

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission Newsletter

Summer 2018

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



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July 14th Gallagher Creek Park Playground Install!

Pre-registration is required

Your talents are needed to assemble and install a custom-designed playground including slides, swings, and climbers at Gallagher Creek Park! This “community built” playground installation offers the opportunity to have fun, meet some of your neighbors, and work together on a very worthwhile project.

Saturday, July 14, 2018 Community Playground Installation

Location & Time: (8am-5pm)
Gallagher Creek Park,
2780 Silverbell Road (east of Adams)
Carpooling encouraged-limited parking

Note: In case of hazardous weather the playground installation will be rescheduled for Saturday, July 21.

To pre-register please contact us at the Parks Office (248) 651-7810 or email parksplanning@oaklandtownship.org.

(Continued on page 16)

Free Tours of Land Preservation Parks!

Since 2001, Oakland Township Parks and Recreation (OTPR) has used our Township's Land Preservation millage to acquire and permanently protect 444 acres of high-quality Township green spaces and to manage natural areas across our Township's 1100-acre park system and the Paint Creek Trail. The success of these efforts can be seen in a new map (page 19) showing potential high quality natural areas in Oakland Township, as documented by scientists from the Michigan Natural Features Inventory*. This map shows that the parks purchased and managed with Land Preservation funding contain important natural areas and unique natural features. Join our Land Preservation staff for guided tours of two of these important parks:

Paint Creek Heritage Area - Wet Prairie:

Tuesday, July 24, 2018 at 6:30-8:30pm.
Meet at Paint Creek Cider Mill,
4480 Orion Road.

Draper Twin Lake Park –

Sat., August 18, 2018 at 10am-12pm.
Meet in parking lot at 1015 Inwood Rd.

(Continued on page 18)

Special points of interest:

- ◆ **Summer Concerts**
- ◆ **Kayaking**
- ◆ **Archery**
- ◆ **Programs**
- ◆ **Stewardship**
- ◆ **Summer Camps**

2018 Paint Creek Trail Construction and Closures



Paint Creek Trail has two major construction projects tentatively starting June 1, 2018.



THE PAINT CREEK TRAIL WILL BE COMPLETELY CLOSED TO THRU TRAFFIC FROM SILVERBELL TO DUTTON FOR 60-90 DAYS AND THERE IS NO DETOUR.
You will be able to use the trail from Rochester Municipal Park to Dutton Road, or Silver Bell Road to Children's Park in Lake Orion.

(Continued on page 29)

What's New in The Parks

From The Director

State Grants Requested for Parking and Rest Areas



This spring Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission (OTPRC) applied for state grants for improvements at Marsh View Park and Paint Creek Junction Park.

Since the development of Marsh View Park's recreation facilities this park has become a popular destination. As the park use has increased so have the requests from regular park users for the addition of flush restrooms. This project, submitted for up to \$98,800 in state grant funding, proposes to replace portable toilets with two environmentally-sustainable flushable vault toilets. These flush-vault toilets, which were originally developed by a National Park Service engineer, are a good match to this site which is not serviced by sewer and is not appropriate for a septic field. These restrooms will be connected to the park's existing water



Proposed Restroom Building

system which will supply both the hand wash sinks and the flush toilets.

Environmentally friendly features of these

restrooms include extremely reduced water consumption (up to 90% less than conventional flush restrooms) using as little as 1 quart of water per flush and limited-flow sink faucets.

The other project, submitted for \$220,000 in state grant funding, is for a trailhead at Paint Creek Junction Park, adjacent to the Paint Creek Trail. Many residents may not know that each community that participates in the Paint Creek Trail is responsible for the improvement and maintenance of the section

(Continued on page 18)

There's an App for That! - NestWatch

Volunteers are monitoring over 40 nest boxes in our parks this year through the NestWatch program! We are excited to watch Eastern Bluebirds, Tree Swallows, and maybe even American Kestrels raise their young in our new nest boxes. You can be a citizen scientist through NestWatch too! The information you collect as adults birds incubate, raise, and fledge their young provides an early warning system to detect trends in bird populations in relation to environmental change, such as habitat degradation, invasive species, and climate change. Complete details on page 23.

FREE Stewardship Programs

On June 16 learn how to manage your own backyard habitats including how to collect and install native seeds and plants at the Habitat Restoration program. On June 28 learn how to identify invasive plants and keep them from establishing on your property at the Invasive Species program. See pages 21 & 22.

New Feature Articles to focus on Lost Lake's unique natural areas starting with this issue! See page 6.

Summer Camps!

Explore beautiful Oakland Township parks while participating in these fun summer camps. Hone your basic survival skills at Outdoor Skills Camp (pg. 13) or take your little one over to Lost Lake Nature Center and let them run wild in the Wild Kids of Lost Lake Camp (pg. 5). Develop your shooting skills in Explore Archery Camp (pg. 15), learn to brave the great outdoors in the Next Step Outdoor Skills Camp (pg. 13), and sharpen your soccer skill set with Rochester Soccer Club during July soccer camps (pg. 13).

New Portable Disc Golf Loan!



Disc golf is a great way for people of all ages and abilities to spend time outdoors in Oakland Township parks with friends and family while getting in a little exercise. Residents of Oakland Township can now borrow our new disc golf baskets and discs for free! It only takes 5-10 minutes and 3 easy steps to set up the portable *Mach Lite* disc golf baskets.

(Continued on page 12)



2018 Summer Concert Series OUR 13TH SEASON!

Sponsored by Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Millage

Come early. Bring blankets and a picnic and enjoy music 'al fresco'.

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation's **Music In The Meadows**

summer of 2018 concert series presents three professional quality outdoor family events offering folk, classical, and folk-pop music. These FREE monthly concerts are held Friday evenings in our beautiful Oakland Township parks. In case of bad weather, concerts will be held at *Heart of the Hills Christian Church*, 5085 Orion Road, north of Dutton Road. Call 248-651-4440, ext. 299 on the day of event to verify location.

PETER, PAUL AND MARY REMEMBERED - 60's Folk

www.peterpaulmaryremembered.com

Friday, June 22nd, 7- 9pm

FREE Archery Shooting Booth, 5-7pm

Bear Creek Nature Park, 740 W. Snell Road, Rochester, MI 48306

Reviving many of the beloved hits such as "Puff the Magic Dragon", "If I Had a Hammer", "Blowin' in the Wind", and a host of others, these seasoned musicians dish up a smooth blend of authentic harmonies and 1960's nostalgia. This high-energy show combines humor, class-A musicianship, costumes, show biz and audience participation for an unforgettable concert!



THE SCARAB ENSEMBLE - Classical - Flute and Strings

www.scarabclub.org

Friday, July 27th, 7-9pm

FREE Historic District Tours 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Cranberry Lake Farm - Historic District - Main House Porch

388 West Predmore Road, Oakland, MI 48363



Photo by Misha Z

Chamber Music at the Scarab Club (CMSC) is coming to a park near you!

On Friday, July 27th, *The Scarab Ensemble*, musicians who regularly perform together on the Chamber Music at the Scarab Club series in Detroit, will perform at the beautiful Cranberry Lake Farm. The ensemble and CMSC are known for innovative and creative programming, often presenting new or rarely-performed repertoire. This exciting program will feature music through the centuries for flute and string quartet. Join us for a very special performance.

SWEARINGEN & KELLI - Americana Folk

www.swearingenandkelli.com

Friday, August 24th, 7- 9pm

FREE Archery Shooting Booth, 5-7pm

Bear Creek Nature Park, 740 W. Snell Road, Rochester, MI 48306



Known for their rich and silky vocals, this folk-pop duo is a powerful songwriting union.

They've been performing their signature sound in theaters and opera houses across the United

States with a style that echoes the great songwriter's of the past. They cross genres from acoustic folk to edgier and darker indie pop, and they're not quite like any other duo out there! Tom Rush recorded one of Swearingen's tunes, "You're Not With Me", on his latest album. *Swearingen & Kelli* deliver an undeniable chemistry with their unfiltered, from the heart songwriting and performing.



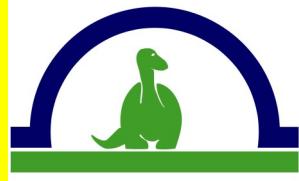
LOST LAKE NATURE PARK PARTNERSHIP

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation
&

Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve

Lost Lake Nature Park

846 Lost Lake Trail, Oakland Charter Township, MI 48363



Open houses are FREE! Open houses are FUN! Open houses are for the whole family! The nature center will be open for four hours. You are welcome to drop by any time during those hours. You will have a chance to explore this amazing park, check out the nature center, participate in crafts, games and other ongoing activities...including FREE KAYAKING! No Registration required for Open Houses!



FREE!

2018 Summer Open Houses!

June 3rd 12-4pm (All Ages)



Babbles About Mammals – They're definitely one of our favorite classes of vertebrate animals (and not just because we're one of them). Join us as we spend some time investigating the mammals that call Lost Lake home. We will take guided trips out into the woods to search for footprints, get hands-on with furs from animals both local and exotic in the nature center, and even take an up-close look at a couple animal skulls! We will even be putting together squirrel feeders to take home to continue your observations at home!



July 15th 12-4pm (All ages)

Words About Birds – Take out your birding check-lists because there are approximately 450 species of birds that call Michigan home. Inside we will be putting together our own recycled bird feeders and bird houses, while outside we will be taking trips into the woods with binoculars to try and spot a few of the avian friends that are calling Lost Lake home. We will even let you know what seeds to place in your feeders to attract specific birds!



July 29th 12-4pm (All Ages)

What About Wetlands? – The wetland ecosystem is one of the most diverse in the world but you wouldn't know it just by using your eyes. Join us for a special day of wetland observation and skimming as we take samples of water from very own wetland and put them beneath a powerful microscope to see just how many different specimens can be found! We will also be putting together our own. Inside we will have a very special frog craft available for the younger naturalists!

August 5th 12-4pm (All Ages)



Wild About Reptiles – Michigan is home to some of the coolest (and frankly some of the shyest) reptiles on the planet. From introverted box turtles to snakes that like to remain in the shadows we have a whole world of reptiles we constantly overlook. Join us as we go out on the trails to find signs of garter snakes (as well as their lunches), take a look at several turtles inside the nature center for a critter meet-and-greet and even put together a turtle maraca to take home!

