# **ALLEGAN COUNTY PARKS**



2020-2024 RECREATION PLAN

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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### INTRODUCTION

Allegan County has an abundance of natural recreational treasures, from the sandy shores of Lake Michigan and numerous inland lakes to the blanket of forests harboring a diversity of Michigan wildlife. Not only do these outstanding natural resources encourage local recreational participation, but they also entice numerous non-county resident hunters, skiers, bird watchers, boaters, campers and other recreational enthusiasts to Allegan County.

A new five-year recreation plan is required to replace the current expiring plan and is a requirement to be eligible to apply for recreation grants from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. The Allegan County Recreation Plan is the result of a collaborative effort by the Parks Staff, the Parks Advisory Board, the Allegan County Board of Commissioners and the Community. The Recreation Plan serves as a framework for the maintenance and development of parks facilities and recreational opportunities and facilities to meet the needs of area residents and visitors for the next five years.

The 2020-2024 Allegan County Parks Recreation Plan continues to build on the previously developed five-year plan and will serve the following purposes:

- Provides an assessment of current Allegan County parks and recreational facilities.
- Provides an assessment of current and projected recreational needs and wants of Allegan County residents and visitors.
- ➤ Defines goals and objectives for continuous improvement and development to parks, recreational facilities and recreational activities.
- Assures that Allegan County continues to provide and update park and recreation facilities for people of all ages and abilities to play, relax, exercise, socialize, meet friends and neighbors, and enjoy Allegan's natural beauty.

## **Section 1: Community Description**

### **Location/Land Use**

Allegan County is located in southwestern Michigan along the Lake Michigan shoreline. Allegan County is larger than most Michigan Counties with a total of 828 square miles of land and 1006 square miles of water and 35 local jurisdictions. Allegan County is bounded on the west by 25 miles of Lake Michigan shoreline, by Ottawa and Kent Counties to the north, Barry County to the east and Van Buren and Kalamazoo Counties to the south.

The location of the county offers a unique setting. With 25 miles of Lake Michigan shoreline, the county is a popular destination location for tourists from Chicago, northern Indiana and Illinois, and most of Michigan's Lower Peninsula. Visitors come from all over the Midwest to experience the unique qualities of the shoreline communities of Saugatuck / Douglas, South Haven and Holland.

Tourists also visit Allegan County to experience the abundance of natural areas. With 22% of the land being forested, the county and its residents have grown up with the naturalness of the Allegan State Game Area. In addition to state property, a large portion of the county is a rural community. The County has many smaller urbanized areas that are all separated by rural territory. The majority of Allegan County's land used for industrial purposes is located in the northwest corner of the County, but industrial uses are also spread amongst the County's other cities. Commercial uses are located in all of the cities, and most residential uses are in and immediately around the County's cities. Allegan County has a diverse agricultural base, with almost half the land in farms and including everything from blueberries to dairies, corn and soy to hog and poultry operations.

Because of the location of Lake Michigan, the broad expanses of forest land available for public use, and the variety of available recreational opportunities, visitors from in and outside Michigan have selected Allegan as a popular destination for leisure activities and weekend/vacation homes. Consequently, Tourism plays a significant role in the County's economy.

Another major impact on the County's setting involves what is known as the "Four Corners": Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, Holland and South Haven. Located on each of the four corners of the county, these communities provide residents of the county with access to major metropolitan and industrial communities. As these communities continue to experience growth, they are expanding into Allegan County, causing tremendous residential growth.

### **Transportation**

Transportation plays an important role in recreational planning for a variety of reasons. For one thing, adequate access to recreational facilities is vital. In addition, travel patterns can show willingness to travel to get to recreational facilities.

Allegan County is served by two major interstate highways: I-196 and US-131. I-196 is located in the western portion of the county and runs south through Saugatuck-Douglas to Benton Harbor and north through Holland and on to Grand Rapids. US-131 is a major north-south corridor in West Michigan located in the Eastern portion of the county and adjacent to Otsego, Plainwell, Martin, Wayland and Dorr. It provides direct access to and from these communities and connects Grand Rapids and Kalamazoo.

In addition, Allegan County is also served by three state highways: M-222, M-40 and M-89. M-222 runs east / west from US 131 to Allegan, connecting the city to the interstate. M-40 runs southeasterly from Holland, crossing I-196, through Hamilton and the City of Allegan and then turns south, connecting to Van Buren County. M-89 begins at I-196 and runs east through the middle of the county, passing through Allegan, Otsego and Plainwell.

These interstate and state highways, combined with the existing county roads, provide a transportation network that conveniently serves all portions of the county. This network has made the county park system easily accessible to both residents and non-residents. The coordination of recreational planning with this transportation network is important whenever future road improvements or future recreational development is being considered.

### **Physical Characteristics**

#### Topography

Allegan County topography is typical of glaciated areas in Michigan and elsewhere. Elevations throughout the county vary from 582 feet along the lakeshore to 920 feet above sea level in Gunplain Township. Towering sand dunes line the shore of Lake Michigan and extend inland two to three miles. Numerous inland lakes dot the surface of the morainal belt where water has become impounded behind clay hills.

The Kalamazoo River and one of its principal tributaries, the Rabbit River, flow through the central portion of the county and empty into Lake Michigan at Saugatuck. The Kalamazoo River has changed its course many times since the glacial epoch and in the process has created an extensive lowland swamp area across central Saugatuck and Manlius Townships. Much of this area is forested and offers excellent hunting to the sports enthusiast.

Bluffs along either side of the Kalamazoo and Rabbit Rivers flood plains frequently interrupt the rolling hilly uplands of eastern Allegan County and the flatter historic lake plains of western Allegan County. The 600-foot contour in western Allegan County and the 700-foot contour in eastern Allegan County generally outline the immediate valley and flood plain for the Kalamazoo and Rabbit Rivers.

### Climate

Allegan County's weather, like all of Michigan's, influences the recreational opportunities available throughout the year. Lake Michigan has a moderating effect on the County's weather. The area can support a variety of activities throughout the year from swimming to skiing. Allegan County, MI, gets an average of 37 inches of rain per year and the US average is 39 inches. Allegan County's average snowfall is 80 inches and the average US city gets 26 inches of snow per year. The number of days with any measurable precipitation is 128. On average, there are 164 sunny days per year in Allegan County, MI and the US average is 205 sunny days. The July high is around 81 degrees. The January low is 15. Our comfort index, which is based on humidity during the hot months, is a 44 out of 100, where higher is more comfortable. The US average on the comfort index is 54. Prevailing winds are from the west.

### Water Resources

Allegan County is well endowed with surface water resources and associated public land, both of which are conducive to recreational development. The primary surface water resources consist of Lake Michigan, the Kalamazoo River and its tributaries, the Black River and its tributaries, the Macatawa River and its tributaries, and numerous inland lakes. Few of these surface water resources have been extensively developed.

In addition to 10 major river systems totaling over 200 miles in length, there are also nearly 100 lakes within the county. These lakes cover almost 8,000 acres, or 1.6% of the total county land area. The largest of these inland lakes located solely within Allegan County is Lake Allegan, with 1,587 acres. Gun Lake is larger with 2611 acres, but is only partially located within county boundaries. Nineteen other inland lakes are larger than 100 acres. A number of the larger lakes, such as Lake Allegan, are hydroelectric reservoirs created by damming of the Kalamazoo River.

In addition to inventories of inland lakes and streams, a Michigan Lake Frontage Inventory conducted in 1966 by the State Water Resources Commission provided an inventory of all public and private shorelines in the county. It can be assumed that the public-private makeup has not changed substantially since then (see table below for summary of this inventory).

Approximate Number of Inland Lakes	97
Total Surface Acreage	7,760.00
Shoreline Length (miles) Inland Lakes Lake Michigan	166.60 141.60 25.00
Private Shoreline (miles) Inland Lakes Lake Michigan	140.60 117.40 24.20
Designated Public Shoreline (miles) Inland Lakes Lake Michigan Undesignated Public Shoreline	25.00 8.90 0.80 15.30

The lay of the land along the Lake Michigan shoreline, together with the inland water resources, has resulted in significant urban development. Allegan County's greatest resource lies in the development and wise use of its surface water resources. As the above table shows, the vast majority of Lake Michigan shoreline is privately owned. There is a definite need for more public Lake Michigan access, however, Allegan County may have to rely primarily on its inland lakes and the Kalamazoo River as development sites for water related recreational purposes.

### <u>Forests</u>

Allegan County is blessed with a major natural forest resource. Approximately 136,000 acres or 22% of the land surface of the county is forested. No other county in southwest Lower Michigan contains as great a percentage of forested land as Allegan County. The Allegan State Game Area includes a major segment of this public forest land. The value of the large tract of state-owned land for hunting, fishing and other recreational development is exceptional. Important forest and plant communities in Allegan County include floodplain forest, fen, bog, interdunal wetland, coastal plain marsh, mesic southern and northern forest, oak barrens, and open dunelands.

The public and private forest and recreational land of Allegan County, together with its surface water resources, constitute a major resource potential. As public demands for recreational development in Allegan County become more intensive, it will be essential to fully consider the potential for, and implications of, accelerated resort and recreational growth.

### Fish and Wildlife

Wildlife is abundant in Allegan County. This is due mainly to the large expanse of the Allegan State Game Area and the large proportion of forested areas within the County. Wildfowl species include wild turkey, ruffed grouse, Canada geese, snow geese, mallards, wood ducks, pheasant, and woodcock. The State Game Area is also known as a prime location for bird watching due to the diversity of habitat.

There is also a large variety of game fish within the County's many lakes, rivers, and streams. Trout, pike, catfish, large mouth and small mouth bass, perch, bluegill, walleye, and salmon are all found within Allegan County.

Other wildlife includes large numbers of squirrels, raccoon, deer and coyote. This abundant wildlife is an impressive resource for the county and provides those who hunt, fish, and enjoy viewing wildlife with invaluable recreational opportunities.

### Vegetation and Soils

Soil resources in Allegan County have been grouped into 11 general types based on the principal soil associations, slopes and soil capabilities. The majority of all soil types in the county have been developed and used for various types of agricultural production. Most noteworthy was the early recognition that blueberries and other fruits and vegetables are well-suited to the soils, topography, and climate of the county. Also noteworthy, the muck soils have been developed for specialized uses, such as blueberry, onion and celery production.

Soil types range from sand and related light soils to heavy silts and clay loams. Well drained soils dominate central and eastern Allegan County and are associated with the glacial moraines, till and outwash plains. Poorly drained soils dominate southwest Allegan County and are also found in scattered locations throughout the remainder of the county. These poorly drained soils impact not only agricultural development, but tend to impact recreational development also. Intensive recreational facilities should be encouraged in the better drained soil areas.

### **Demographics**

Population characteristics and dynamics are important factors in planning for parks and recreation. As populations change, so will park and recreation needs. In addition to projecting future population growth or decline, it is also important to establish where these changes will be taking place.

### Population Trends

Based on population estimates compiled by the U.S. Census Bureau and the West Michigan Regional Planning Commission, between 2000 and 2010 the Allegan County's population increased by 5.2 percent to reach 111,408 while the

Region Eight's population increased by 5.7 percent to reach 1,171,404 and the State of Michigan's population decreased by 0.6 percent to reach 9,883,640 during the same period. Due to many second (vacation) homes, located in areas throughout the county, the population greatly increases during the summer months.

Population Trends & Projections for Allegan County, Region 8, and Michigan

			Projections				
Area	1980	1990	2000	2010	% Change	2020	2030
Allegan County	81,555	92,577	105,665	111,408	36.6	123,454	135,498
Region 8	837,655	948,502	1,104,848	1,171,404	39.8	1,319,388	1,467,370
Michigan	9,262,078	9,295,277	9,938,444	9,883,640	6.7	10,695,993	10,964,172

Source: U.S. Census of Population, WMRPC

### Population Distribution by Township, Village, City Located in Allegan County

1	Population					
Location	2000	2010	% Change	2017 Estimated		
City of Allegan	4838	4998	3.20%	5044		
City of Douglas	1214	1232	1.50%	1317		
City of Fennville	1459	1398	-4.40%	1416		
City of Holland	35,408	33,051	-7.10%	33,366		
City of Otsego	3933	3956	0.60%	3732		
City of Plainwell	3933	3804	-3.40%	3809		
City of Saugatuck	1065	925	-15.10%	978		
City of South Haven	5021	4403	-14.00%	4347		
City of Wayland	5279	4079	-29.40%	4237		
Village of Hopkins	592	610	3.00%	612		
Village of Martin	435	410	-6.10%	410		
Allegan Township	4050	4406	8.10%	4591		
Casco Township	3019	2823	-6.90%	3034		
Cheshire Township	2335	2199	-6.20%	2257		
Clyde Township	2104	2804	25.00%	2130		
Dorr Township	6579	7439	11.60%	7818		
Fillmore Township	2756	2681	-2.80%	2761		
Ganges Township	2524	2530	0.20%	2637		

Gun Plain Township	5637	5895	4.40%	6079
Heath Township	3100	3317	6.50%	3574
Hopkins Township	2079	2601	20.10%	2704
Laketown Township	5561	5505	-1.00%	5797
Lee Township	4114	4015	-2.50%	4104
Leighton Township	3625	4934	26.50%	5684
Manlius Township	2634	3017	12.70%	3164
Martin Township	2079	2629	20.90%	2700
Monterey Township	2065	2356	12.40%	2402
Otsego Township	4854	5594	13.20%	5784
Overisel Township	2594	2911	10.90%	3034
Salem Township	3486	4446	21.60%	4864
Saugatuck Township	2376	2944	19.30%	3242
Trowbridge Township	2519	2502	-0.70%	2546
Valley Township	1831	2018	9.30%	2149
Watson Township	2086	2063	-1.10%	2161
Wayland Township	3013	3088	2.40%	3359

Source: U.S. Census of Population

### Population by Age/Gender

While the overall population is the most important consideration, there are other characteristics to consider when planning for a community's recreation. The age and gender of a community can also influence the types of facilities and programs needed. Young children, for example, require active recreation areas, such as playgrounds and swimming areas, while older people generally require more passive recreation opportunities.

In Michigan, according to WMRPC, females account for 50.9 percent of the population and Allegan County follows suite with 49.8 percent of the population being male and 50.2 percent being female). Most communities have a higher percentage of females since they have a longer life expectancy.

Age Range	Male Population	Percent	Female Population	Percent	Total Population	% of Population
Under 5 year	3,836	3.4	3,665	3.3	7,501	6.7
5 to 9 years	4,111	3.7	3,903	3.5	8,014	7.2
10 to 14 years	4,392	3.9	4,051	3.6	8,443	7.6
15 to 19 years	4,109	3.7	3,916	3.5	8,025	7.2

20 to 24 years       2,957       2.7       2,859       2.6       5,816         25 to 29 years       2,951       2.6       3,073       2.8       6,024         30 to 34 years       3,097       2.8       3,080       2.8       6,177	5.2 5.4 5.5
30 to 34 years 3,097 2.8 3,080 2.8 6,177	5.5
35 to 39 years 3,468 3.1 3,506 3.1 6,974	6.3
40 to 44 years 3,871 3.5 3,846 3.5 7,717	6.9
45 to 49 years 4,563 4.1 4,505 4 9,068	8.1
50 to 54 years 4,540 4.1 4,513 4.1 9,053	8.1
55 to 59 years 3,903 3.5 3,900 3.5 7,803	7
60 to 64 years 3,201 2.9 3,154 2.8 6,355	5.7
65 to 69 years 2,329 2.1 2,468 2.2 4,797	4.3
70 to 74 years 1,593 1.4 1,750 1.6 3,343	3
75 to 79 years 1,136 1 1,373 1.2 2,509	2.3
79 to 84 years 794 0.7 1,146 1 1,940	1.7
85 years and 622 0.6 1,227 1.1 1,849 older	1.7

Source: U.S. Census of Population

### Population by Race

Racial distribution is different between the County, Region, and the State of Michigan. According to WMRPC, there is a higher percentage of Whites in Allegan County (92.9 percent) than either Region 8 (85.7 percent) or the State of Michigan (78.9 percent). The County has a lower percentage of Blacks (1.2 percent) than The Region (5.9 percent) or Michigan (14.2 percent). The County's percentage of Native Indian and Alaska Native (0.6 percent) is similar to the Region and Michigan (0.5 percent in the Region and 0.6 percent in Michigan). The County has a lower percentage of Asians (0.6 percent) than the Region (1.9 percent) or Michigan (2.4 percent). The County has a lower percentage of residents reporting two or more races (1.9 percent) than the Region (2.4 percent) or Michigan as-a-whole (2.3 percent). Allegan County's percentage of Hispanics or Latinos (6.7 percent) falls between the Region (8.1 percent) and Michigan (4.4 percent). The County's racial distribution has no influence on the area's recreation.

Race	Allegan County %	Region 8 %	State of Michigan %
White	93	85.7	78.9
Black/ African American	1.2	5.9	14.2
American Indian & Alaska Native	0.6	0.5	0.6
Asian	0.6	1.9	2.4
Hispanic/ Latino	6.7	8.1	4.4
Reporting 2 or More Races	1.9	2.4	2.3

Source: WMRPC

### **Section 2: Administrative Structure**

### **Parks Advisory Board**

In 2016, the Allegan County Board of Commissioners, under public act 156 of 1917 reorganized the Parks Commission to the Parks Advisory Board. Parks Advisory Board Members are appointed to the Parks Advisory Board for a three-year term by the Allegan County Board of Commissioners. The Parks Advisory Board shall consist of nine (9) residents of Allegan County, appointed by the Allegan County Board of Commissioners of which at least one, but not more than three shall be members of the Board. The by-laws were updated following this change. The Parks Advisory Board is responsible for advising the Allegan County Board of Commissioners on the development, maintenance, and management of all Allegan County Park properties. The Mission of the Parks Advisory Board is "To identify outdoor recreational opportunity needs desired by Allegan County residents and to provide for those needs within Allegan County for both residents and visitors." The mission statement acts as a guide for the Parks Advisory Board in all decisions.

### **Staff Description and Organizational Chart**

Parks Manager, is responsible for providing oversite of administration, maintenance and customer service to all county parks.

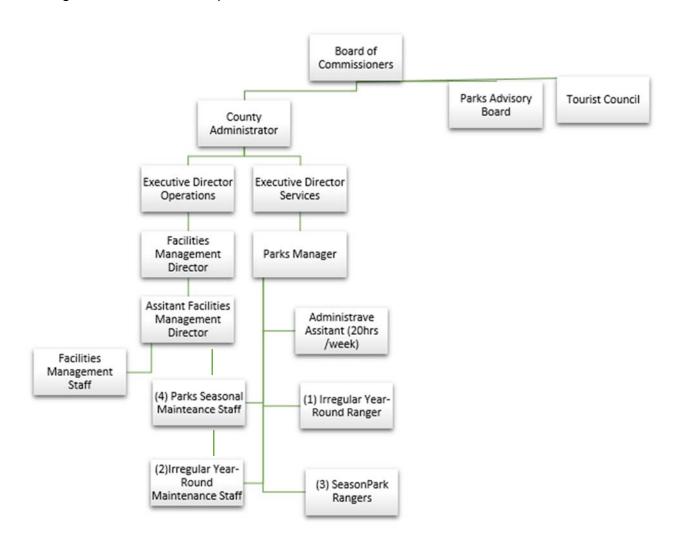
The Administration of Parks and Tourism coordinates and monitors annual budgets, oversees contracts, special projects, grant writing, leases, capital improvement, planning and development. This includes support to the Parks Advisory Board and the Tourist Council, and inspections of parks to evaluate operations, ensure safety and enforcement of policies on a federal, state, and local level. Administrative support is provided by the part–time Administrative Assistant. In addition, the administrative Assistant provides a centralized registration and information contact for special use permits, pavilion reservations, and tourism information requests. The Parks office also provides a central contact point for the public.

Maintenance, daily tasks and customer service is completed in partnership with the County's Facilities Management service area through year -round and seasonal staff. These tasks include but are not limited to; cleaning, custodial, grounds care, maintenance, water testing, repair, and enhancement of all park lands and buildings; customer service, updating of information boards within each park; and supervision of volunteer and community service groups.

The Allegan County Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Service Area are currently divided into ten smaller management activities. These include: Administration Grants(075), Dumont Lake Park (090), Gun Lake Park (091), Littlejohn Lake Park

(092), Silver Creek Park (093), West Side Park (094), Ely Lake Campground (095), Pine Point Campground (096), Bysterveld Park (097), New Richmond Bridge Park (098), Administration (751) and the Tourist Council (774). The Parks Service Area also maintains and manages a 60-mile equestrian trail system that runs through the Allegan State Game Area and connects Silver Creek and Ely Lake campgrounds.

An Organizational/Parks Department chart is shown below:



### **Funding Sources**

The County Parks and Recreation receives funding from a variety of sources. For park operations and administration there are two sources of funding; park revenues and the Gun Lake Casino slot revenue sharing funds. Park revenues are collected through season passes, trail fees, pavilion rentals, nightly camping fees,

and daily watercraft launch fees from the various county parks and the Verizon tower lease. Gun Lake Casino revenue sharing contributions for approximately 69% of the budget while park revenues will make up the other 31%.

For park projects there are three possible sources of funding; Gun Lake Casino slot revenue sharing funds, grants and donations.

The funds received from the Gun Lake Casino slot revenue sharing are placed in the County's 2470 account. The County Board of Commissioners currently distributes these funds to the following:

- > 10% of current year revenue stays in the 2470 account
- ➤ \$45,000 reserved for Agricultural Incubator match
- > Approximately \$257,000 to balance 2080 Parks Operational Budget
- \$20,000 set aside annually for DNR Trust Fund Grant match.
- Remaining fund balance may be utilized for Parks Capital and/or Economic Development Initiatives as approved by the BOC.

The distribution of Gun Lake Casino slot revenue sharing funds is based on annual availability of funds in the budget and annual department budget submittals. Final selection of projects using this funding source is based on recommendations from County Administration and final approval from the County Board of Commissioners.

Grant funding for past park projects has come from several sources over the past ten years, including the Allegan County Community Foundation, the DeLano Foundation, Great Lakes Fishery Trust, and the Michigan Natural Resource Trust Fund.

### Annual Budget

County Parks and Recreation Expenditures:

Park/Account #	Current Budget	Project Budget
	FY 2019	FY 2020
Administration - 751	\$277,593	\$313,606
Grant -075	\$0	\$400,000
Dumont Lake Park - 090	\$9,750	\$9,750
Gun Lake Park - 091	\$12,910	\$12,910
Littlejohn Lake Park - 092	\$10,500	\$9,050
Silver Creek Campground - 093	\$16,306	\$15,991
West Side Park - 094	\$10,880	\$11,250

Ely Lake Campground - 095	\$13,025	\$13,550
Bysterveld Park - 097	\$7,250	\$7,650
New Richmond Bridge Park - 098	\$5,730	\$620
Tourist Council - 774	\$11,320	\$11,349
Total	\$375,264	\$811,306

### County Parks and Recreation Estimated Revenues:

Dork/A account #	Estimated	Revenues
Park/Account #	FY 2019	FY 2020
Administration – 751	\$285,291	\$318,089
Grant – 075	\$0	\$400,000
Dumont Lake Park 090	\$5,060	\$6,660
Gun Lake Park - 091	\$11,218	\$9,300
Littlejohn Lake Park - 092	\$2,576	\$2,600
Silver Creek Campground - 093	\$31,529	\$31,529
West Side Park - 094	\$3,678	\$3,678
Ely Lake Campground - 095	\$30,989	\$35,200
Bysterveld Park - 097	\$1,776	\$1,250
New Richmond Bridge Park - 098	\$3,147	\$3,000
Tourist Council - 774	\$0	\$0
Total:	\$375,264	\$811,306

### **Role of Volunteers**

The County and staff appreciate the numerous volunteers that graciously assist with the giving of their time each year. They provide assistance to the county parks through a variety of means including litter clean up, basic maintenance, trail clearing, installation of horse picket poles and hitching posts; and invasive plant species removal and fund raising support for capital improvements. The most prominent volunteer groups are the Allegan County Pleasure Riders (equestrian group), the Friends of the Allegan County Equestrian Trail System (FACETS), the Walking Horse Association of Michigan (WHAM), and the Boy Scouts of America. Members of the Parks Advisory Board also serve on a voluntary basis and do not receive pay in providing their guidance for the parks and serving as a liaison to the Allegan County Board of Commissioners.

### **Relationships with Other Agencies**

Allegan County Parks has also worked with the following agencies in Allegan County on various recreation services/projects:

- Allegan Conservation District
- > MSU Extension
- ➤ Allegan County Community Foundation
- Kalamazoo River Watershed Council
- ➤ Kalamazoo River Protection Association
- Ottawa County Health Department
- Allegan County Health Department
- Ottawa County Parks Department
- Outdoor Discover Center (ODC)
- ➤ Michigan DNR

# **Section 3: Recreation Inventory**





### **Recreation Inventory Introduction**

An important element of a recreation plan is the inventory of local and regional, public and private recreation facilities that are available to a community's residents and visitors. This type of inventory provides a basis from which a comparison can be made of existing recreation opportunities with the community's identified recreation needs. This inventory process also identifies barrier-free facilities owned and/or operated by Allegan County. This will ensure that citizens with disabilities will fully enjoy these facilities. The inventory is based on information provided by Parks staff and site inspections carried out by the Parks Manager as part of the planning process. Site inspections took place inperson at each park.

Allegan County owns and/or operates six (6) day use parks, three (3) watercraft launches (two (2) of which are located right in the day use parks), two (2) campgrounds and over 60 miles of equestrian trails.

