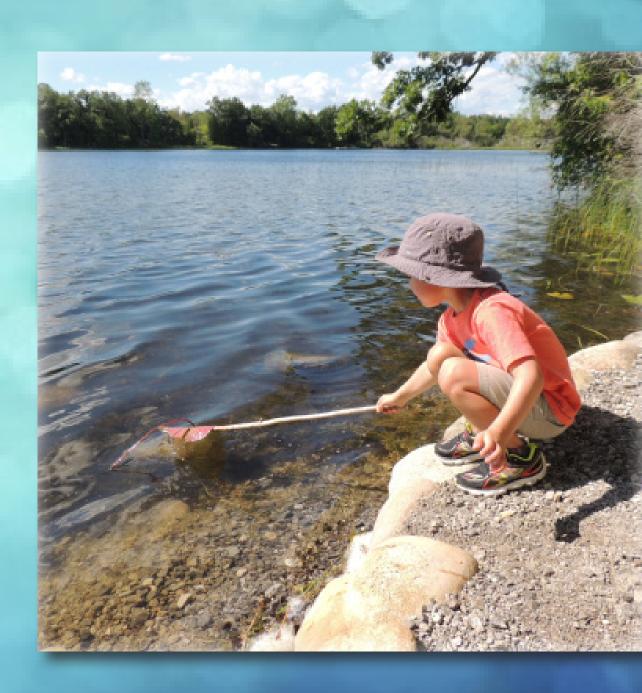
OAKLAND COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION 2015 Annual Report

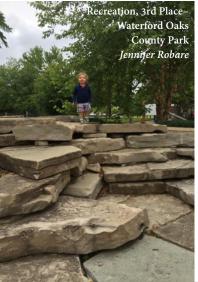
GREAT BILLS GREAT PHIS





The 2015 Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission (left to right) A. David Baumhart III, David W. Potts, Gary R. McGillivray, Vice Chairman J. David VanderVeen, Chairman Gerald A. Fisher, Secretary John A. Scott, Christine Long, Robert E. Kostin, Jim Nash and Ron Fowkes. 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.



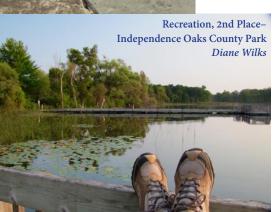
















Message from the

Chairman



Gerald A. Fisher

The Foundation of Excellence

Oakland County residents appreciate having an excellent parks and recreation program. This appreciation finds expression in a consistent vote of the electors of the County in favor of continuing the millage dedicated for county parks and recreation. Residents also vote 'yes' with their feet by frequently attending parks and recreation programs and special events. Why do residents feel this way?

The answer to this question is very simple: the foresight and talent exerted over the years by the County's Parks and Recreation team has been remarkable, starting with the Commission, and including the administration and staff. This long-term effort has provided Oakland County with one of the very best county parks systems in the United States.

One of the bright faces of this foresight and talent was recently recognized at a statewide gathering of parks and recreation officials. On the evening of October 1, 2015, I had the great honor and privilege of introducing my predecessor Commission Chair, Pecky Lewis, for induction into the Michigan Parks and Recreation Hall of Fame! Although succeeding Pecky as chairperson has been a daunting task, introducing and supporting him for Hall of Fame recognition was an easy assignment. Merely describing Pecky's selfless and talented contributions to our Parks and Recreation program brought smiles and wide eyes to the numerous parks and recreation officials in the room. Here is a short list of his work:



Pecky D. Lewis, Jr.

- Served on the Parks and Recreation Commission for over 30 (yes 30) years
- Elected by the Commission as Chair for 18 consecutive years
- Played a role in opening and expanding parks in north, south, east and west Oakland County
- Helped establish golf courses, nature centers and dog parks, again in various parts of the County
- Oversaw the creation of Red Oaks Waterpark
- Saw to it that visitors with physical and mental challenges could enjoy the parks, recreation programs and special events

Perhaps the best news is that the exceptional contributions by Pecky Lewis have been contagious for other Oakland County Parks Commissioners, as well as our administration and staff. A dedicated effort is made to earn the public's confidence that our excellent system of 13 parks will endure into the future as one of the finest systems in the nation.

