Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission Newsletter

Summer 2022

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.

Your input is valued! Fill out our program survey on page 18.

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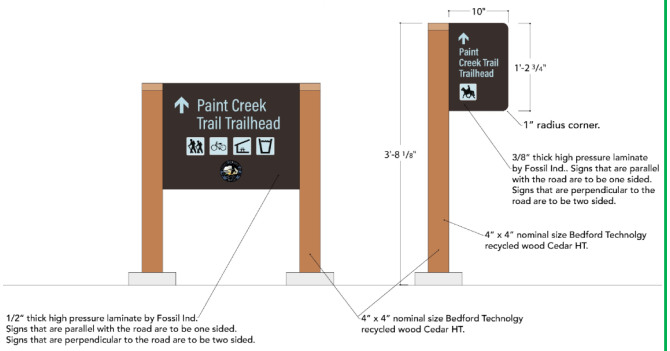
New Park Signs Sprouting This Summer!

In the last community-wide survey concerning Parks and Recreation needs, respondents indicated that 'directional signage' was one of their top needs in relation to pathways in Township parks (after restrooms, which you can read about on page 14!). As a result, over the last several years, the Parks and Recreation Commission and our residents have been working with Nicolson Associates, a graphic design firm that specializes in signage design and wayfinding planning.

This signage planning process started at the October 2019 Parks and Recreation Master Plan Open House where attendees commented on two different signage system concepts that included park entrance signs, directional signs and area identification signs. The Commission then used the most-preferred signage concept as their basis and further refined the designs to meet these Signage Master Plan Objectives:

- Increase awareness and location of Oakland Township Parks
- Develop consistent signage, symbols, and park system identity
- Inform visitors of facilities, amenities, points of natural or cultural interest at each park
- Guide visitors to destinations within Oakland Township parks.

In 2022, Marsh View Park and Paint Creek Junction Park will be the first parks where the new signage will be installed. Funds have also been budgeted in 2022 for new signs at Bear Creek Nature Park.



Pedestrian Directional Sign Small Directional Sign

Alice Tomboulian Remembrance Event

A remembrance event honoring former Parks and Recreation Commissioner Alice Tomboulian will be held at the Bear Creek Nature Park picnic pavilion on Saturday, May 21, at 1pm. See page 13 for details.

What's New in the Parks

(Continued on page 14)

Parks and Recreation Commission Summer Meeting Schedule

Meeting Reminder!

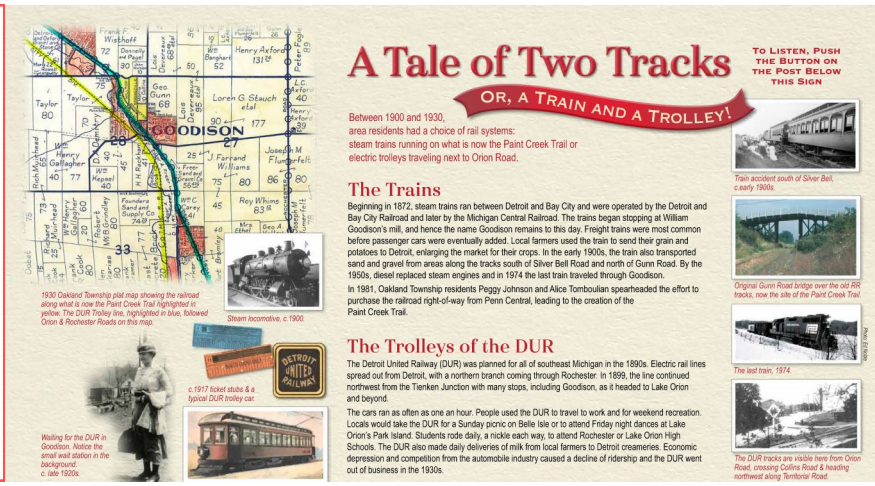
- Wednesday, **June 22, 7pm** (*rescheduled from June 8*), Main Township Hall, 4393 Collins Rd.
- Wednesday, **July 13, 7pm** - Main Township Hall, 4393 Collins Road.
- Wednesday, **August 10, 6pm Park Tour, 7pm meeting**, Lost Lake Nature Park, 846 Lost Lake Trail (*location change*) *Note that due to no hardwired internet, August meeting will not be livestreamed. A meeting recording will be posted on the Oakland Township website after the meeting: https://bit.ly/3y9Gado

Keep your eyes open for these exciting programs!

Celebrate Park and Recreation Month this July! Visit your favorite Oakland Township Park!

Paint Creek Junction Park

The final tasks are being completed at Paint Creek Junction Park! OTPR is looking forward to opening it early this summer.



Paint Creek Junction Park Historical Sign

Check out the Historical Sign created by Oakland Township's very talented graphic artist, Libby Dwyer! Visit PCJ in person to see for yourself!

Music IN THE Meadows

2022 SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

It's Oakland Township Parks and Recreation's 15th season of offering free professional, outdoor concerts. Bring blankets and a picnic and enjoy music al fresco! Popularity is growing, so come early. Non-alcoholic beverages permitted.

BAYBERRY STRING QUARTET - Classical

bayberrystringquartet.com

Friday, June 10, 7:00-9:00pm at Cranberry Lake Farm (Main House Porch)
388 West Predmore Road, Oakland, MI 48363
FREE Historic District Tours 6:00pm - 6:45pm

Members of the Bayberry String quartet have been described as playing with "the serenity of a master" and with "enormous technical aplomb . . . and above all, the sort of sheer personality that has all but disappeared in this age of virtuosos." This accomplished quartet takes pride in playing with the spirit of art created through collaboration and grassroots connections.

THE CONTENDERS - Americana/Alternative Country

wearethecontenders.com

Friday, July 22, 7:00-9:00pm at Bear Creek Nature Park
740 W. Snell Road, Rochester, MI 48306

Two seasoned vets of the music scene, Jay Nash on guitar and Josh Day on drums are the Contenders. This Americana-Alt Country duo shares a slate of lyrical tales that can only come from the perspective of a traveler's eye and minds open to the wonder of the people around them. They make the sort of music found in the varied tapestry that is real Americana—full of grit with a steady heartbeat and a hint of honky-tonk—songs that speak of wanderers and highways, lovers and losers, good times and missed chances, all of it with a ferocity born of hard work and honed skill.

TONY LUCCA - Americana/Folk

tonylucca.com

Friday, August 19, 7:00-9:00pm at Bear Creek Nature Park
740 W. Snell Road, Rochester, MI 48306

Tony Lucca is a singer, songwriter, producer, actor, and Waterford, Michigan native. He is perhaps best known for starting his career on The Mickey Mouse Club. In 2012, Lucca burned up The Voice stage, making it all the way to the finals on the back of his electric performances. A consistent touring artist, Tony has toured with a multitude of acts, including Maroon 5, Kelly Clarkson, NSYNC, and many more. He plays guitar, piano, bass, and drums. His catalog of music runs the gamut of soul-infused pop to tear-jerker folk balladry.

Rain location for concerts is at the Rochester Christian Church, 4435 N. Rochester Rd. (NE corner of Snell and Rochester Roads). • Call 248-651-4440, ext 299 to verify location on the day of the event.

Oakland Township Parks & Recreation

Summer 2022 Nature Programs

Register online:oaklandtownship.recdesk.com

The health of our community is our priority. Our team of staff and instructors are trained in safety protocol that follow CDC guidelines and are equipped with Personal Protection Equipment and gear (PPE).

Virtual and Hybrid Nature Programs

Seasonal Adult Hikes: Canines ***Adults 18+***

Foxes, coyotes, & wolves call Michigan home. Discover the differences between these wild canines and our domestic dogs. Search for tracks and other signs out on the trails. Discuss what behavior is and is not cause for alarm and how to avoid conflict.

Resident registration: **open now** Fees for both programs: Residents: **$5** Non-residents: **$7**

In Person Program **Friday, June 10** **7:30pm-9:00pm**

Cranberry Lake Park, North Parking Lot, 635 West Romeo Rd. Oakland, MI

Join a Dinosaur Hill Naturalist for this in person hike. Meet in the North parking lot. 20 participants.

Non-Resident registration opens: **May 20** Register by: **June 5**

Virtual Program **Friday, June 10**

Your video link allows you to enjoy the same material that is covered in person.

Non-Resident registration opens: **May 20** Register by: **June 5**

Roly Poly Ruckus ***PreK 3– 5 years***

Saturday, July 9 **Drop in anytime between 10 & 11** **10:00am-12:00pm**

Bear Creek Nature Park & Pavilion, 740 West Snell Rd. Rochester, MI

Pill bug, sow bug, potato bug, are all names for this animal that's not a bug at all! Hear the story of a pill bug in "I'm A Pill Bug", look for them under logs with magnifying glasses, and make your own pill bug craft that curls up tight. 10 participants. **Children under age 5 must be accompanied by an adult.**

Resident registration: **open now** Non-Resident registration opens: **June 18**

Residents: **$5** Non-Residents: **$7** Register by: **July 2**

Pollination Party ***Family***

Celebrate pollinators from around the world! Join us and learn from one of our favorite pollinators, make a simple native bee hotel, & play the pollination game! In person or self-guided program to choose from. Resident registration: **open now**

Fees for both programs: Residents: **$5** Non-residents: **$7**

In Person Program **Sunday, July 17** **2:00pm-3:30pm**

Cranberry Lake Park, Picnic Tables & Trails, 388 West Predmore Oakland, MI,

In person participants will get a sample of honey **All family members in attendance must register. Children under age 5 must be accompanied by an adult.** 20 participants in person.

Non-Resident registration opens: **June 26** Register by: **July 10**

Self-Guided Program **July 7-10** **1:00pm-5:00pm**

Pick up kits from Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve and complete the activities at your leisure.

Non-Resident registration opens: **June 16** Register by: **June 30**

Seasonal Adult Hikes: Dragons and Damsels ***Adults 18+***

Have you ever seen a young dragonfly? Learn about the dragonfly lifecycle. Follow the dragonflies and damselflies. See if you can capture one in an insect net and identify it before releasing. Virtual option registrants receive a video link. Resident registration: **open now**

Fees for both programs: Residents: **$5** Non-residents: **$7**

In Person Program **Sunday, August 14** **2:00pm-3:30pm**

Lost Lake Nature Park, 846 Lost Lake Trail, Oakland, MI

Non-Resident registration opens: **July 24** Register by: **August 7**

Virtual Program **Sunday, August 14**

Your video link unlocks the same material that is covered in person.

Non-Resident registration opens: **July 24** Register by: **August 7**

Oakland Township Parks & Recreation
Summer 2022 Nature Programs
Register online:oaklandtownship.recdesk.com

Nature Art ***6-11 years***
Wednesday, June 1 **4:00pm-5:30pm**
Bear Creek Nature Park & Pavilion, 740 West Snell Rd. Rochester, MI

Mother Nature is a fantastic artist! Our budding artists will collect natural materials such as leaves & flowers on the trail that they will use as brushes to complete their nature masterpiece. The pigments used will come from garden plants and our naturalist will collect pokeberry from the trail. 20 participants.