The site inventory for each of Allegan County's parks includes an accessibility rating to determine the current status of the park's pathways, structures, and amenities. This ranking will help prioritize which parks should be first to receive accessibility improvements in terms of new paving, modified furniture, or replacement of structures.

Accessibility assessment is provided based on the following scale:

- 1 = none of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 2 = some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 3 = most of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 4 = the entire park meets accessibility guidelines
- 5 = the entire park was developed/renovated using the principals of universal design

Along with the public schools, there are private schools, churches, and day care programs that provide recreational activities, such as playground equipment and ballfields. In addition, a list of the various public and private recreation facilities follows later in this section.

# Existing Recreation Inventory: Parks Owned and/or Operated by Allegan County

In this section, each park or facility owned and/or operated by Allegan County is described along with an aerial and a site plan (if developed).

### **Bysterveld Park**

Location

4171 14<sup>th</sup> St.

Wayland, MI 49348

Size

70 Acres

Park Type

Natural Resource Area

Service Area

Allegan County/Southwest Michigan

### Park Description/Overview

It encompasses a beautiful 70-acre parcel of natural area generously donated to the County by the late John and Josie Bysterveld. Construction on the park was completed in the spring of 2006 and includes two miles of nature trails, a picnic shelter, playground, fishing pond, a grass picnic/recreation area, a restroom facility, and parking for 75 vehicles. All of these amenities are ADA accessible. There are many splendid natural features that can be found on the park property, including rolling hills, wet meadows, wetlands, and woodland areas.

### Park Purpose Statement

Provide fishing opportunities, hiking, natural wildlife viewing, outdoor educational & recreational opportunities and family gathering.

### Park Amenities

Playground Equipment

**Benches** 

**ADA Nature Trails** 

Fishing Pond (catch & release)

Fishing Deck

Pavilion (no electricity)

Picnic Tables

Trash Receptacles

Grills

ADA Vault Restroom

Wetlands

Meadows

Gravel Parking Lot

#### Programming

Snowshoeing with ODC, youth/nature programs by ODC, church programs, 5k walk/run, Step it up program

### **Marketing**

Marketing for this park is done through social media sites, the Allegan County parks website page and passing out park brochures (office, at parks, events, County Fair, etc.).

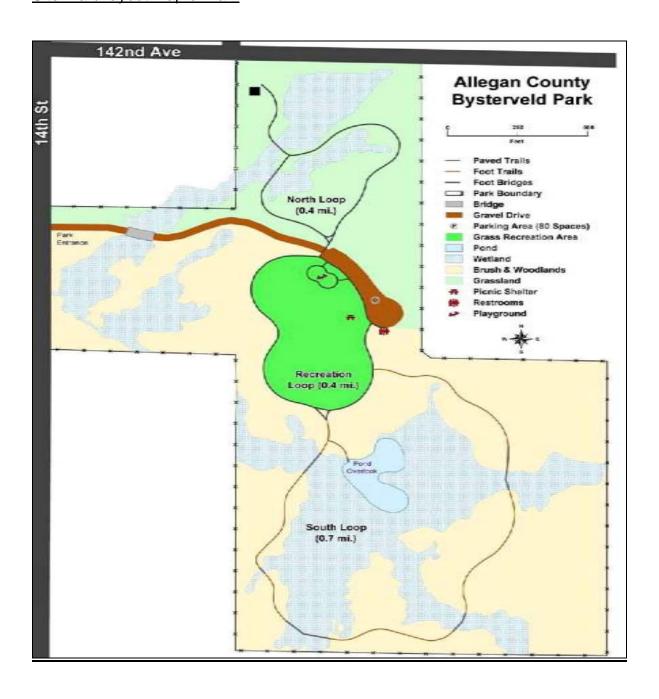
### **Accessibility Evaluation**

4 - The entire park meets accessibility guidelines.

### **Aerial Overview**



### Site Plan/Layout Map of Park



### **Dumont Lake Park**

### Location

2417 31st St.

Allegan MI 49010

### Size

18.6 Acres

### Park Type

Community Park

#### Service Area

Allegan County/Southwest Michigan

### Park Description/Overview

This park, located on the northeast shore of Dumont Lake, is 18.6 acres in size and is the perfect place for picnicking, sunbathing, swimming, or fishing. It has 550 feet of beach on beautiful Dumont Lake, picnic tables, grills, a covered pavilion, playground equipment, and modern restroom facilities.

### Park Purpose Statement

Provide a family friendly park used for multiple recreational activities.

### Park Amenities

Pavilion (with electricity)

Playground Equipment

Modern Restroom Building

Grills

Picnic Tables

Beach (buoyed swim area)

Trash Receptacles

Asphalt Parking Lot

### <u>Programming</u>

None

### Marketing

Marketing for this park is done through social media sites, the Allegan County parks website page and passing out park brochures (office, at parks, events, County Fair, etc.).

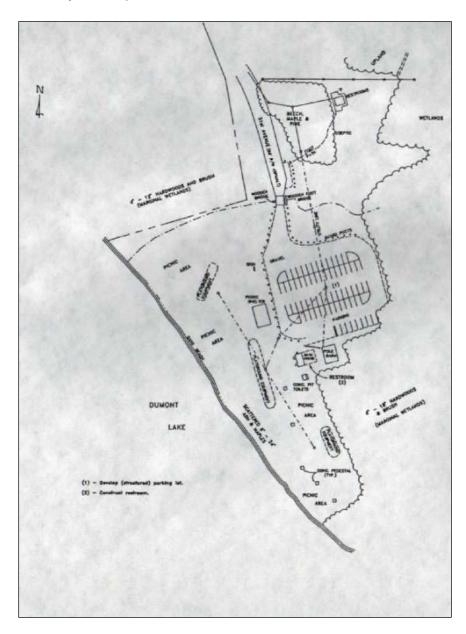
### Accessibility Evaluation

3 - Most of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines.

### **Aerial Overview**



### Site Plan/Layout Map of Park



### **Dumont Lake Watercraft Launch**

### Location

End of 33<sup>rd</sup> St.. Allegan, MI 49010

### Size

3 Acres

### Park Type

Boating Access Site/Community Park

### Service Area

Allegan County/Southwest Michigan

### Park Description/Overview

Dumont lake launch is a watercraft launch site located across the lake from the Dumont Lake Park at the end of 33rd Street. The watercraft launch facility also has an ADA accessible fishing pier available.

### Park Purpose Statement

Provide public watercraft access to the lake.

### Park Amenities

ADA Accessible Fishing Pier
Two Lane Watercraft Launch (concrete ramp) with Dock
Asphalt Parking Lot
Picnic Tables
Grills

### <u>Programming</u>

Fishing Tournaments, family kayak program with ODC

### **Marketing**

Marketing for this park is done through social media sites, the Allegan County parks website page and passing out park brochures (office, at parks, events, County Fair, etc.).

#### Dredging

At this time, no dredging or plans to dredge are in place.

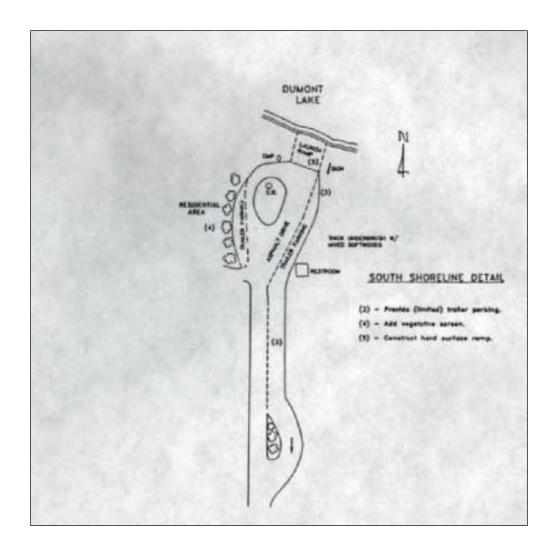
### Accessibility Evaluation

3 - Most of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines.

### **Aerial Overview**



### Site Plan/Layout of Park



### **Ely Lake Campground**

Location 5020 116<sup>th</sup> Ave Allegan, MI 49010

Size 90 acres

Park Type Regional Park

Service Area

Allegan County/Southwest Michigan

### Park Description/Overview

Ely Lake Campground offers a quality camping experience that is located close to town but has a definite backcountry feel. Ely Lake contains 73 primitive campsites (which all are open to equestrian camping), vault toilets, and a swimming beach on Ely Lake. You will also find DNR Public Access sites to both Ely and Little Tom Lakes. (Ely has a "no motor" rule, so bring your kayak, canoe or row boat!).

### Park Purpose Statement

Provide a safe family campground with rustic campsites with multiple recreational opportunities that coincide with the natural features of the park.

#### Park Amenities

73 Primitive Campsites (which all are open to equestrian camping)

Fire Ring & Picnic Table at each Site

Hand Water Pump Wells

Vault Toilets

Beach

Picnic Tables

Grills

Dumpster

Watercraft Launch (no motors allowed on Ely Lake)

Foot/Cross County Ski Trails

**Equestrian Trails** 

Equestrian Day Use Parking Lot/Staging Area

### **Programming**

Church programs, beginner kayak program, equestrian events (competitive mounted orienteering, judged trail ride)

### <u>Marketing</u>

Marketing for this park is done through social media sites, the Allegan County parks website page and passing out park brochures (office, at parks, events, County Fair, etc.).

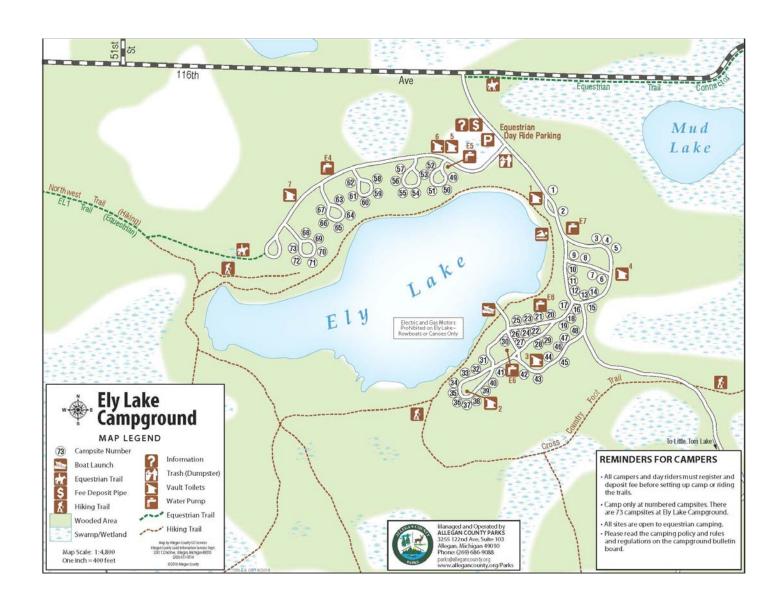
### **Accessibility Evaluation**

1 - None of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

### **Aerial Overview**



### Site Plan/Layout Map of Park



### **Equestrian Trail System**

### Location

Throughout Allegan County (mostly throughout State Game Area)

### Size

55 miles

### Park Type

**Equestrian Trail** 

### Service Area

Allegan County/South West Michigan

### Park Description/Overview

The Allegan County Equestrian Trail System (ETS) is a collaborative effort between Allegan County Parks, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and the volunteer group Friends of the Allegan County Equestrian Trail System (FACETS). Horseback riding in Allegan County has been a very popular recreational activity for residents and visitors for many years. Most of the equestrian activity in the County takes place in the 50,000-acre Allegan State Game Area. In an effort to make riding in the Game Area more user-friendly and to protect sensitive ecosystems Allegan County Parks, via a 25-year renewable lease agreement with the State of Michigan, has taken over management and ownership responsibilities for a designated equestrian trail system in the Game Area. The Allegan County ETS consists of more than 55 miles of marked and mapped designated riding trails. This makes it easier for riders, especially those that are new to the area, to enjoy this recreational opportunity in Allegan County.

### Park Purpose Statement

Provide public access to maintained equestrian trails.

### Park Amenities

**Equestrian Trails** 

Way Finding Signage

#### Programming

Equestrian events (competitive mounted orienteering, judged trail ride, endurance ride and benefit ride)

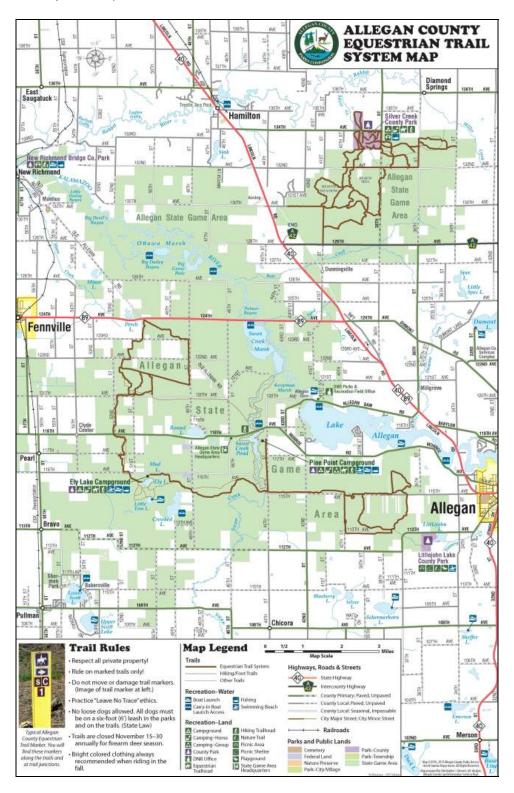
#### Marketing

Marketing for this park is done through social media sites, the Allegan County parks website page and passing out park brochures (office, at parks, events, County Fair, etc.).

### **Accessibility Evaluation**

1 - None of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

### Site Plan/Layout Map of Park



### **Gun Lake Park & Watercraft Launch**

Location 2397 Patterson Road Wayland, MI 49348

Size

4.1 Acres

Park Type

Regional Park/ Boating Access Site

Service Area

Allegan County/Southwest Michigan

### Park Description/Overview

The smallest jewel in our park system is located on the west shore of beautiful Gun Lake. Formerly known as "East Side Park", this little four acre park has over 450 feet of beach, a playground, a basketball court, picnic tables, grills, a covered pavilion, and modern restroom facilities. The park also has a watercraft launch with an ADA accessible dock that makes loading and unloading boats quick and easy.

### Park Purpose Statement

Provide a family friendly park used for multiple recreational activities and to provide public watercraft access to the lake.

#### Park Amenities

Playground Equipment Pavilion (electricity)
Picnic Tables
Grills

Trash Receptacles Modern Restrooms

Two Lane Watercraft Launch (concrete ramp) with Dock Gated Entrance/Machine for Launch

ADA Accessible Dock

Beach (buoyed swim area)

Asphalt Parking Lot

#### Programming

Fishing tournament, Stand Up Paddle Board/ Kayak Races

### **Marketing**

Marketing for this park is done through social media sites, the Allegan County parks website page and passing out park brochures (office, at parks, events, County Fair, etc.).

### **Dredging**

At this time, no dredging or plans to dredge are in place.

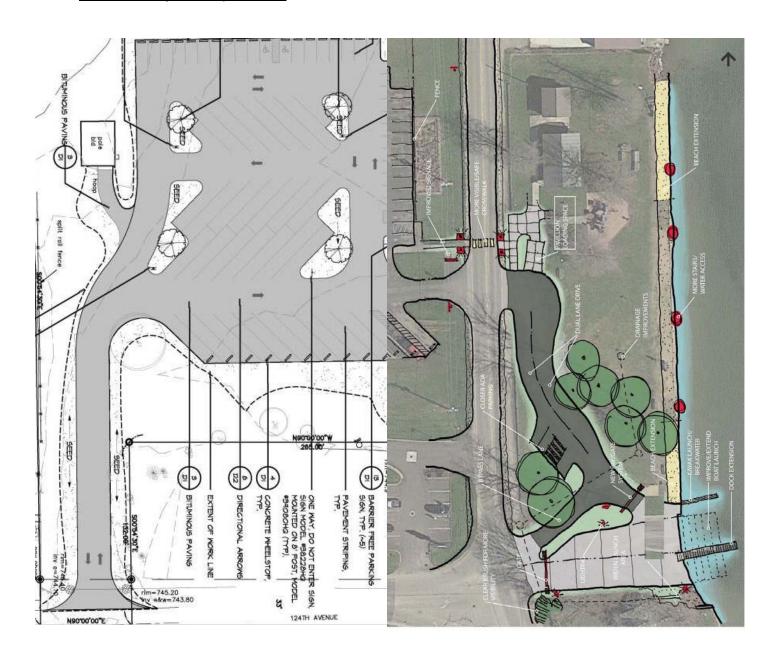
### Accessibility Evaluation

3 - Most of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

### **Aerial Overview**



#### Site Plan/Layout Map of Park



#### Littlejohn Lake Park

Location 3540 113<sup>th</sup> Ave Allegan, MI 49010

Size 113 Acres

Park Type Community Park

#### Service Area

Allegan County/Southwest Michigan

#### Park Description/Overview

Located on Littlejohn Lake just three miles southwest of the City of Allegan. Littlejohn Park encompasses 113 acres of mostly wooded natural public land. Approximately 13 acres of the park is developed with over 120 picnic tables, grills, a playground, a nature trail, and a large wooden pavilion with electricity that is popular for family reunions and picnics. There is also a beautiful swimming beach with an ADA accessible walkway. There are also two restroom buildings, facilities for volleyball and horseshoes. It is the perfect place to have your gathering!

#### Park Purpose Statement

Provide a family friendly park used for multiple recreational activities.

#### Park Amenities

Playground Equipment
Pavilion (electricity)
Picnic Tables
Grills
Trash Receptacles
Horse Shoe Pits
Baseball Fields
Volleyball Courts
Modern Restrooms
Beach (buoyed swim area)
Foot/Cross County Ski Trails
Asphalt Parking Lot

#### **Programming**

Youth/nature programs by ODC, Step it Up program

#### **Marketing**

Marketing for this park is done through social media sites, the Allegan County parks website page and passing out park brochures (office, at parks, events, County Fair, etc.).

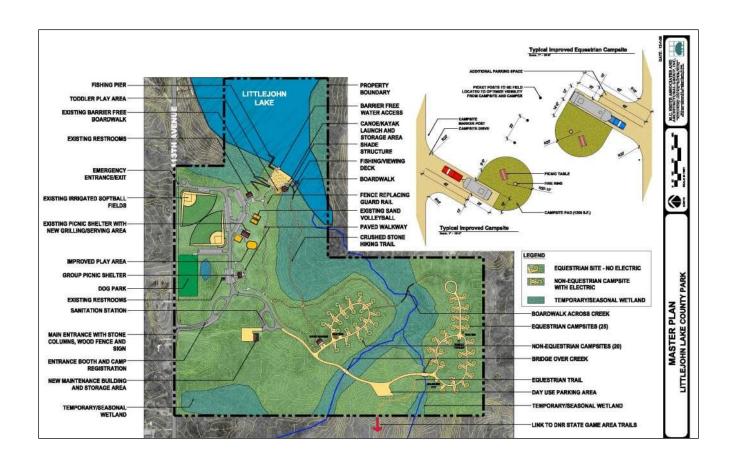
#### **Accessibility Evaluation**

3 - Most of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

#### **Aerial Overview**



#### Site Plan/Layout Map of Park



#### **New Richmond Bridge Park & Watercraft Launch**

Location 3160 Old Allegan Road Fennville, MI 49408

Size 20 Acres

Park Type
Community Park

Service Area

Allegan County/Southwest Michigan

#### Park Description/Overview

New Richmond Bridge Park is located just north of the historic village of New Richmond in the northwestern part of the county. The centerpiece of this historic park is a fully restored swing bridge which spans 400' across the Kalamazoo River. This swing bridge, which was originally built in 1879, was restored to its original splendor in 2004. It is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and connects park property on both the north and south sides of the river. Another interesting feature of the park is that there is a very active railroad bridge that runs parallel to the swing bridge. In fact, this railroad bridge is crossed by 30 to 40 trains per day! The railroad bridge, which was built in 1907, is also a historic structure and was originally designed to swing at its center span to allow riverboat traffic to pass. New Richmond Bridge Park includes five fishing piers, a half mile of boardwalk trails that run along the river and through the surrounding wetland areas, several interpretive signs, a restroom building, a small picnic area and a watercraft launch and parking area.

#### Park Purpose Statement

Provide a historical site that provides motorized and non-motorized watercraft launching, fishing opportunities, hiking, natural wildlife viewing, outdoor educational opportunities and family gathering.

#### Park Amenities

Picnic Tables
Grills
ADA Vault Restrooms
Single Watercraft Launch (concrete ramp) with Dock
Swing Bridge
ADA Accessible Fishing Docks
Asphalt Parking Lot
ADA Accessible Board Walks
Trash Receptacles

Benches Interpretive Signs

#### **Programming**

School programs, Step it Up, Family Kayaking program by ODC

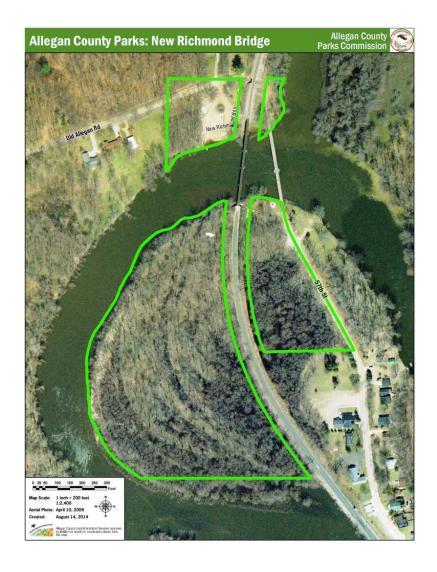
#### **Marketing**

Marketing for this park is done through social media sites, the Allegan County parks website page and passing out park brochures (office, at parks, events, County Fair, etc.).

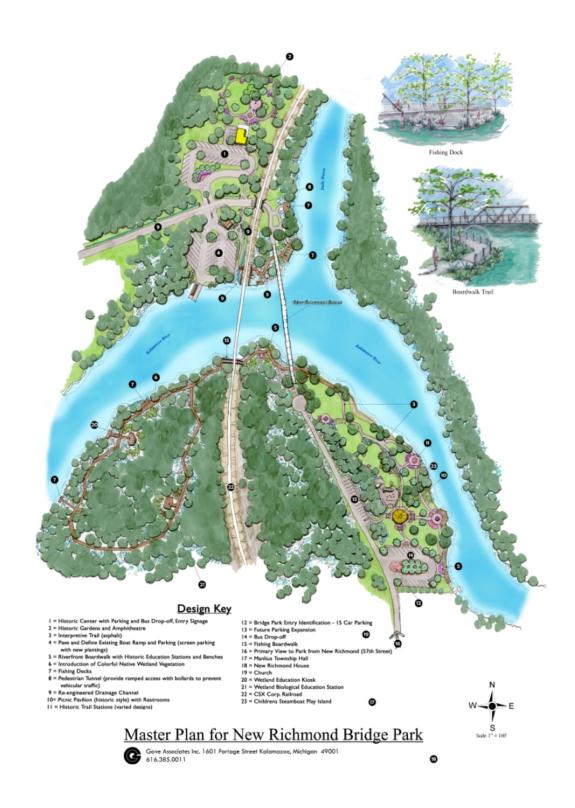
#### Accessibility Evaluation

5 - The entire park meets accessibility guidelines

#### **Aerial Overview**



#### Site Plan/Layout Map of Park



#### Silver Creek Park/Campground

Location 3900 134th Ave Hamilton, MI 49419

Size 320 Acres

Park Type Regional Equestrian Park

Service Area Allegan County/ Michigan

#### Park Description/Overview

Silver Creek Park is primarily an equestrian park and has both day use facilities and a campground. Silver Creek is 320 acres in size and connects to over 30 miles of horseback riding trails. There are 75 campsites in the park, all of which are available for horse camping. Silver Creek also has 450 feet of frontage on Silver Creek, which is a spring fed trout stream. You will also find a pavilion, picnic tables and grills available in the day use area. The most beautiful and unique thing about Silver Creek is that the entire park is primarily wooded, providing for plenty of shade in the hot summer months and some spectacular foliage color in the fall. Silver Creek Park is open year round and has some spectacular fall and winter camping available.

#### Park Purpose Statement

Provide a safe family and equestrian campground with multiple recreational opportunities that coincide with the natural features of the park.

#### Park Amenities

Swing Set Pavilion

75 Primitive Campsites (all of them are designed for equestrian camping) Fire Rings & Picnic Tables at each Site Hand Water Pump Wells Vault Toilets **Dumpsters** Picnic Tables Grills Watercraft Launch **Equestrian Trails** 

#### **Programming**

Equestrian events (competitive mounted orienteering, judged trail ride, endurance ride and benefit ride), school programs

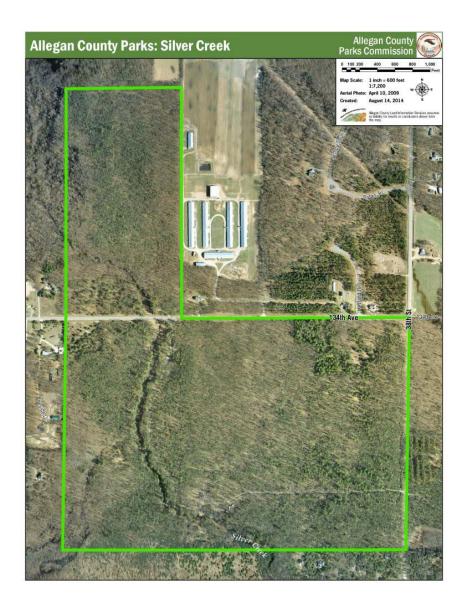
#### <u>Marketing</u>

Marketing for this park is done through social media sites, the Allegan County parks website page and passing out park brochures (office, at parks, events, County Fair, etc.).