COVER

Best of Show
winner, Martha Myers,
photographed her then
5-year-old son, Blake "Fishing
for Lily Pads" at Independence
Oaks County Park. He loves
learning about frogs and
their habitat.

Urban Recreation



Executive Officer Dan Stencil prepares to unveil an interpretive sign donated by ITC after the ribbon cutting by the Parks and Recreation Commission. Pictured left to right: Stencil, Gary McGillivray, Chairman Gerald Fisher, David Baumhart, former mayor of the City of Madison Heights Edward Swanson, Vice Chairman David VanderVeen, Jim Nash, Robert Kostin, Ron Fowkes and Secretary John Scott.

New trail makes connections

The Red Oaks Connector Trail offers walkers and bikers an easy way to get from Red Oaks Waterpark on 13 Mile Road to Red Oaks Dog Park on Dequindre.

The newest in a series of interpretive signs, Digging for Bones, was also unveiled at the May dedication. The sign includes tidbits of historical and environmental information about the 163-acre park.

The connector trail project was partially funded through a 2010 Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Development Grant of \$214,000. The remaining

\$146,000 was funded by Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission's Capital Improvement Program Fund.

The pathway also provides views of naturalized grassland areas that show the value of various lands for urban wildlife.

The emerging "Oak Routes" network of trails, pathways and waterways traverses much of the county's 910-square miles. This non-motorized system is envisioned to serve a diverse range of users, providing safe and well-maintained linkages to important natural, cultural and civic destinations and other points of interest within and outside the county.

New trends in recreation bring thrills

Oakland County Parks staff reviews trends to provide visitors with the latest in recreation experiences. This year, they hit the road with a new zip line, inflatable water slide and glow equipment, part of the Mobile Recreation or "fun on wheels" unit that takes recreation to the system's 13 parks and Oakland County's cities, villages and townships and private party rentals.

"The zip line was a big hit with our campground recreation programs and Get Out and Play at Catalpa Oaks County Park, a free event for the community," Recreation Program Supervisor – Mobile Recreation John Haney said. "People either laughed or screamed when they tried it."

The 180-foot-long water slide was a welcome reprieve on summer's hot, humid days for campers and day visitors to Addison Oaks County Park.

The glow equipment put a new spin on outdoor recreation with glow putt-putt during several summer community events, including Come Out and Play with Beverly Hills, Camp Out in West Bloomfield and Trick or Tees at Red Oaks County Park.

Collaborating with many Oakland County communities through the Recreation Assistance Partnership Program, the parks system took outdoor recreational programming directly to residents. In 2015, RAPP provided outreach programming to cities, villages and townships with programs focusing on outdoor recreation.





Mojo, SpongeBob, and Peyton create waterpark buzz

Oakland County Parks teamed up with the Mojo in the Morning radio show for the Channel 955 Town Tour series. Morning personalities Mojo, Spike and Shannon took to the airwaves from Red Oaks Waterpark on July 24 welcoming faithful listeners who began lining up at 4 a.m.

"We had 240 guests enjoy this unique swimming opportunity," Supervisor – Communications and Marketing Desiree Stanfield said. "Water and radio do mix. Our first swimmer was in the water by 6:05 a.m."

Nickelodeon's SpongeBob SquarePants visited Waterford Oaks Waterpark for a weekend in June. Disney Star Peyton List hosted a meet-and-greet at Red Oaks Waterpark in early August. One dad drove 330 miles round trip from Grand Rapids so his daughter could spend three minutes with Peyton, who stars in the new Disney series Bunk'd.

"It was wonderful having Peyton List at Red Oaks. We received so many compliments about how kind Peyton was and that she took the time to speak with each person who waited in line to see her," Park Supervisor Matt Pardy said. "She was really engaged with the kids, taking selfies with their phones and signing autographs."

