



PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

# SAGINAW CHARTER TOWNSHIP

Saginaw County | 2024- 2028

## SAGINAW CHARTER TOWNSHIP RECREATION PLAN

A public hearing on the Parks Recreation Master Plan was held on January 16, 2024. The Parks and Recreation Master Plan was adopted by the Township Board on January 22, 2024.

### TOWNSHIP BOARD

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Project #: 135477SG2023



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## INTRODUCTION



Saginaw Charter Township has a long-standing and consistent commitment to providing recreation and recreational programming to its residents and the greater community. This Parks and Recreation Master Plan (Plan) is the culmination of efforts by the Township staff, and the Recreation Commission to evaluate and study the characteristics of the Township and how these characteristics should be translated into the recreation goals and objectives.

Saginaw Charter Township has developed this Plan to serve as a guide for future decision-making regarding recreation facility improvements and the development of new recreation opportunities for the next five years. This document is the basis for the implementation of improvements and new initiatives that will meet the recreational goals and interests of Saginaw Charter Township residents.

Before any Parks and Recreation Master Plan is adopted and enacted, it is important to understand the current residents' needs, existing recreational opportunities, the demographic characteristics of the area, and program initiatives to help develop projects that are best suited for the community. This Plan was developed with guidance from the community input, Township officials, and the Parks Commission with assistance from Spicer Group. Community input was a key component of this Plan. The Plan's overall goal is to enhance the quality of life for the community members and visitors of the Township.

The foundation for the development of the Saginaw Charter Township Parks and Recreation Master Plan was based on the following goals:

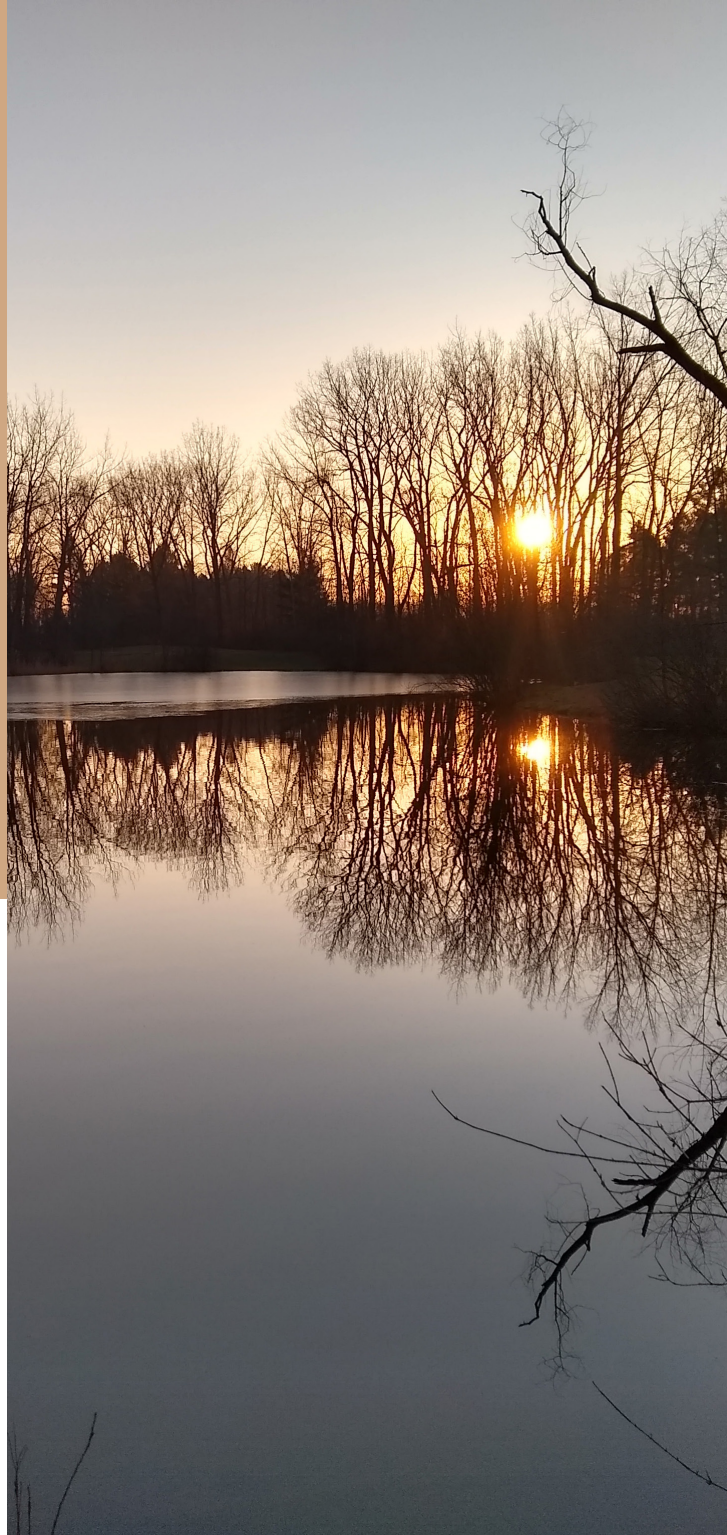
- Involve the community throughout the process of updating the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.
- Identify and map existing Township-owned/operated recreation facilities.
- Build common ground among the residents and officials in addressing the Township's future recreational needs and priorities.
- Enable the Township to be eligible for financial assistance based on the Plan.
- Facilitate interagency collaboration in establishing parks and recreation goals, objectives, and actions in partnership with the Township and other local groups.
- Support the implementation of improvements for barrier-free access to Township parks and recreational sites.

In conclusion, Saginaw Charter Township officials intend to use this Plan to guide their work on all future recreation and park projects within the Township. It is also a strategic document that articulates specific goals to various agencies and organizations that fund local recreational and park improvement projects. Specifically, this Plan is developed per the guidelines for developing community Parks and Recreation Plans published by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR). A five-year, MDNR-approved Parks and Recreation Master Plan is necessary for Saginaw Township to pursue MDNR-administered grants. This Parks and Recreation Master Plan is written for Saginaw Charter Township and covers all aspects of recreation within the Township over a five-year period from 2024-2028.

## COMMUNITY PROFILE

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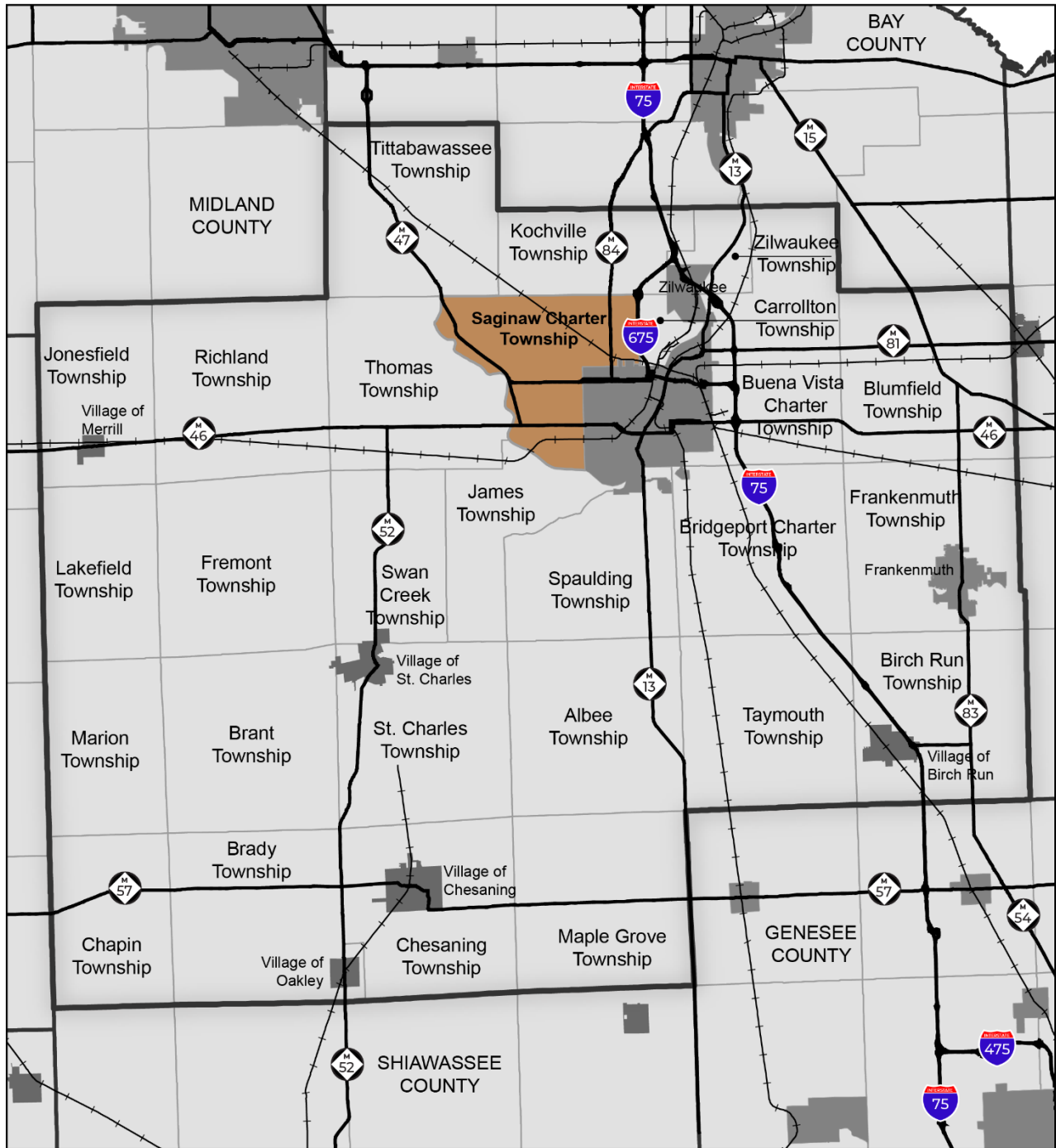
## REGIONAL SETTING

Located in the northeast central section of Saginaw County, Saginaw Township is the seventh largest Township in the State of Michigan. It is bordered to the north by Tittabawassee Township and Kochville Township, to the east by the City of Saginaw and Carrollton Township, to the west by Thomas Township, and at the southern boundary is James Township.

Several state roads intersect in the Township including, M-47, M-84, M-58, and M-46. These are heavily traversed regional routes that bring people to the Township and help them navigate it in an efficient manner. In addition to these regional roads, the MBS International Airport is located just north of the Township and serves regional air traffic. There are two railroads that traverse the Township, the Lake State Railroad in the north and the Mid-Michigan Railroad in the south. The Tittabawassee River follows the western border of the Township. Map 1 on the following page highlights the Township's location.

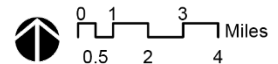


MAP 1 – REGIONAL MAP



LEGEND

	COUNTY		INTERSTATES
	CITIES		RAILROADS
	VILLAGES		
	TOWNSHIPS		



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## DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

In this section, background information from the U.S. Census was used to analyze Saginaw Charter Township's current demographic conditions. The following section analyzes Census-based data on overall population trends, housing characteristics, and economic information within the Township to present an overall demographic condition analysis.

The information presented in this chapter uses the most recent Census Data from the 2020 Census and 2010 Census, and the 2021 American Community Survey.

Understanding the characteristics of the population is helpful when evaluating parks and recreation facilities and needs. The table below provides a comparison of key demographic data between Saginaw Charter Township, Saginaw County, and the State of Michigan.

**TABLE 1 – SAGINAW CHARTER TOWNSHIP DEMOGRAPHICS**

	Saginaw Charter Township	Saginaw County	Michigan
<b>Population</b>			
2010 Population	40,840	200,169	9,883,640
2020 Population	41,679	190,124	10,077,331
Percent of Population 65 and Older	22.6%	19.7%	18.1%
Percent of Population Under 18	20.6%	22.2%	24.4%
Percent of Disabled Population	15.5%	17.7%	14.2%
Median Age	44.6	41.8	40.2
<b>Education</b>			
Percent with a Bachelor's Degree or Higher	33.7%	22.5%	30%
<b>Income</b>			
Median Household Income	\$58,619	\$50,606	\$59,234
Per Capita Income	\$40,002	\$28,243	\$34,768
<b>Housing</b>			
Average Household Size	2.34	2.46	2.35
Median Housing Values	\$141,500	\$114,400	\$162,600
Renter-Occupied Housing as a Percentage of Total Occupied Units	33%	28.7%	28.4%

Understanding the characteristics of the population is helpful when evaluating parks and recreation facilities and needs. Table 1 provides a comparison of key demographic data for Saginaw Charter Township as compared to Saginaw County and Michigan. According to the 2010 U.S. Census, the total population in the Township is 40,840, the Township has gained 839 residents over the past decade. The County's population has not grown in the past decade but the State has. Of those 41,679 people, 22.6% are older than 65, and 20.6% are younger than 18. The Township has a higher percentage of individuals who are older than 65 compared to the County and State and a smaller population than the County and State of those who are younger than 19. The Township has a median age of 44.6, which is higher than either of the two jurisdictions.