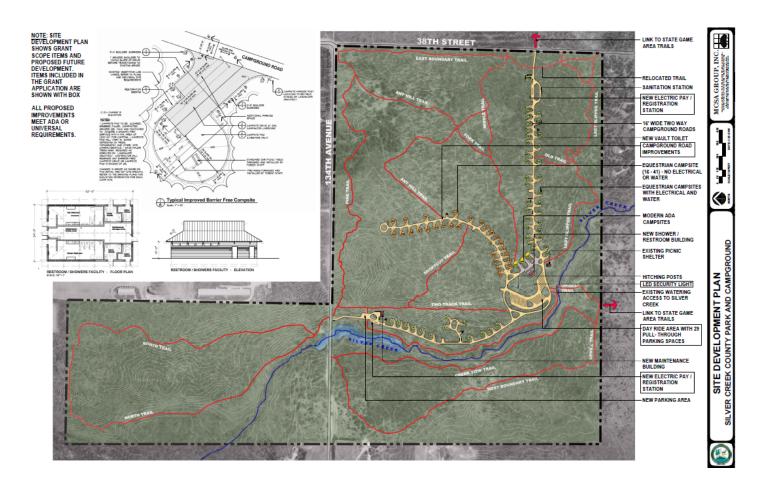
#### Accessibility Evaluation

1 - None of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

#### **Aerial Overview**



#### Site Plan/Layout Map of Park



#### **West Side Park**

Location 2152 Lakeshore Dr. Fennville, MI 49408

Size 11 Acres

Park Type
Community Park

Service Area

Allegan County/South West Michigan

#### Park Description/Overview

West Side Park is located on the beautiful Lake Michigan shoreline. It consists of 11 acres with 630 feet of beautiful, sandy beach on Lake Michigan. Two dune stairways provide easy access to the beach. West Side has picnic tables, two covered pavilions, two modern restroom buildings, and a fenced playground. It is a truly great place to see a beautiful Lake Michigan sunset. In 2014, Allegan County received a grant to add an additional parking lot, replace one of the old beach access stairs and add an ADA accessible ramp, landings and walkway onto the beach, improve landscaping and update a picnic area. Due to high water issue in 2018 the ADA accessible ramp, landings and walkway onto the beach had to be removed. An ADA lake/sunset viewing platform is still operational.

#### Park Purpose Statement

Provide a family friendly park used for multiple recreational activities and to provide access to Lake Michigan.

#### Park Amenities

Playground Equipment
Pavilions (two)
Picnic Tables
Grills
Trash Receptacles
Modern Restrooms (2)
Lake Michigan Beach
Asphalt Parking Lot
Lake/sunset viewing platform
Beach stairways (two)

#### **Programming**

None

#### **Marketing**

Marketing for this park is done through social media sites, the Allegan County parks website page and passing out park brochures (office, at parks, events, County Fair, etc.).

#### **Accessibility Evaluation**

3 - Most of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

#### Aerial Overview



#### Site Plan/Layout Map of Park



**MASTER PLAN West Side Park Allegan County Parks Comission** 









#### Blue Star Non -Motorized Linear Trail

(Allegan County ownership will occur upon completion of construction)

#### Location

Casco Township

#### Size

~1.8 miles

#### Park Type

Regional Linear Park

#### Service Area

Allegan County/South West Michigan

#### Park Description/Overview

The Allegan County Board of Commissioners agreed to take ownership of the future portion of the Non-Motorized Blue Star Trail to be constructed within Casco and Ganges Townships. This section is only a portion of a larger project to connect South Haven to Holland. The total project will be completed throughout different phases and is being spearheaded by the Friends of the Blue Star Trail (FOTBST) organization. The Friends of the Blue Star Trail are raising the funds for construction and have created an endowment to cover future maintenance costs.

#### Park Purpose Statement

Provide non-motorized trail to connect people and communities from Holland to South Haven while improving their safety, wellness, economic health, and environment.

#### Park Amenities

Asphalt Trail Trash Receptacles Signage

#### Programming

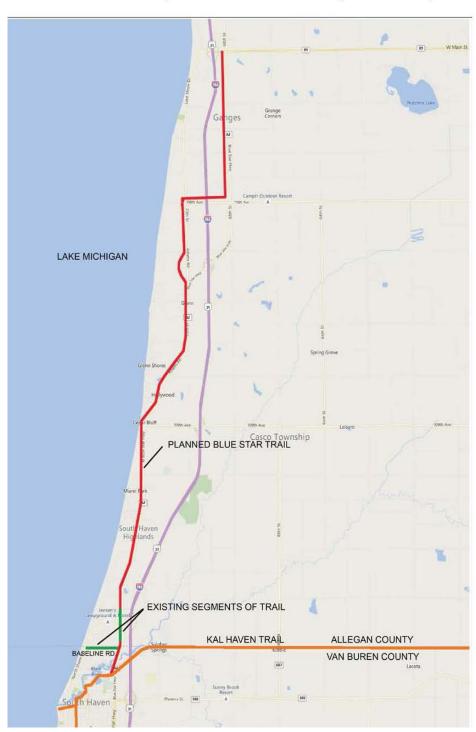
Lakeshore Harvest Ride

#### Marketing

Marketing for this trail is done through social media sites, the Allegan County parks website page and passing out park brochures (office, at parks, events, County Fair, etc.). The Friends of the Blue Star Trail also promote this through different venues.

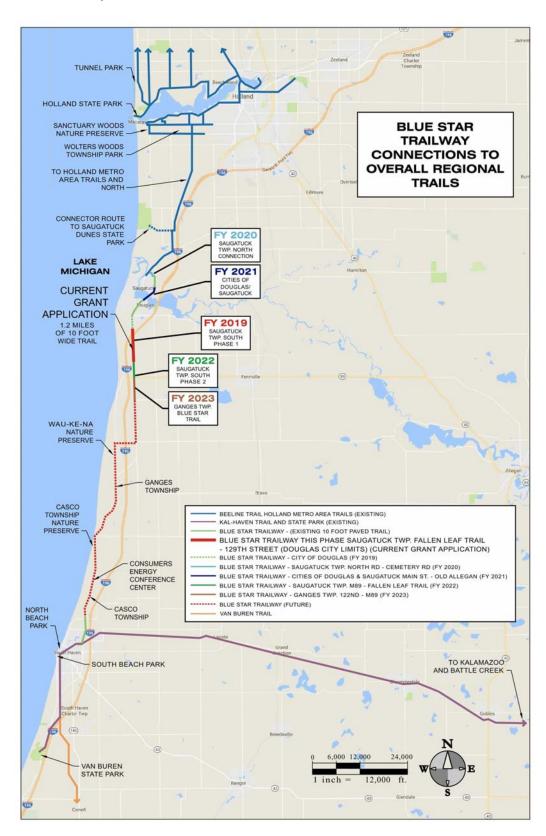
#### Accessibility Evaluation

5 - The entire park meets accessibility guidelines



Blue Star Trail plan in Casco and Ganges Townships

#### Site Plan/Layout -Blue Star Trail



#### **DNR Recreation Grant Inventory**

Allegan County has previously received several DNR recreational grants for park development, listed in table below. These grants came from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (26) or Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (TF). Post completion, self-certification forms are also being submitted to the DNR along with this Recreation Plan.

Grant	Project Year	Park Name	Туре	Status	Scope
TF91 -351	1991	Westside Park	Development	Closed	Road way & parking, Beach area, softball fields, Tot lot, Restroom, Fencing
TF95-126	1995	Little John Lake Park	Development	Closed	Boardwalk, Sprinkling System, Driveway Repaving
26-00264	2000	Little John Lake Park	Development	Closed	Road way & parking, Beach area, Picnic facilities, softball diamonds, children's play area, pavilion, restroom/bathhouse
TF00-077	2000	Dumont Lake Park & Boat Launch	Development	Closed	Paved parking-beach area, paved walkway to restroom, Playground area, pave parking/launch area, dock, picnic area, concrete ramp
TF00-076	2000	Gun Lake Park	Development	Closed	Play equipment, picnic equipment, widen and pave boat launch, restrooms
TF02-117	2002	Bysterveld Park	Development	Closed	Site preparation, Gravel access road/parking, Hard surface walkways, Picnic shelter, Play equipment, Access road bride, Vault toilets, Signage/amenities, Overlook deck, Boardwalks, Pedestrian bridges, Maintenance building
TF05-001	2005	New Richmond Park	Development	Closed	Site preparation, Vault toilets, Boardwalks, Fishing decks, Signage, Lighting, Bridge improvements, Parking, Boat ramps, Site amenities, Skid Pier, Bituminous trail
TF13-042	2013	West Side Park	Development	Closed	Parking lot & drive, concrete walkways, beach access stairs, deck & ramp, Bluff overlook, site amenities, Picnic shelter renovation

## Inventory of Recreation Land Owned by Allegan County Public Schools and Facilities

Following is the recreation inventory of public schools located in Allegan County:

School District	School	Facilities
	Allegan High School	Sports fields, indoor pool and aquatic center; track
	LE White Middle School	Sports fields, tennis courts
	Dawson Elementary	Playground equipment, softball field
Allegan Public Schools	North Ward Elementary	Playground equipment, softball field
	Pine Trails Elementary	Playground equipment, softball field
	West Ward Elementary	Playground equipment, softball field
	Blackman School	Playground equipment
	Alternative High School	Sports fields, playgrounds
Fennville Public Schools	Fennville High School/Middle School	Sports fields
T STITTING T GENERALS	Anna Michen Elementary	Playground equipment
	Hamilton High School	Sports fields, indoor fitness center, indoor pool, tennis courts
	Hamilton Middle School	Sports fields
Hamilton Community Schools	Bentheim Elementary	Playground equipment
	Blue Star Elementary	Playground equipment
	Hamilton Elementary	Playground equipment
	Sandyview Elementary	Playground equipment
	Hopkins High School	Sports fields
	Hopkins Middle School	Sports fields
Hopkins Public Schools	Hopkins Elementary	Playground equipment, sports fields
	Sycamore Elementary	Playground equipment, sports fields
	60 acre nature area	Trails, skiing area, classroom building

Martin Public Schools	Martin Middle/High School	Sports fields, outdoor track						
Waitin'r ublic Schools	Brandon Elementary	Playground equipment						
East Martin Christian Schools	East Martin Christian High School	Sports fields						
Last Waltin Offisian Ochools	East Martin Christian Elementary	Playground equipment						
	Otsego High School	Sports fields, tennis courts, outdoor track						
	Otsego Middle School	Basketball courts						
Otsego Public Schools	Alamo Elementary	Playground equipment, sports fields						
	Dix Street Elementary	Playground equipment, sports fields						
	Washington Street Elementary	Playground equipment						
	Plainwell High School	Sports fields, tennis courts, outdoor track						
	Plainwell Middle School	Sports fields, tennis courts						
Plainwell Community Schools	Cooper Elementary	Playground equipment						
	Gilkey Elementary	Playground, nature trails, sports fields						
	Starr Elementary	Playground equipment						
	Saugatuck High School	Sports fields, outdoor track						
Saugatuck Public Schools	Saugatuck Middle School	Sports fields						
	Douglas Elementary	Playground equipment						
South Haven Public Schools	Baseline Middle School	Sports fields, tennis courts, basketball courts						
	Wayland High School	Sports fields, indoor pool, outdoor track						
	Wayland Middle School	Sports fields						
Wayland Union Schools	Baker Elementary	Playground equipment						
	Dorr Elementary	Playground equipment						
	Pine Street Elementary	Playground equipment						
	Steeby Elementary	Playground equipment						

### **Inventory of Recreation Land Owned by Other Government Entities**

		ALLEGA	CA	MPI	NG	F	ICN	иск	ING	;	M	ATE	R		- 1	TRAI	LS		ACTIVITIES & SPOR				ORTS								
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PARK NAME	ACRES	GOVERNIMENT UNIT	CAMPSITES	CAMPING: [M]odern / [R]ustic	BATHHOUSE/SHOWERS	PICNIC TABLES	PICNIC SHELTER	PICNIC GRILLS	DRINKING WATER	TOILETS: [F]=FLUSH [P]=PIT	BOAT LAUNCH [Codes at	FISHING: [L]=LAKE [R]=RIVER	SWIMMING BEACH	BICYCLE TRAIL	EQUESTRIAN TRAIL	FITNESS TRAIL	HIKING TRAIL	CNOWAGORIE TOAII	BJASEBALL/[S]OFTBALL	BASKETBALL COURT	HORSESHOE PIT	DISC GOLF	DOG PARK	SKATE PARK	ICE SKATING	NATURE STUDY	PLAYGROUND	SLEDDING HILL	[S]OCCER/[O]PEN FIELD	TENNIS COURT	SAND VOLLEYBALL COLIBT
Alamanchier Park	4.1	Saugatuck Twp	۲	_		_							01	_			x		1	-				U1		x		U1			- 01
Alice McClay Park	1.0	Douglas City				х						L														х					
Allegan County Fairgrounds	98.0	Allegan City	x			m																									
Allegan Dam-East Boating Access Site		Valley Twp	10,000							Р	В	R																			
Allegan State Game Area	50,045	(several)									x	LR	x		x		x x	×								x					
Allegan Wellness and Sports Complex	49.4	Allegan Twp				х	х		х	F		00000000	0.000		2550		x		BS							00.00	х		so		
Bandshell Park	0.2	Plainwell City				-	-		-	-		R		х			x														
Baseline Lake Boating Access Site	4.8	Trowbridge Twp								Р	В	L		-			-														
Bicentennial Park	10.0	Wayland City																								х					
	5.9	The state of the s	1			_																				^					
Big Lake Boating Access Site	0.9	Watson Twp				v	v			Р	В	L																			
Blue Star Memorial Highway Park		Saugatuck Twp	8	R		X	X	X			г	R		х												Ų.					
Brookside Park	42.0	Otsego City	8	R		X	X	X	x	F	D	1000					X									X	X		_		
Bysterveld County Park		Dorr Twp				x	х	х	x	Р		L					x x									x	х		0		
Casco Township Nature Preserve	20.0	Casco Twp				X				P		L	x				х									X					
Castle Park Nature Preserve	5.1	Laketown Twp																													
Cheshire Twp Park	0.5	Cheshire Twp																													
Community Park	6.1	Hopkins Village				x	X	x	x	F						X			S	X							x		S	х	
Cook Drain Trail Park	0.7	Allegan City				X								х			x														
Cook Park	0.4	Saugatuck City				x																									
Cottonwood Township Park	20.0	Fillmore Twp				х	х	х		P							x										х				
Coughlin Park	1.6	Saugatuck City				x						L																			
Darrow Park	0.3	Plainwell City				х					E	R					х														
Dorr North Twp Park	9.6	Dorr Twp				х	х	х		P									BS			х					х			х	х
Dorr South (Gries Memorial) Twp ⊞ark	6.9	Dorr Twp				х	-	х		Р									100000								х				-
Douglas Beach	1.3	Douglas City				x		х	x	F		L	е														-				
Duck Lake Boating Access Site	1.2	Cheshire Twp				^		^	•	P	В	L																			
Durnont Lake County Park	1.2	Monterey Twp				x		x	x	F	E	i	x								x						x				
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BOAT LAUNCH CODES: A - Hard Surface. Good Deoth: B - Hard Surface. Limited Deoth: C - Gravel Surface: D - Carry-Down Access Only: E - Canoe Access Only

#### **Inventory of Private Recreation Facilities**

Following is the recreation inventory of current privately owned and/or operated facilities throughout Allegan County that serve both residents and visitors. While the list below is not intended to be all-inclusive, the opportunities that are listed below provide recreational activities that are not provided or identified in the previous listing of park and recreation opportunities.

Type of Facility	Location
GOLF COURSES	
Orchard Hills	714 125 <sup>th</sup> Avenue, Shelbyville
Lake Monterey Golf Club	3765 28 <sup>th</sup> Street, Dorr
Cheshire Hills Golf Course	3829 102 <sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Allegan
Lynx Golf Course	900 Lincoln Road, Otsego
Clearbrook Golf Club and Restaurant	6494 Clearbrook Dr, Saugatuck
Yankee Springs Golf Course	12300 Bowens Mill Road, Wayland
Winding Creek	4514 E. Ottogan Street, Holland
Hawkshead Links	523 Hawks Nest Dr, South Haven
Lake Doster Golf Club	116 Country Club Blvd, Plainwell
The Ravines	3520 Palmer Drive, Saugatuck
Diamond Springs	3400 34th Street, Hamilton
Beeches Golf Club	09601 68th Street, South Haven
Macatawa Legends Country Club	4600 Macatawa Legends Blvd, Holland
The Links at Rolling Meadows Golf Club	1259 St Andrews Dr, Holland
Laketown Golf & Conference Center	6069 Blue Star Hwy, Saugatuck
CANOE AND KAYAK RENTAL/BOATING/MARII	NES/ FISHING
Tower Marine	216 St. Peters Dr., Douglas
Limerick Sailing Charters	475 Delano St, Allegan
Best Chance Too Charters	650 Water St., Saugatuck
Bending Limits Sportfishing Charters	2223 S Shore Dr, Macatawa

Yacht Boat Charters	220 Water St., Saugatuck
Co-Hooker Charter Fishing Services	6545 138th Ave, Holland
Holland Michigan Salmon Charter	1862 Ottawa Beach Rd, Holland
West Michigan Charter Fishing	641 Water Street, Slip #1, Saugatuck
Deep V Sportfishing Charters	1866 Ottawa Beach Rd, Holland
MIRYHA Saugatuck Charter Fishing	868 Holland St, Saugatuck
Reel Talk Sportfishing Charters	1866 Ottawa Beach Rd, Holland
Holland MI Fishing Charter Boat	1862 Ottawa Beach Rd, Holland
Michigan Fishing Charter Co	220 Water St, Saugatuck
suFISHient Charters	1866 Ottawa Beach Rd: slip C 47, Holland
Can't Miss Charters Services	776 Manchester Dr., Saugatuck
Sailing Mac Charters LLC	1866 Ottawa Beach Rd, Holland
Deeplake Ventures	2223 S Shore Dr, Holland
Big Lake Outfitters of Saugatuck	640 Water St., Saugatuck
Harbor Duck Adventures Co.	121 Griffith St., Saugatuck
Saugatuck Chain Ferry	528 Water Street, Saugatuck
J.D. Charters	2223 S Shore Dr, Macatawa
Sergeant Marina	31 Butler St. Saugatuck
Star of Saugatuck Boat Cruises	716 Water St., Saugatuck
Sweetwater Sailing	868 Holland St, Saugatuck
Plainwell Kayak Company	211 N Main St, Plainwell
Velocity Adventure's	Fennville
Kayak-Kayak	1200 Ottawa Beach Rd, Holland
WaterTrail Ventures, LLC Kayak & Canoe Rental	4359 147th Ave, Holland
Running Rivers, Inc.	120 E Center St, Douglas
1 Adventure Company	2223 S Shore Dr, Macatawa

SoHa Kayak River Rentals	South Beach, South Haven
Gun Lake Rentals Boat Rentals, Kayaks, Paddle Boards, Canoe!	2422 Patterson Rd, Shelbyville
HORSEBACK RIDINIG	
Wild West Ranch	2855 36th Street, Allegan
Simpsarosa Stables	181 55th St, Grand Junction
SKIING AND TUBING	
Bittersweet Ski Resort	600 River Road, Otsego
Timber Ridge Ski Resort	7500 23 ½, Gobles
PRIVATELY OWNED CAMPGROUNDS	
Dumont Lake Family Campground	3106 125 <sup>th</sup> Avenue, Allegan
Tri-Ponds Family Camp Resort	3687 Dumont Road, Allegan
Giles Campground	697 44th Street, Allegan
Giles Swanlake Campground	928 44th St, Pullman
East Lake Camping	3091 Weick Drive, Hopkins
Schnable Lake Family Campground	1476 115 <sup>th</sup> Avenue, Martin
Sandy Pines Recreation Community Rv Resort & Campground	2745 136 <sup>th</sup> Avenue, Hopkins
Miller Lake Campground	2130 Miller Lake Drive, Hopkins
Hungry Horse Campground	2016 142 <sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Dorr
Shelp's Resort Campground	11011 Doster Road, Plainwell
Selkirk Lake Mobile-Park and Campground	780 127th Ave, Shelbyville
Hidden Ridge RV Park	2306 12th Street, Hopkins
Oak Grove Resort Campground	2011 Ottawa Beach Rd, Holland
Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park Camp Resort	3403 64th St, South Haven
Dutch Treat Camping & Recreation	10300 Gordon St, Zeeland
Cousins' R/V park	105 Blue Star Hwy-N. Shore Dr., South Haven
Saugatuck RV Resort	6473 Blue Star Highway, Saugatuck

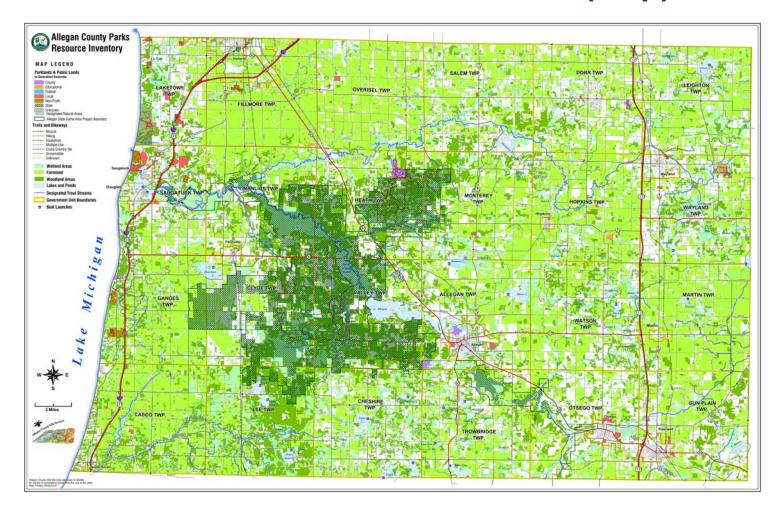
BOWLING	
Snowden's Sunset Lanes	504 Western Ave., Allegan
Allie's Classic American Diner & Bowling	229 W Center St, Douglas
Brewhouse Lanes Bowling Alley	1628 142nd Ave, Dorr
MISCELLANEOUS	
4-H Camp Kidwell	39000 1st. Ave, Bloomingdale
Allegan County Snowmobile Club	1697 36th Street, Allegan
Skydive Inc. Allegan	740 Grant Street, Allegan
The Old Regent Theatre	211 Trowbridge, Allegan
Centershot Gun Range	2638 142 <sup>nd</sup> Ave, Dorr
Remington Forest Sporting Club	2714 56th Street
M-40 Paintball	4434 M-40, Holland
Outdoor Discovery Center	4214 56th St, Holland
US 131 Motorsports Park	1249 12 <sup>th</sup> St., Martin
Kalamazoo Replica Lighthouse	Douglas
Gun Lake Casino	1123 129 <sup>th</sup> Ave, Wayland
Allegan County Fair	150 Allegan County Fair Drive, Allegan
M-89 Cinema	392 Oaks Crossing, Plainwell
Saugatuck Center for the Art	400 Culver Street, Saugatuck
Allegan Event	439 River Street, Allegan
Allegan Event ZIP	At Riverfront, Allegan

#### Allegan County Snowmobile Trail System

During the winter, throughout Allegan County when there is enough snow on the ground, two volunteer groups, the Allegan County Snowmobile Club & West Michigan Snowmobile Council, maintain/groom approximately 200 miles of snowmobile trails. The snowmobile trails navigate through private landowner's property (~170 miles) and through the State Game Area (~30 miles). The volunteers annually place and remove trail signs, trim bush from trails, negotiate private land agreements and groom the trails. The Allegan County Snowmobile Club has 36x56 groomer barn, a 32x50 club house and 24x30 warming pavilion

on 13 acres located at 1697 36<sup>th</sup> Street Allegan Michigan. The trail system has four grooming machines to help keep the trails smooth. An annual grant of approximately 250K is awarded to groom and maintain the trail system. The grant is entirely funded thru a user base fee, called "Snowmobile Trail Permit". Future goals of the Allegan County Snowmobile Club are 1.) To improve or reduce as many trail connectors that are using road-right of ways within the county. 2.) Apply for the available grant funding to secure 41<sup>st</sup> trail reroute. 3.) Apply for the available grant funding to secure permanent easements. Additional information and trail maps can be found at <a href="https://myacsc.org">https://myacsc.org</a> and <a href="https://myacsc.org">http

# Section 4: Resource Inventory (Map)



## Section 5: Public Input & Planning Process

During the February Parks Advisory Board meeting the members reviewed the current recreation plan and it was decided that the Parks Advisory Board would hold a public workshop (input session) during their April 2, 2019 Parks Advisory Board meeting. The Parks Manager was directed to create and distribute surveys to gather information from the public, school districts and municipalities located within Allegan County (See **Appendix A/B-** copy of surveys & surveys results).

A publicly announced public workshop (**Appendix C/D-** copy of the notice for public workshop/press release) was held on April 2, 2019 during the Parks Advisory Board Meeting to help develop the goals and objectives and determine the action plan that should occur for the 5-year recreation plan for Allegan County (**Appendix E/F-** agenda & minutes of public workshop (Parks Advisory Board Meeting). The public notice was also placed on the County's website, Facebook page and sent to local municipality offices for posting. The results of these surveys were also reviewed during the April 2, 2019 Parks Advisory Board meeting.

