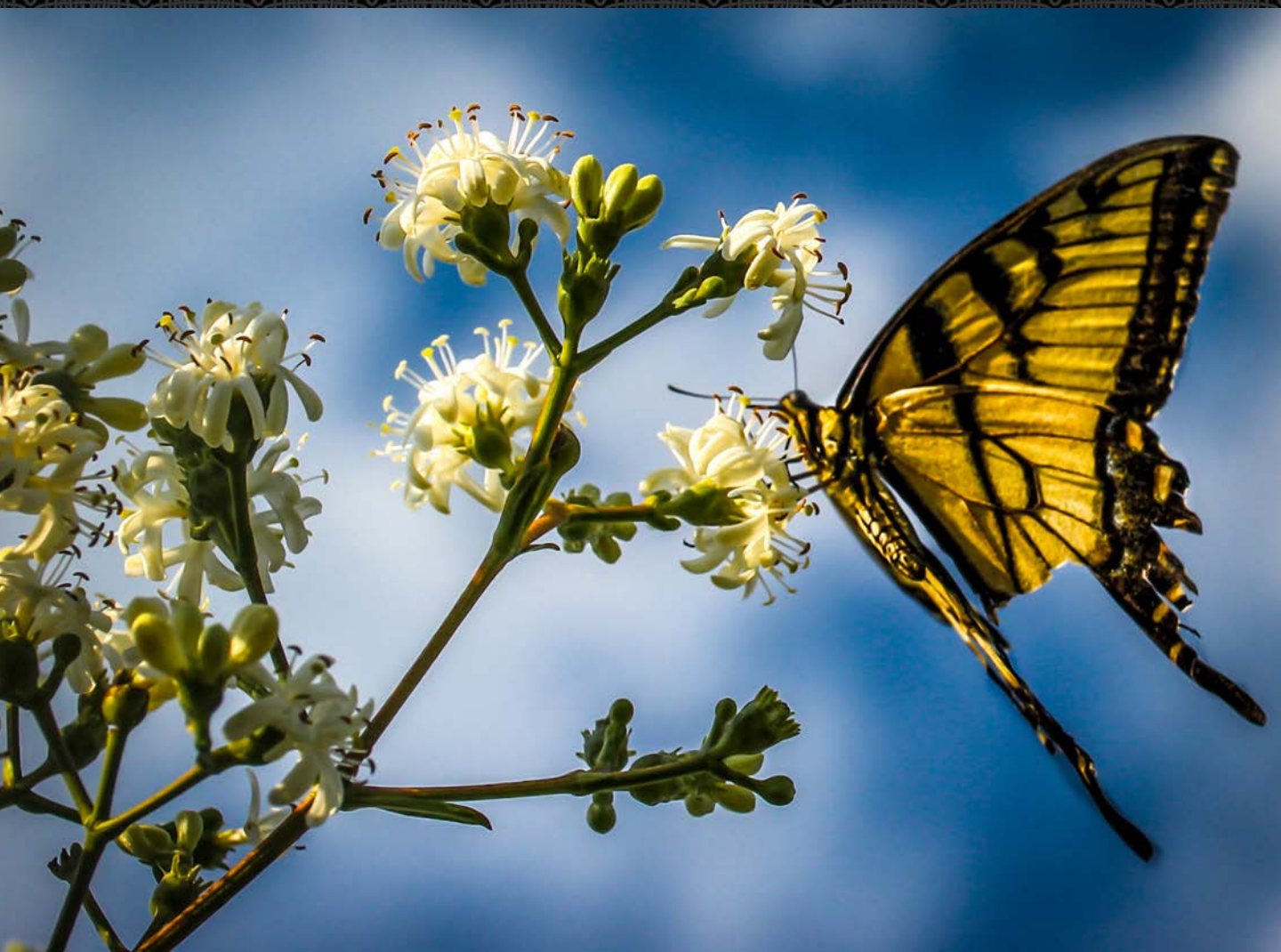


CELEBRATING
OAKLAND COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION'S

Heritage

2014 Annual Report



Pictured left to right:
 Gary R. McGillivray
 Robert E. Kostin
 A. David Baumhart III
 Gerald A. Fisher, *Chairman*
 Christine Long
 Jim Nash
 John A. Scott, *Secretary*
 Gregory C. Jamian
 Pecky D. Lewis, Jr., *Chairperson Emeritus*
 J. David VanderVeen, *Vice Chairman*



The Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission was established by Public Act 261 of 1965. Founded in 1966, the commission is the policy-making board that oversees the system's 6,700 acres. Commissioners are tasked with allocating resources throughout 13 parks, and making decisions about purchasing park land, constructing facilities, preserving maintenance standards and developing innovative programs and services.

The above photo was taken June 4, 2014 at the grand opening of universally accessible boardwalks, trails, fishing docks and wildlife viewing platforms at Highland Oaks and Rose Oaks county parks.



*History Category, 1st Place –
 Rose Oaks County Park
 Mike Dougherty*

*Capturing the
 Recreational
 Experience
 Category –
 Red Oaks
 Waterpark
 John Milke*



*Nature Category –
 Independence Oaks County Park
 Greg Meyer*

*Selfie Category, 1st Place –
 Addison Oaks County Park
 Gerry Szumiak*



*The Park Beneath My Feet Category –
 Independence Oaks County Park
 Jason Trikes*



Butterfly by Karlie Hoffman – Independence Oaks County Park

Oakland County Parks and Recreation staff is delighted to feature Karlie's photo on the cover of the 2014 Annual Report—Celebrating our Heritage. Best of Show winner in the inaugural Pics of the Parks photo contest, Karlie's photo captures a Swallowtail Butterfly at the end of its lifecycle as noted by its tattered and crinkled wings. The photo is particularly appropriate for this year's theme because heritage is not just what or who we are but also what we all leave behind. This butterfly, as fragile as it may seem, has traveled great distances, endured adversity, searched for resources, and in the end gave of itself to ensure the next generation will flourish.