Resident registration: **open now** Non-Resident registration opens: **May 11**
Residents: **$5** Non-Residents: **$7** Register by: **May 25**

Nature's Mythbusters! ***All Ages***
Saturday, August 6 **12pm-12:45pm**
Lost Lake Nature Park, Warming Shelter/Outdoor Patio 846 Lost Lake Trail, Oakland, MI

Do camels store water in their humps? Are bats blind? Do toads have warts? Wint Nature Center naturalists, will visit Lost Lake Nature Park to dispel such common animal myths. Join us for an afternoon of "mythbusting" to learn the real facts about our animal friends. (An Oakland County Parks and Recreation mobile recreation program). 30 participants.

Resident registration: **open now** Non-Resident registration opens: **July 16**
Residents: **FREE** Non-Residents: **FREE** Register by: **July 31**

Teen Hike Night: Bats ***Teens 12-17***
Friday, August 26 **8:00pm-9:30pm**
Cranberry Lake Park, Picnic Tables & Trails 388 West Predmore, Oakland, MI

Our summer teen night hike will focus on bats! Discover how bats around the world help you, hear and see their echolocation calls through the latest app, and learn about how you can help them. 20 participants.

Resident registration: **open now** Non-Resident registration opens: **August 5**
Residents: **$5** Non-Residents: **$7** Register by: **August 19**

Dinosaur Hill and Oakland Astronomy Club Are Joining Forces!

Summer Showers—Perseid Meteor Shower ***Family ages 7+***
Saturday, August 13 **8:00pm-10:00pm**
Bear Creek Nature Park & Pavilion, 740 West Snell Rd. Rochester, MI

Explore the world of wetlands and see plants and animals that depend on summer rainfall to make a living! After a wetlands wander, join the Oakland Astronomy Club to learn about the Perseid meteors and bright stars of summer. If the skies are clear, we'll enjoy live telescopic views of the night sky and be on the lookout for meteors. 20 participants. **Children under age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.**

Resident registration: **open now** Non-Resident registration opens: **July 23**
Residents: **$5** Non-Residents: **$7** Register by: **August 6**

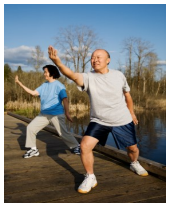
Moon Fest ***Family ages 7+***
Saturday, October 1 **5:30pm-7:30pm**
Bear Creek Nature Park & Pavilion, 740 West Snell Rd. Rochester, MI

Celebrate International Observe the Moon Night with Oakland Astronomy Club & Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve! Learn the features of the Moon, then make your own cratered-moon painting. Weather permitting, observe the early evening Moon through our big telescopes. As we search the sky for the moon, we'll be on the lookout for animals that migrate at twilight! Bring your binoculars or your own telescope if you have them! 20 participants. **Children under age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.**

Resident registration: **open now** Non-Resident registration opens: **September 10**
Residents: **$5** Non-Residents: **$7** Register by: **September 24**

Oakland Township Parks & Recreation
Summer 2022 Fitness & Wellness
Register online:oaklandtownship.recdesk.com

Tai Chi Beginners ***Adults 18+***
Tuesdays 6:00pm -7:00pm
Cranberry Lake Farm, 338 West Predmore, Oakland, MI

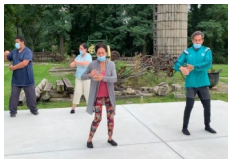


These classes will cover the beginning movements of the Tai Chi form and principles, as well as enhance your overall health by improving balance and feelings of wellbeing. You should be able to support your weight while standing or bring a chair if unable to stand without assistance. Grab some comfortable clothing and shoes. No flip flops or sandals. All sessions are led by Marci Jenkins who has over 20 years of Tai Chi training and practice. 10 participants.

Resident registration: open now

May 10 - June 28 (8 week session)	Residents: **$40**	Non-Residents: **$60**
Non-Resident Registration opens: **April 19**	Register by: **May 3**	
August 2 - September 6 (6 week session)	Residents: **$30**	Non-Residents: **$45**
Non-Resident Registration opens: **July 12**	Register by: **July 26**	

Next Step Tai Chi Beginners ***Adults 18+***
Wednesdays 6:00pm -7:00pm
Cranberry Lake Farm, 338 West Predmore, Oakland, MI



Continue practicing Tai Chi by learning the remaining movements of the Yang style while reviewing the basic principles of Tai Chi. This class is for those students who have already learned the first third of the Yang Style (Chen Man Ching) Tai Chi form and/or have the permission of the instructor. All sessions are led by Marci Jenkins who has over 20 years of Tai Chi training and practice. 10 participants.

Resident registration: open now

May 11 - June 29 (8 week session)	Residents: **$40**	Non-Residents: **$60**
Non-Resident Registration opens: **April 20**	Register by: **May 4**	
August 3 - September 7 (6 week session)	Residents**: $30**	Non-Residents: **$45**
Non-Resident Registration opens**: July 13**	Register by: **July 27**	

All Levels Yoga ***Ages 12+***
Sundays 9:30am-10:30am
Cranberry Lake Farm, 388 West Predmore, Oakland, MI

Join Up Dog Yoga and Oakland Township Parks and Recreation as they team up to bring you high quality yoga! *All Levels* classes will accommodate all skill levels with an option to modify. Bring your water bottle and yoga mat. Classes meet outdoors. 15 participants. 6 weeks.

Resident registration: open now

May 15- June 19	Non-Resident Registration opens: **April 24**	Register by: **May 8**
June 26- July 31	Non-Resident Registration opens: **June 5**	Register by: **June19**
August 7- September 11	Non-Resident Registration opens: **July 17**	Register by: **July 31**
	Residents: **$30**	Non Residents: **$45**

Slow Flow Yoga ***Ages 12+***
Sundays 11:00am-12:00pm
Cranberry Lake Farm, 388 West Predmore, Oakland, MI

Join Red Lotus Yoga and Oakland Township Parks and Recreation for high quality yoga! *Slow Flow* classes will be more of a challenge with longer holds and postures. Bring your water bottle and yoga mat. Classes meet outdoors. 15 participants. 6 weeks. **Resident registration: open now**

May 15- June 19	Non-Resident Registration opens: **April 24**	Register by: **May 8**
June 26- July 31	Non-Resident Registration opens: **June 5**	Register by: **June19**
August 7- September 11	Non-Resident Registration opens: **July 17**	Register by: **July 31**
	Residents: **$30**	Non Residents: **$45**

Oakland Township Parks & Recreation
Summer 2022 Camps
Register online:oaklandtownship.recdesk.com

Explore Archery Camp ***Ages 8 - Adult***
Monday, June 27 - Friday, July 1 **10:00am - 12:00pm**
Marsh View Park, 3100 E. Clarkston Rd., Oakland, MI

Explore Archery is a new and innovative archery education program focused on introducing beginners to the lifelong sport of archery. In Explore Archery, campers earn achievement awards through active participation in individual and team building activities that teach fundamental skills. This camp is not based on campers' athletic abilities or their capabilities to shoot a perfect score. It is fun, rewarding, and most important-safe!
Resident registration**: open now** Non resident registration opens: **June 6**
Residents: $100 **Non-Residents: $120** Register by: **June 20**

Outdoor Skills Camp **Grades 5 - 9**
Monday, July 11 - Friday July 15 10:00am - 12:30pm
Oakland Township Parks

Basic outdoor skills including archery, kayaking, and fishing (catch & release). This course covers survival skills like reading a map, recognizing your surroundings, fire starting, shelter building, obtaining drinkable water, wild plant identification and animal observation. Maximum 12 participants.
Resident registration **open now** Non-resident registration opens**: June 20**
Register by: July 5 **Resident: $100** **Non-Resident: $120**

Next Step Outdoor Skills Camp **Grades 5 - 9**
Monday, July 25- Friday, July 29 10:00am - 1:00pm
Friday 2:00 - 4:30pm Optional bonus session at Bald Mountain Gun Range
Oakland Township Parks

An extension of Outdoor Skills Camp, activities range from archery skills refresher, target shooting games and beginning bow hunting, kayaking and fishing, animal identification and tracking, plant identification and edibles, land navigation, and a Survival Day finale. Optional gun safety session includes handling and basic shooting skills at Bald Mountain Gun Range (taught by NRA certified instructor). Maximum 12 participants.
Prerequisite: Outdoor Skills Camp or similar course.
Resident registration **open now** Non-Resident registration opens: **July 4**
Register by: July 18 **Resident: $120** **Non-Resident: $140**

RSC Summer Soccer Camps 2022
Marsh View Park soccer fields, 3100 E. Clarkston Rd. in Oakland Township

Micro Soccer Camps (ages 3-5 years old) **July 18-22 – 6:30pm-7:30pm at Marsh View Park**
Micro Soccer Camps foster a love of physical activity while introducing soccer skills through a variety of games and activities. Micro camps run Monday-Friday and sessions last 1 hour. $65 Session

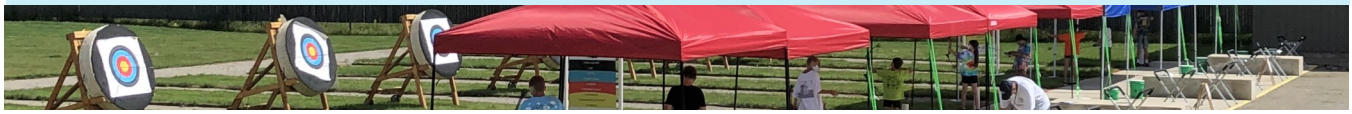
Summer Soccer Camps (ages 6-12 years old) **July 18-22 – 6pm-7:30pm at Marsh View Park**
RSC Summer Soccer Camps work with each players abilities to continue their development and love of soccer. Players are broken up into groups based on age and ability so all players are challenged and have a great experience. Camps run Monday-Friday and sessions last 90 minutes. $90 Session

Every player should come dressed and ready to play soccer each day. Shin guards, cleats, soccer ball and water bottles are highly recommended for each player every day they attend camp. Sun screen applied prior to arriving is also recommended. There is no shade out on the soccer fields.
Please visit the Rochester Soccer Club Camp website for more information and to register for the RSC summer camp program. For questions, please call 248-650-0113.
Rochester Soccer Club (RSC)
248-650-0113 **www.rscsoccerrecreation.org**

Oakland Township Parks & Recreation
Summer 2022 Archery Programs

Register online:oaklandtownship.recdesk.com

Marsh View Park Archery Range, 3100 E Clarkston Rd., Oakland, MI 48363



Beginning Archery **Saturdays** ***Ages 8-Adult***

Looking for something new and fun to try on a beautiful summer Saturday morning? This fun class is for you and your family! Our instructors will cover safety, equipment and basic fundamentals of shooting. Sanitized equipment provided. Resident registration: **open now** Residents: **$60** Non-Residents: **$75**

June 4 - July 16, 9:00am-10:00am, *(No class June 18 & July 2)*
Non-Resident registration Opens**: May 14** Register by: **May 28**

June 4 - July 16, 11:30am-12:30pm, *(No class June 18 & July 2)*
Non-Resident registration Opens**: May 14** Register by: **May 28**

July 23 - August 20, 9:00am-10:00am
Non-Resident registration Opens: **July 2** Register by: **July 16**

July 23 - August 20, 11:30am-12:30pm
Non-Resident registration Opens: **July 2** Register by: **July 16**

Next Step Archery **Saturdays 10:15am-11:15am** ***Ages 8-Adult***

Once you've completed our Beginning Archery program, take your skills to the next level by improving your form, discover the use of sights to improve your aim, and sharpen your release skills to prepare yourself for competition or to simply master the target during practice. This program is designed for everyone over the age of eight. 5 weeks.