After completion, review and discussion of the draft Recreation Plan by the Parks Advisory Board the draft was made available for 30+ days for public review (**Appendix G/H** – copy of the notice of availability for public review and comment/press release).

During the December 3, 2019 Parks Advisory Board meeting a public hearing was held (**Appendix I/J** – copy of the notice of the public hearing/press release). Following the closing of the public hearing, hearing no issues on the plan, the Parks Advisory Board approved the Allegan County 2020-2024 Recreation Plan and made a motion to adopt a resolution approving the plan and recommending that the Allegan County Board of Commissioners adopt/approve the Allegan County 2020-2024 Recreation Plan. (**Appendix K/L** – Copy of Parks Advisory Board Resolution/Minutes).

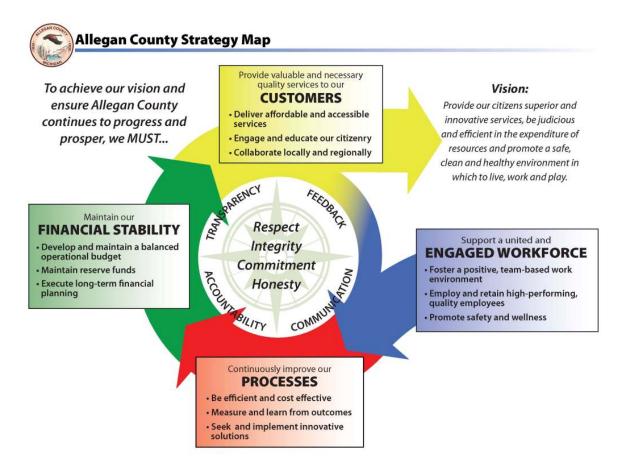
During the December 12, 2019 Board of Commissioners planning meeting the board members reviewed and asked questions regarding the Recreation Plan and made a motion to take action on the plan during their December Board of Commissioners meeting. During the December 12, 2019 Board of Commissioners meeting the board made a motion to adopt a resolution approving/adopting the Recreation Plan (**Appendix M/N** – Copy of Board of Commissioners Resolution/Minutes).

A letter was mailed to the West Michigan Regional Planning Commission informing them of the new Recreation Plan (**Appendix O**). Allegan County does not have a Planning Commission to send the plan to.

## **Section 6: Goals and Objectives**

#### **Allegan County**

In 2012, the Allegan County Board of Commissioners approved a County Wide Strategic plan, which includes the organizations strategic map that was organized to show the inter-relationships of four main Components: engaged work force, processes, financial stability and customers. The strategic Plan shows how the four components and goals will be accomplished through the organizations values: honesty, Integrity, commitment and respect.



The County of Allegan Strategic Plan consists of the following components, beginning with the broadest and most long-term elements to the most specific, short-range and tactical activities:

Allegan County shall plan, develop and evaluate the necessary policies and resources to ensure our county continues to progress and prosper.

<u>Vision Statement</u>: An aspiring description of what the County would like to achieve or accomplish in the mid-term or long-term future. It is intended to serve as a clear guide for choosing current and future courses of action.

Allegan County is committed to providing our citizens superior and innovative services, being judicious and efficient in the expenditure of resources and promoting a safe, clean and healthy environment in which to live, work, and play.

<u>Values</u>: Shared attributes and behaviors that inform and guide our actions in delivering services.

#### Our Values:

#### Honesty

We are committed to conducting all business in a truthful, transparent manner. We will learn from the truth and grow individually and collectively as an organization.

#### Integrity

- We are committed to being trustworthy and ethically selfgoverning. We will perform utilizing our individual and collective knowledge, skills and competencies in a manner which elicits trust from the individuals whom we serve.
- We are committed to being responsible and making responsible decisions. We will make impartial recommendations based on facts, knowledge and collective input.

#### Commitment

- ➤ We are committed to professionalism. We will advocate, pursue and support professional development. We will perform at the highest level of professional standards and at the highest degree of our capabilities collectively and individually.
- We are committed to our governmental mission and will implement governmental services, ordinances and policies essential to the general welfare of Allegan County residents.
- We are committed to serving the greater good as an effective, efficient and unified county government. We are dedicated to improving the status and conditions of the County by serving those it represents.

#### Respect

➤ We are committed to maintaining the dignity of everyone at all times. We value the differences in every individual and embrace these differences to build a stronger organization and community.

Goals (and Goal Statement): Goals identify the major service or programmatic areas where the County will focus its strategic efforts. Goal Statements are broad, long-range "visions" for a significant area of the County's operations. It defines what the County must accomplish to achieve its mission. Implementation requires collaboration within and across programmatic clusters for achievement.

<u>Strategic Priorities</u>: Strategic priorities outline at a high level how the Goal will be accomplished. Strategic priorities should represent the major direction that the County will undertake to achieve the Goal. Strategic priorities are seen as having, at least, a five-year horizon.

<u>Objectives</u>: Objectives transition the plan into action by providing general direction that will be taken and are able to be measured.

<u>Tasks</u>: Tasks outline the specific steps that will be taken to complete an objective. They are the most tactical component of the plan and provide the greatest level of detail (specific measurements, deadlines, responsible parties, etc.)

<u>Measurements (trends)</u>: Measurements describe the specific results/outcomes expected by each action taken to carry out the plan. They enable evaluation to take place and are often the most overlooked and feared component of strategic plans. However, the County views every outcome as valuable whether the expected result is achieved or not in that it provides an opportunity to evaluate for continuous improvement. Therefore, measurements are critical to the County's success.

#### **Parks Advisory Board/Parks Department**

Why the Parks Advisory Board and staff have developed the goals and objectives as results of the public input meeting, public surveys, and through assessment of social and physical characteristics of Allegan County, an inventory of the recreation assets within the county, and by their own observations of the deficiencies and needs of the County Park System they are also working to develop and align the Parks Service Area to have the same vision, values and strategic goals and priorities that the County Board of Commissioners have put in place for the rest of the county.

The following goals and objectives, which are not listed in any order of importance, are intended to provide a framework for future decisions related to parks and recreation for Allegan County.

#### Goal 1:

Continue Park Maintenance to increase efficiency and reduce costs to ensure our current parklands are in safe, functional and aesthetic condition.

#### Objectives:

- a. Review and continue maximizing staff schedules for providing maintenance and customer service.
- b. Analyze park maintenance operations and implement plans to most efficiently maintain the parks through the use of full-time, part-time, and seasonal staff, and contractual services.
- c. Implement a broad based training program for all park staff.
- d. Evaluate & prioritize the replacement and maintenance of playground equipment, structural amenities/buildings and site amenities
- e. Evaluate lighting (safety & efficiency) and other security measures at county parks facilities.
  - a. Update to LED lighting. Look at using solar power
- f. Improve playground surfaces for safety and access for all users.
- g. Continue to improve accessibility throughout the county parklands.
- h. Research, evaluate and develop possible green initiatives to use at the parks.
- i. Develop tree maintenance plan
- j. Develop parking lot maintenance plan
- k. Develop annual maintenance plans for all parks.
- I. Develop 15-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) to ensure all park assets being replaced/improved are budgeted for when scheduled.

#### Goal 2:

Provide safe, broad community-based recreation opportunities, facilities and programs that improve the overall quality-of-life year round for all Allegan County residents and tourists.

#### Objectives:

- a. Add recreational opportunities/amenities, which fall in line with the purpose of the park and are based upon recreation needs, trends, and input from the community.
- b. Increase recreational opportunities for people with disabilities.
- c. Continue to work with existing and new partners in the community to provide programs, leagues, and special events.
- d. Continue efforts to find and enhance recreation opportunities throughout Allegan County
- e. Embrace and enhance regional collaboration for recreational programs and facilities.

- f. Create more winter recreation opportunities, such as cross-country skiing, sledding and snowshoeing.
  - a. Provide accessibility and parking to park facilities during winter months.
- g. Provide accessible activities that allow children to learn through play. Through play, children can develop positive social, physical, emotional, and imaginative skills Add a variety of equipment, each with a different skill level that:
  - a. Allows children (with and without special needs) to develop these skills.
  - b. Allows them the ability to attempt higher skill levels, as they grow older and develop these skills.
- h. Continue to add structural amenities, such as pavilions and restroom buildings, to the park facilities based upon community input and need to ensure that there are sufficient park and recreation opportunities for all current and potential users.
- i. Add and improve site amenities at park facilities such as picnic tables, grills and benches.

#### Goal 3:

Provide leisure time activities with special consideration given to improving health, wellness and fitness.

#### Objectives:

- a. Provide both passive and active activities for a variety of ages and abilities of the community.
- b. Expand healthy lifestyle, physical fitness and wellness programs, educating residents about the benefits of this lifestyle.
  - a. Continue partnerships with health care and wellness organizations, such as the Allegan County Health Department
  - b. Research and create new partnerships with health care and wellness organizations, such as Michigan State University Extension (MSUe)

#### Goal 4:

Provide non-motorized and/or multi-use pathways/waterways for recreational and transportation use.

#### Objectives:

a. Expand non-motorized and/or multi- use pathways/waterways through Allegan County with a focus upon linking parks, schools, neighborhoods cities, business areas, regional trails and local destination points.

- b. Support the efforts of trail groups (Friends of the Blue Star Trail, River to River trail committee, etc.) to connect Allegan County to parks, schools, neighborhoods cities, business areas, regional trails and local destination points.
- c. Promote biking within or to trails that currently connect to our current park facilities
- d. Maintain existing equestrian trails and park walkways
- e. Increase marketing efforts for these trails

#### Goal 5:

Develop recreation opportunities that focus upon and take advantage of Allegan County water resources.

#### Objectives:

- a. Enhance fishing, canoeing and kayaking opportunities on rivers and lakes (Kalamazoo River, Swan Creek, Gun Lake, Dumont Lake, Ely Lake, Lake Michigan, Etc.).
- b. Improve beach accesses to provide additional and better access to water.
- c. Work with other units of government, Kalamazoo River Greenway Committee/Outdoor Discover Center, Kalamazoo River Watershed Council and EPA Superfund Task Force to develop a management plan for the Allegan county waterways (lakes/rivers) and users.

#### Goal 6:

Promote the preservation, protection, restoration and education of Allegan County's natural and cultural history.

#### Objectives:

- a. Provide opportunities that educate the public about the cultural and natural history found in the parks and in Allegan County.
- b. Protect and preserve buildings, structures and natural areas that are significant in the county's history.
- c. Restore buildings, structures and natural areas and provide public access to these areas for educational purposes.

#### Goal 7:

Create community awareness of all the Allegan County area recreational opportunities and promote them to residents and visitors.

#### Objectives:

- a. Continue developing marketing materials describing and promoting recreational opportunities within the county.
  - a. website/social media sites
    - a. Videos
    - b. Pictures
  - b. Printed materials
    - a. Brochures
    - b. Z-cards
  - c. Determine if there are other 'best methods" to market parks
- b. Clearly mark park entrances and visually unify the parks so residents are aware facilities they use are part of Allegan County's park system.
- c. Have a visible presence at events sponsored by community groups and organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce and business groups.
- d. Use parks and recreation facilities and services to generate economic growth and prosperity. Integrate tourism and economic development marketing to leverage the benefits of park facilities and vise-versa
  - a. Coordinate with Pure Michigan marketing efforts.
  - b. Work with schools to help video/marketing projects.

#### Goal 8:

Improvements and Development

#### Objectives:

- a. Focus on fulfilling identified park projects (list found in Action section of this plan)
  - a. Continually review and update park project list
  - b. Based on need and input from users
  - c. Consistent with the purpose of each park
- b. Insure that improvements and upgrades to park facilities are universally accessible.
- c. Review and determine if there are improvements and development projects needed to increase recreational opportunities outside our park lands
  - a. Determine how we can contribute.

## **Section 7: Action Program**

Over the next year, we will be focusing on ensuring we have a plan to successfully maintain (improve/replace) all assets that are already placed in our parks. We will be developing a plan for maintenance on a daily/annual level and building a 15- year capital Improvement plan (CIP) to improve/replace all existing assets as scheduled out. Once these plans are developed we will have a better understanding of how much funding is needed annually just to maintain our current park system. We would be looking to fund these projects through the annual operational budget and through the funds set aside by the Board of Commissioners for parks capital improvement projects. We will then use additional funds and grants to add new assets that have been identified as a need or want.

At this time funding for all parks maintenance and development will come from the parks operational funds, Parks CIP funds and grant funding. The County Board of Commissioners is currently setting aside \$20,000 annually to be used for grant match funds. The County will also continue to investigate additional sources of funding to complete park projects such as seeking donations, attracting sponsors, holding fund raising events, and seeking out other revenue sources methods, which have worked in other communities to raise funding for parks development and improvements.

Over the past year, the Parks Advisory Board has been reviewing each park and determining the purpose of each. With the determined purpose of each park defined and through public input, staff recommendations, and by the Park Advisory Board the following is a list of key items/actions that have been identified to improve/future development of our parks. These items will be prioritized based on need after all current assets (repair/replacement) have been planned/budgeted for. This list is not intended to be all inclusive of what will occur in the next five years but will be used as a guide to help determine what is needed and wanted to make our parks a great place to visit. Items have been identified as being able to be completed by operational funds or needing to be completed through CIP, grant or other funding.

#### **Bysterveld Park**

Purpose: to provide fishing opportunities, hiking, natural wildlife viewing, outdoor educational & recreational opportunities and family gathering.

Key items/actions that have been identified to improve/future develop our parks	CIP, Grant,	Park Operational
improvertature develop our parks	Other	Funds.
	Funding	

Review and update site plan that was created – move forward with plan once it's been updated	X	
Update lighting in barn replace to LED and make motion activated	Х	
Add electricity to the pavilion	X	
Modern restrooms (electric & running water)	X	
Possible use of solar power to run electric and water	X	
Dog park/run		X
Pave the entrance drive & parking lot so the park can be plowed and used all year long	X	
Shade structure for the playground	X	
Add playground for younger children	X	
Tree plantings/tree trimming/stump grinding	X	
Repair/stain picnic tables		X
Trail improvements		X
Educational markers along trails		X
Pond aerator		X
Review & update past site plans		Х

# **Dumont Lake Park**

Purpose: to provide a family friendly park used for multiple recreational activities.

Key items/actions that have been identified to improve/future develop our parks	CIP, Grant, Other Funding	Park Operational Funds.
Improve Restrooms - Install Automated locks on restroom doors		Х
Improve Restrooms - Floors		X
Improve Restrooms - Update lighting in restroom - replace to LED and make motion activated	Х	
Expand beach areas		X
Add accessible pathway to beach	X	
Bank/bridge stabilization project	Х	X

Update lighting in barn - replace to LED and make motion activated	X	
Tree plantings/Tree trimming/stump grinding	X	
Repair/stain picnic tables		X
Improve signage		X
Expand existing parking lot to the east (20-30 spaces)	X	
Install Wi-Fi	X	
Remove old permeant picnic tables		X
Add walking trails		X

# **Dumont Lake Watercraft Launch**

Purpose: provide public watercraft access to the lake.

Key items/actions that have been identified to improve/future develop our parks	CIP, Grant, Other Funding	Park Operational Funds.
Update and expand of the fishing pier to include boardwalk to expand 300-500 feet along lake	X	
Pay machine • Electric or solar powered • Will accept credit cards and cash	Х	
Trail improvements		X

# **Ely Lake Campground**

Purpose: is to provide a safe family campground with rustic campsites with multiple recreational opportunities that coincide with the natural features of the park.

Key items/actions that have been identified to improve/future develop our parks	CIP, Grant, Other Funding	Park Operational Funds.
Improve sites and remove stumps		X
Develop some ADA sites	X	
Widen the roads and parking area	X	
Update the beach/swimming area		X

Update/add Fishing area - Add fishing dock		X
Improve the kayak/boat launch		X
Update Current Outhouses • Replace/repair roofs • Add vents • Add concrete pads in front of		X
Pay machine • Electric or solar powered • Will accept credit cards and cash	Х	
Update Signage - New entrance sign - Informational signs - Marketing- knowledge of what's there on signage once arrived at campground		X
Repair/stain picnic tables		X
Paint and Install vents in vault toilets		X
Install one modern bath house with shower facilities	Х	
Picket posts at each site	X	
The two following Improvements/ recreational opportunities were identified by more than one member of the Parks Advisory Board but was not agreed upon as a whole because they don't exactly go in line with the overall purpose for the campground		
Install Wi-Fi	X	
Playground equipment (with a natural theme)	X	

# **Gun Lake Park**

Purpose: to provide a family friendly park used for multiple recreational activities and to provide public watercraft access to the lake.

Key items/actions that have been identified to improve/future develop our parks	CIP, Grant, Other Funding	Park Operational Funds.
Add sidewalk along the front of the park	X	
Tree plantings/Tree Trimmings	X	
Remove old yellow pay tube & concrete pad		X

Update lighting in barn & restroom replace		
to LED and make motion activated	X	
Improve Restrooms - Install Automated locks on restroom doors		Х
Improve Restrooms - Floors		X
Improve Restrooms - Update lighting in restroom - replace to LED and make motion activated	Х	
Repair/stain picnic tables		X
Install safety fence - direct people to cross at designated location		
Boat wash	X	
Fishing Dock		X
ADA kayak launch	X	
Add benches along beach	X	X
Install Wi-Fi	X	
Drainage	X	
Improve beach area (Expansion)		X
The following are approved for a 2018/19 Capital as funding allows.	I Improvemer	nt Projects or
Improved crosswalk (flashing solar lights)	X	
New concrete slab under pavilion	X	
Pavilion replacement	X	
Improve launch area (under water)	X	
Add Lighting near boat Launch area	X	
Security fencing	X	
ADA kayak launch	Х	
Improve drive to launch	X	
Improve launch area (above water)	X	
Pay machine • Electric or solar powered • Will accept credit cards and cash	Х	

# Littlejohn Lake Park

Purpose: to provide a family friendly park used for multiple recreational activities.

Key items/actions that have been identified to improve/future develop our parks	CIP, Grant, Other Funding	Park Operational Funds.
Review and update site plan that was created – move forward with plan once it's been updated		X
Improve Restrooms - Install Automated locks on restroom doors		X
Improve Restrooms - Floors		X
Improve Restrooms - Update lighting in restroom - replace to LED and make motion activated	X	
Improve Restrooms - Add changing station rooms		X
Update lighting in barn - replace to LED and make motion activated	X	
Tree plantings/Tree trimming/Stump grinding	X	
Fix stairs to beach		X
Repair/stain picnic tables		X
Add paved walkway paths from pavilion to east restroom building	X	
Add disc golf course	X	X
Add hiking/walking trails	X	
Improve entrance area and area along road	X	X
Improve beach area - Expand swim/sand/beach area		Х
Improve beach area - Add gazebo/shade structure	X	
Improve beach area - Add playground equipment	X	
Improve beach area - Add fishing docks (away from swim area)	X	X
Improve beach area - Add kayak/canoe launch	X	X
Install Wi-Fi	X	
Add modern campground • Possibly looking at area where baseball fields are (instead of back of property)	X	
Turning old concession area of east building into shower house	Х	

# **New Richmond Park**

Purpose: provide a historical site that provides motorized and non-motorized watercraft launching, fishing opportunities, hiking, natural wildlife viewing, outdoor educational opportunities and family gathering.

Key items/actions that have been identified to improve/future develop our parks	CIP, Grant, Other Funding	Park Operational Funds.
Develop and install kayak launch	X	
Add a pay machine/gate at current parking lot	X	
Additional parking/no pay parking lot	Х	
Add improved location closer to river for sturgeon trailer	Х	
Develop platform/presentation/release area near river for education and sturgeon release opportunities	Х	
Improve sections of walkway	X	
Add more trails	X	
Buy/Get land just south east of bridge • If we get this here are opportunities/improvements for this section of land: • Pavilion (picnicking/education staging area • Boat launch that's out of the main flow of the river	X	
Education/fishing areas right along the banks of the river	X	
Bank/boardwalk stabilization project	X	
More emphasis on the historical part of the park		X
Clear more brush for improved fishing opportunities • Remove poison ivy		X
Improve Signage • Rules • Walkway can be slippery		Х

Silver Creek Park/Campground

Purpose: to provide a safe family and equestrian campground with multiple recreational opportunities that coincide with the natural features of the park.

Key items/actions that have been identified to improve/future develop our parks	CIP, Grant, Other Funding	Park Operational Funds.
Improve sites - remove/grind stumps		X
Improve sites -make wider/more accessible		X
Update Current Outhouses • Replace/repair roofs • Add vents • Add concrete pads in front of		X
Replace outhouse	X	
Improve entrance area		X
Add bathroom/shower facility	X	
Manure remover	X	
Improve signage		X
Add playground equipment	X	
Add additional foot trails	X	X
Update lighting in barns restrooms - replace to LED and make motion activated	X	
Install Wi-Fi	X	
Install bridge over creek to access trail (north of 134th)	X	
Move campsites 41 & 42		X
Repair/stain picnic tables		X
Review & update past site plans		X
The following have been identified in the request (gazen 2019 Michigan Natural Resource Trust Fund (MNR)		ation) for a
Improve and enlarging day use riding area • Add lighting for security	X	
Pay machine (in 2019 MNRTF grant request) • Electric or solar powered • Will accept credit cards and cash	Х	
Improve back road (resurface/ rebuild)	X	
Develop some ADA sites with electric	X	

# **West Side Park**

Purpose: to provide a family friendly park used for multiple recreational activities and to provide access to Lake Michigan.

Key items/actions that have been identified to improve/future develop our parks	CIP, Grant, Other Funding	Park Operational Funds.
Place drain tile under walking path		X
Improve/update signage		X
Improve/update exit area (south side of park)		X
Repair/stain picnic tables		X
Update lighting in barn replace to LED	X	
install Wi-Fi	X	
Rebuild stairs/access to beach- south structure	X	X
Review & update past site plans		X
The following have been identified through updatir Site Plan in 2018	ng the West	: Side Park
SE park area - renovate restroom building	X	
SE park area - improve play area	X	
SE Park Area - parking lot improvements	X	
SE Park Area - shade structure near playground	X	
SE Park Area -improve entrance signage	X	
SE Park Area - concrete walk ways: through area and connects to rest of park	X	
SE Park Area - dumpster enclosures	X	
NW Park Area -Picnic Area with accessible tables & grills	X	
NW Park Area - selective trimming to open views	X	
NW Park Area - New beach Access stairs	X	
NW Park Area -viewing deck with benches (1/2 way down stairs)	X	
NW Park Area -overlook deck	X	
NW Park Area - benches/sitting areas	X	
NW Park Area -New ADA accessible restroom	X	
NW Park Area - parking lot improvements	X	

NW Park Area -concrete walk ways: through area and connect to rest of park	X	
NW Park Area - bike racks	X	
NW - Railing Along Bluff	X	
NE Park Area - improve nature trails	X	
SW Park Area - group picnic shelter with grilling area	X	
SW Park Area - 4 season vault toilet building	X	
SW Park Area - foot wash/shower	X	
SW Park Area -Screen fence & evergreen plantings along property line	X	
NE Park Area -additional parking & picnic areas	X	
SW Park Area - modern restroom facility	X	
SW/SE Park Area - additional Screen fence & evergreen plantings along property line	X	
SE park area- replaced north picnic shelter slab and added accessible grilling area	X	
SE Park Area - possibly replace north pavilion	X	
SE Park Area - bike racks and/or additional features for bikers	X	
SE park area -reinstalling/continuing the driveway from the new parking lot along the south end of the park,	Х	
Beach area -flags/identifies property as a spot to stop for water trail users	Х	

The following recreational opportunities/activities have also been identified as needs/wants for our county and we will work to determine how we can contribute:

- Multi Use, non-motorized trails/paths throughout the entire county
- Update current hiking trails within the State Game Area the hiking trails need to be cleaned up to promote use at Ely Lake Campground
- More kayak access sites along the Kalamazoo river Plainwell/Otsego Area
   the county does not have a day use park in this area
- ORVs / Dirt Bikes there is nowhere to ride off-road vehicles in the county
- Equestrian Trails -more volunteers are needed to help maintain the equestrian trails.

# **Appendix A** -Surveys

# Municipalities

Recreation Plan - Municipalities
1) What is the name of your municipality?
2) How many parks/recreational lands (not trails) does your municipality have? () 0 () 1 () 2 () 3 () 4 () 5 () 6 () 7 () 8 () 9 () 10 () 11 () 12 () 13 or more
3) How many acres do these parks/recreational land (not trails) occupy?
4) How many trails (located within your park lands) does your municipality have?  () 0  () 1  () 2  () 3  () 4  () 5  () 6  () 7  () 8  () 9  () 10  () 11  () 12  () 13 or more

5) What type of trails do you have located within your park(s)?
[] Multi Use Non- Motorized
[] Single Use Non - Motorized
[] Water Trails
[] Equestrian Trails
[] Mountain Bike Trails
[] Dirt Bike Trails
[] Other - Write In:
6) How many linear miles of trails do you have <u>located within your park(s)?</u>
7) How many trails ( <u>not located in your park lands</u> ) does your municipality have?
() 0
()1
() 2
() 3
() 4
() 5
() 6
() 7
() 8
() 9
() 10
() 11
() 12
( ) 13 or more
8) What type of trails do you have not located in your park lands?
[] Multi Use Non- Motorized
[] Single Use Non - Motorized
[] Water Trails
[] Equestrian Trails
[] Mountain Bike Trails
[] Dirt Bike Trails
[] Other - Write In:
9) How many linear miles of trails do you have <u>not located in your park lands</u> ?
10) How many park/recreation staff (full and part-time) does your municipality employ (please do not count DPW staff, etc. that may maintain the park lands/trails)?