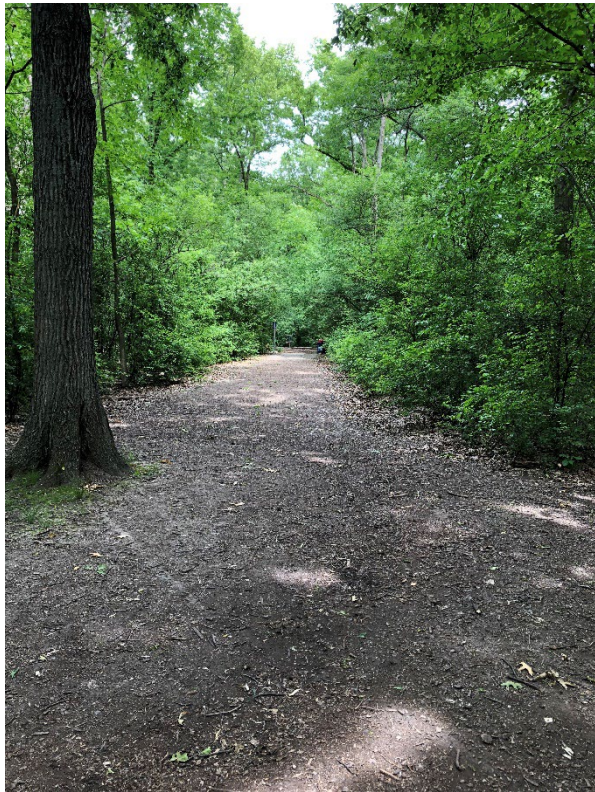
The Township has the largest and most comprehensive parks and recreation program in the County. Because of this, they provide recreation services to residents of several surrounding townships and cities. Meaning, in addition to the 41,000 Township residents, the 11,931 residents in Thomas Township, 10,606 residents in Tittabawassee Township, and the 190,000 residents of the County, the realistic user group of the Township's recreation services is much higher than the Township population.

In addition to understanding the population in the Township, it's important to look at other demographic data sets. The Township's median household income is between the County and State; however, the Township has the highest per capita income. Within the Township, 33% of the population are renters. Residents in high-density housing have a greater need for open spaces and recreational facilities. Renters may not have large green spaces at home and therefore rely on parks and recreational facilities to meet their needs.

In summary, there is a wide range of age groups in the Township who all have their own recreational needs. Park facilities can create multigenerational linkages between individuals and across all demographic groups. They provide gathering places, make exercise opportunities available, promote civic participation, and improve the quality of life in an area.



## NATURAL FEATURES INVENTORY



A natural features inventory is useful to recreation planning because it highlights existing resources, showing where gaps may be located. Natural features include things such as wetlands, water bodies, courses, and wooded land.

The existing topography and soil characteristics of Saginaw County can be attributed to the movement of glaciers through this area more than 10,000 years ago. The Saginaw River and its tributaries form the basic drainage patterns in the area.

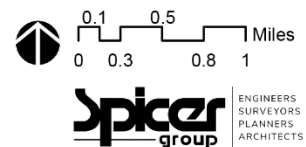
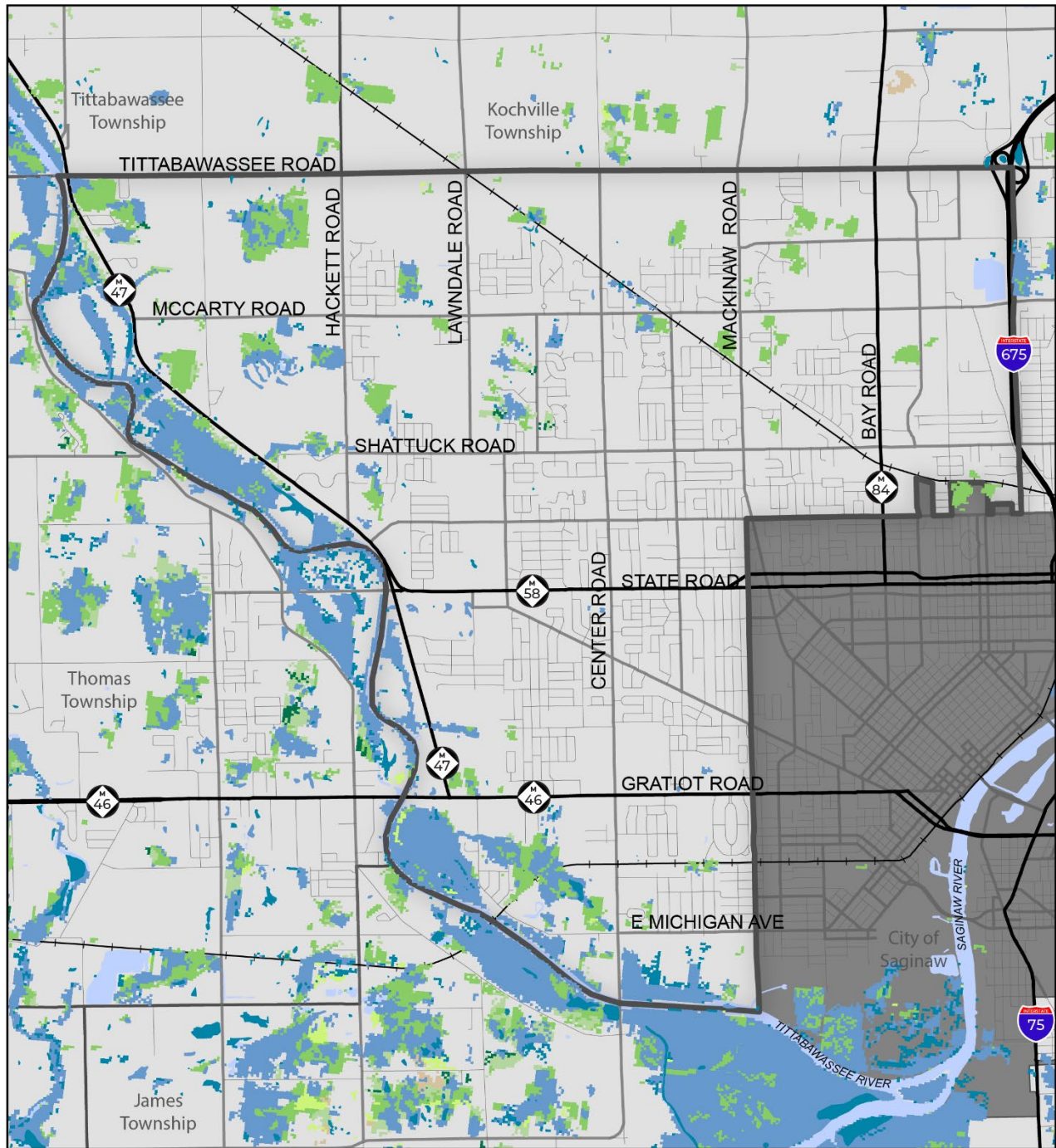
The predominant topography is flat with an elevation ranging from 580 feet to 650 feet above sea level. A major drainage divide further characterizes the Township's topography. The extreme western and southern portions of the Township lie within the Tittabawassee River basin while the remainder of the Township drains to the Saginaw River. The relatively level topography within the Township poses several implications for

continued growth and urbanization. Sewage and storm drainage systems must be carefully located, sized, and graded to avoid operating problems and service area limitations due to the fact that they are dependent upon gravity flow for optimum operation. Developments with high percentages of impervious surface will require on-site stormwater retention. Finally, level land can result in monotonous development unless artificially induced contours and/or vegetation zones are introduced into the urban environment.

In addition to topography and drainage, other natural features to consider include woodlands, grasslands, and wetlands. These are important because the Township is largely built out, and the property that remains is development-ready. Therefore, the Township needs to consider if any of the undeveloped land could be used as a park in the future, and what plans they will make to ensure those eventualities.

Map 2 on the following page, highlights the existing woodlands, grasslands, and wetlands in the Township. There are stands of woodlands and areas of grasslands interspersed throughout the Township. Wooded land is more predominant, and the majority of the grasslands represent urban grasslands such as large lawns, or open areas. The Township can use this inventory map to guide any future park acquisition or development projects.

MAP 2 – NATURAL FEATURES MAP



## ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

### IN THIS CHAPTER

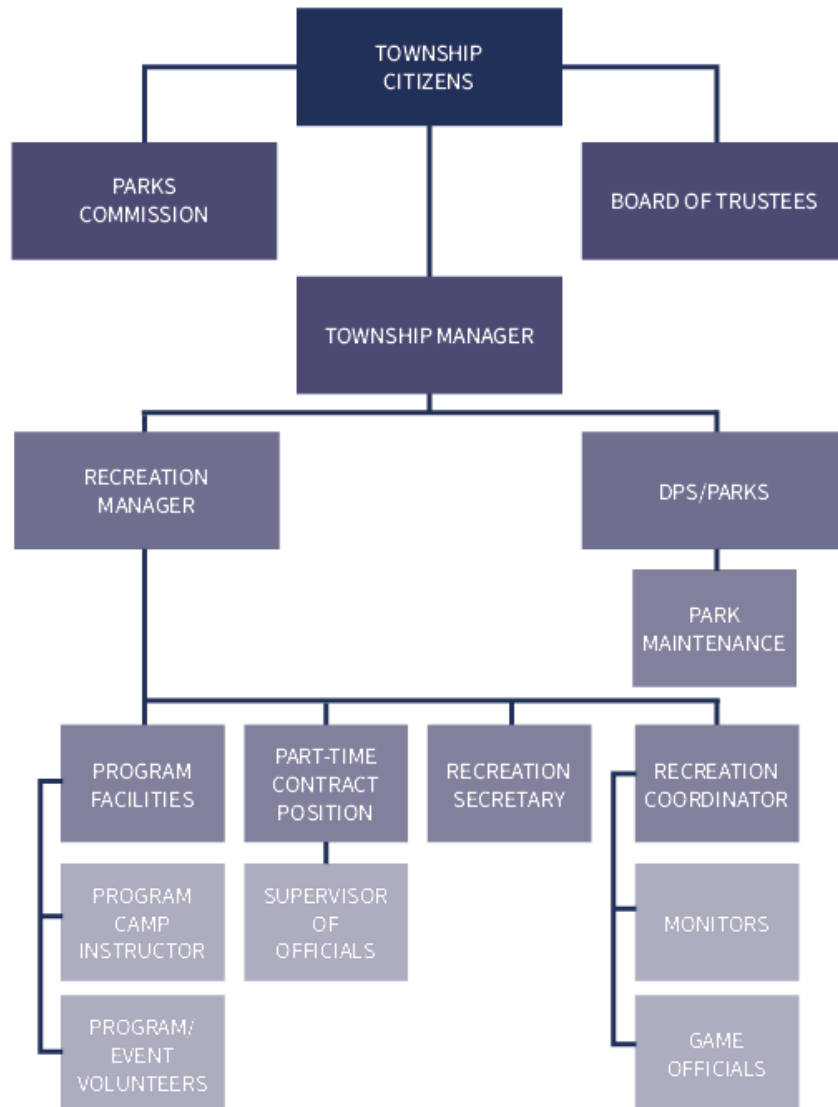
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## INTRODUCTION

The Parks Commission was formed in 1962 pursuant to Act 156 of the Public Acts of 1917. Traditionally, the Parks Commission is made up of five elected members, which includes a representative from the Township School Board. All members have voting privileges and serve four-year terms. The Commission regularly holds scheduled meetings on the third Monday of each month at 4:00 pm and will hold special meetings as needed. This group was created to assist in the general administration and development of organized, useful parks, and recreation programs. They are an advisory group to the Township Board regarding budget, personnel, and policy-related matters.

FIGURE 1 – SAGINAW CHARTER TOWNSHIP STRUCTURE



### Assisting the Parks

Commission is the Saginaw Charter Township Parks and Recreation staff. The Township programming is administered by a full-time Recreation Manager, one full-time secretary, a full-time coordinator, a part-time program facilitator, part-time contract positions for game officials, and program/camp instructors.

Volunteers and seasonal assistance are as needed.

The Department of Public Services is responsible for the maintenance of the parks.

## FUNDING AND BUDGET

The Township Parks and Recreation Department is funded by the Township's general fund and donations. Table 2 below is a summary of the Township Parks and Recreation budget. The recreation programming and activities are underwritten in part by the fees charged for registration, but the bulk of the funding is through the Township's general fund.

**TABLE 2 – PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGET**

	2024	2025
<b>Operation and Maintenance</b>	\$1,249,255	\$1,235,041
<b>Programming</b>	\$329,146	\$318,660
<b>Capital Expenditures</b>	\$3,732	\$4,920

## ADDITIONAL RELATIONSHIP

### VOLUNTEERS

Saginaw Charter Township programs and events participation has continued to increase over the years. The volunteers have proven to be critical for the success of the programs and events. Volunteers assist the Recreation Department in providing additional services and improving the quality of life of its citizens. On average, the department sees 300 volunteers per year. The majority of the volunteers help with special events or coach the youth programs.



The Department of Public Services (DPS) utilizes other volunteers for park maintenance and clean-up assistance. Volunteers will help with trash clean-up and painting at North Little League, South Little League Parks, and the Soccer Association. The DPS also has an Adopt-A-Park program where local groups can adopt a Township park in which they would take on the general clean-up and maintenance. This program offers groups the opportunity to make a contribution to the Township and generate positive publicity for the Township services. There are 14 parks a group can adopt, and groups are held to four clean-up times per year. Any other additional maintenance or upgrades are coordinated with the Department of Public Services. Currently, Playscape Park, Berberovich Park, Briarwood Park, Sandhill Park, and Gotto Park are adopted.

## COLLABORATION

In addition to the volunteer groups, the Township collaborates with the local school districts, Saginaw Valley State University, Delta College, and other private recreation providers.

- **The Heritage/Nouvel/Valley Lutheran School Districts** - Use the Saginaw Charter Township softball fields, baseball fields, tennis courts, and Center Court gyms.
- **Saginaw Valley State University** - Provides coaching staff for the recreation camps and uses the gym a Center Courts as overflow for their camps.
- **Sawmill Golf Club** - The Township utilizes the golf club course for the youth golf camp.
- **Greater Midland Tennis** – Provides trained instructors for the Township tennis camps.
- **Saginaw Township Soccer Association** – The Township uses the fields for lacrosse practices, games, and clinics.
- **Delta College** - Up until 2019, the Township leased the Harvey Randall Wickes (West) baseball field to Delta College between March and May; in return, the college maintained the field and dugouts. In 2019 the lease ended because Delta College received grant money to build and maintain their own field.