Projects improve access to recreation

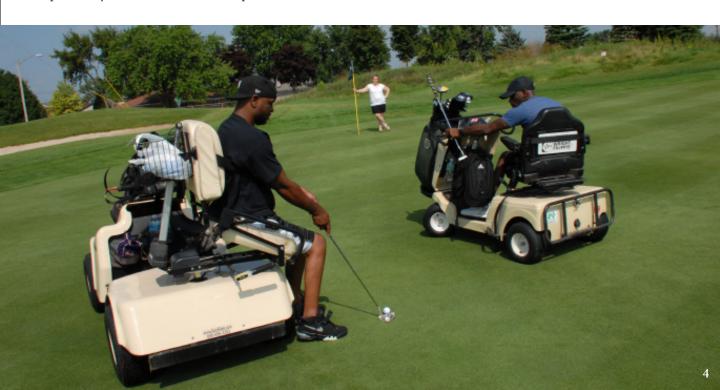
With the focus on greater accessibility from parking areas to facilities, including trails and boardwalks, Oakland County Parks invested nearly \$100,000 in 2015 on improvements compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Improvements were made to the Adams Lake picnic area at Addison Oaks County Park; accessible spaces were paved at the Groveland Oaks County Park campground recreation parking area; and wheelchair-accessible hay wagons were built in-house for both parks. Free WiFi was added for camper convenience at Groveland Oaks.

At Independence Oaks County Park, the path at the Upper Bushman fishing area was regraded and a portion relocated; and the entire Twin Chimneys picnic area, including pathways, connection and potential building modifications for existing facilities, was redesigned.

An accessible golf cart was also purchased for use at any of the five Oakland County Parks golf courses.

"Oakland County Parks and Recreation has always been a strong advocate of accessible recreation for individuals of all abilities. These improvements make it easier for everyone to get around, including access to previously inaccessible areas of the parks," Executive Officer Dan Stencil said.



Rural Recreation

Resources bring history to life

Working with the Oakland County Historical Commission, including a professor emeritus and special lecturer from Oakland University, staff developed tools to identify historic assets and interpret park history as a means of enhancing the recreational experience.

Most of this work was "behind the scenes" and advances park planning efforts, but occasionally the public gets a firsthand look at the results. This year saw development of a historical booklet for the Buhl Estate *The Road to Puddleview* and the system-wide collection of antiques and other artifacts accumulated throughout the 49-year history of the Oakland County Parks.

Items are being documented, cleaned, researched and inventoried by volunteers. In some cases artifacts have been incorporated into traveling exhibits, like the Ellis Barn Archeological Dig. Or they are returned to the parks where they create ambiance or provide props for special events like the Ellis Barn Dance co-hosted by the Clarkston Community Historical Society.

Equestrians



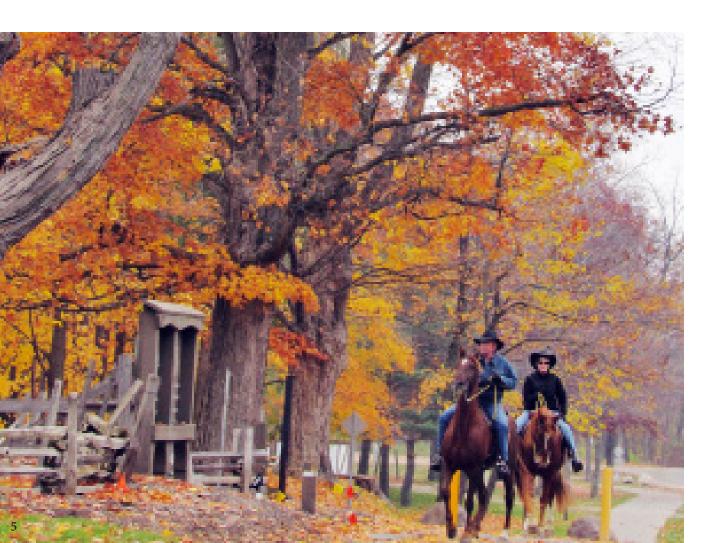
Addison Oaks

Trails consistently rank number one on the list of amenities preferred by visitors. Guests with four-legged friends give Addison Oaks County Park "two tails up" not only for its trails, but for its horse-friendly attitude.

"If heaven on earth was blessed with horses, it might look like the 1,140 acres of Addison Oaks," equestrian Sharon Greene said.

With more than 7,000 horses in Oakland County, park officials galloped ahead with the 2.4-mile Addison Oaks Connector Trail in 2013 to provide connectivity to equestrians in rural northern county. Equestrians were consulted prior to construction of boardwalks that would traverse wetlands for weight, animal sensitivity and safety issues. The connector trail joins Addison Oaks County Park Main and East sections, and links directly to Cranberry Lake Park and indirectly to Bald Mountain State Recreation via Lake George Road. These connections give riders plenty of space to explore.