August 19th 12-4pm (All Ages)

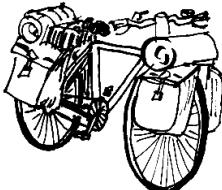


Barking up the Wrong Tree – With summer in full force it's time to get outdoors and explore the wonderful world of dendrology (the study of trees!). We will be taking periodic tours of the woods to learn the basics of tree identification, make leaf pressings, produce a craft with the needles of our state tree (the eastern white pine), demonstrate how paper is made, and even learn how to tell a tree's age by counting samples of rings!

Classes are a great way to experience Lost Lake Nature Park as they're led by talented instructors who walk participants through a large variety of subject matter in a structured (yet completely fun) setting.

Class Registration Required via www.dinosaurhill.org

June 16th 4:30-6pm



Bicycle Touring 101 (Adults, 18+) - Jennifer Miller is a bicycle tourist who recently completed a coast-to-coast trip in 2016 from Maine to Washington State over the course of 3 months. This daunting task required lots of planning, purchases, and training to accomplish and she would like to share with you tips and tricks about starting in the hobby of touring. She will be displaying and demonstrating the gear, showing how to optimize and pack your bicycle for day trips and beyond, and will be sharing advice on how to get started to take your first overnight tour! This is the perfect way to experience portions of national parks that you would otherwise miss! Trust us, we've seen the pictures.

Residents: \$5 Non-residents: \$7
Registration closes June 10th

Register for these
classes at 248-656-0999
or dinosaurhill.org

July 30th – August 3rd 10am-3pm (5-8 year olds)

Wild Kids of Lost Lake-Summer Camp - For the true park experience, you need to join us for our Wild Kids of Lost Lake summer camp. This week long day camp features five themed days inundated with fun. Whether it's casting a line out into the lake, wading through the swampland in search of frogs and snakes, concocting wacky experiments inside or simply learning how to climb a tree we have something for everyone in this adventure of a week. This camp will feature a large variety of scientific and educational activities. We will picnic outside whenever the weather permits so bring a bagged lunch to keep your little scientist fueled so they can continue inspecting insects beneath stereoscopes, dodging water balloons and enjoying the beautiful surroundings of Lost Lake.

Residents: \$140 Non-residents: \$170
Registration closes July 24th

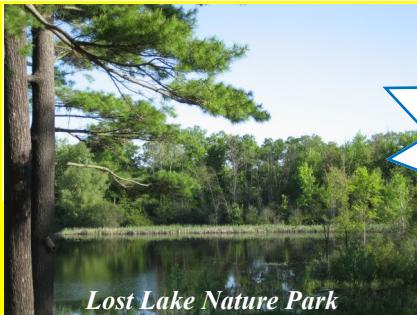


Read what one recent participant had to say about a recent Lost Lake Nature Park Partnership program led by Dinosaur Hill naturalists:

"I wanted to share what a positive experience our family had today maple sugaring at Lost Lake. I believe the person leading the presentation was Joel (I apologize if that is not his name). He was extremely passionate and knowledgeable. He was entertaining as he presented the topic and related well to our young children. The kids were so excited to have a chance to participate in the tree tapping."

"I am also a teacher in the Rochester School district and have taken students to Dinosaur Hill for many years. Joel is always great at presenting content to young students. It is rewarding when my students have become excited about topics introduced by Joel, but it is even more rewarding for me as a parent. My kids were able to come home today and use the new vocabulary, ask questions, and share what they learned. Due to their excitement, we will be making an attempt to tap our own maple."

"In a world where we often don't take the time to focus on positives, I wanted to take a moment to share what a great experience we had today. Thank you to Joel and the other naturalists who assisted him today."



Lost Lake Nature Park



Footprints of Giants

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

Today, Lost Lake is a small but scenic inland lake and is one of the great natural features of Lost Lake Nature Park. The Lake is host to several species of fish, birds, turtles and many fascinating insects. Lost Lake is one of the many inland lakes that dot Southeastern Michigan but its history is fascinating and requires us to peer deep into the geologic origin of our region.

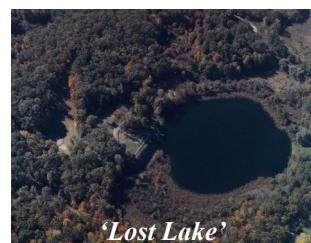
If we were able to jump into a time machine and head back about 10,000 years our view here in Oakland Township would be much different than it is today. In fact, at that point in time this region was covered under a very large glacier more than 6,000 feet deep! 6,000 feet is over a mile and that is a LOT of ice. Where did it all come from? Deep snow accumulated over areas in Canada and became compressed under its own weight. As these masses of snow compressed, they formed thick and heavy blocks of ice which slid south to cover Michigan. The largest glacier that covered Michigan extended all the way down to the Ohio River Valley and even into portions of northern Kentucky...a distance of over 1600 miles from its center. That is one big ice sheet!

Glaciers are not static, they are in motion as they advance and retreat. This motion combines with the extraordinary mass of the ice which gouges and grinds the underlying surface beneath the glacier. Some of the created debris becomes trapped in the ice and is carried along as the glacier moves. This activity largely shaped the landscape of Michigan as we know it today.

As the glacier retreats, large pieces of ice can be left behind and partially buried. These orphaned ice chunks are also known as 'seracs'. You can picture our region of Michigan as the glaciers retreated as a combination of glacial outwash mixed in with these large pieces of left behind ice. Glacial outwash is just a fancy term for the rocks and debris that were trapped in the glacier. The debris is combined with the water from the melting glacier and flows outward from the glacier as it retreats. The outwash debris fills in the landscape around the orphaned ice chunks. Eventually this ice also melts and when it does it leaves behind a depression in the ground. The depression is often round but can also have a very irregular shape...it all depends on the shape of the ice chunk that once rested there. The depressions are called kettles and many fill in with water to form kettle lakes. Kettle lakes are common in the Great Lakes basin as a result of the heavy glacial activity in this region.

So what does all this have to do with Lost Lake? Lost Lake is actually a kettle lake formed during the last glaciation of Michigan. The soil surrounding the lake is glacial outwash and the shape of the lake was defined by that big chunk of ice that broke off from the main glacier. While it may be difficult to imagine Oakland Township covered under a massive block of ice it is amazing to think that we can see clear evidence of our geological history right here at Lost Lake Nature Park! Next time you are there, try to see if you can picture the giant ice chunk that left its footprint behind for all to see in Lost Lake!

If you would like to learn more about the amazing natural history of Lost Lake or maybe just explore this beautiful park consider heading out to one of our many open houses on page 4. These free events are a great way to have fun and get outdoors!



Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Fitness/Wellness Programs Summer 2018

See page 27 for registration form or go to
www.oaklandtownship.org to print registration page to mail in.

Tai Chi In The Park (Outdoors) Adults 18+

Tuesdays, August 7—September 25, 2018 6:00 - 7:00pm (Session 2)
Bear Creek Nature Park, 740 West Snell Road, Rochester, MI 48306

Rain location:

Paint Creek Cider Mill,
4480 Orion Rd.,
Rochester, MI 48306

Find peace and serenity from a busy, stressful day through Tai Chi. Tai Chi exercises the mind and body by increasing wellbeing and improving balance, coordination and strength. Students will learn the basic forms and elegant movements of the Yang Style Short Form Tai Chi. Students should be able to support their weight while standing or bring a chair if unable to stand. Students should wear loose and comfortable clothing and shoes. No flip flops or sandals. Traditional Tai Chi shoes are optional. Bring water bottle. Led by Marci Jenkins.* 8 week sessions. *Marci has over 20 years of Tai Chi training and practice.

Residents: \$40 Non-residents: \$80

Register by July 31 for Session 2



Tai Chi Continuing Beginners Adults 18+

Wednesdays, August 8 - September 26, 2018 6:00 - 7:00pm (Session 2)
Paint Creek Cider Mill, 4480 Orion Road, Rochester, MI 48306



For those students who have taken Tai Chi classes with Marci Jenkins.

Residents: \$40 Non-residents: \$80 Register by July 31 for Session 2

Yoga On The Lake Adults 12+

Sundays, 9:30 - 10:30 am

Lost Lake Nature Park, 846 Lost Lake Trail, Oakland, MI 48363



Wouldn't you rather be outside during springtime? Step out of the studio and enjoy doing yoga in the warmth of the sun and in full view of serene Lost Lake. Whether you are a seasoned practitioner or newer to yoga, this gentle All Levels class is just right for you! Bring your own yoga mat. Led by Pavel Bednarski. All Levels. 6 week session.

All classes will take place on the dock. Rain location is the on-site Warming Shelter.

Residents: \$48 Non-residents \$72

Session 1

June 3 - July 8, 2018

Register by May 25

Session 2

July 22 - August 26, 2018

Register by July 13

Session 3

September 9 - October 14, 2018

Register by August 31

Outdoor Boot Camp In The Park Ages 12+

Mondays, July 2 - August 6, 2018 6:00 - 7:00pm
Bear Creek Nature Park, 740 W. Snell Road, Rochester, MI 48306

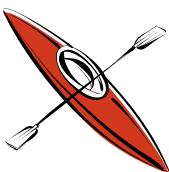


Break out of the confines of your gym and take in the refreshing spring air of Bear Creek Nature Park! Bear Creek Nature Park offers a small-group outdoor boot camp that uses the different features around the park to create a fun workout for all levels. Circuit activities like the meadow mile, pavilion push-ups, and nature node knee bends, are sure to offer enough variety to keep you motivated. This fun and challenging boot camp-in-the-park will get you fit! Taught by Rochester Athletic Club certified trainer, Sharon DeRouin, a certified trainer with 25 years experience. 6 week session. 1 hour class (5 min. warm up, 45 min. circuit activities, 10 min. cool down and stretch).

Residents: \$40 Non-residents: \$80 Register by June 25

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Outdoor Adventure Programs Summer 2018

See page 27 for registration form or go to
www.oaklandtownship.org to print registration page to mail in.



Kayaks Available for Rental at Lost Lake Nature Park!