## PROGRAMMING

Saginaw Charter Township offers numerous recreation programs to Township residents and residents from the surrounding Townships. The Township's recreation programming is one of the largest in the County with approximately 11,332 participants. The programs include sports leagues, summer camps, and other programs. The following is a list of recreation programs that were available during the past year.

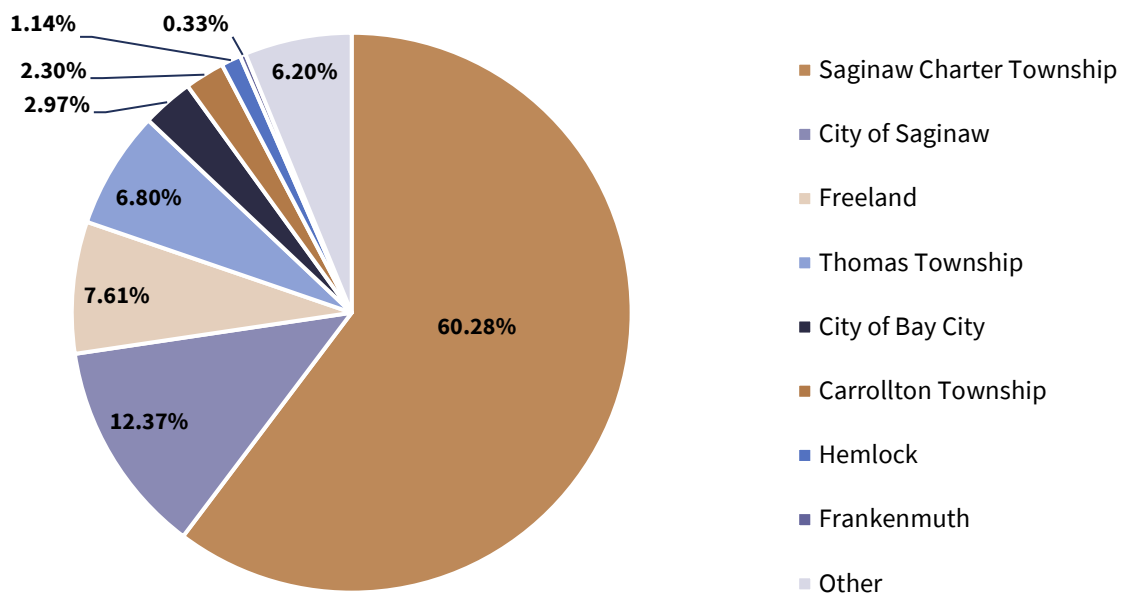
- Men's Softball
- Fall, Winter, and Spring Volleyball (Women's Power, Recreational and Coed)
- Summer Coed Softball
- Boys Lacrosse (12 & Under and 14 & Under)
- Boys Lacrosse Development Program (10 & under)
- Girls Fall, Winter and Spring Volleyball (5th – 8th Grade)
- Pre-Beach Volleyball (Women's, Recreational and Coed)
- Beach Volleyball (Women's and Coed)
- Girls' Softball (5-6 T-ball, 8 & under, 10 & under, 12 & under, and 14 & under)
- Adult Coed Soccer
- Men's Fall Softball
- Fall Coed Softball
- Youth Flag Football (1st-5th grades)
- Kindergarten Basketball
- Boys and Girls Basketball (1st – 6th grades)
- Boys and Girls Basketball (7th - 8th grades)
- Basketball (9th – 12th Grades)

## Administrative Structure

- Men's Basketball
- Senior Basketball (50 & over)
- Pickleball
- Table Tennis
- Yoga
- Chair Yoga
- Dancing for Fitness (50 & over)
- Music for Munchkins (1 – 5 years)
- Center Courts Playgroup (3 & under)
- Baseball Camp (6 – 12 Years)
- Basketball Camps (Hoop it Up/SVSU/Junior Camp)
- Cheer Camp (K – 6th grade)
- Junior Golf Camp (7 – 16 years)
- Early Bird Golf Camp (7 years to adult)
- Lacrosse Camp (Boys 8 – 14 years)
- Gymnastics Camp (4 – 12 years)
- Tennis Camps (3 – 14 years)
- Volleyball Camp (4th – 8th grade)
- Futsal Camp (9 – 12 years)
- Girls Softball Camp (7 – 12 years)

In terms of service area, Saginaw Charter Township routinely and without prejudice provides recreation programming to residents outside its defined municipal boundaries. When considering long-term goals, maintenance, and especially programming, the demand for quality recreation programming from outside the Township itself is an important factor. Figure 2 is a breakdown of recreation program participation by municipality.

**FIGURE 2 - RECREATION PROGRAMMING PARTICIPATION**



## GRANT HISTORY

Saginaw Charter Township has had past success in receiving grants from the State of Michigan. The Township has been awarded seven grants since 1975. Listed below is the recreation grant history from the Department of Natural Resources. It lists the project number and year, the project title, the elements included in the project, and the status of the project.

**TABLE 3 – SAGINAW CHARTER TOWNSHIP GRANT HISTORY**

Project Title	Project Number	Year	Grant Amount	Description
Olson Recreation Center	26-00569	1975	\$58,230	Six fenced tennis courts, horseshoe and shuffleboard area, fenced baseball field, parking lot, and LWCF sign.
Olson Recreation Center	26-01023 J1	1977	\$62,971.85	Paved lot, two pavilions, landscaping, lighting of tennis court and two pavilions, playground equipment, volleyball court, LWCF sign.
H. R. Wickes Recreation Complex	26-01060 B1	1978	\$62,505.11	Basketball court, softball fields, parking lot, pavilion, restrooms, water)
Saginaw Township Valley Recreation Area	26-01337	1984	Withdrawn	Acquisition of 40 acres
HRW Recreation Complex	BF89-320	1989	\$125,000	Phase II Development according to approved master plan and plan for Harvey Randall Wickes Recreation Complex: parking, drive, waterline extension, restroom, softball fields, pavilion, basketball court.
Olson Center SCT #II	BF92-058	1992	\$20,625	Renovate, improve and expand usage of two softball and one baseball field, drainage, irrigation and landscaping.
Saginaw Charter Township Field House	CM00-091	2000	\$750,000	Construction of a barrier-free field house to include basketball courts, an elevated track, shuffleboard, volleyball, badminton, and other recreational/athletic activities.

*A list of the MDNR additional funding opportunities can be found in Appendix A.*

## RECREATION INVENTORY

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## INTRODUCTION

The following inventory studies the parks in Saginaw Charter Township. This inventory was updated by the planning consultants in the fall of 2023 and verified by the Township staff. The text below includes an in-depth description of Township-owned parks, park classifications, and ADA accessibility ratings. Table 5, towards the end of this section, summarizes park amenities in a tabular form.

Saginaw Charter Township has 270.08 acres of parkland, with approximately 116.9 acres provided by the Saginaw Township Schools.

## ACCESSIBILITY

Creating a park system that is safe, accessible, and usable to all individuals, including those with disabilities, is essential. A grading system has been developed by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to easily identify those parks and facilities that are most and least accessible, based on the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines. The accessibility grading system uses a five-point system ranging from one (none of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines) to five (the entire park was developed/renovated using the principles of universal design). See Table 4, below, for the grading system.

In the fall of 2023, the planning consultants with assistance from Township staff updated the ADA compliance information. Within the Township, there are a few sites and areas of undeveloped land that are not ADA-accessible. However, the Township recognizes the importance of equal access for all park users and is dedicated to improving accessibility at each of its parks when improvements are made. This includes parking, paths, restrooms, activity areas, amenities, and signage.

**TABLE 4 - DNR ACCESSIBILITY GRADING SYSTEM FOR PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES**

Accessibility Grade	Definition
<b>1</b>	None of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
<b>2</b>	Some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
<b>3</b>	Most of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
<b>4</b>	The entire park meets accessibility guidelines
<b>5</b>	The entire park was developed/renovated using the principles of universal design

## PARK SERVICE AREA AND CLASSIFICATION

A recreation inventory is the foundation for developing an understanding of the Township's recreation needs, deficiencies, and future plans. An inventory provides a snapshot of all the available facilities within a community along with details about the types of activities and features. The following classification system is adapted from the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) guide. It categorizes different types of parks based on size, service area, facilities, and user groups. There are four NRPA classification types in the Township: mini-parks, neighborhood parks, community parks, and special-use parks. The NRPA classifies several other park types, but they are not all applicable to Saginaw Charter Township.

### MINI PARKS

Parks in this classification are typically specialized facilities that serve a concentrated or limited population or specific group such as small children or senior citizens. The service area is a one-quarter-mile radius or less; the park size is an acre or less. Mini Parks are ideally located within neighborhoods and in close proximity to apartment complexes, townhouses, or housing for the elderly. The standard acreage for Mini Parks is .25 acres per 1,000 residents. Three of the four parks are larger than the one acre or less national standard, but their service area and function are the same as a mini park. The national standard for the Township is 10.42 acres. At 10.18 acres of Mini Park space, the Township is deficient by 0.24 acres. The Mini Parks in Saginaw Charter Township are:

- Briarwood Park
- Sandhill Park
- Burkhaven Park
- Spaeth Park

The Township should work to understand the need for additional Mini Parks if the Township population grows, and as any new housing development occurs farther away from the existing parks. The lack of mini-parks has the potential to impact three special population groups: senior citizens, low-to-moderate-income households, and apartment dwellers. The quality of life for each of these groups is improved when they have nearby access to open spaces and Mini Parks.

### NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

Parks in this classification are the most basic park unit of a system and serve as the recreation and social focus of a neighborhood. Neighborhood Parks are easily accessible to neighborhood populations and geographically centered within safe walking distance and bike access. Typically, Neighborhood Parks are five to ten acres in size and can service a population of approximately 5,000 residents. The parks have a service location of ¼ to ½ mile distance. National standards recommend one acre of neighborhood parks per 1,000 residents. The national standard for the Township is 41.68 acres. At 15.7 acres of neighborhood park space, the Township is deficient by 25.98 acres. The neighborhood parks in Saginaw Charter Township are:

- Berberovich Park
- Can Amera Park
- Lathrup Park

### COMMUNITY PARKS

Community Parks are intended to provide recreational services for several neighborhoods and usually serve a broad range of uses. The typical park's size is 30 acres or more. The Township has six parks that are classified as Community Parks. Of the six, not all are 30 acres, however, they are included in this category because of the broad population base they serve and the facilities/intended use of the parks. The national classification system recommends five acres per 1,000 residents. The national standard for the Township is 208.40 acres. At 128.5 acres of Community Park space and 116.9 of additional space provided by the school, the Township has a surplus of 37.01 acres with the 116 school acreage. The community parks in Saginaw Charter Township are:

- George Olson Recreation Complex
- Gotto Park
- Harvey Randall Wickes West Park
- Harvey Randall Wickes East Park
- Playscape Park
- West Michigan Park

### SPECIAL USE PARKS

Special Use Parks cover a broad range of activities and park types; however, each facility is defined by one single recreational use. Special Use Parks serve the unique recreation needs of a community. These parks are strategically located community-wide facilities, and their use and recommended acreage are determined by projected demand. Unlike the previous categories, Special Use Parks do not have a recommended size. In Saginaw Charter Township there are three special-use parks. There is a total of 38.4 acres and the sizes of these parks meet the needs of the Township.

- Leonard Boers Riverfront Boat Launch
- North Little League Park
- Rudy Zauel Park (South Little League Park)

### SPORTS COMPLEX

Sports Complex Parks are heavily programmed athletic fields and associated support facilities. These parks are strategically located community-wide facilities, and their size is determined by projected demand. However, general guidelines state these parks are normally a minimum of 25 acres, with 40 to 80 acres being an optimal size. The Township has one sports complex park. This complex is approximately 77 acres and therefore falls within the optimal range for sports complex parks.

- Saginaw Township Soccer Complex.

### OTHER TOWNSHIP RECREATION FACILITIES

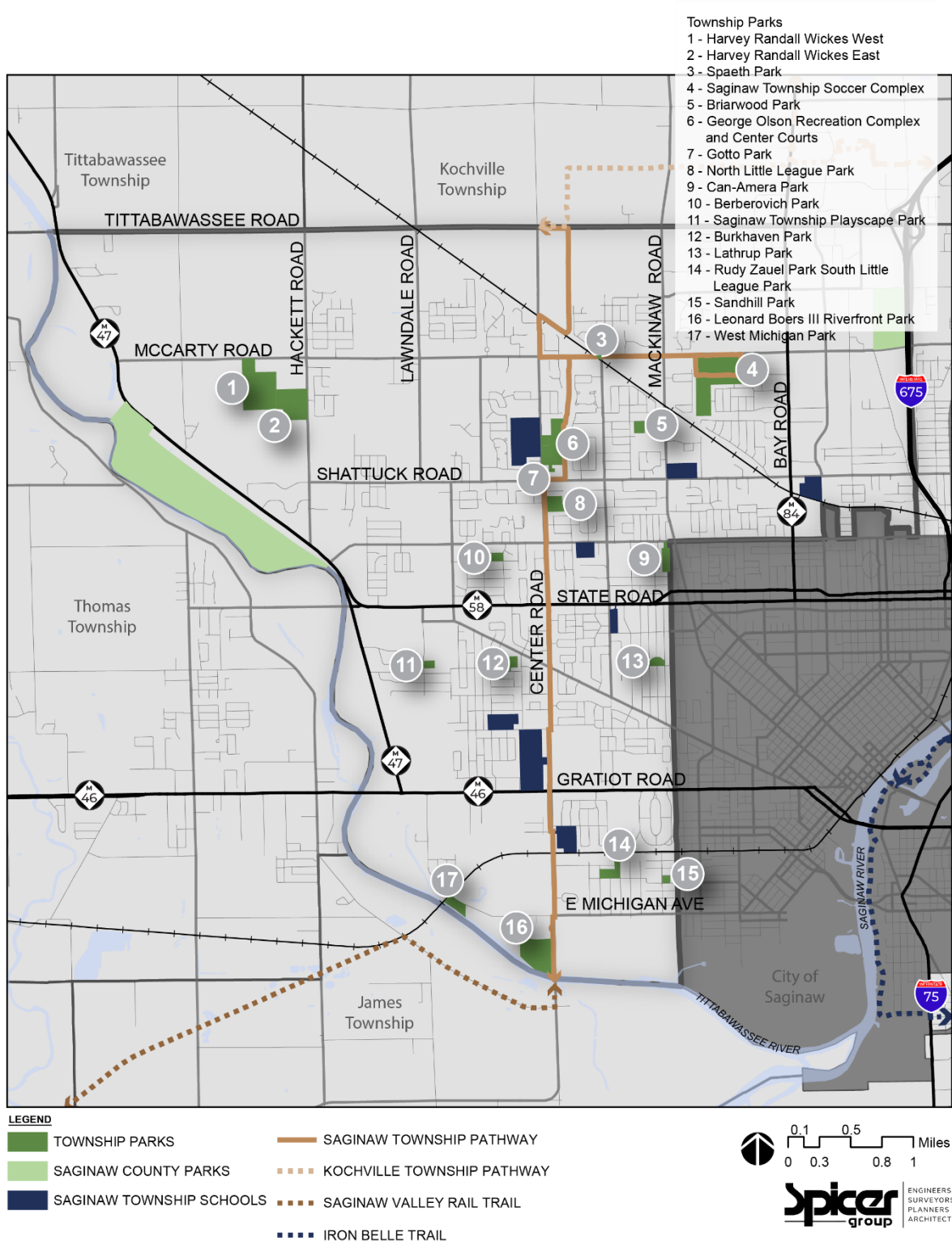
There are several other recreation facility types found in Saginaw Township.