And the park has found a niche with the Addison Oaks Trail Riders equestrian campouts each fall. The event includes trail rides, equestrian soccer and even a ride to a local restaurant.



Rose Oaks boardwalks complete trail connectivity

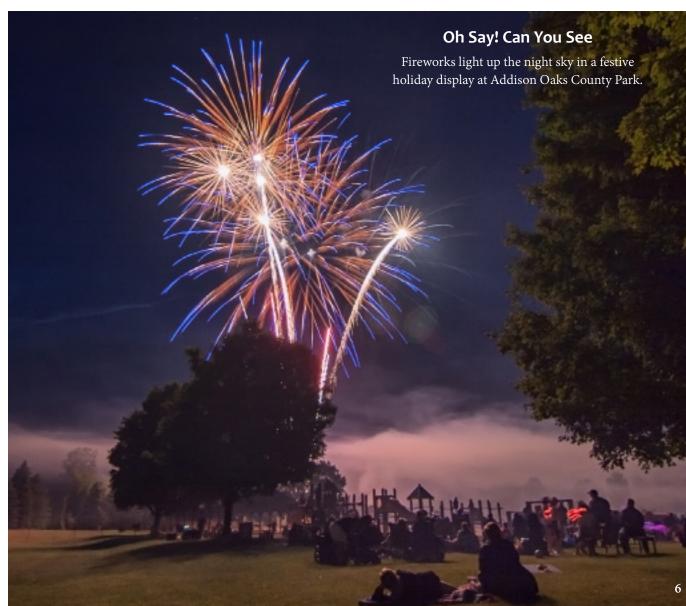
Rose Oaks County Park is one of the more natural parks, yet a highly desirable destination for outdoor recreation enthusiasts. While the 640-acre park is rich with wetland habitat and natural features that include glacial moraines and glacially created kettle lakes and vernal ponds, access to isolated upland areas has been difficult—if not impossible—until now.

With completion of grant-funded trails and boardwalks, including the recently opened 552-foot wetland-spanning boardwalk, park guests can enjoy an enhanced trail and recreational experience. At the same time, the integrity of these environmentally sensitive areas create the ideal habitat for wildlife, including the Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnake, Sandhill Crane, Barred Owl and Blanding's Turtle.

Previously, there was little more than two miles of trail in the park with no connectivity from the east parking lot on Buckhorn Lake Road to the west lot on Fish Lake Road, as well as no public access to more than 40 acres of parkland at the park's north end.

Today there are 5.5 miles of trail, and equestrian-friendly boardwalks are also excellent viewing platforms for nature lovers and photographers. In addition, the new boardwalk provides safe access across the wetlands for testing and maintenance of a pipeline and legal and safe access for bow hunters to the property's northern portion. The newly connected trails also increase opportunities for hikers, equestrians, cross-country skiers and ice fishers seeking easier access to the isolated lakes.





Natural Resources & Environment

Butterflies on Parade

Butterflies are crucial to ecosystems, cross-pollinating plants and serving as part of the food chain. Some species are in danger, such as the monarch butterfly, which is known for the black-and-orange pattern on its wings. In their caterpillar phase, monarch butterflies feed on milkweed which is in decline. Oakland County Parks brings awareness to this problem in a fun and hands-on way with the annual Butterfly Parade at Red Oaks Nature Center

Children decorate butterfly T-shirts, make butterfly wings and play games. Naturalists lead Hungry Caterpillar

hikes and talk about the different plants caterpillars like to eat and how butterflies interact with the environment. Children visit the butterfly tent filled with live monarch butterflies. The big finale is a parade where participants don their butterfly wings and "fly" down the nature trails. The event is free thanks to the sponsorship of ITC, which has been instrumental with this initiative.

"The monarch population has been decimated over the past 10 years," Principal Planner Jon Noyes said. "We want to get people to care, and the best way to do that is to make an emotional connection."



included employees from Fiat Chrysler Automobiles and Michigan SEA LIFE Aquarium.

The Clinton River Watershed Council is a non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing, protecting and celebrating the Clinton River (with the headwaters within Independence Oaks

7

County Park) and its watershed.



