

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission Newsletter

Summer 2014

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



Learning the basics of kayaking at Draper Twin Lake Park August 17, 2011

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2013/2014 State of the Parks Report

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In Winter 2014 Oakland Township Parks and Recreation served an unprecedented number of guests. The recent improvements to the Lost Lake Nature Park sled hill and the near record-breaking snowfall proved to be irresistible to folks of all ages! The sled hill was open more than 80 days and on a typical Saturday we served 150 people, although on one Saturday we actually served 335! Sledding at night under the lights continues to be a draw and parks users have discovered the convenience of our warming shelter located at the foot of the sled hill. It is no surprise that our 2014 Lost Lake Winter Olympics Carnival had many participants who won medals in our biathlon, luge, snowshoe and hockey events. Winter Carnival attendees' most frequent survey comments were "Love it!" and "Good Job!"

Special events held in Spring, Summer and Fall 2013 set record attendance levels. The quality and variety of performances at our Music in the Meadows summer concert series has consistently attracted high attendance whether for jazz, bluegrass, or the classical music at Cranberry Lake Farm. Exceptional fall weather brought out "kids" of all ages, from a 4-year old who scaled the rock wall adventure at Bear Creek Nature Park's Goodison Good Tyme to the 90+ year-old who kayaked on Lost Lake at the Nature Center's grand opening.



Program offerings and recreation facility usage have significantly increased in

(Continued on page 18)

Music In The Meadows celebrates its 9th season with one of our best musical line ups ever!

Music In The Meadows Summer of 2014 presents three professional-quality outdoor concerts with offerings of Jazz, Classical and Traditional Bluegrass music. These free monthly concerts are held Friday evenings in the natural beauty of our Oakland Township parks:

- Paul Keller AT SUNDOWN Quintet, June 13th, Bear Creek Nature Park**
- Detroit Symphony Orchestra Wind Quintet, July 18th, Cranberry Lake Park**
- Audie Blaylock and Redline, August 15th, Bear Creek Nature Park**

(Continued on page 3)

Special points of interest:

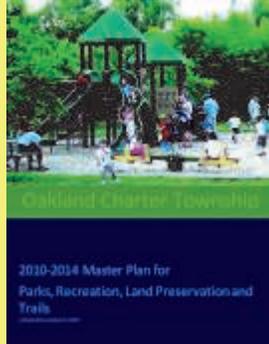
- ◆ Music in the Meadows
- ◆ Nature Programs
- ◆ Archery Programs
- ◆ Kayak Programs
- ◆ Cranberry Lake Farm
- ◆ Stewardship
- ◆ Paint Creek Trail
- ◆ Parks In Summer

What's New In The Parks

From the Director...

Planning for Township Parks

During 2014 Oakland Township residents will be invited to participate in the planning process for the Township's Parks, Recreation, and Land Preservation Master Plan. This process, which occurs every five years, is a wonderful way for new and long-time residents to help guide the future direction of our Township parks and recreation system.



A Community-wide Preference Survey will be distributed at the beginning of the planning process for residents to share their opinions concerning existing activities, parks and facilities as well as their desire for potential enhancements to them. In addition to this statistically valid survey, interviews will be scheduled with local individuals and groups representing a range of interests and abilities. Internet-based survey tools will certainly be included in this effort too!

The Parks and Recreation Commission will work with professional parks and recreation planners to evaluate all available parks and recreation opportunities, in conjunction with public input which is received. As always, this planning process will be the subject of reports and discussions at Parks and Recreation Commission meetings this year, where public comment is welcome too.

Once the Commission approves of a draft master plan, which will include improvements that are appropriate for our parks, population and budget, there will be additional opportunities for suggestions. The draft master plan will be presented at open houses and will be available in web-based and hard-copy formats for review and comment.

We will endeavor to widely advertise all opportunities for residents to participate in this process. If you or your Township neighborhood, school, or other organization would like to be more involved in this process please email your information to me at mmdale@oaklandtownship.org.

Mindy Milos-Dale
Parks and Recreation Director

New
Wellness
Program!

Yoga In The Park

Sundays, June 15th-July 20th,
9:30-10:30am

Six-week session series

Lost Lake Nature Park, 846 Lost Lake Trail

On-site rain location: Lost Lake Nature Center

Wouldn't you rather be outside this summer? Step out of the studio and enjoy doing yoga in the warmth of the sun and in full view of serene Lost Lake. Whether you are a seasoned practitioner or newer to yoga this All Levels class is just right for you! Bring your own yoga mat. Led by Phyllis Swalwell of YOGA REFUGE www.yogarefuge.net. Adult 12+ All Levels

Residents: \$30 each; Non-residents: \$60 each

No drop-in available - must register for series.

Register by: June 9th with parks office.

Prescribed Burns in the Parks

Low intensity, prescribed ecological burns are scheduled for the spring and fall in Bear Creek Nature Park, Charles Ilsley Park, Lost Lake Nature Park, Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park, and sites along the Paint Creek Trail. Prescribed burns stimulate native plants and discourage non-native plants. These burns are conducted by trained professionals, who create comprehensive burn plans with very restrictive parameters for each site.

If you are interested in knowing when burns will occur, give Natural Areas Stewardship Manager Ben VanderWeide a call at 248-651-7810, ext 401, or email your contact information to him at bvanderweide@oaklandtownship.org. Due to weather dependency, advance notice cannot occur before the day of a burn. For general prescribed fire information visit www.firecouncil.org.

2008 Prescribed burn along Paint Creek Trail





*Free Summer Concert Series
Sponsored by the
Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission*

Paul Keller AT SUNDOWN Quintet, Friday, June 13th, 7:00pm - 9:00pm,
Bear Creek Nature Park, 740 West Snell Road, Rochester, Michigan 48306



Paul Keller is well known to music lovers as "The House Bassist For The State of Michigan" because he travels so many miles all over the state presenting his personalized and entertaining brand of top-quality jazz and swing music. Every Monday night for 25 years, Mr. Keller has led his own 15-piece big band - The Paul Keller Orchestra - at their home Zal Gaz Grotto in Ann Arbor. Paul also tours the world frequently, playing string bass with jazz superstar Diana Krall.

We are thrilled to host the Paul Keller AT SUNDOWN Quintet - featuring the lovely vocalist and clarinetist Sarah D'Angelo. They have performed for appreciative crowds at the Detroit Institute of Arts, The Cheboygan Opera House, The Grand Rapids Jazz Festival, The Michigan Jazz Festival, and many more high profile venues. The hallmarks of the AT SUNDOWN Quintet are: fun and familiar standards from the Great American Songbook performed in a straight-ahead, swinging and acoustic fashion, beautiful singing, amazing virtuosic improvised jazz solos, clever original arrangements and a presentation that engages and delights their audiences. Enjoy the talent, artistry and charm of the Paul Keller AT SUNDOWN Quintet.

