passive green space, ample seating, and most notably a Veterans Memorial. Mr. Oezer stated that more specific design work for the Veterans Memorial would be completed after he had the opportunity to meet with Township Staff, and representatives from the Ada Historical Society as well as a local veteran's group for additional input. Mr. Oezer shared that significant riverbank stabilization integrity work*

would need to be completed on the north side to ensure integrity of the park was upheld as well as the safety for visitors.

- Mr. Oezer began discussing the amenities designed for Covered Bridge Park South where the current ballfield stands and highlighted: 2 pickleball courts, a splashpad play area with two separate zones with synthetic turf integrated to create a soft play space, a newly renovated restroom building utilizing the current structure that would have the addition of a large canopy, toilets, and changing stations. Mr. Oezer then shared the design components for the new playground which would include two separate play areas that had structures for both younger and older children. Mr. Oezer noted the use of permeable pavers that would be utilized in the parking lot to aid with stormwater runoff, the addition of a circle drive pick-up/drop-off location for parents and or food trucks, and the new fenced in dog park area with synthetic turf incorporating the beautiful cottonwood tree that currently stands beyond the outfield fence.
- Mr. Oezer communicated that there would be several areas where seat walls would be installed that created plenty of flexible seating options for park visitors.
- Chair Hulst mentioned a few changes from the original design conversations that started in '24 which included shifting the dog park from the north side to the south side, as well as the elimination of a tunnel and or boardwalk under the Thornapple River vehicular bridge into Legacy Park. Hulst noted that the tunnel and boardwalk would not be a cost-effective option and the design committee has moved to a more traditional HAWK (High-Intensity Activated Cross Walk) Crossing. Hulst shared that special permitting and permissions from the Kent County Road Commission would have to be secured before the Township could move forward with these plans and that this part of the project would not be completed in the current phase of construction.
- Crosby inquired about the synthetic turf at the splash pad and asked if there were concerns about it being slippery. Mr. Oezer shared that this same material has been used at other splash pad builds and has not created an issue.
- Korth asked if there were snow removal plans for the park beyond the parking lot and sidewalks. Director Deason noted that we do not do snow removal from our playgrounds.
- Terwilliger expressed concern regarding the number of electrical outlets and features that may be negatively impacted by flooding in the park. Mr. Oezer shared that he and his team are very much aware of this potential issue and will be taking measures to mitigate this risk as is done with other construction projects in flood plain areas.
- Schmottlach asked for confirmation where the HAWK crossing was going to be located. Director Deason shared that it would be alongside Covered Bridge Park North where most pedestrian traffic currently crosses Thornapple River Drive into Legacy Park.

- Marek asked if maintenance plans have been considered for the permeable pavers. Mr. Oezer stated that this would need to be contracted annually to keep them well groomed.
- Levick shared that she was pleased to see that the canopy and seating area was moved adjacent to the train tracks rather than the road.
- Austin briefly introduced himself and inquired about what “geosynthetic material” was as it related to the riverbank stabilization efforts. Mr. Oezer said this is a natural webbing that was used during the construction and creation of Legacy Park that helps sediment and plants take hold in new construction areas with steep grades.
- Kollig asked how the riverbank stabilization efforts have held up from the work at Legacy Park and what was learned that we can apply moving forward. Mr. Oezer stated that the geosynthetic materials have worked well in addition to supplementing the bank with native plant materials, rocks, and existing tree root systems.
- Mr. Oezer communicated that the next phase of design work will be the remaining 70% to get us to the finish line. This work will require Progressive Companies to obtain permits from EGLE as well as finalizing construction documents. The goal is to get these documents completed by the end of April, ready for bid letting in May, have the Township award in June, and for construction to start by August. The hope is to have the north side done by December of 2025 and the south side done by next June.
- Chair Hulst thanked Director Deason and Township Manager Suchy for the extensive work that they had done behind the scenes to get us to this point.
- Terwilliger Motioned to recommend Approval of Progressive Companies Ada Covered Bridge Park Design Services Proposal to the Township Board and this was seconded by Levick.

b) Revised Park Rules & Guidelines Review (enclosed – approval requested)

- Director Deason presented the revised park rules and guidelines which had been reviewed by legal. Deason noted that he had worked extensively with the programs & facilities committee on these to create something that we believe serves the needs of the community and department. Deason noted that legal counsel provided great feedback and changes that protected our interests.
- Director Deason specifically pointed out E-Bike use and said that we would emulate the DNR’s standard of allowing Class II bikes and below. He also shared that the new verbiage enforcing all state & federal laws would be applied to our rules and guidelines as best practice. The next step would be to make these rules and guidelines accessible online and to create localized signage to share in our parks.
- Levick asked why the prohibition of watercraft was added to the water trails portion. Director Deason shared that he would have that removed as it didn’t apply to our needs.

- *Levick motioned for the PRLP to formally adopt the newly established Park Rules & Guidelines and recommend their approval to the Township Board. Upon recommendation, the Township Board may promulgate these rules and regulations by resolution to govern the use of public parks, preserves, and recreation spaces owned by the Township, this was seconded by Crosby.*

6. New Business

a) FY '25-26 Draft Budget Review (enclosed – feedback requested)

- *Director Deason presented the 2025-26 budget. The Township Board has seen this budget and the projected deficit of \$127,764.00. Deason communicated that this is not from an operating deficit, but rather a unique year where the Covered Bridge Park project has had some cause and effect on the Department's overall budget with the need to relocate stadium lighting from the current Leonard Park to Ada Park.*
- *Director Deason shared that the Department is wrapping up a \$70k bond payment that will fall off after this next year.*
- *Director Deason stated that he has scheduled for the annual \$50k fund transfer for potential future land acquisition opportunities for the PRLP.*
- *Chair Hulst asked if we could move the lights early. Director Deason told the board that it was not possible because of the need to move the fences first.*
- *Lastly, Director Deason noted that the PRLP millage was expiring in '26 and that our advisory board would need to begin to have discussions focused on our approach for future funding. Deason said that this would be our singular focus at the March meeting.*
- *Chair Hulst reminded the board that we would need to focus our discussion around the bigger vision of how we would want our parks to best serve the community in the years to come.*

7. Committee Reports & Updates

a) Stewardship

- *Planning Director Said discussed the Township's conservation easement on Egypt Valley noting that private home development was progressing. This proposal went before the planning commission. A unique change has occurred with one small open green space lot. The developer would like to allow the person buying lot one to also buy the adjacent open lot which includes conservation easement defined space. Said mentioned we are having legal review this request to ensure that the Township can still hold the HOA and the homeowner responsible for properly maintaining the conservation easement. Said ensured that he would work with Director Deason to follow up accordingly.*
- *Crosby asked what clean-up work had been completed on the property and Planning Director Said that in his visit to the space the Conservation Easement portions had been properly maintained.*
- *Crosby inquired about the Kent Conservation District's work and wondered if we had been billed yet. Director Deason said that he would be meeting*

with them in March for a quarterly update and would keep the Stewardship Committee informed.

b) Programs & Facilities

2/11/25 Minutes

- *Director Deason noted that he had received several materials from a local artist with ideas for an “Artscape In Ada” project. Deason noted that while these ideas and concepts were unsolicited from the Township, he believed it was worth having a significant discussion and review with the programs and facilities committee before taking further action one way or the other.*
- *Schmottlach noted that the idea would require capital investment, which the PRLP did not have and it would greatly reduce the green space in an already small area in Legacy Park. Schmottlach additionally shared that this project would continue to pull valuable time, attention, and resources away from many other initiatives the Parks Department already has.*
- *Terwilliger noted that our focus needs to be on securing future funding through a new millage before taking on large projects.*

c) Trails

- *No update*

8. Director’s Report

- *Director Deason mentioned how much of a success the Daddy Daughter Dance was, noting that we had over 80 people in attendance.*
- *Engel shared he was really pleased with year 1 for the dance and wants to explore options for a larger potential venue for next year to serve more people.*
- *Director Deason communicated that he and Ethan are headed to Traverse City for the State Parks Conference the first week of March. Deason also informed the board that he will be headed to Florida at the end of April for this year’s Parks & Recreation Summit. He was selected as 1 of 50 parks and recreation leaders nationally to earn a fully funded trip for this year’s event.*

9. Board Member Comments

- *New Township DDA Director Kevin Austin introduced himself, he thanked the committee for their passion and expressed that that was the reason he went into public service. He mentioned that he was originally an intern in 2022 and then went on to work for Gaines Township as their zoning administrator. Once the DDA position opened he knew he wanted to come back to this area. He loves the traditional walkable design in Ada. He is getting acclimated and getting his feet under him. He encourages everyone to reach out to him if they have questions. Beers at the Bridge and Streetscapes are his main focus right now. Please don’t hesitate to reach out to him.*
- *Chair Hulst thanked the DDA for giving a sizeable donation to the capital campaign of \$225 over 3 years (\$75k/per).*
- *Township Supervisor Korth mentioned that he has been working through the budget process for the first time alongside Manager Suchy and noted that this*

quarter is setting up to be very busy. Korth shared that he is impressed with the organization and work being done by the departments in the community.

- *Crosby requested an updated PRLP Advisory Board Member roster sheet and Director Deason shared he would be happy to have an updated contact list provided at the next meeting.*

10. Public Comments

- *Ada Historical Society President Bernie Veldkamp thanked the board for allowing him to attend the meeting. Director Deason informed the board that Bernie plays a large role in the Music on the Lawn Summer Concert Series production.*
- *Township Supervisor Korth acknowledged that the Ada Historical Society is housed within township facilities and mentioned that there is a goal in 2025 to establish an endowment.*

11. Adjournment

- *A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Levick and seconded by Crosby.*
- *Meeting adjourned at 10:01am.*

PERIOD ENDING 02/28/2025

*NOTE: Available Balance / Pct Budget Used does not reflect amounts encumbered.

GL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	2024-25	YTD BALANCE	ACTIVITY FOR	AVAILABLE	% BDGT USED
		AMENDED BUDGET	NORMAL (ABNORMAL)	MONTH 02/28/2025 NCREASE (DECREASE)	BALANCE (ABNORMAL)	
Fund 208 - PARKS AND RECREATION FUND						
Revenues						
Dept 000.000						
208-000.000-675.000	CONTRIBUTIONS/PRIVATE SOURCES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
208-000.000-696.000	BOND PROCEEDS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Dept 000.000		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dept 020.000 - TAXES						
208-020.000-406.002	TAXES: PARK/OPEN SPACE AD VAL	850,062.00	803,224.24	358,835.56	46,837.76	94.49
208-020.000-437.000	TAXES:PARK/OPEN SPACE IFT	0.00	5,348.94	5,348.94	(5,348.94)	100.00
208-020.000-573.000	LOCAL COMMUNITY SABILIZATION	40,000.00	62,299.78	805.41	(22,299.78)	155.75
Total Dept 020.000 - TAXES		890,062.00	870,872.96	364,989.91	19,189.04	97.84
Dept 023.000 - INTEREST & RENTS						
208-023.000-665.004	INT: COUNTY POOL	500.00	333.17	0.00	166.83	66.63
208-023.000-665.016	INTEREST - BANK	3,400.00	1,085.92	0.00	2,314.08	31.94
208-023.000-665.017	INTEREST/DIVIDEND - ARBORETUM	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
208-023.000-665.018	INTEREST - MI CLASS 2021 BONDS	0.00	6,775.84	0.00	(6,775.84)	100.00
208-023.000-667.000	RENTALS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
208-023.000-667.001	CELL TOWER RENTS	7,900.00	7,247.35	658.85	652.65	91.74
208-023.000-667.100	RENTAL: ADA PARK	0.00	(50.00)	0.00	50.00	100.00
208-023.000-667.110	RENTAL: ADA PARK BLDG	7,000.00	11,380.00	505.00	(4,380.00)	162.57
208-023.000-667.120	RENTAL: ADA PARK FIELD	20,000.00	25,645.00	0.00	(5,645.00)	128.23
208-023.000-667.130	RENTAL: ADA PARK SPECIAL EVENT	2,500.00	1,050.00	0.00	1,450.00	42.00
208-023.000-667.200	RENTAL: LEONARD PARK	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
208-023.000-667.210	RENTAL: LEONARD PARK BLDG	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00
208-023.000-667.220	RENTAL: LEONARD PARK FIELD	2,000.00	125.00	0.00	1,875.00	6.25
208-023.000-667.230	RENTAL: LEONARD PARK SPECIAL EVENT	300.00	700.00	0.00	(400.00)	233.33
208-023.000-667.300	RENTAL: ROSELLE PARK	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
208-023.000-667.310	RENTAL: ROSELLE PARK BLDG	25,000.00	49,837.50	4,005.00	(24,837.50)	199.35
208-023.000-667.320	RENTAL: ROSELLE PARK FIELD	200.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00
208-023.000-667.330	RENTAL: ROSELLE PARK SPECIAL EVENT	250.00	0.00	0.00	250.00	0.00
208-023.000-667.400	RENTAL: LEGACY PARK	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
208-023.000-667.410	RENTAL: LEGACY PARK BLDG	2,000.00	3,280.00	0.00	(1,280.00)	164.00
208-023.000-667.420	RENTAL: LEGACY PARK FIELD	200.00	395.00	0.00	(195.00)	197.50
208-023.000-667.430	RENTAL: LEGACY PARK SPECIAL EVENT	250.00	1,070.00	0.00	(820.00)	428.00
208-023.000-667.500	LEONARD FIELD RENTALS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Dept 023.000 - INTEREST & RENTS		72,500.00	108,874.78	5,168.85	(36,374.78)	150.17
Dept 024.000 - STATE REVENUE SHARING						
208-024.000-566.100	GRANTS: OTHER	450.00	0.00	0.00	450.00	0.00
Total Dept 024.000 - STATE REVENUE SHARING		450.00	0.00	0.00	450.00	0.00
Dept 024.001 - GRANTS						
208-024.001-566.000	STATE GRANT	0.00	292,052.41	0.00	(292,052.41)	100.00
Total Dept 024.001 - GRANTS		0.00	292,052.41	0.00	(292,052.41)	100.00

PERIOD ENDING 02/28/2025

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		AMENDED BUDGET	NORMAL (ABNORMAL)	MONTH 02/28/2025 NCREASE (DECREASE)	BALANCE (ABNORMAL)	
Fund 208 - PARKS AND RECREATION FUND						
Revenues						
Dept 025.000 - CHARGES FOR SERVICES						
208-025.000-647.000	PARK CREDIT CARD RECEIPTS	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	5,000.00	0.00
208-025.000-651.000	FEES: SPORTS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
208-025.000-651.100	FEES: SPORTS YOUTH	1,000.00	8,350.00	2,725.00	(7,350.00)	835.00
208-025.000-651.200	FEES: SPORTS ADULT/FAMILY	32,000.00	32,090.00	1,620.00	(90.00)	100.28
208-025.000-652.000	FEES: ENRICHMENT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
208-025.000-652.100	FEES: ENRICHMENT YOUTH	1,000.00	259.00	0.00	741.00	25.90
208-025.000-652.200	FEES: ENRICHMENT ADULT/FAMILY	1,000.00	2,775.00	0.00	(1,775.00)	277.50
208-025.000-652.300	FEES: SPECIAL EVENTS	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	0.00
208-025.000-653.000	FEES: STEWARDSHIP	500.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00
Total Dept 025.000 - CHARGES FOR SERVICES		42,500.00	43,474.00	4,345.00	(974.00)	102.29
Dept 026.000 - CONTRIBUTIONS						
208-026.000-674.000	CONTRIBUTIONS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
208-026.000-674.001	CONTRIBUTIONS - ADA PARK	3,000.00	5,420.00	615.00	(2,420.00)	180.67
208-026.000-674.002	CONTRIBUTIONS - LEONARD FLD	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
208-026.000-674.003	CONTRIBUTIONS - ROSELLE PARK	3,000.00	0.00	0.00	3,000.00	0.00
208-026.000-674.004	CONTRIBUTIONS - MOTL SPONSORSHIPS	6,500.00	7,750.00	1,250.00	(1,250.00)	119.23
208-026.000-674.100	CONTRIBUTIONS - ADA PARK	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
208-026.000-674.200	CONTRIBUTIONS - LEONARD PARK	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
208-026.000-674.300	CONTRIBUTIONS - ROSELLE PARK	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
208-026.000-674.400	CONTRIBUTIONS - LEGACY PARK	4,000.00	0.00	0.00	4,000.00	0.00
208-026.000-674.410	CONTRIBUTIONS - LEGACY PARK MOTL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
208-026.000-677.000	CONTRIBUTIONS - STEWARDSHIP	0.00	12,200.00	0.00	(12,200.00)	100.00
Total Dept 026.000 - CONTRIBUTIONS		16,500.00	25,370.00	1,865.00	(8,870.00)	153.76
Dept 027.000 - OTHER REVENUE						
208-027.000-675.000	MISC AND OTHER REVENUE	500.00	3,088.00	0.00	(2,588.00)	617.60
208-027.000-694.000	MISC AND OTHER REVENUE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Dept 027.000 - OTHER REVENUE		500.00	3,088.00	0.00	(2,588.00)	617.60
Dept 030.000 - TRANSFER IN						
208-030.000-699.000	TRANSFERS IN	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Dept 030.000 - TRANSFER IN		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dept 031.000 - GAIN ON INVESTMENTS						
208-031.000-669.000	GAIN ON INVESTMENT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Dept 031.000 - GAIN ON INVESTMENTS		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dept 032.000 - BOND PROCEEDS						
208-032.000-698.002	INSURANCE RECOVERIES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