- Saginaw Township Pathway - Type 1 Park Trail
- Center Courts - Indoor Recreation Space

The recreation inventory at the end of this chapter outlines all the recreation facilities at each school.

# TOWNSHIP RECREATION INVENTORY

MAP 3- SAGINAW CHARTER TOWNSHIP PARKS



The following information studies the available recreation facilities in Saginaw Charter Township. This list was updated by the planning consultant and verified by the Township staff. It includes a thorough description of facilities, park classifications, and ADA accessibility ratings.

### BERBEROVICH PARK

**Location:** 5419 Lessando Street, Saginaw

**Acreage:** 3.1

**Classification:** Neighborhood Park

**Accessibility:** 1

Berberovich Park is a small neighborhood park with playground equipment, an ice rink in the winter, swing sets, a picnic area, and an open playfield.

### BRIARWOOD PARK

**Location:** 4200 Clement Drive, Saginaw

**Acreage:** 4.2

**Classification:** Mini Park

**Accessibility:** 1

Briarwood Park is a Mini Park with playground equipment, an open playfield, swing sets, horseshoe pits, a picnic area, and a baseball field.



### BURKHAVEN PARK

**Location:** 5200 Vanalleo Drive, Saginaw

**Acreage:** 3.8

**Classification:** Mini Park

**Accessibility:** 1

Burkhaven Park is a Mini Park that is home to playground equipment, swing sets, a picnic area, and an open play field.

### CAN-AMERA PARK

**Location:** 4000 Weiss Road, Saginaw

**Acreage:** 8.6

**Classification:** Neighborhood Park

**Accessibility:** 1

Can-Amera Park is a Neighborhood Park with playground equipment, swing sets, and a multi-use field that is used for soccer and lacrosse. Of the neighborhood parks, this is the largest and has several access points from different neighborhoods, including two parking areas. The bleachers for the football field are on gravel pads.



### CENTER COURTS

**Location:** 3320 N Center Road, Saginaw

**Acreage:** N/A

**Classification:** Indoor Recreation Center

**Accessibility:** 4

Center Courts is an indoor recreation center located north of the Township governing complex and adjacent to George Olson Recreation Complex. Center Courts provides year-round recreational opportunities and programming and is the location of parks and recreation staff. The complex provides recreation users access to four basketball/volleyball courts, 8 pickleball courts, a walking track, locker rooms, and facilities for indoor recreation classes. The Township's indoor recreation center has paved and handicapped accessible parking, accessible restrooms, and accessible recreation areas in the building.



### GEORGE OLSON RECREATION COMPLEX

**Location:** 3120 N Center Road, Saginaw, Next to Center Courts

**Acreage:** 31.5

**Classification:** Community Park

**Accessibility:** 3

The George Olson Recreation Complex is located behind the Township governing offices, library, and Center Courts. The complex is very diverse and offers recreation users two baseball fields, two softball fields, shuffleboard courts, a horseshoe pit, three corn holes, a pavilion, a basketball court, four adult tennis courts, four children/young adult tennis courts, six pickleball courts, community gardens, and an open play field. The Saginaw Township Pathway runs along the eastern edge of the complex between Shattuck Road and McCarty Road. Additionally, the high school baseball teams use two of the ball fields and the softball team also uses two of the softball fields for their games. This park is considered to be one of two main Township Parks, and in the future Township staff would like to make improvements here. The park has a paved parking lot, accessible parking, and accessible access to all of the features listed above including the bleachers for the baseball and softball fields. The park also provides a trailhead parking area behind Center Courts that leads to the Saginaw Township Pathway.



### GOTTO PARK

**Location:** 3100 N Center Road, Saginaw

**Acreage:** 1.2

**Classification:** Community Park

**Accessibility:** 3

Gotto Park is a Community Park located south of the George Olson Recreation Complex, behind the Township offices and library. This park has two large playground areas, swing sets, picnic areas, restrooms, and a spray park. The playground equipment at Gotto Park is made for two different age groups and is separated into different play areas. In the future, the Township is looking to expand recreation options here, with the possibility of a splash pad. All of the park amenities listed above are connected to an accessible parking lot, the playground equipment is sited on engineered wood fiber, and the spray park is fully accessible with a ramp entrance.



### HARVEY RANDALL WICKES EAST

**Location:** 3599 Hospital Road, Saginaw

**Acreage:** 35.7

**Classification:** Community Park

**Accessibility:** 2

Harvey Randall Wickes is a large park broken into two areas, east and west. Wickes East has a basketball court, 18-hole disc golf course, pavilion, playground equipment, swing sets, picnic areas, restrooms, two softball fields, and two beach volleyball courts. The Wickes Woods disc golf course has 18 holes which have either 3 or 4 par. Wickes East is connected to Wickes West via a nature trail. The pavilion, restrooms, and parking lot are connected via a crushed limestone pathway.



### HARVEY RANDALL WICKES WEST

**Location:** 7431 McCarty Road, Saginaw

**Acreage:** 48.7

**Classification:** Community Park

**Accessibility:** 3

Harvey Randall Wickes West Park is part of a larger park that encompasses Wickes West and Wickes East. Wickes West has four softball diamonds, a fishing platform, horseshoe pits, two pavilions (one large), playground equipment, swing sets, a four-acre pond, a beach volleyball court, restrooms, picnic areas, octaball court, and a baseball diamond. The pavilions are available for rental, and the large pavilion is adjacent to the volleyball court, horseshoes, and pond. Additionally, some of the disc golf holes which are a part of the course at Wickes East are located at the back of Wickes West. The two parks are connected via a nature trail. Wickes West has a paved parking lot and the playground is sited on engineered wood fiber. The playground, pavilion, restrooms, fishing pier, and all the softball/baseball fields and bleachers are connected to the parking area via park pathways.



### LATHRUP PARK

**Location:** 4100 Monterey Avenue, Saginaw

**Acreage:** 4

**Classification:** Neighborhood Park

**Accessibility:** 1

Lathrup Park is a Neighborhood Park, that is largely an open play field. There are benches and a sidewalk around the edge of the park. There is also a memorial stone for the park's namesake.



### LEONARD BOERS III RIVERFRONT PARK

**Location:** 1928 S Center Road, Saginaw

**Acreage:** 18

**Classification:** Special Use Park

**Accessibility:** 3

Leonard Boers III Riverfront Park is a waterfront park in Saginaw Charter Township. The park provides access to the Tittabawassee River with a boat launch and fishing platform. The parking lot is paved and accessible, the ramps to the water are paved, and the dock is wood plank. The park also provides access to the Saginaw Township Pathway.

### NORTH LITTLE LEAGUE PARK

**Location:** 2760 N Center Road, Saginaw

**Acreage:** 12.3

**Classification:** Special Use Park

**Accessibility:** 2

North Little League Park is located on Consumers Energy Property and is home to five little league fields, swing sets, a concession area, and restrooms. This park is home to the Saginaw Little League Association which organizes the games and schedules. The concessions area and all the fields are connected via gravel pathways.



### RUDY ZAUEL SOUTH LITTLE LEAGUE PARK

**Location:** 4540 Augustine Street, Saginaw

**Acreage:** 8.1

**Classification:** Special Use Park

**Accessibility:** 2

Rudy Zauel South Little League Park is home to four little league fields, a concession stand, restrooms, playground equipment, and swing sets. The Little League games are organized by the Saginaw Little League Association. The concessions area and all the fields are connected via gravel pathways.

### SANDHILL PARK

**Location:** 1221 Vincent Street, Saginaw

**Acreage:** 2

**Classification:** Mini Park

**Accessibility:** 1

Sandhill Park is a Mini Park with a roller hockey court, horseshoe pits, a pavilion, playground equipment, swing sets, a picnic area, an open playfield, and octaball court.

### PLAYSCAPE PARK

**Location:** 1500 Lawndale Road, Saginaw

**Acreage:** 3.1

**Classification:** Community Park

**Accessibility:** 4

The Township's Playscape Park is home to a large wood play structure with several different play area types of playground equipment, and swing sets. In addition to the playground equipment, the park is home to several picnic tables, a pavilion, restrooms, and an open play field. This is a very popular park, but in the future, the Township is looking to replace the wooden equipment. The Playscape and restrooms are connected to the accessible parking lot via a sidewalk, and the playground is sited on engineered wood fiber.



### SAGINAW TOWNSHIP SOCCER COMPLEX

**Location:** 3577 McCarty Road, Saginaw

**Acreage:** 77.3

**Classification:** Sports Complex

**Accessibility:** 4

The Saginaw Township Soccer Complex is a joint venture between the Township and the Soccer Association. The Association utilizes the Township's parkland and has the authority to determine the use of the complex including the use of the fields and building, scheduling, concession area, coach staff, parking, and all games, clinics, or leagues. The complex has a total of 22 fields, a concessions area, restrooms, a pavilion, a first-aid station, and a paved perimeter path, as well as paved internal paths. The main building is connected to an accessible parking lot via sidewalks, and internally the building is accessible.

### SPAETH PARK

**Location:** 4900 Hemmeter Road, Saginaw

**Acreage:** 0.18

**Classification:** Mini Park

**Accessibility:** 3

Spaeth Park is a Mini Park located at the intersection of Hemmeter and McCarty roads. It has a bench trash receptacle and open green space. The park is connected, via the sidewalk along McCarty, to the Saginaw Township Pathway, which is about 1/4 mile to the west.

### WEST MICHIGAN PARK

**Location:** 5700 West Michigan, Saginaw

**Acreage:** 8.3

**Classification:** Community Park

**Accessibility:** 3

West Michigan Park is a waterfront park in Saginaw Charter Township located on the Tittabawassee River. The park provides riverfront access to the Township park users and is also home to playground equipment, swings, a picnic area, an open playfield, and fishing access. The play area is connected to the parking lot via a sidewalk, and the playground surfacing is rubber chips.



TABLE 5 - SAGINAW CHARTER TOWNSHIP PARK INVENTORY

	Acres	Classification	Accessibility Rating	Basketball	Baseball Diamonds	Bark Park	Boat Launch	Community Garden	Concession Stand	Disc Golf	Fitness Course	Fishing Platform	Football Field	Horseshoe Pits	Ice Rink	Lacrosse Field	Nature Trails	Pavilion	Pickleball Court	Picnic Area	Playfield (open)	Playground Equipment	Pond	Restrooms	Roller Hockey	Shuffleboard Court	Soccer Field	Softball Field	Spectator Seating	Spray Park	SwingSet	Tennis Courts	Volleyball Court	Wading Pool	Walking Path	Walking Track	Waterfront Property			
Township Recreation																																								
Berberovich Park	3.1	NP	1																			6										2								
Briarwood Park	4.2	MP	1											2								2										2								
Burkhaven Park	3.8	MP	1																			2										2								
Can-Amera Park	8.6	NP	1													1						3						1				2								
Center Courts	N/A	IRC	4	4															8					2										4						
George Olson Recreation Complex	31.5	CP	3		2			4						2				2	6							4		2					8							
Gotto Park	1.2	CP	3																			9										2								
Harvey Randall Wickes East	35.7	CP	2							18-hole																			2			2		2						
Harvey Randall Wickes West	48.7	CP	3											8				3				2						4				2								
Lathrup Park	4	NP	1																																					
Leonard Boers III Riverfront	18	SUP	3																																					
North Little League Park	12.3	SUP	2		5																	2										2								
Rudy Zauel Park South Little League Park	8.1	SUP	2		4																											2								
Sandhill Park	2	MP	1											4				1				2										2								
Playscape Park	3.1	CP	4															1				1										2								
Saginaw Township Soccer Complex	77.3	SC	4						1															4			22													
Spaeth Park	0.18	MP	3																																					
West Michigan Park	8.3	CP	3									1										2										1								

## COMPARISON TO STANDARD

The Township has committed to taking a steady and consistent approach to developing park facilities that provide lifelong recreation options for the residents of Saginaw Charter Township. When considering the level of service, it is important to note that Saginaw Charter Township provides de facto recreation services and facilities to a population greater than its residential population.

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) has published typical recreation facility standards that specify facility service areas, the number of facilities needed to service the population, and the land area needed. These standards can be used in conjunction with the acreage standards to further identify Saginaw Charter Township's recreation needs. The table below, Table 6, provides a comparison of the Township's public recreation facilities against the NRPA's published recreation facility standards.