One-way ticket south

Last spring a Palm
Warbler created a
flurry of excitement
when it stopped to
rest at Waterford Oaks
County Park. These
colorful birds overwinter
in the Caribbean and breed

further north than any other warbler—well into northern Canada. Stopover sites like the natural areas of Oakland County Parks provide nourishment and resting cover during their long-distance spring and fall migrations. Avian visitations such as the one by the Palm Warbler are a reminder that birds know no borders.

Old Town

In Search of Herps

A wildlife survey targeting the presence of reptiles and amphibians confirmed breeding populations of the Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnakes in two parks.

Although final data results are still being compiled, the EMR was confirmed in Highland Oaks and Orion Oaks county parks, according to Natural Resources Planner Brittany Bird.

The Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnake is of special interest since Oakland County is a stronghold for the species, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has proposed to list the EMR as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act.

"The final survey results will provide guidance aimed at geographically based best management. Practices for seasonal timing of land management including burning, mowing and herbicide application, as well as guidance on limiting the potential impact of future development projects such as trails on documented herpetological species of special concern and their habitats," Bird said.

In a world filled
with complaints, let us
give a loud salute to all the
men and women who make our
Oakland County Parks and Recreation
such a fabulous treasure. We have
walked the Independence Oaks trails for
years and find them to consistently be
clean, safe and with nature preserved
with all her beauty.

John and AnneMarie Arzenti, Clarkston

Healthy Living



Serving up service and value

Blue Water Grill, Oakland County Parks' self-operated food and beverage concessions, opened in 2015 at the Groveland Oaks Campground and the system's two waterparks.

Previously, food and beverage services were provided by contracted vendors.

"We have more control over the quality and price of the food that is served," Chief of Business Operations Phil Castonia said. "Guest favorites this summer were chicken tenders and burgers grilled outdoors."

Healthy menu items were added including grilled chicken sandwiches, turkey burgers, whole grain chips with salsa and soft-serve yogurt, thanks to grant funding from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services in cooperation with mParks,

(Michigan Recreation and Park Association).

Additionally, the waterparks offered season passes for unlimited visits. "Many guests enjoy the waterparks multiple times a season, so this is a cost-saving initiative that makes sense for their families," Matt Pardy, Red Oaks Park Supervisor, said.

The Schulz Boys—Ethan, Jeremy and Dan—logged hours of swimming at Waterford Oaks Waterpark thanks to Mom Susan purchasing season passes.

"Everyone, from the greeters, grill staff and lifeguards, were all very friendly, helpful and looked like they really enjoyed their job. We attended at least once a week and each time staff had smiles on their faces, greeted us with 'hello' and 'good bye' on our way out," she said. "I was very pleased with the whole experience and can't wait until next summer to do it all over again."

Cooking demos a recipe for success

With the area's finest chefs featuring fresh ingredients from local vendors, cooking demonstrations at the Oakland County Market have been a recipe for success.

The demonstrations highlighted winter produce available at the market, such as apples, onions, mushrooms and leeks. Chefs featured these ingredients in their recipes, which were generously donated by market vendors.

During the Cooking with *edible* WOW Series, chefs presented from Lafayette Market, Dorsey Schools Culinary Academy, The Forest Grill, The Lark, Peabody's and Yard Bird. They distributed recipes and samples of the finished results.



"Chef Jeremy Grandon of the Yard Bird showed how potatoes could be prepared in various recipes because that day Penzien's Produce of Imlay City, one of our market vendors, distributed 5,000 pounds of potatoes free of charge," Market Manager Jeremy Brown said.

Metro Detroit television viewers also received a taste of what the Oakland County Market has to offer during a FOX 2 News Morning segment that featured Brown and Chef Jeremy Abbey, event manager for *edible* WOW. Abbey shared cooking tips, demonstrating an Apple Tart with Apple Relish and Cheddar Cheese recipe.

I am so grateful for our Oakland County Parks system and the beauty that they provide for a mere few dollars a year! I live within 10–12 miles of my three favs— Orion Oaks, Addison Oaks and Independence Oaks!

> Jennifer LeMerise Bickel, Oxford



Wheelchair lacrosse fueled by grant

Thanks to the support of Barrick Enterprises, Inc., Royal Oak, the Oakland County Parks' disabled veterans sports initiative continues to offer innovative programming, like lacrosse clinics, for disabled veterans and individuals with disabilities.