Executive Officer



There is a distinction between history and heritage, especially as it relates to those in the parks and recreation business.

History is the events that shape the environment. But heritage is how we are unique precisely *because* of history—those events that have come before us. Heritage requires our active participation.

Every one of our nearly 2 million visitors shares in the heritage of the Oakland County Parks. Whether it's memories of camping at Groveland Oaks County Park as a child, hiking trails with a scout troop at Orion Oaks County Park, sipping hot chocolate after an afternoon of cross-country skiing at Independence Oaks County Park, winning a trophy at the bicycle motocross track at Waterford Oaks County Park, learning to swim at a Red Oaks Waterpark or sinking the first ball on the greens at White Lake Oaks Golf Course, they all share the common dominator of a recreation experience at the Oakland County Parks.

Our success is heavily dependent on our customer service—providing guests with a positive experience and encouraging them to come back. We offer the best in recreational activities and we believe we have the greatest employees to go along with them. Nothing is more rewarding than to be out in public and hear what a wonderful time someone had with Oakland County Parks and the exceptional help they received from staff.

This year we asked park guests to capture those moments in a photo contest. Sponsored by the Oakland Parks Foundation and *The Oakland Press*, “Pics of the Parks” invited guests to share their visit to an Oakland County Park. The contest kicked off just in time for “July is National Parks and Recreation Month.”

Themes included Historical Photos, Nature Photos, Capturing the Recreational Experience, Selfies and The Park Beneath My Feet.

Noted performer and visual artist and humanitarian Tony Bennett selected the grand prize winner. Bennett, a 17-time Grammy winner with millions of albums sold worldwide, is also an accomplished painter and supporter of the arts, and in particular arts education.

The Oakland County Parks commissioners and staff are proud of the role we play in the heritage of the Oakland County Parks. We have been seasoned by time, challenged by adversity, appreciated by our guests, and impassioned by the sheer wonder of the resources that have been entrusted to us. And most of all, we are humbled by that honor and responsibility.

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel J. Stencil'.

Daniel J. Stencil, Executive Officer, CPRE

*Capturing the Recreational Experience Category, 1st Place –
Independence Oaks County Park
Courtnei Denton*

For more information about the Oakland County Parks, click on DestinationOakland.com, find us on Facebook, follow us on [Twitter@destinationoak](https://twitter.com/destinationoak) or call 888.OCPARKS.



Urban Recreation



Growing golf, one foot at a time

Argyle socks were the preferred wardrobe choice of those opting for FootGolf, a new sport endorsed by the Professional Golf Association.

Combining elements of soccer and golf on a modified course, FootGolf debuted at Red Oaks Golf Course. The rules largely correspond to those of traditional golf, but with a regulation size 5 soccer ball and shortened holes with 21-inch diameter cups.

“FootGolf could potentially play a role in growing the game of golf,” Supervisor Planning & Resource Development Melissa Prowse said. “It’s also a new revenue source which could aid in the financial sustainability of the parks system’s five golf courses.”

With assistance from the American FootGolf League, the parks system opened the course at Red Oaks and received accreditation as one of 17 Michigan courses with that distinction.

From a simple start, track celebrates 40th

In 1974 bicycle motocross was an emerging sport when staff created a track using dirt removed from digging the foundation for Michigan’s first outdoor wave pool.

Forty years later, not only is the track still in operation, but BMX is an Olympic sport and many universities offer racing scholarships. And, two Waterford Oaks BMX riders were inducted into the National BMX Hall of Fame.

“It has been said Waterford Oaks is to BMX what Indianapolis is to auto racing,” Chris Beer, president of the Waterford Oaks BMX Volunteer Association and racer, said.

“With only five annual hall of fame inductees from across the United States and Canada, it is an honor to have two of them call the Waterford Oaks track home. The caliber of racers and trainers associated with the track has always impressed me,” Executive Officer Dan Stencil said.

Deanna Edwards-Jamieson was honored as the 2014 Influential BMX Woman inductee and Todd Kingsbury received special recognition posthumously.





From fashion to fishing, recreation on the move

To enhance recreation in the 62 cities, villages and townships with which it collaborates, Oakland County Parks hit a home run with a “fun on wheels” program.

In 1974, the first mobile recreation units included Skate Mobiles; Puppet Mobiles; a Fashion Mobile with sewing machines and makeup stands; a Movie Mobile and Swim Mobiles, essentially huge aluminum tubs filled with hydrant water. The Show Mobile featured the Troupe in Transit which performed a 60-minute vaudeville act.

In the early 1980s, the Fashion Mobile gave way to a Sports Mobile with foosball, kickball and soccer. Inflatable bouncers and tents were added. And in the early 1990s, a climbing wall debuted.

One of the most significant aspects of mobile recreation has been its outreach efforts, providing recreation opportunities and experiences to communities, including Get Outdoors! Adventure units, inflatable bouncers and more.

The OCParks Express transports residents from urban communities to Oakland County Parks. Residents sign up for canoeing, kayaking and hiking plus fall color and holiday light tours.

Debuting in 2014 were Snow Let's GO and Hot Spots, delivering snow and water fun.

Fire & Ice = signature winter event

Michiganders are hardy folks.