In general, the Township rates significantly higher (126.48 acres) compared to the NRPA's suggested facility development standards regarding the acreage of parkland necessary for their population. Table 6 indicates a 0.24 acreage deficiency in mini parks and 25.98 in Neighborhood Parks with excess parkland in Community Parks, Special Use Parks, and Sports Complex.

In addition to the standards outlined in the table below, more recent park guidelines indicate that officials must also consider the parks and recreation "Level of Service" desired by the residents of a community. If the Township's resident needs are met with the existing parkland and facilities, then that amount is sufficient, regardless of the standards or acreage suggestions. This is why the community input portion of a recreation plan is so important. While it appears that the Township does have enough recreational land, the community input results indicated a few deficiencies in parks. They would like to see additional facilities such as winter activities, updated restrooms, walking pathways, and more programs. The Parks Commission and Board need to understand the wishes of the community they serve to provide the appropriate level of service.

**TABLE 6 – COMPARISON TO STANDARDS**

	<b>Standard</b>	<b>Township Park Acreage</b>	<b>Standard Amount</b>	<b>Deficiency / Excess</b>
<b>Mini Parks</b>	.25 acres/1,000 residents	10.18	10.42	-0.24
<b>Neighborhood Parks</b>	1 acre/1,000 residents	15.7	41.68	-25.98
<b>Community Parks*</b>	5 acres/1,000 residents	245.4	208.40	+37.00
<b>Special Use Parks</b>	Variable	38.4	N/A	+38.4
<b>Sports Complex</b>	Variable	77.3	N/A	+77.3
<b>Total</b>		386.98	260.49	126.49
<i>Table is based on the 2020 Census population</i>				
<i>*Community Park calculations include school properties</i>				

## REGIONAL FACILITIES

Saginaw Charter Township does not operate any regional parks, however, there are several regional park facilities within the municipal boundary of the Township.

## COUNTY PARKS

Two of the Saginaw County Parks are within the municipal boundary of the Township, as listed below. Saginaw County Parks also has other facilities outside of the Township boundaries and can be found on the County's website or in the County's Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

- William H. Haithco Recreation Area, Saginaw Charter Township
- Imerman Memorial Park, Saginaw Charter Township

## STATE/FEDERAL PARKS

Saginaw County contains several large tracts of public or semi-public lands. The largest tracts are controlled by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

**The Shiawassee Flats** - Is comprised of the Shiawassee River State Game Area at 9,758 acres and the Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge at 9,870 acres. Located on the south side of Saginaw, and extending to St. Charles, Michigan, the Shiawassee Flats area is a massive floodplain located at the confluence of the Flint, Shiawassee, Bad, Cass, and Tittabawassee rivers as well as Swan Creek. This unique geographical feature creates outstanding waterfowl habitat. According to the Friends of the Shiawassee River Facebook site, it is the largest managed waterfowl hunting area in Michigan.

**Crow Island State Game Area** - The Crow Island State Game Area located just east of the Township encompasses 3,500 acres and includes portions of Saginaw and Bay Counties along the lower Saginaw River. The Crow Island State Game Area is a complex of wetlands, diked croplands, and agricultural uplands that provide habitat for a wide variety of migratory birds, invertebrates, and wildlife. The area provides access to public hunting, trapping, and limited fishing opportunities and is capable of providing additional recreational opportunities.

**Bay City State Recreation Area** - Bay City State Recreation Area is a 2,389-acre state park situated on the shores of the Saginaw Bay (Lake Huron) and is home to one of the largest remaining freshwater, coastal wetlands on the Great Lakes, the Tobico Marsh. The recreation area is known for its outstanding variety of bird life and as a haven for wetland wildlife and plants. The recreation area contains 193 campground sites, a nature center, swimming, fishing, hiking trails, and picnicking facilities. The area also has a new accessible playground, "Play by the Bay", and a splash pad.

### NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS

Communities across the United States are creating regional trail systems in both cities and rural areas to provide a higher quality of life for residents. In fact, of all the states, Michigan has the largest rail-trail system. Even more impressive, these trails more often than not, cover long distances, which is uncommon in other states. Trails give residents the opportunity to create a more active lifestyle and healthy habits, all while being safe while walking or biking on the roads. Trails are also able to provide additional ways to experience a community and give all users the option of increased mobility in different modes of travel.

Historically, the roads in Saginaw Charter Township have been designed with only automobile traffic in mind. However, communities are now working toward creating a network of trails and roads that are accessible to several forms of traffic. This often means sharing the existing road right-of-way with bikes or having a separate pathway running parallel to the road which is designated for non-motorized use and connects regional centers.

#### *Why trails are important*

While trails can be a challenge to implement, their positive effects on a community cannot be disputed. It has been proven that trails create a place of pride and a sense of ownership in Michigan residents. Trails are also an important driver in the local and regional economy, they increase property values and provide safe and healthy recreation options. The growing trail trend in Michigan is also reflected in the Township/County. Trails and pathways are an asset to every community.

Trail users have a measurable impact on the local economy. Working with the surrounding townships and other jurisdictions is an effective way to connect with existing systems and expand the non-motorized pathway infrastructure. These projects create a long-term, valuable investment in the community and the opportunity to connect the Township to others in the region, which promotes economic vitality, encourages a healthier lifestyle in residents, and creates a safer travel environment.

**Saginaw Township Pathway** - The development of the Township's pathway system has been of great importance to the Township. This commitment to consistent and comprehensive planning for pedestrian connections has been identified as a high priority of the Parks Commission and Township officials based on the opinions reflected in the public opinion surveys.

The Township developed a Pedestrian Plan in 2005. This plan inventoried existing paths and outlined the direction for future path and sidewalk development to link the Township with pedestrians and non-motorized facilities. In 2007 a one-mile long non-motorized path was developed between McCarty and Shattuck Roads, in the Consumers Energy right of way (ROW), and also included a trailhead parking area behind Center Courts. In 2011, the Township partnered with Kochville Township to the north, to construct the section from McCarty to Tittabawassee roads (and in Kochville Township from Tittabawassee Road to the Elmer Lange Park at the Township offices), in the Consumers Energy ROW, where it connected with the existing Kochville Path leading to the major shopping district, other parks, I-675 and SVSU's campus. In 2022, Kochville Township extended this path westward to connect with Tittabawassee Township's path system, which is also part of the Great Lakes Bay Regional Trail (GLBRT) connecting Saginaw, Bay, and Midland Counties.

An additional connector pathway was developed along South Center Road in the southernmost portion of the Township. The pathway is a  $\frac{3}{4}$  paved path in the road right of way along South Center Road between West Michigan Avenue and Stroebel Road with a pedestrian bridge over the Tittabawassee River. The path also connects to Leonard Boers III Riverfront Park. This pathway connects to the Saginaw Valley Rail Trail at Stroebel Road, which extends south to the Village of St. Charles.

**Saginaw Valley Rail Trail** - The Saginaw Valley Rail Trail is an 11-mile paved non-motorized pathway. The trail starts just south of the Bad River in the Village of St. Charles at Lumberjack Park and follows a former rail bed to Stroebel Road. From there it heads eastward along Stroebel Road, ending at Center Road in James Township. The Saginaw Valley Rail Trail has three trailheads that provide parking access to the trail.



### **Great Lakes Bay Regional**

**Trail (BayZil Trail)** - The Great Lakes Bay Regional Trail (GLBRT) is a multi-jurisdictional trail connecting Bay, Midland, and Saginaw Counties. In 2009, the GLBRT Committee was formed following the development of the Tri-County Regional Path Study to move projects forward making the needed connections. Saginaw Charter Township is connected to the GLBRT trail system through its connection with Kochville's trail system. The first priority of the committee was the development of the Saginaw - Bay connection, which constructed 6.2 miles of trail in an old rail bed, connecting the Bay City Riverwalk River trail southward to Kochville Road, including the renovation of two old rail bridges. The GLBRT Committee is currently focused on the development between Saginaw and Midland, with the connection from Kochville to Freeland completed. Funding has been received to complete much of the trail from Freeland to Midland, including the rehabilitation of the historic Bailey Bridge. Once the Saginaw - Midland connection is completed (expected in the next 3-5 years) the focus will shift to the development of the Midland to Bay connection. The GLBRT is part of the state-wide Iron Belle Trail.

**Iron Belle Trail** - The Iron Belle Trail is a set of two trails that traverse the entire State of Michigan from Belle Isle in Detroit to Ironwood in the Upper Peninsula. The eastern trail, 827 miles, is a bike route that utilizes existing bike paths, bike lanes, designed bike routes, and existing roads/sidewalks. The western trail, 1,203 miles, is the hiking route that uses the North County National Scenic Trail. The eastern trail traverses through the City of Saginaw.

### Trail / Path Programs

**Safe Routes to School** - Safe Routes to School (SRTS) is an international movement to make it safe, convenient, and fun for children to walk and bike to school. When routes are safer, walking or biking to and from school is an easy way to get the regular physical activity that children need for good health. The Michigan Department of Community Health has partnered with the Michigan Department of Transportation and the Michigan Fitness Foundation to provide funding, training, and technical assistance to local health departments (LHD's) to be leaders in Michigan elementary schools in implementing SRTS and to help increase the number of students walking and biking to school.

The following are the goals of the Safe Routes to School Program:

- Encourage and enable school children, including children with disabilities, to walk and bicycle to and from school when distance is reasonable, and routes are safe.
- Make walking and bicycling routes to school safer.
- Develop lifelong habits of physical activity.
- Reduce traffic and pollution around schools.
- Change the built environment/enhanced enforcement.

The Safe Routes to School Program may be a successful funding program to increase the connectivity of the Township. As noted earlier, the residents of Saginaw Charter Township highly desire a more connected Township, providing walking and biking paths or trails for residents to schools, parks, and facilities. Further, the majority of the community parklands in the Township are provided through the school playgrounds, and therefore the school district recreation is an important component of cohesive recreation in the Township. This Plan is a joint effort between the Township Parks and Recreation Department and the Township School District. It is a perfect opportunity to consider how both school children and residents would benefit from increasing the pathways in the Township, by connecting schools to local neighborhoods, and by connecting schools to other recreation facilities when possible.

The application process would require the Township to do the required planning and studies for the Safe Routes to Schools Program, the school systems cannot apply for any grant money without assistance at the Township level. Several members of the School Board, and Parks and Recreation Commission members who have been involved in the process believe with the compilation of this updated Recreation Plan, now is an opportune time to explore the Safe Routes to Schools Program.

### WATER TRAILS

Just as the trend and desire for non-motorized trails are increasing, so is the interest in water trails. Currently, water trails do not hold the popularity of non-motorized trails, nor do they have the same awareness. However, their popularity is increasing, and water recreation enthusiasts support the development of these trails wholeheartedly. According to Michigan Water Trails, a water trail is a marked route on a navigable waterway or coastline used for recreational use. They could include streams, rivers, lakes, or canals. The trails allow access to waterways for non-motorized boats such as kayaks, canoes, single sailboats, or rowboats. Water trails feature well-developed launch points, and access to campgrounds, rest stops, restrooms, and connections to historical, environmental, or cultural points of interest. They are often near connections to municipalities for places to eat, shop, and sleep.

The National Forest Service has a designated national water trails program. The State of Michigan has a program as well. To be a designated water trail included in the Michigan Water Trails, a trail must:

- Be open to non-motorized craft.
- Include access sites open to the public.
- Have developed and up-to-date trail data that is publicly available.
- Be actively supported, managed, and maintained by at least one organization or community that serves as the source of information.

The DNR has also developed Water Trail Standards and Designations so paddlers across Michigan have a consistent tool when planning a trip along a water trail.

**Tittabawassee River Water Trail (TRWT)** - Saginaw County has been working with a larger group in the watershed of the Tittabawassee River to develop a water trail plan defining potential launch sites along the river corridor. This could potentially provide launch sites at the Saginaw Township sites along the river including Leonard Boers III Riverfront Park or West Michigan Park. The Tittabawassee, Cass, Flint, and Shiawassee rivers all converge in southeast Saginaw at the Shiawassee Flats region, connecting the paddlers along the TRWT to paddlers on the Saginaw Blueways Trail (along the Saginaw River and Saginaw Bay), The Cass River Water Trail, the Shiawassee Heritage River Trail, and the Flint River Water Trail.



## SCHOOL FACILITIES

In addition to the recreation options offered by the Township and other regional recreation providers, another source of recreation are the existing Saginaw Township School Facilities. The Township Parks and Recreation Department and Township School District share several recreation facilities. The schools are an important arm of recreation in the Township, the two units work together in providing recreation, and in the future plan to continue and expand upon their cooperation. Therefore, the School District was included in this recreation planning effort, and an inventory of facilities is below in Table 7.

**TABLE 7 – SAGINAW TOWNSHIP SCHOOL INVENTORY**

School Facilities									
	Acreage	Ball Diamonds	Basketball	Football/ Soccer	Tennis Courts	Playground	Playfield	Shelter	Restrooms
<b>Arrowwood Elementary School</b>	10.5	X		X		x	X	X	X
<b>Hemmeter Elementary School</b>	3.5	X	X			X	X	X	X
<b>Heritage High School</b>	25.2	X		X	X			X	X
<b>Mackinaw High School</b>	7.5	X		X		X	X	X	X
<b>Sherwood Elementary School</b>	9.4	X	X			x	X	X	X
<b>Weiss School</b>	7.1		x	X		X	X	X	X
<b>Westdale Elementary School</b>	14.3		X	X		X	X	X	X
<b>White Pine Middle School</b>	39.4	X	x	X	X		x	X	X

## COMMUNITY INPUT

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## OVERVIEW

Saginaw Charter Township believes in solid community input as the basis for decisions regarding capital improvement projects in the Township. Public input helps community leaders determine the needs of residents and then provides the framework and basis for parks and recreation goals and objectives. To comply with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Guidelines for Development of Community Parks and Recreation Plans, the Township offered two public input opportunities. These included an online community input survey and a 30-day public review period for comments on the draft plan.