Detroit Symphony Orchestra Wind Quintet, Friday, July 18th, 7:00pm - 9:00pm
Cranberry Lake Farm at Cranberry Lake Park, 388 West Predmore Road, Oakland, Michigan 48363

How great would it be to experience the DSO right in your own neighborhood park? This summer you can! We are extremely fortunate to have five members of the internationally acclaimed Detroit Symphony Orchestra performing at such an intimate and beautiful setting as the historic Axford-Coffin Farmhouse at Cranberry Lake Farm. Let's meet our featured musicians for this upcoming special performance:

Donald Baker has held the position of Principal Oboe of the DSO since 1973. He has played and taught at the Aspen Festival, the Santa Fe Opera, the Grand Teton Music Festival and the National Music Festival at Interlochen. **Theodore Oien** joined the DSO as Principal Clarinet in 1988, after serving as Principal Clarinet of the Winnipeg Symphony and the CBC Winnipeg Orchestras. **Marcus Schoon** received his Master of Music degree as a woodwind specialist at the Eastman School of Music. Mr. Schoon became contrabassoonist of the DSO in 1992. **David Buck** was appointed Principal Flute of the DSO in 2012 by Music Director Leonard Slatkin. Previously he was Principal Flute with the Los Angeles Philharmonic and the Oregon Symphony. **Johanna Yarbrough** is the newest member of the horn section of the DSO and recently graduated from the Colburn Conservatory of Music.



Audie Blaylock and Redline, Friday, August 15th, 7:00pm - 9:00pm
Bear Creek Nature Park, 740 West Snell Road, Rochester, Michigan 48306

An award-winning vocalist and guitarist Audie Blaylock is clearly one of the hottest Bluegrass artists today! Some of Blaylock's numerous accomplishments include a Grammy award nomination for "Best Bluegrass Album" (group project), and multiple award nominations from the International Bluegrass Music Association - 2012 "Best Male Vocalist", four-time "Guitar Player of the Year" and award winner "Instrumental Group of the Year".



(Continued on page 12)



Explore nature with Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Summer 2014 Nature Programs

We are thrilled to offer these fun, hands-on programs featuring our scenic and unique parks close to home but with the feeling of being 'up north'!

Resident registration open NOW, non-resident begins two weeks before the registration deadline of each program. **Registration is required.** We accept cash, check, MasterCard, Discovery & American Express. Mailed checks may be sent to: 4393 Collins Road, Rochester, MI 48306. Our office is in the Paint Creek Cider Mill Building, 4480 Orion Road, 2nd floor, Oakland Township, M-F 8am-4:30pm. Call 248-651-7810 for more information.

*Programs led by Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve naturalists unless otherwise specified.
Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve members receive resident rate.*

Basics of Birding-Adults

Saturday, May 31st, 9-11am

*Cranberry Lake Park
388 West Predmore Road*



Find out why birding is one of America's fastest growing hobbies! Learn about the behavior, migration and habitat of common birds you are likely to see in our parks and backyards. We'll also cover binocular use; bring along your own pair or share the few we'll have on hand. Participation in this program qualifies you for our upcoming advanced birding walks and events.

Residents: \$3 each
Non-residents: \$5 each
Register by: May 27th

Dancing with Dragonflies-Pre-K

Wednesday, June 25th, 10-11:30am

*Bear Creek Nature Park
740 West Snell Road*



Dragonflies flit and float above the meadows and ponds of Bear Creek...join us for a fun and fascinating exploration of these colorful critters! We'll observe them in action, find out what they are up to and what makes them special. We'll also do a very cool dragonfly craft to take home.

Residents: \$3 each
Non-residents: \$5 each
Register by: June 18th

Free Fishing-All ages welcome!

*Saturday, June 7th, 10am-12Noon
Lost Lake Nature Park
846 Lost Lake Trail*

and

*Sunday, June 8th, 10am-12Noon
Draper Twin Lake Park
1015 Inwood Road*

Fishing is part of Michigan's heritage. Fishing is also a relaxing pastime and a great way to spend time with your family...there is no room for cell phones, texting or TV on the dock. This program is your chance to try out fishing. We will supply the equipment and knowhow...you supply the sense of humor and willingness to try something new. We will also learn about types of bait and lures to use, the types of fish you may encounter in township parks and some tips on nearby "fishing holes"...you don't have to go up north to get away!

"FREE" ! All fishing license fees are waived!
Register early as we fill up quickly! Register by: May 30th



Explore nature with Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Summer 2014 Nature Programs

Full Moon Family Fire Fest-All ages

*Saturday, July 12th, 8-9:30pm
Lost Lake Nature Park
846 Lost Lake Trail*

Being good at starting a campfire can totally give you some bragging rights on family camping trips...but did you also know that fire was essential for survival for early man...come try out your "inner caveman" as we learn the tricks of building a fire! We'll get to try our hands at different methods, have a little fire building contest and, of course, learn the essentials of fire safety...once we get our fire started we can enjoy some S'mores.



*Residents: \$3 each, \$12 per family of 4 or more
Non-residents: \$5 each, \$20 per family of 4 or more
Register by: July 7th*

Really Rad Rockets-Teens (6th-12th grades)

*Wednesday, August 6th, 6-8pm
Charles Ilsley Park
1479 East Predmore Road
East of Rush Road, West of Dequindre*



Oh yeah...this will be cool! We will actually assemble and fire off our own fuel powered rockets. We'll learn about fuel selection, rocket body shapes, engine sizes, wind and weather and discover how these factors impact our rocket performance. Essential rocket safety will also be covered. Participants will take home their own spent rockets which may be reused. Come join the fun!

*Residents: \$5 each
Non-residents: \$7 each
Register by: July 30th*

Quest for Lost Lake-K-5th grades

*Tuesday, July 22nd, 10am-12Noon
Lost Lake Nature Park
846 Lost Lake Trail*

Join us on this ultimate quest as we search for the secrets of Lost Lake...was it really lost? What types of creatures lurk in the depths? What lives among the leaves and logs? Is there anything strange in the water? Use maps, water testing kits, dip nets, microscopes and more to unlock the mystery.



*Residents: \$3 each
Non-residents: \$5 each
Register by: July 15th*

The Great Blue Heron Mystery-Adults

*Saturday, August 23rd, 10am-12Noon
Blue Heron Environmental Area
3320 North Rochester Road
North of Gunn, South of Buell*

The Great Blue Heron is a sight to behold when it flies overhead...and we have a lot of herons overhead in Oakland Township. Ever wonder just where that big bird is headed? For many years they headed to Blue Heron Environmental Area, the site of a former large heron rookery. Why do they no longer nest there? Join us as we try and solve the mystery! We will follow the lives of the heron, learning about their feeding and migration habits, nesting behavior, and so much more.

*Residents: \$3 each
Non-residents: \$5 each
Register by: August 15th*





Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Summer 2014 Archery Offerings



Resident registration open NOW. Non-residents' begins June 2nd.

Deadline for paid registration is June 13th. USA Archery certified instructors.

To register call 248-651-7810, visit us at 4480 Orion Road, Oakland Township, M-F 8am-4:30pm or email at dgallo@oaklandtownship.org. Marsh View Park Archery Range, 3100 Clarkston Road, Oakland, MI 48363. (NW corner of Clarkston & Adams Roads) The archery range includes 10 universally accessible shooting lanes as well as a universally accessible observation and staging area.