Instead of hunkering down indoors, they embrace winter at events like the Seventh Annual Fire & Ice Festival which draws 65,000 annually.

In collaboration with the City of Rochester, Downtown Rochester and Oakland County, parks staff and more than 200 volunteers turn a city street into a tubing hill, create an ice rink, make snow for dog sledding demos and host snowshoeing and cross-country skiing clinics.

The event also features fireworks, live music, ice carving, a broom ball tourney and a 5K Run affiliated with The Brooksie Way Half Marathon.

“Fire & Ice is a perfect example of our team coming together and sharing the responsibilities to deliver a first-class special event experience to residents,” Chief of Recreation Programs and Services Terry Fields said. “It’s the same philosophy as the Annual Marshmallow Drop in Southfield, Arts, Beats & Eats in Royal Oak and the Brooksie Way at Oakland University. More resources at the table equal high quality regional events.”



Rural Recreation

The magic of a county fair

Over time, county fairs have provided rural families with opportunities to travel, recreate, compete, forge business relationships, learn new farming techniques, buy the latest gadget, or to introduce new crops and breeding stock to their production. When generations of American families moved to urban centers to find work in factories or offices, fairs provided an annual ticket to reconnect with a way of life that was set aside with the selling of the family farm. Today, most of us would have a hard time saying when or if any of our relatives ever worked on a farm, but county fairs still matter to us.

When was the last time you saw a newborn calf, fed a goat, or saw a kid brushing a rabbit? Chances are it was when you went to the fair. No matter who you are, where you live, or what your background, fairs stir our imaginations. They evoke images of rural America, crazy food treats (best eaten once a year), and carnival rides that glow and whirl into the summer night. Most of all, fairs are those magical places that seem to appear and disappear in the landscape overnight, like some sort of American Brigadoon. Their brevity adds to their mystique, reminding us that life is fleeting and each experience precious.



The Oakland County Fair was moved to Springfield Oaks County Park in 1971 from its previous location in Pontiac. This year, Oakland County Parks together with the non-profit Oakland County 4-H Fair Association hosted the 33rd Oakland County Fair at Springfield Oaks. It was the largest, best attended, most diverse fair yet.

This year saw the return of old favorites like the midway, figure-8 races, and food vendors, but with some new twists. A family of motorcycle daredevils who holds the world's record for most spinning motorbikes in an iron sphere, was there. The Miracle of Birth Barn was still the most popular attraction with the emergence of chicks, calves, goats, and piglets that seem to be everyone's "Fan Favorite." Food vendors continued to push the envelope on what can be fried or put on a stick.

The petting zoo seems to get more popular each year because where else can kids pet pygmy goats that seem to eat their weight in sliced carrots.

Of course the thing that continues to be the backbone of the annual Oakland County Fair is the participation of young people and the pride they show as their work is exhibited, from photography and artwork to cows and bunnies. The looks on their faces radiate excitement. The confidence and capability that they demonstrate is why we have a fair. It is why the staff and volunteers work so hard to make sure that visitors to the fair can count on a safe enjoyable experience to "magically appear" each year.



Recycling history for recreation

In its years of maintaining historical resources, parks staff has learned that history, whether personal or public, makes a great story.

Wedding guests at Glen Oaks Clubhouse would be intrigued to learn it was designed in 1925 by Emily Butterfield, the first woman architect registered in the State of Michigan. An 1800s farmhouse at Independence Oaks-North was built by William Bailey, a descendent of the family that started the Bailey Settlement now called Independence Township.

When that culture is shared, recreational experiences are enhanced by the sense of history. At a historical tour of a former family estate at Addison Oaks County Park, visitors experienced oral history about the creation of Puddlevue, the Buhl Family's name for their country estate.

"It certainly transforms the experience when you realize you are taking in the same views that people did a hundred years ago," Principal Planner Jon Noyes said.



Starting new life where history lives

History has the most amazing stories to tell.

In 1884, the Ellis Family had just finished constructing a barn to house Percheron draft horses for its breeding business. Instead of the usual hammering of nails, Ester Swayze Ellis thought she heard a kitten mewling. Imagine her surprise when the basket on the front porch held a baby boy. She and husband Norman adopted the baby, naming him Glenn.

Fast forward 130 years and the barn is playing a different role in the start of new families. Brides seeking a cozy atmosphere are choosing the site to say "I do."

Visitors today won't see horses or hay inside the barn. Instead they'll see the barn transformed into a wedding and reception destination.

The nationally-recognized barn is so popular, the barn is already booked through 2015.



Heritage Sports returns to roots

Instead of traveling "Up North", there are opportunities to hunt and fish at the Oakland County Parks and state lands. Oakland County Parks and Recreation is working with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to improve awareness of local heritage sport opportunities.

Starting with veterans, disabled individuals and youth, the partnership should serve as 'stepping stones' to introduce the recreational experiences that have been part of Michigan's heritage for generations.

This is one of the reasons the MDNR has worked diligently to acquire and maintain recreational lands and state game areas in Southeast Michigan. Without relatively easy access to lands to hunt, fish, and trap, pastimes that Oakland County Parks and Recreation staff terms "Heritage Sports", it is impossible to expect people to continue those pursuits.



Natural Resources and Environment

Osprey: A wildlife success story

Osprey populations are resurging in Oakland County. The dramatic sight of these fish-eating raptors soaring overhead or plunging talons into shallow lakes to catch fish are no longer rare occurrences. The comeback story of these amazing birds is perhaps nature’s finest salute to the wilder side of Oakland County and the excellent osprey habitat protected by Oakland County Parks.

