

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission Newsletter

Spring/Summer 2013

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.



Concerts Page 3
 Programs Pgs 4 & 5
 Archery Pgs 6 & 7

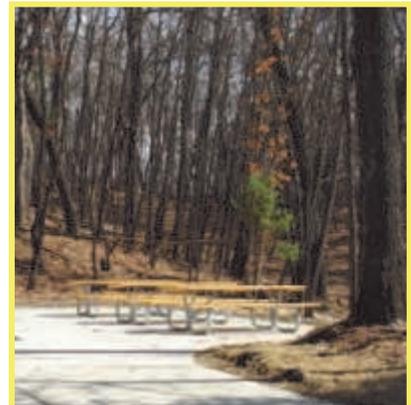
LOST LAKE NATURE PARK'S IMPROVEMENTS – READY FOR USE!



Lost Lake Nature Park's new facilities are now ready for use! New improvements at this park have been funded by a combination of Oakland Township's Parks and Land Preservation millages with a grant from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund.

Visitors to the park will immediately notice the improved support facilities, including a 40+ space parking lot, asphalt pathways, outdoor restrooms and drinking water. **One star attraction is our Township's new nature center** which is located on the bottom-level of a structure that is shared with the park caretakers, Doug and Lisa Caruso. Look for the Nature Center sign! During this spring and summer, the nature center **will only be open during park programs such as "Meet Mr. Wiggle Worm"** on June 4th. Nature center usage will increase when local schools start to hold classes here next fall.

As you explore further, you will also note that there are two new picnic areas; one near the sled hill warming shelter and the other near the lakeside dock. Come enjoy a picnic among the majestic pines and oaks; bring friends and family to **"Ants at Our Picnic" on August 8th** or **schedule your own outing!** Don't forget to pick up a **"Discovery Pack"** (which includes a compass, field guides, nets for pond dipping or insect catching, binoculars, bug boxes, and a journal) from the parks office for a refundable \$10.00 deposit.



New picnic area near warming shelter at Lost Lake Nature Park

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Special points of interest:

- ◆ Music In The Meadows
- ◆ Park Programs
- ◆ Archery Classes
- ◆ Cranberry Lake Farm Programs
- ◆ Stewardship
- ◆ Paint Creek Trail
- ◆ Six Rivers News

Music In The Meadows celebrates 8th season with three great concerts!



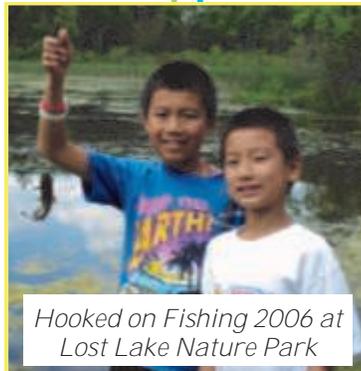
These free concerts are held Friday evenings from 7pm to 9pm in the natural beauty of our parks and are directed toward an evening of family enjoyment with offerings this season of Classical, Jazz, Dixieland, and Bluegrass music.

(Continued on page 11)

What's New In The Parks

Lost Lake Nature Park *(Continued from page 1)*

Another star attraction is the new barrier-free floating dock that includes a bench for nature/wildlife observation, railings and pole holders for fishing, and a canoe and kayak launch. Come practice your fishing technique at Lost Lake after you participate in our **“Free Fishing Day”** program on June 8th at Draper Twin Lake Park. Please remember that fishing at Lost Lake is only permitted from the dock or a boat and in accordance with the laws of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.



Hooked on Fishing 2006 at Lost Lake Nature Park

Lost Lake’s canoe and kayak launch is the perfect location to learn to kayak! Please come experience it at our **Lost Lake “Beginning Kayaking”** program on June 29th. If you choose to kayak on your own, please note that only a limited number of non-motorized boats are permitted to ensure minimal **disturbance to the lake’s 8-acre habitat**. Swimming is not permitted on Lost Lake. For a list of Local Swimming Resources see the General Information drop-down menu on the Parks and Recreation Department page of the Township website.

The seeds of native plants, including coneflower, aster, iris, and lobelia, were sown in the parking lot rain garden and along the southern lake edge. These plantings will filter surface water and sediments before they reach the lake. Please stay on the asphalt paths and do not walk across these planting areas. Before you know it the grasses and wildflowers will be taking off!

Please stay tuned for the September 2013 Grand Opening of these new facilities! It will be advertised in the next Parks and Recreation Commission Newsletter! See page 5 for descriptions of programs referenced in this article.

JOAD Club at Marsh View Park Archery Range

An **“Advanced Archery”** program might seem intimidating even for many experienced archers. **Happily the term “Advancing Archery”** describes the JOAD Club being offered this summer at Marsh View Park.

For the past two years Oakland Township Parks and Recreation (OTPR) has offered Beginning and Intermediate archery programs and now we can help participants advance past the intermediate level with a US Archery-sanctioned program called JOAD.

JOAD is an acronym for *Junior Olympic Archery Development*; a program where archers advance through a series of goals while deepening their understanding of

the National Training System (NTS) shooting technique. This same technique is taught to members of the US Olympic team and is the core foundation for **OTPR’s current archery program**.