INTRODUCTION TO ARCHERY - ALL AGES (Ages 8 - Adult)

This is a "Taste of Archery" class. This class will give all participants a brief introduction to Target Archery using a compound bow. If you love it, take one of our beginner courses. All equipment provided. Participants can choose from any of the following classes. 1 class only. Min 5/Max 20 students per class.

| Residents: \$15 per person | Non-Residents: \$20 per person | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| Saturdays | 6/21/14 - 8/2/14 (no class 7/5/14) | 2:45 - 4:15pm |
| Sundays | 6/22/14 - 8/3/14 (no class 7/6/14) | 2:00 - 3:30pm |
| Wednesdays | 6/18/14 - 7/30/14 | 6:00 - 7:30pm |

OPEN RANGE SHOOT - ALL AGES (Ages 8 - Adult) Free to the public.

Drop-in opportunity to practice archery skills! Prior archery experience necessary. No instruction provided. Monitored by a safety officer. Bring your own equipment or use ours on first come-first serve basis. No broad-head or crossbows allowed.

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

| | | |
|-----------|------------------------------------|--|
| Fridays | 6/20/14 - 8/1/14 (no class 7/4/14) | 4:45 - 5:45pm |
| Saturdays | 6/21/14 - 8/2/14 (no class 7/5/14) | 8:45 - 9:45am and 11:45am - 12:45pm |
| Sundays | 6/22/14 - 8/3/14 (no class 7/6/14) | 3:45 - 5:00pm |

BEGINNING ARCHERY - ALL AGES (Ages 8 - Adult)

Learn the fundamentals of archery while you review equipment, learn about safety, learn basic shooting skills & have fun! All equipment provided. 6 week class. Min 10/Max 20 students per class.

| Residents: \$60 | Non-Residents: \$77 | |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|
| Fridays | 6/20/14 - 8/1/14 (no class 7/4/14) | 6:00 - 7:30pm |
| Saturdays | 6/21/14 - 8/2/14 (no class 7/5/14) | 1:00 - 2:30pm |

INTERMEDIATE ARCHERY - ALL AGES (Ages 8 - Adult)

This class is for archers who have taken Beginning Archery and archers with some experience. Focus will be on improving your archery form and accuracy. All equipment provided or archers may use their own equipment. No crossbows. 6 week class. Min 10/Max 20 students per class.

| Residents: \$60 | Non-Residents: \$77 | |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Saturdays | 6/21/14 - 8/2/14 (no class 7/5/14) | 10:00 - 11:30am |



JUNIOR OLYMPIC ARCHERY DEVELOPMENT (Ages 8-20) & ADULT ARCHERY PROGRAM (Ages 21+)

Archers who have completed Beginning and Intermediate Archery courses can join our JOAD Club or Adult Archery Program to begin advancing their archery techniques. Both programs are the logical “next step” for archers pursuing this lifetime sport. In addition to receiving clear instruction and coaching via our National Training System, membership in an archery club or program provides unique benefits including the opportunity to compete and earn awards, make new friends, build confidence & team building skills and is a great upper body workout! In collaboration with *Rising Phoenix Archery*. USA Archery sanctioned club.

Residents: \$60 Individual/\$130 Family (up to 4)

Non-Residents: \$75 Individual/\$150 Family (up to 4)

Tuesdays

6/17/14 - 8/5/14

6:30 - 8:00pm

*JOAD and Adult Archery Program registrations are through
Brandon Wright at 586-770-1859 or risingphoenixarchery@gmail.com*



SCOUT BADGE WORKSHOPS, BIRTHDAY PARTIES & CORPORATE EVENTS

Reserve the range for merit badge scout workshops, your child’s birthday party or corporate team building events. Contact the Parks and Recreation office at 248-651-7810 for reservation date preference and to confirm instructor availability.

Residents: \$150 one and a half hour session.

Non-residents: \$200 one and a half hour session.

Scout fees to be determined



Rochester Soccer Club

Summer Instructional Soccer Camps - Oakland Township



Now being offered at Marsh View Park in Oakland Township!

The RSC recreation summer instructional camps will provide all players with individual soccer skill activities and lots of age specific soccer games. All sessions will key on player development in a low stress, fun filled environment. Instruction will consist of highly personalized curriculum in an enjoyable yet challenging environment.

Who: Soccer players age 3 - 12 years old

When: 6/16 - 6/20, 7/7 - 7/11, 7/14 - 7/18, 7/21 - 7/25, 7/28 - 8 /1

Time: 1-2:30pm, Monday - Friday

Location: Marsh View Park, 3100 Clarkston Road, Oakland, 48363

Cost: \$80 per week, campers receive an RSC summer camp t-shirt

Things to bring: Soccer ball, soccer shoes, shin guards, appropriate soccer apparel, water or beverage.

The Staff: Coaching staff will include top soccer professionals from the Rochester Soccer Club as well as current and alumni RSC players.

For further information and to register:

Please visit the website at: www.rscsoccer.org, or
email to: office@rscsoccer.org or call: 248-650-0113



June 2014



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| 1 | 2  | 3 | 4 OTHS Potluck CLF 6:30 | 5 | 6  | 7 FREE Fishing LLNP 10am PCT Crawl 9am |
| 8 FREE Fishing DTLP 10am | 9 | 10 | 11 PRC Meeting MTH 7pm | 12 | 13 Jazz Concert BCNP 7pm | 14 |
| 15 Yoga LLNP 9:30am | 16 Soccer Camp 6/16-6/20  | 17  → | 18  → | 19  → | 20  → | 21 Square Dance CLF 7pm → |
| 22 Yoga LLNP 9:30am → | 23  | 24 → | 25 Dancing Dragonflies BCNP 10am → | 26 | 27 → | 28 Begin Kayak LLNP 10am → |
| 29 Yoga LLNP 9:30am → | 30 | | | | | |

- 4- OTHS Potluck CLF 6:30
- 7- FREE Fishing LLNP 10am-12Noon
- 7- Paint Creek Crawl 9am see page 19
- 8- FREE Fishing DTLP 10am-12Noon
- 11- PRC Meeting MTH 7pm
- 13- Jazz Concert BCNP 7pm
- 15- Yoga LLNP 9:30am
- 21- Square Dance CLF 7pm
- 22- Yoga LLNP 9:30am
- 25- Dancing with Dragonflies BCNP 10am
- 28- Beginning Kayaking LLNP 10am-12Noon
- 29- Yoga LLNP 9:30am
- Archery Classes see pages 6-7
-  Soccer Camps see page 7

Oakland Township Parks Activities

Registration is required for all programs



July 2014

- 4- Independence Day Office Closed
- 6- Yoga LLNP 9:30am
- 9- PRC Meeting MTH 7pm
- 12- Go Kayaking LLNP 10am and 11:30am
- 12- Full Moon Family Fire Fest LLNP 8-9:30pm
- 13- Yoga LLNP 9:30am
- 18- Classical Concert CLF 7pm
- 20- Yoga LLNP 9:30am
- 22- Quest for Lost Lake LLNP 10am-12Noon
- 25- Intermediate Kayaking DTLP 6-8pm