We have recently purchased kayaks to offer park users the opportunity to get out on Lost Lake, where wildlife and water lilies abound! Starting May 20, 2018, paddlers can rent kayaks at Lost Lake Nature Park on Saturdays and Sundays, throughout the warm weather season. Lost Lake's small size and easily accessible kayak launch are great for paddlers of all abilities. Take advantage of this opportunity to practice your kayaking skills while exploring this 8-acre glacial lake. Kayak, paddle and life vest supplied. Note: Weight limit for single kayak is 230 lbs. Kayak at your own risk. No supervision or instruction is provided. View our kayak rental policy on our website: www.oaklandtownship.org

Registration must be completed one week in advance of requested rental date.

Anyone under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Pre-registration, driver's license, signed liability waiver, rental fee and deposit required. One person kayak: minimum age 10 years old. Two person kayak: minimum age 6 years old with an adult on board.



Rental Dates: Saturdays

May 26, June 16, 23, 30,
July 7, 28, August 11, 18
10am - 12pm or 12pm - 2pm

Sundays

May 20, 27, June 10, 17, 24,
July 1, 8, 22, August 12, 26
12pm - 2pm or 2pm - 4pm

Fees: Resident Rate:

1-person kayak for 2 hours \$10/boat
2-person kayak for 2 hours \$15/boat

Non-Resident Rate:

1-person kayak for 2 hours \$20/boat
2-person kayak for 2 hours \$30/boat

Stand Up Paddle Boarding! Adults 14+

5 Sessions!



Lost Lake Nature Park

846 Lost Lake Trail, Oakland, MI 48363
Saturday, May 19, 2018
10:00 - 11:00am and 11:30am - 12:30pm

Register by May 11

Saturday, August 4, 2018
10:00 - 11:00am and 11:30am - 12:30pm

Register by July 27

Draper Twin Lake Park*

1015 Inwood Road, Rochester, MI 48306
Saturday, June 9, 2018
10:00 - 11:00am and 11:30am - 12:30pm

Register by June 1

Saturday, July 14, 2018
10:00 - 11:00am and 11:30am - 12:30pm

Register by July 6

Saturday, September 8, 2018
10:00 - 11:00am and 11:30am - 12:30pm

Register by August 31

Stand Up Paddle Boarding (SUP) is a great new water activity sweeping the country, and it's easy and fun to learn. Learn to paddle in a safe environment with experienced instructors, and quality equipment at breathtaking Lost Lake or beautiful Draper Twin Lake! Paddlers 14 years and older welcome. All equipment is included. Please wear a bathing suit or clothes you don't mind getting wet. All levels welcome. Weight limit 220 lbs. 1 class - 1 hour session (May sign up for more than one session)

Residents: \$20 Non-residents: \$35

**Draper Twin Lake is the larger of the two lakes and will be more challenging for the beginner. Both are calm water lakes. Come early. The distance from the parking lot to the dock, which has lake access, is approximately one-half mile via accessible path.*

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Outdoor Adventure Programs Summer 2018

See page 27 for registration form or go to
www.oaklandtownship.org to print registration page to mail in.

Fun Basics of Kayaking - 5 sessions!

Lost Lake Nature Park, 846 Lost Lake Trail , Oakland, MI 48363

This clinic is taught both on land and in the water and will focus on safety and introductory stroke *techniques*. Learn basic kayaking safety skills such as fitting your life jacket, what clothing to wear and getting into and out of your kayak from a dock. Basic paddling skills include forward, reverse, and turning strokes. Designed for new paddlers and anyone who would like formal instruction. Lost Lake is open calm flat water without jet skis and motor boats. Lost Lake Nature Park and its beautiful dock and kayak launch are universally accessible.



Session 2

Saturday, June 2
10:00am - 12:00pm

Register by May 25

Session 3

Saturday, July 21
10:00am - 12:00pm

Register by July 14

Session 4

Saturday, August 25,
10:00am - 12:00pm

Register by Aug 18

Session 5

Saturday, Sept 22
10:00am - 12:00pm

Register by Sept 14

Residents: \$20

Non-residents: \$35

Items to bring: water bottle, water shoes or light weight sneakers, sunglasses, bug repellent, and wear synthetic clothing. At the time of registration we will ask you for your approximate height and weight so that we may size you with the proper gear. We paddle in light rain (it is a water sport). However, if there is a 60% or greater chance of thunderstorms 2 hours prior to the clinic we will contact you to cancel with a full refund issued or reschedule the clinic.

Next Step Beginning Kayaking - 4 sessions!

Lost Lake Nature Park, 846 Lost Lake Trail, Oakland, MI 48363

This clinic is for those who have completed our *Fun Basics of Kayaking* clinic or have some experience at kayaking and are looking to increase their skill level. This clinic will focus on safety on the water and stroke *development*. Learn how to fit your boat to your body on land in order to practice techniques for staying in your boat on water to avoid tipping over!



Discuss what to do if you do tip over. Learn about the different types of paddles and the side stroke. Then use paddling patterns to practice and perfect your paddling strokes. For the more adventurous we may have kayak races!

Session 2

Saturday, June 2
12:30pm - 2:00pm

Register by May 25

Session 3

Saturday, July 21
12:30pm - 2:00pm

Register by July 14

Session 4

Saturday, August 25,
12:30pm - 2:00pm

Register by Aug 18

Session 5

Saturday, Sept. 22
12:30pm - 2:00pm

Register by Sept 14

Residents: \$20

Non-residents: \$35

Mail, use the Township Hall dropbox, or visit us in person! Complete registration details on page 27



**Oakland Township Parks and Recreation
Explore Nature Programs Summer 2018**

**See page 27 for registration form or go to
www.oaklandtownship.org to print registration page to mail in.**



The UnFROGgetable Chorus - Ages 5-10 years old

**Wednesday, June 20th 12 - 1:30pm
Bear Creek Nature Park, 740 W. Snell Rd, Rochester, MI 48306**

They're slimy, they can propel themselves effortlessly in gigantic leaps, breathe through their skin, and even dramatically transform between stages of their life cycles. Some of them pounce on prey, others come equipped with a sticky projectile to ensnare and capture potential meals. We are of course talking about frogs, and boy if there's a lot to talk about. Join us at Bear Creek for the ultimate in pond-skimming fun as we practice our dipping with special nets and buckets while we discuss and learn the differences between the frogs that call our parks home! We will even be putting together our own frog life cycles to take home!

Residents: \$5 Non-residents: \$7 Register by June 13

Night of the Lightning Bugs - Families

**Friday, June 29th 8:30 - 10pm
Cranberry Lake Park, 388 West Predmore, Oakland, MI 48306**



Fireflies have origin stories in Native American, Japanese, Chinese, and Roman cultures with several other mythologies associated with them all across the world! These amazing beetles are able to illuminate the dark for short durations and have been associated with magic and myth since humans first witnessed them. Join us for an evening campfire, complete with s'mores, while we discuss some of our favorite lightning bug myths, and once the night is upon us, we will go on a firefly hunt!

Residents: \$5 Non-residents: \$7 Register by June 22

Natural Talent - Ages 7-10 years old

**Thursday, July 12th 1 - 2:30pm
Cranberry Lake Park, 388 West Predmore Road, Oakland, MI 48363**



Who needs expensive art supplies to produce colorful works when we have all we need right here in nature! Join us as we take a stroll through the woods in order to collect twigs, grasses and soil in order to produce our very own natural works of art! We will be building and using our own paintbrushes and pulverizing berries to produce natural dyes, putting together Native American charms with 'wooden cookies' and even assembling our own necklaces with polished rocks! To continue your works of art at home, we will even show you all you need to tumble and polish rocks from home (including a live demonstration!)

Residents: \$5 Non-residents: \$7 Register by July 5

The Tiniest Turtle - Ages 3-5 years old

**Saturday, July 14th 9:30 - 11am
Bear Creek Nature Park, 740 West Snell Rd., Rochester, MI 48306**



When it comes to developing empathy towards the animal kingdom it helps to be exposed to different examples of animals at an early age. The least threatening animal we can imagine is the turtle so why not specialize a class for our tiniest explorers centering around this sluggishly armored reptile. We will compete alongside turtles at a relay race, dig up some fake turtle eggs to learn about them, put together a pet-rock turtle to take home, and even get to meet two real life turtles from different sides of the world! We will be packing a lot of sensory exploration into this program, so we better move faster than our theme!

Residents: \$5 Non-residents: \$7 Register by July 6

**Oakland Township Parks and Recreation
Explore Nature Programs Summer 2018**

**See page 27 for registration form or go to
www.oaklandtownship.org to print registration page to mail in.**

Nature's Nursery Rhyme - Ages 3 - 5 years old

**Monday, August 6th 9:30 - 11am
Lost Lake Nature Park, 846 Lost Lake Trail, Oakland, MI 48363**



When we walk through the woods we can hear the sounds of branches scraping together, birds singing in the distance, rustling in the growth by our feet. If we are quiet enough we can hear insects chirping and chiming, we can hear the wind moving every blade of grass... It's almost like being at a concert. We will spend a little bit of time inside putting together pinecone washboards, natural drums, and pine branches to put together our own instruments. After they are functional and decorated we will take a march through the woods and see if we can get nature to join in on our marching band! What a delightful hands-on sensory experience.

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

A Quiet Walk in the Woods - Special Needs Kids Ages 5 - 12

**Friday, August 10th 9:30 - 11am
Lost Lake Nature Park, 846 Lost Lake Trail, Oakland, MI 48363**

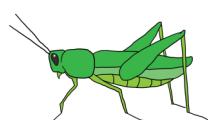


Leaving the classroom behind and venturing out into nature can lead to healthier, happier students, especially those with special educational needs. Join us as we leave the fluorescent classroom behind and venture out into the serene Michigan woodlands to explore and learn in a setting far different than we're used to, a more natural setting. You will be lead by a soft spoken naturalist with a wagon full of sensory equipment to help with natural interpretation for individuals with special needs. There will be opportunities to meet live animals, peaceful interpretive walks through the woods, and we will attempt to bring as many of our senses along as we feel comfortable using. Lost Lake Nature Park is universally accessible and features a nature center with bathrooms as well as a quiet space. Please let us know your child's needs during the registration process.