Each goal in the program is associated with a different color pin to signify how far the archer has advanced in their skill. This creates a simple and fun way to keep both younger and older participants focused on improving their technique and increasing their scores.

The program is administered by the team at Rising Phoenix Archery. Multiple certified coaches are on

(Continued on page 14)



Certified Archery Instructors Needed

We are always on the lookout for qualified instructors to round out our staffing needs! Check out the Parks pages of the Township website for a full job description.

Tobacco Free Parks

New This Year!

In response to public input and in-line with national smoke-free park trends, the PRC is requesting that concert-goers please refrain from smoking cigarettes, cigars, and pipes during these family-oriented events. Thank you.





Presented by:
Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission

*In case of bad weather concerts will be held indoors at an alternate location.
Call 248-651-7810, ext 299, the day of the concert to verify location.*

*CutTime String Quartet at Cranberry Lake Farm, 388 West Predmore Road
Friday, June 14th, 7 – 9pm, Historic Tours 5 pm, Flag Raising 6:45 pm, Silo Celebration 8pm*



We are very fortunate to have this unique set of four orchestral musicians performing at such an intimate and beautiful setting as the historic Axford-Coffin Farmhouse. **“CutTime String Quartet”** is a funky combination of two violins, viola and bass led by former Detroit Symphony Orchestra bassist Rick Robinson, who brings his original compositions along with classical favorites to hit home runs with new audiences. Famous works by Tchaikovsky and Mozart balance with Rick’s own *Pork ‘n Beans*. www.cuttime.com

*North Oakland Dixieland Band and
Detroit Brass Society*



*Bear Creek Nature Park
740 West Snell Road
Friday, July 19th, 7 – 9pm*



“North Oakland Dixieland Band” is an **“outreach”** group for the much larger *North Oakland Concert Band*, an 85 piece band that performs at much larger venues. The Dixieland band – all local musicians – specializes in performing for traditional jazz lovers at smaller, more intimate venues. The four horn front line is composed of clarinet, cornet, tenor saxophone, and trombone and the rhythm section includes piano, tuba, banjo, guitar, and drums. www.nocb.org

“Detroit Brass Society”...this award winning quintet was created almost 30 years ago by five of the **Detroit area’s finest freelance musicians to perform concert music**. Their repertoire includes programs of **“Americana”, Broadway, jazz and novelties that** excite and entertain! The spontaneous and often humorous commentary by members helps the audience to fully appreciate the music and personalize the performance, allowing everyone to feel that they are a part of the music making. www.detroitbrassociety.com

*Detour at Bear Creek Nature Park, 740 West Snell Road
Friday, August 16th, 7 – 9pm*

“Detour”, from Brethren, MI is a **“bluegrass powerhouse”** that features heartfelt originals, tightly focused harmonies, and high-steppin’ instrumentals from a superbly talented sextet of veterans of Michigan’s bluegrass scene. **The band’s lineup features the soaring lead vocals of Missy Armstrong, the championship fiddling of Peter Knupfer, the inventive rhythm lines of Jack Grant on bass, the soulful guitar of Scott Zylstra, the hard driving mandolin and superb song writing of Jeff Rose, and the stellar banjo playing Kevin Gaugier.** If you missed last year, mark your calendars! www.detourbluegrass.com



Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Spring/Summer 2013 Nature Programs

Explore nature with Oakland Township Parks and Recreation.

We are thrilled to offer these fun, hands-on programs featuring our scenic and unique parks...close to home but with the feeling of being 'up north'. **All programs are led by Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve Naturalists. Residents and non-residents are welcome!**

Registration is required. Residents can register immediately; non-residents may register beginning April 15th.

Call 248-651-7810 or visit our office at 4480 Orion Rd, 2nd floor, Oakland Township, M-F 8am-4:30pm.

MasterCard, Discovery & American Express accepted.

Make checks payable to Oakland Township. Mail checks to OTP&R, 4393 Collins Rd, Rochester, MI 48306

Meet Mr. Wiggle Worm - Ages 3-5

Tuesday, June 4th, 10-11:30am

Lost Lake Nature Park -

Nature Center

846 Lost Lake Trail



Worms are good friends to gardens and soils. Have a great time as we meet worms up close, go on our own worm hunt and even host our own **worm race. We'll even make a worm craft..have a worm snack and sing a worm song..all to give thanks to our underappreciated friend the Wiggle Worm.**

\$3 resident/\$5 non-resident. Register by May 28th (max 12)

Totally Turtles - Grades K-5

Wednesday, May 15th, 4:30-6:00pm

Bear Creek Nature Park, 740 West Snell Road



It is Spring and the turtles are waking up and getting ready for summer. We will explore the ponds at Bear Creek in search of turtles and learn about the different types of turtles found in **Oakland Township parks. We'll even have a chance to meet "Schmedly", Dinosaur Hill's resident Box Turtle.**

\$3 resident/\$5 non-resident. Register by May 8th (max 15)



Rockets Away!! - Grades K-5

Thursday, June 13th, 4:30-6pm

Lost Lake Nature Park -

Warming Shelter, 846 Lost Lake Trail



A perennial favorite! We will have a chance to make our own water rockets and test the effects of our modifications as we launch them outside. How high will yours fly? Can you discover the secret to gain even more launch height? Be ready to get a little wet!