"Wheelchair lacrosse is a great option for athletes who play wheelchair basketball and sled hockey to stay in shape off season. Learning to hold the stick and passing the ball while pushing their wheelchair is a challenging task," Recreation Program Supervisor – Adaptive & Therapeutic Services Sandy Dorey said.

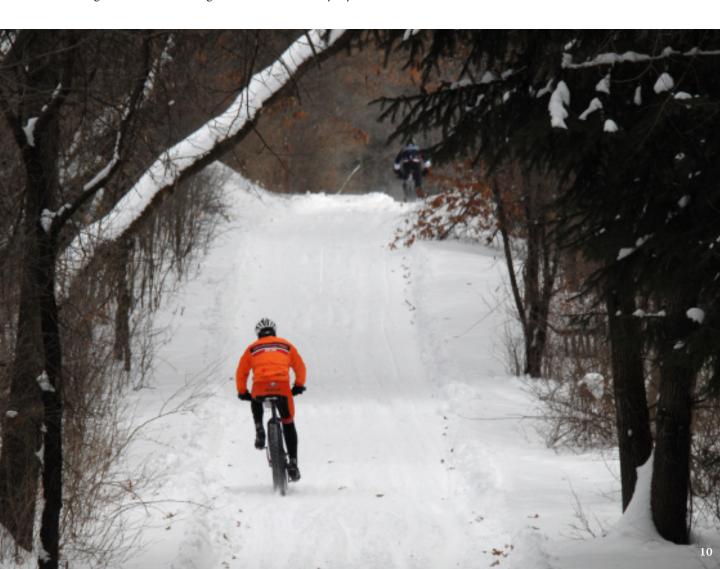
Oakland County Parks provides various sports events,

recreational programs, leisure activities and social opportunities for disabled veterans and individuals with disabilities, including archery, dominos and badminton.

Snow no barrier for fat tire riders

Fat tire has extended riding time for a sport that attracts many mountain bikers to Addison Oaks County Park. Trading "skinny" tires for wide, knobby ones that make traction on snow and sand, riders traverse the 5.6 miles of trails open in winter. Parks staff collaborated with the Clinton River Area Mountain Bike Association to bring the on-trend sport to the 794-acre park.

"The excitement when rolling through Addison's hills on groomed snow brings back a feeling of being a child again. It gets even better when riding those hills during a snowfall," Rodney Gullett, CRAMBA-IMBA chairman, said. "Quite a refreshing and different feeling than when we usually try to run from the arctic air."



Sustainability

Forum shows parks 'best side'

Great Lakes, Great Rivers, Great Parks was the theme that drew parks and recreation leaders from across the United States and Canada for the Special Park Districts Forum.

"It's the Super Bowl of parks and recreation," Executive Officer Dan Stencil said. "Professionals showcase their facilities and share their best practices. We were proud to host again with the Huron-Clinton Metroparks and welcome to our partnership the Michigan Department of Natural Resources."

Topics covered were repurposing resources, urban recreation initiatives, water quality and blue economy, trends in recreation and retrofitting historical resources. Eight Oakland County Parks were highlighted during the week-long June conference.

"The pride taken by all staff in preparing for the forum shows why Oakland County Parks is at the forefront in providing a premier system of recreational opportunities for our residents and visitors," Stencil said.

Reinvesting to improve customer experience

Top projects in 2015 included remodeled concessions at two waterparks and one campground; irrigation replacement at three golf courses; and accessible parking and trail improvements at Addison Oaks and Independence Oaks.

Also improved was the booth entrance for Red Oaks Waterpark. A popular spot during the summer months, shade structures were built to provide relief for those waiting in line, according to Mike Donnellon, Chief of Park Facilities Maintenance & Development. Shade was also improved around the children's water playground.

Several improvements were made, with trails being a high priority. A new pedestrian bridge and boardwalk were added to Lyon Oaks and a bridge was replaced at Glen Oaks. At Rose Oaks a 590-foot universally accessible boardwalk was constructed increasing connectivity for pedestrians and equestrians alike, opening up nearly 50 acres of land that was previously inaccessible because of wetlands, a railroad and private property.

A major improvement was made to Addison Oaks campground with the addition of pull-through sites. "Many campers have large RVs and had difficulty backing into campsites," Donnellon said. "We created sites with an inner loop so that larger vehicles can pull straight in and straight out of the site without backing up."