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|---|--|---|---|--|
|  | | 1 → | 2 → | 3 | 4 Independence Day-Office Closed  | 5 |
| 6 Yoga LLNP 9:30am | 7 Soccer Camp 7/7-7/11  | 8  → | 9 PRC Meeting MTH 7pm  → | 10  | 11  → | 12 Kayak LLNP 10 & 11:30am Full Moon LLNP 8pm → |
| 13 Yoga LLNP 9:30am → | 14 Soccer Camp 7/14-7/18  | 15  → | 16  → | 17  | 18 Classical Concert CLF 7pm → | 19 → |
| 20 Yoga LLNP 9:30am → | 21 Soccer Camp 7/21-7/25  | 22 Quest for Lost Lake LLNP 10am → | 23  → | 24  | 25 Intermediate Kayaking DTLP 6pm → | 26 → |
| 27 → | 28 Soccer Camp 7/28-8/1  | 29  → | 30  → | 31  |  | |

August 2014



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---------------------------------------|--------|-------|---------------------------|--------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 Rad Rockets CIP 6pm | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 PRC Meeting MTH 7pm | 14 | 15 Bluegrass Concert BCNP 7pm | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 Kayak Tour DTLP 6:30pm | 23 Blue Heron Mystery BHEA 10am |
| 24 Mushroom Hike 31 LLNP 2pm | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |

| | |
|-----|---|
| 6- | Really Rad Rockets CIP 6-8pm |
| 13- | PRC Meeting MTH 7pm |
| 15- | Bluegrass Concert BCNP 7pm |
| 22- | Kayak Tour DTLP 6:30-8pm |
| 23- | Great Blue Heron Mystery BHEA 10am-12Noon |
| 24- | Fall Mushrooms of Michigan LLNP 2-4pm |

ABBREVIATIONS: ASNN-After School Nature Nuts, BCNP-Bear Creek Nature Park, BHEA-Blue Heron Environmental Area, CLF-Cranberry Lake Farm, CLP-Cranberry Lake Park, CIP-Charles Ilsley Park, DTLP-Draper Twin Lake Park, GCP-Gallagher Creek Park, LLNC-Lost Lake Nature Center, LLNP-Lost Lake Nature Park, MTH-Main Township Hall, MVP-Marsh View Park, MVC-Marsh View Connector, MRT-Mill Race Trail, OCP-Oakland County Parks, OT-Oakland Township, OTPS-Oakland Township Parks Stewardship, ONP-O'Connor Nature Park, OTHS-Oakland Township Historical Society, PCCM-Point Creek Cider Mill, PCT-Point Creek Trail, PCHAWP-Point Creek Heritage Area Wet Prairie, PPP-Preschool Park Pals, PRC-Parks and Recreation Commission, SCRNP-Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park, WRP-Watershed Ridge Park

Yoga In The Park-Adult 12+ All Levels

Sundays, June 15th-July 20th, 9:30-10:30am; Six-week session series

Lost Lake Nature Park, 846 Lost Lake Trail; On-site rain location: Lost Lake Nature Center

Wouldn't you rather be outside this summer? Step out of the studio and enjoy doing yoga in the warmth of the sun and in full view of serene Lost Lake. Whether you are a seasoned practitioner or newer to yoga this All Levels class is just right for you! Bring your own yoga mat. Led by Phyllis Swalwell of YOGA REFUGE www.yogarefuge.net

Residents: \$30 each; Non-residents: \$60 each No drop-in available - must register for series. Register by: June 9th



Fall Mushrooms of Michigan-Adults 18+

Sunday, August 24th, 2-4:00 pm

Lost Lake Nature Park, Nature Center, 846 Lost Lake Trail

Take a tour of the amazing world of mushrooms. We will learn about where they grow and how they grow while inspecting numerous samples up close. Discover the many types of mushrooms in Michigan in this unique and very hands-on program from mushroom expert, Education Chair of the North American Mycological Association, and Michigan Mushroom Hunters Club member, Sandy Sheine. We'll take a walk to search for mushrooms in the park too! There is no substitute for the excellent opportunity of doing a mushroom hunt with a true mushroom expert!

Residents: \$3 each; Non-residents: \$5 each; Register by: August 18th

Explore nature with Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Summer 2014 Kayak Programs



We are thrilled to offer these fun, hands-on programs featuring our scenic and unique parks - close to home but with the feeling of being 'up north'!

Resident registration open NOW, non-resident begins two weeks before the registration deadline of each program. **Registration is required.** We accept cash, check, MasterCard, Discovery & American Express. Mailed checks may be sent to: 4393 Collins Road, Rochester, MI 48306. Our office is in the Paint Creek Cider Mill Building, 4480 Orion Rd, 2nd floor, Oakland Township, M-F 8am-4:30pm. Call 248-651-7810 for more information.

- Voucher for FREE 2-hour canoe rental at Heavner Canoe Rental to paid participants! -

Beginning Kayaking

*Saturday, June 28th, 10am to 12Noon
Lost Lake Nature Park,
846 Lost Lake Trail, south of Predmore Road,
between Lake George and Rochester Roads*

This class is taught both on land and in the water. Designed to give the beginning paddler a solid foundation on which to build, focus will be on safety and stroke technique. Lost Lake Nature Park and kayak launch are universally accessible.

Resident: \$20 each
Non-resident: \$35 each
Kayak rental included
Register by June 23rd



Intermediate Kayaking

*Friday, July 25th, 6 to 8pm
Draper Twin Lake Park, 1015 Inwood Road
Intersection of Haddon & Inwood Roads*

This class is for those who have completed a beginning kayaking class or have some experience at kayaking and are looking to increase their skill level. This class will concentrate on stroke development and on safety issues for all paddlers including self-rescue, rope usage, paddle floats, and more. The distance from the parking lot to the dock, which has lake access for kayaks, is approximately one-half mile via an accessible path. **Resident: \$20 each**
Non-resident: \$35 each
Kayak rental included
Register by July 21st

Go Kayaking

*Saturday, July 12, 10am and 11:30am
Lost Lake Nature Park,
846 Lost Lake Trail*

Session A: 10:30-11:30am, (launch 10:15-10:30; disembark 11:30-11:45)

Session B: 12Noon-1pm, (launch 11:45-12Noon; disembark 1-1:15)

Just finished a beginning kayak clinic and want to start honing the skills you learned? Come to Lost Lake where Heavner Canoe and Kayak staff will be on-site to assist paddlers. Bring your own kayak or use one of ours.

Fee for one hour kayak rental: Residents and paid participants from our Beginning and Intermediate Kayak Clinics \$10/All others: \$15

Draper Twin Lake Kayak Tour

*Friday, August 22nd, 6:30 to 8pm
Draper Twin Lake Park, 1015 Inwood Road*

Join a park naturalist for a leisurely guided tour on the beautiful waters of Draper Twin Lake. Designed for individuals and families; not groups. All equipment provided - only single kayaks available. Prior experience is necessary. Formal instruction is not provided. The distance from the parking lot to the dock, which has lake access for kayaks, is approximately one-half mile via an accessible path.

Resident: \$20 each
Non-resident: \$35 each
Kayak rental included
Register by August 15th

All participants must sign a waiver of liability and wear a life vest. Under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Inclement weather will cancel sessions. Weight limit for single kayak is 230 lbs.

Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District

SQUARE DANCE



OAKLAND TOWNSHIP



June 21, 2014 Saturday from 7 pm to 9 pm - open to public and free.
September 13, 2014 Saturday from 7 pm to 9 pm – open to public and free.