Historically osprey was found throughout Michigan but the population plunged due to pesticide poisoning, eventually disappearing entirely from Oakland County. In 1988 the Michigan Department of Natural Resources gave wings to a Wildlife Action Plan and created a multi-agency partnership with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the Huron-Clinton Metroparks, the Detroit Zoological Society, DTE Energy and a cadre of volunteers to jump-start a bold reintroduction plan.

The program has been successful beyond expectations. One osprey nest is on a cell tower just a few seconds’ flight from Highland Oaks County Park.

Sightings are also increasingly common above the lakes at Independence Oaks and Rose Oaks county parks.



Solving a stewardship puzzle

The nearly 6,700 acres of Oakland County Parks are part of the monarchs “flyway to freedom and cycle of life.” This theme is emphasized in new interpretive signage that includes unusual facts about milkweed, including the United States Navy building a plant in Petoskey MI to process milkweed for use in lifejacket manufacturing during WWII.

Monarch butterfly programming increased as OCP joined a nationwide effort to increase awareness of the species’ plight.

Connecting trails, board by board

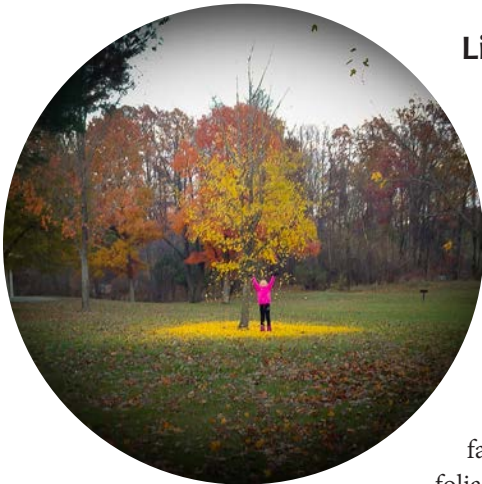
Four county parks received improvements thanks to a Natural Resources Trust Fund grant through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Oakland County Parks funding.

Universally accessible boardwalks, trails, fishing docks and wildlife viewing platforms built to connect and expand trail systems at Highland Oaks and Rose Oaks county parks were officially dedicated by the parks commission in June.

“Both parks are bisected by significant wetland complexes and now trails to areas not previously available to the public, especially individuals with disabilities, are open,” Executive Officer Dan Stencil said. “Our vision is that someday hikers, bikers or equestrians could make their way from Highland Oaks to Rose Oaks to Springfield Oaks in Davisburg and beyond. This is an important step to creating greater trail connectivity within Oakland County.”

Also completed in June was the Red Oaks Connector Path which provides walkers and bikers a connection between Red Oaks Waterpark on 13 Mile Road and Red Oaks Dog Park on Dequindre. The new trail is the result of an Oakland County Parks and Recreation survey showing walking and hiking were the top priorities of park visitors.

The MNRTF grant also funded boardwalk and bridge improvements at Lyon Oaks County Park.



*Capturing the Recreational
Experience Category –
Independence Oaks County Park
Mark Berndt*

Living resource worth \$50 million

In 2014, the first hazardous tree inventory of parks was conducted, focusing on trees adjacent to trails and in high public use areas.

“Trees provide many environmental, economic, social and health benefits that justify spending time and money on their care and maintenance as well as their role as wildlife habitat,” Natural Resources Planner Brittany Bird said. “Trees in our nearly 6,700 acres are valued at nearly \$50 million. They provide enormous value by producing oxygen, reducing carbon dioxide, providing shade, improving water quality and providing habitat.”

Tree maintenance needs are determined by evaluating them for factors such as root characteristics, branch structure, trunk, canopy, foliage condition and the presence of pests.

Some of the cut trees are left where they fall as microhabitat for native species dependent on deadfalls. Trees removed from high public use areas may be destined for wood chippers, ultimately landing on park trails or used in the new wood-fired boiler for the Wint Nature Center.