The Plan was available for public comment during the required 30-day public review period held between December to January and concluding with a public hearing on January 16, 2024, at the Parks Commission meeting, and adoption by the Board on January 22, 2024.

## COMMUNITY INPUT SURVEY

In the fall of 2023, an online survey was made available to residents for the Township officials to gather input regarding parks and recreation in Saginaw Charter Township. The online survey included 15 questions regarding public park usage, appearance, facilities, ADA-accessible equipment, and respondent demographics. The community-wide survey received 601 responses. The survey was assigned to the web domain [www.saginawtwpparksurvey.com](http://www.saginawtwpparksurvey.com), and was available on the Township website, Facebook, and flyers placed around the Township.

Key points of the survey are summarized on the following pages, and the remaining tables developed for the report can be found in Appendix B.

## ABOUT THE RESPONDENTS

- Of the 601 respondents, 79% are Saginaw Charter Township residents, 19% are County residents, and 2% live outside the County.
- From the 79% of Township residents, 63% have lived in the Township for over 15 years, 27% have lived in the Township for 5-15 years, and 10% have lived in the Township for less than five years.
- Almost every age cohort participated in the survey. The responses below are listed from highest to lowest percentage.
  - **Age 40-49:** 28%
  - **Age 30-39:** 22%
  - **Age 50-59:** 17%
  - **Age 60-69:** 18%
  - **Age 70-79:** 10%
  - **Age 19-29:** 4%
  - **Age 80+:** 1%

## SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS

### Park Usage

To determine which parks get the most usage, the survey asked respondents how often they have visited the following Township parks within the last year. Of the options provided the most frequently visited parks are listed below. The reminders of the Township parks are visited throughout the year but are not used as much as the four listed above.

- Center Courts
- George Olson Recreation Complex
- Harvey Randall Wickes Park (east & west)
- Soccer Complex

Knowing what facilities within your parks are used the most helps the Township determine what facilities may need updating more often, if those facilities are being underutilized, and what may be the best way to use that space. The survey asked respondents about their usage of the disc golf course at both Wickes Park. The responses are listed below:

- I am aware of the disc golf course at Wickes Park, but have not used it: **41.1%**
- I have used the disc golf course at Wickes Park: **20.8%**
- I plan to use the disc golf course at Wickes Park: **19.3%**
- I was not aware of the disc golf course at Wickes Park: **17%**
- I will do not plan to use the disc golf course at Wickes Park: **1.8%**

“Lots of programs and opportunities for kids to try different sports”

Based on the survey results 40% of the respondents either use the disc golf course today or plan to in the future.

### Saginaw Township Parks Wishlist

Saginaw Charter Township’s parks offer a variety of recreational amenities and facilities for park users. However, that does not mean that there are no additional amenities that users would like to see. To gauge what those things might be the survey asked respondents to select which amenities they would like to see, the top ten responses are listed below:

1. Farmers Market
2. Recreation Pathways for Walking or Biking
3. Sledding Hill
4. Ice Rink
5. Restrooms
6. Splash Pad
7. Natural Areas
8. Kayak/Canoe Launch
9. Playground Equipment
10. Dog Park

One of the key takeaways from the public input survey is determining what projects park users may want to see. This is helpful information so that the Township is able to determine where they should spend their money and what could be future grant projects. The survey asked the respondents to rank the six projects provided. The results are listed below:

### Winter recreation opportunities like a sledding hill

- **Very top priority/top priority: 50.7%**
- Somewhat of a priority: 35.7%
- Low priority/not a priority: 15.5%

### Upgrade/add playground equipment

- **Very top priority/top priority: 46.1%**
- Somewhat of a priority: 38%
- Low priority/not a priority: 16%

### Improve playscape

- **Very top priority/top priority: 42.5%**
- Somewhat of a priority: 38.3%
- Low priority/not a priority: 19.3%

### Additional pavilions for special/family

- **Very top priority/top priority: 26.8%**
- **Somewhat of a priority: 44.7%**
- Low priority/not a priority: 28.6%

### A splash pad

- **Very top priority/top priority: 37.2%**
- Somewhat of a priority: 34.4%
- Low priority/not a priority: 28.4%

### Paved pathway connecting Township Parks

- **Very top priority/top priority: 59.9%**
- Somewhat of a priority: 25%
- Low priority/not a priority: 15%

The survey asked an open-ended question asking respondents to share what they would like improved at the parks. The most common responses are listed below:

- Paths/bike lanes
- Update play equipment/accessibility
- Clean-up/maintenance
- Security/lighting
- Water activities- kayak launch and splash pad
- Winter activities – ice rink and sledding hill
- Update bathrooms
- Improve the ballfields
- More Camps

**“Continued efforts to focus on kids and families. Bring families into parks by consistent maintenance and improvement of the parks. A big emphasis on playgrounds.”**

## Programming

The Township offers a variety of programs to its residents throughout the year. Programs are offered for all age groups. To determine how the Township may need to improve its programming the survey asked respondents how they would rate the need for the different programs. In most categories, the top response was important followed by top priority. The responses are listed below.

### Family Programs

- A Top Priority: 29.9%
- **Important: 43.2%**
- Somewhat Important: 19%
- Not important: 3%

### Summer Day Camps

- A Top Priority: 18.3%
- **Important: 41.1%**
- Somewhat Important: 25.8%
- Not important: 7.8%

### Senior Recreation Classes

- A Top Priority: 14.9%
- **Important: 48.2%**
- Somewhat Important: 22%
- Not important: 5.7%

### Youth and Adult Sporting Activities

- A Top Priority: 32.6%
- **Important: 45.6%**
- Somewhat Important: 16.6%
- Not important: 2.1%

### Adult Recreation Classes

- A Top Priority: 19%
- **Important: 45.5%**
- Somewhat Important: 28.9%
- Not important: 7.8%

### Other Activities

- A Top Priority: 11.5%
- **Important: 42.1%**
- Somewhat Important: 31.5%
- Not important: 8.4%

### Youth Recreation Classes

- A Top Priority: 37.5%
- **Important: 46.5%**
- Somewhat Important: 10.2%
- Not important: 2.1%

## Accessibility

Understanding the level of your resident's moveability is important when determining the level of accessible elements your parks may or may not need. The survey asked respondents to indicate what elements are needed in the Township parks. Of all the options provided the top response in each category was strongly agree or agree.

- |                                |                                      |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ▪ Flatter, easier grades       | ▪ Accessible Restrooms               |
| ▪ Accessible Playgrounds       | ▪ Paved Trails                       |
| ▪ Accessible Parking           | ▪ Accessible Spectator Viewing Areas |
| ▪ Accessible waterfront access |                                      |

## Township Parks Quality

There are four important aspects to keep in mind when evaluating parks. Each of those aspects plays a role in how park users view the park and how they use it. The survey asked respondents to provide their opinions on the four aspects. Generally, respondents rated each aspect as good.

### Park Maintenance/Appearance

- Excellent: 16%
- **Good: 70.8%**
- Poor: 6.8%

### Variety of Facilities/Amenities

- Excellent: 6.7%
- **Good: 75.7%**
- Poor: 13.1%

### Variety of Recreation Programs

- Excellent: 9.4%
- **Good: 68.4%**
- Poor: 11.6%

### Safety

- Excellent: 14.1%
- **Good: 69.9%**
- Poor: 5.5%



One of the final survey questions asked respondents what they felt was the most important for the future of the parks. The responses are listed below in order of ranking:

1. Enhance the existing parks
2. Acquire more park space
3. Keep the parks as they are

As much as the survey talks about the areas that need improvements in parks it's important to take note of all the things park users love. The top reasons why park users love the parks are listed below:

- Accessibility/location
- Variety
- Kids programs
- Well maintained

**“Nicely spread out throughout the Township. Each park has its unique character and is fairly easy to access.”**

The Saginaw Charter Township’s 2023 survey was developed to help the Township determine where to best focus its time and funds. Often times what the Township’s officials might see as a priority is not park users’ priority, that’s why a survey in this format is key.

## GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

### IN THIS CHAPTER

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# INTRODUCTION

Developing effective and achievable goals and objectives is an important part of the parks and recreation planning process. Overall, the Parks Commission would like to provide high-quality recreation opportunities for the community. The main sources used to formulate these goals and objectives are as follows: the results of the public input process, a comparison of Saginaw Charter Township's facilities with published community standards, the observations of the Parks Commission, demographic characteristics of the population, and the physical and environmental characteristics of the community.

Goals are the broadest level of planning. They are over-reaching and general. However, objectives carry out the purpose of the goal. An action plan is the most specific planning level, as it identifies specific projects and programs to be pursued over the next five years. The Action Plan can include organizational, staffing, programming, public information, and operation and maintenance actions. The Saginaw Charter Township Parks Commission formulated goals and objectives in 2018 based upon the characteristics of the overall community, community feedback, and staff and Parks Commission opinions and input, the 2018 goals were an update from the 2013 Plan. The following Plan reflects updated goals based on previous accomplishments and recreational changes that have occurred in the past five years.

Township residents are fortunate in that they have a wealth of outdoor and indoor facilities for parks recreation and leisure. As the recreation inventory details, the Township has 16 public parks including Center Courts, the indoor recreation center.

The Township offers many opportunities for recreation and leisure through its facilities and programming. The Parks Commission along with input from Township staff, elected officials, and the public provided strong insight into what the Township's residents considered deficient in terms of parks and recreation facilities and services. These comments and recommendations, combined with the capital improvement plan, established a strong framework from which the Parks and Recreation Department administrative staff were able to develop the five-year Action Plan.

In assessing the deficiencies of Saginaw Charter Township, an evaluation of existing programs and facilities combined with public input was considered the most efficient way of determining need. Analysis of public input received revealed many requests for the following improvements additional/expanded pathways network, pool or splash pad, winter recreation opportunities, accessible restrooms, and improved youth recreation classes and more youth and adult sporting events. In addition to these, the issue of maintaining and improving existing infrastructure was a recurrent theme.

## GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

In order to accomplish this mission, the following goals have been developed. These goals are based on feedback from Township residents, from the results of the recreation survey, from observed deficiencies, and from comparisons with existing standards. The Parks Commission formulated the following goals and objectives.

### **GOAL 1. GENERAL IMPROVEMENTS TO SAGINAW TOWNSHIP'S EXISTING PARKS ENSURE THEY ARE SAFE, CLEAN, AND WELL-MAINTAINED PUBLIC SPACES.**

#### *Objectives:*

1. Consider any renovation and/or repair opportunity at existing facilities as a chance to improve accessibility with an eye toward universal design.
2. Continue to focus on preventative maintenance at all parks and recreation facilities.
3. Continue to provide a high level of cleanliness and upkeep/maintenance of existing facilities.
4. Implement targeted upgrades to improve safety at the parks and work with local law enforcement to create a safe environment for park users.



### **GOAL 2. DEVELOP SAFE AND ACCESSIBLE NON-MOTORIZED TRAIL SYSTEM, BOTH LAND AND WATER.**

#### *Objectives:*

1. Continue to work with neighboring jurisdictions, the county, and the region to make a system of pathways a reasonable alternative to other forms of transportation.
2. Whenever possible, leverage existing and proposed developments to install pathway systems as part of the overall system plan.
3. Work to connect the existing parks system through a network of sidewalks and non-motorized pathways to create a more connected and safer system.
4. Evaluate potential corridors for new pathway opportunities.
5. Partner with adjacent communities, where feasible, to extend trail systems.

### **GOAL 3. CONTINUALLY ADAPT AND PROVIDE GOOD SERVICE TO THE USERS OF THE PARKS SYSTEM AND THE RECREATION PROGRAMS.**

#### *Objectives:*

1. Investigate and pursue ways to leverage existing resources by looking to community partners who can assist in expanding our programs, facilities, and offerings.
2. Identify ways to maintain and control costs while expanding services and ensuring sustainability.

### **GOAL 4. IF DEEMED APPROPRIATE, ACQUIRE ADDITIONAL RECREATION LAND FOR POTENTIAL PARK FACILITIES.**

#### *Objectives:*

1. As new development occurs and infrastructure is installed in the northwest portion of the Township, work to identify preferred locations for open space and parkland.
2. If desired, acquire property as it becomes available.
3. If possible, acquire land that is high in natural resource value.

### **GOAL 5. PROVIDE HIGH-QUALITY RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE RESIDENTS OF SAGINAW CHARTER TOWNSHIP BASED ON CITIZEN INTEREST.**

#### *Objectives:*

1. Identify improvements to existing facilities that lend themselves to multiple groups (lacrosse, soccer, tennis, disc golf, etc.).
2. Work to ensure that all facilities are accessible and maximize renovations and scheduled maintenance by attempting to include improvements that include universal design elements.
3. Utilize the Recreation Plan survey results as a guide for future park and program development.
4. Provide greater access to water resources like the Tittabawassee River in Saginaw Township.

### **GOAL 6. ENCOURAGE THE DEDICATION OF PARKLAND IN NEW RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS.**

#### *Objectives:*

1. Work with the Planning Commission and Township Staff to encourage good design practices in new subdivision developments, such as dedicated parkland and wide accessible sidewalks that connect to the existing sidewalk network.
2. Work with the Township to ensure connectivity in neighborhood design with the goal that no neighborhoods are isolated.

### GOAL 7. IMPROVE/PROVIDE BARRIER-FREE ACCESS AND UNIVERSAL DESIGN STANDARDS AT RECREATION FACILITIES.

#### *Objectives:*

1. Provide equal access to recreation opportunities to all individuals.
2. Improvements to existing facilities should be designed to exceed the minimum requirements of the Michigan barrier-free code.
3. If feasible, any new facilities should be designed to Universal Design standards.
4. Identify and prioritize needed accessibility improvements to all Saginaw Township Parks.
5. Ensure all new improvements are developed to be universally accessible, whenever possible.