\$3 resident/\$5 non-resident. Register by June 6th (max 15)



Bats By The Bazillions - Ages 12-17

Friday, June 21st, 8:00-9:30pm

Charles Hsley Park, 1479 East Predmore Road



This is the perfect topic to learn about in the **woods around the campfire. Who hasn't seen the Twilight Saga, Dark Shadows or Batman..ever wonder where the concept of vampires came from? Do bats really drink blood? We'll have some fun with the pop culture side of bats and then learn the truth about these fascinating creatures that too often get a bad rap. We'll supply the campfire, your own set of vampire teeth and a freaky snack...you supply your sense of humor and favorite pop culture bat reference!**

\$3 resident/\$5 non-resident. Register by June 14th (max 10)

Residents may register immediately by mailing this form and payment before the deadline dates listed to:

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation, 4393 Collins Road, Rochester, MI 48306

Non-residents may register beginning April 15th.

Name _____ Daytime Phone _____

Address _____

Program Title/Date _____

Participants Names and Ages: _____

Email: _____

Total fee enclosed: _____

Make checks payable to: Charter Township of Oakland



Beginning Kayaking *Saturday, June 29th, 10am to 12Noon, Lost Lake Nature Park, 846 Lost Lake Trail*

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

*\$20 resident/\$35 non-resident; kayak rental included
Register by June 21st (min 8/max 12)*

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

Intermediate Kayaking *Friday, July 26th, 6-8pm, Draper Twin Lake Park, 1181 Inwood Road*

This class is for those who have completed a beginning kayaking class or have some experience at kayaking and are looking to increase their skill level. This class will concentrate on stroke development and on safety issues for all paddlers including self-rescue, rope usage, paddle floats, and more. The distance from the parking lot to the dock, which has lake access for kayaks, is approximately one-half mile via an accessible path.



www.heavnercanoe.com
248-685-2379

*\$20 resident/\$35 non-resident; kayak rental included
Register by July 19th (min 8/max 12)*

Ants At Our Picnic - All Ages/Family

*Saturday, August 10th, 10am -1:00pm
Lost Lake Nature Center, 846 Lost Lake Trail*

Join us for a fun afternoon exploring the world of ants! We will begin by meeting at Lost Lake Nature Park where we will examine ants close-up...really, really up close! ...and learn a bit about their amazing world. We will then carpool to nearby Bald Mountain where a park ranger will join us on a short hike to observe the amazing ant mounds found there. Back at Lost Lake we will discover the unique habitats of the park that support the ants and then enjoy a picnic among the majestic pines and oaks at the park. maybe the ants will join us too? Bring a sack lunch, we will supply a themed treat for dessert!

*\$3 resident/\$5 non-resident,
family max of \$12 residents/\$20 non-residents.
Register by August 2nd (max 15)*



Free Fishing Day - All Ages

*Saturday, June 8th, choose from 10-11:30am OR
12noon-1:30pm
Draper Twin Lake Park, 1181 Inwood Road*

Ever wanted to try your hand at fishing but don't know where to start? This program is a great chance to get out on the water and give fishing a try. Families and individuals of all ages will learn about the different fish that lurk below the surface of township lakes, the basics of tackle selection and of course the fine art of casting. We will supply all of the equipment and materials needed. you bring your sense of adventure and willingness to try something new. From little kids to kids at heart this program is a fun, relaxing way to get outside and enjoy nature while learning a new skill!



*Free for residents/
\$3 non-residents. Register by May 31st (max 10)*

*****See pages 12 & 13 for an introduction to our local mound-building ants. *****

All About Bees - Adults

*Saturday, July 20th, 10am-12noon
Cranberry Lake Park, 388 West Predmore Road*



Bees are truly fascinating with complex social lives and amazing adaptations. They are also critical to our food supply and there are many things you can do to make your yard bee friendly. In this workshop we will explore the world of bees through discussion and hands-on observation. We will learn about the importance of bees and hear about the latest work of scientists looking to explain the die-offs of hives worldwide, gain insight into bee behavior and discover the basics of beekeeping. Whether you are an aspiring beekeeper, a gardener interested in knowing more about what you can do to support our pollinator friends, an armchair naturalist or someone concerned about the environment you are sure to find something to enjoy in this program. You will also have the opportunity to don a beekeeper suit and examine the hives up close or you may watch from a distance!

Free for residents/\$3 non-residents. Register by July 12th (max 10)



Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Spring/Summer 2013 Archery Offerings

Registration Required. Registration for residents open NOW, non-resident registration begins April 15. Register by calling 248-651-7810 or visit us at 4480 Orion Rd, 2nd Floor, Oakland Township, M-F 8am-4:30pm.

MasterCard, Discovery, & American Express accepted. Make checks payable to Oakland Township.

All archery courses are and taught by USA certified instructors and held at
Marsh View Park Archery Range, 3100 Clarkston Road, Oakland
(NW corner of Clarkston & Adams Roads)

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

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

	Resident fee: \$15 per person	Non-resident fee: \$20 per person
Wednesday	5/8/13 <u>or</u> 5/15/13 <u>or</u> 5/22/13 <u>or</u> 5/29/13 <u>or</u> 6/5/13 <u>or</u> 6/12/13 <u>or</u> 6/19/13	6:30-8:00p.m.