PERIOD ENDING 02/28/2025

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Fund 208 - PARKS AND RECREATION FUND						
Revenues						
Total Dept 032.000 - BOND PROCEEDS		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL REVENUES		1,022,512.00	1,343,732.15	376,368.76	(321,220.15)	131.41
Expenditures						
Dept 272.000 - GENERAL ADMINISTRATION						
208-272.000-974.000	IMPROVEMENTS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Dept 272.000 - GENERAL ADMINISTRATION		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dept 279.000 - OTHER TOWNSHIP EXPENSES						
208-279.000-719.002	LIFE INSURANCE, OTHERS	1,400.00	1,244.25	163.41	155.75	88.88
208-279.000-719.003	ACCRUED VACATION/SICK PAY	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
208-279.000-899.000	TAX TRIBUNAL REFUNDS ORDERED	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
208-279.000-995.000	TRANSFERS OUT TO OTHER FUNDS	50,000.00	0.00	0.00	50,000.00	0.00
208-279.000-999.000	PAYING AGENT FEES	70.00	74.25	0.00	(4.25)	106.07
Total Dept 279.000 - OTHER TOWNSHIP EXPENSES		51,470.00	1,318.50	163.41	50,151.50	2.56
Dept 571.000 - SYSTEM OPERATIONS						
208-571.000-968.000	SYSTEM DEPRECIATION	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Dept 571.000 - SYSTEM OPERATIONS		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dept 753.000 - RECREATION DEPARTMENT						
208-753.000-704.000	WAGES	29,640.00	27,316.61	2,459.68	2,323.39	92.16
208-753.000-707.000	WAGES - HOURLY WORKER	10,240.00	10,100.98	0.00	139.02	98.64
208-753.000-707.005	OVERTIME	1,500.00	779.58	0.00	720.42	51.97
208-753.000-710.000	WAGES - UMPIRE/SCOREKEEPER	10,500.00	10,787.50	0.00	(287.50)	102.74
208-753.000-715.000	FICA - TOWNSHIP SHARE	2,500.00	2,976.75	147.57	(476.75)	119.07
208-753.000-716.000	FICA - MEDICARE TWP SHARE	600.00	704.20	34.50	(104.20)	117.37
208-753.000-719.000	RETIREMENT - EMPLOYER COST	2,900.00	1,514.03	230.31	1,385.97	52.21
208-753.000-719.001	MEDICAL, DENTAL INSURANCE	5,500.00	6,854.85	437.91	(1,354.85)	124.63
208-753.000-724.000	PHONE ALLOWANCE	360.00	329.96	30.00	30.04	91.66
208-753.000-740.000	OPERATING SUPPLIES/SERVICES	4,500.00	4,858.29	872.23	(358.29)	107.96
208-753.000-800.000	CONTINUING EDUCATION	300.00	149.00	0.00	151.00	49.67
208-753.000-801.000	CONTRACT SERVICE	2,500.00	520.00	0.00	1,980.00	20.80
208-753.000-983.000	NEW EQUIPMENT	3,000.00	1,573.84	0.00	1,426.16	52.46
Total Dept 753.000 - RECREATION DEPARTMENT		74,040.00	68,465.59	4,212.20	5,574.41	92.47
Dept 754.000 - PARK PROGRAMS						
208-754.000-704.000	WAGES	29,640.00	27,888.15	2,459.81	1,751.85	94.09
208-754.000-707.000	WAGES - HOURLY WORKER	8,000.00	0.00	0.00	8,000.00	0.00
208-754.000-707.005	OVERTIME	200.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00
208-754.000-715.000	FICA - TOWNSHIP SHARE	2,200.00	1,668.13	147.58	531.87	75.82
208-754.000-716.000	FICA - MEDICARE TWP SHARE	500.00	390.21	34.52	109.79	78.04
208-754.000-719.000	RETIREMENT - EMPLOYER COST	2,900.00	1,514.13	230.33	1,385.87	52.21
208-754.000-719.001	MEDICAL, DENTAL INSURANCE	5,500.00	6,855.71	437.97	(1,355.71)	124.65

PERIOD ENDING 02/28/2025

*NOTE: Available Balance / Pct Budget Used does not reflect amounts encumbered.

GL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	2024-25	YTD BALANCE	ACTIVITY FOR	AVAILABLE	% BDGT USED
		AMENDED BUDGET	NORMAL (ABNORMAL)	MONTH 02/28/2025 NCREASE (DECREASE)	BALANCE (ABNORMAL)	
Fund 208 - PARKS AND RECREATION FUND						
Expenditures						
208-754.000-724.000	PHONE ALLOWANCE	360.00	330.04	30.00	29.96	91.68
208-754.000-740.000	OPERATING SUPPLIES/SERVICES	2,000.00	1,989.90	99.96	10.10	99.50
208-754.000-801.000	CONTRACT SERVICE	5,000.00	12,756.50	0.00	(7,756.50)	255.13
208-754.000-983.000	NEW EQUIPMENT	3,000.00	4,661.58	0.00	(1,661.58)	155.39
Total Dept 754.000 - PARK PROGRAMS		59,300.00	58,054.35	3,440.17	1,245.65	97.90
Dept 755.000 - PARKS AND ARBORETUM						
208-755.000-704.000	WAGES	38,672.00	35,352.42	3,004.42	3,319.58	91.42
208-755.000-704.001	WAGES - SUPPORT	22,751.00	12,692.67	1,059.54	10,058.33	55.79
208-755.000-704.003	PK MAINTENANCE	82,395.00	67,543.44	5,771.23	14,851.56	81.98
208-755.000-704.005	WAGES: OVERTIME	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	0.00
208-755.000-704.006	WAGES- PLANNER SUPPORT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
208-755.000-707.000	WAGES - HOURLY WORKER	10,420.00	34,437.36	0.00	(24,017.36)	330.49
208-755.000-707.005	OVERTIME	300.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	0.00
208-755.000-708.000	WAGES - ADMIN ASSISTANT	39,826.00	41,924.99	3,500.81	(2,098.99)	105.27
208-755.000-715.000	FICA - TOWNSHIP SHARE	10,946.00	11,434.66	789.37	(488.66)	104.46
208-755.000-716.000	FICA - MEDICARE TWP SHARE	2,190.00	2,734.17	184.57	(544.17)	124.85
208-755.000-719.000	RETIREMENT - EMPLOYER COST	17,513.00	16,015.78	1,329.57	1,497.22	91.45
208-755.000-719.001	MEDICAL, DENTAL INSURANCE	33,180.00	32,607.07	1,778.23	572.93	98.27
208-755.000-724.000	PHONE ALLOWANCE	1,800.00	1,814.49	162.05	(14.49)	100.81
208-755.000-729.000	UNIFORMS	4,000.00	2,967.69	(349.80)	1,032.31	74.19
208-755.000-740.000	OPERATING SUPPLIES/SERVICES	30,000.00	25,200.69	496.68	4,799.31	84.00
208-755.000-742.000	ARBORETUM TREE CARE	35,000.00	14,700.00	11,425.00	20,300.00	42.00
208-755.000-800.000	CONTINUING EDUCATION	3,000.00	1,116.44	866.00	1,883.56	37.21
208-755.000-801.000	CONTRACT SERVICE	32,000.00	35,524.19	2,938.80	(3,524.19)	111.01
208-755.000-801.004	CONTRACT - PRK PLAYGROUND PROJECT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
208-755.000-817.000	LAWN CARE CONTRACT	50,000.00	43,868.08	0.00	6,131.92	87.74
208-755.000-818.000	SANITATION CONT SERVICE	11,000.00	9,418.95	814.42	1,581.05	85.63
208-755.000-820.000	MEMBERSHIP & DUES	1,000.00	1,150.00	0.00	(150.00)	115.00
208-755.000-853.000	COMMUNICATIONS/TELEPHONE,ETC	10,000.00	5,329.74	928.65	4,670.26	53.30
208-755.000-870.000	MILEAGE & EXPENSES	1,500.00	168.41	36.58	1,331.59	11.23
208-755.000-910.000	TOWNSHIP INSURANCE/BONDS	23,000.00	23,945.80	0.00	(945.80)	104.11
208-755.000-920.000	UTILITIES/SPEC ASSM'TS	24,000.00	23,838.72	2,201.19	161.28	99.33
208-755.000-930.000	MAINTENANCE & REPAIR	70,000.00	45,279.29	1,673.46	24,720.71	64.68
208-755.000-933.000	TRUCK/EQUIP EXPENSES	8,000.00	4,729.70	0.00	3,270.30	59.12
208-755.000-933.001	TRUCK FUEL	4,000.00	0.00	0.00	4,000.00	0.00
208-755.000-955.000	CREDIT CARD EXPENSES	2,000.00	3,608.11	261.88	(1,608.11)	180.41
208-755.000-956.000	OTHER	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
208-755.000-970.000	CAPITAL PURCHASE	77,034.00	56,942.79	488.62	20,091.21	73.92
208-755.000-974.000	IMPROVEMENTS	15,000.00	5,613.00	0.00	9,387.00	37.42
208-755.000-974.004	DESIGN DEVELOPMENT CONTRACTOR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
208-755.000-974.006	OTHER SERVICES & CHARGES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
208-755.000-983.000	NEW EQUIPMENT	10,000.00	15,925.89	146.50	(5,925.89)	159.26
Total Dept 755.000 - PARKS AND ARBORETUM		672,527.00	575,884.54	39,507.77	96,642.46	85.63
Dept 765.000 - OPEN SPACE						
208-765.000-704.000	WAGES	15,394.00	4,798.97	404.36	10,595.03	31.17
208-765.000-715.000	FICA - TOWNSHIP SHARE	963.00	306.22	25.25	656.78	31.80
208-765.000-716.000	FICA - MEDICARE TWP SHARE	193.00	74.07	5.91	118.93	38.38

PERIOD ENDING 02/28/2025

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GL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	2024-25	YTD BALANCE	ACTIVITY FOR	AVAILABLE	% BDGT USED
		AMENDED BUDGET	02/28/2025 NORMAL (ABNORMAL)	MONTH 02/28/2025 NCREASE (DECREASE)	BALANCE NORMAL (ABNORMAL)	
Fund 208 - PARKS AND RECREATION FUND						
Expenditures						
208-765.000-719.000	RETIREMENT - EMPLOYER COST	1,540.00	494.79	40.44	1,045.21	32.13
208-765.000-719.001	MEDICAL, DENTAL INSURANCE	1,550.00	125.01	0.00	1,424.99	8.07
208-765.000-724.000	PHONE ALLOWANCE	145.00	33.01	3.00	111.99	22.77
208-765.000-726.000	OFFICE SUPPLIES/SERVICES	4,000.00	935.32	3.99	3,064.68	23.38
208-765.000-740.000	OPERATING SUPPLIES/SERVICES	1,000.00	1,138.29	361.13	(138.29)	113.83
208-765.000-801.000	CONTRACT SERVICE	5,000.00	3,782.00	0.00	1,218.00	75.64
208-765.000-828.000	LEGAL SERVICES	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	0.00
208-765.000-956.000	OTHER	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
208-765.000-970.000	CAPITAL PURCHASE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
208-765.000-974.000	IMPROVEMENTS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
208-765.000-974.004	DESIGN DEVELOPMENT CONTRACTOR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Dept 765.000 - OPEN SPACE		31,785.00	11,687.68	844.08	20,097.32	36.77
Dept 900.000 - OTHER TOWNSHIP EXPENSES						
208-900.000-970.000	CAPITAL PURCHASE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
208-900.000-974.000	IMPROVEMENTS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Dept 900.000 - OTHER TOWNSHIP EXPENSES		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dept 905.000 - OTHER TOWNSHIP EXPENSES						
208-905.000-991.000	BOND PRINCIPAL PAYMENTS	95,000.00	98,500.00	65,000.00	(3,500.00)	103.68
208-905.000-993.000	BOND INTEREST PAYMENTS	17,663.00	18,652.55	2,025.00	(989.55)	105.60
Total Dept 905.000 - OTHER TOWNSHIP EXPENSES		112,663.00	117,152.55	67,025.00	(4,489.55)	103.98
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		1,001,785.00	832,563.21	115,192.63	169,221.79	83.11
Fund 208 - PARKS AND RECREATION FUND:						
TOTAL REVENUES		1,022,512.00	1,343,732.15	376,368.76	(321,220.15)	131.41
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		1,001,785.00	832,563.21	115,192.63	169,221.79	83.11
NET OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES		20,727.00	511,168.94	261,176.13	(490,441.94)	2,466.20



MEMORANDUM

Date: 3/16/25

TO: PRLP Advisory Board
FROM: Wesley Deason, Director – Parks & Recreation
RE: Parks, Recreation & Land Preservation Millage Planning

Background:

As our current 10-year Parks, Recreation & Land Preservation millage approaches its expiration in 2026, it is necessary to begin discussions and planning for its potential renewal or replacement. The millage has served as a primary funding source for maintaining and improving parks, recreational facilities, and land preservation efforts. To ensure the continuity of these services and to address future community needs, early and strategic planning is essential.

To help guide our conversations I have provided the following materials for your review, reference, and consideration:

- A general timeline highlighting key department moments
- Verbiage and Q&A materials from the original millage, offering insight into the language, messaging, and approach used in the 2016 campaign
- Excerpts from the 2022 PRLP Master Plan, including community survey data and assessments conducted by MCSA Group, which outline recent conditions and considerations for future needs
- A Vision for the Future, which I will provide verbally at our upcoming meeting to outline potential priorities and opportunities
- An overview of how the Township has approached recent millages and future forecasting, provided by Township Manager Suchy, to offer broader context and strategic insight

Action Requested: Advisory Board members are asked to review the provided materials and offer feedback on key priorities, funding needs, and potential updates to the scope, rate, or duration of a future Parks, Recreation & Land Preservation millage.



Parks, Recreation & Land Preservation Timeline Highlights



1940's

Softball & baseball games first played at Leonard Field Park



1976

Ada Township Park was established by the Township to commemorate the United States Bicentennial



2016

The Roselle Park Resource Building is constructed and opens to the public



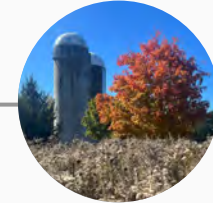
2016

Ada Township voters approve the .65 mills PRLP Millage set to expire in 10 years ('26)



2015

Carl Creek Crossing Preserve opens to the public



2007

Roselle Park opens to the public



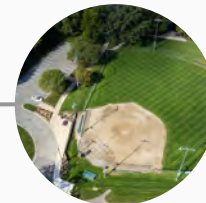
2018

Renovations at Ada Park to add 6 pickleball courts and restore 4 tennis courts is completed



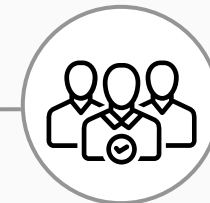
2019

Legacy Park, in memory of Helen & Rich Devos opens to the public



2021

Stadium lighting is installed at Leonard Field Park



2022

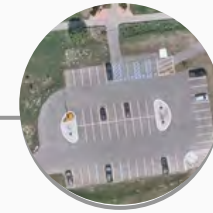
The Department hires a full-time Administrative Assistant + Recreation Program Coordinator

Timeline Highlights (CONT'D.)



2022

The Department purchases and begins utilizing software for program & rental operations



2023

The Roselle Park south parking lot restoration project is completed



2025

Stadium lighting relocation from Leonard Park to Ada Park is scheduled for 2025



2024

The Department enters into an extensive land management plan and agreement with the KCD to ensure best ecological practices in its parks and preserves



2023

The Leonard Park Riverfront Improvement project with the LWCF Grant is completed



2023

The Township hires its first full-time Buildings, Facilities & Grounds Director



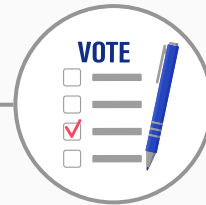
2025

The Covered Bridge Park north section is scheduled for construction & completion in 2025



2026

The Covered Bridge Park south section is scheduled for construction & completion in 2026



2026

The current 10 year PRLP millage is set to expire in 2026 and will be up for consideration

Ada Township Parks, Recreation and Land Preservation Millage

Questions and Answer Sheet

Q. What does the ballot proposal say?

A. PROPOSAL 1: PARKS, RECREATION, AND LAND PRESERVATION MILLAGE

This proposal is for a renewal and combination of two millages expiring in 2016 (rolled back under the Headlee Amendment): the 0.25 mills parks and recreation millage and the 0.40 mills parks and land preservation millage.

May Ada Township levy up to 0.65 mills (\$0.65 per \$1,000 of taxable value) to provide funds for purposes of parks, recreation, and land preservation, for a period of ten (10) years beginning in the year 2017 and continuing through the year 2026? These purposes include constructing, equipping, operating, acquiring and maintaining land, buildings and improvements for parks, preserves and recreational facilities; and financing for any of these purposes.

The Township estimates that this levy would raise \$612,277 in its first year.

YES ☐

NO ☐

Q. What exactly are these funds going towards? (i.e. What do you mean when you say “constructing, equipping, operating, acquiring and maintaining land, buildings, and improvements?”

A. The proposed millage revenue will be used for the following purposes:

- **Operating and maintaining existing parks and land preserves.**

This includes costs of staffing, equipment, supplies and subcontracted services for things such as trash pickup, utilities, lawn mowing, lawn fertilizing, snow plowing, building maintenance, operating supplies, minor repairs – in short, everything needed to operate the Township’s parks and land preserve system and offer high quality programs with costs that are not fully-offset by user fees, such as kid’s summer day camps, educational/recreation sessions and outings offered on a year-round basis.

- **Major repairs, renovation and upgrades of existing facilities.**

Park facilities have a limited lifespan until major repairs or renovations are needed. Examples include re-surfacing of deteriorated tennis court play surfaces, re-roofing of buildings, replacement of outdated/substandard lighting and scoreboards at ballfields, parking and trail pavement replacement/repairs, etc.

- **Acquisition of land and development of new facilities.**

The millage renewal/combination proposal allows use of millage revenues for acquisition and improvements to land for parks, recreation and land preservation purposes. The Township currently has no plans to acquire new land for these purposes with funding from the proposed millage, other than the 3 sites identified as park space in the Envision Ada Plan for the Village – land along the Thornapple River frontage, northeast of Thornapple River Drive; land located between the new Headley Street and Fulton Street; and land located in the triangular area formed by new Headley Street, Ada Drive and Thornapple River Drive, which includes the current Speedway site. The first two of the above-listed sites will be conveyed at no cost to the Township. The Township would need to purchase the 3rd area listed above. Funding from the proposed millage renewal could be applied toward this purchase and toward park improvements on all 3 sites. Concept plans for these sites identify facilities that include a seasonal ice rink, farmers market pavilion, a small outdoor amphitheater, a kayak launch, a children’s playground and restroom facilities.