LOCATION: CLF Historic District, 388 West Predmore Road, Oakland Township
 We like to promote local businesses! Come-on out one hour early for the catered BBQ sandwich, coleslaw, and beans prior to the square dance, 6-7pm.

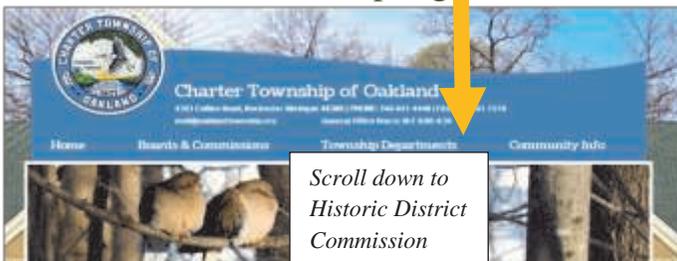
Reservations for the food are required for appropriate head count. 248-608-6807

Pay cash to the event for food - \$8 adults and \$5 children ages 10 and under.

...Square dancing....Square dancing.... Square dancing....Square dancing....Square dancing....

WHERE to find MORE information!

www.oaklandtownship.org



*Scroll down to
Historic District
Commission*



Can you guess the Mystery Tool owned by the Oakland Township Historical Society? Answer can be found on the HDC web page!



It's your memory, it's our history, it's worth saving.
40 years...

Join your friends and neighbors at Society events and programs!

Wednesday, June 4, 6:30pm Potluck Dinner ~ Annual Meeting ~ Elections

Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District, 1879 Flumerfelt Barn. Open to the public. 40th Anniversary of OTHS! Join us to celebrate the 40th year for the Society. Open board positions. For more candidate information, contact Nominations Committee Chair David Phillips at 248-651-2940 or davidaphillips59@yahoo.com. We need you! Join us!

Support the Society with your participation! See you there!

Cranberry Lake Farm Support. OTHS has committed to supporting events at our historic Cranberry Lake Farm This summer we will join the Historic District Commission (HDC) and Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) at events open to the public. Watch for more information from the HDC and PRC in June and August. Concerts, events, tours - enjoy it all! Volunteer with us!

The Society also offers tours of the **Historic District** buildings and **historic Goodison** for groups with appointments.

Contact us at 248-693-8660 or othsmember@comcast.net to set up a time. *We have much to show you!*

The **Oakland Township Historical Society** was formed in 1974 as a volunteer non-profit and continues to preserve our township heritage for 40 years. We are members of *Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society, Historical Society of Michigan* and *Michigan Barn Preservation Network*. We participate in the *Inter Service Club* event and *Local History Roundtable*, connecting to the greater community. www.oaklandtownshiphistoricalsociety.org 248-693-8660 Join us!



What's New in the Parks (Continued from page 2)

Thank You Eagle Scout Kunkel!

When Zachary Kunkel of Troop 356 met with OTPRC staff in early 2014, his goal was to complete his Eagle Scout project by the end of February of this year! To accomplish this Zachary intended to construct and install two sheltered information kiosks at Charles Ilsley Park and at Cranberry Lake Park's northern entrance. We are happy to report that in spite of the cold weather and frozen ground, with the help of a jackhammer and a power auger, Zachary and his team installed the kiosks and completed his project on February 25th! Thank you Zachary for providing two more locations where our park visitors can easily access information about our parks and upcoming programs!



Farewell to Roger Smith

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission and Staff bid a fond farewell to Maintenance Technician Roger Smith. Roger came to work for OTPRC in 2005 after retiring from a career at General Motors. After almost 10 years Roger will be entering real retirement! We would like to thank him for his unwavering dedication, good humor, and attention to detail. Roger's hard work has enhanced the safety and cleanliness of our parks for all of us!



Dogs in the Parks

To visit the Township parks with your dog, you must follow our Township Park rules:

**Keep your dog leashed.
Clean up after your dog.**

Clean-up bag dispensers are available at Bear Creek Nature Park near the Snell Road parking lot and at the Township Hall trailhead, and at several locations along the Paint Creek Trail.

Off-leash dogs in public parks pose several problems; especially near playgrounds and areas of high public usage. Other park users may be frightened when a dog comes running towards them or jumps on them, and many species of viewable wildlife decline when dogs explore the brush.

Off-leash dogs disturb ground nesting birds, may discover and harm fawns, and push mammals further into the woodlands, thus decreasing the park experience for all visitors.

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Ordinance 38A-1, Article III, Section 02.12, states,

"All persons walking or exercising pets in a park are required to clean up all debris resulting from the pets. Pets must be on a leash ... and under control at all times."

Music In The Meadows continued from page 3

Born in El Paso, Texas into a family whose roots go back to the hills of Virginia and Tennessee, Blaylock learned to play guitar and sing with his parents and siblings. In 1982, at age 19, Blaylock joined Jimmy Martin and The Sunny Mountain Boys and spent nine years on the road learning the craft of bluegrass from one of the music's first-generation legends.

Blaylock's last four albums for the Rural Rhythm Records label has produced several #1 hits on the Bluegrass charts and his newly released single "The Road That Winds" is the theme song for Travel Channel's "Back Road Gold" with host Corky Coker.

Audie Blaylock and his band Redline (Patrick McAvinue - fiddle, Josh Hymer - banjo, Dustin Frame - mandolin and Matt Wallace - bass) are thrilling audiences with their incredible musicianship, impeccable harmony and highly entertaining stage shows. Come join us for a wonderful night of traditional bluegrass music!

2013 bluegrass concert at Bear Creek Nature Park



Oakland Township Parks Natural Areas

Stewardship



If you would to join stewardship staff to learn how to manage invasive plants on your property while you help out in Oakland Township parks this summer, email Ben VanderWeide, Natural Areas Stewardship Manager, at bvanderweide@oaklandtownship.org. You will then receive weekly emails to let you know when you can join them.

Garlic mustard (Alliaria petiolata) is a biennial



herb introduced from Europe in the mid-1800s for food and medicinal purposes. It invades forested communities and edge habitat where it displaces native species by depressing growth of grasses and flowers. Additionally, researchers report that it kills off native soil fungi.

Garlic mustard stem leaves give off a distinctive garlic or onion odor when crushed. **First Year** plants form a rosette a few inches high that remain green throughout winter. **Second Year** plants reach heights of 1 to 4 feet and produce small white flowers with four petals. In late summer the seed capsules burst open and tiny seeds easily spread to other areas - in mud on shoes and animal feet and in fur.

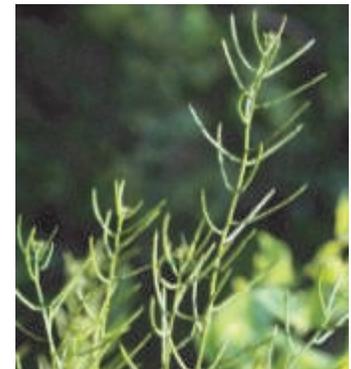


Control

If you see a small infestation, pull it, removing roots to prevent re-sprouting. If plants have begun to flower, the seeds will continue to develop even after they are pulled. To prevent these seeds from spreading, bag plants and dispose of them in trash that will go to a landfill. Do not compost the plants. Report the bags you fill to the Garlic Mustard Challenge at garlicmustardchallenge.wordpress.com.