Residents: \$5 Non-residents: \$7 Register by August 3

The Crunchier Side of Protein - Ages 12 to adult

**Sunday, August 12th 1 - 2:30pm
Cranberry Lake Park, 388 W. Predmore Rd, Oakland, MI 48363**



Entomophagy, the practice of consuming insects, is practiced by over 2 billion people worldwide. The health benefits speak for themselves when you investigate the makeup of most insects, they seem to be nature's concentrated nutritional supplements. Recently, in the Journal of Insects as Food and Feed it was discovered that a shocking 72% of Americans refuse to sample these delectable morsels. Join us as we investigate the health benefits and cultures that eat insects while also being able to sample a few dishes of our own! Though if you would prefer to leave your appetite at home we will not force our menu upon you!

Residents: \$5 Non-residents: \$7 Register by August 3

Mail, use the Township Hall dropbox, or visit us in person! Complete registration details on page 27

REGISTER NOW!



Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Explore Nature Programs Summer 2018

See page 27 for registration form or go to
www.oaklandtownship.org to print registration page to mail in.

Free Fishing - Families (Ages 4 to Adult) 2 sessions!

*Lost Lake Nature Park
846 Lost Lake Trail, Oakland, MI 48363
Saturday, June 9, 2018
9-10:15am or 10:30-11:45am*



Draper Twin Lake Park
1015 Inwood, Oakland, MI 48363
Sunday, June 10, 2018
9-10:15am or 10:30-11:45am*

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

**The distance from the parking lot to the dock, which has lake access, is approximately one-half mile via accessible path.*

FREE!

Register by June 4

New Portable Disc Golf Loan! (Continued from page 2)

Each *Mach Lite* basket weighs less than 27 pounds and comes in its own carrying case making them easy to transport and set-up on your own mini-course.

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

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



New portable disc golf equipment is available for loan.

Support your local businesses. They will support you!



Thank you to our local *Oakland Township Hungry Howie's*, 4930 Adams Road, for being a generous sponsor of Oakland Township Parks and Recreation's annual Winter Carnival three years running. Hungry Howie's store manager, Narune Phach, and his team provided free pizza to approximately 350 hungry festival goers throughout the event. We sincerely appreciate your continued support!



We are so grateful to brother and sister Stan and Diane Piechnik, owners of *Piechnik Garden Center*, 1095 N. Rochester Road in Oakland Township for their support of Goodison Good Tyme and Music in the Meadows concert series for the last 3 years. Greenhouse manager, Matt Colonius, graciously helps us choose beautiful plant and annual flower arrangements to display on festival grounds and concert stages. Thank you for providing that all important finishing touch to our special events!



Cranberry Lake Farm main house porch concert set-up.

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation 2018 Summer Camps

See page 27 for registration form or go to
www.oaklandtownship.org to print registration page to mail in.

Outdoor Skills Camps

Lost Lake Nature Center, 846 Lost Lake Trail, Oakland, MI 48363

Set your kids' imaginations and adventurous spirits free as they learn about the natural environment and the important skill of survival. Shelter, water, fire and food. These camps are 100% hands-on and very active. Everything your kids learn, they will do —no indoor classrooms or lectures. This is a great way to pull your kids away from the television, computer and electronic devices, and get them excited about the outdoors.

Outdoor Skills Camp Grades 5 - 9

Monday - Friday July 23 - 27, 2018
10:00am - 12:30pm



Register by: July 16

This camp introduces a variety of fun outdoor activities including archery, kayaking, and fishing (catch and release). This course also covers basic survival skills like reading a map and recognizing your surroundings, fire starting, shelter building, obtaining drinkable water, wild plant identification and animal observation.

Resident: \$100 Non-resident: \$120

Next Step Outdoor Skills Camp Grades 5 - 9

Monday - Friday August 6 - 10, 2018
10:00am - 12:30pm



Register by: July 30

An extension of Outdoor Skills Camp, activities range from archery refresher skills through target shooting games and beginning bow hunting, gun safety including handling and basic shooting skills at the Bald Mountain Gun Range (taught by NRA certified instructor) kayaking and fishing, animal identification and tracking, plant identification and edibles, land navigation, and a Survival Day finale.

Prerequisite: Either have taken our Basic Outdoor Survival Skill Camp or similar course.

Resident: \$100 Non-resident: \$120



Rochester Soccer Club

Summer Instructional Soccer Camps



Now being offered at Marsh View Park soccer fields in Oakland Township!

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

Who: Soccer players ages 3 - 12 years old

When: 7/9 - 7/13, 7/16 - 7/20, 7/23 - 7/27

Time: 1:00 - 2:30pm, Monday - Friday (ages 5 - 12)
1:30 - 2:30pm, Monday - Friday (ages 3 - 4)

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

Cost: \$85 per week for ages 5 - 12 and \$60 per week for ages 3 - 4
Campers receive an RSC summer camp t-shirt

Things to bring: Soccer ball, soccer shoes, shin guards, soccer apparel and water

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

For further information and to register:

Visit the website www.rscsoccer.org, or email office@rscsoccer.org or call 248-650-0113

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Archery Classes Summer 2018

**Registration details on page 27. All archery classes are held at
Marsh View Park, 3100 East Clarkston Road, Oakland, MI 48363.**

New expanded archery range is 90 meters!

INTRODUCTION TO ARCHERY - All Ages (Ages 8 - Adult)

This is a “Taste of Archery” class. This class will give all participants a brief introduction to target archery using a compound bow. All equipment provided. Participants can choose from one of the following classes. If you love it, sign up for one of our beginner classes!

Mondays 6:00 - 7:00pm **Please choose one class only.**

6/18/18 or 6/25/18 or 7/2/18 or 7/9/18 or 7/16/18 or 7/23/18 or 7/30/18 or 8/6/18 or 8/13/18 or 8/20/18 or 8/27/18

Residents: \$12 Non-residents: \$18

Family Max 4 or more: Residents: \$48

Register 1 week before program dates.

Non-residents: \$72

BEGINNING ARCHERY - All Ages (Ages 8 - Adult)

Looking for something new and fun to try on a beautiful spring Friday evening or Saturday morning? This fun class is for you and your family! Our instructors will cover safety, equipment and basic fundamentals of shooting. All equipment provided.



Fridays 5/18/18 - 6/15/18 6:00 - 7:30pm (no class 5/25) (4 weeks)

Register by May 11

Fridays 6/29/18 - 7/27/18 6:00 - 7:00pm (5 weeks)

Register by June 22

Saturdays 6/30/18 - 7/28/18 10:00 - 11:00am (5 weeks)

Register by June 22

Saturdays 8/4/18 - 8/25/18 9:30 - 11:00am (4 weeks)

Register by July 27

Residents: \$45 Non-Residents: \$60

NEXT STEP ARCHERY - All Ages (Ages 8 - Adult)

This program is for archers who have taken Beginning Archery or archers with experience. Focus on improving your archery form and accuracy. Equipment provided or may use your own.

Saturdays 6/23/18 - 7/28/18 3:00 - 4:00pm (6 weeks)

Register by: June 15

Saturdays 8/4/18 - 8/25/18 3:00 - 4:30pm (4 weeks)

Register by: July 27



Residents: \$60 Non-Residents: \$77

FIFTY AND OLDER ARCHERY

Archery provides a variety of health benefits for seniors. One of the most notable is that it improves one's balance. Keeping still while aiming and shooting the arrow requires balance and strengthens your core and upper body muscles. Learn the fundamentals of archery while you review equipment, learn about safety, learn basic shooting skills & have fun! A perfect foundation for training to participate in the Michigan Senior Olympics! All equipment provided. 4 week program.



Saturdays, June 2 - June 23, 2018 10:00 - 11:00am

Rochester, Rochester Hills or Oakland Township Resident Seniors: \$40;

Non-resident Seniors: \$50

Register by May 25

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Archery Classes Summer 2018

Registration details on page 27. All archery classes are held at Marsh View Park, 3100 East Clarkston Road, Oakland, MI 48363.

Newly expanded archery range is 90 meters!

OPEN RANGE SHOOT - (Ages 8 - Adult) FREE!

Drop-in opportunity to practice archery skills! Prior archery experience necessary. No instruction provided. Monitored by a safety officer. Bring your own equipment or use ours on first-come first-served basis. No cross-bows or broadheads.

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

FREE to the public. DROP-IN - NO REGISTRATION

Fridays	6/29/18 - 7/27/18	7:00 - 8:00pm
Fridays	8/3/18 - 8/31/18	6:00 - 8:00pm
Saturdays	4/14/18 - 11/24/18	11:00am - 3:00pm
Mondays	6/18/18 - 8/27/18	7:00 - 8:00pm



EXPLORE ARCHERY CAMP (Ages 8 - 18)

Explore Archery is a new and innovative archery education program focused on introducing beginners to the lifelong sport of archery. In Explore Archery, campers earn achievement awards through active participation in individual and team building activities that require fundamental skills, a competitive edge and a bit of creativity and not based on campers' athletic abilities or their capabilities to shoot a perfect score. It is fun, rewarding, developmentally progressive and most important—safe.

July 9-13, 2018 10am - 12pm

Resident: \$100 Non-residents: \$120 Register by July 2.



EXPLORE BOW HUNTING CLASS - (Ages 8 - Adult)

From Paleo to today, hunting with a bow and arrow is a skill set that, when honed, is fun and rewarding. Come out and learn skills such as animals signs, shot placement and proper equipment. Taught by USA Archery and MDNR trained archery instructor.

Thursday 8/16/18 5:00 - 8:00pm **Register by August 9.**
Sunday 9/16/18 4:00 - 7:00pm **Register by September 10.**



Residents: \$30 Non-Residents: \$35



REGISTER NOW! Mail, use the Township Hall dropbox, or visit us in person! Complete registration details on page 27

Junior Olympic Archery Development and Adult Archery Achievement Program

All archery classes are held at Marsh View Park Archery Range, 3100 E. Clarkston Rd., Oakland, MI 48363
New expanded outdoor archery range is 90 meters!

Junior Olympic Archery Development (JOAD) - Ages 8 - 20 & Adult Archery Achievement Program (Ages 21+)



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

Prerequisite:

Must have completed Intermediate Archery course and be able to hit a target at 20 yards consistently.