11) Does your municipality have a recreation plan? () Yes () No
12) Does your municipality have any plans within the next five years to make any major improvements to your recreation system (land acquisition, park development, or park improvement)? ( ) Yes ( ) No
13) If yes, what are those improvements?
14) What are the top three recreation-related issues your municipality/area are facing?
Issue 1:
Issue 2:
Issue 3:
15) What types of recreational parks/activities are we lacking or missing in Allegan County? #1:
#2:
#3:
#4:
#5:
16) What is the Allegan County Parks & Recreation Department doing well?
17) What could the Allegan County Parks & Recreation Department do to improve?
Thank You!
Schools
Recreation Plan - Schools
1) Please select what School District you are completing this survey for.  ( ) Allegan Public Schools  ( ) Fennville Public Schools  ( ) Hamilton Public Schools  ( ) Hopkins Public Schools  ( ) Martin Public Schools  ( ) Otsego Public Schools

() South Hav	Public Schools en Public Schools Public Schools			
	ose Other, please l his survey for	et us know wha	at School District	you are
	school in your distrowing information:	ict, please prov	vide Allegan Cou	nty Parks
	Name of School	Address	Number of Students	Facilities Info
School #1				
School #2				
School #3				
School #4				
School #5				
School #6				
School #7				
School #8				

4) Does the school district have plans within the next five years to make any major improvements to the recreation system (land acquisition or

() Plainwell Public Schools

development)?

() Yes () No

5) If, Yes please e				
facing?	-		issues your school s	ystem are
Issue 1:				_
Issue 2: Issue 3:				-
Thank You!				
Public				
Parks and Recrea	tion Survey			
1) I was satisfied		•	( ) Strongly diaggree	
( ) Strongly agree	() Agree	() Disagree	() Strongly disagree	
<ul><li>2) Staff was helpfe</li><li>( ) Strongly agree</li></ul>	•		() Strongly disagree	
3) I was able to re ( ) Strongly agree			oking for* () Strongly disagree	
4) Staff was know needs*	ledgeable in	the service I v	vas seeking and unde	erstood my
	() Agree	() Disagree	() Strongly disagree	
5) What parks did [] Bysterveld Park [] Dumont Lake Pa [] Dumont Lake Wa [] Ely Lake Campg [] Gun Lake Park [] Littlejohn Lake P [] New Richmond I [] Silver Creek Equ [] West Side Park [] Equestrian Trails	ark atercraft Laur round Park Park uestrian Park	nch		
6) Reason(s) for y [] Beach/Swimming	•	heck all that ap	oply)	

[ ] Playground [ ] Picnic Area/Pavilion [ ] Fishing/Piers [ ] Baseball Fields/Volleyball [ ] Equestrian Trails [ ] All Season Trails/Boardwalk [ ] Boat Launch/Boating/Canoeing [ ] Camping [ ] Other - Write In:
7) What do you like most about Allegan county parks systems:  [ ] Accessibility [ ] Fields [ ] Location of facilities [ ] Maintenance [ ] Pathways/Trails [ ] Playgrounds [ ] Water access [ ] Varity of recreational opportunities [ ] Equestrian trails [ ] Primitive camping [ ] Other - Write In:
8) During your visit to an Allegan County Park this past year, did you experience any problems?  [] Didn't visit parks  [] No Problems  [] Inadequate Parking  [] Vandalism  [] Cleanliness  [] Other - Write In:
9) Needs Improvement: For each of our parks you have visited, please

# 9) Needs Improvement: For each of our parks you have visited, please indicate those amenities/services that you believe needs improvement: (Check all that apply)?

	Bysterveld	Dumont Lake	Dumont Watercraft Launch	Gun Lake	Ely Lake Campground	Littlejohn Lake	New Richmond	Silver Creek	West Side	Equestrian Trail
Beach/ Swimming Areas										
Playgrounds										
Picnic Area/Pavilion										
Fishing/Piers										
Restrooms										

Ball Fields /Courts							
Access/ Accessibility around Park							
Equestrian Trails							
Trails/ Boardwalk							
Multi -use Trails							
Bike Trails							
Boat Launch / Boating/ Canoeing / Kayaking							
Camping – Primitive							
Camping - Modern							
Natural Areas							
Cross Country Skiing Trails							
Snowshoeing Trails							
Sledding Areas	_	_		_	_	·	_

# 10) Missing: For each of our parks you have visited, please indicate those amenities/services that you believe are missing: (Check all that apply)?

	Bysterveld	Dumont Lake	Dumont Lake Watercraft	Gun Lake	Ely Lake Campground	Littlejohn Lake	New Richmond	Silver Creek	West Side	Equestrian Trail
Beach/ Swimming Areas										
Playgrounds										
Picnic Area/ Pavilion										
Fishing/Piers										
Restrooms										
Ball Fields /Courts										
Access/ Accessibility around Park										
Equestrian Trails										

Trails/Boardwal k					
Multi -use Trails					
Bike Trails					
Boat Launch/ Boating/ Canoeing/ Kayaking					
Camping – Primitive					
Camping - Modern					
Natural Areas					
Cross Country Skiing Trails					
Snowshoeing Trails					
Sledding Areas					

Allegan County Resident     Out of County Resident     Out of State Resident	
•	
() Out of State Resident	
( ) = == = = ==========================	
12) Where did you learn about our services?	
() Website	
( ) Social Media	
( ) Brochure/Publication	
( ) Friends/Family	
() Signage	
() Other Agency/Staff/Contractor	
( ) Other::	

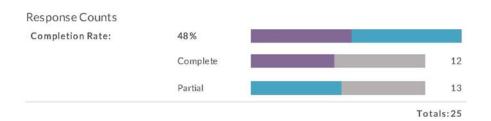
- 14) What can we do to improve? (Please be specific)
- 15) Additional Comments (ie. recognition of staff, service delivery, product or changes needed)

Thank You!

# Appendix B - Survey Results

# **Municipalities**

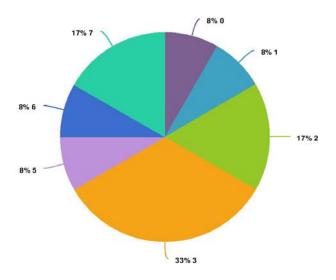
# Report for Recreation Plan - Municipalities



1. What is the name of your municipality?

ResponseID	Response
6	City of Grand Rapids
8	City of Fennville
10	OveriseI
14	Dorr Township
15	Valley Township
19	Cheshire
20	Saugatuck Township
24	Lee Township
25	Lake town Township
28	saugatuck township
29	The city of the village of Douglas
30	City of Plainwell

2. How many parks/recreational lands (not trails) does your municipality have?



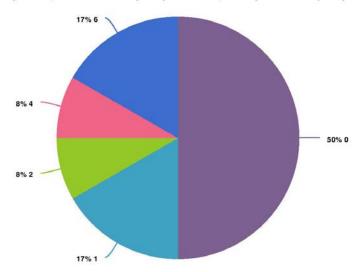
Value	Percent	Responses
0	8.3%	1
1	8.3%	1
2	16.7%	2
3	33.3%	4
5	8.3%	1
6	8.3%	1
7	16.7%	2

Totals:12

 $3. \, \text{How many acres do these parks/recreational land (not trails) occupy?} \\$ 

ResponseID	Response
6	5
8	6.5
10	3
14	41
19	>2
20	60
24	Less than $1/2$ acre combined, we call them parks but were told that they are not big enough to be real parks?
25	320
28	70
29	not sure
30	38

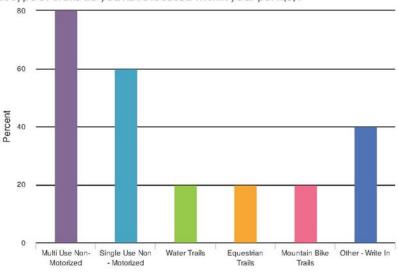
 $4. \, \text{How many trails (located within your park lands) does your municipality have?} \\$ 



Percent	Responses
50.0%	6
16.7%	2
8.3%	1
8.3%	1
16.7%	2
	50.0% 16.7% 8.3%

Totals: 12

# 5. What type of trails do you have located within your park(s)?



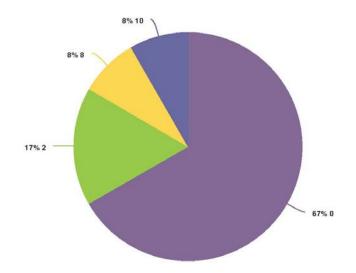
Value	Percent	Responses
Multi Use Non- Motorized	80.0%	4
Single Use Non - Motorized	60.0%	3
Water Trails	20.0%	1
Equestrian Trails	20.0%	1
Mountain Bike Trails	20.0%	1
Other - Write In	40.0%	2

Other - Write In	Count
Dog park trails	1
dog park trails	1
Totals	2

6. How many linear miles of trails do you have located within your park(s)?

ResponseID	Response	
10	.5	
20	4	
25	5	
28	6	
30	.62	

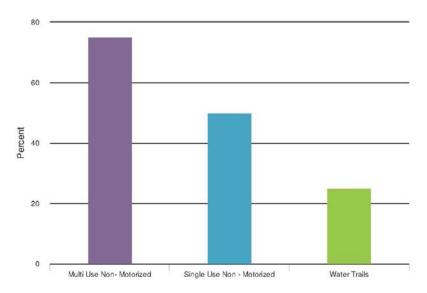
7. How many trails (not located in your park lands) does your municipality have?



Value	Percent	Responses
0	66.7%	8
2	16.7%	2
8	8.3%	1
10	8.3%	1

Totals:12

8. What type of trails do you have not located in your park lands?



Value	Percent	Responses
Multi Use Non- Motorized	75.0%	3
Single Use Non - Motorized	50.0%	2
Water Trails	25.0%	1

Other - Write In	Count
Totals	0

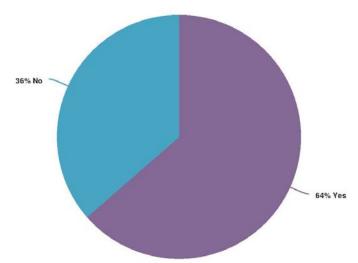
9. How many linear miles of trails do you have not located in your park lands?

ResponseID	Response
20	10
25	11
28	15
29	4

10. How many park/recreation staff (full and part-time) does your municipality employ (please do not count DPW staff, etc. that may maintain the park lands/trails)?

ResponseID	Response
14	1.5
24	i
25	1
28	zero

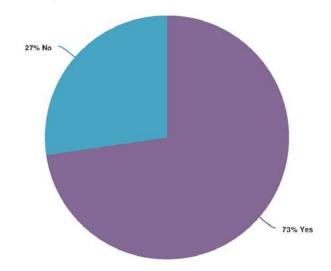
# 11. Does your municipality have a recreation plan?



Value	Percent	Responses
Yes	63.6%	7
No	36.4%	4

Totals:11

12. Does your municipality have any plans within the next five years to make any major improvements to your recreation system (land acquisition, park development, or park improvement)?



Percent	Responses
72.7%	8
27.3%	3
	72.7%

Totals:11

13. If yes, what are those improvements?

ResponseID	Response
8	Remove deteriorating play structure and install new play structure in Paradise Park.
14	Unknown, I am not on Parks Commission.
20	eq:Add-to-Blue-Star-Blue-Star-Blue-Blue-Blue-Blue-Blue-Blue-Blue-Blue
24	We have began our Townships Master plan this past year, our meetings are in the beginning stages. Connecting trails outside of our area is a topic for discussion as well as beautifying our parks, also looking at complete streets for the immediate local area to help connect safe walkways from our elementary school to other beneficial areas for students and all.
25	expanding our non-motorized path system.
28	Add to blue star bike trail.
29	splash pad, improve Wades Bayue, Walkablity down Wileyroad.
30	extended the Riverwalk north along the Kalamazoo River.

 $14. \, What are the top \, three \, recreation\text{-related issues your municipality/area} \, are \, facing?$ 

Issue 1

ResponseID	Response
8	Funding
10	Development of a park/trail and the cost
14	Money
19	Funds
20	Limited funds
24	Land
25	funding
28	limited funds
29	finding and developing bigger parks
30	Playgrounds

#### Issue 2

ResponseID	Response
8	Space
10	Upkeep
14	Vandalism
19	ldeas
20	need former
25	lake access
28	lack of local support for bike trails
30	Restrooms

Issue 3

ResponseID	Response	
14	Communications	
19	Volunteers	
25	dog park	
28	Not enough sports fields	
30	Non-motorized Paths	

# $15. \, What \, types \, of \, recreational \, parks/activities \, are \, we \, lacking \, or \, missing \, in \, Allegan \, County?$

#### #1

ResponseID	Response
10	Bike path
14	Handicap facilities
19	walking trails
25	more non-motorized
28	lake Michigan access
29	frisby golf
30	Bike routes

#2

Response
Trails
nature view areas
dog parks
Kalamazoo river boating trails
bike trails
non-motorized trails connecting cities

#3

ResponseID	Response
19	camping areas
28	County supported land to acquire sports fields
29	hiking trails.
30	River access

#4

ResponseID	Response
29	practice fields

#5

ResponseID	Response	

16. What is the Allegan County Parks & Recreation Department doing well?

# ResponseID Response 14 Park on 14th/142nd in Dorr always has good comments fro the residents. 25 I am not familiar enough to say. 28 Nice improvements to West side county park. Sadly the lake level rose and effected the stairs. 29 this is a good start.

# 17. What could the Allegan County Parks & Recreation Department do to improve?

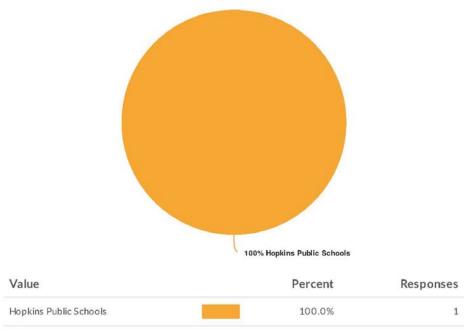
ResponseID	Response
6	Looks great!
14	approve the River 2 River non-motorized trail from Kalamazoo to Grand Rapids.
25	I am not familiar e nough to say. FYI. Our #'s above do not include the Saugatuck Dunes State Park. AI $$
28	Have a representative meet with local governments to determine park needs.
29	help the citizens what is available and where to find that information. I don't know much out side my city $\frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{n}} \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{n}} \frac{1}{$

# **Schools**

# Report for Recreation Plan - Schools



 ${\bf 1.\,Please\,select\,what\,School\,District\,you\,are\,completing\,this\,survey\,for.}$ 



Totals: 1

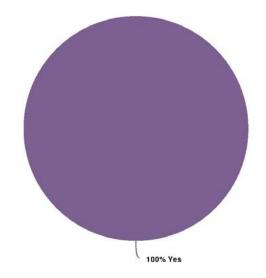
 $2. \, \text{If you choose Other, please let us know what School District you are completing this survey for...} \\$ 

ResponseID Response

3. For each school in your district, please provide Allegan County Parks with the following information: Name of School Address Number of students General description of indoor recreation facilities General description of outdoor recreation facilities

	Name of School	Address	Number of Students	Facilities Info	Responses
School #1 Count Row %	1 100.0%	1 100.0%	1 100.0%	1 100.0%	1
School #2 Count Row %	1 100.0%	1 100.0%	1 100.0%	1 100.0%	1
School #3 Count Row %	1 100.0%	1 100.0%	1 100.0%	1 100.0%	1
School #4 Count Row %	1 100.0%	1 100.0%	1 100.0%	1 100.0%	1
Totals					2 100.0%

4. Does the school district have plans within the next five years to make any major improvements to the recreation system (land acquisition or development)?



Value	Percent	Responses
Yes	100.0%	1
		Totals: 1

# 5. If, Yes please explain improvements

ResponseID	Response
7	The district needs to make improvements to the soccer field.

6. What are the top three recreation-related issues your school system are facing?

Issue 1

ResponseID	Response	
7	soccer field	

Issue 2

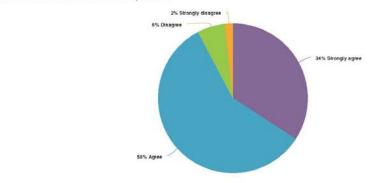
ResponseID	Response	
7	no wrestling facility, expect shared gym	
Issue 3		
ResponseID	Response	
7	track will need resurfaced	

# **General Public**

# Report for Parks and Recreation Feedback



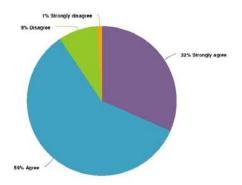
1. I was satisfied with the service provided



Value	Percent	Responses
Strongly agree	34.2%	40
Agree	58.1%	68
Disagree	6.0%	7
Strongly disagree	1.7%	2

Totals: 117

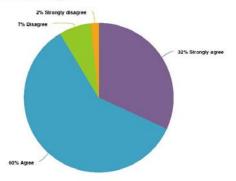
2. Staff was helpful and professional



Value	Percent	Responses
Strongly agree	31.6%	37
Agree	59,0%	69
Disagree	8.5%	10
Strongly disagree	0.9%	1

Totals: 117

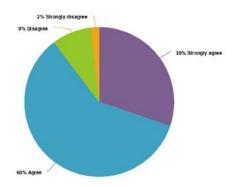
3. I was able to receive the services I was looking for



Value	Percen	Responses
Strongly agree	31.99	37
Agree	59.59	69
Disagree	6.99	8
Strongly disagree	1.79	2

Totals: 116

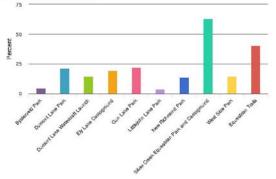
4. Staff was knowledgeable in the service I was seeking and understood my needs



Value	Percent	Responses
Strongly agree	30.2%	35
Agree	59.5%	69
Disagree	8.6%	10
Strongly disagree	1.7%	2

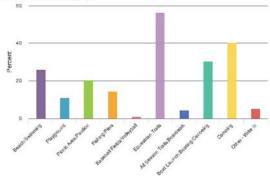
Totals: 116

#### 5. What parks did you visit? (Check all that apply)



Value	Percent	Responses
Bysterveld Park	4.2%	5
Dumont Lake Park	21.0%	25
Dumont Lake Watercraft Launch	14.3%	17
Ely Lake Campground	19.3%	23
Gun Lake Park	21.8%	26
Little John Lake Park	3.4%	4
New Richmond Park	13.4%	16
Silver Creek Equestrian Park and Campground	63.0%	75
WestSide Park	14.3%	17
Eque strian Trails	40.3%	48

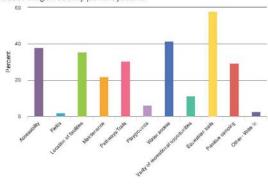
#### 6. Reason(s) for your visit: (Check all that apply)



Value	Percent	Responses
Be ach/S wimming	26.1%	31
Playground	10.9%	13
Picnic Area/Pavilion	20.2%	24
Fishing/Piers	14.3%	17
Baseball Fields/Volleyball	0.8%	1
Equestrian Trails	56.3%	67
All Season Trails/Boardwalk	4.2%	5
Boat Launch/Boating/Canoeing	30.3%	36
Camping	40.3%	48
Other - Write In	5.0%	6

Other - Write In	Count
73 yr old mother wanted to camp	1
Hiking	1
Hiking	1
View of Lake Michigan and steps to the beach.	1
dog park	1
watching sunset	1
Totals	6

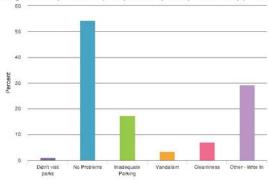
## 7. What do you like most about Allegan county parks systems:



Value	Percent	Responses
Accessibility	37.9%	44
Fields	1.7%	2
Location of facilities	35.3%	41
Maintenance	21.6%	25
Pathways/Trails	30.2%	35
Playgrounds	6.0%	7
Water access	41.4%	48
Varity of recreational opportunities	11.2%	13
Equestrian trails	57.8%	67
Primitive camping	29.3%	34
Other - Write In	2.6%	3

Other - Write In	Count
I wish the bird, duck, ex waste was kept up better. The beach at Gun Lake is filled with bird waste.	1
office staff	1
wildlife	1
Totals	3

### 8. During your visit to an Allegan County Park this past year, did you experience any problems?



Value	Percent	Responses
Didn't visit parks	0.9%	1
No Problems	54,3%	63
Inade quate Parking	17.2%	20
Vandalism	3.4%	4
Cleanliness	6.9%	8
Other - Write In	29,3%	34

Other - Write In	Count
ATVs on equestrian trails. Would be nice if there were designated ATV trails separate from the equestrian trails.	1
Boat ramp entrance is difficult	1
Difficulty pulling into/backing into camping spot, too many trees	1
Gun lake boat ramp usage is damaging to my boat	1.
Health issues - plan on being back this year!	1
feel the boat launch needs to be completely redone. Badly needed.	1
was there during a CMO and I was run off the trail. When I complained I was treated very rudely.	1
ack of tollet paper and a picket post with severe crack	1
cose running dogs. Picketareas for horses poorly maintained.	1
New Richmond park canoe/kayak people not paying launch fee but taking all the parking spaces, And blocking the concrete boat ramp	1
No paved roads or parking.	1
Totals	34

Other - Write In	Count
Noise after 10 pm at ely lake	1
PEO PLE PARKING IN LAUNCH LANE	1
People parking in ramp drive in the way to lauch	1
Please stop advertising Westside Park as accessible to the beach if you cannot get your ramp constructed properlyvery, very frustrating! I realize that the lake rises, etc., but explain this on your website. Again, very, very frustrating!	1
So many people smoking and drinking on the park grounds	1
Some sites listed for horses do not have adequate space.	1
Some trails not clearly marked.	1
Steps were closed off	1
Stranger in campsites talking to children	1
The Gun Lake boat launch is in need of repair. It is very common to have your boat trailer fall off the end of the ramp. The dock could use some updating as well.	1
Water not working	1
We were harassed by a group of folks drunk/drugged. Try to get handouts, then attempt to steal and harass our site. We involved police as we were scared for our safety.	1
compass riding group - micmo - were extremely discourteous on the trail. We got yelled at and they rode fast past us even though we had a small child with us. Trail Etiquette dictates that you pass at a walk. Whenever this group shows upat the park they are loud and disorderly.	1
dogs running loose	1
dumont park bathroom not open, we go earlier in the ye and later in the year then when it is open	1
during special events	1
fire rings put in incompatible places, trees that need to be cut down.	1
fisherman power launch their boats creating an uneven ramp to launch boats and trailers. It would be beneficial if we could extend the concret ramp further out into the lake. This would solve the problem from my perspective	1
horse camp parking for day use needs to be expanded/upgraded. Bathrooms at Silver Creek need to be updated.	1
non horse people bothering horses	1
restrooms need updating at silver creek, also big problem at new richmond the bathrooms are locked too late in the spring and locked too soon in the fall, fishing goes late fall.	1
stay too short	1
two difficulties at two parks	1
Totals	34

 $9. \ \ Needs \ Improvement: For each of our parks you have visited, please indicate those amenities/services that you believe needs improvement: (Check all that apply)?$ 

	Bysterveld		Dumont Watercraft Launch		Ely Lake Campground	Littlejohn Lake		Silver Creek		Equestrian Trail
Beach/Swimming Areas Checks	0	5	1	7	5	2	0	13	1	1
Playgrounds Checks	0	1	0	2	6	0	0	13	0	1
Picnic Area/Pavilion Checks	0	3	0	2	5	1	0	4	0	1

	Bysterveld		Dumont Watercraft Launch	Gun Lake	Ely Lake Campground	Littlejohn Lake	New Richmond	Silver Creek		Equestrian Trail
Fishing/Piers Checks	0	0	0	4	1	0	0	3	0	0
Restrooms Checks	0	4	2	5	8	0	0	33	2	3
Ball Fields /Courts Checks	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	3	0	0
Access/Accessibility around Park Checks	0	2	0	1	2	0	0	11	1	1
Equestrian Trails Checks	0	0	0	1	11	2	0	12	0	5
Trails/Boardwalk Checks	0	0	0	1	3	1	0	7.	0	2
Multi-use Trails Checks	0	0	0	1	2	1	0	3	0	0
Bike Trails Checks	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	1	0
Boat Launch/Boating/Canoeing/Kayaking Checks	0	1	3	7	2	0	3	1	0	0
Camping -Primitive Checks	0	0	0	1	8	0	0	23	2	1
Camping - Modern Checks	0	0	0	1	5	0	0	14	1	1
Natural Areas Checks	0	1	0	0	1	o	0	2	0	0
Cross Country Skiing Trails Checks	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	1	0
Snowshoeing Trails Checks	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	0
Sledding Areas Checks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
more parking: <strong>Needs improvement: For each of our parks you have visited, please indicate those amenities/services that you believe needs improvement (Check all that apply)?</strong>	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Law enforcement patrols: <strong>Needs Improvement For each of our parks you have visited, please indicate those amenities/services that you believe needs improvement (Check all that apply)?</strong> Checks	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Day parking is very limited.: <strong> Needs Improvement For each of our parks you have visited, please indicate those amenities/services that you believe needs improvement (Check all that apply)? </strong> Checks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0