BEGINNING ARCHERY - ADULT (Ages 16 - Adult)

Learn the fundamentals of archery while you review equipment, learn about safety, learn basic shooting skills and have fun! All equipment provided. 6 week class. Minimum 13/Maximum 20 students per class.

	Resident fee: \$60	Non-resident fee: \$77
Saturdays	5/4/13-6/15/13 (no class 5/25)	8:30-10:00a.m.
Saturdays	6/22/13-8/3/13 (no class 7/6)	8:30-10:00a.m.



BEGINNING ARCHERY - YOUTH (Ages 8 - 16)

See other Beginning Archery class description. 6 week class. Minimum 13/Maximum 20 students per class.

	Resident fee: \$60	Non-resident fee: \$77
Saturdays	5/4/13-6/15/13 (no class 5/25)	12:00-1:30p.m.
Saturdays	6/22/13-8/3/13 (no class 7/6)	12:00-1:30p.m.



BEGINNING ARCHERY - ALL AGES (Ages 8 - Adult)

See other Beginning Archery class description. 6 week class. Minimum 13/Maximum 20 students per class.

	Resident fee: \$60	Non-resident fee: \$77
Saturdays	5/4/13-6/15/13 (no class 5/25)	1:30-3:00p.m.
Saturdays	6/22/13-8/3/13 (no class 7/6)	1:30-3:00p.m.



BEGINNING SENIOR ARCHERY - ADULTS (Age 50+)

This class is perfect for learning the fundamentals of archery while you review equipment, learn about safety, learn basic shooting skills & have fun! A perfect foundation for training to participate in the Michigan Senior Olympics! All equip-ment provided. 6 week class. Minimum 10/Maximum 20 students per class.

	Rochester, Rochester Hills or Oakland Township Seniors: \$60	Non Residents: \$77
Tuesdays	6/18/13-7/23/13	9:00-10:30a.m.

Classes are subject to change/cancellation. See our refund policy at www.oaklandtownship.org.

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Spring/Summer 2013 Archery Offerings

Registration Required. Registration for residents open NOW, non-resident registration begins April 15. Register by calling 248-651-7810 or visit us at 4480 Orion Rd, 2nd Floor, Oakland Township, M-F 8am-4:30pm.

MasterCard, Discovery, & American Express accepted. Make checks payable to Oakland Township.

All archery courses are and taught by USA certified instructors and held at
Marsh View Park Archery Range, 3100 Clarkston Road, Oakland
(NW corner of Clarkston & Adams Roads)

INTERMEDIATE ARCHERY - ALL AGES (Ages 8 - Adult)

This class is for archers who have taken Beginning Archery and archers with some archery experience. Focus will be on improving your archery form and accuracy. All equipment provided or archers may use their own equipment. No crossbows. 6 week class. Minimum 13/Maximum 20 students per class.

	Resident fee: \$60	Non-resident fee: \$77
Saturdays	5/4/13-6/15/13 (no class 5/25)	10:00-11:30a.m.
Saturdays	6/22/13-8/3/13 (no class 7/6)	10:00-11:30a.m.



OPEN RANGE SHOOTS - ALL AGES (Ages 8 - Adult)

Open Range Shoot sessions are free to the public. Targets will be provided. Participants must bring all other equipment including practice arrows. No broadheads or crossbows allowed. Prior archery experience is necessary. Must sign a waiver form prior to or at the first visit. Drop In. *Children between 8 and 17 years of age must be accompanied by an adult.*

	No Fee	
Saturdays	5/4/13-8/3/13 (closed 5/25 & 7/6)	3:30-5p.m.
Sundays	5/5/13-8/4/13 (closed 5/26 & 7/7)	1:00-2:30p.m.



Junior Olympic Archery Development (J.O.A.D.) - ALL AGES (Age 8 - Adult)

Archers who have completed both Beginning Archery and Intermediate Archery courses can join our J.O.A.D. Club to begin working on advancing their archery techniques. In collaboration with Rising Phoenix Archery, USA sanctioned club.

	Resident fee: \$60 Each session/\$130 family (up to four participants)
	Non-resident fee: \$75 Each session/\$150 family (up to four participants)
Tuesdays	5/7/13-6/11/13; 6/18/13-7/30/13 (no class 7/2); 8/6/13-9/17/13 (no class 9/3) 6:30-8:00p.m.

*All JOAD registrations are through JOAD Coordinator
Brandon Wright at 586-770-1859 or risingphoenixarchery@gmail.com*



SCOUT BADGE WORKSHOPS, BIRTHDAY PARTIES & CORPORATE EVENTS

Marsh View Park Archery Range can be reserved for a workshop designed to help Scouts earn a merit badge in Archery, for birthday parties or even corporate team-building events. Please contact the Parks and Recreation office at 248-651-7810 with reservation date preference and to confirm instructor availability.

Resident fee: \$150 for one and a half hour session.
Non-resident fee: \$200 for one and a half hour session. Scout fee to be determined.

Classes are subject to change/cancellation. See our refund policy at www.oaklandtownship.org.