Tuesdays	6pm to 8pm	5 week sessions
Session 1	5/22/18 - 6/19/18	
Session 2	6/26/18 - 7/31/18 (no class 7/3)	
Session 3	8/7/18 - 9/4/18	

**Register for these archery classes
with Brandon at 586-770-1859 or
risingphoenixarchery@gmail.com**

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

Non-Residents: \$90 Individual/\$180 Family (up to 4)

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



July 14th Gallagher Creek Park Playground Install... (Continued from page 1)

Breakfast and lunch will be provided for all participants courtesy of Kroger Fresh Fare and the Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Millage Fund. Ages 15 and up can participate in the actual equipment installation. Minors must either be accompanied by a guardian or contact us in advance to obtain a release form. Please dress for the weather, wear sturdy boots, and bring leather gloves.

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation will be contracting with a playground installer who will lead this effort and ensure that the installation progresses smoothly. A minimum of 45 volunteers is needed to make this “community built” installation a success. There are still opportunities available for volunteers who could help with the equipment assembly and installation as well as food service or child care.

When you register, please indicate what task you prefer and what hours you would be available to help – a partial day is just fine! A playground description, tasks involved, and desired tools list will be given to interested participants ahead of time.

This community playground installation saves the Township more than \$11,000 which will help fund other improvements at this park including a picnic pavilion, pathways, restroom facilities and native plantings. Oakland Township is thrilled to have local business co-sponsors for this project including the Kroger Company, Turner Sanitation, and The Lake Orion Home Depot.

*Please consider making a donation towards the purchase of benches, picnic tables and plantings
that will provide the finishing touches to this park! See page 17.*

Share The Love – Leave A Legacy – Make A Difference In Our Community!

Your support is needed for the finishing touches at Gallagher Creek Park! The Township Parks and Recreation millage funds have been reserved for this park's new recreation facilities including a playground, picnic pavilion, expanded entrance and parking lot, pathways, and a restroom enclosure.

Assistance is needed to purchase benches, picnic tables, and native garden plants. Contributions would only need to cover the cost of the materials since our capable maintenance and stewardship staff would install the site furnishings and the native plant garden.

Donations in any amount would be welcome and may be tax deductible since Oakland Township is considered a non-profit entity for charitable donation purposes. Donations above \$200 will include a placard to designate your contribution. All donations will be commemorated with an acknowledgement of appreciation in the Parks and Recreation Newsletter and at the Gallagher Creek Park Grand Opening.



Typical
park
bench



Native
plant
garden

Contributions would be welcome

3 Park Benches for adults to supervise children on the playground and to relax in this park's natural surroundings. Cost of each 60" bench = \$1000.

2 Picnic Tables where friends and family could gather under the new picnic pavilion. These furnishing would be similar in appearance to Bear Creek Nature Park's. Cost of each 72" ADA picnic table = \$1800.

1 Native Plant Garden including native grasses, flowers, oak trees, and shrubs including viburnum, spiraea, and serviceberry. Cost of 9300 square foot native garden = \$6000.

The benches and tables, manufactured in the Midwest, are constructed of 100% recycled HDPE plastic lumber. They are durable, environmentally responsible, and maintenance-free. The identical ones were installed at Bear Creek Nature Park in 2003 and they have remained as attractive as the day they were installed. Oakland Township Parks' stewardship staff would obtain plants for the garden from Michigan Native Plant nurseries; local businesses which are "committed to enhancing the diversity and health of Michigan's unique natural heritage".

This is a wonderful way to commemorate an organization, a significant person, or an event while making a difference in our Township. Please use this form or contact Parks and Recreation Director Mindy Milos-Dale at 248-651-7810 if you would like to make a donation or need more information.

Name _____

Address _____

Contact Email and/or phone _____

Contribution Amount _____

In Memory of/On Behalf of/To Commemorate _____

Please mail your check made payable to "Charter Township of Oakland" (noting that it is a donation for Gallagher Creek Park) with this form to Gallagher Creek Park Donations, Oakland Township Parks and Recreation, 4393 Collins Road, Rochester, MI 48306.

Free Tours of Land Preservation Parks!

(Continued from page 1)

Paint Creek Heritage Area-Wet Prairie protects unique examples of the prairie and oak savanna that used to cover over two-thirds of Oakland Township.

Purchased in 2003, the Wet Prairie was the first Oakland Township Park to be acquired entirely with the Township's Land Preservation millage funds. Its 10.46 acres preserve approximately one-quarter mile of scenic vistas and natural habitats along the Paint Creek Trail and it includes the Paint Creek's former creek bed (before it was redirected by the railroad).

The Wet Prairie is a plant lover's delight – hosting more than 200 species of native plants! The park's namesake habitat, "wet prairie" was formerly mined of its topsoil and is actually an old sand pit. Its nutrient-poor soils and seasonal high-water table support a unique combination of upland and wetland plants. In addition to the wet prairie, the park also includes a variety of oak-dominated woodlands and wet sedge meadows.

When OTPR purchased this property invasive plants and a closed-canopy forest were overtaking these habitats. During the last 15 years, OTPR Land Stewardship staff have restored the prairie area to its grassland glory by removing unwanted woody vegetation and invasive plants and introducing prescribed burning. Whether you visit this site in spring, summer or fall you will be surprised by the variety of flowering plants and prairie grasses!

At Draper Twin Lake Park we will check out Twin Lake, then head to the east side of the park. This park was

(Continued on page 19)

From The Director

(Continued from page 1)

located in their community. Since Oakland Township Parks and Recreation is responsible for the longest portion of the trail supplemental grant funding is desirable! This new trailhead, located on Orion Road, between Adams and Clarkston roads, will provide a 35-space parking lot, access trail, two vault toilets, a well for potable water, a picnic area, and native plantings. This trailhead will meet several needs: 1. Vehicular parking and rest area facilities on the only section of the Paint Creek Trail that does not have them, 2. The first Paint Creek Trail parking lot designed to incorporate horse trailer parking, 3. Vehicular parking and support facilities near the MDNR's proposed trail connection from Bald Mountain Recreation Area to the Paint Creek Trail, and 4. Parking and support facilities near an existing Paint Creek fishing access.

Information about both of these projects can be found on the Parks and Recreation home page at www.oaklandtownship.org. Grant recommendations for both of these projects will be made public in December 2018.

Melinda Milos-Dale

**Melinda Milos-Dale,
Parks and Recreation Director**



Paint Creek Junction Project location

Free Tours of Land Preservation Parks!

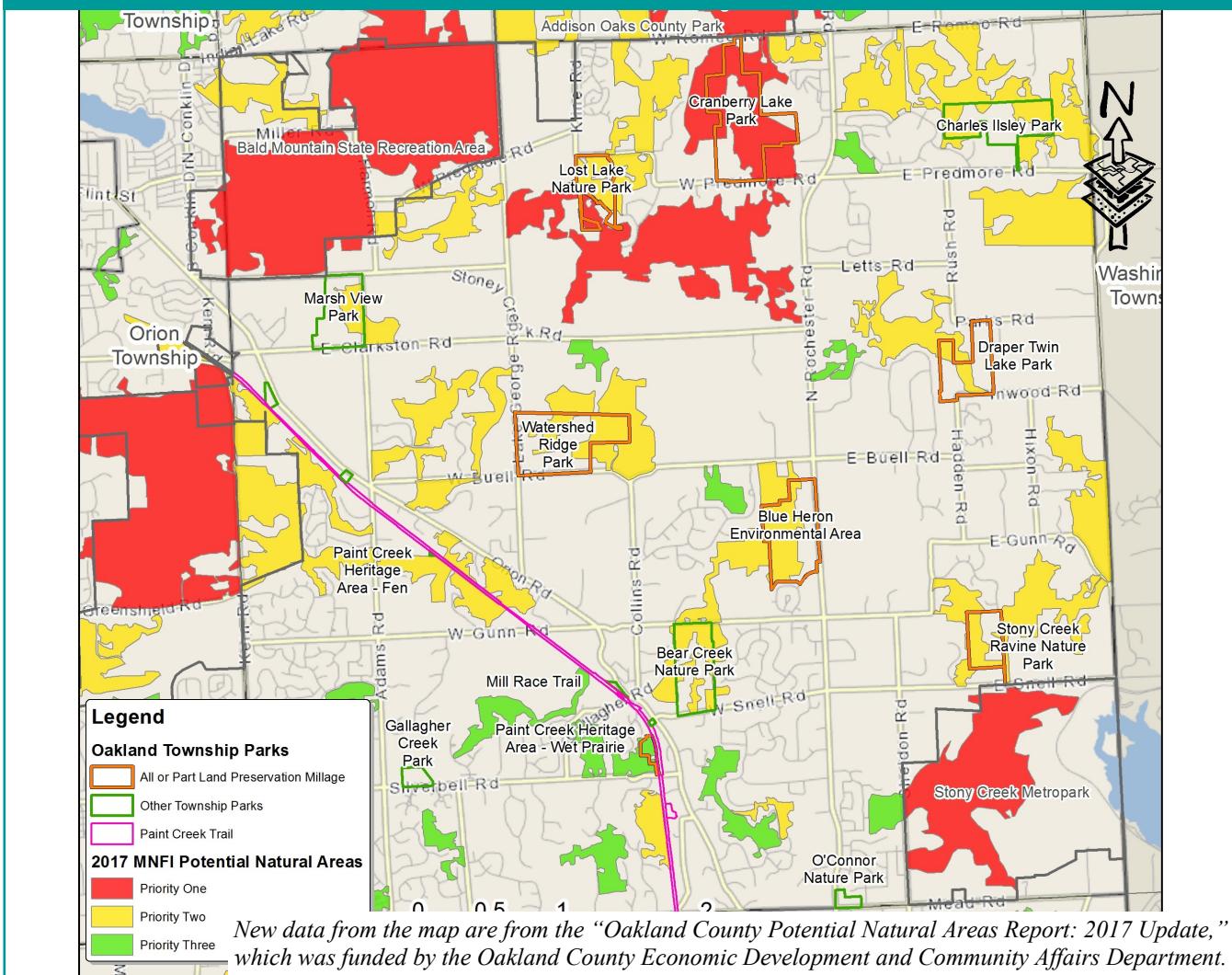
(Continued from page 18)

purchased in 2005 with a combination of Land Preservation millage funds and a sizable donation from the Draper family. The name of this 90-acre park honors both this family's generosity as well as the park's frontage on the easterly Twin Lake. Draper Twin Lake Park protects wet meadows, a large marsh, shrub wetlands, a kettle wetland, forests and access to Twin Lake.