Resident registration: **open now** Residents: **$60** Non-Residents: **$75**

June 4 - July 16, *(No class June 18 & July 2)*
Non-Resident registration Opens: **May 14** Register by: **May 28**

July 23 - August 20 Non-Resident registration Opens: **July 2** Register by: **July 16**

Marsh View Park Archery Club **Wednesdays 5pm-6pm** ***Ages 12-18***

If you enjoyed Team Archery then join our archery club!! Get together with your Team Archery friends to have some fun shooting and competing while learning some new pieces to the archery puzzle. We will meet each Wednesday evening during the summer to shoot. Along the way you'll learn new skills, improve your accuracy, and play games. For those interested in becoming a more serious archer, we will teach you how to use sights which will get you ready for the next level. Use our equipment or bring your own. 8 weeks.

Resident registration: **Open now** Residents: **$80** Non-Residents: **$95**

June 29 - August 17 Non-Resident registration Opens: **June 8** Register by: **June 22**

Open Range Shoot **FREE** **Saturdays & Thursdays** ***Ages 8-Adult***

Range supervised by certified USA Archery Instructors. Not sure how to shoot? Range Masters can assist you with our 1st Shot Demo Program - 5 minute teaching time/demo during Open Range Shoot Session Times. Free Loan Program eligible - bows, arrows and targets provided or bring your own. Children between 8 and 17 years of age must be accompanied by an adult.

Saturdays, June 4– August 20 Choose a 45 minute session
12:45pm-1:30pm, 1:45pm-2:30pm, 2:45pm-3:30pm
(Limited availability on certain Saturdays. Please check online for schedule)

Thursdays, May 19– August 25 Choose a 45 minute session
6:30pm-7:15pm, or 7:30pm-8:15pm
(No Sessions, June 23, July 28 or August 11 Check online for schedule)

Registration required : **Open now**

Become an archery instructor!

USA Archery Level 1 Practical Instructor Course ***Ages 15+***

Tuesday, June 21, 5pm-9pm

Marsh View Park Archery Range, 3100 E. Clarkston Rd., Oakland, MI

This certification course provides the necessary tools to maintain a high level of safety both on and off the archery range for camps and beginner archery programs. To successfully complete the requirements for this certification, students must successfully pass the USA Archery Level 1 Instructor Certification online course and complete the "in-person" USA Archery Level 1 Instructor practical course.

The USA Archery Level 1 Instructor will learn about range safety, range setup, the steps of shooting, equipment and repair, programs and lesson plans and is well prepared to teach beginner archery programs to people of all ages and abilities in a variety of disciplines.

Added Bonus!

If you complete the online and practical portions of the Level 1 certification course and are hired to teach for one outdoor season as a paid instructor with Oakland Township Parks and Recreation, OTPR will reimburse the cost of the Practical portion of the Level 1 certification course!

Courses Pre-requisites:

Minimum Age: 15

Must be a member of USA Archery. Join USA Archery https://bit.ly/USAAmember.

⇒ **Certification Step One: Complete Instructor Level 1 Online Course** Register and complete online course (Course cost $40) link to registration https://bit.ly/ArcheryInstructorLevel1.

⇒ **Certification Step Two: Complete *USA Archery Level 1 Practical Instructor Course***
$65 Registration open now at oaklandtownship.recdesk.com

Archery Tournament

Sunday August 21, 2022 10AM

Location: Marsh View Park, 3100 Clarkston Rd., Oakland Twp., MI

Age Groups: 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75-79, 80-84, 85-89, 90-94, 95-99, 100+

Divisions: Compound Release, Compound Finger, Recurve, Barebow Compound, Barebow Recurve

Rounds: 900 American, 60, 50, & 40 yds.
30 arrows at each distance.

***Official Qualifier for the 2023 National Senior Games

How to Register: Please call 248-608-0250 or visit our website at www.michiganseniorolympics.org

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JULY 22, 2022

The health and safety of our community is our priority. Our team of staff and instructors are trained in safety protocol that follow CDC guidelines and are equipped with Personal Protection Equipment and gear (PPE).
We recommend participants, instructors and spectators socially distance
(staying at least 6 feet apart from others) and where not possible wear a face mask.

DISCOVER!

LOST LAKE NATURE PARK

Nature Center | Open Houses | Fishing Dock | Sled Hill

A Partnership between Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve and Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission

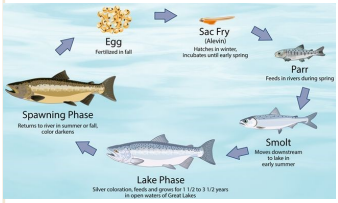
www.DinosaurHill.org | 846 Lost Lake Trail, Oakland Township, MI 48363 | (248) 656-0999

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation and Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve have partnered to bring Oakland Township residents and others exciting programs at Lost Lake Nature Park! Family, friends and neighbors are invited to explore themed indoor and outdoor activities at any of these **FREE** drop in events, with no pre-registration required.

FREE! FREE!

Starting July 2022, Open House events will be every 2nd Saturday & 4th Sunday of the month!

Sunday, June 12th 12-4pm & Saturday, June 25th, 12-3pm – Fish Frenzy!

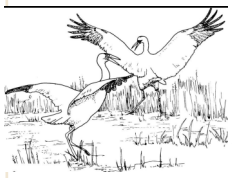


Join us on **Sunday, June 12th** for Michigan's Free Fishing Weekend. Cast your rod at the dock, make a fish imprint painting and look at fish scales under the microscope. Take home some fish recipes. This session will be all about Michigan's game fish.

On **Saturday, June 25th we**'ll explore more fish activities. Dissect a model fish, learn the lifecycle of a salmon, and play Fashion a Fish before looking for fish in the lake.

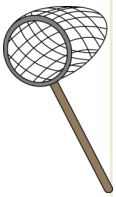
Saturday, July 9th 12-3 pm & Sunday, July 24th, 12-3 pm – Birds of Prey

On **Saturday, July 9th** we'll discuss raptors- owls, eagles, hawks, & falcons, with several mounts to see up close. Hear recordings of their calls. Learn about some of the signs that raptors leave behind before going for a hike to search for them. Make a raptor silhouette mobile to help identify what birds are in the sky.



The focus on **Sunday, July 24** will be on other large birds that eat meat but don't have talons- just normal feet. These include herons, vultures, and cranes. Make an origami crane. Hear their calls and learn about their lives. Outside we'll practice building heron-sized nests.

Saturday, August 13th 12-3 pm & Sunday, August 28th 12-3 pm – Invertebrates of Land & Water



On **Saturday, August 13th** we'll use pond nets to dip for macroinvertebrates in Lost Lake and bring them inside to identify using a dichotomous key. Learn about what these animals tell us about water quality. Craft a dragonfly out of natural materials.

Sunday, August 28th join us in the meadow to learn proper sweep net technique and search for insects in the plant life. Bring the bugs inside and use a field guide to identify their species. Trace an insect picture on a piece of plastic & color it to make a bug magnet.

Open Houses take place at Lost Lake Nature Park, 846 Lost Lake Trail
Located about 1 1/4 miles west of Rochester Rd, just south of Predmore.
For more information visit: www.dinosaurhill.org
Dinosaur Hill offers programs at other Township parks as well.
Check out pages 4-5 to see what is coming up soon!

Fascinating Fox Facts

By Dr. Sue M. Neal, Executive Director, Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve

The early relatives of dogs are thought to have broken into three different distinct lines of lineage which are the 'western dogs', the 'bone crushing dogs' and Caninae. Caninae are the only line of lineage that are still alive today and include domestic dogs, wolves, jackals and foxes oh my! Domestic dogs are more closely related to wolves than they are to foxes. Around 10 million years ago, canids underwent a lot of change that marked the emergence of the three main groups of dogs that we think about today including Canis (dogs & wolves), Urocyon (Gray foxes) and our Oakland Township friend the red fox (which belong to the genera called Vulpes or 'true foxes'). The red fox has certainly been successful since then, as they are the most widespread land carnivore in the world and there are some very good reasons for this!

One of the most obvious adaptations of the red fox is that amazing coat of fur! Fur covers most of the fox's body and is quite dense. Their fur grows in 'triads' which are bundles of one guard hair, two intermediate hairs and varying numbers of awn (or underfur). The guard hairs are shed in the spring as the fox gets ready for warmer weather. Their fur is also used as camouflage and there are many different color morphs of red fox depending on the locale that they call home and they can appear to be different colors whether you see them in winter months (when they are wearing their winter coats) versus when you see the exact same fox in the summer months.

That same fur also covers the amazing tail of the red fox…another very obvious adaptation. That tail can be up to 40% of the total length of the average red fox! The supposed record of an observed fox tail is almost two feet long! That is pretty big when you consider the red fox are relatively small animals. A fox tail has a few different uses. Much like cats, fox use their tail to aid in balance. But the most obvious use is to provide a nice warm snuggly wrap that they curl around themselves while sleeping and sitting in the cold weather.

They have whiskers on their legs as well as their faces which can help them sense their way around. In addition, their eyes are specially adapted for low-light conditions so that they are able to efficiently hunt and stay safe even when it is dark out. Most canids have round pupils but foxes are distinct in that they have a vertical pupil shape more similar to cats. You may also have noticed that they have brilliant amber colored eyes. Some scientists speculate that this tone is the fox equivalent of wearing a nice pair of glare-blocking sunglasses. They also have unique structures in their eye to aid in efficient collection of light (which is why their eyes reflect light if 'caught in the headlights', just like deer). These adaptations allow for hunting any time of day…so much so that they are visually classified as 'arrhythmic' meaning they see well during any time of day.

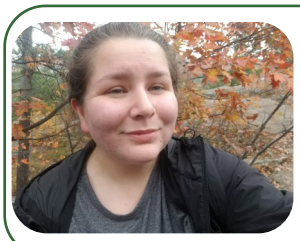
Now there are more ways to 'see' than you might realize. It has been speculated that fox actually use the earth's geomagnetic field to help them when they are hunting. Biologists tested this and found that foxes hunting in high grass (where they could not easily 'see' the mouse they were after) were most successful in capturing their prey when they were facing north-east. This led the researchers to the conclusion that red foxes may use the earth's geomagnetic field as a sort of 'range finder' that they use to align the sound of prey movement with a visible 'shadowy ring' of the magnetic field. This helps them pinpoint the sound and effectively pounce on their prey even when they cannot visually see the prey. Wow red fox!