May 2013



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 7pm-PRC Mtg.	9 6:30pm-PCT Master Plan MTH	10	11
12 Mother's Day	13	14	15 Totally Turtles 4:30pm BCNP	16	17	18 9am-PCT Crawl PCCM
19	20	21	22 7pm-PRC Mtg.	23	24	25
26	27 Memorial Day Office Closed	28	29	30	31	

- 8- 7pm PRC Meeting
 - 9- PCT Master Plan MTH
 - 12- **Mother's Day**
 - 15- 4:30pm Totally Turtles BCNP
 - 18- 9am PCT Crawl PCCM
 - 22- 7pm PRC Meeting
 - 27- Memorial Day Office Closed
- Archery Classes
See pages 6 & 7

Oakland Township Park Activities



June 2013

- 4- 10am Mr. Wiggle Worm LLNP
- 8- 10am or 12Noon Free Fishing DTLP
- 12- 7pm PRC Meeting
- 13- 4:30pm Rockets Away! LLNP
- 14- 7pm Concert CLP
- 16- **Father's Day**
- 17-19- Cub Scouts-CLP
- 21- 8pm Bats by the Bazillions CIP
- 26- 7pm PRC Meeting
- 29- 10am- Begin Kayak LLNP
- Archery Classes
See pages 6 & 7

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4 10am Wiggle Worm LLNP	5 6:30pm OTHS Mtg. CLP	6	7	8 10am or 12pm DTLP Free Fishing
9	10	11	12 7pm-PRC Mtg.	13 4:30pm Rockets LLNP	14 5pm Farm Tours CLP	15 7pm Concert CLP
16 Father's Day	17	18 Cub Scouts Day Camp CLP	19	20	21 8pm Bats by Bazillions CIP	22
23	24	25	26 7pm-PRC Mtg.	27	28	29 10am Begin Kayak LLNP

July 2013



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 Independence Day Office Closed	5	6
7	8	9 	10 7pm-PRC Mtg.	11	12	13
14 	15 	16 	17	18 	19 7pm Concert BCNP 	20 10am All About Bees CLP
21 	22	23 	24 7pm-PRC Mtg.	25 	26 6pm Intermediate Kayak DTLP	27
28 	29	30 	31			

4-	Independence Day Office Closed
10-	7pm PRC Meeting
19-	7pm Concert BCNP
20-	10am All About Bees CLP
24-	7pm PRC Meeting
26-	6pm Intermediate Kayak DTLP
	Archery Classes See pages 6 & 7

ABBREVIATIONS: BCNP-Bear Creek Nature Park, CLP-Cranberry Lake Park, CIP-Charles Hsley Park, DTLP-Draper Twin Lake Park, LLNP-Lost Lake Nature Park, MTH-Main Township Hall, MVP-Marsh View Park, OT-Oakland Township, OTHS-Oakland Township Historical Society, PCCM-Paint Creek Cider Mill, PCT-Paint Creek Trail, PRC-Parks and Recreation Commission

August 2013



- 10- 10am Ants at Our Picnic LLNP
- 14- 7pm PRC Meeting
- 16- 7pm Concert BCNP
- 28- 7pm PRC Meeting

Archery Classes See pages 6 & 7

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 	5	6 	7	8	9 	10 10am Ants at Our Picnic LLNP
11	12	13 	14 7pm-PRC Mtg.	15	16 7pm Concert BCNP 	17
18	19	20 	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 	28 7pm-PRC Mtg.	29	30	31



Historic District Commission

Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District Info

Cranberry Lake Farm silo finally received its crowning glory on March 14, 2013! The HDC was determined in executing a safe structural support system for the silo roof and waited for the perfect temperatures to affix the roof with injection epoxy and steel support fasteners.



Information on the silo project will be available for viewing on June 14, 2013, during the PRC Music in the Meadows concert at CLF. We will celebrate with cake during the intermission (8pm).

Also, with June 14 being Flag Day, at 6:45, the Cub Scouts, Cobra Patrol, Pack 109, will hold a flag ceremony on the lawn of the CLF historic district. Come early to save the best lawn seats in the house and enjoy the flag raising ceremony at 6:45, concert at 7 pm, and cake at 8 pm!



SPEAKING OF OAKLAND TOWNSHIP SILOS...Do you know how many we have in the Township?

There is a photographer in all of us! These days, with instant images from cell phones and digital cameras, a good picture is within a press of a button or the tap of a screen. Join the creative talents of local photographers and **capture your interpretation of the local silo in the landscape.** Sometimes called “Midwest Majesty” and “Rural Skyscrapers,” these monumental silos define our agricultural history. Information on a photography silo competition will be shared at the June 14 event.

SQUARE DANCES ARE FUN! HAVE YOU EVER BEEN TO A SQUARE DANCE? Learn about allemande left, do-si-do, and promenade! “Barn Dances” with callers began in the 1920s when old-time music was first being recorded. CLF will be hosting two square dances this year with dates to be determined. Please check the township website’s **Historic District Commission page** for further details: www.oaklandtownship.org.