The above land acquisitions and any others would need to be evaluated and recommended by the Parks, Recreation and Land Preservation Advisory Board, and submitted to the Township Board for approval. Past citizen surveys conducted by the Township have indicated that residents place greater importance on preserving and maintaining the Township’s current land

and facilities, and less importance on continued land acquisition. These views will be taken into consideration in any future decisions regarding land acquisition.

-Support of the recreation programs provided such as softball games, day camps and school field trips. The cost of the recreations programs are offset by fees charged to the participants.

Q. Will my property tax rate go up as a result of this millage proposal?

A. The short, quick answer is NO. This is simply a Combination and RENEWAL of the existing Parks and Recreation Millage (0.25 mills) that was last passed in 2012 and the Parks and Land Preservation Millage (0.40 mills) that was last passed in 2002. The two millages are combined into one. It is for exactly the same number of mills (0.65) as was the case in 2012, and prior to that.

Q. How much money is raised by this combination of the two millages (0.65 mills) in a year?

A. The Township estimates that this levy, based on current total taxable value in the Township, would raise \$612,277 in its first year. The revenue generated in future years will depend upon the amount of new growth in the Township, general inflation rates, and trends in property values.

Q. How does Ada leverage the funding it receives?

A. Over the years, the Township has successfully sought to combine taxpayer funding sources with outside funding sources to accomplish major projects. Past examples include the following:

- Use of a \$64,000 Federal grant to pay for 75% of the \$85,400 cost to acquire a residential property in the Grand River floodplain on Pettis Ave., and convert it to permanent green space.
- Use of \$591,000 in donated funds toward the \$601,000 purchase price of the Roselle Park property.
- Use of a \$122,200 Michigan DNR grant to pay 31% of the \$390,400 cost to install paved trails in Roselle Park.
- Use of \$26,590 in funding from the Kent County Road Commission toward the \$78,207 cost of acquiring the former residential site at the southeast corner of Knapp St. and Grand River Dr.
- Generation of neighborhood donations to pay over \$100,000 of the \$313,000 total cost to acquire the Carl Creek Wetland Preserve on Alta Dale Avenue, north of the railroad.
- Use of \$300,000 in donated funds toward the \$1.3 million cost of constructing and furnishing the new classroom/meeting space/restroom building at Roselle Park.

Q. Is this millage paying for a lot of staff and overhead?

A. This millage is the main source of income that the Township has for paying the salaries and operating expenses of our parks as well as the recreation program services provided. Other revenues include recreation program fees, grant and donations. The Township Parks Department is currently staffed by a Parks Director and two additional full-time, three part-time staff and three summer seasonal staff. The current cost of operating the Township parks, preserves, recreation programs and land preserve system is approximately \$450-\$500,000 per year. About \$235,000 per year goes to parks and recreation staff. Millage revenues in excess of that amount will be used to pay for needed major repair/rehabilitation projects, and any new land acquisition or facility development projects.

Q. What are the Parks and Preserves in Ada Township?

A. Ada Township owns and manages three parks: Ada Township Park, Leonard Field Park and Roselle Park; in addition to three primary preserves: the Grand River Natural Area, Carl Creek Crossings Preserve and the Carl Creek Wetland Preserve. In addition there are smaller preserves along the Grand River and a number of conservation easements. In addition, Kent County Parks manages Chief Hazy Cloud Park and Seidman Park in Ada Township and the MI DNR manages two boat landing and the state game area.

Q. How do we find out more information about the millage or the Parks, Recreation and Land Preservation Program?

A. Contact the Parks & Recreation Department office at: 616-676-0520 or mfitzpatrick@adatownshipmi.com; or the Planning Department at: 616-676-9191 ext. 31 or jferro@adatownshipmi.com.

**PROPOSAL 1
PARKS, RECREATION,
AND LAND
PRESERVATION MILLAGE**

This proposal is for a renewal and combination of two millages expiring in 2016 (rolled back under the Headlee Amendment): the 0.25 mills parks and recreation millage and the 0.40 mills parks and land preservation millage.

May Ada Township levy up to 0.65 mills (\$0.65 per \$1,000 of taxable value) to provide funds for purposes of parks, recreation, and land preservation, for a period of ten (10) years beginning in the year 2017 and continuing through the year 2026? These purposes include constructing, equipping, operating, acquiring and maintaining land, buildings and improvements for parks, preserves and recreational facilities; and financing for any of these purposes.

The Township estimates that this levy would raise \$612,277 in its first year.

YES ☐

NO ☐



Ada Township 2022 Park, Recreation and Land Preservation Plan





ADA TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN SECTION 1

INTRODUCTION

Parks, Recreation and Open Space are important elements of all communities and reflect positively on the quality of life for residents. In recent years, a more holistic approach to recreational planning has been encouraged, stretching beyond the boundaries of traditional parks to include sidewalks, linear trails, greenways, town squares, plazas and other publicly and privately owned lands. In addition to the human benefits of recreation and open space, there are also important environmental benefits such as water resource protection, reduced vehicular traffic and plant and wildlife protection. The youth of the community are given places to go and activities to participate in that provide positive and constructive ways for them to use their leisure time. Families can find fun and inexpensive means of getting together with their friends and neighbors in a manner that builds a positive image of the community. The elderly also benefits from such programs in ways that provide for healthy and happy retirement.

PLAN PURPOSE

This 2022 Ada Township Community Parks and Recreation Master Plan is a guide for the future development of recreation opportunities for the residents and visitors of the Township. The plan addresses current recreation issues and identifies future needs of the community and the means for meeting those needs over the up-coming five-year period. It addresses both short and long-range goals and objectives and identifies an action program by which these goals and objectives can be accomplished. In addition, the plan serves as an educational tool to acquaint local officials and residents of the need for a sound and balanced recreation program.

This Plan has been developed both to reflect the needs and goals of the community and to meet the Michigan Department of Natural Resources requirements for qualifying for Federal and State funding assistance. These funds are available for land acquisition, facility development, and improvements to new and existing parklands.



PLAN SCOPE

The scope of this plan includes the Township's active and passive recreation facilities, undeveloped open space and linear "green" corridors. Recreational programming is also an important consideration. The area of the plan is essentially limited to the Township boundaries. However, consideration is also made of neighboring municipal facilities and regional facilities that influence use patterns. In terms of time, the Capital Improvement Schedule of this document covers development over the next five years. However, the Goals and Objectives developed to guide recreation planning may continue to be relevant for many more years to come.

The following Parks and Recreation Plan is an outgrowth of the impending need for increased recreational programs and facilities as the population of Ada Township and the surrounding area grows and diversifies. A well-conceived strategy for the acquisition of land, the development of facilities, expansion of programs, and the continuation of on-going operation and maintenance practices will assist the Township in meeting future recreational and leisure-time needs as they develop.

This recreation plan identifies facility and program needs that are expected to occur, develops short and long-range goals and objectives, and presents an action plan and justification for the implementation of the goals and objectives and the maintenance of existing and resulting facilities. The plan is task specific on the short range elements and more generalized on the long range elements to allow some degree of flexibility to respond to changes in need or interest at the local level. Deviations to the plan would, however, be subject to review and analysis prior to the modification of this plan.



ADA TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN SECTION 2

COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

INTRODUCTION

The 2022 Parks, Recreation and Land Preservation Plan has been prepared by the Ada Township Parks, Recreation and Land Preservation Advisory Board along with input from the community. In 2016, the Advisory Board was established by merging the previous Parks Committee and Open Space Preservation Advisory Board which consolidated the leadership for these initiatives and provided the oversight of this Plan. At the same time the Township merged two previous voter-approved millages into one to support the newly titled Parks, Recreation and Land Preservation Program.

The 2022 Parks, Recreation and Land Preservation Plan will serve as a guide for the Township's goals and expenditures on park facilities, recreation programs and services, operations and land preservation initiatives for the coming years. It serves as an integrated guide for Township decision-making in the areas of park and recreation land and facility development, non-motorized trail development, as well as the development of a network of integrated open space lands in the Township.

The Plan considers existing park, recreation and open space lands and facilities in and around the Township (public and private), the need for additional or improved facilities, and the means for providing those facilities during the five-year planning horizon. The Plan also considers the existing land resource base in the community, and the many important values and functions that are served by having a significant base of natural lands in the community.

With the establishment of this Plan, the Township has a clearer guide for financial planning and coordination of fundraising support. It also enables the Township to apply for Federal and State grant funds for acquisition and development of park, recreation and open space land and facilities, most of which are administered by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.



ADA TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN SECTION 4 EXISTING RECREATION INVENTORY

In order to determine the recreational needs for Ada Township, an analysis of the existing facilities was undertaken. The intent of the analysis is to provide a clear evaluation of the strengths and weaknesses of the existing recreational opportunities the Township has to offer its citizens. The inventory is based on information provided by Township staff and site inspections carried out by MCSA Group as part of the planning process.

TOWNSHIP PARK AND OPEN SPACE FACILITIES

Ada Township provides a range of passive and active recreation opportunities for residents within its Township Parks. There are five (5) parks that have existing recreational facilities on approximately 332.5 acres of public land. There are also several undeveloped green spaces in the Township's ownership.

The Township properties can be classified as follows: two (2) neighborhood parks, three (3) community parks and two (2) natural resource areas. This classification is adapted from "Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines," J. D. Mertes and J. R. Hall, 1995, as recommended by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. A more detailed description and photographic inventory of each site follows. An Existing Recreation Facilities map at the end of this section illustrates the location of public park/recreation areas within the Township, and an Existing Recreation Facilities matrix provides a summary of the facilities provided at each location.

An Accessibility Assessment of each facility was undertaken using the following ranking system for the site elements based upon the 2010 Standards for Accessible Design:

- 1 - NONE
- 2 - SOME
- 3 - MOST
- 4 - ALL

5 - THE FACILITY MEETS THE PRINCIPALS OF UNIVERSAL DESIGN

Equitable Design, Flexibility in Use, Simple and Intuitive Use, Perceptible Information and Tolerance for Error, Low Physical Effort and Size and Space for Approach and Use.



NEIGHBORHOOD PARK

Neighborhood parks remains the basic unit of the park system and serves as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood. This park typically serves a ¼- to ½-mile distance and uninterrupted by nonresidential roads and other physical barriers. A size of 5-10 acres is considered optimal for this type of park. The focus is on informal active and passive recreational activities, such as walking, field games, court games, playground equipment, and picnicking. Although slightly smaller, Ada Township has (two) parks that fit this category.





Legacy Park
7450 River St SE
2.92 Acres

Legacy Park is a neighborhood park located on the in the Village of Ada along the Thornapple River. The Park is in Southeast portion of the Township. It was completed in the fall of 2019. It includes a playground, pavilion, sculpture, restrooms and picnic tables. Parking is located along River Street.

Accessibility Rating: 4

All walkways meet ADA. Because of the lack of a ramp and the surfacing on the playground, the park cannot be considered Universal.

Accessibility Improvements:

None

Condition:

Since the park was completed, the park is in great condition.





Leonard Field Park
7490 Thornapple River Drive
2.99 Acres

Leonard Field Park is a small neighborhood park located in Southeast portion of the Township. It has a lighted softball field that has been in that location since the 1940's. Additionally, the park has a covered bridge that was the main thoroughfare across the Thornapple River until 1930. The standing bridge is a replica of the original destroyed by a fire in 1979. It also contains a deck overlooking the Thornapple River as well as a restroom building.

Accessibility Rating: 3

This park has accessible parking spaces, and the lot is in excellent condition. However, the curb ramp located near the ADA space is not compliant with accessibility standards. The concrete pavers of the overlooks are uplifting due to erosion and settling. Additionally, there is no accessible route to the ball field due to the surrounding topography and elevation.

Accessibility Improvements:

The current curb ramp should be renovated to have a shallower ramp to gutter transition. Pavers should be leveled to remove tripping hazards and an additional, ADA compliant route should be added to connect existing sidewalks to the ball field area.

Condition:

The park needs some updating to ensure prolonged use. The historic bridge should be given annual maintenance, and improvements to the overlook areas would increase visibility of the river.





COMMUNITY PARKS

Community-wide parks serve a broader purpose than neighborhood parks and provide a range of facilities and areas capable of supporting structured and unstructured community participation. These areas are typically between 30 and 50 acres in size and serve two or more neighborhoods and ½ to 3-mile distance. Facilities may include wooded or natural areas, picnic shelters and grills, bike or hiking trails and other semi-active and passive uses for large groups of people. They may also contain specialized recreational facilities such as swimming pools, community centers, and lighted ball diamonds. Community Parks should be easily accessible from throughout their service area. Currently there are two Township parks classified within this category.





Ada Township Park
1116 Buttrick Ave SE
57 Acres

Ada Township Park is in the Southeast portion of the Township. The Park was established for the United States Bicentennial in 1976. In 2015, an adjoining lot was purchased and added to the park expanding its natural area.

Facilities at the park include:

- 1 Playground (1990's MDNR Trust Fund Grant + recent improvements)
- 1 Half-Court Basketball Court
- 1 Volleyball Court
- 4 Tennis Courts
- 6 Pickleball Courts
- 2 Softball Diamonds with Bleachers
- 1 Designated Soccer Field (1990's MDNR Trust Fund Grant)
- 2 Open Field Areas for Sporting Activities Such as Soccer, Lacrosse and Frisbee.
- 6 Picnic Areas, Each with A Grill and Picnic Tables (18 Tables Total)
- 1 Shelter with Grill, Electric Service, Water, 12 Picnic Tables and Restrooms.
 Restrooms were renovated in 2001 and made barrier-free, with funding assistance from the Community Development Block Grant program.
- 3 Connected Gazebos, Near Ponds, With Grill, Electric Service And 6 Picnic Tables
- 1 Stand-Alone Gazebo in Arboretum, With Grill And 2 Picnic Tables
- Paved Path. Overlay completed with a CMI Grant
- Nature Trail
- Fishing Pond





- 2 Parking Areas. Parking area paving, landscaping, lighting, and storm water management improvements were completed, with funding assistance from the CMI Clean Michigan Initiative Grant.

Existing Park Buildings include:

Les Craig Learning Center - The former garage was converted in 1997 to the park office and 1,060 square foot multi-purpose classroom/meeting room. The office space remains as the administrative center for the parks and recreation programs. The Learning Center is used throughout the year for education programs and meetings. The Learning Center room had a few upgrades in 2014. The entire building is currently under review to improve energy conservation, accessibility, and efficiency in the office space. In addition, there is also a barrier-free, unisex restroom.



Storage and Maintenance Building - The 2,175 square foot garage and storage building was constructed in the park when the former garage was converted to meeting space. The new garage is the center of operations for maintenance of all the parks, preserves, trails, and other Township properties, and houses all the Parks and Recreation Department maintenance vehicles and equipment.

The Park also includes the Al Hook natural area as well as a Woodland Garden, small woodlot, prairie fen and wetlands, with Bud Locke arboretum containing many specimen trees in the upland portions of the park.

Accessibility Rating: 2

Not all areas of the park are ADA accessible. The parking lot near the baseball diamond does not include a designated ADA parking space. Curb ramps are often damaged or not provided as a transition between the parking lot and sidewalks. Entrances into the Township Offices and the public restroom are not accessible.



Accessibility Improvements:

Address grade change in parking lots and repave to provide the required number of designated accessible parking spaces as well as new curb ramps connecting to new or existing sidewalks, facilitating access to the baseball field and other areas of the park. Threshold ramps should be installed at building entrances that have higher than recommended thresholds. Handrails at ramps should be provided. An accessible entrance and restroom should be provided at the public restroom and shelter. Park amenities, such as waste receptacles, grills, and benches, should be placed in accessible locations on hard surfaces.

Condition: The much-loved Township park is in fair to good condition. The park needs updating and renovations to maintain the high volume of visitors enjoying the numerous amenities provided. Parking areas, sidewalks and trails, site amenities, and building/structures need to be repaired or replaced to achieve accessibility standards. Several new sport courts are in good condition.



Roselle Park

1010 Grand River Dr NE, Ada, MI 49301

240 Acres

Roselle Park is in the Northcentral area of the Township. The Park features a playground, silo climbing wall and observation deck, seasonal restroom, paved and mowed trails, a canoe landing, river overlook deck, and the Woodrick Memorial wetland observation deck.

Additionally, the Ada Resource Building is located at Roselle Park. It has year-round restrooms and a rental meeting room.

Accessibility Rating: 2

The area adjacent to the Resource center (building, walks and parking) is all accessible. Many of the walk connections on the south side of the park exceed 5% and have greater than a ½” change in elevation

Accessibility Improvements:

Continue to make improvement to the pathways and barrier free connections to site amenities (picnic tables, etc.)

Condition: The north side of the park is well maintained and in good condition. The south side of the park needs improvements.







NATURAL RESOURCE AREAS

Natural resource areas are lands set aside for preservation of significant natural resources, landscapes, and open space. These sites are typically unsuitable for development but offer natural resource potential and can support recreational activities at a level that preserves the integrity of the natural resource. The location and size of these parks are largely governed by availability.

The Township has six such facilities.





Carl Creek Crossing Preserve
9876 Black River Ct.
8 Acres

Carl Creek Preserve is located Southwest portion of the Township. The Preserve was established in 2011 with the goals of preserving natural land along Carl Creek, a Grand River tributary, and providing public access to the site. Improvements allowing access to the preserve were completed 2016. The Preserve offers a small gravel parking area, gravel walking paths, boardwalk, sitting areas and native plants.





Carl Creek Wetlands Preserve

155 Alta Dale

34 Acres

The Carl Creek Wetlands Preserve is located in the Southwest portion of the Township. It was purchased by the Township in 2008. It is currently undeveloped.