### GOAL 8. PROVIDE RECREATIONAL PROGRAMMING FOR THE SAGINAW TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY.

#### *Objectives:*

1. Continue to collaborate with Township Community Schools and public and private partners to provide programming to suit community needs.
2. Investigate the opportunity for new events, programs, and leisure activities.
3. Provide programs and activities that are accessible and affordable.



### GOAL 9. INCREASE MARKETING/AWARENESS OF THE EXISTING PARKS AND RECREATION PROGRAMS.

#### *Objectives:*

1. Increase marketing and promotion of Township parks.
2. Develop pathway signage for parking and trail signs.
3. Utilize the Township's existing social media platforms to communicate with residents about Township parks and programming.
4. Reach out to the community to further publicize events. Increase marketing and promotion of Township parks and recreational facilities. For example, work with local media to provide coverage of improvements, events, and activities at the parks.
5. Work with local schools, governmental units, and non-profit organizations to share information regarding Saginaw Charter Township parks and other recreational opportunities.

### CONSISTENT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING

In order to consistently work toward the long-term implementation of these goals and the Action Plan contained on the following pages, the Parks Commission will, in the winter of each year, establish key items to pursue within the next fiscal year. With the assistance of the Director of the Department of Public Services and the Recreation Manager, the Parks and Recreation Commission will work to review its Action Plan, including any new items that may become needed as the implementation of the Recreation Plan continues. The Parks Commission and Township staff will work to adjust the Action Plan through the yearly prioritization of tentative expenditures. These expenditures will include their relationship to goals and action items included in this Plan and review any other necessary improvements that may need to take place in terms of programming, capital improvements or changes in maintenance, etc. *Additional Funding Sources can be found in Appendix A.*

### ACTION PLAN

With goals and objectives in place, the Township was able to develop a five-year Action Plan to work toward accomplishing the goals and objectives. The Action Plan details the specific projects and the direction the Township wishes to take over the next five years. The items are designed to maintain and improve the quality and diversity of Saginaw Township parks and recreation facilities. Each action item relates to one or more of the lettered goals described earlier. Potential projects described in this Plan have been established not only to provide a framework for decision-makers but also to enable the Township to apply for grant funding.

The project list is not a fixed element, and it is not either all-inclusive or exclusive. The project list reflects the results of the input received from the online survey and Township officials. The proposed Action Items are shown in Table 8 on the following pages.



TABLE 8 – ACTION PLAN

Action Item	Relates to Goal	Priority
<b>George Olson Recreation Complex</b>		
Renovate restrooms and drinking fountains with pet stations	1, 5, 7	1
Splash pad with updated restrooms and mechanical rooms	1, 5, 7	2
Playground equipment at Gotto Park for 5 and under	1, 5, 7	2
Playground equipment for 12 and under	1, 5, 7	1
Close south entry drive into the park, including a small parking area near tennis courts	1, 5	3
Acquire land adjacent to Center Courts and realign the drive with Heritage	4	3
Install 2 <sup>nd</sup> large pavilion	1, 5, 7	2
Asphalt parking lot and landscape improvements	1, 5	2
Resurface asphalt basketball court	1, 5, 7	2
Repair/replace existing ballfield fencing where needed	1, 5	3
Add a trail loop through the park	2, 7	2
<b>Harvey Randall Wickes Park - West</b>		
Renovate restrooms and drinking fountains with pet stations	1, 5, 7	1
ADA-accessible pathway around the pond	2, 7	1
ADA-accessible paved pathways to ballfields	2, 7	1
Asphalt parking lot	1, 5	1
Install small pavilions around asphalt near the pond	1, 5, 7	2
Replace guardrails	1, 5	3
<b>Harvey Randall Wickes Park - East</b>		
Renovate restrooms and drinking fountains with pet stations	1, 5, 7	1
Add small pavilion	1, 5, 7	2
Asphalt parking lot	1, 5	1
Small playground structure	1, 5, 7	3
Asphalt walking path	2, 7	3
<b>Saginaw Township Playscape</b>		
Replace wooden playground equipment with new modern equipment	1, 5, 7	1
Replace the wooden fence that surrounds the playground equipment	1, 5	1
Replace playground mulch with new rubber playground material	1, 5, 7	1
Renovate restroom and drinking fountains with pet stations	1, 5, 7	1
New asphalt walkways from the parking lot to the restroom	2, 7	1

<b>Cont. Saginaw Township Playscape</b>		
New landscape around the playground area and road	1	3
Add new pavilion	1, 5, 7	2
Acquire property east of Playscape Park	4	2
<b>Pedestrian Pathway</b>		
An additional phase of the pathway on Tittabawassee from Mackinaw to Midland Road	2, 7	2
An additional phase of the pathway on McCarty Road from Autumn Ridge to Hospital Road	2, 7	2
Paved pathway connecting Township Parks	2, 7	2
Add interpretive/directional signage	9	2
<b>Additional Projects</b>		
Update playgrounds to be ADA accessible	1, 5, 7	1
Explore the feasibility of developing a community pool	5	3
Add additional facilities to parks i.e. benches, shade, water fountains	1, 5, 7	1
Add winter activities to the parks i.e. sledding hill and ice skating	1, 5	1
Continue to add accessible elements into the parks	7	1
Explore adding safety elements/measures to the parks	1	1
Determine which ballfields need updated and plan for updates	1, 5	1
Additional pavilions for special/family events	1, 5, 7	2
Add a splash pad	1, 5, 7	2
<b>Community-Wide Initiatives</b>		
Continue to provide programming to Township residents and explore where more may need to be added	3, 8	1
Explore having a Farmer's Market in one of the parks	5, 9	1
Keep promoting parks and programming	8, 9	1
Develop accessible canoe/kayak launches on the TRWT	1, 2, 7	2
Explore future expansion and maintenance of pickleball courts	1, 5	1

## PLANNING PROCESS

### IN THIS CHAPTER

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# PROCESS

In a continuing effort to provide quality recreational opportunities for its citizens, Saginaw Charter Township has developed this Parks and Recreation Master Plan as a tool to guide the development of community parks and recreational facilities over the next five years. This Plan is an update of the Township's most recent Plan which was adopted in 2019. The Plan will provide the Township eligibility for grants from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to assist the community in reaching its recreational goals.

Saginaw Charter Township contracted with Spicer Group of Saginaw, Michigan to assist with the completion of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The consultant met with the Township staff and the Parks Commission several times during the development of the Plan.

During the development of the Plan, two opportunities for input, participation, and review were provided:

- Online community input survey that was available from November 2023 to December 2023.
- 30-day review period and a public hearing held on January 16, 2024.

Based upon the existing information and public input, the Township developed the goals and objectives for parks and recreation for the next five years. Then, the Township updated its action plan to accomplish the goals and objectives.

# REVIEW AND ADOPTION

Spicer Group completed a draft Parks and Recreation Master Plan which was available for review at the Township offices and on the Township's website. The review period from December to January was publicized in the local paper. The final opportunity for community input occurred at the advertised public hearing held before the adoption of the Plan at the Parks Commission meeting on January 16, 2024. After the public hearing, the Parks Commission passed a motion recommending the Township Board adopt the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. On January 22, 2024, the Township Board passed a resolution to adopt the Plan.

Copies of the Plan were transmitted to the East Michigan Council of Governments. The Plan was uploaded to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for approval in January 2024. Copies of the noticed advertisements, public hearing minutes, and the resolution are included in Appendix C.

# APPENDIX

## IN THIS CHAPTER

- A - Funding Sources
- B - Community Input Survey
- C - Adoption Documentation



## APPENDIX A

### FUNDING SOURCES

## FINANCING POTENTIAL IMPROVEMENTS

Funding for the projects described under the Action Program can come from a range of local, state, and federal programs. Grant funding is available for parks and recreation projects. However, applicants need to target potential funding agencies and programs very carefully so as to meet the specific criteria required. What follows is a current listing of programs and agencies that can provide funding for parks and recreation projects.

### Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF)

- Match requirement – minimum of 25%
- Development grants
  - Minimum Grant Request \$15,000
  - Maximum Grant Request \$400,000
- Acquisition grants
  - No minimum or maximum
- Goals of MNRTF Board
  - Resource Protection – very important
  - Water Access
  - Community Recreation
  - Urban Recreation
  - Economic Development
- Due annually on April 1
- [www.michigan.gov/dnr-grants](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr-grants)

### Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

- Administered by MNRTF, applications due annually on April 1
- 50% match required
- Minimum grant request \$30,000 (\$60,000 project total)
- Maximum grant request \$500,000 (\$1,000,000 project total)
- Funds a wide variety of outdoor recreation projects
- [www.michigan.gov/dnr-grants](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr-grants)

### Michigan Recreation Passport Grant (RPG)

- Administered by MNRTF, applications due annually on April 1
- Match requirement – minimum of 25%
- Minimum Grant Request \$7,500
- Maximum Grant Request \$150,000
- [www.michigan.gov/dnr-grants](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr-grants)

### Michigan Department of Transportation - Transportation Alternatives Program

- For non-motorized transportation and rehabilitation & operation of historic transportation buildings, structures, or facilities (bridges, railroad depot, etc.)
- Eligible applicants include county road commissions, cities, and villages. Other organizations may sponsor applications (i.e. County Road Commission or local MDOT office sponsors an application)
- Rolling online application process
- [www.michigan.gov/mdot](http://www.michigan.gov/mdot) - Go to “Projects and Programs”

### OTHER PROGRAMS TO CONSIDER:

#### Specific sports and sports foundations

- United States Tennis Association (USTA) –
  - funding for tennis courts and programs
  - [www.usta.com](http://www.usta.com)
- Major League Baseball
  - Baseball Tomorrow Fund, more info at [www.baseballtomorrow.com](http://www.baseballtomorrow.com)
- United States Soccer
  - [www.ussoccerfoundation.org](http://www.ussoccerfoundation.org)

#### Safe Routes to School

- For projects near elementary and middle schools:
  - Sidewalks and off-street pedestrian facilities
  - On-street and off-street bicycle facilities
  - Traffic calming and speed reduction
  - Pedestrian and bicycle crossing improvements
  - Traffic diversion improvements in the vicinity of schools
- Need to complete the safe routes planning process to apply
- [www.saferoutesmichigan.org](http://www.saferoutesmichigan.org)

#### Trust for Public Land (TPL)

- Conservation Transactions: TPL helps structure, negotiate, and complete land transactions that create parks, playgrounds, and protected natural areas. TPL serves as an independent agent, buying land from willing landowners and then transferring it to public agencies, land trusts, or other groups for protection. In some instances, TPL will protect land through conservation easements, which restrict development but permit traditional uses such as farming and ranching.
- More information at [www.tpl.org](http://www.tpl.org)

### Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Grants

- Must be part of a watershed management plan
- Projects aimed at reducing nonpoint source pollution (streambank and shoreline stabilization, rain gardens, erosion control, conservation easements)
- [www.michigan.gov/deq](http://www.michigan.gov/deq) - Go to “Surface Water” and then to “Non-point Source Pollution”

### Community Forestry Grant Program

- Projects that develop or enhance urban and community forestry resources in Michigan Project categories are: Management and Planning, Education and Training, Library Resources and Tree Planting
- 50% match required
- <http://www.mi.gov/dnrucf> - Go to “Community Forestry Grants”

### Community Foundations, Private Foundations, and Endowments

- Community Foundation for Saginaw area

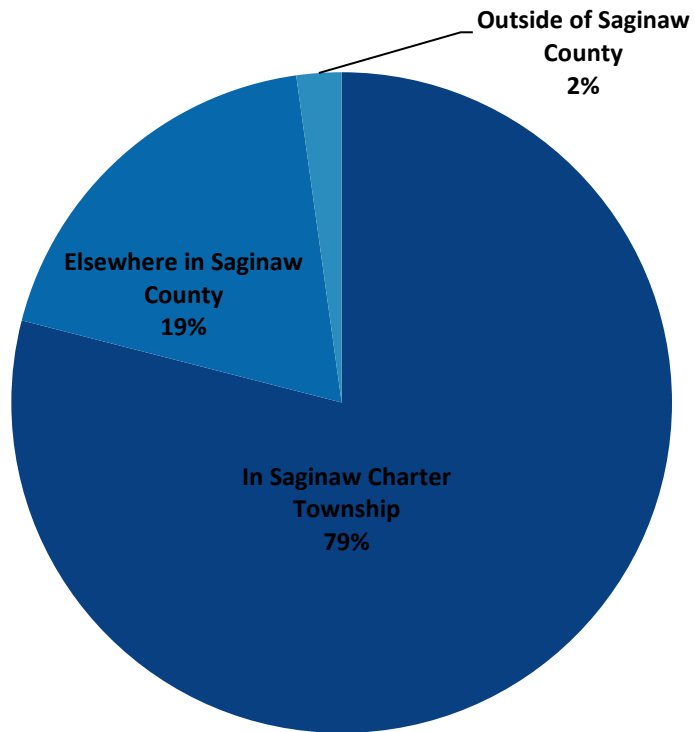
## APPENDIX B

### COMMUNITY INPUT SURVEY RESULTS

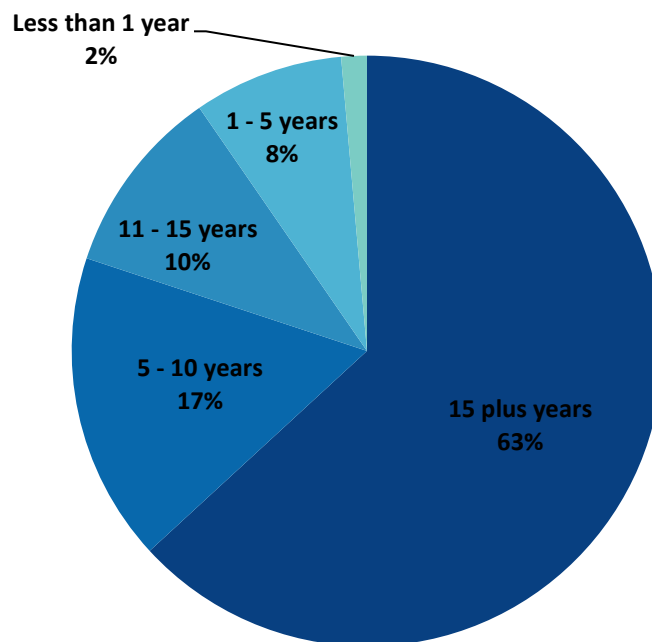
## SAGINAW CHARTER TOWNSHIP RECREATION PLAN

Complete 339 | Partial 262 | Total 601

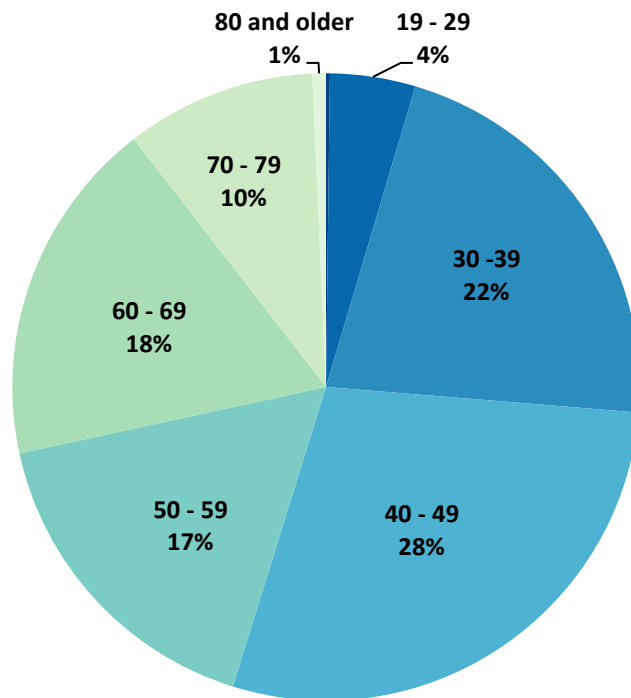
### 1. Where do you live?