	Bysterveld		Dumont Watercraft Launch	Gun Lake	Ely Lake Campground	Littlejohn Lake	New Richmond	Silver Creek		Equestrian Trail
More sand in picket areas. Bridle tag fee for each horse to raise much needed funds. Loose Dog control; <strong> Needs improvement: For each of our parks you have visited, please indicate those amenities/services that you believe needs improvement (Check all that apply)? </strong> Checks		0	0	0	0	0	0	ï	0	0
Need trees removed from campsites, for easier parking of horse trailers: strong>Needs improvement. For each of our parks you have visited, please indicate those amenities/services that you believe needs improvement (Check all that apply)?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Water and electric book up: <a href="https://www.nbc.eds.lmprovement-For-each of our parks you have visited, ple as indicate those amenities/services that you be lieve needs improvement (Check all that apply)?-(strong&gt; Checks).&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;1&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;/tr&gt;&lt;tr&gt;&lt;td&gt;equestrian day parking: &lt;strong &gt; Needs Improvement: For each of our parks you have visited, please indicate those amenities/services that you believe needs improvement (Check all that apply)? &lt;/strong &gt; Checks&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;i&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;/tr&gt;&lt;tr&gt;&lt;td&gt;more sand in picket lines.dogs must&lt;br&gt;be kept on&lt;br&gt;leashes: *strong&gt;Needs&lt;br&gt;improvement: For each of our parks&lt;br&gt;you have visited, please indicate&lt;br&gt;those amenities/services that you&lt;br&gt;believe needs improvement&lt;br&gt;(Check all that apply)?*&lt;/strong&gt;&lt;br&gt;Checks&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;1&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;/tr&gt;&lt;tr&gt;&lt;td&gt;showers: &lt;strong &gt; Needs&lt;br&gt;Improvement: For each of our parks&lt;br&gt;you have visited, please indicate&lt;br&gt;those amenities/services that you&lt;br&gt;believe needs improvement&lt;br&gt;(Check all that apply)? &lt;/strong&gt;&lt;br&gt;Checks&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;1&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;0&lt;/td&gt;&lt;/tr&gt;&lt;tr&gt;&lt;td&gt;water pumps that work, clearing sites for easier access: &lt;a href=" strong-needs"="">strong-needs</a> improvement For each of our parks you have visited, please indicate those amenties/services that you believe needs improvement (Check all that apply)? <a href="strong-checks">strong-checks</a>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0

	Bysterveld	Dumont Lake	Dumont Watercraft Launch		Ely Lake Campground	Littlejohn Lake	New Richmond	Silver Creek		Equestrian Trail
parking: <strong>Needs Improvement: For each of our parks you have visited, pie ase indicate those amenities/services that you be lieve needs improvement (Check all that apply)?</strong> Checks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	t

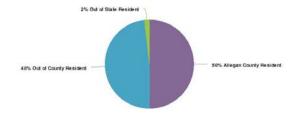
 $10. \, Missing: For \, each \, of \, our \, parks \, you \, have \, visited, \, please \, indicate \, those \, amenities/services \, that \, you \, believe \, are \, missing: \, (Check \, all \, that \, apply)?$ 

	Bysterveld	Dumont Lake	Dumont Lake Watercraft	Gun Lake	Ely Lake Campground	Littlejohn Lake	New Richmond	Silver Creek		Equestrian trail
Beach/Swimming Areas Checks	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	4	1	0
Playgrounds Checks	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	6	1	0
Picnic Area/Pavillon Checks	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	3	0	0
Fishing/Piers Checks	0	0	0	2	2	1	0	1	0	0
Restrooms Checks	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	12	0	3
Ball Fields /Courts Checks	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Access/Accessibility around Park Checks	0	1	1	0	2	0	0	9	1	0
Equestrian Trails Checks	1	1	0	1	2	5	0	2	0	0
Trails/Boardwalk Checks	0	2	0	0	2	1	1	2	0	0
Multi-use Trails Checks	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	1	0
Bike Trails Checks	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	1	0
Boat Launch/Boating/Canoeing/Kayaking Checks	0	0	0	3	2	1	0	0	0	0
Camping -Primitive Checks	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	4	1	0
Camping - Modern Checks	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	23	1	0
Natural Areas Checks	0	i	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Cross Country Skiing Trails Checks	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	1	0
Snowshoeing Trails Checks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0

	Bysterveld	Dumont Lake	Dumont Lake Watercraft	Gun Lake	Ely Lake Campground	Littlejohn Lake	New Richmond	Silver Creek		Equestrian trail
Sanitary station: strong > Missing: For each of our parks you have visited, please indicate those amenities/services that you believe are missing: (Check all that apply)?  Checks	0	0	0	0	i	o	0	i	0	0
quiet area,no generators,no dogs.: <a trong=""> Missing: For each of our parks you have visited, please indicate those amenites/services that you be fleve are missing: (Check all that apply)? </a> Checks	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Handicap Canoe/kayak launch: <strong> Missing: For each of our parks you have visited, ple ase indicate those amenities/services thatyou be lieve are missing: (Check all that apply)?</strong> Checks	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Single vehicle parking (no boat trailer): <strong>Missing: For each of our parks you have visited, please indicate those amenities/services that you believe are missing: (Check all that apply)? <fstrong>Checks</fstrong></strong>	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Electric at campsites: <strong>Missing: For each of our parks you have visited, ple ase indicate those amenities/services that you be lieve are missing: (Check all that apply)?</strong> Checks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Electric sites in some/all of the horsemen's camp: <strong>Missing: For each of our parks you have visited, please indicate those amenities/services that you believe are missing; (Check all that apply)? </strong>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Manure dump sites (instead of throwing in woods):  sstrong>Missing: For each of our parks you have visited, please indicate those amenities/services that you be lieve are missing:  (Check, all that apply)?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Parking Areas: <strong> Missing: For each of our parks you have visited, please indicate those amenities/services that you believe are missing: (Check all that apply)? </strong> Checks		0	0	0	0	0	0	i	0	0

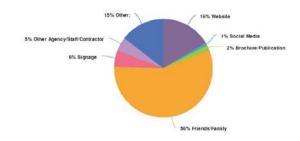
	Bysterveld	Dumont Lake	Dumont Lake Watercraft	Gun Lake	Ely Lake Campground	Littlejohn Lake	New Richmond	Silver Creek		Equestrian trail
Quiet primitive camping are a for equestrian /no generators, radios, motorcycles, ATV or barking dogs.: <strong> Missing: For each of our parks you have visited, ple ase indicate those amenities/services that you be lieve are missing: (Check all that apply)? </strong>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	ĭ	0	0
Running water would be handy: <strong>Missing: For each of our parks you have visited, please indicate those amenites/services that you be fleve are missing: (Check all that apply)? </strong>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
electric & more water; <strongs each="" for="" missing:="" of="" our<br="">parks you have visited, please indicate those amenities/services thatyou be fleve are missing; (Check all that apply)? Checks</strongs>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0

#### 11. Where do you live?



Value	Percent	Responses
Allegan County Resident	50.0%	57
Out of County Resident	48.2%	55
Out of State Resident	1.8%	2

12. Where did you learn about our services?



Value	Percent	Responses
Website	16.4%	18
Social Media	0.9%	1
Brochure/Publication	1.8%	2
Friends/Family	56.4%	62
Signage	5.5%	6
Other Agency/Staff/Contractor	4.5%	5
Other:	14.5%	16

Totals: 110

Other:	Count
30 year user	1
Although I live in Barry county, I only live about an 1/8th mile away from the county park at Gun Lake.	1
Always known	1
Attended endurance rides there	1
Camped with horses here all my life!	1
From our chiropractor who used to live in Allegan County.	1
Have been going to silver creek for 50 years. Have been to ely lake when it was known as the fennville canp ground	1
Have been riding trails over 35 years	1
was riding and camping out at Silver Creek way before we had campsites and had to pay.	1
Life long resident	1
Live near by	1
Lived near	1
We have been coming to Silver Creek for years. Always provides a peaceful weekend getaway. As always, more trails would be nice but understand the constraints from DNR.	1
What service!	1
been camping there over 15 years	1
ive 15 minutes away from silver creek.	1
Totals	16

#### 13. What are we doing well? (Please be specific)

- 1 Allowing allegan county pleasure riders the opportunity to maintain/upgrade the equestrian trails/campgrounds
  - Bathrooms are kept up
- 1 Boat launches r fantastic at dumont and gun lake, clean facilities at dumont and gun lake.
- Bysterveld Park is really awesome, from the playground, the trails, to the geocashing there.
- 1 Camp sites are nice at silver, nice trails
- 1 Cleanliness of Campsites and trails
- Cutting grass
- Equestrian trails are awesome and I love camping with my horses. Keeping the picket line areas filled in is nice. The addition of the Pavilion at SC is nice too.
- Equestrian trails are well groomed. It's a beautiful safe setting to ride.
- 1 Every thing seems great, play ground, pavilion, swimming area, boat launch, rest rooms, garbage cans.
- 1 Excellent job keeping/maintaining silver creek as primitive rustic well shaded natural campground !
- 1 Generally the beaches are clean
- Great staff to work with. Silver Creek Park is well kept.
- 1 Gun Lake park is used a lot and for the most part in good condition and well maintained. At least 2-3 times a year a bass club takes over the entire parking lot. Not sure if there is a fix for that. As mentioned earlier the boat ramp and dock needs to be updated.
- Horse trails are maintained well. Campsites are clean.

Count	Response

- 1 Tabsolutely love the Equestrian trails at Silver Creek. The outhouses get really stinky a lot and I would love if we had electricity to plug into for heat in my motor home when it gets cold. I would probably camp more if it was available. I have visited Ely lake a few times but the day parking for horses is terrible. No shade at all and the people there are very unfriendly to horse people. The trail also is not great. It just ended and you had to turn around and ride back. Uttle John doesn't seem to have any horse trails. I wish it did. It is pretty close to my house.
- 1 Hike the seasonal boat launch pass at gun lake. It is a huge value and very easy to use.
- 1 Hove the primitive camping in the back loop of Silver Creek. Provides us nice weekend getaways.
- I love the trails
- I think Bysterveld Park is fairly well maintained and the pavilion and playground are very nice. The trails are beautiful, but some of the paths need attention as
  they descend into mud and are unpassable after rain.
- 1 I think you're doing things great. Restrooms are normally pretty clean I do like the additional lighting in the outhouses at 5 liver Creek
- 1 I use equestrian trails and Silver Creek camping the most. Trails are marked pretty good. Asking for users input is good.
- 1 It is unusual for any county to have as nice a park as Silver Creek. You are making an effort to make improvements
- Keeping horsetalls open and improving.
- 1 Keeping park clean Keeping restrooms clean
- 1 Keeping park clean and maintained.
- Keeping the campsites clean and the picket areas up with sand etc.
- 1 Keeping up camp sights and trails
- 1 Like that electric and water is being explored, I don't think water is necessary at Silver Creek. Would rather see all sites with electric.
- Love equestrian friendly
- 1 Love the equestrian trails
- 1 Love the equestrian trails. They are well marked δ well maintained.
- Maintaining and providing a natural experience for primitive camping in this lovely small rural equestrian campground called Silver Creek.
- 1 Maintaining the staging and boat launch areas. Automated entrance equipment is in good working order
- 1 Maintenance/housekeeping
- Many parks, many locations, several activities, good variety
- 1 Nice park/picnic facilities
- 1 No cost at parks!!! Variety of activities
- Park is clean and trash cans have always been emptied.
- 1 Park is well maintained. Restrooms are always clean. Good job!
- 1 Parks & Rec office staff and park rangers are friendly, professional and extremely helpful in answering questions and helping with equestrian campsite reservations and annual passes.
- Parks are well groomed
- Parks have shown improvement and are good to visit.
- Primarily go to silver creek; park is clean, trails are groomed, staff are very helpful!!! Just need openings into campsites widened. Would be easier to get horse rigs in and out. Thank you
- Providing a nice place for equestrians to go riding.
- Providing equestrian trails.
- Providing horse trails.
- Reaching out for our input is a great step. You definitely need to have horse people involved, ones that use the park for camping and riding when talking about improvements.

Count	Response
1.	Silver Creek is a premier equestrian facility. My group has camped there for years and primarily on the same sites. The trails are a fantastic variety of terrain. The scenery is excellent. The campsites are well maintained and offer a variety depending on the size of your rigs and your group, you can always find a site or a gourp of sites together that will accompodate you. It has been three years since we were last there due to some health issues.
1	Silver creek is a beautiful park, clean and well cared for.
1	Silver creek is always maintained!
1	Staff ad APD and Silver Creek are wonderful! Restrooms are clean and so are campsites. Great job!
1	Thank you for the noticeable improvements that have already been made at Siver Creek. With the widening of the main drive and tree removal.
1	The campground for equestrians and the trails are being handled well.
1	The information on the web was current and the response was timely. Hike the gate pass for Gun Lake. It is an innovative solution.
1	The new Richmond launch is a wonderful site.
1	The pavilions were a huge improvement! We do CMO's at both Ely and Silver Creek. All the riders love these parks for horseback riding!
1	The signage for equestrian trails is much appreciated. The maintenance of all but the trail through the clear cut is good and much appreciated.
1	The trails continue to be great
1	Trails are ok. Lots of downed trees and not a fan of the "clear cut" that went on a few years ago. It was not cleared up nicely.
1	Vault toilets are generally kept very clean. Park staff is always friendly.
1	We only use Gun Lake boat lauch. For several years now, it has been getting worse.
1.	We really enjoy West Side County Park! It's maintained well and enjoy the view of Lake Michigan and the steps to the beach. We currently live in Holland but lived in the city of Allegan 6 years a while ago.
1	While renewing our Allegan County Parks Pass you are very friendly and professional. Thank you for that! You make the process very easy.
1	You do a great job of managing the horse trails and campsites. Love the availability of water and restrooms.
1	Your staff
1	clean park, good Pavilion and restrooms
1	clean, nice grass
1	cleaning park & trash removal
i	communication
ı.	communication is great
t	good restrooms at new Richmond should be open for longer season
ı	maintaining trails.
1	nice picnic areas
1.	outhouses are great! Love the picket line poles!
1	price
ı	providing equestrian trails and camping marking the trails for emergency personal
ı	quiet
1	trais
1	well maintained, friendly staff Large campsites. Nice Equestrian trails.

14. What can we do to improve? (Please be specific)

Count	Response
1	Price increase this year of aimost 55% is extremely high.
1	Hike primitive camping (well, in my horse trailer) and would hate to see a lot of "modernization", I don't need many extras like water or electric, but some would like it. I don't like listening to generators all night f
1	- Designated manure dump sites - pump the outhouses more frequently - Clear camp sites of stumps, small trees, widen more of them them to make easier access for backing in or pull through More triple pole picket lines, - fix the water pumps so all work
1	1. Electric & water in pavilions 2. move parking - paved
1	1. banks by boat ramp 2. need more picnic tables 3, add flush toilets 4. fish cleaning station
1	1. longer stays 2. showers 3. electricity
1	1.better beach-more sand 2.more parking
1	Access to water - make sure they work, hauling gallons of water across the park at silver for horses is not fun
1	Add add itional day area parking. Most times I visit the parking area is full or almost full and people have to park in the camping area.
1	Add electric
1	Add sanitary station, also, maybe better watering system up front by the silver Creek pavillion
1	Add so lar well to equestrian camps in well drained area so riders can clean sweat off horses more easily with a hose and flowing water.
1	Already made my comments.
1	Although a little better, By Lake needs a bit more patrol. Seems homeless move in
1	Be in attendance more. If someone was having a problem it would be nice if someone was there to help.
1	Better restroom facilities.
1	Boat launch needs to be re-done. The concrete slabs have shifted.
1	Boat launch parking separated from single vehicle parking at New Richmond. Gate at New Richmond boat launch (like at gun lake)
1	Clean and modern restrooms
1	Continue to maintain dock and launch ramps.
1	Day Parking for horse trailers can be tight on busy days
1	Electric @ campsite, more water access
1	Enforce NO PARKING in launch lane.
1	First, respond to your email. I wrote in offering to help with putting a dog park in Dysterveld. I received no response. 2) Post planned improvements with schedules. 3) Help people to understand how to get involved with improvements.
1	Gun lake boatramp
1	Gun lake needs curb removed by boat launch, when boats are being launched in first spot they block second spot it. Make a jam when busy
1	Lam happy so cant help u on this one.
1	I believe that improvements can and should be made to silver creek but I also disagree with the new price point. Silver creek is almost empty most weekends (unless there is an event). I don't think the new price point will help. I also think that the new "anticipated price point" for the upgraded silver creek is too expensive. We do a lot of horse camping and places that can command that price point have fair more amenities than silver creek has proposed. Canobing, lake, beach, kayaking, camp store, etc. etc. If merelly tom because I don't mind silver creek the way it is. I think a new restroom is needed instead of the buts. Also, the campsites could be improved to allow for drivethru and/or more space. Especially for the big rigs. Campsites must be made bigger if you want to command the "anticipated price point".
1	I cannot think of anything that needs improvement.
1	I do wish there were more drive thru camp sites.
1	I would like to see a handicap Kayak cance launch at the New Richmond site. It would work hand in hand with the recent addition of the same at Wades Bayou to which many paddle to from New Richmond.

Count	Response

- 1 I would like to see electric sites added as well as water ( Not pumped) to allow us to refill our water tanks at the park. I would like to see security camera mounted at the campentrances for a record of who enters
- 1 I would like to see more water stations for the horses and maybe a few more restrooms
- 1 If d like to see clear trail signs and maybe a map available. To print or there at a trail head.
- 1 I'm happy
- 1 It might be nicer to remove some of the trees to make it easier to get the larger trailers parked in there.
- 1 It would be nice if the park was non-smoking and if it was patrolled better to enforce no alcoholic beverages.
- It would be nice to have the beach kept clean of bird poo. Also, it would be nice to have the parking lot kept plowed in the winter time.
- Make more pull thru campsites for big rigs at horse camps.
- 1 Modernize bathrooms, non-motorized connections between sites, host and publicize most events and programs
- 1 Monitor camp ground on weekends
- 1 More day parking at silver creek often it is over full. Another creek/water area. Add gravel to road from day parking to rear camping area.
- More day parking for horses/trailers.
- 1 More equestrian trails, easier to back into sites, wider road. Larger day parking area for horse trailers. I'm not real impressed when I see all those non horse campers taking up all the good sites and no one is even at the site just a trailer. You need separate areas for horse people and non horse people.
- 1 More parking area for day use
- Need water available in front picnic area at silver creek. Reservations for benefit ride were changed this year to an earlier time without notice. Almost didn't get a site to
- 1 No improvements needed
- On busy weekends it is aggravating to want to camp with our horses and (especially) the sites where we can park are trailer are taken up by non-horse campers. I know reservations are an option but we don't always plan that far ahead i.e. weather, family circumstances.
- Parking for Pine Point Equestrian trails
- 1 Pit toilet maintenance, electric on campsites, better day use parking with spots indicated. Modern restrooms/showers for campers. Strongly discourage homeless long term campsite use.
- Please, please do not advertise beach accessibility at Westside if your ramp does not extend that far! I realize that you have difficulties with lake rising, etc., but either get the ramp done right or stop advertising accessibility. This is not fair to those who cannot do stairs. I spoke with parks director some time ago and came away with the impression that there was nothing to be done. There is, with proper engineering of the ramps and ongoing maintenance. This is one thing that drew me to this park...but so very frustrating!
- 1 Provide modern camping at equestrian parks.
- 1 Provide more sand for picket areas. Educate dog owners, loose dogs, barking dogs are out of control at Silver Creek! Charge per horse to camp and use the trails. BRIDLETAGS PLEASE! The funds are needed!
- 1 Provide more sand for picket lines. Enforce dog leash rule. Provide quiet area for primitive campers to enjoy peace and quiet instead of generators, music and barking dogs.
- Remove some trees at the entrance to each of the campsites to make backing in easier.
- 1 See question 13
- Shower house at campgrounds
- Showers and running water faucets would be handy to fill water buckets.
- Silver Creek needs more bathrooms my trailer does not have a bathroom, and the ones at the campground are very far apart. They also need tree maintenance to get a horse trailer on some of the campsites. Cut down some of the trees for easier manuvarability. Also would like campsites where you can have more than one horse trailer. I camp alone, and meet up with other friends who camp alone. Maybe limit by number of people or number of horses and not number of trailers.
- 1 Silver Creek needs to have camping sites improved and trees taken out to make it easier for rigs to park! Electric sites would be great!
- 1 Some electric sites at sliver creek would be great! Bigger day parking area, it is always full on busy weekends. Bigger parking area in the campsites for big trailers (at sliver creek), another bathroom/water pump would be great(s.c.)

#### Count Response Some of the parks are not handicapped friendly.. Boat launches and trails are not easily accessible / usable for disabled individuals. Bathrooms need to be better attended to. Perhaps electric dryers? 1 1 Take out a couple of the older trees that are beginning to decay in the Silver Creek day ride area and provide a diagram for parking so individuals get a 1 The equestrian trail through the newest clear-cut area at Silver Creek is very dangerous. The trail is very narrow and vegetation obscures each side of the trail making it hard to see the slash that is dangerous. It is also poorly marked in that section. The only thing I can think of is sometimes when backing in a campsite, there are some old very large trees that can be too tight for backing a good size rig or low hanging limbs that scrape the roof. So maybe make some sites a bit bigger... 1 There is still a few trees that could be removed in order to access sites with a larger rig. Ultimately electric at the sites would make Silver Creek a true This year site 72 has a severely cracked picket post that we felt a need to reinforce it with rachet straps to avoid it splitting in half at the top should a horse pull hard on it, also same post is loose in the ground. Another issue was that by saturday evening on a holiday weekend, there was no to liet paper in the restroom located across from site 72. There was no refill on Sunday morning until sometime after 8:00 am. I have been camping at Silver Creek over 15 years and have never run into no paper in the toilet. My group quit going to Yankeee Springs for that very reason. We started camping at Silver Creek before you started to charge for camping. We filled out surveys back then about the park. No one had qualms about paying but running out of toilet paper on the second day of a holiday weekend is inexcusable. And I did notice that there were many campsites still open. Could it be that you have had to make budget cuts and this is the end result? People quit coming becar Trim the trees in silver creek for easier access into the camp sites and day parking 1 We come fairly early on Saturday mornings to ski and tube. Parking becomes a problem later in the day. We would also love to see "no dogs allowed," The dog that barks all day at someone else's dog is very annoyi 1 Website for parks could be better. Pictures of campsites would be helpful When driving in or out with truck and trailer the park road is very narrow. Often a small car is coming toward us and they do not move over. Moving over something that is 30+feet long is more difficult than something 10 feet or less. It would be nice to have signs saying something like cars yield to trucks with trailers, inforce NO GUNS in park. May have only happened one time but someone was inside the park and shot a squirrel. The Another rider told me the man was bragging about it and this happened seconds before the rider past the area. Would LOVE a clean we If/water station for filling water tanks with clean water using a hose. The pump style currently at Silver Creek either don't work, shut down due to issues or just simply not enough for all campsites, nor easy to use. Most folks would prefer to drive to a common spot for filling water tanks/buckets with clean water, accessible with a hose. This is seen in other horse parks throughout the state. A manure station would keep campsites cleaversus throwing out in the woods right behind picket lines. Just provide a few wheel barrows and a common dump area. This is seen at other horse parks throughout the state. Also, would love to see some sites that offer electric. A lot of horse trailers these days have electric hookup and things would be much quieter in the park without noisy generators. Aust charge more for the sites with electric to offset the cost. The campers are willing to pay for the luxury of electric. This would set Silver Creek above the rest. This would inform patrons of the emergency system that is inplace litter pick up, bathroom floors maybe more parking in day use are for the horse trailers more parking, more signs & lock gate parking put the kind of restrooms that new Richmond has at silver creek, also would like electric hook ups at silver creek showers & electric water at Bysterveld (water/drinking Fountain)

15. Additional Comments (ie. recognition of staff, service delivery, product or changes needed)

- 1 After the harassing drifters were there last year (drug/alcohol induced impairment) my family and thad an uneasy feeling. We are a bit worried about going back. We also noticed a large van parked in a horse trailer campsite that had a person peering out at passers by, for days without ever coming out. Can a welfare check be made to ensure everyone is safe inside? Several folks were worried perhaps someone was inside against their will. It was very scary. Not sure if the park is being used by folks making poor life choices, evading the law, or who are looking to pick off other campers/campsites. Can more security be an option?
- Changes are needed to assure accessibility which is advertised. So very frustrated on this count. Please, please do not advertise beach accessibility at Westside if your ramp does not extend that far! I realize that you have difficulties with lake rising, e.t., but either get the ramp done right or stop advertising accessibility. This is not fair to those who cannot do stairs. I spoke with parks director some time ago and came away with the impression that there was nothing to be done. There is, with proper engineering of the ramps and ongoing maintenance. This is one thing that drew me to this park...but so very frustrating!
- Dollars may be the limiting factor, but full restrooms at the Dumont Lake watercraft launch would be great. Properties that I have visited are safe, clean and provide great opportunities to get out and experience our state's natural beauty.
- Gary Taylor does a great job cleaning at New Richmond . And we love the Sturgeon trailer. Trail and parks people take up all the boat launch parking , we need a separate parking lot for these fellow patrons.
- Have always thought staff was helpful and pleasant.
- 1 Ibelonged to Walking Horse association and we donated money for specific things to be done that were never done. We always wonder what happened to that money.
- 1. If m not sure if you have different staff or park rangers every year or different days but sometimes they're very pleasant and others they're kind of not
- 1 If they harvest trees again in Silver Creek, I hope whoever does it cleans up better after themselves after they are done.
- In farout locations near roadways, add vault toilets for riders to use.
- 1 It would be nice to get a response from you on this. At this time I am not sure If I will be back to Silver Creek, but I guess for sure I will begin to pack toilet paper in with my camping gear. Sad! Roberta Dunn 1005 S. 31st Street South Bend, IN 46615 574-232-8524/574-250-3976 DunnRoberta@aol.com
- Leave as is Don't wreck our parks by tearing down trees and making it like a small city. You will lose many of us who use the park. We go there for peace and quiet and to enjoy the woods.
- 1 Love the free access to beach at Dumont Lake
- Love the primitive camping at Silver Creek. Please don't modernize. Opt for more modern horse camping at other facilities.
- 1 Maybe a genuine county truck could grade the road in Silver Creek a couple times a year? Otherwise, staff is doing the best they can with what they have to work with.
- 1 Miss Chris at Silver Creek
- 1 None-Tappreciate the access to the equestrian trails! Thank you!
- Not fond of the campers and horse campers being inter changeable. At times a small tent camper is camping in the largest horse camp site leaving nothing large enough for truck and trailer. If this is the policy then perhaps those campsites that were established for tent camping should be enlarged and horse camping should be accessible to those sites.
- 1 Our encounter with the attendant was very welcoming
- 1 Parks are clean but getting too crowded
- 1 Reservations are efficiently done!
- 1 Rhonda Foreman deserves special recognition for her friendly and helpful attitude!
- 1 Ronda is amazing
- 1 Staff at Silver Creek and Parks Department are wonderful. Thank you for all you do!
- Staff at Silver Creek are wonderful/office staff at Allegan county are wonderful
- 1 Staff has been friendly
- Thank you for all you do, I know the Benefit Ride is coming up at SC and the park has always looked amazing for this event. Great job everyone!
- 1 The bathrooms are sooo much cleaner than they have been in the past. Keep up the good work. We notice!
- The day horse parking area at Silver Creek need to be expanded. There is not room for everyone many times and it is difficult to maneuver. Could the trails be expanded at Ely Lake? Thanks so much for all you do for equestrian use.