Healthy Living



Creating access for all users

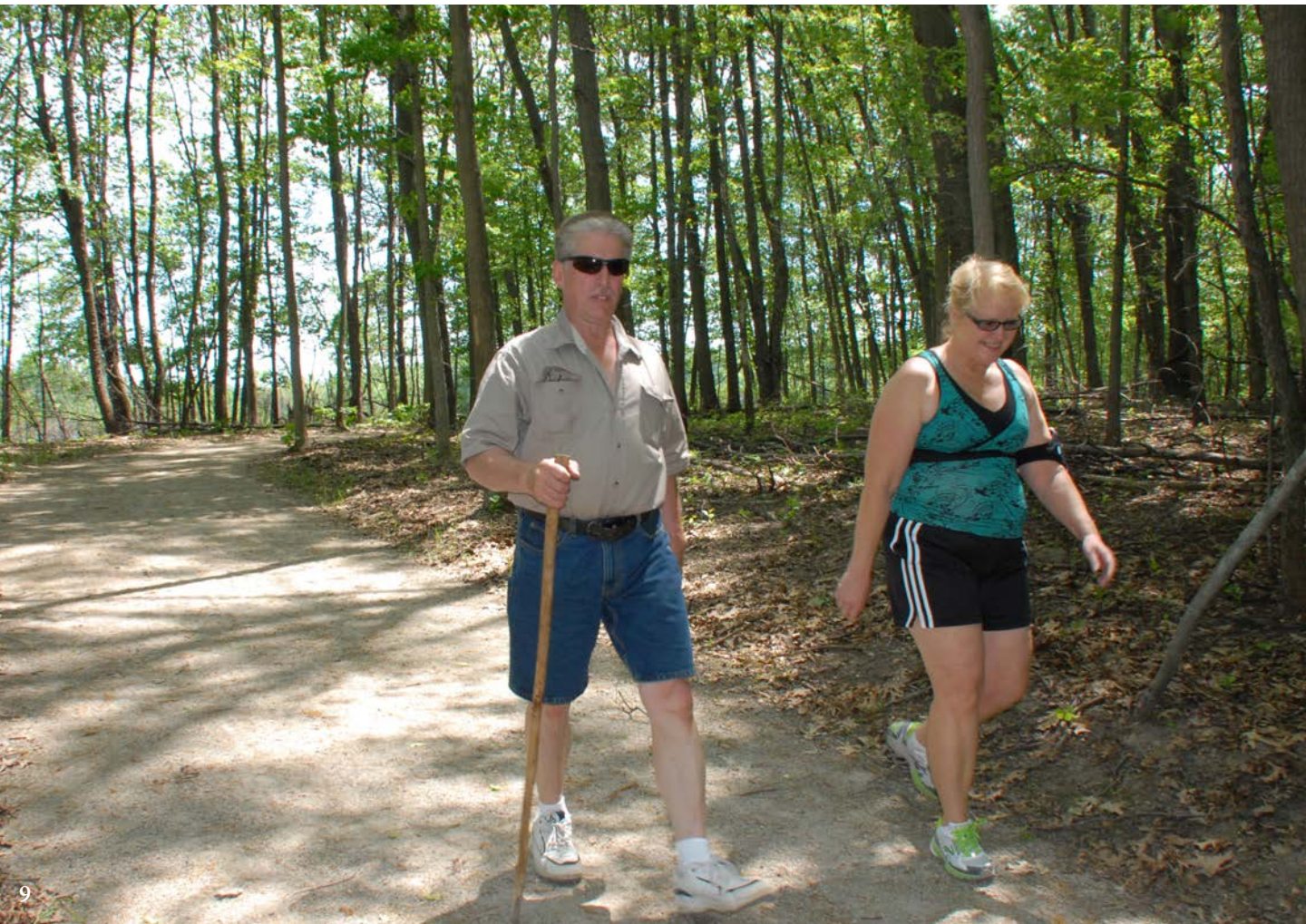
Seven years ago, OCPR hosted an open house to explore the design of universally accessible playgrounds. Advocates for individuals with disabilities were asked for input. The late Roger McCarville, a double amputee and host of Disabilities Today which aired on PBS, pushed for projects that would allow wheelchair users to access natural areas, not just asphalt paths.

Three attempts to secure grant funding, a year of design work and two years of construction brought to fruition McCarville’s dream to “create access without destroying the experience.”

In 2014, OCPRC completed construction on universally accessible trails and boardwalks at Rose Oaks, Highland Oaks, and Red Oaks county parks. This work created pathways to hundreds of acres of parkland previously not open to the general public; barrier-free access to a range of

rare and threatened natural communities; stable surfaces for wildlife viewing; and even universally accessible fishing at four remote glacial kettle lakes.

Trail construction finished just in time for Highland Oaks to be the host site for a quarterly Planners Gathering sponsored by Oakland County Economic Development and Community Affairs. The new trails and boardwalks were the perfect backdrop for planning professionals from across Southeast Michigan to learn about and discuss walkable communities and advancements in trail connectivity in Oakland County. It was also a perfect setting for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to announce a statewide initiative to promote standardization and collaboration among recreational providers to realize the vision of a statewide trail network.





Local food focus benefits many

A landscaper turned farmer found success in growing mushrooms that are sold locally.

Ed VanDevelder, owner of Bald Mountain Mushrooms of Lake Orion, is one of 140 vendors selling locally grown and handcrafted products at the Oakland County Market. His specialties are shiitakes, oyster, and cinnamon cap. He sells about 250 pounds weekly at the market.

“When you support local farmers, you keep your money in the state. We sell everything from mushrooms to handmade soap,” Market Manager Jeremy Brown said. “We have vendors from 17 counties selling here so you can see the economic impact the Oakland County Market makes locally and across the state.”

More than 300,000 shoppers visit the market annually.

And to make sure fresh produce is available to all populations, several food assistance programs are in place, including EBT/SNAP (Electronic Benefits Transfer / Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program); Project Fresh; Market Fresh; and Double Up Food Bucks.

These programs allow more than 1.9 million people on food assistance benefits in Michigan access to healthy, locally grown produce.

Grant fuels passion for sports

For the second time, Oakland County Parks and Recreation was the recipient of a \$20,000 Fueling Communities Grant from BP, supported by Barrick Enterprises, to fund a disabled veterans sports initiative.

Sports programs funded with the Fueling Communities Grant include the Paralympic Experience at Oakland University. The event offered demonstrations of wheelchair basketball and tennis, golf, sit volleyball and fly fishing.

In total, OCPR has received \$40,000 from the grant supported by Barrick Enterprises Inc., a family owned and locally operated company specializing in the sale/delivery of wholesale fuel products. President Robert Barrick is a United States Army veteran.





Deciphering the ‘fun business’

Oakland County Parks and Recreation provides dozens of services ranging from trails and open space to full-scale waterpark experiences. As part of its recent Service Portfolio project, OCPR is beginning to shift how it prices and provides those services for county residents and regional visitors.