Stay on, and keep pets on, established roads and trails to prevent invasive seed dispersal.

After visiting an area that has garlic mustard, or other invasive weeds present, clean up before you leave the site! Make sure your clothes, shoes, vehicles, and pets are mud and/or seed free.



Vigilance. There is no other way to say it. Keep checking back even when you think you are rid of it!

DNR advises caution to prevent spread of oak wilt disease

Oak wilt can kill oak trees in our area. Beetles move fungal spores from the diseased trees or firewood to fresh wounds on otherwise healthy trees. New oak wilt sites have been traced to spring and early summer wounding from tree-climbing spikes, rights-of-way pruning, nailing signs on trees and accidental tree-barking (a wound created when bark is removed by impact from equipment, falling trees and other causes). **The normal time-tested advice is to prevent oak wilt by not pruning or otherwise 'injuring' oaks mid-April through mid-July.**



Photo: www.ipm.iastate.edu

If an oak is wounded during this critical time, the DNR advises residents to cover the wound immediately with either a tree-wound paint or a latex paint to help keep beetles away.

For more information Search for Oak Wilt at www.michigan.gov/dnr or treedoctor.anr.msu.edu/oakwilt.

Here Be Dragons By Sue Neal, Executive Director, Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve

With a common name including the word *dragon* (a Latin name meaning *toothed one*), a set of serrated teeth, the ability to eat just about anything (including each other), a hunting “kill rate” nearing 95 percent, the ability to mate in mid air, a head that is comprised almost entirely of eyes, a 360 degree field of vision and the tendency to group in swarms numbering into the hundreds, this common insect sounds like something straight out of a low budget horror film.

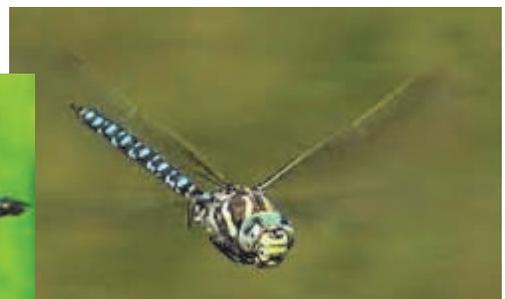


You may be surprised by the creature that fits this rather ominous description...the humble dragonfly. I have always been intrigued by the seemingly mundane...by those plants or insects that we take for granted simply because we see them frequently. So many of the common have the most fascinating stories to tell—if we just take the time to slow down and observe their behavior or learn about their natural history—care enough to ask the basic questions of why, how and where.

Dragonflies are certainly a common site in our township, hovering over the vernal ponds at Bear Creek Nature Park or darting through the air above the lake at Lost Lake Nature Park. However, if you have ever spent much time observing their aerial acrobatics and wondering what the world looks like from behind those huge eyes you too likely share my appreciation for the common dragonfly.

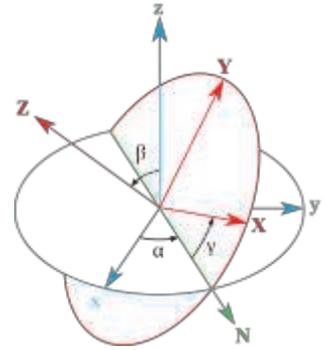


Bear Creek Nature Park vernal pond.



Yes, dragonflies are common...with over 5,000 different species so far known. Dragonflies are also the first insects believed to have taken flight and are among the most ancient of all insect orders. Just because they are ancient (and common) they are anything but arcane. Dragonflies have combined their extraordinary abilities for sight and flight into an amazing ability to hunt.

A dragonfly does not stalk its prey. Instead it employs a complex set of calculations including spatial orientations and velocity to predict where in space the prey will be at a distinct point in the future. This allows the dragonfly to essentially ambush their prey. This type of calculated assault is rather advanced and as such is a very effective method of hunting. They catch their prey using their feet and will only eat prey that they can catch while flying. And yes, they are true to their Latin name “toothed ones”. They have serrated jaws that they use to essentially mash their prey to a pulp. Their jaws can open as wide as their entire heads which allows them to consume prey of considerable size. In fact, they will often consume their entire meal without even bothering to land. They can eat many times their weight in mosquitoes which makes them a welcome sight around your yard each spring and summer.



Their huge eyes certainly come in handy at hunting time. With over 30,000 individual faceted lenses, the dragonfly has an unsurpassed view of the world. Their brains must take the input image from each lens and superimpose these into an individual image. They can see in the color spectrum, the UV spectrum and the polarized light plane. This combination is believed to assist in navigation while reducing the effect of the sun’s glare off the water. Add to all of that a 360 degree field of view (a dragonfly will see you as well coming as it does going!)...this means a dragonfly essentially has no “blind spot”...adding greatly to their ability to hunt and certainly making them challenging to catch!

Their visual acuity can only be outdone by their abilities of flight. They can fly at speeds up to 37 mph. They can hover. They are the only animals (other than hummingbirds) with the ability to fly backwards. On top of all of this, scientists have discovered that their special musculature allows each of their four wings to move independently. A feat made even more enviable after engineers used robots to mimic this pattern of flight. In addition to being incredibly acrobatic, the flight pattern was found to be very energy efficient...generating more lift for the same amount of energy compared to flyers with only two wings. Their wings move in a unique rowing motion at 20-30 beats per second! Other scientists have looked toward the physics of dragonfly flight in order to build super efficient wind turbine blades that will generate power in even the slightest of breezes.



Some of these efficient flyers even migrate. It is believed that they will average a respectable 8 miles per day but scientists have observed individuals that traveled up to 100 miles in a single day! And to further add to the migratory prowess of this group of insects, the globe skimmer dragonfly holds the record for the insect world with a known migratory path of 11,000 miles. For more information visit the Migratory Dragonfly Partnership website at www.migratorydragonflypartnership.org, or for general dragonfly information, www.odonatacentral.org.