- The park ranger at Silver Creek is excellent when present, unfortunately people know when she is not there and allow their dogs to run wild or bark continuously with no consideration for park users. Much, needed money can be raised by charging per horse. EG: 1 season pass per person/per horse = \$25.00 vs 6 people/ 6 horses season pass = \$25.00 . The parks could be collecting \$15.0.0 instead! BRIDLETAGS would also allow the parks to collect money from people that ride their horses into the park and use the trails so they can avoid buying a season pass. These people park their vehicles/ trailers elsewhere or ride from home into the park to use the trails without paying. Sand for picket areas!
- The person handling the Gun Lake launch passes does a great job.
- The rangers are very good, the parks are well maintained, the staff at the parks office are very helpful and are always quick to respond. Dogs running loose must be addressed!
- The road in to and parking need to be payed at Bysterveld. Is there any plan for this? If so, when? Where do you need community help? There's no indication of this on your web site. Adding that would be very helpful. Maybe we could start a "Friends of the Parks" group.
- 1 The staff has always been good! Would be nice to see them out there more though.
- Today 5:11-17 we were at the park around noon and were surprised at the beach erosion, we were not sure what happened... steps washed away, etc. Two Allegan County employees, a man and a young lady, were there and explained the reason behind the erosion and we shocked! We really appreciated that they answered our questions and pointed out how far out the beach used to be! West Side County Park will continue to be our favorite park!
- Very friendly staff
- 1 We enjoy camping here every year.
- 1 all is great for me!!
- do not understand why we can't use the old trails because of erosion, but they can come in and clear-cut the forest and leave skid steer roads and ruts all over the place.
- 1 parks look good
- 1 staff has been friendly and helpful, toilets have toilet paper

# Appendix C -Notice(s) of Public Workshop

#### **PUBLIC WORKSHOP NOTICE**

ALLEGAN COUNTY PARKS will be conducting a public workshop during the Parks Advisory Board Meeting to help develop our FIVE-YEAR RECREATION PLAN

The purpose of the workshop is to solicit public input on goals, objectives, and action items to take place in Allegan County Parks and Recreation over the next five years.

Allegan County Human Services Building Zimmerman Training Room 3255 122<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Allegan, MI, 49010 April 2, 2019 @ 8:30am

Brandy Gildea, Parks Coordinator
Allegan County Parks, Recreation & Tourism
Phone: 269-686-9088
E-mail: parks@allegancounty.org

Ast 07 231J

#### STATE OF MICHIGAN

County of Kent and County of Ottawa



Being duly sworn deposes and say he/she is Principal Clerk of



#### THE GRAND RAPIDS PRESS DAILY EDITION

a newspaper published and circulated in the according to Supreme Court Rule; and that in said paper on the following day(days)			elika nama e 🚅 melikiki nama nama na adilika ana kika	
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Sworn to and subscribed before me this	440	day of	March	20/9
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Allegan County Human Services Building Zimmerman Training Room
3255 122nd Avenue, Allegan, MJ, 49010
April 2, 2019 & 8:30cm

Brondy Gilden, Parks Coordinator
Allegan County Parks, Recreation & Tourism
Phone: 269-686-9088
E-mail: parks@allegancounty.org

#### AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

State of Michigan County of Allegan

Robin Clark, being duly sworn says she is one of the principal clerks of the Allegan County News, a weekly newspaper published and circulated in said county. The annexed is a printed copy of a notice which was published in said newspaper on the following date(s), to wit:

February 14th & 28th A.D. 2019

Robin Clark

Robin Clark

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 28th day of February A.D. 2019

Julie Hotchkiss

Notary Public, Allegan County, Michigan. Acting In Allegan County, Michigan

My commission expires 03/15/2023

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## PUBLIC WORKSHOP NOTICE

ALLEGAN COUNTY PARKS will be conducting a public workshop during the Parks Advisory Board Meeting to help develop our

FIVE-YEAR RECREATION PLAN

The purpose of the workshop is to solicit public input on goals, objectives, and action items to take place in Allegan County Parks and Recreation over the next five years.

Allegan County Human Services Building Zimmerman Training Room 3255 122nd Avenue, Allegan, MI, 49010 April 2, 2019 @ 8:30am

Brandy Gildea, Parks Coordinator Allegan County Parks, Recreation & Tourism Phone: 269-686-9088 E-mail: parks@allegancounty.org

# Appendix D -Public Workshop Press Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - February 25, 2019

Contact:
Brandy Gildea
Parks Coordinator
269-673-0378
bgildea@allegancounty.org

#### Public Workshop Announcement To Develop Allegan County's 5-Year Recreation Plan

(ALLEGAN, Mich) - The Allegan County Parks Commission would like to announce that on April 2, 2019 during the Parks Advisory Board Meeting they will be conducting a public workshop to help develop the goals and objectives for the 5-year recreation plan for Allegan County. Anyone that has an interest in helping to plan the future of the Allegan County parks and recreation system is encouraged to attend. The meeting starts at 8:30am and will be held in the Zimmerman Room, located in the Human Services Building at 3255 122<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Allegan, MI.

This 5-year comprehensive master plan is required by the State of Michigan to be eligible for state grant funds, the primary source of which is the Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund. The current Allegan County Parks master plan is set to expire December 31, 2019.

Questions about the workshop should be directed to the Allegan County Parks and Tourism Office at (269) 686-9088 or by e-mail at <a href="mailto:parks@allegancounty.org">parks@allegancounty.org</a>. Further information regarding Allegan County Parks, including the current 5-year recreation plan, can be found on the Web at <a href="https://www.allegancounty.org/parks">www.allegancounty.org/parks</a>.

# Appendix E -Public Workshop/Parks Advisory Board Meeting Agenda



### Allegan County Parks, Recreation, & Tourism 3255 122nd Avenue, Suite 103

Allegan, MI 49010

Phone: (269) 686-9088 • Fax: (269) 673-0454

Parks Web: www.allegancounty.org/Parks

Tourism Web: www.visitallegancounty.com

E-mail: parks@allegancounty.org



April 2, 2019 Human Services Building Zimmerman Room 8:30am

#### ALLEGAN COUNTY PARKS ADVISORY BOARD AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Roll Call
- 3. Additions/Deletions To Agenda
- 4. Approval of Minutes February 5, 2019
- 5. Financial Statements
- 6. Public Participation

#### Informational/Discussion Items

- 7. Recreation Plan Public Input Session
- 8. Recreation Plan Discussion
- 9. Park Updates
- 10. Upcoming Meetings
  - A. Next Meeting on Tuesday, June 4, 2019 @ 8:30 am in the Spartan Room
- 11. Round Table Discussion
- 12. Adjournment

# Appendix F -Public Workshop/Parks Advisory Board Meeting Minutes



#### Allegan County Parks, Recreation, & Tourism 3255 122<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Suite 103 Allegan, MI 49010

Phone: (269) 686-9088 • Fax: (269) 673-0454
Parks Web: www.allegancounty.org/Parks
Tourism Web: www.visitallegancounty.com
E-mail: parks@allegancounty.org



April 2, 2019 Human Services Building Zimmerman Room 8:30am

#### **ALLEGAN COUNTY PARKS ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES**

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Brandon at 8:30am

2. Roll Call

PRESENT: Larry Rasmussen

Larry Rasmussen Lenore Sartini
Bruce Brandon Maryln Langeance
Gale Dugan Mark DeYoung

Shawn Caulder

ABSENT: John Clark Dean Kapenga

Also Present: Brandy Gildea, Parks Manager

Ronda Foreman, Parks Administrative Assistant

Steve Walma, Allegan Resident Vicki Walma, Allegan Resident

3. Additions/Deletions To Agenda

None

4. Approval of Minutes - February 5, 2019

A motion was made by Langeance, seconded by Rasmussen to approve the February 5, 2019 minutes as presented. The motion carried.

5. Financial Statements

First, Gildea introduced new Parks Advisory Board member, Shawn Caulder, who is a resident of Allegan and ready to be involved in the community. Introductions went around the table as everyone welcomed Shawn to the Board.

In the agenda packet are the first quarter expenditure and revenue reports. Gildea reports so far just routine purchases and nothing major. The project team has been working on projects; the Dumont Lake Park bridge is being repaired at a cost of \$5500 and will be paid from the Verizon funds. Also at Dumont Lake Park, a vandalized door had to be repaired at a cost of \$1500. Revenues have been coming in for reservations and season passes.

On agenda packet page 22 and displayed on the white board are the first quarter comparisons. Currently the Dumont Lake Park pavilion only has a few reservations. Silver Creek Campground is down but will eventually balance out due to users having the ability to reserve a year in advance with the new reservation system. West Side and Bysterveld Parks pavilion, along with season passes, are all down. Ely Lake Campground and Littlejohn Lake Pavilion reservations are doing well.

A motion was made by Rasmussen, seconded by Sartini to approve the financial reports as presented. The motion carried.

#### 6. Public Participation

No comment at this time

#### Informational/Discussion Items

#### 7. Recreation Plan - Public Input Session

A motion was made by Langeance, seconded by Sartini to open the public input session for comment on the 2020-2024 Parks Recreation Plan. The motion carried.

With no input from the public, a motion was made by DeYoung, seconded by Sartini to close the public input session for the 2020-2024 Parks Recreation Plan. The motion carried.

#### 8. Recreation Plan - Discussion

Gildea compiled all the input collected from last year's Park Advisory Board meetings, public input sessions and surveys into a PowerPoint, and projected it onto the white board; she would like to go through the presentation with the group first then will have discussion. Included in the PP is an overview of the parks and recreation department, a timeline to complete the 2020-2024 recreation plan, the goals, objectives and actions from the 2015-2019 recreation plan, and the draft goals, objectives and actions for the 2020-2024 recreation plan. Also included in the agenda packet are the results received from the surveys asking for user input.

Next Gildea would like to go back through each set of draft goals and objectives for the 2020-2024 recreation plan for any additional input, amendments noted below:

- . Goal 1: e. add LED lighting
- . Goal 2: h. add ADA children
- . Goal 3: b. list the health care and wellness organizations
- Goal 4: b. list the trail groups (FACETS, snowmobile)
- Goal 5: c. add Outdoor Discovery Center (ODC)
- · Goal 6: none
- · Goal 7: Pure MI (are funds available?)
- · Goal 8: none

Gildea asked for any additional goals or comments on the action plan. The draft for the 2020-2024 Recreation Plan will be completed for the June meeting.

#### 9. Park Updates

Gildea stated the Dumont Lake Park bridge is being repaired with oak, which is a harder wood than pine that was previously used, and should last longer. Seasonal staff started yesterday at Silver Creek Campground; all are working to clear the campsites, picket lines and grade the roads in preparation of

the annual Benefit Ride on April 19-21; the campground is sold out for the event. The day use parks will officially open on May 1st.

The Park ordinance was approved by the Board of Commissioners effective April 1, 2019; copies were handed out to members. The only major change is that alcohol is now allowed at the campsites at both campgrounds. The Silver Creek Campground grant has been submitted and will find out if it is approved by late November or December. Gildea was asked about winter damage at the parks; the year-round maintenance staff took care of any damage and there were no major issues.

#### 10. Upcoming Meetings

#### A. Next Meeting on Tuesday, June 4, 2019 @ 8:30 am in the Spartan Room

#### 11. Round Table Discussion

Sartini asked who Keith Hamilton is; Gildea stated he is the Assistant Facilities Director and is currently filling in as the interim director until the position is filled.

#### 12. Adjournment

A motion was made by Langeance, seconded by Rasmussen to adjourn the meeting at 10:03am. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.

# Appendix G -Notice (s) of Availability For Public Review

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that Allegan County's five year Recreation Plan draft is available for public review and comment. The plan can be review at the county's website <a href="www.allegancounty/org/parks">www.allegancounty/org/parks</a> or at the Parks, Recreation & Tourism office located on the lower level of the Allegan County Human Services Building, 3255 122<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Allegan, MI, 49010

The five year Recreation Plan guides us on the decisions to be made over the next five years regarding the parks, campgrounds and recreational land operated Allegan County. This plan has to be submitted and accepted by the MDNR in order to be eligible for recreational grants

A public hearing for review and comment of the plan will be scheduled at a later date. Concerns and comments are encouraged and can be made at the Parks Advisory Board meetings or in writing to the Allegan County Parks Manager

Brandy Gildea, Parks Manager Allegan County Parks, Recreation & Tourism E-mail: parks@allegancounty.org

#### STATE OF MICHIGAN

County of Kent and County of Ottawa



Being duly sworn deposes and say he/she is Principal Clerk of



#### THE GRAND RAPIDS PRESS DAILY EDITION

a newspaper published and circulated in the according to Supreme Court Rule; and that in said paper on the following day(days)	County of Ke	ent and the C otice, taken	County of Ottawa and from said paper, has b	otherwise qualified been duly published
June 12	_ A.D. 20 <u>/</u>	9		
Sworn to and subscribed before me this	12 th	day of	Janice M DEGR NOTARY PUBLIC, STAL COUNTY OF KE	20/9
			MY COMMISSION EXPIRES ACTING IN COUNTY OF	Oct 3, 2020

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Allegan County's five year Recreation Plan draft is available for public review and comment. The plan can be review at the county's website www.ellsgan.county/arg.parks or at the Parks, Recreation & Tourism office located on the lower level of the Allegan County Human Services Building, 3255 122nd Avenue, Allegan, MI, 40010

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Brandy Gildeo, Parks Coordinator
Allegan County Parks, Recreation & Tourism Phone: 204-68-6708

Email: parks@allegancounty.org

#### AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

State of Michigan County of Allegan

Ryan Lewis, being duly sworn says she is one of the principal clerks of the Allegan County News, a weekly newspaper published and circulated in said county. The annexed is a printed copy of a notice which was published in said newspaper on the following date(s), to wit:

June 13th A.D. 2019

Ryan Lewis

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 23rd day of August A.D. 2019

Julie Hotchkiss

Notary Public, Allegan County, Michigan. Acting In Allegan County, Michigan

My commission expires 03/15/2023

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The five-year Recreation Plan guides us on the decisions to be made over the next five years regarding the parks, campgrounds and recreational land operated Allegan County. This plan has to be submitted and accepted by the MDNR in order to be eligible for recreational grants.

A public hearing for review and comment of the plan will be scheduled at a later date. Concerns and comments are encouraged and can be made at the Parks Advisory Board meetings or in writing to the Allegan County Parks Manager.

Brandy Gildea, Parks Manager Allegan County Parks, Recreation & Tourism E-mail: parks@allegancounty.org

## Appendix H -Public Review Press Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - June 5, 2019

Contact: Brandy Gildea Parks Manager 269-686-9088 parks@allegancounty.org

#### Public Notice Review of 5-Year Recreation Plan

(ALLEGAN, Mich) - The Allegan County Parks would like to announce that the Allegan County's five year Recreation Plan draft is available for public review and comment. The plan can be review at the county's website <a href="https://www.allegancounty/org/parks">www.allegancounty/org/parks</a> or at the Parks, Recreation & Tourism office located on the lower level of the Allegan County Human Services Building, 3255 122nd Avenue, Allegan, MI, 49010

The 5-year Recreation Plan guides us on decisions to be made over the next five years regarding the parks, campgrounds and recreational land operated by Allegan County. This plan has to be submitted and accepted by the MDNR in order to be eligible for recreational grants.

A public hearing for review and comment of the plan will be scheduled at a later date. Concerns and comments are encouraged and can be made at the Parks Advisory Board meetings or in writing to the Allegan County Parks Manager.

# Appendix I -Notice (s) of Public Hearing

#### **PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that a public hearing for Allegan County's five year Recreation Plan will be held at 8:30 am on December 3, 2019 during the Parks Advisory Board meeting in the Zimmerman Room, located at the Allegan County Human Services Building, 3255 122<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Allegan, MI, 49010.

The five year Recreation Plan guides us on the decisions to be made over the next five years regarding the parks, campgrounds and recreational land operated Allegan County. This plan has to be submitted and accepted by the MDNR in order to be eligible for recreational grants

Public participation is encouraged

Brandy Gildea, Parks Manager Allegan County Parks, Recreation & Tourism E-mail: parks@allegancounty.org

#### AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

State of Michigan County of Allegan

Robin Clark, being duly sworn says she is one of the principal clerks of the Allegan County News, a weekly newspaper published and circulated in said county. The annexed is a printed copy of a notice which was published in said newspaper on the following date(s), to wit:

October 10th

A.D. 2019

Pohin Clark

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 17th day of October A.D. 2019

Julie Horchkiss

Notary Public, Allegan County, Michigan. Acting In Allegan County, Michigan

My commission expires 03/15/2023

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The five-year Recreation Plan guides us on the decisions to be made over the next five years regarding the parks, campgrounds and recreational land operated Allegan County. This plan has to be submitted and accepted by the MDNR in order to be eligible for recreational grants.

Public participation is encouraged

Brandy Gildea, Parks Manager Allegan County Parks, Recreation & Tourism E-mail: parks@allegancounty.org

#### AFFP

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE NOTICE

#### **Affidavit of Publication**

STATE OF MICHIGAN } COUNTY OF OTTAWA & ALLEGAN }

SS

Haley Kelly, being duly sworn, says:

That she is Classified Representative of the The Holland Sentinel, a daily newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in Holland, Ottawa & Allegan County, Michigan; that the publication, a copy of which is attached hereto, was published in the said newspaper on the

October 08, 2019

PUBLIC HEARING N

NOTICE IS HEREBY Recreation Plan will t Advisory Board meeti Human Services Buil PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing for Alleson County's five year Recreation Plan will be held at 8:30 am on December 3, 2019 during the Parks Advisory Board meeting in the Zimmerman Room, located at the Allegan County Human Services Building, 3255 122nd Avenue, Allegan, MI, 49010.

The five year Recreation Plan guides us on the decisions to be made over the next five years regarding the parks, campgrounds and recreational land operated Allegan County. This plan has to be submitted and accepted by the MDNR in order to be eligible for recreational grants

Public participation is encouraged

Brandy Gildea, Parks Manager Allegan County Parks, Recreation & Tourism E-mail: parks@allegancounty.org

The five year Recreation Plan guides us on the decisions to be made over the next five years regarding the parks, campgrounds and recreational land operated Allegan County. This plan has to be submitted and accepted by the MDNR in order to be eligible for recreational grants

Public participation is encouraged

Brandy Gildea, Parks Manager Allegan County Parks, Recreation & Tourism parks@allegancounty.org

E-mail:

That said newspaper was regularly issued and circulated on those dates.

SIGNED:

Classified Representative

Subscribed to and sworn to me this 8th day of October 2019.

Theresa Donlin, Holland Sentinel Notary, Ottawa &

Allegan County, Michigan

My commission expires: November 23, 2022

00003662 00457251

Allegan County Parks 3255 122nd Allegan, MI 49010 THERESA L. DONLIN
Notary Public, State of Michigan
County of Ottawa
My Commission Expires November 23, 2022
Acting in the County of Ottawa

#### STATE OF MICHIGAN

County of Kent and County of Ottawa



Being duly sworn deposes and say he/she is Principal Clerk of



## THE GRAND RAPIDS PRESS DAILY EDITION

a newspaper published and circulated in the according to Supreme Court Rule; and that in said paper on the following day(days)				
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Sworn to and subscribed before me this	104n	day of	October	20_(9
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PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
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# Appendix J -Public Hearing Press Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - October 7, 2019

Contact: Brandy Gildea Parks Manager 269-686-9088 parks@allegancounty.org

#### Public Hearing Notice 5-Year Recreation Plan

(ALLEGAN, Mich) – The Allegan County Parks would like to announce that a public hearing for Allegan County's five year Recreation Plan will be held at 8:30 am on December 3, 2019 during the Parks Advisory Board meeting in the Zimmerman Room, located at the Allegan County Human Services Building, 3255 122<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Allegan, MI, 49010.

The plan can be reviewed at the county's website <a href="www.allegancounty/org/parks">www.allegancounty/org/parks</a> or at the Parks, Recreation & Tourism office located on the lower level of the Allegan County Human Services Building, 3255 122nd Avenue, Allegan, MI, 49010

The 5-year Recreation Plan guides us on decisions to be made over the next five years regarding the parks, campgrounds and recreational land operated by Allegan County. This plan has to be submitted and accepted by the MDNR in order to be eligible for recreational grants.

Public participation is encouraged.

-end-

## **Appendix K**

### - Parks Advisory Board Resolution

STATE OF MICHIGAN

ALLEGAN COUNTY PARKS ADVISORY BOARD

PARKS ADVISORY BOARD-APPROVE AND RECOMMEND ADOPTION OF THE 2020-2024 ALLEGAN COUNTY RECREATION PLAN

WHEREAS, the Allegan County Parks (Advisory Board) has undertaken a planning process to determine the recreation and natural resource conservation needs and desires of its residents during a five year period covering 2020-2024; and

WHEREAS, the Advisory Board began the process of developing an Allegan County Recreation (Plan) in accordance with the most recent guidelines developed by the Department of Natural Resources and made available to local communities; and

WHEREAS, the public was given a well-advertised opportunity and reasonable accommodations to review the draft 2020-2024 Plan for a period of at least 30 days; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on December 3, 2019 at 8:30am in the Zimmerman Room of the Human Services Building (3255 122nd Ave, Allegan, MI 49010) to provide an opportunity for all residents of the planning area to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the 2020-2024 Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Advisory Board has developed the plan as a guideline for improving recreation and enhancing natural resource conservation for the Allegan County Parks.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED hearing no public issues, Advisory Board hereby approves the 2020-2024 Allegan County Recreation Plan and recommends adoption of said plan by the Allegan County Board of Commissioners.

Moved by Dugan, Seconded by Kapenga to approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried by roll call vote: Yes -7 votes. No - 0 Votes. Absent - 1

Bruce Brandon Y Lenore Sartini
Mark DeYoung Y Gale Dugan
Dean Kapenga Y Shawn Caulder
John Clark A Marlyn Langeance

ATTEST, A TRUE COPY

Bruce Brandon , Chairperson

APPROVED: December 3, 2019

cc: Board of Commissioners, Parks Department, Michigan

Department of Natural Resources

### Appendix L -Parks Advisory Board Minutes



#### Allegan County Parks, Recreation, & Tourism 3255 122<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Suite 103

Allegan, MI 49010 Phone: (269) 686-9088 • Fax: (269) 673-0454

Parks Web: www.allegancounty.org/Parks Tourism Web: www.visitallegancounty.com E-mail: parks@allegancounty.org



December 3, 2019

Human Services Building Zimmerman Room 8:30am

#### ALLEGAN COUNTY PARKS ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Brandon at 8:32am

2. Roll Call

PRESENT: Bruce Brandon

John Clark Dean Kapenga Lenore Sartini Gale Dugan Mark DeYoung

Shawn Caulder

ABSENT: Maryln Langeance

Also Present: Brandy Gildea, Parks Manager

Ronda Foreman, Parks Administrative Assistant

Steve Walma, Allegan Resident

Vicki Walma, Allegan Resident

Jenny Cook, MI DNR Equestrian Representative (MTAC)

3. Additions/Deletions To Agenda

None

4. Approval of Minutes

A. June 4, 2019

A motion was made by DeYoung, seconded by Caulder to approve the June 4, 2019 minutes as presented. The motion carried.

B. August 8, 2019

A motion was made by Dugan, seconded by Sartini to approve the August 8, 2019 minutes as presented. The motion carried.