At Groveland Oaks electrical upgrades were made to Section C of the campground to accommodate vehicles that needed more power, providing full hook-ups.



Volunteer ranks reach 1,000+

Volunteers are the backbone of any organization, and Oakland County Parks is no exception. "They are the heart and soul of our parks system. The success of many programs and events depends on volunteer efforts," Julee Erskine, Recreation Specialist - Volunteer Coordinator, said.

Volunteers can be spotted at various special events, including adaptive recreation events, nature center programs, as well as at golf courses. They also help with daily operations as campground hosts and dog park ambassadors.

This year the program marked a major milestone when it surpassed 1,000 volunteers, up from 400 only two years earlier.

"I am proud to have so many dedicated volunteers play such an important role in helping us achieve our mission," Erskine said. "Our 1,164 volunteers contributed a total of 26,035 hours in service this year."





Partnerships pay off for residents

Oakland County Parks is proud to be an essential part of several well-known regional events, including the Fifth Third Bank Michigan State Fair; Ford Arts, Beats and Eats; Michigan Senior Olympics; the Brooksie Way; and the Fire & Ice Festival.

The parks system was the presenting sponsor this year for the state fair's inaugural "Honored Citizens Day." Seniors 62 and older enjoyed free fair admission, games and activities and the Honored Citizen Award ceremony.

For Ford Arts, Beats and Eats, Oakland County Parks hosts the Salute to Veterans with free admission passes, concert tickets and a meal to veterans and their families.

Oakland County Parks has been involved with Michigan Senior Olympics for nearly 35 years. Staff hosts sporting events at park locations, and provides support during events plus recreation equipment.

For the Brooksie Way, Oakland County Parks sponsors the Kids Race and provides a mobile unit, inflatable arch, bleachers and tents.

Come winter, staff and more than 200 parks volunteers bring outdoor recreation to Fire & Ice with the tubing hill, dog sledding, ice skating rink, snowshoes and cross-country ski equipment. Additionally, staff provides shuttle buses and a mobile stage. "When agencies work together to share resources and facilities, everyone wins through the creation of these



collaborative relationships," Executive Officer Dan Stencil said.

Sign of the times

Interpretive signs that share some of the interconnections of residents of the natural world and their habitat were placed in parks. Catchy titles and graphic visuals equal public education efforts for all ages. ITC sponsors the project.

Parks

ADDISON OAKS

W. Romeo Rd., Leonard 248-693-2432

Conference Center: 248-693-8305

CATALPA OAKS

Greenfield Rd., Southfield 248-424-7081

GROVELAND OAKS

Dixie Highway, Holly 248-634-9811

HIGHLAND OAKS

Milford Rd., Highland 248-858-0906

INDEPENDENCE OAKS

Sashabaw Road, Clarkston Park: 248-625-0877 Nature Center: 248-625-6473

Mature Center. 246-025-04/3

LYON OAKS

Pontiac Trail, Wixom 248-858-0906

ORION OAKS

Clarkston Road, Lake Orion 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 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 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



Accolades

- Clinton River Watershed Council Volunteer of the Year Kathleen Dougherty, Educational Resources Specialist
- Friend of Oakland County 4-H, Oakland County Market
- Metro Parent Magazine named Addison Oaks, Independence Oaks and Orion Oaks to the 2015 Best Places to go Hiking in SE Michigan
- Michigan Alliance for Environmental and Outdoor Education Volunteer Service Award, Dwayne Badgero
- mParks Fellowship Award Daniel Stencil, Executive Officer, CPRE
- mParks Outstanding Video Dixie Gully Run
- mParks Media Advocate, Lisa LaGrou, Oakland County Moms
- mParks State Elected Official Ruth Johnson, Secretary of State
- mParks Commitment to Excellence Dan Stencil, Executive Officer, CPRE
- mParks New Professional, Matt Pardy, Park Supervisor
- mParks Programmy Award, Recreation Assistance Partnership Program
- mParks Health and Wellness Program, River Walk, Red Oaks Waterpark
- Orion Oaks Dog Park named "Best Dog Park" by Detroit Metro Times for 2nd year