(Continued on page 13)

Team Update

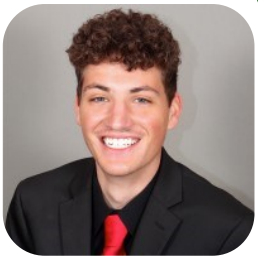
Camryn Brent joins our team this summer as a land stewardship technician. She grew up in Bloomfield Hills and became interested in the natural sciences through her local nature center. She loves to go on hikes and identify the native species that make Michigan's natural communities. Since graduating from Michigan State University in May 2021 with a degree in Fisheries and Wildlife, she has worked on several invasive species field crews. She is ecstatic to be joining Oakland Township Parks and Recreation and grateful for this experience to further her understanding of what it means to steward the land and her community.

Emma Campbell joins our team this summer as a land stewardship technician. She will graduate later this year with a Bachelor's in Field Ecology and Environmental Studies from Ohio University. At Ohio University, Emma has conducted research which has identified hybrids of several species of clubmosses. Her education has fueled her obsession with all things wild. She is happiest in the outdoors and spends most of her free time hiking, backpacking, and kayaking. Emma is looking forward to having the opportunity to apply ecological principles while working with Oakland Township Parks & Recreation and to explore all that Michigan has to offer.



Cassie Stitzman joins our team this summer as a land stewardship technician. She is currently pursuing her degree in Fisheries and Wildlife Management at Northern Michigan University. Within her first year at Northern, she discovered an interest in invasive species management and endangered species protection, and hopes to one day be part of this field of study. Cassie is excited to work with Oakland Township Parks and Recreation to contribute to the community and grow as a person. She is grateful for the opportunity and looks forward to meeting new people.

My name is **Cameron** Gutierrez. I am 19 years old and a sophomore at Rochester University (RU). I plan on graduating in the summer of 2024 with a Bachelor's Degree in Sports Management. I play on the men's soccer team at RU. I have played soccer since I was eight years old and am a true fan of the sport. Actually, I love all sports, and am passionate about sports in general. This passion has directed my studies and future career goals. I want to pursue a career in sports management as a high school athletic director and ultimately an athletic director at the collegiate level. I love working the soccer fields during play at Marsh View Park! In my spare time, I love to spend time with my girlfriend and my family.



Welcome back to our returning Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Seasonal staff!

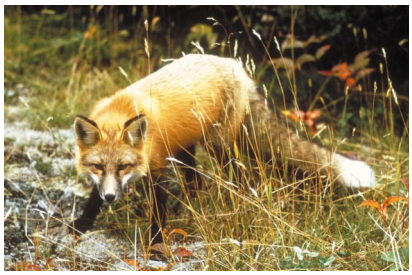
Dan Barton, Maintenance Technician is returning for his sixth year. Dan is part of the three person team that keep the Parks safe, clean and in great order! We are glad to have you back!

Brooke Patrician returns for her second year as an Assistant Archery Instructor. Brooke has been supporting the Team Archery program and will be involved in other Archery programs at Marsh View Park!

Fascinating Fox Facts

By Dr. Sue M. Neal, Executive Director, Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve

(Continued from page 11)



Speaking of hunting, those big ears sure come in handy when hunting for mice. It is estimated that the red fox has the best hearing sensitivity of any mammal which means they are able to hear a mouse squeak from 100 feet away! They are also able to hear lower frequency sounds than humans can. This can come in helpful when you are trying to hear the movement of a mouse beneath a layer of snow. In addition to their beautiful fur, their amazing eyes and those big ears, foxes can run at speeds of up to 30mph and readily jump over a six-foot fence…they have even been known to climb trees to sit on a comfy branch and they can swim if need be. It is no wonder that they have been very successful!

With all this going for them you might think that there are no risks to the red fox. Just like many other animals, however, fox confront a number of threats. Hunting is one threat as people have historically been attracted to hunting them for that same amazing fur that has helped the fox survive. Habitat loss is another key problem for them as humans claim more and more of the landscape. Along with direct loss of habitat, more people means more cars. Being hit by a car is one primary threat to a young fox cub. You can help fox by leaving parts of your yard 'wild' including some small piles of brush where fox can find shelter and by driving carefully, especially at night!

Want to learn more about other canids of Michigan? Join Dinosaur Hill Naturalists for **Seasonal Adult Hike: Canines** program on Friday, June 10. *See page 4 for program details, and register online at:* https://oaklandtownship.recdesk.com

A Remembrance Event for Alice Tomboulian

will be held at the *Pavilion in Bear Creek Nature Park*
on *Saturday, May 21*, gathering at 1 p.m. and memorial at 2 p.m.

Alice Tomboulian was a long-time Oakland Township resident with many decades of service to her community and was one of the early advocates of the OT parks system.

This outdoor event will be held in the first OT park, located at 740 W. Snell Road, Rochester, MI.

Meet family, neighbors, and friends. Read, see, and hear about Alice's life, plus a surprise dedication.

Oakland Press, July 1970.

"In the '70s, Alice was serving on the OT Board of Trustees. Armed with her own nature study and her son Mark's wonderful list of the wildlife and plant life in the marsh, she proposed to the Parks Commission the creation of the township's first park. … in 1977, the OT Parks Commission purchased the 107 acres of land which is now Bear Creek Nature Park …"
Source: Cammie Mannino, "Bear Creek Becomes a Park,"
Oakland Natural Areas, 03/30/2016

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

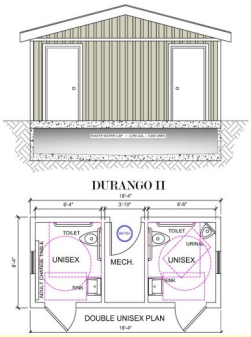
Thank you friends and family of Ruth Glass!

Ruth Glass loved nature and had a special passion and deep knowledge of birds. Ruth's family approached Oakland Township Parks and Recreation with a request to purchase a park bench in her memory. A new bench at Paint Creek Junction Park is dedicated in Ruth's honor. OTPR, and Ruth's friends and family hope you will enjoy the bench and take a moment to drink in the beauty of nature and the birds all around you. Thank you to everyone who donated in her memory. Our lives and community are richer for having known Ruth.

Typical park bench style

Parks and Recreation Director Mindy Milos-Dale with bench donor representatives Kerry and Kathy Ruhig, Colleen Smith, and Dr. Ben VanderWeide. A bench was donated in honor of Ruth Glass.

Coming Soon! Permanent Restrooms at Bear Creek Nature Park and Marsh View Park



Oakland Township Parks and Recreation was awarded two Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grants to provide permanent restrooms at Bear Creek Nature Park and Marsh View Park! The new additions are ADA Compliant, double unisex restrooms with flushing toilets and water. One bathroom in each unit will have a changing table that is designed for use by adults and children of all ages. The restrooms, made in the USA, are modular buildings from Green Flush Technologies. They are eco-friendly and install in a relatively quick time frame. We think Oakland Township Park users will be pleased with the restroom upgrades and short build times! Watch our website for build updates and photos! bit.ly/OTPRCHome

Maintenance Updates

Our dedicated maintenance staff keep Oakland Township Parks safe and clean, AND save tax dollars by keeping tasks in-house! Draper Twin Lake's new portable toilet shelter is just one example. Park staff designed and built the structure, including pouring the concrete pad and footings. Job well done gentlemen!

New enclosure at Draper Twin Lake Park

Portable Disc Golf Loan!

Portable disc golf equipment is available for loan.

Disc golf is a great way for people of all ages and abilities to spend time outdoors in Oakland Township parks with friends and family while getting in a little exercise. Oakland Township residents may borrow our disc golf baskets and discs for free! It only takes 5-10 minutes and 3 easy steps to set up the portable *Mach Lite* disc golf baskets. Each *Mach Lite* basket weighs less than 27 pounds and comes in its own carrying case, making them easy to transport and set-up on your own mini-course.

The total disc golf loan includes four baskets and four sets of discs. Set up your course in an Oakland Township Park or at your home!

Call the Oakland Township Parks and Recreation office at 248-651-7810 for further details.

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU WENT OUTSIDE?

Academic research shows that spending time in nature is good for your mental health

BENEFITS OF BEING OUTSIDE

Improved Mood

Researchers in Japan found that after walking through forests instead of cities, people saw an overall mood improvement of:

11%

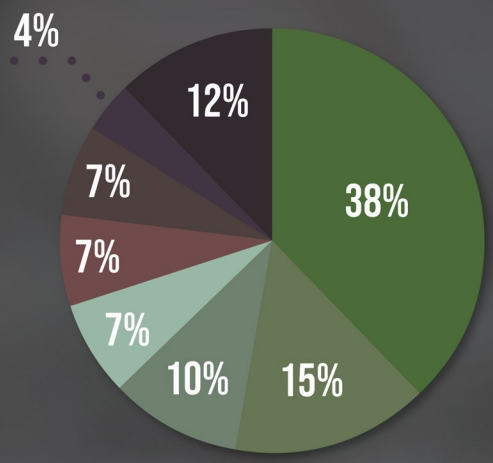
- ↓ 3% DEPRESSION
- ANXIETY ↓ 15%
- ↓ 4% ANGER
- FATIGUE ↓ 16%
- ↓ 7% CONFUSION
- VIGOR ↑ 23%

Benefits can be Achieved Quickly

Researchers in England found that people start achieving mental health benefits after spending 2 hours a week in nature. They also discovered that spending less than 2 hours provides no more benefits than spending no time at all, making it important that we get outside often.

WAYS TO REACH THE 2-HOUR THRESHOLD

Better Recovery from Crises



Most important values derived from nature among Vermonters, May 2020

KEY:

- Mental well-being
- Appreciating beauty
- Sense of identity
- Exercise
- Spirituality
- Food
- Tradition
- Other

In a survey of Vermont residents, researchers found that people's value of and activities in nature increased during the pandemic. People especially relied on nature for mental health support.

A similar study conducted in Detroit found that people's appreciation of nature increased during the pandemic, but outdoor activities declined due to the risk posed by COVID-19.

HOW IS THIS HELPFUL?

We can easily incorporate short walks through nature into our routines. A 2014 study was designed to see if taking 15-minute walks through parks during lunch breaks helped office workers, providing an ideal template for the average person. Try it for a week and see if your mental health improves!

Graphic created by Braden Quesenberry, Oakland Township Resident

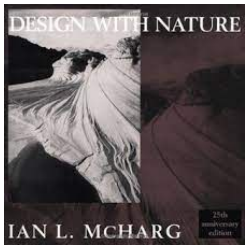
20th Anniversary of Land Preservation

excerpt from History of Oakland Township Parks Commission, by Peggy Johnson June 2, 2010

September 2021 marked the 20th Anniversary of Oakland Township voters supporting local Land Preservation through a millage. To honor the support of our Township residents, starting with the Winter 2022 issue, we are reprinting a series of relevant articles. Here is the second article in this series: An excerpt from History of Oakland Township Parks Commission, originally presented by Peggy Johnson June 2, 2010 to Oakland Township Historical Society.