Oakland Township Historical Society at Cranberry Lake Farm

By: Janine Saputo, Oakland Township Historical Society (OTHS) Co-Chair and PR Promotions Committee



- Wednesday, June 5, 6:30pm Cranberry Lake Farm Remembered

FREE and open to the public! OTHS membership meeting with guest speakers, pot luck dinner and annual meeting in the CLF 1879 Flumerfelt Barn onsite. Bring a dish to pass and your table service.
- Friday June 14, 5:00 pm Guided Tours of historic farm buildings prior to concert.



Oakland Township Historical Society members Tom Asmus and Bill Kroger have been working hard on a new kiosk located at CLF. Coming soon...information for programs, history, a pathway, and a hanging sign to complete the kiosk!





It's garlic mustard season! Spring is a great time to remove garlic mustard, *Alliaria petiolata*, preventing it from invading your natural areas. Introduced from Europe in the mid-1800s, it has no known natural enemies in North America and is very difficult to eradicate once established. Garlic mustard has been shown to displace and depress growth of native plant species, kill off native soil fungi thereby suppressing the next generation of forest trees and inviting other weedy plants.

- ◆ Pull small infestations, removing the entire root to prevent resprouting, bag and dispose.
- ◆ Use only established roads and trails to prevent the spread of invasive seeds.
- ◆ Clean up before you leave an infested site, removing visible seeds and mud from clothes, shoes, vehicles, and pets.
- ◆ Vigilance. There is no other way to say it. Continue monitoring even when you think you are rid of it!

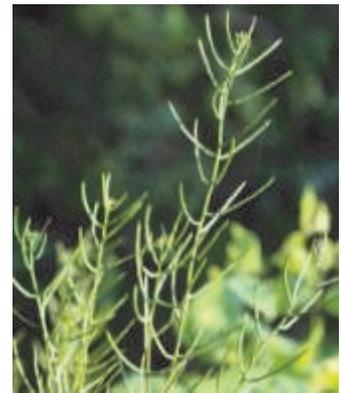
~ *The best control method for garlic mustard is to prevent its initial establishment.* ~



Spring rosette



Summer bloom



Fall seed pods

Further information about Garlic Mustard may be found at:

www.stewardshipnetwork.org

www.mipn.org

www.a2gov.org/government/communityservices/ParksandRecreation/NAP

www.growingwisdom.com/Controlling-Garlic-Mustard/41/1/446/

Music In The Meadows (Continued from page 1)

Our first concert of the season on June 14th will be held at Cranberry Lake Park's historic Axford-Coffin Farmhouse and will feature **"CutTime String Quartet"** led by former *DSO* bassist and *Kresge Fellow*, Rick Robinson. Come early for guided tours of the Historic District starting at 5pm and in honor of Flag Day members of Cub Scout Troop 109 will gather at 6:45pm for a flag raising ceremony. Our second concert on July 19th will feature two musical groups each performing their favorite American music. First up is **"North Oakland Dixieland Band"** featuring local musicians specializing in both Dixieland and Swing music from the years 1900 to 1960. Following the Dixieland ensemble is **"Detroit Brass Society"** a quintet ensemble of trumpets, French horn, trombone and tuba bring a unique approach to a wide range of musical styles. Our third concert on August 16th features **"Detour"** a "bluegrass powerhouse" back by popular demand for an encore performance.



The Mound Builders of Michigan



By Sue Neal, Executive Director, Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve

Have you ever been to Cranberry Lake Park or Bald Mountain and seen the tall mounds of leaf litter, twigs and dried pine needles? Several of these mounds are visible from the trails and **look like something you'd expect to see on a nature show about the savannahs of Africa.** We have so many fascinating residents in our parks system here in Oakland Township. The unique habitats the parks preserve harbor a wonderful diversity of flora and fauna. Could you guess what might be responsible for building these mounds? And can you guess some of the very interesting behaviors and adaptations of these tiny mound builders?

These mounds, which can reach a meter or more in height, are actually the nests of a number of a type of ants broadly referred to as wood ants or thatching ants which are scientifically grouped together as *Formica sp.* The mounds are built on the ground from nearby materials, mainly dried plant materials. The use of plant matter gives the mounds a thatched appearance (and thus the common name thatching ants!). Domed in shape and quite conspicuous, these mounds have anywhere from only a few up to almost 50 different entrances and house many thousands of ants. Each individual mound may remain for many years and even decades.



Typical Michigan ant mound



Ants in general are pretty amazing insects. Like all insects they have six legs and each leg has three joints. The average life expectancy for an ant is a brief 45-60 days. Their jaws are oriented sideways and are used like scissors to extract the juices from their food. Ants have two stomachs. One stomach is used for the food they need for themselves and the other stomach stores food to share with other ants. Ants are communal dwellers with the work of the colony divided up neatly between the ants in a fashion very similar to bees. Ants recognize other members of their colony through the use of scent pheromones.

Some mound builders take advantage of other ants by using them as slaves. There are multiple examples of enslavement. Sometimes a queen will invade a colony and drive away the original queen, tricking the host workers into raising her own brood. Eventually the entire colony will be **composed of the invading queen's** offspring. In another example, groups of worker ants will go out and raid other colonies and directly steal individuals which they bring back to their colony and **use as a "work force" to tend to the needs of** the foreign colony.