Soon after purchasing this park, OTPR improved its access by constructing a limestone trail, a boardwalk, and a floating dock. These facilities allow our residents to enjoy nature viewing, kayaking, paddle boarding and fishing programs on Twin Lake. A trail system on the east side of the park also provides a popular pedestrian connection between Inwood Road and Parks Road. This trail passes by this park's 20-acre field which is being restored to prairie by our Land Stewardship staff with the help of a US Fish and Wildlife Service grant. Don't miss this chance to see bee balm, coreopsis, and other wildflowers blooming in our prairie planting! We will also talk about the role of controlled fire in natural areas management while walking through an area that was burned by our volunteer prescribed burn crew in April 2018.

*MNFI has responsibility for inventorying and tracking rare and declining species and exceptional examples of natural communities in Michigan. For more information about their 2017 Oakland County Natural Areas mapping and analysis see www.oakgov.com/advantageoakland/planning/environmentalstewardship/Pages/default.aspx and select 'Natural Areas Inventory'.

Oakland Township Parks Natural Areas





Summer Lightning...BUGS!

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

If you asked a child to name off their favorite bugs I would bet that ‘lightning bugs’ or ‘fireflies’ would make the list for most kids...and quite a few adults as well. I have to admit that I still get excited every time I spot a lightning bug on my window screen on a hot summer night. I just think that it is one of those crazy wonders of nature: bugs that light up! How cool is that? Their ability to light up is truly amazing but there are several other facts about these amazing insects that rank right up there on list of why nature is awesome and full of surprises!

Let’s get started by meeting these little guys up close. First, lightning bugs (if you are from the north) or firefly (in the south) is a fairly generic term used to describe an entire family of beetles. There are over 2000 species of lightning bugs that make their homes on almost every continent of the world with somewhere around 170 species right here in the US alone! Some are readily distinguished by the color of their ‘light’ which varies by species from yellow to orange to blue. They also differ in the way they use their lights. Some flash to communicate with mates, some to signal distress...some flash quickly while others stay lit and make trails of light through the sky. The most common firefly in Oakland Township is the Eastern firefly. This insect is most readily identified by the pattern they make as they light up, it kind of looks like a ‘J’.



The lightning bug ‘lantern’ is located on their bottom half. There are a few necessary components that are needed in order for a lightning bug to get this lantern to light up. The first is a source of energy, called ATP. Some of you might remember ATP as a highly efficient form of energy storage in human cells. Lightning bugs use this same form of energy storage. The second key component is an enzyme called luciferase (ominous sounding, isn’t it?). When luciferase gets together with luciferin, oxygen and ATP the result is light...or in this case: bioluminescence. A five-dollar word meaning a living organism that produces light.

The adults are not the only phase of the lightning bug that has the ability to light up. The pupae have a different method of producing light but they do have an eerie glow. The caterpillar stage of some lightning bugs also glow which has led to them commonly being referred to as ‘glow worms’.



The chemicals luciferin and luciferase are of great interest to scientists and have been employed in medicine for many years. One main use is to track the growth of cancer cells, but they are also used in other ways including the detection of harmful bacteria in food. In fact, this usefulness is the basis for one of the threats to lightning bug populations world wide. As long ago as the 1970s, fireflies were being collected by pharmaceutical companies, sometimes fetching up to one penny per firefly. The companies would extract the valuable chemicals and sell that for \$260 an ounce. That was a lot of money in the 1970s! One company alone collected about one million fireflies in a single year.

While these chemicals give lightning bugs their ‘flash’ and pizazz, they have some other pretty amazing chemical properties too. Some fireflies excrete a sticky substance when they fear capture by a predator. This distasteful substance (a steroid) can prevent a predator from eating the little beetles. Scientists refer to this stress release of the bitter steroid as ‘reflexive bleeding’. Perhaps not the most lovely term but quite a nifty adaptation none-the-less. This may be why glow-worms glow...to warn predators that they are not a tasty meal (they too produce the yucky tasting that steroid adults do). In an even more fascinating adaptation, females of species that do not produce this deterrent will mimic the light flashes of the female of the chemical producing

(Continued on page 26)

Oakland Township Parks **Stewardship** Natural Areas



Summer 2018 Natural Areas Stewardship Events

Please come out and join us for one of these events! Updated information and any last minute changes to these events can be found on our Natural Areas Notebook website at oaklandnaturalareas.com.

*All minors must have a waiver signed by a guardian, and minors under 14 must be accompanied by a guardian.

Weekly Bird Walks



Join us every Wednesday from June to August for our weekly bird walks. We want to document the bird species using our parks so that we can work to improve their habitat. Walks will start at 7:30 am. Some extra binoculars are available.

1st Wednesday of month – Bear Creek Nature Park

2nd Wednesday of month – Cranberry Lake Park

3rd Wednesday of month – Charles Ilsley Park

4th Wednesday of month – Draper Twin Lake Park

5th Wednesday of August – Lost Lake Nature Park

Habitat Restoration for Landowners

FREE No Registration required!

*Saturday, June 16, 2018, 10:00 am to 12:30 pm
at the Paint Creek Cider Mill*

Your land can be an oasis for butterflies, birds, and other wildlife! Join us to learn about backyard habitat restoration. We will start at the Paint Creek Cider Mill at 10am to briefly learn about planning, invasive species control, seed collection, installing plants, and working with contractors. We will then visit a few active ecological restoration sites within the township parks. Don't miss this chance to enhance your backyard habitat while connecting with other interested landowners!

Natural Areas Stewardship Summer Potluck

Thursday, July 19, 2018, 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm at Bear Creek Nature Park



Come join us for our summer celebration of our volunteers and habitat restoration work in Oakland Township! You won't want to miss the hearty conversation and great food. Learn about natural areas stewardship work in our parks while connecting with others involved in our programs. If there is inclement weather, we will be at the Paint Creek Cider. **RSVP appreciated** to bvanderweide@oaklandtownship.org or 248-651-7810 ext. 401 by Tuesday, July 17.

Volunteers Needed!

Would you like to learn new skills, work with a great team, and get more involved in local conservation? Our natural areas stewardship volunteers help with bluebird nest box monitoring, native seed collecting, prescribed fire, invasive species control, photo monitoring, pollinator garden maintenance, outreach, and more! We fit opportunities to your availability and interests. No special skills required. We'll provide all training and tool you'll need. To learn more contact Natural Areas Stewardship Manager Ben VanderWeide (bvanderweide@oaklandtownship.org).



The Natural Areas Notebook has the latest about what's happening in the parks, news about the latest stewardship work, and up-to-date information about stewardship events.
Check out the blog at oaklandnaturalareas.com

Phragmites Outreach Program for Oakland Township Residents

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

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

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

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

To participate, landowners, homeowner's associations, or businesses can submit a request for a no-obligation cost estimate by August 1, 2018. As a courtesy to our contractors, applications received after August 1 cannot be considered. Please contact Ben VanderWeide, Natural Areas Stewardship Manager, with any questions or concerns at 248-651-7810.



Phragmites, Knotweed, Swallow-wort, and More: High-priority invasive plants!

Free No registration required!

Thursday, June 28, 2018, 6:30 pm at the
Paint Creek Cider Mill

We will walk through the basics of identifying, controlling, and reporting priority invasive species. These invasive plants are known to reduce property values, degrade natural areas, and impair wildlife habitat. Don't let these plants get established on your property!



Swallow-wort fruits: *Cynanchum rossicum*,
John Randall, © 2017 CC BY-NC 3.0/
bugwood.org



Swallow-wort flowers.
J.M. Garg/CC BY-SA 4.0-
3.0-2.2-2.1-1.0/
Wikimedia Commons



Swallow-wort flowers.
Rob Routledge/CC BY 3.0/
Wikimedia Commons

Oakland Township Parks Stewardship Natural Areas



Report Bird Nests to NestWatch—There's an App for That! *Participate in citizen science online or on your smartphone*

Ithaca, NY—The beauty of birdsong is a welcome sign of spring—but it's serious business for the birds. This is when they pair up, build nests, and start a family. The Cornell Lab of Ornithology would like anyone who finds a bird nest of any species to share their observations with its Nest Watch citizen-science project. This is easier than ever with the project's free app.

Participants can report the location of a nest, the species using it, number of eggs laid, and other important milestones as the adult birds incubate, raise, and fledge their young. Register for the project at NestWatch.org or download the NestWatch app from the Apple App Store or Google Play.

"We created the NestWatch app to make it easier for the public to communicate their discoveries to scientists using a device that many of us carry with us all the time—a cell phone," says NestWatch project leader, Robyn Bailey.

What have scientists learned? According to Bailey, "Last year, NestWatch published a study using data from tens of thousands of nests all around the country. The report pointed to one simple thing bird lovers can do to help nesting birds, and that is to install a predator guard on your backyard nest box (birdhouse)."

This year Oakland Township Parks & Recreation is reviving its nest box program. Tom Korb, a dedicated volunteer, led the effort to build or refurbish forty-three nest boxes over the winter. Then he worked with park stewardship staff and other volunteers to install (or re-install) those nest boxes in Charles Ilsley Park, Draper Twin Lake Park, and along the Paint Creek Trail.

Following a NestWatch training in March, nine volunteers signed up as NestWatch monitors in Oakland Township parks. We are excited to watch Eastern Bluebirds, Tree Swallows, American Kestrels, and other species raise their young in our new nest boxes!

Find out more about NestWatch, learn how to monitor nests while keeping the birds safe, and sign up at NestWatch.org. Participation is free.



*Oakland Township
Parks volunteers 2018*

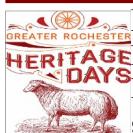
*Two tiny eggs are tucked away in
this Anna's Hummingbird nest on
a college campus in California.
Photo by Kim Harvey.*



The Cornell Lab of Ornithology is a membership institution dedicated to interpreting and conserving the earth's biological diversity through research, education, and citizen science focused on birds. Visit the Cornell Lab's website at <http://www.birds.cornell.edu>. Copyright © 2018 Cornell Lab of Ornithology, All rights reserved.



Spring 2018



May 19 & 20 - Greater Rochester Heritage Days & OTHS Annual Plant Sale

Held at the Rochester Municipal Park from 11:00am to 5:00pm. Festival is the weekend before Memorial Day. Join us for our annual perennial plant sale—we have wonderful, hardy plants for a great price! OTHS members are looking for donations of potted perennials to sell at our event booth.