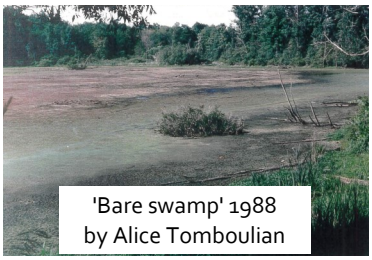
An account of the history of the Parks Commission must begin with an understanding of the context in which it was created.

From 1969-74 in Oakland Township there was a very active citizens association formed in response to a number of perceived threats: a utility's cutting down of a national champion serviceberry tree bearing a bronze plague (that led to Michigan's Natural Beauty Road legislation), gravel mining expanding westward into Oakland Township, construction of the Paint Creek interceptor sewer (while intended to save the creek from pollution it threatened to kill it with construction; state and county plans were changed by citizens pressure from 48 to 13 creek crossings and a Department of Natural Resources manual "Protection of Natural Resources in Construction Projects" was written).



We watched urban sprawl envelop Troy and then Avon Township to our south. The citizens motto was "Change is inevitable; but only intelligent change is progress." A slide show was produced, titled "It Doesn't Have to Be That Way". A still famous book "Design With Nature" was embraced. A Master Land Use Plan was adopted to guide development away from the sensitive areas where there would be the greatest adverse impacts - floodplains, steep slopes, wetlands, woodlands - to those lands most suitable for development. In the early 1970s there was an inventory of the significant natural areas in the township; 36 volunteers each took a square mile and went forth armed with aerial photos and USGS maps This survey by amateurs was followed in 1974 by the first Michigan professional natural resources inventory at the township level by Paul Thompson from Cranbrook's Science Institute. His Ecological Survey has served to guide the Park Commission's land acquisitions.

After the planning come the question "How to implement these adopted public policies?" The idea arose to have a Parks Commission whose role would be leading in protecting the Green Infrastructure while the Planning Commission and Board would typically address development or the Grey Infrastructure- buildings, roads, sewers and water lines- with later concern on the role developers can play on open spaces within their subdivisions.


'Bare swamp' 1988
by Alice Tomboulian

In 1974 township voters were asked to approve establishment of a Parks Commission and to provide a 3/4 mill tax for acquisition of public parklands. The ballot campaign focused on the threat of rapid urban sprawl with the message "the bulldozers are coming...but you can stop some of them." A flyer proposed "Voters in Oakland Township will be asked to make what may well be the most important decision in the township's history...shall we approve the township's beginning now to acquire land to preserve the critical natural areas, to provide community recreation, and to guide development within a framework of open space?" The local economic benefits were also emphasized:

> There is extensive evidence that parks and open space markedly enhance the value of local properties. We invest largely in our homes; when we eventually sell we'11 see a return on our investment in open space.
>
> Residential development costs more to provide services than it generates in tax revenues. Farmlands and open space on the other hand provide revenue exceeding their demand for services. Cows don't

(Continued on page 17)

20th Anniversary of Land Preservation

(Continued from page 16) excerpt from History of Oakland Township Parks Commission, by Peggy Johnson June 2, 2010

go to school; wildlife doesn't demand paved roads.

These arguments have been bolstered by several recent studies specific to Michigan and southeast Michigan that confirm there is roughly a 50¢ loss with every dollar gained from residential property tax and a 5¢ gain from taxes on undeveloped land.

Formation of the Park Commission immediately inspired the first donation of land in 1974, the Mill Race Park connecting the Paint Creek and Goodison cider mills with a safe pathway off Orion Road.

Following Earth Day in 1970 the PTA at Baldwin School led in establishing an outdoor education program and nature center at the school. Bused field trips were ending so a walking trip to the Devereaux lands behind the township hall, between Snell and Gunn Roads were promoted, with Mr. Devereaux's enthusiasm. Various natural resources experts were invited for teachers' workshops so they might confidently lead the children in exploring these lands. So when Mr. Devereaux died this already familiar land was the first to be acquired by the Park Commission, now known as Bear Creek Park.

In the 1960s a Presidential Commission on Americans Outdoors predicted that interest would focus on abandoned railroad ROWs and trails would be "the parks of the 21st century". The Penn Central railroad was a major feature of the Oakland Township landscape. In expectation of abandonment a first meeting was held in 1974 with representatives of the railroad and local, county, state people. Three years later Penn Central was in bankruptcy and another meeting concluded that negotiations for purchase had to await the end of the bankruptcy proceedings. In 1980 we received a phone call "We're done with bankruptcy…let's immediately meet to make a deal"

Blue Heron Environmental Area 1999

Two years later we had persuaded four local governments to form the Paint Creek Trailways Commission and to provide the local funds to buy the property. A last minute grant was also provided by the state. This was the first such multiuse trail established in suburban Michigan. A few narrow gauge ROWs up north had been acquired by the MDNR for snowmobile users. Today the Paint Creek Trail is still often cited as the leader in the trails movement in Michigan. It set the precedent for a now extensive network of trails across Oakland County and all of southeast Michigan.

In 1990-91 the Park Commission completed acquisition of the 139 acre Blue Heron Environmental Area. At that time a major rookery was known to have persisted for years, providing the herons to be seen in many local ponds, along the streams, and in regional parks within 20 miles. While the birds were gone in the winter trails were used by snowmobilers.

In 1990 Charles Ilsley donated 83 acres of his property on east Predmore Road with the stipulation that there be only passive recreation use until 2014. Paths are maintained for wildlife observation and picnicking.

Acquisition of this 191 acre Cranberry Lake Park was completed in 1996. This led to the agreement between the Park Commission and the Historical Society to turn over management of the area with the historical buildings to the Society. The fruits of their labors we are enjoying tonight.

Early land acquisitions were funded by the parks levied millage. Later there were successful applications for state grants with the millage revenue providing the required local match. Other local governments are often challenged to come up with the local match, especially with the recent belt tightening in these financial hard times in Michigan. Sadly we are reading of places forced to close their parks and lay off all parks staff.

Eligibility for state/federal grants depends on adoption of an updated Parks and Recreation Plan every five years. Throughout its history the Parks and now Recreation Commission has been diligent in seeking public input and conducting periodic public opinion surveys. Indeed a survey of all township residents in 1974 included questions setting a course that has held steady throughout periodic subsequent surveys. The early

(Continued on page 19)

We Need Your Help!

As we get back to our new normal, Oakland Township Parks and Recreation and Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve want your feedback to help us to continue to offer great nature programs. To complete our survey, go online to https://bit.ly/NatureSurvey2022, scan the QR code, email this page to parks@oaklandtownship.org, or mail to: OTPR Nature Survey, 4393 Collins Road, Rochester, MI 48306 **by Sunday, June 19, 2022!**

QR Code to Survey

Are you a resident of Oakland Township? _____

Please tell us what has (or would) motivate you to attend a nature program (select all that apply):

- ☐ Nature program topic was something I/my family wanted to learn more about
- ☐ I/we were looking for an activity to interact with other people
- ☐ Getting outside to explore what nature has to offer
- ☐ Other: _____

If you have not attended a nature program, please tell us why (select all that apply):

- ☐ Was not aware of program(s)
- ☐ Topic didn't interest me/my family
- ☐ I/we are not comfortable attending in -person programs
- ☐ Day/time of the program is inconvenient. Tell us what day(s) and time(s) are best (circle all that apply):

  Weekday during the day Weekday after school Weekday evening Weekend during the day
  Weekend evening Other: _____

What Covid-19 safety protocols do you feel are important?

- ☐ Regular sanitizing of facilities and equipment
- ☐ Self-symptom assessment
- ☐ Recommend participants wear masks indoors
- ☐ Limiting the number of participants. What maximum number are you comfortable with:_____
- ☐ Other: _____

If the safety protocols above were implemented, would you be comfortable (select all that apply):

- ☐ Allowing my child to attend a program alone
- ☐ Attending a program as a family
- ☐ Attending a program by myself

What program format(s) would you like to see in the future (select all that apply):

- ☐ Virtual/live-streamed nature programs
- ☐ Self-guided programs (no instructor)
- ☐ Instructor-led, in-person programs
- ☐ Open house style programs where participants "drop-in" between certain times
- ☐ Nature walks to explore a topic within our park system
- ☐ Activity box for pick up with an experiment, craft, or project to do at home
- ☐ Program series that meets weekly (ex: Wildflower program that meets once a week for six weeks)
- ☐ Club that focuses on nature (ex: "teen eco-club", "wildflower club" that meets weekly or monthly)
- ☐ Other: _____

What age group(s) would you like to see nature program offered (select circle all that apply to your household):

Pre-K (Ages 3-5) Ages 13-17 Special Needs
Ages 6-8 Adult Other: _____
_____
Ages 9-12 Family (Ages 3-Adult)

Please let us know what nature program topics you'd like to learn more about (ex: ecology, astronomy, gardening, birds, reptiles, insects, wildflowers, animals): _____

How can we improve the nature programs that we offer? _____

Thank you!

OTHS Announces Big Wheel Fund Drive

The Oakland Township Historical Society is conducting a drive to raise funds to repair and rebuild the Big Red Logging Wheels in front of the Paint Creek Cider Mill.

The funds raised will be donated to the Township Historic District Commission on June 30th to support the efforts of the HDC to repair and rebuild the wheels.

The Historical Society will match the first $5,000 donated to the fund.

The logging wheels have been a fixture at the Paint Creek Cider Mill for decades going back to Dale O. Miller's (Rochester Gear Works) ownership in the mid-1940s. The wheels' history dates to an 1875 invention by Silas C Overpack, from Manistee, Michigan, at the request from local farmers to help transport timbers. While these wheels were restored in 2006 by members of OTHS, various wood rot patches, a broken tongue in 2019, and a rotten axel in 2021 required repair. The continuous decay and wood rot will eventually result in their loss to our community forever if action is not taken.

The HDC has determined that a complete rebuild is required and has located a company that can do the job. The OTHS members intends to collect a sufficient amount to make it possible for the HDC to complete the job and save this symbol of the Township's history for future generations.

DONATIONS CAN BE SENT TO OTHS 384 W. PREDMORE RD, OAKLAND, MI 48363

FLUMERFELT FLEA MARKET

The Oakland Township Historical Society will have their Flumerfelt Flea barn sale on September 17 & 18, 2022 at Cranberry Lake Farm on W. Predmore Road. If you have items to donate to the sale (antiques, collectables, rustic, household, old tools, lamps, furniture and more) please contact Colleen Barkham at 248-652-0712 or thsbarkham@hotmail.com.

20th Anniversary of Land Preservation

(Continued from page 17)

excerpt from History of Oakland Township Parks Commission, by Peggy Johnson June 2, 2010

preference was to acquire land for passive recreation without hurrying to develop facilities for active recreation. Trails and access to natural areas are highly desired. More recently as the population has increased interest is growing in adding structures to the parks.