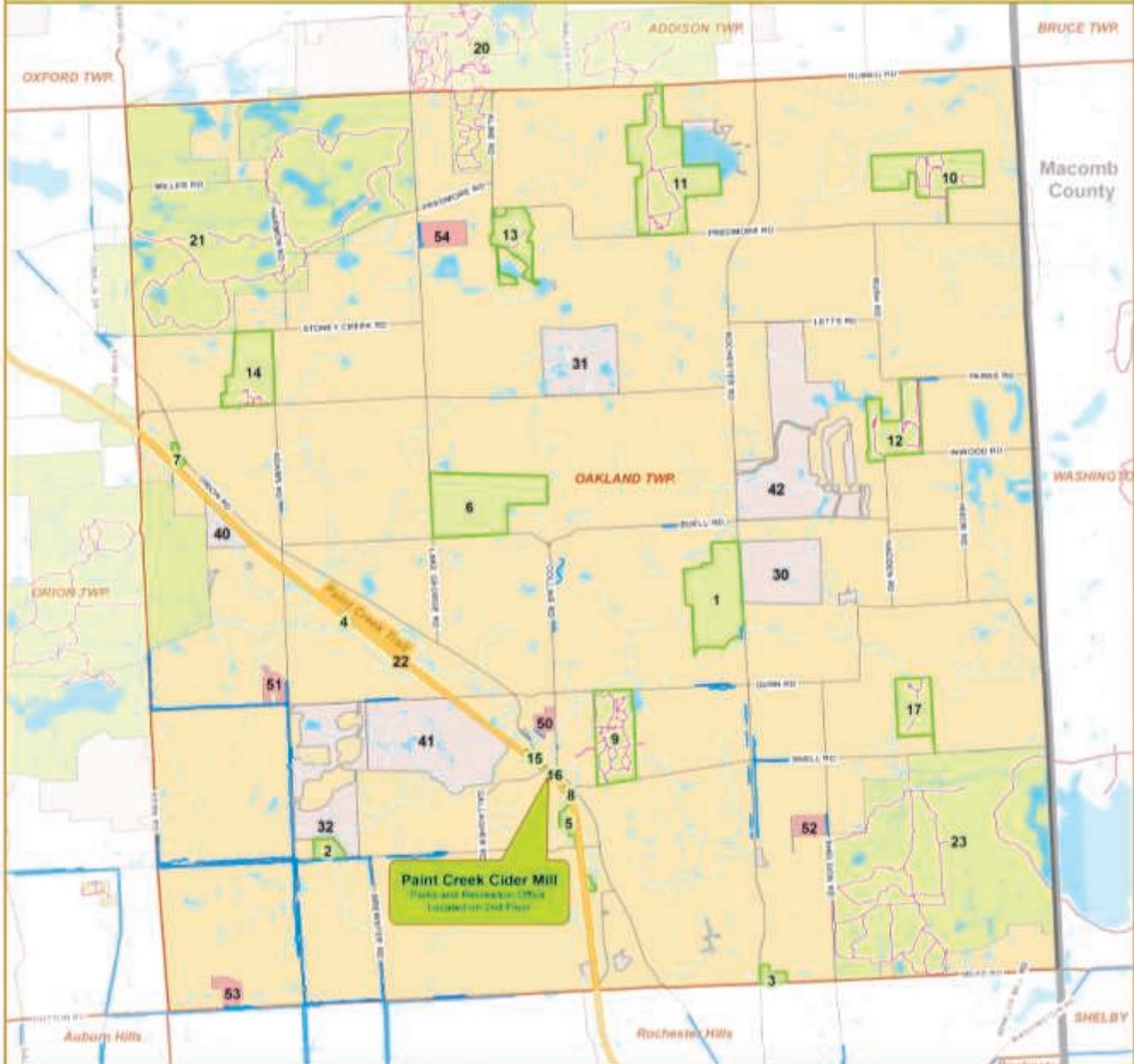


Common green darner

www.migratorydragonflypartnership.org

I hope that this article inspires you to search for the uncommon in the common...you never know where there might be dragons. Inspire your youngest naturalists by starting them on this lifetime of learning by enrolling them in our seasonal nature programs. The littlest naturalists can meet the dragonfly at our June 25th program at Bear Creek Nature Park (See page 6.)

Parks and Recreation Opportunities in Oakland Township



Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Facilities

Conservation Parks

- 1. Blue Heron Environmental Area
- 2. Gallagher Creek Park
- 3. O'Connor Nature Park
- 4. Paint Creek Heritage Area - Fen
- 5. Paint Creek Heritage Area - Wet Prairie
- 6. Watershed Ridge Park

Future Trail Connections

- 7. Marsh View Connector
- 8. Mill Creek Crossing

Parks Including Recreation Facilities

- 9. Bear Creek Nature Park
- 10. Charles Islesy Park
- 11. Cranberry Lake Park
- 12. Draper Twin Lake Park
- 13. Lost Lake Nature Park
- 14. Marsh View Park
- 15. Mill Race Trail
- 16. Paint Creek Cider Mill
- 17. Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park

Other Parks and Recreation Facilities

Other Public Parks

- 20. Addison Oaks County Park
- 21. Bald Mountain State Recreation Area
- 22. Paint Creek Trail
- 23. Stony Creek Metropark

Other Public Recreation Facilities

- 30. Blackheath Golf Club
- 31. The Myth Golf and Banquet
- 32. Westwynd Golf Course

Private Recreation Facilities

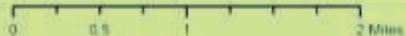
- 40. Royal Oak Archers
- 41. The Wyndgate Golf Course
- 42. Twin Lakes Golf and Swim Club

Public Schools

- 50. Baldwin Elementary School
- 51. Delta Kelly Elementary School
- 52. Huger Elementary School
- 53. Musson Elementary School
- 54. Oakview Middle School

Key to Features:

- Oakland Township
- Lakes & Ponds
- Major Roads
- Park Path
- Private Recreation
- Municipal Boundary
- Rivers & Streams
- Oakland Township Park
- Safety/Side Path
- Public Recreation
- Public School



Summer Fun in Oakland Township Parks!



Horses are welcome in the Oakland Township Parks. Please remember to be considerate of other park users. Keep horses off developed lawn and field areas at all times and off limestone trails when soils are saturated in the spring.

Bear Creek Nature Park offers 107 acres of glacially-carved hills and vernal ponds. A perfect place for a family stroll and nature observation! The park comes alive with jazz on Friday, June 13th and bluegrass on Friday, August 15th! (See page 3.) Sign the little ones up to learn all about dragonflies on June 25th—how many dragonflies can you spot? (See page 4 for details.)



Charles Ilsley Park's 120 acres of farmland and hardwoods with hidden springs and vernal ponds is great for hiking, mountain biking and horseback riding. Perfect location for teens to build and launch rockets with us on August 6! (See page 5 for details.) Or check out our *Discovery Backpack* and visit on your own to challenge yourself to a nature exploration hike!

Cranberry Lake Park's trails roam through meadows, vernal ponds and hardwoods, offering the perfect setting for both dragonfly watching and bird watching. Join us on May 31 for hints and tips on spotting our feathered friends at this park (See page 4). The *Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District* is the venue for our Friday, July 18th classical concert, featuring Detroit Winds and Strings at 7 (See page 3).



Draper Twin Lake Park features 90 acres of meadows, wetlands, woodlands, and Twin Lake! Park in the gravel lot at 1015 Inwood to access the dock - don't forget your fishing pole! Sign up for our **Free Fishing Day** program on Sunday, June 8 (Details on page 4), or join us for a kayak lake exploration on July 25th or August 22nd (Details on page 10). The 1181 Inwood entry provides access to the eastern park trails where you just may be lucky enough to spot foraging Sandhill Cranes!

Lost Lake Nature Park becomes a summer showcase for dragonfly, butterfly and bird watching. Watch for them while learning about fire during the Full Moon hike on Saturday, July 12th (See page 5.) Fishing from the dock is allowed with a current state fishing license, or you can sign up for our **Free Fishing Day** program (no license required) on Saturday, June 7th (Details on page 4). Explore Lost Lake by kayak on June 28th or July 12th (Details on page 10) or with dip nets on July 22nd (Details on page 5).



Dogs are welcome when they are leashed and cleaned up after!

All Oakland Township Parks Maps are available on the Parks and Recreation pages of the Oakland Township website: www.oaklandtownship.org.
If you have questions or would like more information
call us at (248)651-7810.