Ants will also use other insects to their advantage. Seen among ants, including some **mound builders, is a unique behavior where they maintain their own “crop” of food. The ants keep actual “herds” of aphids. The ants will defend their aphids and maintain these as food stores - they harvest the sweet honeydew that is produced by the aphids!**

Family Ant Program
at Lost Lake and
Bald Mountain!
August 10th
Details on pg 5.

Of course, other animals have found ways to use the ants to their advantage. A particularly interesting adaptation of the mound building ants is their ability to spray an advancing predator with formic acid. These guys can spray their acid on predators up to a few feet away! While this may make the ant an enemy of a fellow insect, other animals have adapted ways to use this to their advantage. Birds have been observed placing these ants onto themselves. It is thought that, once placed on the bird, the ants will spray the formic acid which will then help to control the bacteria, fungi and mites that plague the birds.

Michigan is home to around 115 species of ants, several belonging to the mound-building variety. A healthy diversity of ant species is a good thing. Ants play a valuable role in the **ecology of an area. They are predators that help to control the numbers of other insects...a** single colony may consume over 10 million insects in one year! Certain types of mounding ants have been intentionally introduced into different areas to aid in the control of pests such as eastern tent caterpillars. The ants, in turn, become prey for other animals such as flickers and crows. Additionally, their movement of the soil helps to redistribute nutrients and aerate the soil. They also assist with seed dispersal when they transport seeds into their nests.



Want to learn more? Consider joining us for a great family program this summer **Ants at Our Picnic**. The program takes place August 10th from 10:00am to 1:00pm. This will be a very fun program for all ages. We start our adventure at the scenic Lost Lake Nature Park off Predmore Road. We will carpool together to nearby Bald Mountain to take a short hike to observe several monster-sized mounds found within the park. Then we will return to the Nature Park where we will enjoy a picnic. This is a great way to spend a lovely summer afternoon with your family and find out why you might actually want to invite an ant to your picnic!

See page 5 for more information.



*Snow covered ant mound, March 2013
Bald Mountain State Recreation Area
Photo by Andrew Cole, Park Supervisor*

What's New In The Parks (Continued from page 2)

Paint Creek Trail News

By Kristen Myers, Trail Manager



2014-2018 Recreation Master Plan – Public Input Opportunities

Interested in the Paint Creek Trail? The Paint Creek Trailways Commission is updating their Recreation Master Plan, and wants your input! Join us on Thursday, May 9, 2013 from 6:30pm-8:30pm at the Oakland Township Hall for our Master Plan Public Workshop. This is your chance to have your voice heard on the future for the Paint Creek Trail! In addition, **we've developed an online user survey that will help us create a vision for the trail.** You can access it at www.paintcreektrail.org until May 31. No computer access? We have hard copies for you to complete. You can obtain one by calling Kristen Myers, Trail Manager, at (248) 651-9260. We look forward to hearing your thoughts and ideas!



3rd Annual Paint Creek Crawl

On May 18, 2013, the Paint Creek Trail will celebrate its 16th annual National Trails Day with our third Paint Creek Crawl Cycling Event! Encompassing the entire trail and business districts from Rochester to Lake Orion, **participants 16 and older will visit various locations and receive "stamps" to be entered in a drawing for a \$500 gift certificate to a local bike shop and many other prizes!**

Start: 9:00am Paint Creek Cider Mill, 4480 Orion Road, Oakland Township, MI 48306
End: 12:00pm – 1:00pm at the Rochester Mills Beer Co, 400 Water Street, Rochester, MI 48307
Cost: \$25 until May 15. \$30 thereafter, and on -site.

On-site Registration and check-in begins at 8:00am

Online Registration at <http://www.paintcreektrailfriends.org> from April 15 - May 15, 2013*

**To be guaranteed an event T-shirt, you must pre-register by May 7, 2013.*

Six Rivers Regional Land Conservancy News

Adventure League Join Six Rivers and Backcountry North to explore nature right in your own backyard! The Adventure League includes guided kayak trips, guided and self-guided hikes, and this year we are adding biking! Participants collect points for each activity they participate in and at the end of the season will be eligible for great prizes at our wrap-up picnic. Email Christina Barkel at cbarkel@sixriversrlc.org for more information and to get on the mailing list for details and dates.