A key part of the portfolio was development of a cost recovery pyramid for the services. Developed through numerous public stakeholder and staff meetings, the pyramid provides information to staff and the commission on “who benefits” from the services provided. For example, the public placed “Open Park Usage” on the bottom tier of the pyramid, highlighting that this service (the provision of trails, open space, picnic areas, water access, etc.) is of benefit to the entire county due to the environmental and economic benefits it provides. Therefore the cost recovery expectation of this service is relatively low, at only 5%. On the other hand, a service such as the rental of campsites has a much more individualized benefit, with a higher cost-recovery goal.

“It’s important to note that this distinction doesn’t mean that campgrounds or other more individualized services aren’t important or desired by our residents,” Executive Officer Dan Stencil said. “Our new method of analyzing cost recovery and applying that information to how we provide—and price—services, allows us to focus taxpayer funding (our dedicated millage) on the services that benefit all our residents. Simultaneously, we’re re-evaluating pricing of our more individualized services to ensure they rely less on tax funding and more on user support. Residents and other park users shouldn’t expect to see any drastic changes in pricing, though.”

“We’re looking at every aspect of how we provide services to the public,” Stencil said. “In some areas we may increase our marketing efforts to drive more people to a particular service, seek partners or privatize. In other areas we may look for ways to reduce costs and create efficiencies. Pricing is only one tool used in providing the highest quality recreational services to our residents. At the end of the day, we want to ensure that we’re being the best possible stewards of the tax funding entrusted to us by our residents.”

The owner of a \$200,000 valued home pays about \$25 annually to support Oakland County Parks and Recreation. The .2415 millage has been renewed by voters since 1966, most recently in 2010 at 76.6% approval.

Maintenance top priority, guests say

The Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission’s capital and maintenance projects and programs have an approximate 75–85% annual reinvestment in existing park infrastructure and facilities.

“Upkeep and improvement of existing facilities remains a consistently high priority. Well-maintained county parks and recreation opportunities improve the quality of life for residents,” Executive Officer Dan Stencil said.

The parks system improves, maintains and manages more than 230 facilities, buildings and structures within the 6,700 acres it manages. Guest surveys consistently give high marks for the system’s well maintained, clean, safe parks.

In 2014, improvements brought the 1884 Ellis Barn up to code compliance; a new roof was added to the Buhl Estate at Addison Oaks; a campground/restroom shower building was renovated; and two play structures were replaced.

Conservation message soars via imaginary wings

When given the chance, people will take action to protect the things they care about, but they can only care if they are aware.

That was the impetus of the 2014 Community Stewardship Initiative proposed by the Oakland Parks Foundation and funded through the generous sponsorship of ITC.

High quality, professional interpretive signs were spruced up with dramatic artwork, font size linked to the depth of understanding, and emotionally evocative writing. The new wayside exhibits sporting catchy titles like Cold-Blooded Killers, The Kingdom of Glaciers and Giant Beaver, and Life after Death have made their way into the parks.

OCP used the “cute factor” to raise awareness of the declining Monarch Butterfly population. Personalizing butterfly wings and making antennae were part of the first ever Butterfly Parade at Red Oaks Nature Center.

“If 200 butterfly-wing-wearing kids flapping their arms to music doesn’t catch your attention or pull at your heart strings, then nothing will,” Principal Planner Jon Noyes said. “Butterfly conservation is a dry topic, but with a little imagination, some glue sticks and stickers, parks staff can make magic happen.”