Incidentally, in the first 22 years the Parks Commission acquired 520 acres of parkland plus the ten miles of the Paint Creek Trail. In the 12 years after that 549 acres were acquired plus creation of very active recreation programs for township residents. Thus the promise of 1974 to keep parks and open space preservation apace with development in the township has been fulfilled.

In the beginning I mentioned a book "Design With Nature" first into our "bookcase" 40 years ago. A recent book "Last Child in the Woods" can be the latest on our shelf. This is a current bestseller among educators and conservationists. It's message is the benefits for human minds and bodies from exploration of the natural world. The parks in Oakland Township provide those opportunities for those of us living here today and generations to come.

And I am reminded of a quote from our fellow citizen Walter Reuther,

"The true meaning of recreation is Re-creation."

Peggy Johnson Biography: On settling in Oakland Township she immediately served as President of the Baldwin School PTA (where her four children were enrolled) and led in establishing the school's nature center and outdoor education programs. After an inspiring 1970 Earth Day talk by Walter Reuther (a neighbor along Paint Creek) at Oakland University, she became active with other township citizens in the Oakland Township Association, focused on land use planning to avoid the negative impacts of urban sprawl. Peggy served on SEMCOG's Environment Protection Advisory Committee, became Executive Director of the Clinton River Watershed Council, an association of local governments, and led in establishing the Paint Creek Trail and the Oakland Land Conservancy (now the Six Rivers Land Conservancy). In 1974 she led in seeking voter approval of establishing a Park Commission and a millage for parkland acquisition and remained on that Commission for twenty years.

Oakland Township Parks Natural Areas Stewardship

Summer 2022 Natural Areas Stewardship Events

Please join us for one of our nature events! Updated information and any last minute changes to these events can be found on our Natural Areas Notebook website at **oaklandnaturalareas.com**.
Please pre-register for all Stewardship events at: https://oaklandtownship.recdesk.com
All minors must have a waiver signed by a guardian, and minors under 14 must be accompanied by a guardian.

Weekly Bird Walks

Join us every Wednesday from June to the end of August for our weekly bird walks. We want to document the bird species using our parks so that we can work to improve their habitat. Walks will start at 8:00 am. Some extra binoculars are available.

1st Wednesday of month – Bear Creek Nature Park
2nd Wednesday of month – Cranberry Lake Park
3rd Wednesday of month – Charles Ilsley Park
4th Wednesday of month – Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park
5th Wednesday of June – Watershed Ridge Park

Birders at Cranberry Lake Park watching several different migrating warblers in a nearby tree. Photo by Tom Korb, a member of the group

Invasive Shrub Workdays at Bear Creek Nature Park

July 21, July 28, and August 4, 9 am to 12 pm

We will be removing invasive shrubs such as glossy buckthorn and autumn olive to help native species thrive around the perimeter of the northern marsh at Bear Creek Nature Park. Wear solid boots, long pants, and a long-sleeved shirt and bring water and a snack. Tools and training will be provided. All workdays are 9 am to 12 pm. Meet in the Snell parking lot at 740 W. Snell Road, Rochester, MI 48306.

Natural Areas Stewardship Summer Social

Tuesday, July 26, 2022, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at Bear Creek Nature Park

Come join us for our summer celebration of natural areas stewardship in Oakland Township! You won't want to miss the hearty conversation. Learn about habitat restoration and volunteer opportunities in our parks while connecting with others involved in our programs. **RSVP appreciated** to 248-651-7810 ext. 401.

Volunteers Needed!

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

Natural Areas Stewardship Volunteers: Spring 2022

Lynda Billotto
Hollie Coleman
Kathleen Dougherty
Patrick Falle
Yachiyo Falle
Jim Fostey
George Hartsig

Louise Hartung
Tom Korb
Cam Mannino
Emily Messick
Bill Pankratz
Laurie Peklo
Doug Peterson

Donna Reed
Jon Reed
Jenny Sigelko
Tom Stoye
Bob Yager

Forestry Mowing for Habitat Restoration

If you've visited Bear Creek Nature Park, Cranberry Lake Park, Draper Twin Lake Park, or Marsh View Park over the last few years, you might have noticed areas where thickets of shrubs were reduced to shreds! We are working in these areas and others to tackle invasive plants like buckthorn, multiflora rose, autumn olive, and oriental bittersweet. This work is part of our broader goal to restore the native wildflowers and grasses that once were common in Oakland Township, improving wildlife and pollinator habitat.

Before 1800 large swaths of southern Michigan were oak savanna, with widely spaced oak trees dotting the landscape. Prairie and woodland wildflowers and grasses grew richly in the dappled light of the understory, maintained by both natural fires and those lit by indigenous people to maintain the open landscape. In his 1835 book "A Winter in the West," Charles F. Hoffman described the savannas that he found while travelling in southern Michigan:

"Clumps of the noblest oaks, with not a twig of underwood, extending over a gently undulating grassy surface as far as the eye can reach: here clustered together in a grove of tall stems supporting one broad canopy of interlacing branches, and there rearing their gigantic trunks in solitary grandeur from the plain…."

In the 1800s extensive farming caused rapid loss of the native prairie and oak savanna that covered two-thirds of Oakland Township. Farming continued in many areas until the 1960s and 1970s, and after farming ceased non-native invasive shrubs quickly established in these fields.

Is it practical to try to exactly recreate the savannas and prairies of the past? Probably not. We live in a much different world today. But where remnants of these special natural communities persist we must work diligently to protect and restore them. Once destroyed the diversity and beauty of these areas cannot be replaced. And in the fallow farm fields we can re-establish native plants that can support beneficial insects, the birds that eat those insects, and all the critters that depend on that energy moving through the food web.

Bear Creek Nature Park before mowing

For many years we tried to use only loppers and chainsaws to control dense stands of invasive shrubs, clearing 5, 10, 20 or even 40 acres per year. Forty acres per year sounds like a lot. But with more than 1500 acres of park property, we would need 25 to 30 years to cover all of the habitat in our parks just once!

To speed up our work, we added forestry mowing to our tool kit. Forestry mowing uses a tractor with a mulching head to grind up invasive shrubs, leaving oaks and other desirable trees. The shredded wood decays over time, returning nutrients to the soil. We work in the winter to prevent oak wilt and to avoid harming nesting birds, reptiles, amphibians, and other wildlife.

In late winter or early spring after forestry mowing, we spread a seed mix of native grasses and wildflowers. When invasive shrubs re-sprout, we spot treat them in summer and early fall. It takes at least three years to thoroughly control invasive shrubs. As native plants re-establish, we will use prescribed fire, brush hogging, spot treatment, and seed additions to continue the restoration process. Watch these areas over the next few years as they continue to change and grow!

Bear Creek Nature Park after mowing

INVASIVE SPECIES TREATMENT NOTICE for Wetland Areas

Oakland Township Parks & Recreation hereby provides notice to the public and property owners for the 2022 control of invasive plants in wetlands within township park properties including *Phragmites australis* (Common reed), invasive cattails (*Typha latifolia* and *Typha x glauca*), reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*), glossy buckthorn (*Frangula alnus*), common buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*), invasive honeysuckle (non-native *Lonicera* species) and Oriental bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*).

Invasive plants can limit access to water bodies for people and wildlife, impair habitat for native plant and animals, lower property values, create a fire hazard, and cause infrastructure damage. We want to stop the spread of these invasive plants in our parks. If you have any other questions about invasive species, please contact Oakland Township Parks & Recreation (see information below).

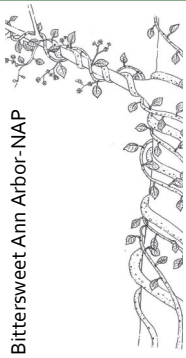
Herbicide Applicators:

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

Schedule & Treatment Locations:

Treatment will take place in 2022 throughout the park system. Treatment dates will depend on weather and the appropriate treatment timing for each target species.

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



Bittersweet Ann Arbor-NAP

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

Herbicide, Methods of Application & Re-Entry Restrictions:

- Herbicides will be applied under Michigan EGLE Aquatic Nuisance Control Certificate of Coverage No. ANC9410084.
- Aquatic herbicides and adjuvants will be used, including Rodeo (glyphosate) or Glyphosate 5.4 (glyphosate) or Round Custom Aquatic (glyphosate), Renovate 3 (triclopyr), Cygnet Select (dye) and Cygnet Plus (drift control, surfactant).
- Foliar applications will be applied by backpack sprayer or by hand wicking. Cut stump applications will be applied with wicking herbicide daubers. The herbicide will be tank mixed.
- **Do not enter treated areas until the spray has dried. Treatment areas near trails and other recreation use areas will have signs indicating this.**

Contact Information:

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

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

Invasive Glossy Buckthorn drawing by Andrea Kingsley

Phragmites Outreach Program for Oakland Township Residents

Phragmites does not recognize property lines, so we want to partner with you! This large, invasive grass grows primarily in wetlands and can reach heights of 15 feet or more. Phragmites (pronounced *frag-MY-tees*) can cause hot, damaging fires if ignited; blocks views at intersections; impairs drainage in streams; crowds out habitat for wildlife and native plants; and reduces property values. We realize that our efforts can only be successful if we collaborate with township residents!

Since 2015 Oakland Township Parks and Recreation (OTPR) has offered residents a cost effective and simple Phragmites control program that is modeled after existing, successful programs in nearby communities. OTPR simplifies the process for you by performing the following services:

1. Acquires a permit from Michigan EGLE to allow Phragmites treatment in wetlands.
2. Pre-qualifies contractor(s) to perform this work.
3. Requests competitive quotes for labor and materials to treat Phragmites for participating landowners.
4. Contracts with qualified companies to complete the treatment. Oakland Township Parks will not make money from this program.
5. Completes the end of season treatment report and submits to EGLE.

The landowner only has to request a no-obligation cost estimate, agree to treatment, and pay the contractor for treatment on their property (at cost). Please visit the Township website page to learn more about the program (goo.gl/ZTP18N).

To participate, landowners, homeowner's associations, or businesses can submit a request for a no-obligation cost estimate by August 1, 2022. As a courtesy to our contractors, applications received after August 1 cannot be considered. Please contact at 248-651-7810 with any questions.

Natural Areas Stewardship Annual Reports

With your continued support we continued to care for the land and water in our township parks in 2021. We controlled priority invasive species like Phragmites and swallow-wort throughout the park system. The Paint Creek Heritage Area – Wet Prairie flourished with renewed invasive shrub control work. We marked 10 years of our natural areas photo monitoring program. And volunteers contributed hundreds of hours monitoring nest boxes, helping with prescribed burns, collecting native plants' seed, clearing invasive shrubs, and writing blog posts. You can find all annual reports since 2014 at https://oaklandnaturalareas.com/about/.

Natural Areas Information at your Fingertips!

Have you checked out our blog recently? The **Natural Areas Notebook** has the latest about what's happening in the parks, news about the latest stewardship work, and up-to-date information about stewardship events. Find this and much more at oaklandnaturalareas.com.

Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District

A community historical center - work in progress for you. Come out to the farm!
For more information contact the Historic District Commission office 248-608-6807
Check the website www.oaklandtownship.org or Facebook: #CLFDistrict

What's new in Oakland Twp.'s historic park?

We will be adding an underground watering system with the addition of five hydrants throughout the district. The Hen House will see needed electrical and building improvements. Coffin's Heritage Horseshoe Garden path -ways will see engraved stone. Two more benches have been donated to the Story Garden, a great place to read and relax! Check out our offerings of great programs and events this year!

Historic District Commission from left: Bob Bowen, John Sanderson, Col. Mark Gerhard, Barbara Barber (Preservation Planner), David Phillips (Chairman), Ron Bargy, Pete Jarzyna, and Lana Mangiapane (BoT Rep). From the HDC Chairman David A. Phillips regarding our Goodison Big Red Logging Wheels. "We are collaborating with OTHS to bring awareness to restore our historic Silas C. Overpack designed wheels. They are a representation of our earliest settlers logging technology dating back to 1875.

***We have weddings at the farm in May and June, please respect the privacy of the wedding guests on their special day!*

Cranberry Lake Farm is open for your enjoyment, relaxation, and exercise. Walk the grounds and see the treasures on display with old implements, stone barbeques, picnic areas, and historic surroundings. Located at 388 West Predmore Road in northern Oakland Township. The sixteen acre historic district is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and represents a rural farmsteads evolution into a recreational retreat.

The TEND strength program runs for six weeks every Tues from 9:30am—10:30am beginning on April 19. We will be meeting in the Flumerfelt barn and the cost is $75 for all six weeks. This fitness program is a non-impact, isometric-based fitness class taught by Patti McGowan, certified trainer. Enjoy getting out in the fresh air and building both your body and mind. Please register with bbarber@oaklandtownship.org.

The Beekeeping program begins May 14th from noon to 1:30pm. Join local beekeeper Preston Zale who will teach you everything you need to know about raising bees, helping the environment, and harvesting honey. Following classes are June 11, July 9, and Aug 13. Great price of $5 for all, please register.

Cranberry Lake Farm—A historic park, at your fingertips!

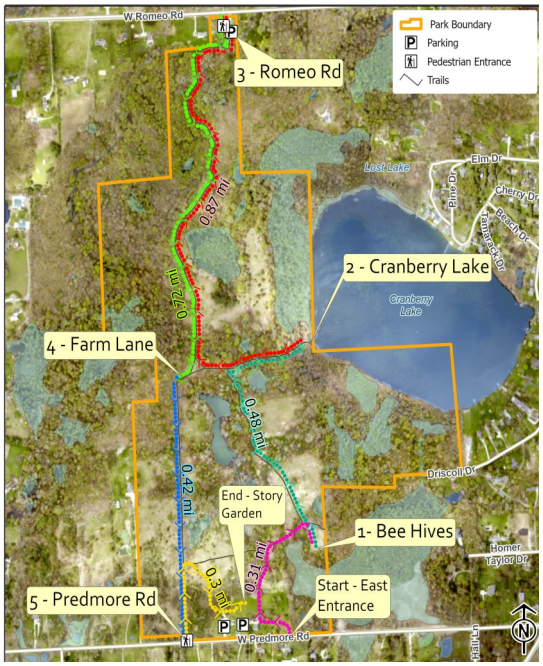
Credit Flumerfelt Barn by Jennifer Hawley Photography on Facebook. Watercolor hen house Janet Almstadt-Davison.

Cranberry Lake Farm

When we found out the MDNR was promoting the Happy Little 5k Run for the Trees event inspired by Bob Ross, we decided to offer a spectacular location for our community to complete their run, jog, or walk. The 5k route will start at the east end of the historic district near the stone barbeque, traveling west past the apple orchard, then to the beehives, to Cranberry Lake, all the way to Romeo Road, then back to Predmore Road via the trails and old farm lane, and finally ending at the newly created Story Garden! We will leave a box of brochure maps for those completing the 5k (3.1 miles) during the week of April 22-April 29, however, if you want to attempt this course anytime of the year, please take a map for your reference. Feel free to take a selfie photo and post it on our facebook page #CLF district.

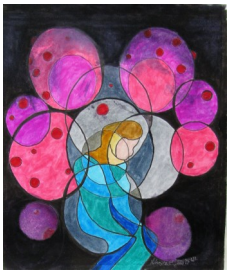
Watch for the MDNR Happy 5k next year, for a Bob Ross

t-shirt, medal, and bib number and all the proceeds go to our state parks. Enjoy your walk, jog or run in our marked course!



A group of CLF Plein Aire painters recently shared their talents when we asked them "What was your saving grace or go-to during the pandemic?"

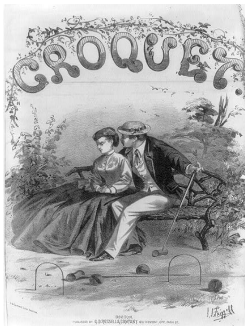
1. Title 'The Years 2020-2021' by Barbara Clay.
2. Title 'No Knead Pandemic Bread' by Linda Bernhard.
3. Painting cards and sending to family and friends by Linda Toms.
4. 'Chasing the Sunlight' A promise to brighter days ahead, Sigrid Grace.
5. Title 'Covid Series 1' thoughts of symbolic cells in abstract and hope by Janet Almstadt-Davison. If you would like to express your creative side, consider coming out to the farm and joining the Plein Aire outdoor painting classes 6/21, 7/19, 8/16, and 9/20 from 10am to 2pm. Bring your own materials, lunch and make a day of it. $25 per person.



You heard right—**Music in the Garden program, July 8, 2022, 6:30pm—8:30pm.** This years event will be featuring musician, David Thomas who will be playing multiple instruments in the Story Garden at CLF. Mr. Thomas is a multi-instrumentalist and singer, playing mainly the trumpet, piano, flute, and piccolo. The farm buildings and main house will be open for self guided tours. We will provide the lawn chairs, so come on out and relax in the garden under the shade of our grand old Silver Maple tree.

Parks and Recreation ***Music in the Meadows*** at CLF June 10 with historic tours of the buildings from 6pm—6:45pm. Oakland Twp Historical Society will have ice cream for sale. Set your chairs around the newly planted Heritage Horse -shoe Garden on the east lawn of the historic main house. The concert runs from 7pm—9pm and the band is Bayberry String Quartet.

Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District
Watch for these upcoming events in 2022



Croquet at the farm on Friday, August 5, 2022 from 6-8pm. A free event for the entire family! Please RSVP so we have enough sets. Bring a picnic dinner and enjoy the lawn game and the summer evening. Rules and game play will be available.

Vintage Dancing in the Flumerfelt Barn, Friday, September 9, 2022 from 6pm to 8pm**.** Rain or shine! The Ruffwater Stringband will be performing with Glen Morningstar calling the shots. Arrive with your picnic dinner, always a good gathering of fun!

The Oakland Township Historical Society Flumerfelt Flea sale is planned for Sept 17-18. Find a keepsake treasure or just stop out to learn about our history.

Down on the Farm is Saturday, October 1, 2022 from 11am to 2pm. FREE family fun! Hayrides, pumpkins, apple picking, chickens, horses and farriers, corn shelling, blacksmithing, spinning, outdoor games, beekeeping, tractors, plein air painters, apron exhibit, and much more! Live music featuring Harmonica George and Just Banjos. Meet your Historic District Commissioners and Historical Society.

** *New Program*—Moons of the Anishinaabeg in the month of November. What did the Michigan Native American tribes and their lunar calendar mean? Learn all about the history behind it—with more details to come!

DID SOMEONE SAY WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH? We celebrated in March our own famous Township historian Delta Kelly (1911-1993). Teacher, historian, and natural resource advocate, Delta Kelly affected lasting changes in Oakland Township, Michigan. Delta surveyed the township's historic resources and spearheaded the first Local Historic District Ordinance that continues to **protect historic properties today**. She became the first Chairperson of the Oakland Township Historic District Commission in 1979. Delta co-founded the Oakland Township Historical Society, and served as their first president. We appreciate our heritage!

June 14 is Flag Day. On June 10, 2022 from 6:00pm to 8pm Boy Scout Troop 60 & 106 will be collecting old American Flags to dispose of properly. **Please drop your folded flags off to the Boy Scout table at the Parks Music in the Meadows concert or during the Historic tours at CLF.** Learn about the meaning of each flag folds: "The ninth fold is a tribute to womanhood, for it is through their faith, love, loyalty and devotion that the character of the men and women who have made this country great have been molded. The tenth fold is a tribute to father, for he has given his sons and daughters for the defense of our country since he or she was first born.

Huge Thank you to Boy Scout Troop 60 and Troop 106 for their continued support at our Down on the Farm event in October, and also to Troop 60 and Girl Scout Troop 70738 for contributing to many Eagle Scout and Silver Award projects that have benefited the farmstead. We appreciate the Scouts!

Oakland Township Residents

Get a Rochester Hills Public Library Card

https://rhpl.org/use-the-library/get-a-library-card

Anyone who lives, works, owns property or is enrolled in a public or private school in Rochester, Rochester Hills, or Oakland Township is eligible to apply for a FREE RHPL library card. Currently, enrolled students attending Oakland University living on or off-campus and Rochester University students living on campus are eligible for membership at our library.
Using the RHPL may reduce or eliminate the need to pay for additional streaming subscription services.

The Rochester Hills Public Library offers library card holders many opportunities and benefits. Many of which can be accessed from any location:

- Access to eBooks, audiobooks, and movie/music streaming through Hoopla, OverDrive/Libby, and Kanopy
- Find resources for the deaf & hard-of-hearing, as well as for those with visual impairments or physical disabilities.
- Schedule meeting room space for your nonprofit, educational, or civic group
- Reserve study room up to one month in advance
- Attend free library programs, concerts & lectures
- Use the Eureka Lab/Makerspace
- Checkout laptops and WiFi hotspots
- Checkout Innovative Items such as musical instruments, sewing machines, craft tools, and more
- Utilize a variety of online resources such as tutor.com, Gale Courses, Ancestry.com, Consumer Reports, Mango Languages, and more
- Checkout Michigan Activity Passes for free access to amusement attractions, historical sites, and parks

"We love listening to audiobooks on Hoopla while driving in the car or outside taking our dog for a walk. The drive through pick up/ drop off is also very convenient when we're short on time. We are so fortunate to have access to such a great library!"

-Jill B

"During the pandemic I really discovered how much our local library has to offer beyond books in the library. I enrolled in Mango Languages to brush up on my French skills. I also found a creative writing class through Gale Courses that encouraged me to start writing a book I've always had in the back of my mind!! I was surprised by how many resources I had access to just by having a card!"

-Susan A

"The past two years has been challenging. Yet our library, managed to offer so many services without needing access to the physical building. My family participated in Zoom meetings, used online services for reading books (Overdrive), practiced a foreign language (Mango) and watched movies (Kanopy). My favorite, the drive-up windows which allow patrons to retrieve and return materials without stepping out of the car."