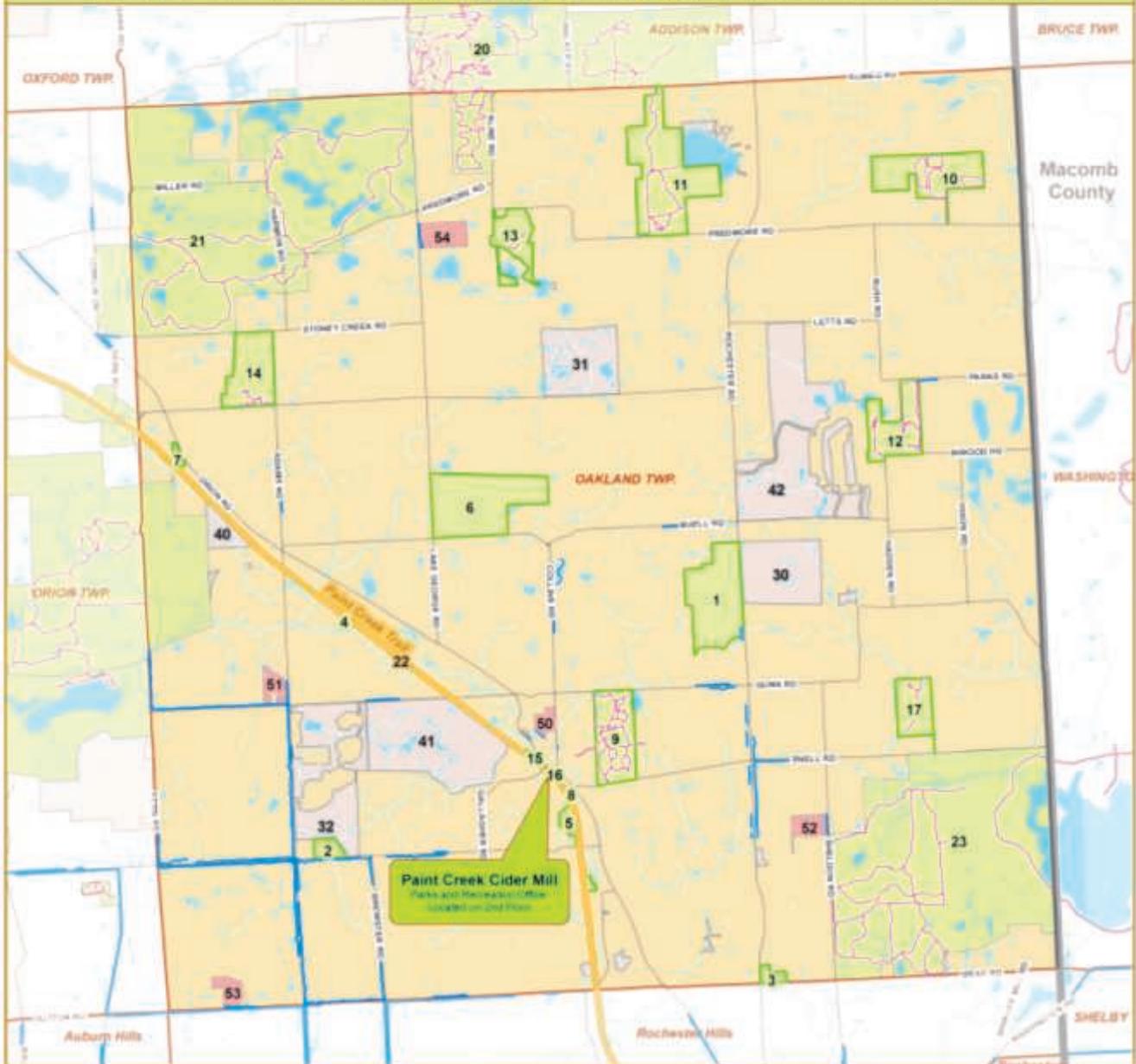


JOAD Club at Marsh View Park Archery Range (Continued from page 2)

hand to offer advice on form and technique as well as support and encouragement.

Participants in the JOAD program are required to complete a beginning and intermediate program before joining the Tuesday night JOAD Club program. For more information or to register please call Brandon at 586-770-1859 or visit www.michiganarchery.net.

Parks and Recreation Opportunities in Oakland Township



Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Facilities

Conservation Parks

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

Future Trail Connections

7. Marsh View Connector
8. Mill Creek Crossing

Parks Including Recreation Facilities

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

Other Parks and Recreation Facilities

Other Public Parks

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

Other Public Recreation Facilities

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

Private Recreation Facilities

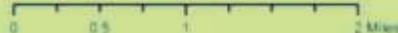
40. Royal Oak Archers
41. The Wyndgate Golf Course
42. Twin Lakes Golf and Swim Club

Public Schools

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

Key to Features:

- [Red Outline] Oakland Township
- [Blue] Lakes & Ponds
- [Green Outline] Major Roads
- [Dashed Line] Park Path
- [Orange Line] Paint Creek Trail
- [Purple Outline] Private Recreation
- [Green Outline] Municipal Boundary
- [Blue Line] Rivers & Streams
- [Green Outline] Oakland Township Park
- [Blue Line] Safety/Side Path
- [Light Green Outline] Public Recreation
- [Pink Outline] Public School



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

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*Seal designed by
Richard Krupp*

Commission Meetings

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

Parks and Recreation Commissioners

David Mackley, Chairman
Alice Tomboulion, Vice Chairperson
Roger Schmidt, Treasurer
Ann Marie Rogers, Secretary
Colleen Barkham, Member
Joe Peruzzi, Member
Andy Zale, Member

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Staff

Parks and Recreation Director	Mindy Milos-Dale
Recreation Manager	Becky McLogan
Administrative Assistant	Carol Kasprzak
Clerical Assistant	Deb Gallo
Maintenance Foreman	Doug Caruso
Maintenance Technician	Roger Smith
Maintenance Technician/Archery Instructor	Clif Selent
Assistant Stewardship Project Manager	Erin Lavender

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

FOR EMERGENCIES CALL 911

For non-emergencies or to have a deputy contact you, call 248-858-4950. If you have information or questions concerning a reported crime or accident, call the substation at 248-652-4617. Normal substation business hours are Monday-Friday, 7 am-4 pm.