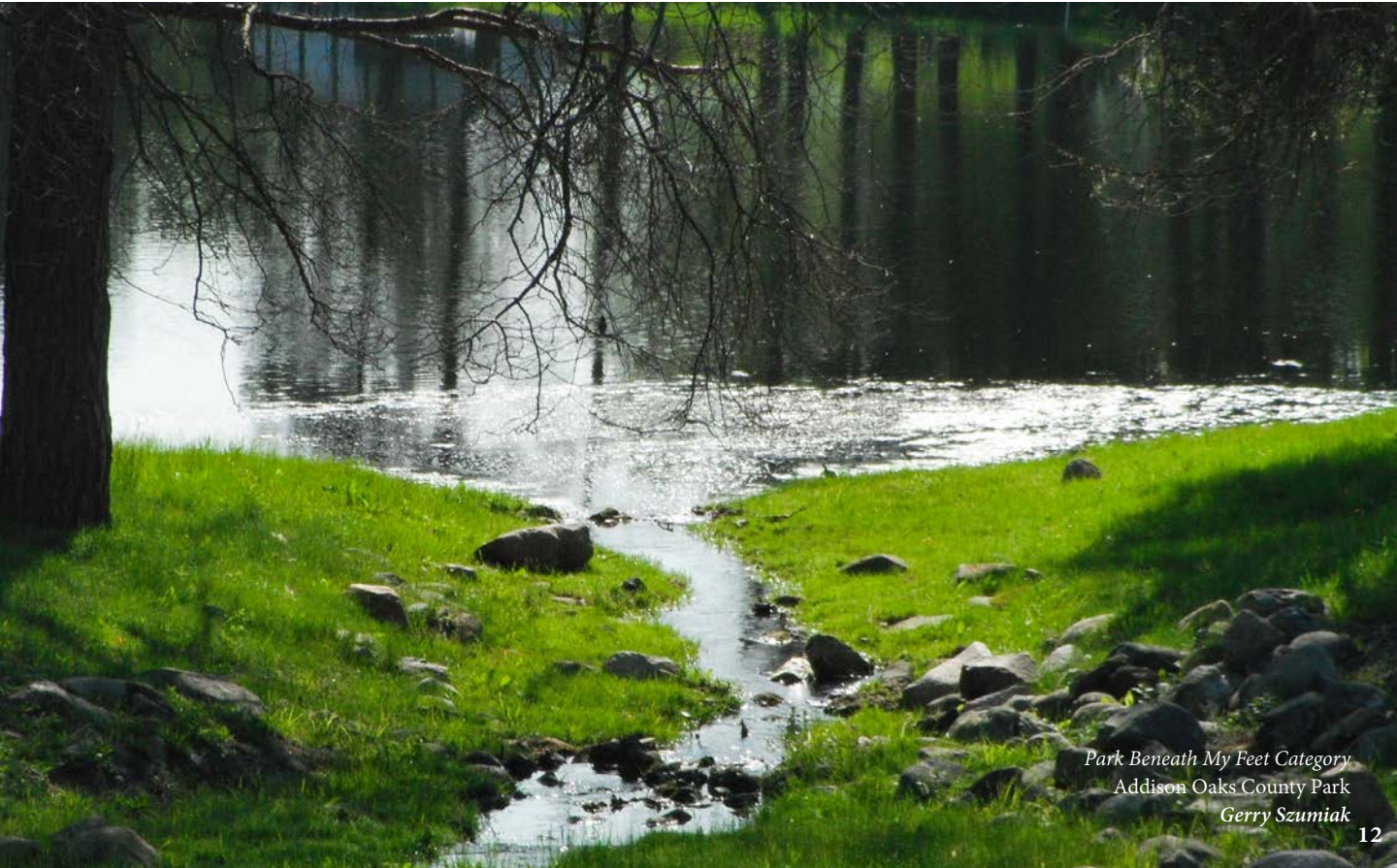
Green ideas foster projects

Oakland County Parks and Recreation is environmentally responsible by protecting the environment and conserving resources. Many of its innovations are actually employee ideas submitted to the Internal Green Fund Program. Proposals are submitted and awarded funding annually.

Some suggestions also improve customer service. For its two campgrounds, staff suggested installing ice and water kiosks. They are expected to reduce energy by 50-70 percent.

The switch to LED lighting at five parks will save energy, increase security and reduce costs. Using fallen wood collected at Independence Oaks County Park, the Wint Nature Center will be heated by a high-efficiency wood-burning boiler. The project will be recycled into an educational resource for guests.

“Our staff has expertise in so many areas and they interact with guests daily, so their proposals are quite informed,” Manager of Park and Recreation Operations Sue Wells said. “One of 2014’s larger projects was a natural shoreline demonstration and water-quality improvement project for Adams Lake at Addison Oaks County Park. The natural shoreline will be restored to mitigate stormwater run-off draining into the lake.”



*Park Beneath My Feet Category
Addison Oaks County Park
Gerry Szumiak*

Parks

ADDISON OAKS
W. Romeo Rd., Leonard
248.693.2432
Conference Center: 248.693.8305

CATALPA OAKS
Greenfield Rd., Southfield
For information–248.424.7081

GROVELAND OAKS
Dixie Highway, Holly
248.634.9811

HIGHLAND OAKS
Milford Rd., Highland
For information–248.858.0906

INDEPENDENCE OAKS
Sashabaw Road, Clarkston
Park: 248.625.0877
Nature Center: 248.625.6473

LYON OAKS
Pontiac Trail, Wixom
For information–248.858.0906

ORION OAKS
Clarkston Road, Lake Orion
For information–248.858.0906

RED OAKS
13 Mile Road, Madison Heights
Nature Center–248.585.0100
Waterpark–248.858.0918

ROSE OAKS
Fish Lake Rd., Holly
For information–248.858.0906

SPRINGFIELD OAKS
Andersonville Rd., Davisburg
248.634.7899

WATERFORD OAKS
Activity Center
Watkins Lake Road, Waterford
248.858.0913
Waterpark
Scott Lake Road, Waterford
For information–248.858.0918

Golf Courses

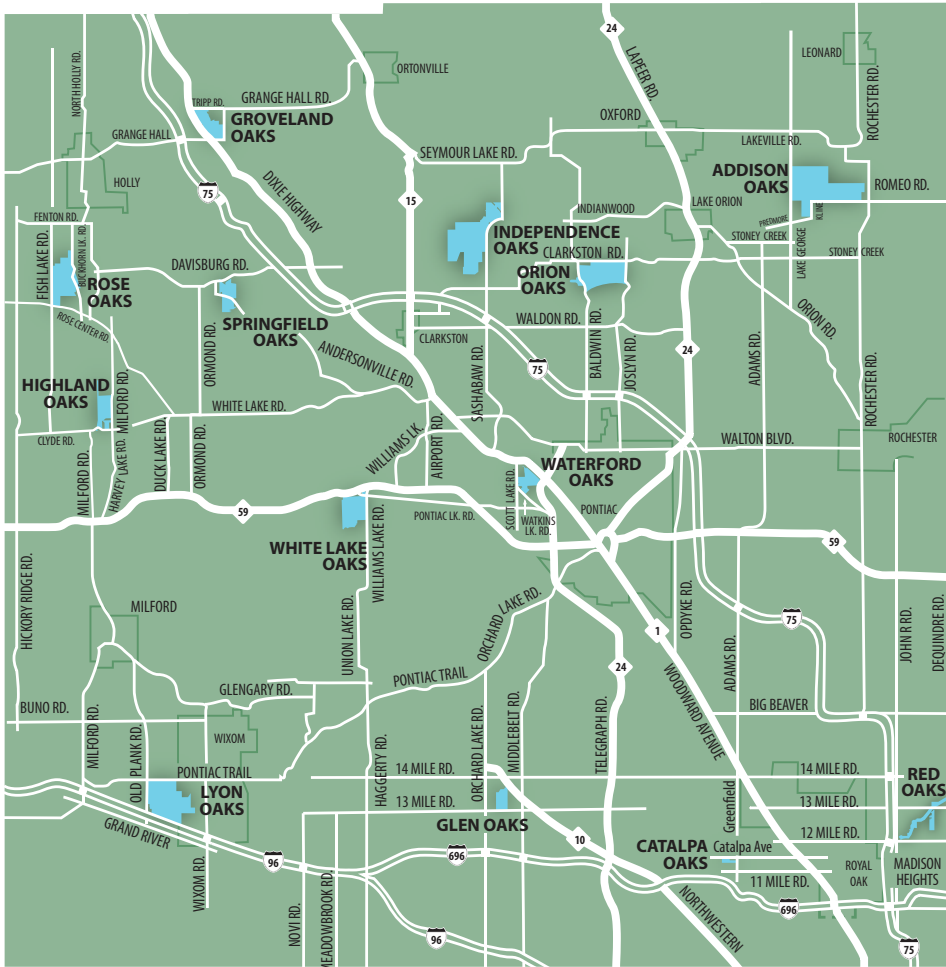
GLEN OAKS
13 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills
248.851.8356