-Please note that all areas are unsupervised and users assume all risks and liabilities.-

2013/2014 State of the Parks Report

(Continued from page 1)



Soccer game at Marsh View Park

four areas: we have initiated 50+ elementary school environmental education field trips thanks to our partnership with Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve, archery programs are now offered for all ages and abilities including a Junior Olympic Program partnership that has produced four medal winners, three new local soccer organizations are regularly using our facilities at Marsh View Park and we are now hosting summer soccer camps there too, and kayaking programs at Draper Twin Lake and Lost Lake Parks now include opportunities to advance your skills.

In addition to the opening of the new nature center, dock and support facilities at Lost Lake Nature Park, we also collaborated with Oakland County Parks on the opening of a trail connection between Addison Oaks and Cranberry Lake parks. Hikers, bicyclists and equestrians will appreciate the new bridge, boardwalks and trail at the north end of Cranberry Lake Park.

Consistent facility maintenance and natural area stewardship underlay all of these improvements. Our maintenance staff ensures the safety and cleanliness of increasing Township park facilities including 21+miles of trails, 11 parking lots, four athletic fields, an archery range, picnic areas and much more! It is no surprise that our local soccer organizations remark that Oakland Township has the best maintained soccer fields anywhere! In 2013 our stewardship staff removed invasive plants from grasslands, woodlands and wetlands in 11 Township parks and removed 100% of the garlic mustard in eight parks. Our \$15,000 federal Wildlife Habitat Improvement Grant funded the removal of invasive plants in 20 acres along the Paint Creek Trail, where we are improving habitat for declining pollinator insects.

All these enhanced services have been accomplished while continuing to remain well within our established parks and land preservation budgets. We continually strive to serve our residents better!

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission 2014 Officers

At the December 11, 2013 Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, the following officers were elected for the 2014 calendar year: Chairperson – Andy Zale, Vice Chairperson – Colleen Barkham, Secretary – Alice Tombouljian, Treasurer – Roger Schmidt. Other Commissioners include David Mackley, Joe Peruzzi, and Ann Marie Rogers.



Nature Discovery Backpacks Available for Use!



Missed our Spring Programs? Can't seem to make it for a guided tour? Here's your chance to get out there and discover nature at your own pace! Oakland Township parks has put together a nature discovery backpack for you to check out for your own personal park nature tours. Included in it are field guides, bug lenses, binoculars, and examples of the best places to look for nature. The discovery backpack is geared toward younger elementary age children and can be checked out on a first-come, first-served basis, with a refundable deposit of \$10. Stop in and check it out the next time you head to any of the parks with your gang to get a closer look at nature!

Paint Creek Trail News

4th Annual Paint Creek Crawl – June 7, 2014



Join us for our 4th Annual Paint Creek Crawl Cycling Event on National Trails Day! Encompassing the entire trail from Rochester to Lake Orion, participants 16 and older will ride from Children's Park in Lake Orion to Rochester and back for a box lunch and prize drawing. This year, cyclists will compete in a "Poker Ride" - best hand at the end wins a prize! In addition, this year's Grand Prize will be a \$500 gift card to Paint Creek Bicycles in Lake Orion. Proceeds will fund trail improvements.

- On-site Registration and check-in begins at 8:00am
- Start Time and Location: 9:00am at Children's Park, 175 S. Broadway, Lake Orion
- End Time and Location: Children's Park at 12:00pm
- Cost is \$25/individual until May 23, \$30/individual thereafter



To be guaranteed an event T-shirt, you must preregister by May 23, 2014.

You can register online at <http://www.paintcreektrailfriends.org> from April 15 - June 4, 2014.

Sponsored by CJ's Lakeside Grill, Paint Creek Bicycles, 7:39'ers Bike Club, Crossfit Inclusive, FAMS Printing, Goodison Veterinary Center, Dr. Ron Fried Chiropractic, and Friends of Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve.

Mark your calendars for the **9th Annual Paint Creek Trail Labor Day Virtual Bridge Walk and Run, Monday, September 1**. The two-mile walk and 10K run start at the Rochester Municipal Park Kiwanis Pavilion at 9am. Onsite registration starts at 8:00 am. This is a free community event, with a suggested donation of \$5.00 per family to help fund a trail improvement project.

Online registration will open August 1st at <http://www.paintcreektrailfriends.org>.



Be SEMIWILD with the Six Rivers Adventure League

Come discover the "Nature Near You" this summer with the Adventure League of the Six Rivers Land Conservancy. There will be kayak trips on Lake St. Clair and the major rivers of the region, hikes in natural areas and bike rides on trails throughout the area. Guided activities take place on Wednesday afternoon/evenings, with self-guided activities at participants' convenience.

There will be a wrap up party at the end of the season with prizes for those participating in the most events. Adventure League sponsor Back Country North will provide outdoor equipment prizes and will also bring demo gear to different events.

This is the fourth year of the adventure league, which aims to get people out to see and enjoy the wealth of high quality natural resources and outdoor recreation activities that abound right here in Southeastern Michigan. It started in the fall of 2011 with float trips on the Clinton, Flint, Huron and Shiawassee rivers. In 2012 hiking was added as, and in 2013 bike trips were added as well as several snow shoe and cross country ski events. In 2014 the Adventure League is being expanded to include partnerships with the Clinton River Watershed Council and Legacy Land Conservancy to add more paddle trips and additional hikes.

Go to the Six Rivers website or Facebook page to sign up for the league and email list. Cost is \$40 and includes membership in the Conservancy. Participants may also pay per event (many are no cost), but to be eligible for prizes they must be a member of the league. Since guided events may be weather dependent, people are encouraged to sign up for the mailing list and to check the website for changes. Schedules will be posted on the website and participants will be notified of changes whenever they occur.

So get out the hiking boots, paddles, bug juice and sunscreen and join in the fun!



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

Phone: (248) 651-7810
Fax: (248) 601-0106
www.oaklandtownship.org

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*Seal designed by
Richard Krupp*

Commission Meetings

The Parks & Recreation Commission meets at 7 pm on the second Wednesday of every month in the Township Hall Boardroom. Normal office hours are from 8am to 4:30pm Monday through Friday. Due to limited staff size and field work requirements, we recommend calling (248) 651-7810 before you stop by. Park permits, maps and descriptions are available at the park office.

Parks and Recreation Commissioners

Andy Zale, Chairman
Colleen Barkham, Vice Chairperson
Roger Schmidt, Treasurer
Alice Tomboulian, Secretary
Dave Mackley, Commissioner
Joe Peruzzi, Commissioner
Ann Marie Rogers, Commissioner

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Staff

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Parks and Recreation Director | Mindy Milos-Dale |
| Recreation Manager | Becky McLogan |
| Administrative Assistant | Carol Kasprzak |
| Clerical Assistant | Deb Gallo |
| Maintenance Foreman | Doug Caruso |
| Parks and Recreation Workers | Clif Selent, Jeff Johnson |
| Natural Areas Stewardship Manager | Ben VanderWeide |
| Seasonal Land Stewardship Technicians | Matt Peklo, Alex Kriebel, Jonah Maria Weeks |

Oakland Township Park Rules are enforced by the Oakland County Sheriff's Office.

FOR EMERGENCIES CALL 911

If you have information or questions concerning a reported crime or accident, call the substation at 248-652-4617 Monday-Friday, 8 am-4 pm. All other calls please use dispatch at 248-858-4950.