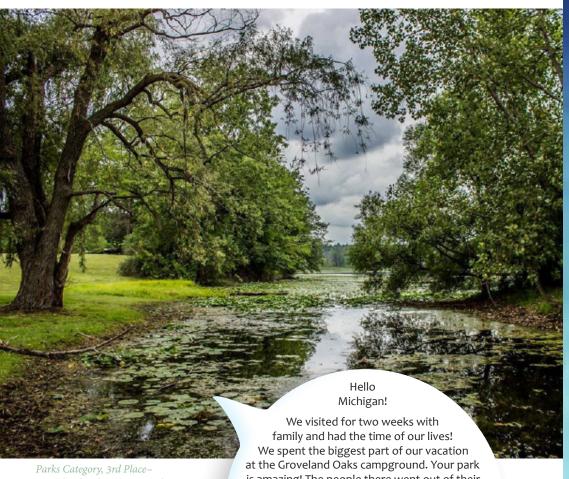


- Pecky D. Lewis, Jr, Retired
 Chairperson Emeritus mParks Hall
 of Fame; and National Association of
 County Park and Recreation Officials,
 Professional Lifetime Category
- Six Rivers Land Conservancy Volunteer of the Year, Susanne Greenlee, Technical Assistant
- National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials, Planning Initiative – Service Portfolio
- National Association of Counties,
 Oakland County Market Cooking
 Demonstrations Achievement Award
- 2015 SCAMP Helping Hands Award

Administrative Offices

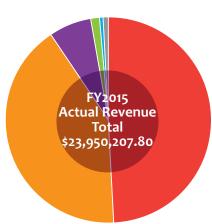
2800 Watkins Lake Road Waterford, MI 48328–1917 248-858-0906 • 1-888-OCPARKS

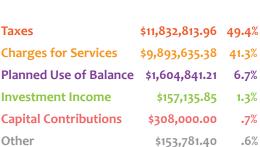
Daniel J. Stencil, Executive Officer, CPRE



Parks Category, 3rd Place— Groveland Oaks County Park Angela Mead We visited for two weeks with family and had the time of our lives!
We spent the biggest part of our vacation at the Groveland Oaks campground. Your park is amazing! The people there went out of their way to make our visit spectacular. The atmosphere of the campground is unbelievable. It is hands down the cleanest, friendliest, best park we have ever visited. We noticed right away the beautiful upgrades that had been done, and again enjoyed the most spectacular fireworks display ever! Plans are in the making for our return next summer, and we can't wait.

The Mansfield Family, Missouri







Salaries	\$8,508,875.87	35.5%
Contractual Services	\$6,402,408.53	26.7%
Depreciation	\$3,331,106.45	13.9%
Fringe Benefits	\$2,971,567.89	12.4%
Internal Services	\$1,533,485.26	6.4%
Commodities	\$993,911.80	4.1%
Transfers Out	\$208,852.00	0.9%

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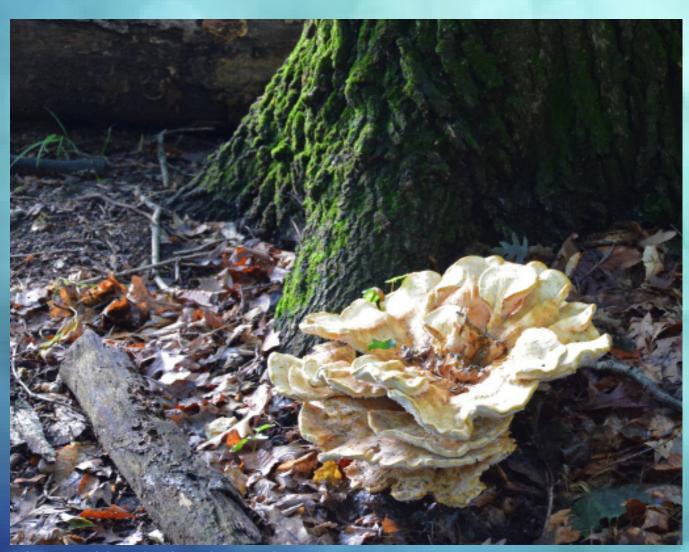
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The Oakland County
Parks and Recreation
Commission provides equal
opportunity employment,
programs and activities
without regard to race,
color, sex, religion, national
origin, age, marital status
or handicap.

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

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FIRST CLASS
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PERMIT 14

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



Parks Category, 2nd Place – Independence Oaks County Park Karen Young