LYON OAKS
Pontiac Trail, Wixom
248.437.1488

RED OAKS
John R, Madison Heights
248.541.5030

SPRINGFIELD OAKS
Andersonville Rd., Davisburg
248.625.2540

WHITE LAKE OAKS
Williams Lake Rd., White Lake
248.698.2700



Awards & Recognition

- Michigan Recreation and Park Association – 2014 New Professional Matt Parly
- National Association of County Parks and Recreation Officials Historical/ Cultural Facility Award – Ellis Barn
- National Association of County Parks and Recreation Officials: Marketing Award – Oakland County Market
- Waterford Chamber of Commerce: Community Partner Award – Oakland County Market

Commissioners

Gerald A. Fisher, Chairman
J. David VanderVeen, Vice Chairman
John A. Scott, Secretary
Pecky D. Lewis, Jr., Chairperson Emeritus
A. David Baumhart III
Gregory C. Jamian
Robert E. Kostin
Christine Long
Gary R. McGillivray
Jim Nash

Daniel J. Stencil, Executive Officer, CPRE

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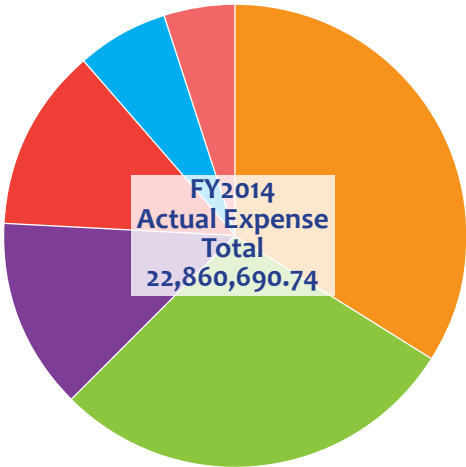
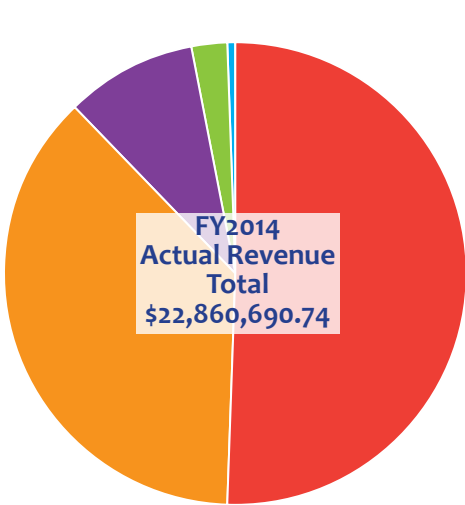
*Nature Category
2nd Place & Fan Favorite
Independence Oaks–North
Kristin Kogut*



Testimonials

“Thank you for the wonderful opportunity with ‘Dreams and Wings’. Connor had an unbelievable time and I know the memory is unforgettable. I am amazed by the adaptive programs available through Oakland County Parks. We also participated in the special needs day at the Oakland County Fair.”
Tracy L. Osos, Oak Park

“The maintenance and updates on the Addison Oaks Mountain Bike Trails is probably the best kept secret of Oakland County. It’s always our ‘go to’ trail for friends and taking my family out for a close escape from the city!”
Marc Zaborny, Auburn Hills



Taxes	\$11,567,251.30	50.6%	Salaries	\$7,785,306.89	34.1%
Charges for Services	\$8,505,985.40	37.2%	Contractual Services	\$6,527,693.86	28.6%
Planned Use of Balance	\$2,129,115.97	9.3%	Depreciation	\$3,032,207.49	13.3%
Investment Income	\$546,540.51	2.4%	Fringe Benefits	\$2,900,068.81	12.7%
Other	\$111,797.56	.5%	Internal Services	\$1,508,850.93	6.6%
			Commodities	\$1,106,562.76	4.8%

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Page 7-8:
 John Meyland (Monarch larva and fall scene)

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The Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission provides equal opportunity employment, programs and activities without regard to race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, marital status or handicap.

The Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act and make reasonable accommodations to assist individuals with disabilities.

PRESORTED
FIRST CLASS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ROYAL OAK MI
PERMIT 14

The Park Beneath My Feet Category
1st Place – Lake Sixteen
Carole Baire

Orion Oaks County Park

Oakland County—A great place to live, work and play

 **OAKLAND COUNTY PARKS**