June 2 - Square Dance at Cranberry Lake Farm, Flumerfelt Barn.

Sponsored by HDC. OTHS will have a variety of ice cream available at the square dance. Everyone is welcome to join in the square dance beginning at 7pm until 9pm. Caller is Glen Morningstar with The Ruffwater Stringband.



June 6 - Picnic and Program - Cranberry Lake Farm, Flumerfelt Barn.

The Transition from a Horse-based Society to an Automotive One. Presented by John Sanderson. Picnic - Bring a dish to pass. Program will follow after elections and annual meeting. Time: 6:30pm

The **Archive Room at Cranberry Lake Farm** Main House is open to the public by appointment. The archive team is usually on site each Wednesday afternoon from 1-4pm. Check with us before you head over to confirm we are there to help you: othsmember@comcast.net. We are always interested in reviewing your historical documents, and if you have archives pertaining to Oakland Township, or the local areas, please consider donating them to OTHS.

Our Township has a rich history to share and we strive to gather, preserve and protect it for future generations.

For membership information please contact othsmember@comcast.net.

We enjoy activities that inform us of our history and ways to preserve it.

Come join us and have some fun!



Oakland Township Historical Society board member, Anthony Kowalchick, has assembled shadow boxes containing local historic artifacts and donated them to the Historical Society. Stop by the first floor of the Paint Creek Cider Mill M-F, 8am-4:30pm to see this display of historic treasures.



Parks and Recreation Director Mindy Milos-Dale presenting Anthony Kowalchick with a certificate of appreciation for Oakland Township Historical Society discoveries at Marsh View Park.

CRANBERRY LAKE FARM HISTORIC DISTRICT

A community historical center - work in progress for you!

For more information contact the Historic District Commission office: 248-608-6807.

To Register: please email bbarber@oaklandtownship.org or phone the office.



*Painting View of Cranberry Lake by
Janet Almstadt-Davison*

PAINTING PLEIN AIR ART PROGRAM

Join the rich experience of painting or drawing with two professional artists at the rustic Cranberry Lake Farm in Oakland Township. The grounds provide varied subject matter including historical buildings, beautiful landscapes and distant vistas. The artists teaching this workshop create in all art materials and use both realism and abstraction styles. Program begins with a general discussion, outdoor painting with individual attention, followed by lunch and informational critique. A materials list of recommended supplies is available upon registration. A great class for all levels! Sign up by 6/18.

All artistic mediums welcome!

**Thursday, June 21 from 10am - 2pm. Class fee is \$30. Register through the HDC.
Bring your own materials and a bag lunch for the analysis and interpretation discussion.**



INTRODUCTION TO BEEKEEPING – FOUR PROGRAM DATES

Introduction to Beekeeping is a great way to learn about honeybees, how to keep them, and their importance to our food chain. Meeting once a month: **May 12, June 9, July 14, and August 11 with TWO TIME SLOTS (must pick one) 12:30 - 1:30pm and 2:00 - 3:00pm** at Cranberry Lake Farm Hen House. Class taught by your local beekeeper Preston Zale who began his hobby of beekeeping by helping another local beekeeper. This four part class runs as a series. **\$5 per person – includes all four sessions!**

FREE SQUARE DANCE IS ON SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 2018 FROM 7 PM TO 9 PM

The Vintage Family Square Dance is free and open to the public located at Cranberry Lake Farm. **Glen Morningstar and the Ruffwater Stringband** will return to calling dances at this must-attend event. We dance in the barn or on the lawn so please wear appropriate shoes. Bring your own picnic dinner or check the website to reserve a barbecue sandwich for a fee - only served from 6 - 7pm and reservation required. Contact the HDC Office at 248-608-6807 for directions and more information. The square dance is for all ages. Bring the family out! Partners' do-si-do and an allemande left!

Summer Lightning...BUGS! (Continued from page 20)

species to lure in like males. The females then kill the males and consume them...along with the steroid. These females then make use of the steroid and can reflexively bleed the chemical when threatened. This is an excellent defense against predators such as jumping spiders (surely another 'cool' critter to add to our list of awesomeness in nature!).



Fireflies are fun, fascinating and amazing insects but they have other benefits as well. They are pollinators and will frequent some favorite plants such as milkweed, goldenrod and sunflowers. Their unique chemistry has the potential to continue to contribute to medical discoveries and they are an important part of the ecological balance. Their larvae live on the ground and eat slugs, worms, aphids and snails. In other words, they are a pretty good beetle to have around.



Despite all of their adaptations and amazing diversity, several species have been in precipitous decline. There is no one explanation and most people feel it is a combination of overharvesting for medical use, habitat loss, pesticide use and outdoor lighting. If you would like to help to make sure our summer skies continue to light up with these awesome insects there are a few simple steps you can take. Consider planting an area of native plants in your yard such as milkweed and goldenrod and keeping it pesticide free. Leave leaf litter on the ground (this provides critical habitat), turn off outdoor lights at night and consider establishing a small garden pond. And, if you see them in the summer, please don't be tempted to catch them in a jar...they have a very short life and so their adult phase is a critical time to be out finding a suitable mate and laying the eggs for the next generation! These actions help lightning bugs, which are at the top of the list of many pollinator insects, including butterflies, that are facing extraordinary population losses in the past decade.

Still want to learn more? Consider joining Dinosaur Hill naturalists at the 'Night of the Lightning Bugs' upcoming program on Friday June 29. See page 10 for details.



Thank you to our inspiring volunteers!

thank
you!

Nature Center Donations: Jes Kasprzak, Hornet nest.

Natural Areas Stewardship Volunteers: Winter 2017/2018

Alex Korb, Cam Mannino, Colleen Barkham, Dan Simon, David Lazar, Denise Reinelt, Donna Perkins, Heather Herndon, Jim Fostey, Jim Lloyd, Joan Kent, Laurie Peklo, Louise Hartung, Mark Arney, Mark Isken, Mike Kent, Rob Mair, Sue Ferko, Tom Korb, Tom Lee, Vinnie Morganti, William Gibala



Parks and Recreation Team Update 2018 Seasonal Staff

Billy Gibala returns for his second year with our crew this summer as a land stewardship technician. He graduated in 2017 from University of Michigan-Flint with a degree in wildlife biology, and a minor in regional and urban planning from the University of Michigan-Flint. He has always been interested in nature and is passionate about the conservation of threatened and endangered species. He lives in Lake Orion and loves to spend time hiking, bird watching, and cross-country skiing in nearby parks. He is excited to work to preserve local natural areas.



Alyssa Radzwion joins our crew this summer as a land stewardship technician. She graduated from Oakland University in December 2016 with a Bachelor's degree in biology, with a goal to pursue a career in natural resources. Last summer, Alyssa worked with the Michigan DNR on various land stewardship projects which further fueled her passion for protecting natural areas and wildlife, as well as educating others about them. She enjoys being outdoors, especially camping, kayaking, vegetable gardening, and exploring fun places in Michigan. Alyssa is very excited to join the crew this year to continue learning about natural resources management and help preserve the natural areas of Oakland Township.

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Registration Information



Oakland Township resident registration starts NOW!

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

Non-Resident registration begins one week prior to the program registration deadline date.

Programs fill-up quickly so please contact us early!

Registration Options:

1. Fill out the form below, and the release of liability waiver on back of form for each participant, register by mail or drop in the drop-box at Township Hall after hours. (One waiver is needed for each person and each program.)

Make checks payable to "Charter Township of Oakland" and mail with registration form and signed waiver for each participant to: Charter Township of Oakland, 4393 Collins Rd., Rochester, MI 48306

2. Visit us at our office location and register in person.

Credit cards (MasterCard, American Express, or Discover) accepted in person only. (**\$2.95 fee**)

Cash or check

Paint Creek Cider Mill Bldg. (2nd Floor)

4480 Orion Rd., Rochester, MI 48306

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8am - 4:30pm

Additional registration forms and waivers are available to print from the park pages at www.oaklandtownship.org

Mail at least two weeks before program date!

Adult's Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Zip: _____ Emergency phone: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E Mail Address: _____

Resident of (circle one): Oakland Twp. Rochester Rochester Hills Other

Enrollee's Name: _____ Age (if child): _____

Program Name: _____ Date and Time: _____

Program Name: _____ Date and Time: _____

Amount Due: _____

Mail at least two weeks before program date!

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation

Program Refund Policy



Registrants will receive a full refund for programs cancelled by Oakland Township Parks and Recreation.

Registrants withdrawing more than 4 business days prior to the program start date will receive a refund, less a \$5.00 administration fee. No refunds will be made if withdrawing less than 4 business days from program start date. All registrants wishing to withdraw, must do so during regular business hours Monday-Friday, 8am-4:30pm in person at the Paint Creek Cider Mill, 4480 Orion Rd., or by phone at 248-651-7810.

Visit www.oaklandtownship.org for complete program information and other Park and Recreation information, permits, and ordinances.

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation

Release of Liability Waiver and Permission to Publish Photographs

Use this waiver for general programs. A separate release of liability waiver must be submitted for each program for which each participant registers.

Special waivers are required for Summer Camps, Archery, Kayaking, and Stand Up Paddleboarding and are available on the Park Programs page of the Township website: www.oaklandtownship.org

Liability Waiver For Participant: As a participant (or as a parent of a participant under 18 years of age) in the above Oakland Township Parks & Recreation program, I recognize and acknowledge that there are certain risks of physical injury and I agree to assume the full risk of any injuries, including death, damages, loss which I sustain as a result of participating in any and all activities connected with or associated with the program. I do hereby fully release and discharge the Charter Township of Oakland, Oakland Township Parks & Recreation Commission, their officers, agents, volunteers, sponsors and employees from any and all claims from injuries, including death, damages or loss which I may have or which may occur to me on account of my participation in the program. I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless and defend the Charter Township of Oakland, Oakland Township Parks & Recreation Commission, their officers, agents, volunteers, sponsors and employees from any and all claims resulting from injuries, including death and losses sustained by and arising out of, connected with, or in any way associated with this program.

I authorize the use of photographs showing my image in any of their printed documents and on their website.