Thornapple Confluence Preserve

Fulton Street

26.9 Acres

This parcel is currently undeveloped



Knapp Corner Preserve
4950 Knapp St
1.06 Acres

Preserve contains the Township sign, bench and connection to Township trail





Grand River Nature Preserve
Grand River Nature Trail
120 Acres

Grand River Nature Preserve is in the Southeast portion of the Township. This 100-acre park was donated to the residents of Ada Township by Eastbrook Homes. Additional land was also donated to Cascade Township (named McGraw Park) and the Forest Hills School District (Home of their Crew boathouse), making a linear park of 150+ acres.

A paved trail starts from the Ada Park parking lot on Grand River Drive SE. An addition trail head is located off of Dogwood Meadows Drive, located in the Ada Moorings subdivision, and runs through Cascade Township, ending at the FHPS boathouse. There is also an additional natural trail that runs northwest along the Grand River.





Grand River Fulton Street Preserve

7980 M-21

5.4 Acres

This parcel was acquired in 2007. It is located on the east side of the Grand River across from the confluence with the Thornapple River and adjacent to the Fulton Street (M-21) bridge. The site is river flood plain with no development plans.



Grand River Overlook Preserve

313 and 383 Pettis

0.54 Acres

This Preserve is currently undeveloped



Q2 Why did you visit the following parks or preserves?

Answered: 273 Skipped: 10

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Ada Park (1180 Buttrick Ave) e.g. Playground	89.38%	244
Carl Creek Crossing Preserve (6230 Grand River Dr.) e.g. Trails	40.29%	110
Carl Creek Wetland Preserve (Alta Dale Ave SE) e.g. Trails	28.21%	77
Grand River Nature Preserve (Grand River Nature Trail) e.g. Trails	41.39%	113
Legacy Park (7430 River St. SE) e.g. Concerts	60.07%	164
Leonard Field Park (7490 Thornapple River Dr. SE) e.g. Softball	57.51%	157
Roselle Park (1010 Grand River Dr NE) e.g. Rock Climbing Wall	86.45%	236

#	ADA PARK (1180 BUTTRICK AVE) E.G. PLAYGROUND	DATE
1	Walking path/hike/ bike	11/7/2021 7:29 PM
2	Playground and soccer	11/7/2021 4:15 PM
3	Playground, Pond, walking distance to home	11/7/2021 3:39 PM
4	Walk/run - exercise	11/7/2021 8:42 AM
5	playground and walking trail	11/7/2021 7:59 AM
6	Trail	11/6/2021 9:00 PM
7	softball practice	11/6/2021 7:47 PM
8	Pickle ball	11/6/2021 10:51 AM
9	For kids to play	11/6/2021 9:29 AM
10	Softball, playground	11/6/2021 9:14 AM
11	scout meeting	11/5/2021 11:58 PM
12	To play, walk, for the tables to eat, participate in park kids programs, the shelters for girls scout meetings	11/5/2021 10:03 PM
13	Baseball fields and nature trails	11/5/2021 6:18 PM
14	Walking with dog, picnic	11/5/2021 5:05 PM
15	Taking walks	11/5/2021 5:04 PM
16	Playground and walking trails. Shelters, Tennis and pickle ball courts.	11/5/2021 3:35 PM
17	park program, walk	11/5/2021 3:34 PM
18	biking, walking, pickleball, soccer, playground, Girl Scouts, Forest Hills for Social Change Book Club, events, Pokemon Go	11/5/2021 2:26 PM
19	Fields, playground	11/5/2021 2:05 PM
20	Walk dog	11/5/2021 1:57 PM
21	walk	11/5/2021 1:50 PM
22	Pickleball Courts	11/5/2021 1:45 PM

23	Picnic	11/5/2021 1:25 PM
24	Pavillion use	11/5/2021 1:19 PM
25	Walking & playground	11/5/2021 1:10 PM
26	Girl scout meeting	11/5/2021 1:10 PM
27	Pickleball and dig walking	11/5/2021 9:10 AM
28	Playground and walking paths	11/5/2021 7:36 AM
29	walking	11/4/2021 9:35 PM
30	Playground & paved trails	11/4/2021 9:15 PM
31	bikr	11/4/2021 7:35 PM
32	Playground, pickleball, soccer fields, pavilion	11/4/2021 3:47 PM
33	Playground, nature trail	11/4/2021 2:57 PM
34	various gatherings	11/4/2021 12:29 PM
35	Play on playground, walk trails, family pictures	11/4/2021 10:01 AM
36	Walking and pickleball	11/4/2021 6:26 AM
37	Playground	11/4/2021 5:32 AM
38	Playground	11/3/2021 9:57 PM
39	Playground, paths, pickle ball	11/3/2021 9:54 PM
40	walking trails, tennis, playground, beautiful trees/grounds, picnic area, bathrooms	11/3/2021 7:49 PM
41	Fish, tennis, rock hiding, walking	11/3/2021 7:35 PM
42	Pickleball, kids playground, walking	11/3/2021 6:37 PM
43	Playground and trails	11/3/2021 5:48 PM
44	Trails + playground	11/3/2021 4:43 PM
45	Exercise beauty pickelball	11/3/2021 3:34 PM
46	Walk our dog	11/3/2021 2:49 PM
47	Meet up with friends, tennis	11/3/2021 2:23 PM
48	Walk	11/3/2021 2:07 PM
49	pickleball/tennis courts, walking trails, playground	11/3/2021 1:48 PM
50	picnic	11/3/2021 11:49 AM
51	playground, restrooms	11/3/2021 9:38 AM
52	Hiking with kids, Kids' programs, Playground	11/3/2021 9:09 AM
53	Playground and trails	11/2/2021 10:45 PM
54	walk it regularly; picnics; pickleball	11/2/2021 9:05 PM
55	Playground and trails	11/2/2021 7:33 PM
56	Nature Walk	11/2/2021 7:24 PM
57	Shelter with church. Triathlon	11/2/2021 7:12 PM
58	Family/playground	11/2/2021 5:08 PM
59	Walking and biking	11/2/2021 4:44 PM
60	Play Ultimate Frisbee	11/2/2021 4:35 PM

Ada Township 2022 Parks, Recreation and Land Preservation Plan

SurveyMonkey

213	Size, facilities, picnic options, trails	10/11/2021 3:59 PM
214	playground, paths and ponds	10/11/2021 2:39 PM
215	Playground, trails	10/11/2021 2:12 PM
216	fishing w kids; grilling	10/11/2021 1:53 PM
217	Tennis courts, playground	10/11/2021 1:52 PM
218	Pickleball Courts and walking	10/11/2021 1:17 PM
219	Did not visit (DNV)	10/11/2021 12:24 PM
220	Playground, walking paths	10/11/2021 11:24 AM
221	playground, walking, picnic	10/11/2021 10:06 AM
222	Convenient	10/11/2021 9:20 AM
223	Tennis	10/10/2021 6:23 PM
224	Trails	10/10/2021 4:14 PM
225	Walking	10/10/2021 2:26 PM
226	Walking	10/10/2021 10:46 AM
227	Playground, softball	10/9/2021 1:40 PM
228	Sports	10/9/2021 1:28 PM
229	Soccer fields & playgrounxs	10/9/2021 1:27 PM
230	Tennis	10/9/2021 1:24 PM
231	Dog walks. Close the the house.	10/9/2021 12:47 PM
232	Playground	10/9/2021 12:21 PM
233	Pickleball	10/9/2021 10:20 AM
234	0	10/9/2021 8:54 AM
235	Ponds, Trails	10/8/2021 8:01 PM
236	Dog walking, picnics	10/8/2021 7:42 PM
237	Variety of kids play options	10/8/2021 7:07 PM
238	Events	10/8/2021 6:07 PM
239	Walks	10/8/2021 5:46 PM
240	Playground and walk	10/8/2021 5:43 PM
241	For a walk	10/8/2021 4:30 PM
242	The fishing pond	10/8/2021 1:21 PM
243	Trails and tennis courts	10/8/2021 1:18 PM
244	For parties	10/8/2021 12:33 PM
#	LEONARD FIELD PARK (7490 THORNAPPLE RIVER DR. SE) E.G. SOFTBALL	DATE
1	Play on field, skate	11/7/2021 7:29 PM
2	Bridge, River	11/7/2021 3:39 PM
3	walking around	11/7/2021 7:59 AM
4	Games	11/6/2021 9:00 PM
5	softball games, homecoming pics, music on lawn	11/6/2021 7:47 PM

6	For sports	11/6/2021 9:29 AM
7	Bridge visit, beers at the bridge	11/6/2021 9:14 AM
8	Walk through bridge on the way downtown	11/5/2021 10:03 PM
9	Baseball field, beers at. the bridge, walking thur	11/5/2021 6:18 PM
10	Covered bridge	11/5/2021 3:35 PM
11	events, walk	11/5/2021 3:34 PM
12	fishing, photography, events, walking through town, Pokemon Go	11/5/2021 2:26 PM
13	Playground, concurrently off trail	11/5/2021 2:05 PM
14	Walk dig	11/5/2021 1:57 PM
15	walk	11/5/2021 1:50 PM
16	Picnic	11/5/2021 1:25 PM
17	I don't go	11/5/2021 9:10 AM
18	walking and enjoying river/bridge	11/4/2021 9:35 PM
19	Quick walk when in the village	11/4/2021 9:15 PM
20	stroll	11/4/2021 2:57 PM
21	visit the covered bridge, walking thru	11/4/2021 12:29 PM
22	To see the bridge/Christmas lights	11/4/2021 10:01 AM
23	Playground, fields	11/3/2021 9:54 PM
24	Walking, baseball	11/3/2021 7:35 PM
25	Walk there frequently	11/3/2021 6:37 PM
26	Exercise	11/3/2021 3:34 PM
27	Walk our dog	11/3/2021 2:49 PM
28	N/A	11/3/2021 2:23 PM
29	Walk	11/3/2021 2:07 PM
30	softball, events, walking though to get to town	11/3/2021 1:48 PM
31	recreational walk and bike ride	11/3/2021 11:49 AM
32	walk thru it regularly	11/2/2021 9:05 PM
33	Ada events	11/2/2021 7:33 PM
34	Walking to Fase St.	11/2/2021 7:24 PM
35	Walking	11/2/2021 7:12 PM
36	See bridge	11/2/2021 3:48 PM
37	Walking	11/2/2021 2:17 PM
38	Covered Bridge, Christmas lights,	11/2/2021 12:18 PM
39	Visiting the bridge	11/2/2021 12:13 PM
40	Spirts and bridge walk	11/2/2021 11:40 AM
41	walk	11/2/2021 10:58 AM
42	beers at the bridge, Ada covered bridge around holidays	11/2/2021 10:50 AM
43	covered bridge	11/2/2021 10:28 AM

#	LEGACY PARK (7430 RIVER ST. SE) E.G. CONCERTS	DATE
1	Events/concerts	11/7/2021 7:29 PM
2	Park area, ice cream	11/7/2021 3:39 PM
3	Games	11/6/2021 9:00 PM
4	Walks	11/6/2021 10:51 AM
5	For kids to play	11/6/2021 9:29 AM
6	Walk & play	11/5/2021 10:03 PM
7	Walking tour of Ada, AVGS	11/5/2021 6:18 PM
8	Concerts or walking	11/5/2021 5:05 PM
9	Playground, walking trails, benches and band shell	11/5/2021 3:35 PM
10	events, walk	11/5/2021 3:34 PM
11	events, playground, walking through town, Pokemon Go	11/5/2021 2:26 PM
12	Great kids part, downtown	11/5/2021 2:05 PM
13	Walk dig	11/5/2021 1:57 PM
14	walk	11/5/2021 1:50 PM
15	In the area	11/5/2021 1:19 PM
16	Playground	11/5/2021 1:10 PM
17	Walk, ice cream	11/5/2021 1:10 PM
18	Dog walking and events	11/5/2021 9:10 AM
19	Playground	11/5/2021 7:36 AM
20	Playground, Picnics & concerts	11/4/2021 9:15 PM
21	Concerts, playground, ice cream	11/4/2021 3:47 PM
22	stroll, playground	11/4/2021 2:57 PM
23	concerts, dining, walking	11/4/2021 12:29 PM
24	Play on playground	11/4/2021 10:01 AM
25	Playground	11/4/2021 5:32 AM
26	Playground	11/3/2021 9:57 PM
27	Playing	11/3/2021 9:54 PM
28	playground, picnic tables, concerts	11/3/2021 7:49 PM
29	Walking, fishing	11/3/2021 7:35 PM
30	Walk there frequently	11/3/2021 6:37 PM
31	Playground	11/3/2021 5:48 PM
32	Concerts	11/3/2021 3:34 PM
33	Concert	11/3/2021 2:49 PM
34	Walk	11/3/2021 2:07 PM
35	concerts, events	11/3/2021 1:48 PM
36	pavillion events	11/3/2021 1:17 PM
37	recreational walk	11/3/2021 11:49 AM

38	Concert / dog walk	11/2/2021 10:45 PM
39	Playground, concerts, Ada events, walking	11/2/2021 7:33 PM
40	To enjoy the wild flowers	11/2/2021 7:24 PM
41	Church, concerts, walking	11/2/2021 7:12 PM
42	Concerts	11/2/2021 5:08 PM
43	Playground	11/2/2021 3:48 PM
44	walking	11/2/2021 3:28 PM
45	Walking	11/2/2021 2:17 PM
46	concerts	11/2/2021 1:45 PM
47	Concerts	11/2/2021 12:18 PM
48	Taking a break	11/2/2021 12:13 PM
49	Concerts	11/2/2021 11:40 AM
50	walk, music, photos, yoga	11/2/2021 10:58 AM
51	N/A	11/2/2021 10:50 AM
52	concert, walking	11/2/2021 10:28 AM
53	Playground and trails	11/2/2021 10:19 AM
54	concerts	11/2/2021 10:14 AM
55	Playground, walk dog, ice cream	11/2/2021 9:32 AM
56	Concert, walking	11/2/2021 9:15 AM
57	walk, shop, enjoy the sun, ice cream	11/1/2021 5:14 PM
58	Walking, Playground, Music	11/1/2021 9:44 AM
59	Lunch setting	10/31/2021 11:35 AM
60	Playground, play hide and seek in sail sculpture, eat ice cream, ride bikes through, concerts	10/29/2021 9:18 PM
61	Lunch & walking	10/29/2021 5:25 PM
62	Walking by the river	10/29/2021 1:48 PM
63	every time I am in Ada, love the river and ease of access. Sometimes we walk at night as it is lit.	10/29/2021 12:35 PM
64	walk and play	10/28/2021 6:55 PM
65	Were downtown Ada	10/28/2021 2:11 PM
66	Ice cream, walks, concerts	10/28/2021 10:33 AM
67	concerts	10/28/2021 7:06 AM
68	Concerts and using the trail along the river	10/27/2021 8:43 PM
69	Convenient to ice cream shoppe.	10/27/2021 6:52 PM
70	New park	10/27/2021 6:32 PM
71	Playground, walks, bike rides	10/27/2021 6:05 PM
72	Walk dog, attend concerts	10/27/2021 3:12 PM
73	playground	10/27/2021 2:55 PM
74	Start of run, eating lunch	10/26/2021 9:17 PM
75	Walking	10/26/2021 4:29 PM

152	Walking	10/10/2021 2:26 PM
153	Concerts, walking	10/10/2021 10:46 AM
154	Playground	10/9/2021 1:40 PM
155	Proximity to Ada	10/9/2021 1:28 PM
156	Playground & pavilion	10/9/2021 1:27 PM
157	Relax	10/9/2021 1:24 PM
158	Close to the house	10/9/2021 12:47 PM
159	Playground, downtown	10/9/2021 12:21 PM
160	5	10/9/2021 8:54 AM
161	Walk by the River	10/8/2021 8:01 PM
162	Daily dog walking	10/8/2021 7:42 PM
163	Playground and general store	10/8/2021 7:07 PM
164	Concerts, walks	10/8/2021 5:46 PM
#	ROSELLE PARK (1010 GRAND RIVER DR NE) E.G. ROCK CLIMBING WALL	DATE
1	Walk/hike	11/7/2021 7:29 PM
2	Trails and playground d	11/7/2021 4:15 PM
3	Trails	11/7/2021 3:39 PM
4	Walk/run - exercise	11/7/2021 8:42 AM
5	playground and wking trail	11/7/2021 7:59 AM
6	Trails	11/6/2021 9:00 PM
7	hiking	11/6/2021 7:47 PM
8	Trail	11/6/2021 10:51 AM
9	For hiking and kids to play	11/6/2021 9:29 AM
10	Walking trails	11/6/2021 9:14 AM
11	Walk, ride scooters, participate in park kids programs	11/5/2021 10:03 PM
12	Running	11/5/2021 6:18 PM
13	Walking and biking	11/5/2021 5:49 PM
14	Walking with dog	11/5/2021 5:05 PM
15	Walkimg	11/5/2021 5:04 PM
16	Walking trails, community building	11/5/2021 3:35 PM
17	walk, rental	11/5/2021 3:34 PM
18	biking, Girl Scouts, lunch meeting, playground	11/5/2021 2:26 PM
19	Long trail for walking/running	11/5/2021 2:05 PM
20	Walk dog	11/5/2021 1:57 PM
21	ski, walk, kayak	11/5/2021 1:50 PM
22	Trails	11/5/2021 1:19 PM
23	Walking	11/5/2021 1:10 PM
24	Bike riding	11/5/2021 1:10 PM