5. Financial Statements

A. Quarterly Revenue Comparison

Gildea stated the expenditures are right on track and any remaining funds will go back into the casino fund. Gildea stated that no large additional expenses are planned just the regular monthly bills and salaries. The current financial reports and quarter revenue comparisons for the last several years are included in the agenda packet. Regarding the revenue comparisons, they are down compared to what was estimated and compared to last year but considering the terrible weather we had this year we did pretty well. That being said the Dumont Pavilion had the best pavilion rental year ever with 29 rentals for the season. Gildea believes this has to do with the building of the new accessible pavilion. Dumont watercraft launch fees are down but only by a little and this should not be a surprised due to all the rain we had this season, though that being said we had a much better year at the Gun Lake watercraft launch with doing better than we have for the last five years. Gildea believes that as we finish the improvements next year we will even increase usage/revenues more. Littlejohn pavilion is down compared to last year but still up compared to all the previous years. Silver Creek fees are down a lot. Gildea believes this is due to the weather we had this season. West Side Park is also down in pavilion rental usage. Gildea believes this was due to the beach being closed so often. Unfortunately, this will be an issue we deal with next season too. While we did well at Ely we are still down in users compared to the last two years. Again, weather probably played a role in that. Bysterveld is up compared to last year but still down from previous years. New Richmond watercraft launch fees are down and much of that is because the pay tube has been underwater for a good portion of the season.

Sartini stated a lot of her equestrian friends went out of state this year so that may contribute to Silver Creek and Ely Lake Campgrounds and trails usage; Cook stated the problem with EEE mosquito virus may have also been a factor.

A motion was made by Sartini, seconded by Kapenga to accept the financial reports as presented. The motion carried.

#### 6. Public Participation

None

#### 7. Recreation Plan (click here to view)

#### A. Public Hearing

A motion was made by Dugan, seconded by DeYoung to open the public hearing regarding the 2020-2024 Allegan County Recreation Plan. The motion carried.

Jenny Cook is in attendance just to listen and has no comment at this time.

A motion was made by Kapenga, seconded by Caulder to close the public hearing regarding the 2020-2024 Allegan County Recreation Plan. The motion carried.

#### B. Final Review, Approval and Recommendation to BOC for Adoption

Gildea displayed on the white board and reviewed the proposed recreation plan with changes made to the last plan highlighted. Dugan asked if other possible projects should be added such as the Trowbridge dam site; Gildea stated that in the goals and objectives section, items are covered in a generic form to include anything that may have been missed.

After hearing no further issues, the Parks Advisory Board decided to approve the plan and pass a resolution recommending the Board of Commissioners adopt the Allegan County 2020-2024 Recreation Plan.

A motion was made by Dugan, seconded by Kapenga to approve the resolution as presented. The motion carried by roll call vote. Yes - 7. No - 0. Absent - 1

Y - Bruce Brandon
Y - John Clark
Y - Dean Kapenga
Y - Gale Dugan
Y - Mark DeYoung
Y - Shawn Caulder

Y - Mark DeYoung
Absent - Maryln Langeance

Gildea stated that she has already prepared/submitted the RFA for BOC approval and plans on this going to their December 12, 2019 meeting.

#### 8. Park Updates

Unfortunately the entire south access structure has been removed and we continue to have erosion issues. Gildea hopes to still be able to use the north stairs next season. In the meantime, the area has been roped off with signs stating *Danger Do Not Enter*. Still have year round ranger and two parks maintenance staff. Will be keeping an eye on the parks, keeping them cleaned and working on projects. Last week, some trees came down on the trails and in the campgrounds; staff is working to get all cleaned up. Clark stated they did a great job on the cross-country trail at Littlejohn Lake Park. The Parks Office will be moving to the County Services building sometime in the next month.

#### 9. 2020 Parks Advisory Board Meeting Schedule

A drafted schedule is in the agenda packet. Gildea suggested sticking with the same schedule as this year with bi-monthly meetings but stated we could look at different scheduled to with less or more meetings. Kapenga stated that with less meetings, we would be disengaged and he does not want to see less and the board agreed.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Dugan to accept the scheduled presented for the 2020 Parks Advisory Board Meetings. The motion carried.

#### 10. Upcoming Meetings

Next Meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 4, 2020 at 8:30am in the Zimmerman Room

#### 11. Round Table Discussion

Kapenga asked when the results will be in for the MNRTF grant that was applied for the Silver Creek Park improvements; Gildea stated we should hear something in the next couple of weeks. If we do not receive the grant, the Parks Advisory Board will have to a discussion on how they'd like to recommend the Board of Commissioners to proceed; whether to reapply for Silver Creek Park or choose another project. Gildea stated we would reapply in 2021 since applications are due April 1 and would be too soon for 2020.

Clark reports he recently worked with Kent County Parks as a volunteer for invasive species control.

Dugan thanked Sartini for her email informing the Board of Rasmussen's passing last week. He would like to present Rasmussen's family with a letter thanking him for his work on the Parks Advisory Board and the equestrian trail system; Gildea will work with Becky Blaine from Administration for a letter/presentation.

**DeYoung** stated Rasmussen will be hard to replace and appreciated all his work on the equestrian trails.

Gildea stated Sartini is not renewing her term and thanked her for all her contributions to the county parks and the Silver Creek pavilion. Gildea reports Caulder will also not be renewing his term and thanked him for his service as well. There are now three openings and two applications that have been received for the Parks Advisory Board.

#### 12. Adjournment

A motion was made by Dugan, seconded by Sartini to adjourn the meeting at 9:27am. The motion carried

# Appendix M -Board of Commissioners Resolution

#### STATE OF MICHIGAN

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF ALLEGAN

#### BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS-ADOFT 2020-2024 ALLEGAN COUNTY 5-YEAR RECREATION PLAN

WHEREAS, to be eligible for state grant funding the Michigan Department of Natural Resources requires that Recreation Plans be updated every five years; and

WHEREAS, Allegan County's current Recreation Plan will expire on December 31, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the County's Parks Advisory Board developed an Allegan County Recreation Plan in accordance with the most recent guidelines developed by the Department of Natural Resources; and

WHEREAS, on December 3, 2019, the Parks Advisory Board held a public hearing in the Zimmerman Room of the Allegan County Human Services Building G255 122nd Ave, Allegan, MI 49010) to provide an opportunity for all residents of the planning area to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the 2020-2024 Allegan County Recreation Plan; and

WHEREAS, after the public hearing (hearing no public issues with the draft), the Parks Advisory Board approved the 2020-2024 Allegan County Recreation Plan and recommended adoption by the County Board of Commissioners.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners hereby adopts the 2020-2024 Allegan County Recreation Plan, as presented; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Board Chairman and/or the County Administrator are authorized to sign the necessary documents on behalf of the County and that the Budget and Finance Director is authorized to make the necessary budget adjustments to complete this action.

Moved by Commissioner Kapenga, seconded by Commissioner Dugan to approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried by roll call vote. Yeas: Kapenga, Storey, DeYoung, Jessup, Dugan and Cain. Nays: Thiele.

\_\_\_\_, Clerk-Register

ATTEST, A TRUE COPY

Tex Devetre

APPROVED: December 12, 2019

cc: Admin. - Finance - Human Resources - Parks

# Appendix N -Board of Commissioners Minutes

Following is excerpts of the draft minutes of the December 11, 2014 Board of Commission meeting. The full minutes of this meeting can be found at:

http://cms.allegancounty.org/sites/pages/Calendar/Lists/Board%20of%20Commissioners/Board%20Meetings.aspx

#### 964

#### ALLEGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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966	3	APPROVAL OF AGENDA AS PRESENTED
966	4	DISCUSSION - ADOPT 2020-2024 ALLEGAN COUNTY 5- YEAR RECREATION PLAN
966	5	DISCUSSION - GUN LAKE WATERCRAFT & PAVILION PROJECT
967-970	6	APPOINTMENTS
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970	8	BREAK - 10:00 A.M.
970-971	9	REMONUMENTATION - APPOINT PEER REVIEW GROUP
971	10	MAINTAIN CURRENT OFFICERS 2020
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972	15	COMMUNICATIONS
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973	18	ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

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978	22	BOC - ADOPT 2020-2024 ALLEGAN COUNTY 5-YEAR RECREATION PLAN
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#### DECEMBER 12, 2019 SESSION - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL

1/ The Board of Commissioners of the County of Allegan, State of Michigan, met in the Zimmerman Room of the Human Services Building in the Township of Allegan on December 12, 2019 at 9:02 A.M. in accordance with the motion for adjournment of November 7, 2019, and rules of this board; Chairman Storey presiding.

The Deputy Clerk led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Upon roll call the following members answered as Commissioners for the respective Districts:

DIST	#1	DEAN KAPENGA	DIST	#5	TOM JESSUP-arrived 9:39AM
DIST	#2	JIM STOREY	DIST	#6	GALE DUGAN
DIST	#3	MAX THIELE	DIST	#7	RICK CAIN
DIST	#4	MARK DeYOUNG			

#### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - NO COMMENTS

2/ Chairman Storey opened the meeting to public participation and as there were no comments from the public, he closed the meeting to public participation.

#### AGENDA - ADOPTED AS PRESENTED

3/ Moved by Commissioner Kapenga, seconded by Commissioner DeYoung to adopt the meeting agenda as presented. Motion carried by voice vote. Yeas: 6 votes. Nays: 0 votes. Excused: 1 vote.

#### DISCUSSION ITEMS:

#### BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS - ADOPT 2020-2024 ALLEGAN COUNTY 5-YEAR RECREATION PLAN

4/ Moved by Commissioner Kapenga, seconded by Commissioner Cain to move the adoption of the 2020-2024 Allegan County 5-Year Recreation Plan to the afternoon session. Motion carried by voice vote. Yeas: Kapenga, Storey, DeYoung, Dugan and Cain. Nays: Thiele. Excused: Jessup.

#### PARKS & RECREATION - GUN LAKE WATERCRAFT & PAVILION PROJECT

5/ Moved by Commissioner Dugan, seconded by Commissioner Kapenga to refer the Gun Lake Watercraft and Pavilion Project back to the Parks Advisory Board for further consideration and recommendation by the end of January 2020.

Moved by Commissioner DeYoung, seconded by Commissioner Cain to amend the motion to change the date of action be February 4, 2020 during the Parks Advisory Boards regularly scheduled meeting. Motion amendment carried by voice vote. Yeas: Kapenga, Storey, DeYoung, Dugan and Cain. Nays: Thiele. Excused: Jessup.

Amended motion carried by voice vote. Yeas: Kapenga, Storey, DeYoung, Dugan and Cain. Nays: Thiele. Excused: Jessup.

#### ADJOURNMENT UNTIL JANUARY 9, 2020 AT 9:00 A.M.

13/ Moved by Commissioner Dugan, seconded by Commissioner Cain to adjourn until January 9, 2020 at 9:00 A.M. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 11:31 A.M.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION

#### DECEMBER 12, 2019 SESSION - INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL

14/ The Board of Commissioners of the County of Allegan, State of Michigan, met in the Board Room of the County Services Building in the Township of Allegan on December 12, 2019 at 1:00 P.M. in accordance with the motion for adjournment of November 7, 2019, and rules of this Board; Chairman Storey presiding.

The invocation was offered by District #4 Commissioner DeYoung. The Deputy County Clerk led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Upon roll call the following members answered as Commissioners for the respective Districts:

DIST	#1	DEAN KAPENGA	DIST	#5	TOM JESSUP
DIST	#2	JIM STOREY	DIST	#6	GALE DUGAN
DIST	#3	MAX THIELE	DIST	#7	RICK CAIN
DIST	#4	MARK DeYOUNG			

#### COMMUNICATIONS

15/ Deputy Clerk Tien noted to the board that they received the following resolutions:

- Otsego County resolution supporting passage of legislation to adopt 4-year terms for County Commissioners
- Marquette County and Crawford County letter to State leaders to restore all local funding to current County programs and services that were vetoed/budget cuts in the 2020 State Budget.
- 3. Manistee County resolution requesting to declare the Great Lakes a disaster area and seeking assistance
- 4. Dorr Township letter informing the Board that the Dorr Township will be updating their Master Plan

#### NOVEMBER 7, 2019 SESSION MINUTES - ADOPTED

16/ Moved by Commissioner Dugan, seconded by Commissioner Kapenga to approve the minutes for the November 7, 2019 session as distributed. Motion carried by voice vote. Yeas: 7 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

#### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - COMMENTS

- 17/ Chairman Storey opened the meeting to public participation and the following individual offered comment:
  - Harold Michaels of 3905 40<sup>th</sup> Street in Overisel Township addressed the board regarding barking dog complaints they have issued against a neighbor

#### AGENDA - ADDITIONS

18/ Chairman Storey asked if there were any additions or changes to the agenda. Administrator Sarro asked to move the Collective Bargaining Agreement to the end of the meeting as a closed session may be needed. Commissioner Storey asked to take action on approving the 2020-2024 Allegan County 5-Year Recreation Plan as action item #3.

Moved by Commissioner Thiele, seconded by Commissioner Kapenga to adopt the changes to the meeting agenda as requested. Motion carried by voice vote. Yeas: 7 votes. Nays: 0\_votes.

#### AGENDA - ADOPTED AS AMENDED

19/ Moved by Commissioner Thiele, seconded by Commissioner Dugan to adopt the meeting agenda as amended. Motion carried by voice vote. Yeas: 7 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE - CLAIMS & INTERFUND TRANSFERS

20/ WHEREAS, Administration has compiled the following claims for November 15, 2019; November 22, 2019; November 29, 2019; December 6, 2019 and December 13, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the following claims, which are chargeable against the County, were audited in accordance with Section 46.61 to 46.63, inclusive, M.C.L. 1970 as amended and resolutions of the Board; and

WHEREAS , said claims are listed in the 2018 Claims folder of the Commissioners' Record of Claims.

November 15, 2019

	TOTAL AMOUNT CLAIMED	AMOUNT ALLOWED	AMOUNT DISALLOWED
General Fund – 1010	84,558.10	84,558.10	
Park/Recreation Fund - 2080	3,413.42	3,413.42	
Friend of the Court Office - 2151	1,146.10	1,146.10	
Health Department Fund - 2210	984.85	984.85	
Solid Waste – 2211	5,949.60	5,949.60	
Transportation Grant – 2300	71,618.00	71,618.00	
Local Corrections Officers Training Fund - 2640	35.50	35.50	
Justice Training Fund - P.A.302, 1982 - 2660	1,847.14	1,847.14	
Grants - 2790	19,194.00	19,194.00	
Victim Rights Grant - 2791	281.30	281.30	
Fillmore Township - 2804	297.77	297.77	
Casco Township - 2805	41.99	41.99	
Wayland Township - 2806	110.08	110.08	
Lee Township - 2808	147.71	147.71	
Child Care-Circuit/Family - 2921	5,566.80	5,566.80	
Senior Millage - 2950	1,128.85	1,128.85	

TOTAL AMOUNT OF CLAIMS	\$280,406.82	\$280,406.82	
Drain Fund - 8010	41,172.41	41,172.41	
Self-Insurance Fund - 6670	41,656.71	41,656.71	
Fleet Management - 6612	25.98	25.98	
Drain Equipment Revolving - 6390	837.15	837.15	
Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund - 6160	428.86	428.86	

November 22, 2019

	TOTAL AMOUNT CLAIMED	AMOUNT ALLOWED	AMOUNT DISALLOWED
General Fund – 1010	153,304.60	153,304.60	
Park/Recreation Fund - 2080	1,767.15	1,767.15	
Central Dispatch/E911 Fund - 2110	6,734.63	6,734.63	
Friend of the Court Fund – 2150	722.00	722.00	
Friend of the Court Office - 2151	583.59	583.59	
Health Department Fund - 2210	1,196.77	1,196.77	
Solid Waste – 2211	48,253.04	48,253.04	
Transportation Grant – 2300	1,369.54	1,369.54	
Capital Improvement Fund - 2450	9,862.10	9,862.10	
Animal Shelter - 2550	4,410.00	4,410.00	
Register of Deeds Automation Fund – 2560	123.97	123.97	
Indigent Defense - 2600	25,539.92	25,539.92	
Justice Training Fund – P.A.302, 1982 - 2660	1,634.45	1,634.45	
Grants – 2790	21,513.76	21,513.76	
Wayland Township - 2806	4,814.68	4,814.68	
Child Care-Circuit/Family - 2921	10,933.07	10,933.07	
Soldiers Relief Fund - 2930	4,661.94	4,661.94	
Senior Millage - 2950	1,945.13	1,945.13	
Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund - 6160	91.38	91.38	
Self-Insurance Fund - 6770	1,365.74	1,365.74	
Drain Fund - 8010	74,922.52	74,922.52	
TOTAL AMOUNT OF CLAIMS	\$375,749.98	\$375,749.98	

November 29, 2019

	TOTAL		
	AMOUNT	AMOUNT	AMOUNT
	CLAIMED	ALLOWED	DISALLOWED
General Fund – 1010	137,111.88	137,111.88	

75,559.90	75,559.90	
1,266.92	1,266.92	
1.53	1.53	
15,454.32	15,454.32	
1,503.98	1,503.98	
216,099.88	216,099.88	
3,165.90	3,165.90	
46.38	46.38	
86.49	86.49	
128.80	128.80	
58.00	58.00	
4,873.40	4,873.40	
525.00	525.00	
124.55	124.55	
12,386.50	12,386.50	
211.46	211.46	
662,242.45	662,242.45	
534.64	534.64	
8,258,49	8.258.49	
994.53	994.53	
1,397.08	1,397.08	
56,167.50	56,167.50	
13,305.84	13,305.84	
	56,167.50  1,397.08  994.53  8,258.49  534.64  662,242.45  211.46  12,386.50  124.55  525.00  4,873.40  58.00  128.80  86.49  46.38  3,165.90  216,099.88  1,503.98  15,454.32  1.53	13,305.84 13,305.84 56,167.50 56,167.50 1,397.08 1,397.08 994.53 994.53 8,258.49 8,258.49 534.64 534.64 662,242.45 662,242.45 211.46 211.46 12,386.50 12,386.50 124.55 124.55 525.00 525.00 4,873.40 4,873.40 58.00 58.00 128.80 128.80 86.49 86.49 46.38 46.38 3,165.90 3,165.90 216,099.88 216,099.88 1,503.98 1,503.98 15,454.32 15,454.32 1.53 1.53

December 6, 2019

	TOTAL AMOUNT CLAIMED	AMOUNT ALLOWED	AMOUNT DISALLOWED
General Fund – 1010	86,047.33	86,047.33	
Park/Recreation Fund – 2080	561.40	561.40	
Friend of the Court Office - 2151	25.58	25.58	
Transportation Grant – 2300	425.68	425.68	
Indigent Defense – 2600	4,006.50	4,006.50	
Law Library Fund - 2690	2,033.28	2,033.28	
Grants - 2790	630.00	630.00	
Victims Rights Grant - 2791	568.90	568.90	

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TOTAL	446,219.12	446,219.12	
Drain Fund – 8010	1,035.06	1,035.06	
Self-Insurance Fund – 6770	344,243.47	344,243.47	
Fleet Management – 6612	93.40	93.40	
Drain Equip Revolving - 6390	438.95	438.95	
Senior Millage – 2950	1,475.06	1,475.06	
Child Care-Circuit/Family – 2921	4,634.51	4,634.51	

December 13, 2019							
	TOTAL AMOUNT CLAIMED	AMOUNT ALLOWED	AMOUNT DISALLOWED				
General Fund – 1010	198,125.21	198,125.21					
Park/Recreation Fund – 2080	970.45	970.45					
Central Dispatch/E911 Fund – 2110	20,603.95	20,603.95					
Friend of the Court Office – 2151	977.98	977.98					
Health Department Fund - 2210	4,530.07	4,530.07					
Solid Waste – 2211	2,415.36	2,415.36					
Transportation Grant – 2300	9,588.51	9,588.51					
Capital Improvement Fund – 2450	498.90	498.90					
Youth Home CIP - 2465	43,000.00	43,000.00					
Register of Deeds Automation Fund – 2560	24.89	24.89					
Indigent Defense – 2600	238.25	238.25					
Local Corrections Officers Training Fund - 2640	280.00	280.00					
CDBG Loan Repayment - 2771	5,000.00	5,000.00					
Grants - 2790	21,174.90	21,174.90					
Victims Rights Grant - 2791	888.16	888.16					
Casco Township – 2805	50.20	50.20					
Child Care-Circuit/Family – 2921	7,579.19	7,579.19					
Child Care-DHHS Board - 2922	57.83	57.83					
Soldiers Relief Fund – 2930	2,907.44	2,907.44					
Senior Millage – 2950	28,687.21	28,687.21					
Tax Reversion – 6200	9,214.73	9,214.73					
Drain Equip Revolving - 6390	308.58	308.58					
Self-Insurance Fund – 6770	23,763.06	23,763.06					
Drain Fund – 8010	10,486.89	10,486.89					
TOTAL	\$391,371.76	\$391,371.76					

December 12, 2019 Session

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners adopts the report of claims for November 15, 2019; November 22, 2019; November 29, 2019; December 6, 2019 and December 13, 2019.

Moved by Commissioner DeYoung, seconded by Commissioner Cain to adopt the report of claims for November 15, 2019; November 22, 2019; November 29, 2019; December 6, 2019 and December 13, 2019. Motion carried by roll call vote. Yeas: 7 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

#### ACTION ITEMS:

#### BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS-2020 ROAD COMMISSIONER COMPENSATION

21/ BE IT RESOLVED, that the Allegan County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the 2020 Road Commissioner Compensation package for Road Commissioners appointed before January 1, 2013, to be as follows:

- · Commission Chairman annual salary \$7,624.74,
- · Member annual salary \$7,038.75,
- Per diem and mileage rates consistent with the Allegan County Board of Commissioners,
- · Life Insurance offered at 100% premium cost,
- Health/dental/vision plans with equivalent premium contribution as offered to Road Commission Exempt and Salaried employees, and equivalent rebate (opt-out) should they elect not to participate in the health insurance offerings,
- Road Commission Defined Benefit (B-2) Retirement Plan, with a 4% Commissioner contribution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, new Road Commissioners appointed after January 1, 2013, shall be as follows:

- · Commission Chairman annual salary \$8,158.47,
- · Member annual salary \$7,531.46,
- Per diem and mileage rates consistent with the Allegan County Board of Commissioners,
- \$20,000 Life Insurance Policy,
- Annual health allowance of \$3,000, and shall be eligible to participate in Health insurance as offered to Road Commission Exempt and Salaried employees with Commissioner contribution 100% the illustrative rate and no rebate (opt out) compensation,
- not eligible for participation in the Road Commission MERS Defined Benefit Plan, or other retirement options such as a MERS 457; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the Allegan County Road Commissioner compensation package be reviewed annually by the Board of Commissioners.

Moved by Commissioner Dugan, seconded by Commissioner Thiele to approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried by roll call vote. Yeas: 7 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

#### BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS-ADOPT 2020-2024 ALLEGAN COUNTY 5-YEAR RECREATION PLAN

**22/ WHEREAS,** to be eligible for state grant funding the Michigan Department of Natural Resources requires that Recreation Plans be updated every five years; and

WHEREAS, Allegan County's current Recreation Plan will expire on December 31, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the County's Parks Advisory Board developed an Allegan County Recreation Plan in accordance with the most recent guidelines developed by the Department of Natural Resources; and

WHEREAS, on December 3, 2019, the Parks Advisory Board held a public hearing in the Zimmerman Room of the Allegan County Human Services Building (3255 122nd Ave, Allegan, MI 49010) to provide an opportunity for all residents of the planning area to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the 2020-2024 Allegan County Recreation Plan; and

WHEREAS, after the public hearing (hearing no public issues with the draft), the Parks Advisory Board approved the 2020-2024 Allegan County Recreation Plan and recommended adoption by the County Board of Commissioners.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners hereby adopts the 2020-2024 Allegan County Recreation Plan, as presented; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Board Chairman and/or the County Administrator are authorized to sign the necessary documents on behalf of the County and that the Budget and Finance Director is authorized to make the necessary budget adjustments to complete this action.

Moved by Commissioner Kapenga, seconded by Commissioner Dugan to approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried by roll call vote. Yeas: Kapenga, Storey, DeYoung, Jessup, Dugan and Cain. Nays: Thiele.

\*\*Copy of the 2020-2024 Allegan County 5-Year Recreation Plan can be found on the County website under the office of Parks & Recreation. http://cms.allegancounty.org/sites/Office/Parks

# Appendix O - Letter to West Michigan Regional Planning Commission



#### Allegan County Parks, Recreation, & Tourism 3283 122nd Avenue Allegan, MI 49010

Phone: (269) 686-9088 • Fax: (269) 673-0454
Parks Web: www.allegancounty.org/Parks
Tourism Web: www.visitallegancounty.com
E-mail: parks@allegancounty.org



December 16, 2019

West Michigan Regional Planning Commission 1345 Monroe Avenue NW, Suite 255 Grand Rapids, MI 49505-4670

Attention: WMRPC

Allegan County just recently adopted its five-year recreation plan. A new five-year recreation plan is required to replace the current expiring plan and is a requirement to be eligible to apply for recreation grants from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. The Allegan County Recreation Plan is the result of a collaborative effort by the Parks Staff and the Parks Advisory Board. The Recreation Plan serves as a framework for the maintenance and development of parks facilities and recreational opportunities and facilities to meet the needs of area residents and visitors for the next five years.

Prior to submitting this plan to the MDNR, the state requires that we provide your agency a copy of the adopted plan to review. The plan can be found on the County's website at

http://cms.allegancounty.org/sites/Office/Parks/ParksPages/2020-%202024%20Recreation%20Plan.pdf

If you would prefer to have a paper copy on file, please let me know and one will be provided. If after reviewing this document and questions arise, please feel free to contact me at 269-673-0378.

Sincerely,

Brandy Gildea Parks Manager

Allegan County Parks, Recreation, & Tourism

3283 122nd Avenue Allegan, MI 49010 Ph: 269-673-0378 Fx: 269-673-0454