-Marcia P

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation

Summer 2022 Registration Information

Register online: oaklandtownship.recdesk.com

The health of our community is our priority. Our team of staff and instructors are trained in safety protocol that follow CDC guidelines and are equipped with Personal Protection Equipment and gear (PPE).

Oakland Township Resident registration is open NOW!

(This is for residents living within the Oakland Township boundary.)

Non-Resident registration opens two weeks before the program registration deadline date.
(As noted in the program descriptions)

Programs fill-up quickly so please contact us early!

Registration Options:

1. ONLINE:

We encourage everyone to register online at: oaklandtownship.recdesk.com

You can register for an Oakland Township program at any time, from anywhere you have an internet connection, using a credit card (MasterCard, Visa, or Discover). If you have questions feel free to call 248-651-7810 and we will be happy to walk you through the system.

2. BY MAIL:

For printable registration and waiver forms visit our website:
www.oaklandtownship.org

Mail at least two weeks before program date!

Send the completed forms by USPS mail to:

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation

4393 Collins Rd.

Rochester, MI 48306

Or drop off your registration and waiver forms in the after hours DROP-BOX at Oakland Township Hall,
4393 Collins Rd., Rochester, MI, 48306.

Make checks payable to **Oakland Township Parks and Recreation**

3. IN PERSON:

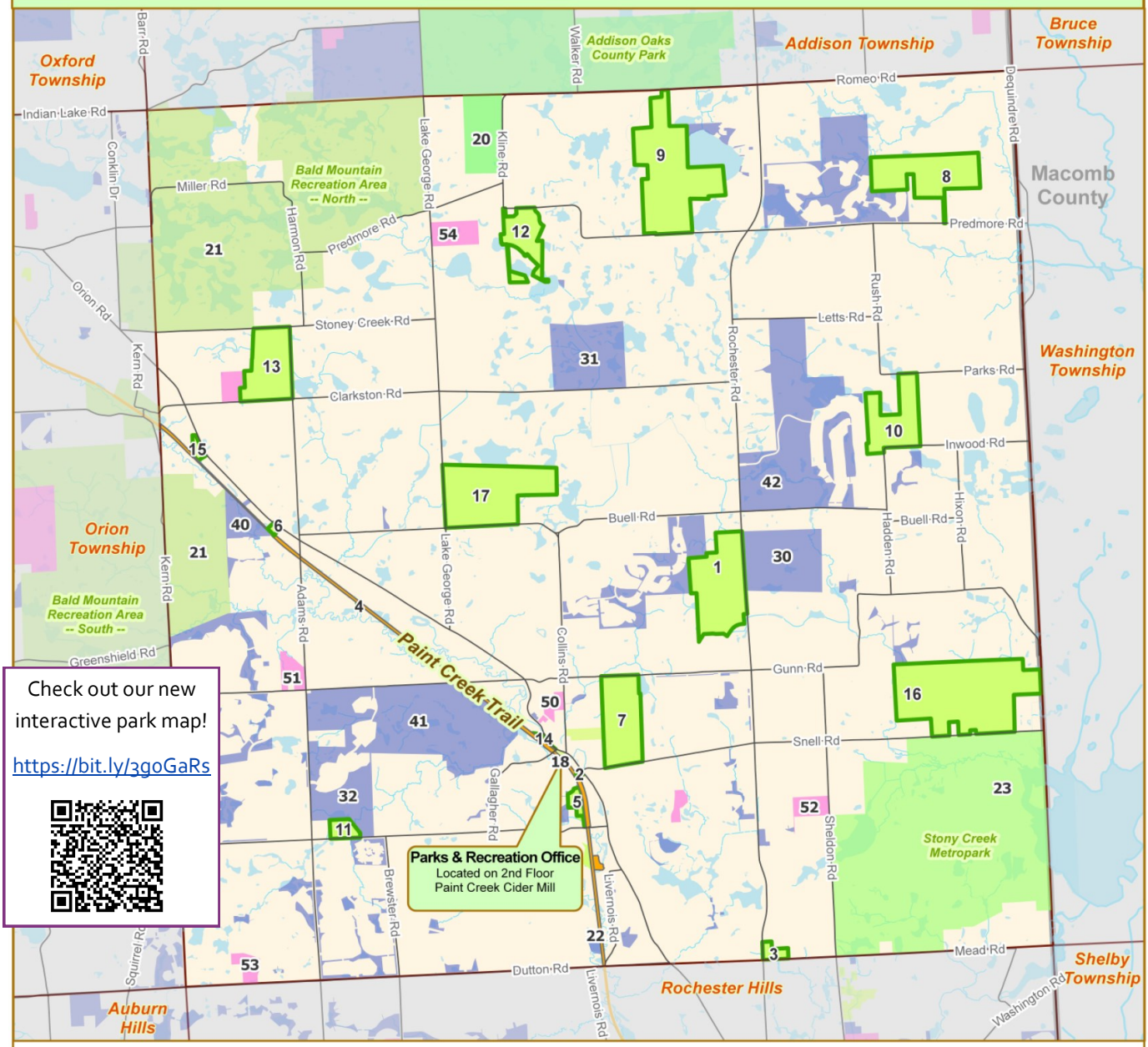
Visit us at our office location and register in person. You can pay by credit card (MasterCard, American Express, or Discover accepted with $2.95 fee) or by cash or check. We are located at the Paint Creek Cider Mill Bldg. (2nd Floor) 4480 Orion Rd., Rochester, MI 48306

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

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation
Program Refund Policy

Registrants will receive a full refund for programs cancelled by Oakland Township Parks and Recreation. Registrants withdrawing more than 4 business days prior to the program start date will receive a refund, less a $5.00 administration fee. No refunds will be made if withdrawing less than 4 business days from program start date. All registrants wishing to withdraw must do so during regular business hours Monday-Friday, 8am-4:30pm by phone at 248-651-7810 or by email at **knewton@oaklandtownship.org**. Visit **www.oaklandtownship.org** for complete program information and other Park and Recreation information, permits, and ordinances.

Parks and Recreation Opportunities in Oakland Township



Check out our new interactive park map!

https://bit.ly/3goGaRs

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Facilities

Conservation Areas

1. Blue Heron Environmental Area
2. Mill Creek Crossing
3. O'Connor Nature Park
4. Paint Creek Heritage Area- Fen
5. Paint Creek Heritage Area - Wet Prairie
6. Paint Creek Trail Parcel

Community Parks & Recreation Facilities

7. Bear Creek Nature Park
8. Charles Ilsley Park
9. Cranberry Lake Park
10. Draper Twin Lake Park
11. Gallagher Creek Park
12. Lost Lake Nature Park
13. Marsh View Park
14. Mill Race Trail
15. Paint Creek Junction
16. Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park
17. Watershed Ridge Park
18. Paint Creek Cider Mill (Parks & Rec Office)

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 Club
32. Westwynd Golf Club

Private Recreation Facilities

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

Public Schools

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

Key to Features:

Municipal Boundary · Major Roads · Lakes & Ponds · Streams & Rivers · Paint Creek Trail · Public Recreation · Private Recreation · Public School

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Last Update: 10/18/2019

Paint Creek Trail News

By Melissa Ford, Trail Manager manager@paintcreektrail.org

National Trails Day
Saturday, June 4, 2022
8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Celebrate National Trails Day this year with a ride, run or walk on the Paint Creek Trail! Participants will start in Lake Orion and head towards Rochester in this timed event. Upon their return to Lake Orion, participants can enjoy the Expo which will feature a number of vendors and exhibitors with information on cycling, running, walking, safety, trail etiquette and more! A bike rodeo will be available for kids to learn and practice critical navigational and safety skills. Food trucks will also be on site with food and beverages for purchase.

Tour participants will receive a Trail passport containing coupons for discounts or freebies at local participating businesses, a beverage ticket for beer, soda, or cider, a voucher for a free donut, and an Expo ticket. The cost to participate is $10. Event t-shirts are available to order for an additional cost.

Expo entry is free to the public. The event starts and ends in Children's Park in downtown Lake Orion. All registrations must be made in advance. For more information, visit http://paintcreektrail.org/wordpress/2022-national-trails-day/.

Paint Creek Trail News

By Melissa Ford, Trail Manager manager@paintcreektrail.org

(Continued from page 30)

Support the Paint Creek Trail

Did you know that the Paint Creek Trailways Commission has a designated fund at the Community Foundation of Greater Rochester? Your tax-deductible donation helps the Commission to continue its important work to preserve this treasured green space in our community!

Help support future trail projects and the ongoing maintenance of the trail by making a donation today!
Visit http://paintcreektrail.org/wordpress/donate/ or scan the code to make your gift:

Trail Courtesy

As a reminder, please continue to be courteous to others while out on the trail:

- **Cyclists – Pass with care: Stay to the right, pass on the left:** "Do the right thing – pass with a ring!" Please announce with a verbal "on your left" or ring a bike bell.
- **Pedestrians and Cyclists – avoid spreading out**: Please don't block the width of the trail. Stay to the right, and watch your surroundings – a cyclist may be trying to pass you on the left. Cyclists and pedestrians must both yield to horses on the trail.
- **Cyclists – Please use safe speeds on the trail:** Cyclists should adapt their speed to conditions and others on the trail. Bicycle racing and race training is not allowed.

- **Obey all Signage:** Please remember to obey all street signs, signals, and road markings on the trail and at intersections. Always stop and look for approaching vehicles before crossing roads.

facebook.com/PaintCreekTrail twitter.com/PaintCreekTrail PaintCreekTrail.org

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. Please see www.oaklandtownship.org for meeting agendas and packets.

Office Hours and Location

Park permits, maps and descriptions are available at the Parks and Recreation Department office, located on the second floor of the Paint Creek Cider Mill, 4480 Orion Road, Monday through Friday 8am-4:30pm or on the Parks & Recreation page at www.oaklandtownship.org.

Parks and Recreation Commissioners

Emily Barkham, Chairperson

Dan Simon, Vice Chairperson

Craig Blust, Treasurer

Judy Workings, Secretary

Jim Quesenberry, Commissioner

Cathy Rooney, Commissioner

Brian Blust, Commissioner

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Staff

Parks and Recreation Director	Melinda Milos-Dale
Administrative Assistant	Carol Kasprzak
Clerical Assistant	Kim Newton
Recreation Manager	Becky McLogan
Recreation Program Assistant	Julie Schoenherr
Maintenance Foreman	Doug Caruso
Maintenance Technician	Jeff Johnson
Natural Areas Stewardship Manager	Dr. Ben VanderWeide
Stewardship Specialist	Grant VanderLaan
Recreation Staff	John McDowell, Cameron Gutierrez, Robert Zbytowski
Seasonal Staff	Dan Barton, Camryn Brent, Cassie Stitzman, Emma Campbell, Brooke Patrician

Online Registration | Facebook Page | Interactive Park Map | Instagram | Natural Areas Notebook

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.