Signature of participant (Parent's signature if minor)

Date

Print Name (include name of minor, if any)

Address

Phone

E-mail

Emergency Contact and Phone Number

Program Name

Program Date

Township Park

Program Name

Program Date

Township Park



Paint Creek Trail News

By Kristen Myers, Trail Manager
manager@paintcreektrail.org

Paint Creek Trail Construction and Closures (Continued from page 1)

Please plan your visit to the Paint Creek Trail accordingly.

First, Bridge 33.7, located between Dutton and Silver Bell Roads, is being replaced.

Second, starting in late summer the entire Paint Creek Trail is scheduled to be re-surfaced with crushed limestone, triggering rolling closures.

You can get regular updates on the construction and trail closures the following ways:



PCT Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/paintcreektrail/>

PCT Twitter Page: <https://twitter.com/paintcreektrail>

PCT Website: <http://paintcreektrail.org/wordpress/2018-trail-construction-updates>

Paint Creek Trail National Trails Day

Saturday, June 2, 2018, 9:00am—12:00pm

Mark your calendars for our annual National Trails Day celebration! National Trails Day is the only nationally coordinated event with the goal of connecting more people to trails. This year we will be celebrating in our northern section of trail and at Children's Park in Lake Orion.

Join us for the following events!

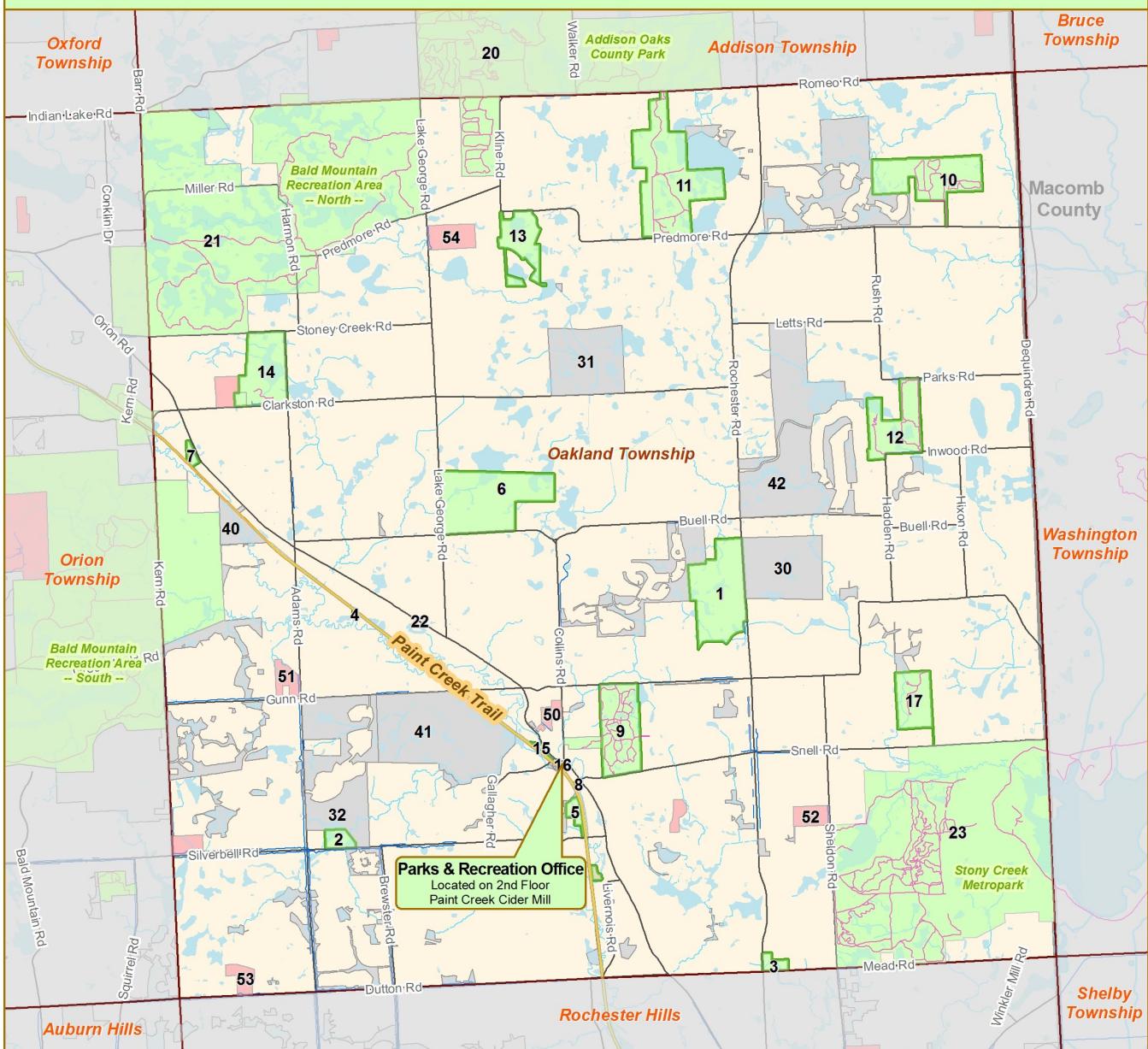
- Ribbon Cutting and Trail Supporter Recognition Ceremony officially opening the Lake Orion Trail Extension and new Iron Belle Trailhead at Children's Park in Lake Orion!
- Free family friendly craft provided by Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve—Make your Own Hiking Stick!
- Free family friendly walk/bike ride on the trail from Children's Park in Lake Orion to Clarkston/Kern Roads!
- Free Paint Creek Trail swag, and drawings for Downtown Lake Orion Gift Cards and Paint Creek Trail Merchandise!
- Free ice cream!
- Visit with the Oakland County Sheriff Office Mounted Patrol deputies and horses!



Sponsored by Friends of the Paint Creek Trail, Paint Creek Trailways Commission, Lake Orion DDA, 20 Front Street in Lake Orion, and Orion Art Center.

For more information, visit: <http://paintcreektrail.org/wordpress/2018-national-trails-day>

Parks and Recreation Opportunities in Oakland Township



Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Facilities

Conservation Parks

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

Future Trail Connections

- 7. Paint Creek Junction Park
 - 8. Mill Creek Crossing

Community Parks & Recreation Facilities

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

Other Parks and Recreation Facilities

Other Public Parks

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

Other Public Recreation Facilities

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

Private Recreation Facilities

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

Public Schools

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

Key to Features:

Municipal Boundary

 Oakland Township Parks

~ Major Roads

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Lakes & Ponds

Streams & Rivers

— Park Path

 Safety/Side Path

Private Recreation

Public School



Last Update: 05/16/2016

Summer Fun in Oakland Township Parks!



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

Bear Creek Nature Park offers 107 acres of glacially-carved hills and vernal ponds. A perfect place for a family stroll and nature observation! The park comes alive with music on Fridays, June 22 & August 24! (pg 3). For more natural music, join us for an UnFROGetable Chorus (pg 10) or Bird Walks (pg 21). Sign yourself up for Tai Chi or Boot Camp (pg 7) or the kids for frog and turtle programs (pg 10).



Marsh View Park's 90 acres includes active recreation fields (*Check out our Soccer Camps on page 13!*) and a basketball court. This park is also home to our newly expanded archery range, where our skilled instructors keep learning fun! Archery classes are offered for everyone from novice to intermediate and include a summer camp and introduction to bow hunting (pages 14 - 16).

Cranberry Lake Park's trails roam through meadows, vernal ponds and hardwoods, providing an ideal site to learn about natural dyes, go for a firefly hike (pg. 10), seek out protein rich insects (pg. 11) or learn about beekeeping (pg. 25). The Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District hosts our July 27th classical concert (page 3), & HDC's square dances and Plein Air Painting (pg. 25)!



Draper Twin Lake Park features 90 acres of meadows, wetlands, woodlands, and Twin Lake! Park at 1015 Inwood to access the dock - don't forget your fishing pole and your current state fishing license (*MDNR Free Fishing Day - page 12*). Be sure to reserve your spot for our popular Stand-Up Paddle boarding (page 8). The 1181 Inwood entry provides access to the eastern park trails where you just may be lucky enough to spot foraging Sandhill Cranes! Join us for monthly bird walks at this park. (page 21)!



Lost Lake Nature Park becomes a summer showcase for dragonfly, butterfly and bird watching (page 21). Watch for them while practicing yoga (page 7) or fishing (*current state fishing license required except Free Fishing Day - page 12*). Explore Lost Lake with us by kayak or paddleboard (pages 8 & 9). The Nature Center becomes home-base for summer camps, classes, and open houses in June, July and August (pages 4, 5, 10 & 11).



Paint Creek Trail is an easy access travel corridor for people and wildlife including deer and turkey. Remember that the trail is under construction this summer so be sure it is open before you head out. (*See pages 1 & 29.*) National Trails Day will be celebrated on June 2, utilizing the north end of the trail in Lake Orion. (Page 29).

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



All Oakland Township Parks Maps are available on the Parks and Recreation pages of the Oakland Township website: www.oaklandtownship.org.

If you have questions or would like more information
call us at (248)651-7810.

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

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

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*Seal designed by
Richard Krupp*

Commission Meetings

The Parks & Recreation Commission meets at 7 pm on the second Wednesday of every month in the Township Hall Boardroom.

Office Hours and Location

Park permits, maps and descriptions are available at the Parks and Recreation Department office, located on the second floor of the Paint Creek Cider Mill, 4480 Orion Road. Normal office hours are from 8am to 4:30pm Monday through Friday.

Parks and Recreation Commissioners

Colin Choi, Chairman
Hank Van Agen, Vice Chairperson
Craig Blust, Treasurer
Emily Barkham, Secretary
Dan Bukowski, Commissioner
Cathy Rooney, Commissioner
Dan Simon, Commissioner

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Staff

Parks and Recreation Director	Melinda Milos-Dale
Administrative Assistant	Carol Kasprzak
Clerical Assistant	Deb Gallo
Recreation Manager	Becky McLogan
Recreation Program Assistant	Mary Black
Maintenance Foreman	Doug Caruso
Maintenance Technician	Jeff Johnson
Natural Areas Stewardship Manager	Dr. Ben VanderWeide
Stewardship Specialist	Alex Kriebel
Maintenance and Recreation Staff	
	Clif Selent, Robert Zbytowski, Alex Dziadzio



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

FOR EMERGENCIES CALL 911

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