25	Dog walking and me walking! Lol	11/5/2021 9:10 AM
26	Running and biking	11/5/2021 7:36 AM
27	Close to our house and we can bike there	11/4/2021 11:23 PM
28	walking	11/4/2021 9:35 PM
29	Trails	11/4/2021 9:15 PM
30	bike	11/4/2021 7:35 PM
31	my running group met there	11/4/2021 4:37 PM
32	ABA meetings	11/4/2021 3:47 PM
33	nature trail walks	11/4/2021 2:57 PM
34	walking	11/4/2021 12:29 PM
35	Walk and bike the trails	11/4/2021 10:01 AM
36	Walking with friends	11/4/2021 6:26 AM
37	Trails:walking, biking, snow shoe, playground	11/4/2021 5:32 AM
38	Walking trail and playground	11/3/2021 9:57 PM
39	Paths	11/3/2021 9:54 PM
40	walking/biking/running trails	11/3/2021 7:49 PM
41	Biking	11/3/2021 7:35 PM
42	Walk here occasionally	11/3/2021 6:37 PM
43	Trails and playground	11/3/2021 5:48 PM
44	Bike ride the paths are great there	11/3/2021 3:34 PM
45	Exercise - walk, run, bike, skateboard	11/3/2021 2:49 PM
46	Walk	11/3/2021 2:07 PM
47	walking trails	11/3/2021 1:48 PM
48	walk or run	11/3/2021 1:17 PM
49	walk, scooter, playground, restrooms	11/3/2021 9:38 AM
50	Kids play area, hiking with kids	11/3/2021 9:09 AM
51	Trails	11/2/2021 10:45 PM
52	walking	11/2/2021 9:05 PM
53	Path and play structure	11/2/2021 7:33 PM
54	Biking	11/2/2021 7:12 PM
55	Walking, birdwatching, pavillion event, skiing trails	11/2/2021 6:15 PM
56	Hiking/climbing wall	11/2/2021 5:08 PM
57	Biking and walking	11/2/2021 4:44 PM
58	To bike or walk quick	11/2/2021 3:48 PM
59	walking trails	11/2/2021 3:28 PM
60	Cross country skiing	11/2/2021 2:17 PM
61	Walking paths	11/2/2021 12:39 PM
62	Hiking	11/2/2021 12:18 PM

100	long, flat walking paths for stroller	10/27/2021 2:55 PM
101	Non paved trails for walking	10/27/2021 1:36 PM
102	Running/walking/hiking	10/27/2021 12:55 PM
103	Walk, exercise	10/27/2021 11:47 AM
104	Walking trail	10/27/2021 8:46 AM
105	Walking	10/27/2021 7:31 AM
106	Running	10/26/2021 9:17 PM
107	Walking	10/26/2021 4:29 PM
108	Walking	10/26/2021 2:20 PM
109	Playground, walks, bike ride	10/25/2021 1:40 PM
110	Trails	10/25/2021 1:32 PM
111	Walk the trails and attend ABA meetings	10/25/2021 12:56 PM
112	Combination of improved and mowed paths, which is nice for dogs. Love that this park joins the shoreline of the Grand River and is more sparsely used.	10/25/2021 12:07 PM
113	Walk	10/25/2021 9:07 AM
114	Playground, walking and biking trails	10/25/2021 5:44 AM
115	Walking	10/24/2021 11:10 PM
116	Picnic	10/24/2021 8:27 PM
117	Playground, walking/biking trails, community center events	10/24/2021 12:57 PM
118	Love the walking/jogging path well-maintained,safe	10/24/2021 10:59 AM
119	Walking	10/24/2021 10:44 AM
120	Trail walks	10/23/2021 11:22 AM
121	Bike path	10/23/2021 7:31 AM
122	Family walk	10/22/2021 9:38 PM
123	Walking paths, cross country ski trails	10/22/2021 9:04 PM
124	Walking	10/22/2021 4:09 PM
125	Walk dog	10/22/2021 3:45 PM
126	Bike ride	10/22/2021 2:02 PM
127	great walking trails	10/21/2021 5:50 PM
128	Birdwatching; kids biking / longboarding; general walking	10/21/2021 3:44 PM
129	Great trails, parking lots and facilities. Run and ride the trails often and enjoy the river views.	10/21/2021 3:21 PM
130	Walking trails	10/21/2021 12:47 PM
131	Trail	10/21/2021 12:26 PM
132	to use trails	10/21/2021 12:19 PM
133	hiking, biking, functions	10/21/2021 6:50 AM
134	Walking	10/20/2021 10:47 PM
135	Walking	10/20/2021 7:20 PM
136	Walking dog	10/20/2021 3:57 PM
137	Trails	10/20/2021 2:03 PM

214	running, walking, bird watching	10/11/2021 2:39 PM
215	Trails	10/11/2021 2:12 PM
216	walking exercise	10/11/2021 1:53 PM
217	Running, birdwatching, biking, hiking, cross country skiing, playground	10/11/2021 1:52 PM
218	DNV	10/11/2021 12:24 PM
219	Dog walka	10/10/2021 6:23 PM
220	trail, wildlife	10/10/2021 4:14 PM
221	Walking	10/10/2021 2:26 PM
222	Walking	10/10/2021 10:46 AM
223	Trails	10/9/2021 1:40 PM
224	Nature	10/9/2021 1:28 PM
225	Trails	10/9/2021 1:27 PM
226	Walk	10/9/2021 1:24 PM
227	Trails, Rick climbing	10/9/2021 12:21 PM
228	0	10/9/2021 8:54 AM
229	Silos, Trails	10/8/2021 8:01 PM
230	Playground and trail walk	10/8/2021 7:07 PM
231	Trails	10/8/2021 6:07 PM
232	Walks	10/8/2021 5:46 PM
233	Ride scooters on the trail.	10/8/2021 5:43 PM
234	To walk the trails	10/8/2021 1:21 PM
235	Trails	10/8/2021 1:18 PM
236	Running and walking	10/8/2021 12:33 PM
#	CARL CREEK CROSSING PRESERVE (6230 GRAND RIVER DR.) E.G. TRAILS	DATE
1	Trails	11/7/2021 7:29 PM
2	Trails	11/6/2021 9:00 PM
3	hiking	11/6/2021 7:47 PM
4	Never been	11/6/2021 9:29 AM
5	Walk	11/5/2021 10:03 PM
6	Hiking	11/5/2021 6:18 PM
7	Walking	11/5/2021 5:49 PM
8	Walking	11/5/2021 5:04 PM
9	walk	11/5/2021 3:34 PM
10	hiking, Girl Scouts	11/5/2021 2:26 PM
11	Walk dog	11/5/2021 1:57 PM
12	walk, birds, flowers	11/5/2021 1:50 PM
13	Walk	11/5/2021 1:19 PM
14	Dig walking	11/5/2021 9:10 AM

15	Running	11/5/2021 7:36 AM
16	Trails	11/4/2021 9:15 PM
17	Bike and run	11/4/2021 8:31 PM
18	wandering	11/4/2021 12:29 PM
19	Hiking	11/3/2021 9:57 PM
20	Trails, parking to use bike path	11/3/2021 9:54 PM
21	Walks	11/3/2021 3:34 PM
22	Walk my dog	11/3/2021 2:49 PM
23	Walk	11/3/2021 2:07 PM
24	trails	11/3/2021 1:48 PM
25	walk	11/3/2021 9:38 AM
26	exploring	11/2/2021 9:05 PM
27	Walking	11/2/2021 7:33 PM
28	Because it's pretty	11/2/2021 7:24 PM
29	trails	11/2/2021 6:15 PM
30	Hiking	11/2/2021 4:44 PM
31	walking trails	11/2/2021 3:28 PM
32	Walking	11/2/2021 1:26 PM
33	Hiking	11/2/2021 12:13 PM
34	Trails	11/2/2021 11:40 AM
35	none	11/2/2021 10:58 AM
36	bike the trail	11/2/2021 10:50 AM
37	trails, rowing	11/2/2021 10:28 AM
38	trails	11/2/2021 10:14 AM
39	Trails	11/2/2021 9:32 AM
40	Walk	11/1/2021 7:30 PM
41	Hiking	11/1/2021 7:00 PM
42	walk, show relatives, remove invasive plants	11/1/2021 5:14 PM
43	Walking	11/1/2021 9:44 AM
44	Walk trails	10/29/2021 9:18 PM
45	Dog Walk/Recreation	10/29/2021 9:14 PM
46	Dog/People Walking	10/29/2021 5:25 PM
47	Exploring	10/29/2021 1:48 PM
48	Do not know where it is...almost seems like private property.	10/29/2021 12:35 PM
49	walk and play	10/28/2021 6:55 PM
50	Walking	10/28/2021 10:33 AM
51	to walk	10/28/2021 7:06 AM
52	Walk	10/27/2021 6:05 PM

91	New Pokemon stop	10/14/2021 10:40 AM
92	Trails	10/12/2021 8:14 PM
93	dog walk	10/12/2021 4:56 PM
94	Trails	10/12/2021 1:37 PM
95	?	10/12/2021 11:15 AM
96	Trails	10/12/2021 8:07 AM
97	Family pictures	10/11/2021 3:59 PM
98	hiking, bird watching	10/11/2021 2:39 PM
99	trails and hiking	10/11/2021 1:52 PM
100	DNV	10/11/2021 12:24 PM
101	Trails	10/11/2021 11:24 AM
102	Trail	10/10/2021 6:23 PM
103	Walking	10/10/2021 10:46 AM
104	Hiking	10/9/2021 1:40 PM
105	Nature	10/9/2021 1:28 PM
106	Hike	10/9/2021 1:24 PM
107	1	10/9/2021 8:54 AM
108	Trails	10/8/2021 6:07 PM
109	Walks	10/8/2021 5:46 PM
110	Hike	10/8/2021 5:43 PM
#	CARL CREEK WETLAND PRESERVE (ALTA DALE AVE SE) E.G. TRAILS	DATE
1	Trails	11/7/2021 7:29 PM
2	Trails	11/6/2021 9:00 PM
3	Never been	11/6/2021 9:29 AM
4	I'm not sure if I've been here or not.....?	11/5/2021 2:26 PM
5	Walk dig	11/5/2021 1:57 PM
6	birds	11/5/2021 1:50 PM
7	Walk	11/5/2021 1:19 PM
8	Don't go but will check it out	11/5/2021 9:10 AM
9	wandering	11/4/2021 12:29 PM
10	Hiking	11/3/2021 9:57 PM
11	Trails	11/3/2021 9:54 PM
12	Walk here occasionally	11/3/2021 6:37 PM
13	Walks	11/3/2021 3:34 PM
14	Walk my dog	11/3/2021 2:49 PM
15	Walk	11/3/2021 2:07 PM
16	trails	11/3/2021 1:48 PM
17	Walking, running, biking	11/2/2021 7:33 PM

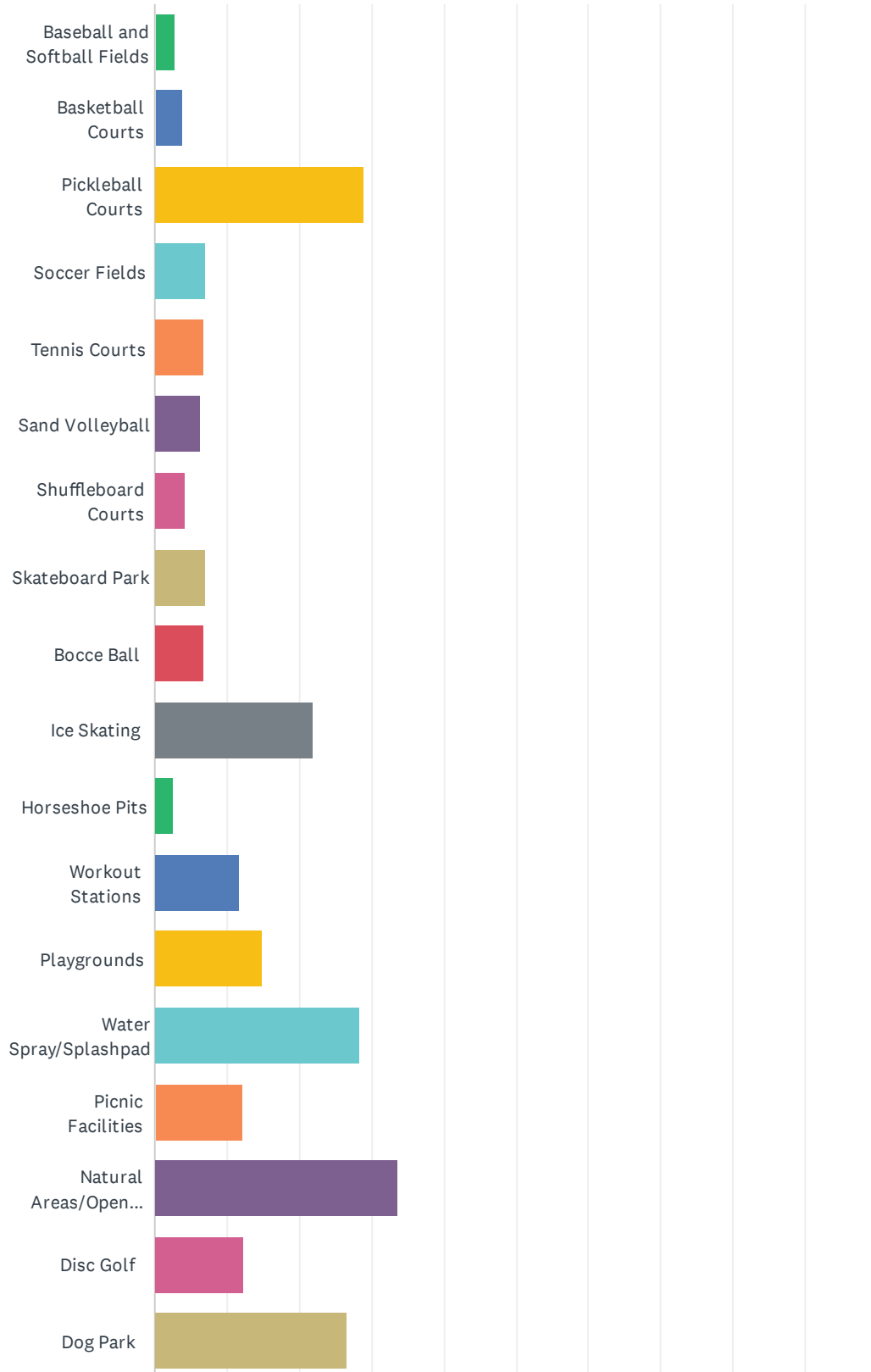
56	Walking and photography	10/15/2021 4:12 PM
57	Biking	10/15/2021 12:44 PM
58	Little kids enjoy the wetlands	10/15/2021 12:35 PM
59	Trail running	10/15/2021 10:30 AM
60	Walking	10/15/2021 9:44 AM
61	have not visited yet	10/15/2021 9:42 AM
62	Getting out in nature	10/14/2021 6:42 PM
63	-	10/14/2021 2:42 PM
64	Pokemon Go, looking for Morel Mushrooms.	10/14/2021 10:40 AM
65	Not visited	10/12/2021 8:14 PM
66	dog walk	10/12/2021 4:56 PM
67	Walk with kids and splash in the creek.	10/12/2021 11:15 AM
68	bird watching	10/11/2021 2:39 PM
69	DNV	10/11/2021 12:24 PM
70	Trails	10/11/2021 11:24 AM
71	Trail	10/10/2021 6:23 PM
72	Walking	10/10/2021 10:46 AM
73	N/a	10/9/2021 1:40 PM
74	Nature	10/9/2021 1:28 PM
75	Walk	10/9/2021 1:24 PM
76	0	10/9/2021 8:54 AM
77	Trails	10/8/2021 6:07 PM
#	GRAND RIVER NATURE PRESERVE (GRAND RIVER NATURE TRAIL) E.G. TRAILS	DATE
1	Trails	11/7/2021 7:29 PM
2	Trail walk	11/7/2021 3:39 PM
3	Trails	11/6/2021 9:00 PM
4	rowing practice/meets	11/6/2021 7:47 PM
5	Never been	11/6/2021 9:29 AM
6	Walk, ride bikes & scooters	11/5/2021 10:03 PM
7	Trails	11/5/2021 3:35 PM
8	biking, walking	11/5/2021 2:26 PM
9	Walk dog	11/5/2021 1:57 PM
10	walk	11/5/2021 1:50 PM
11	Walk	11/5/2021 1:19 PM
12	Walk	11/5/2021 1:10 PM
13	Dog walking	11/5/2021 9:10 AM
14	Running	11/5/2021 7:36 AM
15	Trail	11/4/2021 9:15 PM

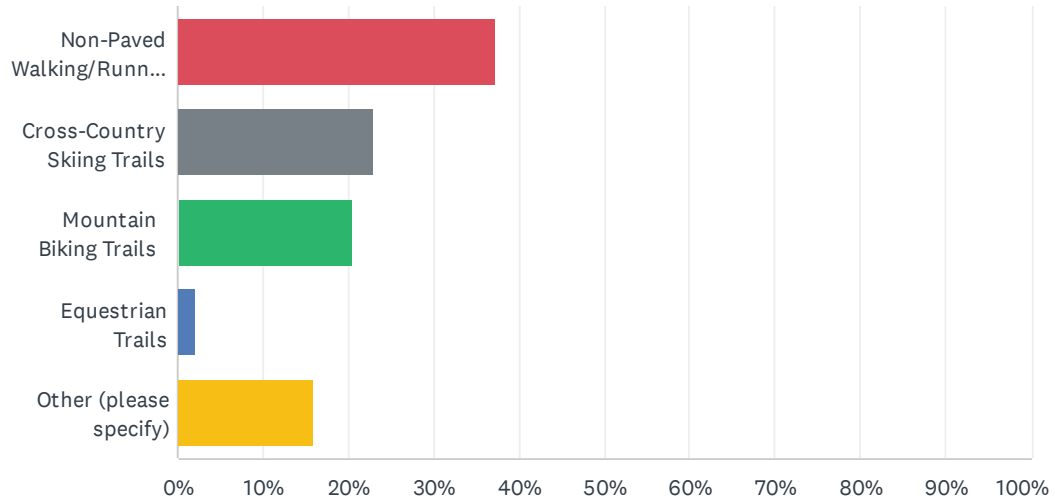
16	trail walk	11/4/2021 2:57 PM
17	Trail	11/4/2021 5:32 AM
18	Hiking	11/3/2021 9:57 PM
19	Trails	11/3/2021 9:54 PM
20	walking and biking trails	11/3/2021 7:49 PM
21	Walk here occasionally	11/3/2021 6:37 PM
22	Trails	11/3/2021 5:48 PM
23	Trails	11/3/2021 4:43 PM
24	Walks	11/3/2021 3:34 PM
25	Walk my dog	11/3/2021 2:49 PM
26	hiking	11/3/2021 2:23 PM
27	Walk	11/3/2021 2:07 PM
28	trails, family uses daily - especially to get to FH boathouse	11/3/2021 1:48 PM
29	Trails	11/2/2021 10:45 PM
30	walking	11/2/2021 9:05 PM
31	Walking, running, biking	11/2/2021 7:33 PM
32	Walking	11/2/2021 7:12 PM
33	walking trails	11/2/2021 3:28 PM
34	Bicycling	11/2/2021 2:17 PM
35	Walking	11/2/2021 1:26 PM
36	Hiking	11/2/2021 12:13 PM
37	Trails	11/2/2021 11:40 AM
38	walk, biking	11/2/2021 10:58 AM
39	N/A	11/2/2021 10:50 AM
40	trails	11/2/2021 10:28 AM
41	trails	11/2/2021 10:14 AM
42	To walk	11/2/2021 9:15 AM
43	Biking	11/1/2021 7:00 PM
44	bicycle	11/1/2021 5:14 PM
45	Walking, Nature	11/1/2021 9:44 AM
46	Bike/scooter/walk trail	10/29/2021 9:18 PM
47	Walking	10/29/2021 5:25 PM
48	Exploring	10/29/2021 1:48 PM
49	Unknown.	10/29/2021 12:35 PM
50	walk and play	10/28/2021 6:55 PM
51	Walking	10/28/2021 10:33 AM
52	trails	10/27/2021 2:55 PM
53	Hiking	10/27/2021 8:46 AM

54	Running	10/26/2021 9:17 PM
55	Walking the dog and bike riding	10/26/2021 4:29 PM
56	Walking	10/26/2021 2:20 PM
57	Walk around, view birds	10/25/2021 9:07 AM
58	n/a	10/24/2021 12:57 PM
59	Trails	10/24/2021 9:14 AM
60	Walking trails	10/23/2021 11:22 AM
61	Quiet trail	10/23/2021 7:31 AM
62	Walking	10/22/2021 4:09 PM
63	Run, walk dog	10/22/2021 3:45 PM
64	Trails	10/21/2021 3:44 PM
65	Bicycle or walk frequently, great that they have been repaired to avoid river washout.	10/21/2021 3:21 PM
66	Na	10/21/2021 12:47 PM
67	hiking	10/21/2021 6:50 AM
68	Walking	10/20/2021 10:47 PM
69	Walking dog	10/20/2021 3:57 PM
70	Trails	10/20/2021 2:03 PM
71	Walking	10/19/2021 2:19 PM
72	Walk dog	10/18/2021 10:08 PM
73	hiking	10/18/2021 11:58 AM
74	Trails	10/18/2021 9:31 AM
75	Not sure where this is?	10/17/2021 9:05 AM
76	Trails	10/16/2021 5:20 PM
77	walking trail	10/16/2021 4:49 PM
78	Walking	10/16/2021 9:35 AM
79	Hike	10/16/2021 8:54 AM
80	Didn't know about this- unless it is the paved part to the side of grand River then we walk and bike	10/16/2021 8:10 AM
81	Walk Dog	10/15/2021 6:22 PM
82	Trails	10/15/2021 4:50 PM
83	Walk the dog there and back along trail	10/15/2021 4:14 PM
84	Walking and photography	10/15/2021 4:12 PM
85	proximity	10/15/2021 2:34 PM
86	Jogging and biking	10/15/2021 12:44 PM
87	Quiet river walk near our house	10/15/2021 12:35 PM
88	Walk, ride bike	10/15/2021 11:52 AM
89	Running	10/15/2021 10:30 AM
90	Walking, Biking	10/15/2021 9:44 AM
91	trails	10/15/2021 9:42 AM

Q7 Which of the following would you most like to see expanded or added in the Township? Choose up to 3.

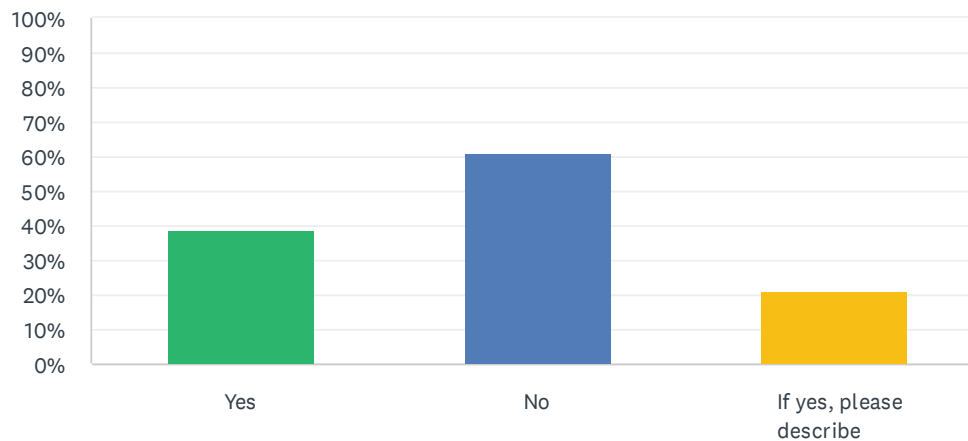
Answered: 282 Skipped: 1





Q18 Are you aware of sensitive natural features on your property?

Answered: 274 Skipped: 9



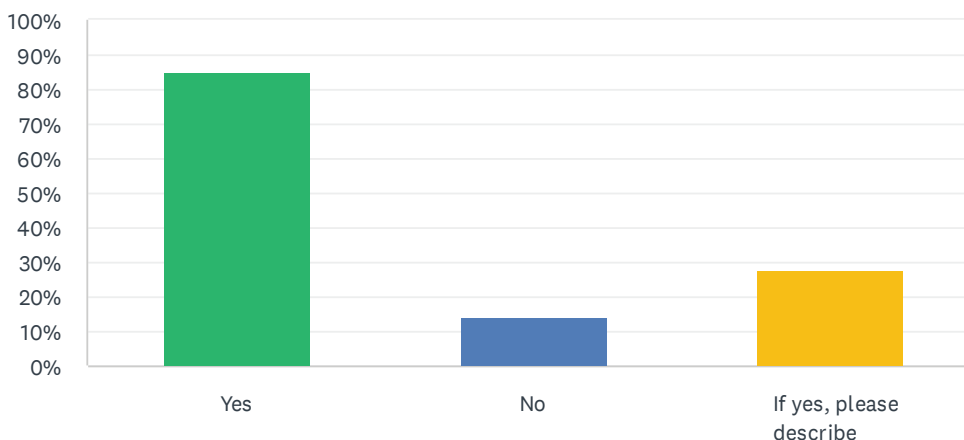
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	38.69%	106
No	60.95%	167
If yes, please describe	21.17%	58
Total Respondents: 274		

#	IF YES, PLEASE DESCRIBE	DATE
1	wetlands	11/5/2021 2:26 PM
2	Creek	11/5/2021 1:10 PM
3	17 acres of woods	11/4/2021 4:37 PM
4	Invasive garlic plant	11/4/2021 6:26 AM
5	We have a forest area behind our house.	11/4/2021 5:32 AM
6	Trees	11/3/2021 11:49 AM
7	River	11/2/2021 7:12 PM
8	River creek	11/2/2021 3:48 PM
9	Honey Creek, wetlands	11/2/2021 1:26 PM
10	Wetland	11/2/2021 11:46 AM
11	Creek and natural borders	11/2/2021 11:40 AM
12	pond overflow, wooded area	11/2/2021 10:58 AM
13	wildlife habitats, wetlands	11/2/2021 10:14 AM
14	Washington hawthorn _Crataegus phaenopyrum_ on my back property line -- should submit to Michigan Flora (would be a first for our county).	11/1/2021 5:14 PM
15	forested space	10/31/2021 11:35 AM
16	creek behind house	10/29/2021 1:48 PM

17	unperturbed land, unique frog, turtle, fish species. Unlogged trees. Wild flowers and plant species.	10/29/2021 12:35 PM
18	Not sure I know specifically what you mean, but we do have invasive species like garlic mustard.	10/28/2021 3:37 PM
19	Wetlands	10/27/2021 6:05 PM
20	Wetland adjacent to Honey Creek	10/27/2021 3:12 PM
21	water drainage areas	10/27/2021 2:55 PM
22	Creek and pond	10/27/2021 11:47 AM
23	Pulling garlic mustard	10/27/2021 8:46 AM
24	Proliferation of bittersweet throughout neighborhood, and poison ivy	10/25/2021 12:07 PM
25	wetlands and invasive plants	10/24/2021 10:59 AM
26	the Honey Creek	10/21/2021 5:50 PM
27	We have 15 acres with woods, wetlands and prairie. We are battling invasive species (autumn olive, garlic mustard etc). We have a very diverse habitat.	10/21/2021 3:44 PM
28	Not sure	10/21/2021 12:47 PM
29	We have a woods in the backyard. We pull foreign invasive like garlic mustard	10/20/2021 10:47 PM
30	Bird migration and habitats	10/20/2021 7:20 PM
31	Na	10/19/2021 5:58 PM
32	Wooden lot; attended lecture on invasive species, went on guided nature walk	10/19/2021 1:45 PM
33	Honeycreek is on our property	10/18/2021 6:01 PM
34	Paradise Lake is a sensitive natural feature	10/18/2021 9:52 AM
35	we abut paradise lake	10/16/2021 9:39 PM
36	Native plants	10/16/2021 5:20 PM
37	wet land	10/16/2021 3:52 PM
38	I do much to protect the trees on my property...have a nice garden and a very old magnolia tree that I'm trying to keep healthy	10/16/2021 9:05 AM
39	invasive species	10/16/2021 8:13 AM
40	Creek	10/15/2021 11:31 PM
41	creek, marsh	10/15/2021 4:21 PM
42	I think we have native frog species?	10/15/2021 4:14 PM
43	Animal protection	10/15/2021 12:44 PM
44	Creek/Wetlands	10/15/2021 12:35 PM
45	invasive species, primarily	10/14/2021 8:09 AM
46	We leave a large area of our property natural. We try to control invasive plants.	10/13/2021 8:46 PM
47	Try to protect trees from the invasive "bittersweet" vines.	10/13/2021 12:18 PM
48	Deer trails, invasive species, foraging	10/13/2021 8:07 AM
49	old woods	10/12/2021 7:23 PM
50	Steams, lake, wildflowers,	10/12/2021 6:59 PM
51	Not sure about survey's definition of "sensitive?" Long portion of Honey Creek runs through our property	10/12/2021 11:39 AM

Q19 Are you interested in protecting your property and/or adjacent waterways/riparian zones from invasive species?

Answered: 261 Skipped: 22



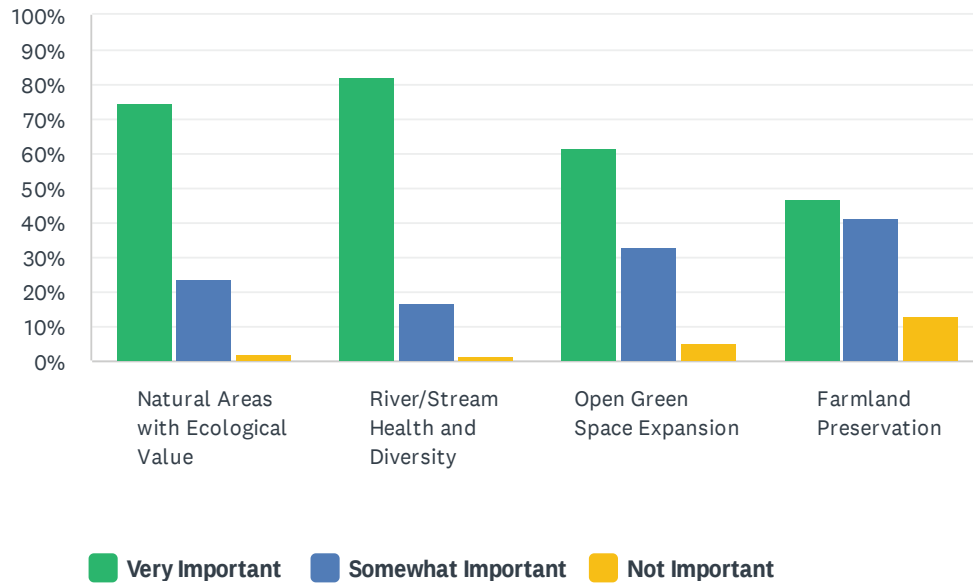
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	85.44%	223
No	14.18%	37
If yes, please describe	27.97%	73
Total Respondents: 261		

#	IF YES, PLEASE DESCRIBE	DATE
1	Poison ivy, garlic mustard	11/7/2021 7:29 PM
2	Just read stuff in newsletter for suggestions	11/7/2021 3:39 PM
3	I continue to work on garlic mustard and buckthorn removal	11/7/2021 7:59 AM
4	Garlic mustard	11/5/2021 5:49 PM
5	I pull invasive weeds	11/5/2021 2:26 PM
6	We pull garlic mustard every yr and Autumn olive , etc	11/5/2021 1:10 PM
7	gypsy moth, garlic mustard, the viney stuff are all problems	11/4/2021 4:37 PM
8	Mustard grass is a problem and many vines are choking trees	11/4/2021 5:32 AM
9	The vines !!	11/3/2021 4:43 PM
10	invasive species	11/3/2021 1:17 PM
11	invasive weeds	11/3/2021 11:49 AM
12	AUTUMN OLIVE, BITTERSWEET	11/3/2021 9:38 AM
13	I don't know about invasive plant species, but would be interested in learning more.	11/3/2021 9:09 AM
14	Oriental bittersweet and a creeping vine like blackberries are taking over.	11/2/2021 10:45 PM
15	cutting bittersweet & garlic mustard	11/2/2021 9:05 PM
16	Autumn olive and oriental bittersweet	11/2/2021 7:33 PM

17	Yes, I always pull invasive species	11/2/2021 7:24 PM
18	Not willing to make major changes	11/2/2021 7:12 PM
19	garlic mustard	11/2/2021 3:28 PM
20	Removing oriental bittersweet	11/2/2021 2:17 PM
21	Ridding property of garlic mustard, oriental bittersweet, autumn olive, and buckthorn trees	11/2/2021 1:26 PM
22	To better identify for control	11/2/2021 11:40 AM
23	purple strife, garlic mustard	11/2/2021 10:58 AM
24	garlic mustard and other invasive species	11/2/2021 10:28 AM
25	Bittersweet & garlic mustard	11/2/2021 9:32 AM
26	garlic mustard	10/31/2021 11:35 AM
27	We have several in the area.	10/29/2021 1:48 PM
28	I would love to expand preserved areas in the broad Chase Lake watershed. A contracted study years ago described this area as most native. Spot development goes unchecked and this area should be saved.	10/29/2021 12:35 PM
29	Invasive species!	10/28/2021 3:37 PM
30	We have no water features on our property, but I actively work to control invasive Oriental Bittersweet and Autumn Olive on my property	10/28/2021 7:06 AM
31	Mustard Garlic	10/27/2021 6:05 PM
32	Asiatic bittersweet	10/27/2021 3:12 PM
33	we are inundated with invasive brush at forest edges	10/27/2021 2:55 PM
34	I am the only one in my neighborhood get rid of garlic mustard and bitter sweet	10/25/2021 5:09 PM
35	I don't know what if any applies to my property	10/25/2021 1:40 PM
36	Some but not all neighbors do something about invasive species. It's a lot of work to do it ourselves.	10/25/2021 12:07 PM
37	I know of invasive garlic mustard on my property.	10/25/2021 11:07 AM
38	If need be.	10/22/2021 2:02 PM
39	bittersweet, garlic mustard; etc	10/21/2021 5:50 PM
40	Garlic mustard and autumn olive definitely; possibly more?	10/21/2021 3:44 PM
41	Garlic mustard	10/20/2021 10:47 PM
42	Weeds or plants	10/20/2021 3:57 PM
43	Na	10/19/2021 5:58 PM
44	We live on paradise lake and are very aware of dangers	10/19/2021 3:24 PM
45	Kent county came and treated for phragmites	10/18/2021 6:01 PM
46	if there are any that are causing ecological harm- i know of none	10/16/2021 9:39 PM
47	Already work to prevent invasive plant species	10/16/2021 5:20 PM
48	I already have a person helping me with that on my small property	10/16/2021 9:05 AM
49	asian bittersweet is a problem	10/16/2021 8:13 AM
50	PLEASE do something about Gypsy Moths. They are destroying trees in our yard and woods in the northern portion of the township.	10/15/2021 7:18 PM
51	We already know we have bittersweet vines and garlic mustard.	10/15/2021 4:21 PM

Q22 Which of the following forms of Land Preservation is most important to you?

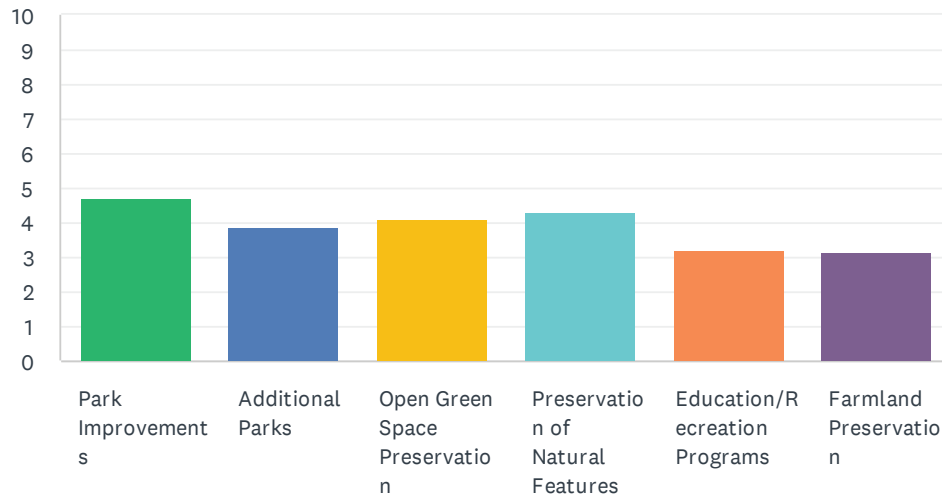
Answered: 261 Skipped: 22



	VERY IMPORTANT	SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT	TOTAL RESPONDENTS
Natural Areas with Ecological Value	74.71% 192	23.74% 61	2.33% 6	257
River/Stream Health and Diversity	82.10% 211	16.73% 43	1.56% 4	257
Open Green Space Expansion	61.78% 160	33.20% 86	5.41% 14	259
Farmland Preservation	47.06% 120	41.57% 106	12.94% 33	255

Q25 Please rank the following in regards to how you would like the Parks and Recreation funding to be spent.

Answered: 271 Skipped: 12



	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL	SCORE
Park Improvements	45.85% 116	17.39% 44	12.25% 31	14.62% 37	9.88% 25	0.00% 0	253	4.75
Additional Parks	15.09% 32	27.36% 58	16.51% 35	14.15% 30	25.47% 54	1.42% 3	212	3.88
Open Green Space Preservation	16.46% 40	22.22% 54	26.75% 65	24.28% 59	9.88% 24	0.41% 1	243	4.10
Preservation of Natural Features	21.12% 53	26.29% 66	22.71% 57	20.72% 52	9.16% 23	0.00% 0	251	4.29
Education/Recreation Programs	5.21% 11	14.69% 31	18.96% 40	21.80% 46	36.49% 77	2.84% 6	211	3.22
Farmland Preservation	9.72% 14	6.94% 10	22.22% 32	20.83% 30	31.25% 45	9.03% 13	144	3.16



ADA TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN SECTION 6

NEEDS AND DEFICIENCIES

This section of the Plan identifies recreation deficiencies determined through a variety of means. Study methods include comparison to recreational standards for acreage and facilities, geographic distribution of existing facilities, direct input from Township staff and representatives, and public input and participation. While each of these methods has its limitations, using a combination of methods will yield a more accurate assessment of recreational needs and deficiencies. The following is a brief description of each of the methods used.

RECREATION STANDARDS

While only a guide, recreation standards provide a benchmark for evaluating the relative adequacy or inadequacy of the Township's recreation system. This Plan has used as a guide the 1983 Recreation, Park, and Open Space, Standards and Guidelines and 1995 Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines published by the National Recreation and Park Association.

Typical recreation standards establish a certain number of activity-specific recreational facilities per 1,000 of population (e.g. 1 tennis court per 2,000 persons). Other standards establish a certain number of acres per 1,000 of population for different types of park facilities, such as neighborhood, community and regional parks. These standards are adapted to reflect the Township's character and compared with the Township's existing and projected population. This Plan will combine both approaches to ascertain deficiencies in recreational facilities and acreage. The 2021 World Population Review estimate was used for the purposes of this study.

There are two basic types of recreational experiences: "active" and "passive." "Active" recreation requires space and facilities capable of accommodating exertive activities. Such facilities include: sports fields, play apparatus areas, open areas, special facilities, such as pools and court areas, and areas for organized activities. On the other hand, "passive" recreation requires little more than space and furniture for quiet, non-exertive activities for limited numbers of users.



Recreation areas must provide for both types of use and preferably include a variety of opportunities for each to respond adequately to a wide range of interests and age groups.

Parks are generally classified by purpose and area per population served. They range in type from mini-playlots and green areas to large regional and national parks.

The categories used for this plan will be as follows:

1. Neighborhood Park
2. Community Parks
3. Preserves
4. Trails

RECREATION STANDARDS FOR ACREAGE

1. Neighborhood Parks

Description - Neighborhood parks serve individual neighborhood populations as determined by the distance that can easily be traveled by local users for relatively short periods of recreation. Facilities provided in these parks are generally active in nature and include multipurpose open play areas for pick-up games, play apparatus, court areas, landscaping, site furnishings and possibly a shelter. Special areas for bike riding or specific court games may also be provided. Activities for all seasons should also be included.

Service Areas - The area served by neighborhood parks is generally considered to be a one quarter (1/4) mile to one half (1/2) mile radius in size and should be uninterrupted by non-residential roads or other physical barriers.

Neighborhood Park Acreage Standards - Nationally accepted standards for neighborhood parks recommend one to two (1-2) acres per 1,000 of population with five (5) acres as a minimum size and five to ten (5-10) acres optimal. It is recommended that the minimum of two (2) acres per 1,000 population be used as a guide for site selection.



Existing Recreation Acreage

Ada Township currently has (0) parks that would fit into the neighborhood park definition.

Needs and Deficiencies: The table below compares the 2018 Township population to the recreation standard of two (2) acres per 1,000 persons.

<u>2021 Population</u>	<u>Neighborhood Rec. Acreage Required</u>	<u>Neighborhood Rec. Acreage Available</u>	<u>Deficiency/ Surplus</u>
15,080	30.16	0.00	-30.16

For the 2021 population, there is deficiency of 24.25 acres for neighborhood recreation in accordance with the recreational standards. The above table indicates that the Township is currently significantly deficient in neighborhood recreation areas and this deficiency increases as the population grows. However, these deficiencies need to be considered jointly with the facilities provided by Community Parks, which can have a joint purpose, also serving the neighborhood. The National Recreation and Park Association recommends a total close-to-home space (Mini-Parks, Neighborhood Parks and Community Parks) of 6.25 to 10.5 acres per 1000 population. Ada Township and Roselle Park currently provide for traditional neighborhood uses.

2. Community Parks

Description - Community-wide parks provide a range of facilities and areas capable of supporting organized community participation programs that would not be appropriate in neighborhood parks because of their average size or traffic volume generated. Facilities should be centrally located, diverse enough to accommodate all age groups for both active and passive experiences and organized so that compatible uses relate to one another. Adequate parking and vehicular circulation are also important since park users will generally arrive at these parks by vehicle. Lighted use areas significantly increase the recreational value of parks of this type. Typical facilities recommended for

community parks include ball fields, open use areas, tennis courts, picnic areas, play apparatus areas, restrooms, and shelters. Additional special facilities could include band shells, amphitheaters, swimming and wading pools, community-meeting buildings, skating facilities, bicycle courses and nature study areas.



As with neighborhood parks, it is often beneficial to develop community parks in conjunction with junior or senior high schools where practical because of the athletic fields and courts potentially available for public use. This arrangement assures the maximum level of use as well as the most practical expenditure of development funds.

Service Area - The area served by community-wide parks varies significantly from one municipality to another because of the distribution of population and related factors. However, a community park usually serves two or more neighborhoods and ½ to 3-mile distance. This distance will be considerably greater for many years in the Ada area because of the agricultural character and attendant scattered development.

Community Park Acreage Standards – The size of a community park varies according to the desired uses but is usually between 30 and 50 acres. It is recommended that a range of five (5) to eight (8) acres per 1,000 population be used as a standard basis for development.

Existing Community Recreation Acreage – Ada Township has four (4) parks that function as community parks. Several school sites in the Township provide community recreation facilities. While they cannot be considered community parks, they do provide community access to athletic fields.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Existing Site Acreage</u>
Ada Park	57
Legacy Park	2.92
Leonard Field Park	2.99
<u>Roselle Park</u>	<u>240</u>
Total	302.91 acres

Needs and Deficiencies: The following table compares the 2021 Township population to the recreation standard of eight (8) acres per 1,000 persons.

<u>2021 Population</u>	<u>Neighborhood Rec. Acreage Required</u>	<u>Neighborhood Rec. Acreage Available</u>	<u>Deficiency/ Surplus</u>
15,080	120.64	302.91	182.27



When comparing existing Community Park land to current population, there is a surplus of land devoted to community recreational use. The two Township Community Parks are well distributed with Roselle serving the northwest of the Township and Ada Park the northeast area.

3. Preserves

Natural resource areas are lands set aside for preservation of significant natural resources, remnant landscapes, open space, and visual/aesthetic buffering. These sites are typically unsuitable for development but offer natural resource potential and can support recreational activities at a level that preserves the integrity of the natural resource. The location and size of these parks are largely governed by availability.

Existing Natural Resource Area Acreage – Ada Township currently has seven (7) properties that fit into this category.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Existing Site Acreage</u>
Carl Creek Crossing Preserve	8
Carl Creek Wetlands Preserve	34
Knapp Corner Preserve	1.06
Thornapple Confluence Preserve	26.9
Grand River Area Preserve	120
Grand River Fulton Street Preserve	5.4
<u>Grand River Overlook Preserve</u>	<u>0.54</u>
Total	195.9 acres

Needs and Deficiencies: There are no recognized acreage standards for natural resource areas. It is important to identify and protect natural resources under the control of the Township. It is also important to provide improved access and facilities, while maintaining integrity as a wildlife habitat.

These sites focus on the Carl Creek, a Tributary of Grand River, and the Grand River itself, the primary natural resources in the Township. The Thornapple River, a Tributary of the Grand River also flows through the southern portion of the Township.



4. Trails

There are several different types of trails that can provide both transportation and recreation opportunities. Trails may be located within parks, on an independent right-of-way, or within the road right-of-way. Connector Trails are defined as “multi-purpose trails that emphasize safe travel for pedestrians to and from parks and around the Community” (J.D. Mertes and J.R. Hall, Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines, 1995). These trails are generally located within the road right-of-way and can be divided into two types. Type I has separate paths for different user types, such as pedestrians and bicyclists. Type II has mixed uses and is suited to lighter use patterns.

Existing Facilities- The Township has a well-developed system of internal park trails, type II connector trails located within or alongside road rights-of-way. This system connects to neighboring municipalities. In addition, a part of the National Park Service, the North Country Trail runs through the northeast portion of the Township. The Iron Belle Trail, a Michigan Trail System is located along this same route.

The Township Trails Millage funds improvements to trails.

Needs and Deficiencies - There have been no deficiencies determined for this category and needs vary depending on the community. Trail development, both within parks and linking parks together, is a high priority. A study “Connect Ada” was completed in 2020 and identifies the existing and future expansion of the already robust trail system to connect neighboring municipalities. It is in the appendix of this document.

5. Other Township Holdings

The Township also owns portions of land in the surrounding State and County properties. That ownership is as follows:

Name	Existing Site Acreage
Chief Hazy Cloud	3
Cannonsburg State Game Area	38.875
Total	41.875



RECREATION STANDARDS FOR ACTIVITIES / FACILITIES

A comparison of activity-specific recreational facilities within the Township with recreation standards indicates that the Township contains many of the recreational facilities desirable for the current and future population, but deficiencies are evident in some areas. While the standards for comparison address the quantity of facilities generally desirable for several persons, they do not address quality or location concerns. Consequently, a community that has the appropriate numbers of facilities may not have facilities of a useful or desirable quality or may not have facilities located where they would be most accessible by residents. Also, not all the facilities are available to the public or for use by the Township Recreation Program.

RECREATION FACILITIES SUMMARY

Ada Township takes pride in its park and recreation facilities and demonstrates good stewardship of its natural resources. While substantial improvements have been achieved over the last 10 years, a variety of improvements are recommended to fully utilize the Township's recreational land and improve accessibility for all users.



2022 RECREATION STANDARDS AND DEFICIENCIES
ADA TOWNSHIP
2018 Population: 17,717

FACILITY	STANDARD	RECOMMENDED FACILITIES	EXISTING TOWNSHIP FACILITIES	EXISTING FACILITIES IN TOWNSHIP	FACILITY DEFICIENCIES
Softball	1:5,000	3	3	9	OK
Baseball	1:5,000	3	0	4	OK
Soccer	1:10,000	1	1	8	OK
Multipurpose Fields	1:10,000	--	2		OK
Basketball (outdoor)	1:5,000	3	1	8	OK
Football	1:20,000	1	0	2	OK
Tennis/Pickleball	1:2,000	7	6	8	OK
Playground	1:3,000	5	3	5	OK
Volleyball	1:5,000	3	2	--	-1
Running Track	1:20,000	1	2	--	OK
Swimming Pool (Indoor)	1:20,000	1	0	1	OK
Picnic Shelters	1:2,000	7	3	--	-4
Sledding Area	Provide as Available	--		1	OK
Trails	1 system per region	--	1	--	OK



ADA TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN SECTION 7

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Ada Township has developed the following goals and objectives for Parks and Recreation facilities and programs. These goals and objectives are based upon the recreation inventory and needs assessment, the Community Survey and direct input from citizens, elected and appointed Township officials and Township staff.

The goals are long-range, broad in scope and flexible to accommodate future change. Objectives are the actions the Township intends to follow to achieve the stated goals. The objectives are specific and intended to direct program and development decisions to be made during the next five years. Goals and objectives are flexible enough to reflect changing attitudes and opportunities as may present themselves. Time and attitude changes can impact specific options. It is therefore essential for the Township to be responsive to its citizens and evolving needs.

Operational Goals

Enhance the administrative and operational capabilities of the parks and recreation department to operate more efficiently and have the capacity to meet recreational and educational goals.

Operational Goal No. 1

Increase the capacity of the Parks and Recreation Department by the addition of personnel and resources.

Objectives

- Update departmental personnel structure and job descriptions to meet current and future needs.
- Establish a staff transition plan to increase and fund future staff and contractual instructors.
- Assess and update contracts used for program instructors and services



Operational Goal No. 2

Improve and enhance administrative facilities and infrastructure according to Ada Township's strategic plan.

Objectives

- Continue implementing the new RecPro recreation software.
- Establish better data management systems (databases) for program registrations, tracking of program participants, facility use and communications.
- Upgrade IT and communication systems and services within the Parks office and related Ada Township facilities.
- Utilizing the recent space needs assessment and further recommendation, update the operational needs, functions and layout of maintenance and administrative work areas.
- Make short-term and long-term improvements to the park office/learning center facilities including transitioning it to an administrative/operations management space verses a learning center.

Operational Goal No. 3

Evaluate and further develop funding structures and opportunities for program services and operations.

Objectives

- Increase use of grant funding, donations and business sponsorships to support future facility development, land acquisition and programs services.
- Assess and refine user fees and revenue goals for program participation and facility use.
- Assess and refine budget allocations to better align and define more clearly parks operations & program services.
- Conduct a capital campaign to enhance funding opportunities and supplement Ada Township funds.
- Coordinate with the DDA, ABA and Community foundations on regional support and partnerships.



Parks Goals

Provide a system of public parks and natural areas that provide opportunities for both active and passive recreational use.

Park Goal No. 1

Improve existing parks and open space preserves to provide opportunities for a diverse range of active and passive recreational use, increased accessibility and preservation of natural systems.

Objectives:

- Develop or update site master plans, management plans and stewardship plans for each park and open space preserve, to provide appropriate and safe public access and provide guidance for maintenance and stewardship activities.
- Update Ada Township Park master plan to reflect recent accomplishments and future goals to have quality natural areas, a diverse arboretum, recreational facilities and support amenities.
- Continue the development of Roselle Park as to the current Master Plan, new goals while improving the maintenance and stewardship needs.
- Utilize the new site master plan for Leonard Field Park as a guide for future facility improvements and development.
- Create a Master Plan for Legacy Park that deficiencies short and long-term improvements, connectivity to adjoining properties and trails.

Park Goal No. 2

Increase parkland area via acquisition of properties/title; access privileges; partnerships with regional organizations.

Objectives:

- Obtain privately held properties adjacent to or within the boundaries of current parks.
- Establish first right of refusal purchase agreements with landowners of priority properties sought for potential future acquisition.
- Continue work with Kent County Parks Department to identify and acquire additional park land in Ada Township.
- Continue work with Kent County Parks on the design and development of Chief Hazy Cloud Park.
- Advocate for the inclusion of parks in Planned Unit Developments.
- Establish a small community park in the northern section of Ada Township.
- Establish a community park along the Ada Drive corridor.



Park Goal No. 3

In partnership with the Downtown Development Authority and other community partners, enhance public park space and community facilities as proposed in the Envision Ada redevelopment plan.

Objectives:

- Continue the development of the new Legacy Park to make it more accessible, additional amenities as needed and having engaging community programs.
- Improve way finding information in the Village and parks.
- Continue work on the trails and Legacy Park to connect with nearby areas such as the Thornapple River Confluence site, the Grand River Natural Area and trails in the village.
- Coordinate with Forest Hills Publics School, private schools and residential communities with properties in the Township to provide opportunities for public access.

Trails Goals

Develop and maintain a network of non-motorized trails in Ada Township that are coordinated and interconnected with trail networks in adjacent communities and the region.

Trail Goal No. 1

Support the existing non-motorized trail network with appropriate infrastructure and maintenance while continuing to add new trails as opportunities are identified.

Objectives:

- Expand the existing trail network to further connect Ada Township households, neighborhoods and Ada Village.
- Take advantage of potential regional connections and account for access to township parks, county parks and recreational opportunities.
- Maximize the user experience and longevity of current and future trails and infrastructure through annual review and maintenance projects.
- Provide support for ancillary projects such as trail head parking, way finding signage and user support services for trail users.
- Leverage additional funding such as grants, bonds and partnerships.

Trail Goal No. 2

Continue the addition and enhancement of non-paved trails within the Township for year-round use.



Objectives:

- Enhance and expand the non-paved trails within the Township owned parks.
- Coordinate with Kent County and the MDNR on identifying trails within their jurisdictions in Ada Township
- Coordinate with Kent County and the MDNR to provide trail services within the County Parks and State Game area that coincided with the needs and interest of Ada residents and visitors.
- Coordinate with “through trails” of the North Country Trail and the Michigan Iron Bell Trail as they traverse through Ada Township
- Coordinate to serving interested groups affiliate with specific trail use such as: equestrian, mountain biking, hiking, cross-country running, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing.

Trail Goal No. 3

Continue development of Water Trails along the Grand River and Thornapple River.

Objectives:

- Coordinate with LGROW and other regional communities and partners to complete the Lower Section of the Grand River Water Trail and establish State recognition.
- Coordinate with LGROW, MGROW, the Upper Grand and the National Park Services to establish National recognition of the Grand River Water Trail.
- Coordinate with the Thornapple River Watershed Council, the Ada Dam Association and other community partners to establish a Water Trial on the Thornapple River connecting to the Grand River in Ada.
- Help complete the inventory, needs assessment and development plan for the Grand and Thornapple Rivers in Ada Township including: river access points, points of interest, safety needs, risk area, public amenities, and signage.
- Identify specific sites on or near the rivers in Ada Township that are owned and/or managed by Ada Township for their development, operational and funding needs.

Programming Goals

Increase recreational, educational and leisure program opportunities and services for Ada township residents.

Programming Goal No. 1

Increase the diversity and quantity of passive recreation opportunities by improving or adding recreational facilities in Ada Township.



Objectives:

- Increase the capacity and/or upgrade facilities at current parks and preserves to provide better opportunities for year-round use.
- Follow up on the recommendations from the 2018 Recreation, Facilities and Program Needs Assessment.
- Create a short-term and long-term vision and plan for recreation facilities in the region that can be used by all residents and visitors.
- Coordinate with other recreation service providers in the area to accommodate more public access and partnerships.
- Coordinate with public and private schools for developing better public access opportunities.
- Increase accessibility along the Grand River and Thornapple Rivers and navigability, including partnership with the developing water trail systems.

Programming Goal No. 2

Increase the diversity and quantity of recreation and educational opportunities by offering a broader spectrum of guided and instructional activities throughout the year.

Objectives:

- Continue to coordinate with Forest Hills School District, the Kent Intermediate School District, local private schools, home school associations and others to identify and establish outreach and field trip programs for students and workshops for teachers.
- Increase the capacity of Parks & Recreational staff and resources to facilitate and instruct programs.
- Continue to enhance the marketing and registration process for parks and recreations through updated software, website and social media.
- Increase partnerships with regional organizations and businesses to offer program services and share facilities.
- Identify potential private properties within Ada Township desirable for public access and program use and seek agreements with property owners.

Programming Goal No. 3

Increase collaboration with regional parks, recreation departments, nature centers, schools, and land preservation organizations/agencies in order to provide additional programs and to increased awareness of recreational programs and facilities for Ada Township residents' use.



Objectives:

- Maintain cooperative relationships with the Kent County Parks Department, The MI Department of Natural Resources, adjoining townships, the Land Conservancy of West Michigan and other agencies with publicly accessible properties. Increase use of those properties for program use.
- Coordinate with Forest Hills School District and private schools to identify school properties and indoor facilities usable for public access or to host program offering.
- Maintain resources, listings and contacts that reflect regional recreation and educational opportunities.
- Continue collaboration with the Ada Historical Society on program services, events, and marketing.

Programming Goal No. 4

Increase participation of Ada Township residents in recreation and education programs.

Objectives:

- Increase promotion of programs via local printed media, electronic media, social networking, email, web site, township publications, direct mail, non-township publications, park postings and business partnerships.
- Utilize surveys, evaluations and other tools to determine resident interest in programs.
- Establish co-sponsorship of recreation and education opportunities with area businesses for support and promotions.
- Utilize partnerships with the Forest Hills Public Schools and Kent District Library for facility use and program offerings.

Stewardship Goals

Protect sensitive environmental areas and those which serve important ecological functions in Ada township.

Stewardship Goal No. 1

Permanently protect and enhance natural open lands and restorable properties along the Grand River and Thornapple River corridors and their tributaries including Honey Creek, Egypt Creek, Carl Creek and in the Chase Lake area.



Objectives:

- Identify priority properties along the Grand River and Thornapple River corridors that can potentially be protected through acquisition of land or conservation easements on land, or through other means.
- Permanently protect natural open lands and major streams through acquisition of land, obtaining conservation easements on land, and other means.
- Conduct educational efforts to inform property owners along the Grand River and Thornapple River and their tributaries of the benefits, issues and best practices of land and stream preservation and natural riparian buffers along stream corridors
- Conduct stewardship efforts along the Grand River and Thornapple River and their tributaries to reduce the impacts of invasive plants, aquatic animals, trash, point and non-point source pollution.

Stewardship Goal No 2.

Preserve the open space qualities which contributes to its character and attractiveness of Ada Township.

Objectives:

- Preserve the Open Space qualities and Natural Features of Ada Township which contribute to its character and attractiveness.
- Identify and target for acquisition or protection high priority open space lands that contribute to the character and attractiveness of Ada Township.
- Conduct public information campaigns to increase public awareness of the tools available for land protection and educate residents about funds available for open space acquisition.
- Promote and provide educational opportunities for citizens to become more aware of and skilled in habitat protection and conservation on their own properties (ex: identification of invasive plants, use of native landscaping...). Encourage voluntary stewardship actions by property owners to maintain and enhance the natural character and qualities of their property.
- Identify modifications to zoning and other regulations that will encourage open space preservation and protection of important natural features as part of new development design and renovations.
- Complete an assessment of the riparian protection regulations enacted in 2005, and adopt modifications to the regulations as deemed necessary to achieve the objectives of the regulations.

Stewardship Goal No 3.

Encourage the protection of agricultural lands and the viability of agricultural land use in Ada Township.



Objectives:

- Encourage property owners to participate in the Kent County Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) Program.
- Use Land Preservation Funds as matching funds to supplement available County funds and Federal grant funding for acquisition of farmland preservation easements on selective properties for the Kent County PDR Program.
- Coordinate with local agricultural landowners to better understand their needs and interest.



ADA TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN SECTION 8 ACTION PROGRAM AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT SCHEDULE

The Action Program and Capital Improvement Schedule for Ada Township states the proposed course of acquisition and development action that will be taken over the next six-year period. The Goals and Objectives serve as the guidelines for the development of the Action Program. The Capital Improvement Schedule will focus on the needs identified in the Action Program and will project potential expenditures for the six-year action period on a year-by-year basis, beginning in 2022 and extending through 2027. Extending the Capital Improvement Schedule beyond the five-year life of the plan allows the Township to continue to budget for up-coming projects.

The Action Program focuses on the reduction of current deficiencies and the expansion and improvement of facilities in a manner that not only meets current needs but diversifies the quantity and quality of recreational opportunities within the Township. This Parks and Recreation Plan identifies these needs in general terms in the Recreation Needs and Deficiencies section; the Action Plan describes specific actions to be taken to address these needs; and the Capital Improvement Schedule specifically itemizes those projects which will be most feasible during the next six years. The proposed schedule will allow for flexibility as funds become available and as opportunities are presented. Proposed actions involve improvements to existing facilities and the addition of new facilities and programs as outlined below.

The following actions are comprehensive and will require more than five years to complete. Master Plans illustrating the proposed improvements are included for each of the major park properties.

This action program looks at some of the potentials that might evolve in the next six years, but also looks beyond to future years. Some of the acquisitions listed may not be necessary for six years or more but should be accomplished as opportunities occur, to place the land necessary for future generations in the public trust. A degree of flexibility should be maintained to take advantage of opportunities as they present themselves, which will revise and refine these actions based upon both funding opportunities and community opinion.



Capital Improvement Schedule

As stated in the Action Program, improvements and development will occur as funds and opportunities evolve. Assistance will be solicited from all available sources and will include both physical and financial support. Local businesses, service organizations, land developers, governmental agencies and the school district will be solicited for monetary and material support. The Township will also seek funding assistance from all available sources such as trusts, charitable foundations, and all Federal and State funding programs.

The following schedule is a breakdown of the anticipated projects and projected funding for the next six years beginning in 2022. As stated in the Action Program, improvements and development will occur as funds and opportunities evolve. All projections are based upon year 2022 costs and will be refined as the program progresses and the scope of work is determined. Changes in the program may occur if projected funding levels increase or decrease, but it is anticipated that the changes would be related more to adjustments in the time schedule rather than specific projects. Proposed projects will be scaled back as necessary if funding goals are not met.

DRAFT VERSION – INFORMATION IN BELOW SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE IN NEXT 30-60 DAYS

Year*	Project**	Township	Other Funds***	Total Project Costs****
2022	<u>Ada Park Improvements</u> Park Office - Maintenance Building Improvements	\$18,000		\$200,000
2022	<u>Roselle Park Improvements</u> Planning and design shelter/parking lot project	\$8,250		\$540,000
2022	<u>Leonard Field Improvements</u> Replace Ballfield Lighting; Planning and design Riverfront Improvement project	\$225,000		\$225,000
2022	<u>Legacy Park Improvements</u> River bank stabilization/erosion control; sound system; playground upgrade; signs	\$30,000		\$30,000



2022	<u>Grand River Nature Area Improvements</u> Mill and pave trail section from river to trail head	\$10,000		\$80,000
2022	<u>Trail Improvements</u> Pettis Avenue Trail – 3 Mile to Chief Hazy Cloud Cascade/Spaulding/ Hall Street Connection Thornapple Rive Drive – Fase St. to Thornapple River Bridge	\$5,500,000		
2023	<u>Ada Park Improvements</u> Update Master Plan; Park Office - Maintenance Building Improvements; improvements to recreation facilities including picnic areas; signs; shelters/gazebos; gates; landscapes; accessibility	\$70,000		\$300,000
2023	<u>Roselle Park Improvements</u> Picnic Shelter/ Picnic Area and Parking Lot Improvements – Phase 1 - Parking lot	\$278,000		\$540,000
2023	<u>Leonard Field Improvements</u> Riverfront Improvement Project - Phase 1 - includes water trail sign	\$169,000	\$50,000	\$676,100
2023	<u>Legacy Park Improvements</u> River bank stabilization/erosion control; Amphitheater lights; playground upgrade; signs	\$30,000		\$30,000
2023	<u>Grand River Nature Area Improvements</u> Mill and pave trail section from river to trail head	\$70,000		\$80,000



2023	<u>Carl Creek Wetlands Preserve Improvements</u> Update Master Plan	\$5,000		\$10,000
2023	<u>Thornapple Confluence Preserve Improvements</u> Develop Master Plan, water trail signs	\$5,000		\$10,000
2023	<u>Trail Improvements</u> Trail Segments have not been determined	\$5,000,000		
2024	<u>Ada Park Improvements</u> Follow updated Master Plan: Park Office - Maintenance building improvements; improvements to recreation facilities including signs; shelters/gazebos; landscapes; accessibility	\$70,000		\$300,00
2024	<u>Roselle Park Improvements</u> Picnic Shelter/ Picnic Area and Parking Lot Improvements – Phase 2 - Shelter prep; plus water trail signs	\$20,000		\$540,000
2024	<u>Leonard Field Improvements</u> Riverfront Improvement Project Phase 2	\$169,000	\$50,000	\$676,100
2024	<u>Legacy Park Improvements</u> River trail to confluence; bike path connections; signs - including water trail signs	\$30,000		\$30,000
2024	<u>Grand River Nature Area Improvements</u> Signs: Trail head & water trail	\$10,000		\$10,000
2024	<u>Carl Creek Crossing Preserve Improvements</u> New entry sign, wayfinding signs	\$10,000		\$10,000



2024	<u>Carl Creek Wetlands Preserve Improvements</u> Update Master Plan	\$5,000		\$10,000
2024	<u>Thornapple Confluence Preserve Improvements</u> Develop Master Plan	\$5,000		\$10,000
2024	<u>Shady Drive and Pettis GR View - Preserves</u> Develop Mater Plans, signage	\$5,000		\$10,000
2024	<u>Trail Improvements</u> Trail Segments have not been determined	\$5,000,000		
2025	<u>Ada Park Improvements</u> Follow updated Master Plan: Park Office - Maintenance Building Improvements; improvements to amenities, landscapes, accessibility	\$70,000		\$300,00
2025	<u>Ada Park Improvements</u> Mill and Repave Arboretum Trails	\$90,000		\$90,000
2025	<u>Roselle Park Improvements</u> Picnic Shelter/ Picnic Area and Parking Lot Improvements – Shelter phase construction	\$233,750		\$540,000
2025	<u>Leonard Field Improvements</u> Ballfield fencing, dugouts	\$75,000	\$25,000	\$75,000
2025	<u>Legacy Park Improvements</u> Update Master Plan	\$10,000		\$10,000
2025	<u>Grand River Nature Area Improvements</u> Update Master Plan	\$10,000		\$10,000



2025	<u>Carl Creek Wetlands Preserve Improvements</u> New entry sign, wayfinding signs	\$10,000		\$10,000
2025	<u>Thornapple Confluence Preserve Improvements</u> Follow Master Plan – Phase 1- trail development, connections, water trail signs	\$15,000		\$30,000
2025	<u>Shady Drive and Pettis GR View - Preserves</u> Develop Mater Plans, signage	\$5,000		\$10,000
2025	<u>Trail Improvements</u> Trail Segments have not been determined	\$5,000,000		
2026	<u>Ada Park Improvements</u> Site Improvements as identified in updated Master Plan	\$70,000		\$300,000
2026	<u>Roselle Park Improvements</u> Trail mill & pave; bridge to Chief Hazy Cloud Park	\$100,000		\$100,000
2026	<u>Leonard Field Park Improvements</u> Site Improvements as identified in updated Master Plan	\$20,000		
2027	<u>Legacy Park Improvements</u> Follow updated Master Plan – merge Thornapple River Confluence Preserve	\$10,000		\$10,000
2027	<u>Grand River Nature Area Improvements</u> Follow updated Master Plan	\$10,000		\$10,000
2027	<u>Grand River Nature Area Improvements</u> Follow updated Master Plan	\$10,000		\$10,000



2027	<u>Carl Creek Wetlands Preserve Improvements</u> Phase 2 following updated Master Plan: public access, parking, boardwalks	\$75,000		\$150,000
2027	<u>Trail Improvements</u> Trail Segments have not been determined	\$5,000,000		
Ongoing Goal – Year dependent on opportunity	<u>Grand River Water Trail Access Improvements</u> Incorporated into improvement plans for each park, preserve or access area – partnered with County and State properties – trailhead improvements and wayfinding signage	TBD	TBD Kent County MI DNR	TBD
Ongoing Goal – Year dependent on opportunity	<u>Park Property Acquisition</u> Acquisition of additional park properties on the Northeast portion and the Southwest portion of the Township	TBD	TBD	TBD
Ongoing Goal – Year dependent on opportunity	<u>Open Space Property Acquisition</u> Acquisition of additional open space property as available and funding allows	\$25 annual transfer to Open Space Fund	TBD	TBD

* Reference 2022 = FY 2021-2022

** Note that the Trails are facilitated from a separate fund than the parks & program operations

*** Other Funds include: Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF); Michigan Land and Water Conservation Fund; Michigan DNR Waterways Grant; Coastal Zone Management Grant; MDOT Transportation Enhancement Program; other State or Federal funding sources; foundation grants; private contributions and others.

**** Note some projects cover several years



**Parks & Recreation Department
Director's Report March 4th, 2025**

Submitted By: Director of Parks & Recreation – Wesley Deason

Parks, Recreation, and Land Preservation Advisory Board

- The next PRLP Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for March 20th, 2025 at 8:30am in the Roselle Park Resource Building.

Administrative Items:

- The '25-'26 Budget is scheduled for final review and adoption by the Township Board at the March 10th meeting.
- Job postings for flag football officials, two seasonal parks and recreation workers, and a recreation intern for the months have been prepared and will be posted this month.
- The 70% design completion proposal presented by Progressive Companies for work on the Covered Bridge Park project at the February 20th PRLP meeting was approved by the Township Board at the February 24th meeting.
- Department leadership will be meeting with Township Manager Suchy in the next week to resume planning and discussions regarding the new Township website.
- Township Manager Suchy, PRLP Advisory Board Chair Josh Hulst, and I will be meeting March 12th to begin some preliminary discussions related to Millage planning.

Special Events & Programs:

- Parks and Recreation staff have been working over the past several months in compiling and creating our bi-annual "Recreation Connection" newsletter which provides a deeper dive and look at all of our programming and services scheduled to take place over the Spring and Summer months.
- Summer softball team registrations are seeing positive results as our Men's Division is already at capacity.
- We are working with West Michigan Trails to host their annual East Region meeting out at the Roselle Park Resource Building on March 13th.

Recreation Connection
Spring/Summer 2025

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Spring Into Summer: A Season of Growth & Connection
As the seasons shift and warmer days return, we're excited to share some exciting developments and opportunities that will shape our parks and recreation experiences in the months ahead. One of the most significant projects on the horizon is the transformation of Leonard Park into Covered Bridge Park. This ambitious redesign will introduce a variety of new amenities, including a playground, splashpad, updated restroom facilities, shaded seating areas, a small dog park, two pickleball courts, increased parking, a veteran's memorial, improved green spaces, and a river overlook. We're enhancing pedestrian connectivity through improved trail infrastructure, ensuring easier access for everyone. While construction is set to begin in the latter half of 2025, we look forward to keeping the community informed every step of the way.

COVERED BRIDGE PARK WEST

- 1. Splashpad
- 2. Playground
- 3. Veteran's Memorial
- 4. Improved Green Spaces
- 5. Shaded Seating Areas
- 6. Small Dog Park
- 7. Pickleball Courts
- 8. Updated Restroom Facilities
- 9. Improved Trail Infrastructure
- 10. River Overlook

COVERED BRIDGE PARK EAST

- 1. Splashpad
- 2. Playground
- 3. Veteran's Memorial
- 4. Improved Green Spaces
- 5. Shaded Seating Areas
- 6. Small Dog Park
- 7. Pickleball Courts
- 8. Updated Restroom Facilities
- 9. Improved Trail Infrastructure
- 10. River Overlook

VISIT US!
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Ongoing Projects:

- Two new doors have been purchased and are scheduled to be installed at the Ada Park Shelter Restroom. These doors will help improve airflow, ventilation, and mitigate condensation issues we've had.
- Upon further review by Dyer Well, the well at Ada Park is in good condition and only required replacing the pump. We will have this operational by our April 1 seasonal opening date.
- As the fiscal year comes to an end, I am working to utilize the remaining funds balances we have. One of these projects will be to purchase and coordinate the installation of 8 new park benches around the Ada Park playground to replace several old and rotting benches.
- Township Manager Suchy and I will be meeting with a local veteran's group and Kristen Wildes from the Ada Historical Society in the coming weeks to discuss design plans for the Veteran's Memorial that's scheduled to be built as a part of the Covered Bridge Park North.