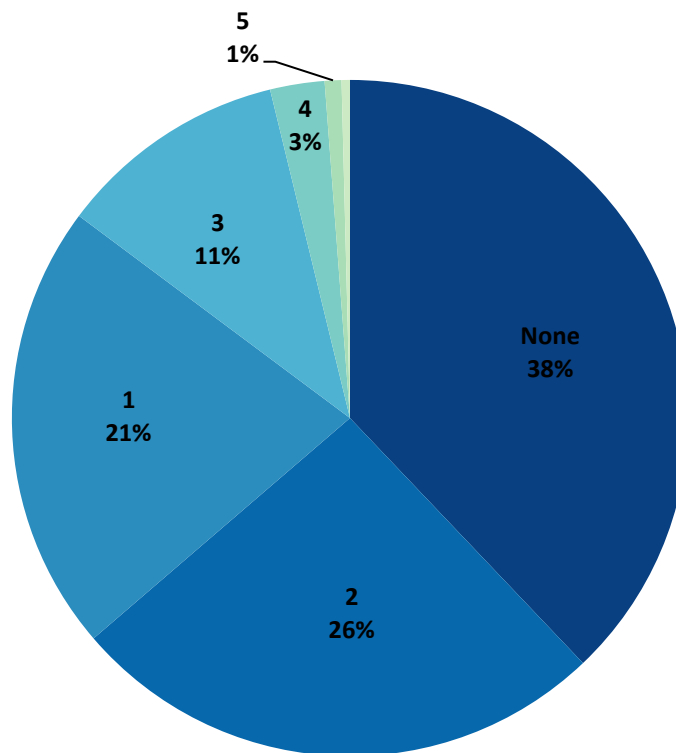
### 2. How long have you lived in Saginaw Charter Township?



### 3.What is your age?



### 4.How many children under the age of 18 live in your household?

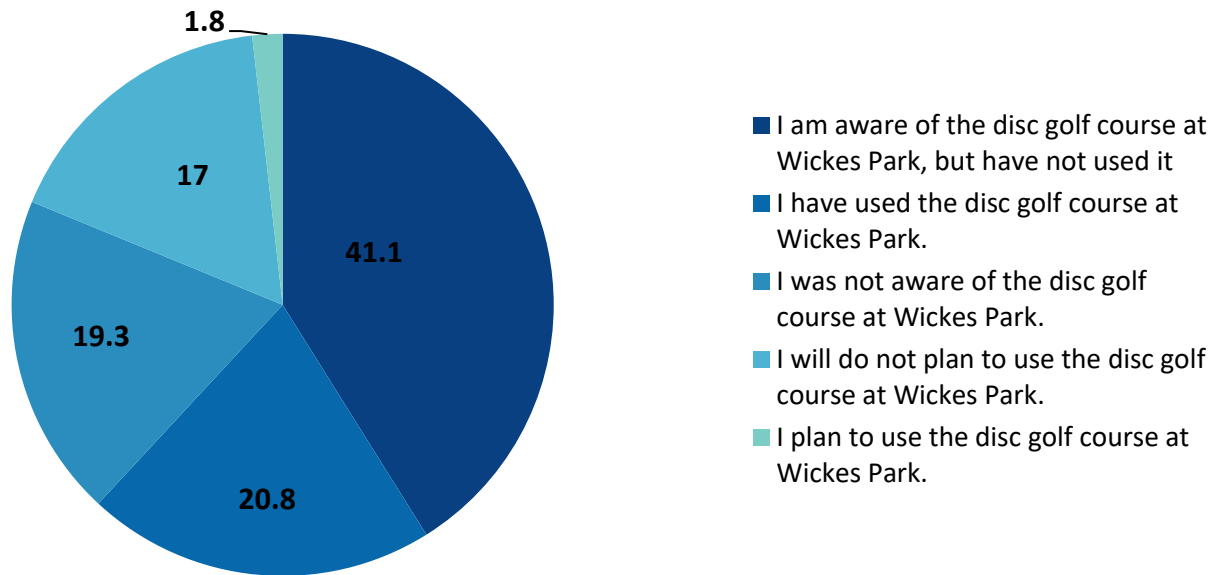


**5. In the last 12 months, how often have you or your family used the following Saginaw Charter Township Parks and Recreation facilities?**

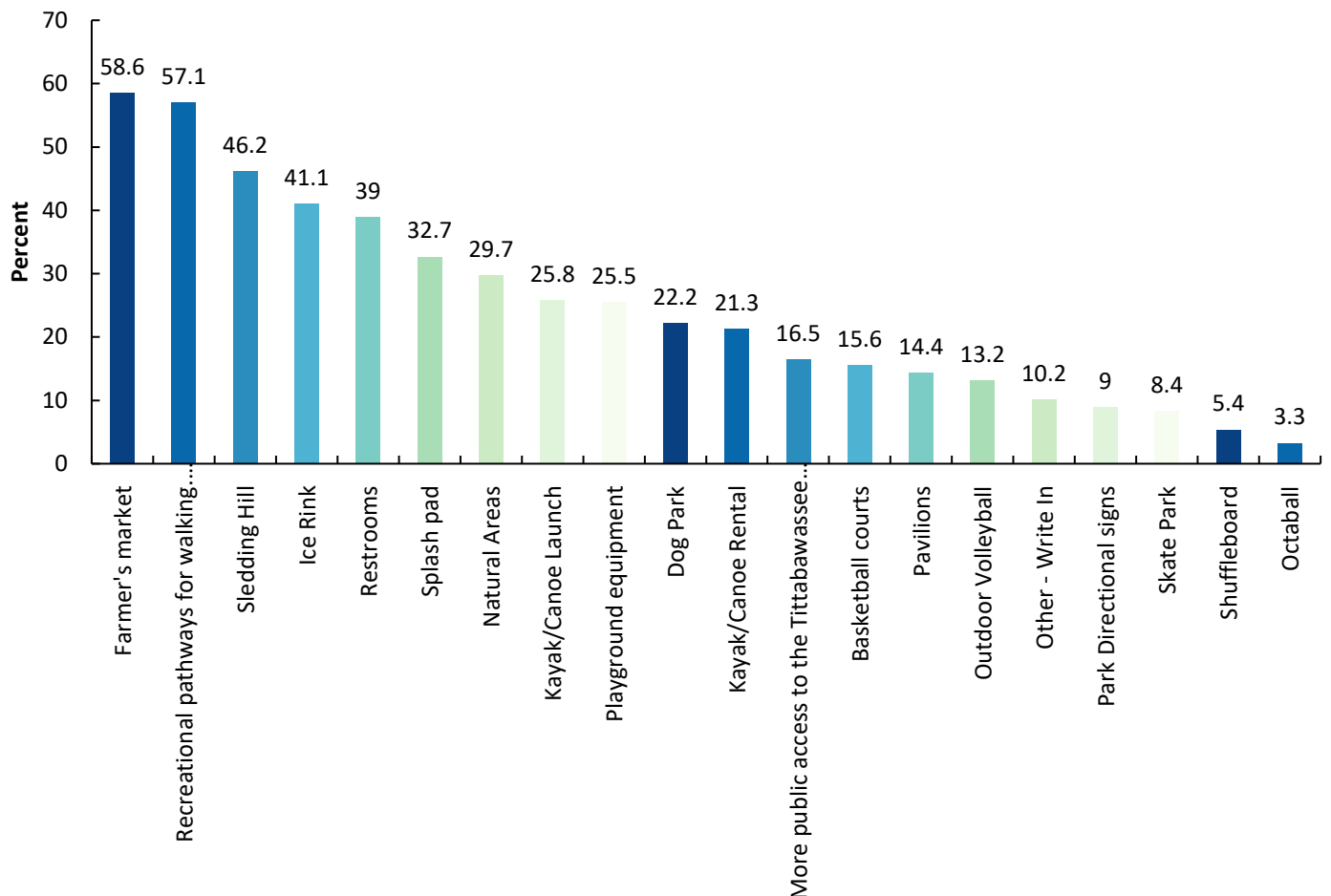
	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Every 2-3 Months	Once in the past 6 Months	Once a Year	Never	Responses
<b>Center Courts</b>								
Count	13	62	67	64	30	35	64	335
Row %	3.9%	18.5%	20.0%	19.1%	9.0%	10.4%	19.1%	
<b>Olson Park</b>								
Count	4	36	38	49	48 1	47	106	328
Row %	1.2%	11.0%	11.6%	14.9%	4.6%	14.3%	32.3%	
<b>Wickes Park (McCarty or Hospital Road)</b>								
Count	4	39	37	74	44	49	81	328
Row %	1.2%	11.9%	11.3%	22.6%	13.4%	14.9%	24.7%	
<b>Soccer Complex</b>								
Count	4	42	41	47	47	43	108	332
Row %	1.2%	12.7%	12.3%	14.2%	14.2%	13.0%	32.5%	
<b>West Michigan Park</b>								
Count	2	4	1	14	14	19	273	327
Row %	0.6%	1.2%	0.3%	4.3%	4.3%	5.8%	83.5%	
<b>Leonard Boers III (Center Rd Boat Launch)</b>								
Count	1	4	8	13	15	25	261	327
Row %	0.3%	1.2%	2.4%	4.0%	4.6%	7.6%	79.8%	
<b>Little League Park North</b>								
Count	5	26	9	19	13	31	226	329
Row %	1.5%	7.9%	2.7%	5.8%	4.0%	9.4%	68.7%	
<b>Saginaw Township Playscape</b>								
Count	3	18	36	36	42	39	154	328
Row %	0.9%	5.5%	11.0%	11.0%	12.8%	11.9%	47.0%	
<b>Saginaw Township Path</b>								
Count	19	48	46	51	27	31	108	330
Row %	5.8%	14.5%	13.9%	15.5%	8.2%	9.4%	32.7%	

	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Every 2-3 Months	Once in the past 6 Months	Once a Year	Never	Responses
<b>Other (please specify the park and number of annual visits)</b>	7 2.6%	34 12.5%	40 14.7%	31 11.4%	24 8.8%	15 5.5%	121 44.5%	272
<b>Other Parks</b>								
Berberovich Park		2	3	1	1	1		
Briarwood Park		3			1			
Burkhaven Park			1	1	1			
Can Amera Park		3		1				
Center Courts	1	5	1	1	2	1		
Deindorfer Park		x						
George Olson				1				
Haitchco			1	2		1		
Harvey Randall Wickes West				2				
Hemmeter School	1							
Imerman Park		5	7	2				
Lathrup Park	2							
Library Park		1						
Little League South		1						
Playscape		1						
Rail Trail	3	1	1					
Rainbow Park		6						
Rudy Zauel Park/South Little League	2	10	3	1				
Sandhill Park		1	1					

6.Saginaw Charter Township has a disc golf course at Wickes Park. Please select which answer best applies to you below.



7.What additional facilities or amenities would you like to see added to Saginaw Charter Township's operated parks and open spaces? Please check all that apply.



### Other - Write In

- Another disc golf course or more holes added to Wickes.
- Archery hunting
- Beach
- Community pool
- Community pool
- Cornhole
- Hiking trails
- Indoor community pool
- Indoor pool
- Kayak / boat launches.
- More benches, newer playground equipment
- More fitness classes at Center Courts
- More pickleball
- More summer day camps for elementary school kids
- Outdoor Community Pool
- Outdoor ice rink in the winter
- Outdoor space for entertainment
- Pickle ball courts
- Pickleball
- Pickleball
- Please more soccer options. The complex does not allow non-paying customer and I'm in a group with over 100 people who struggle to play over the summer months
- Public pool
- Public swimming pool
- RC car Track
- RC car park/tracks
- Racquetball at Center Courts
- Radio controlled car off road track
- Shade or seat on walking pathways
- Spots to water up and throw away garbage on the pathways are always appreciated!
- Swimming pool
- Trash can
- children's music/play groups (other than just pre-school level)
- working drinking fountains w/pet bowls

8. Please rate the need for the following recreation programs

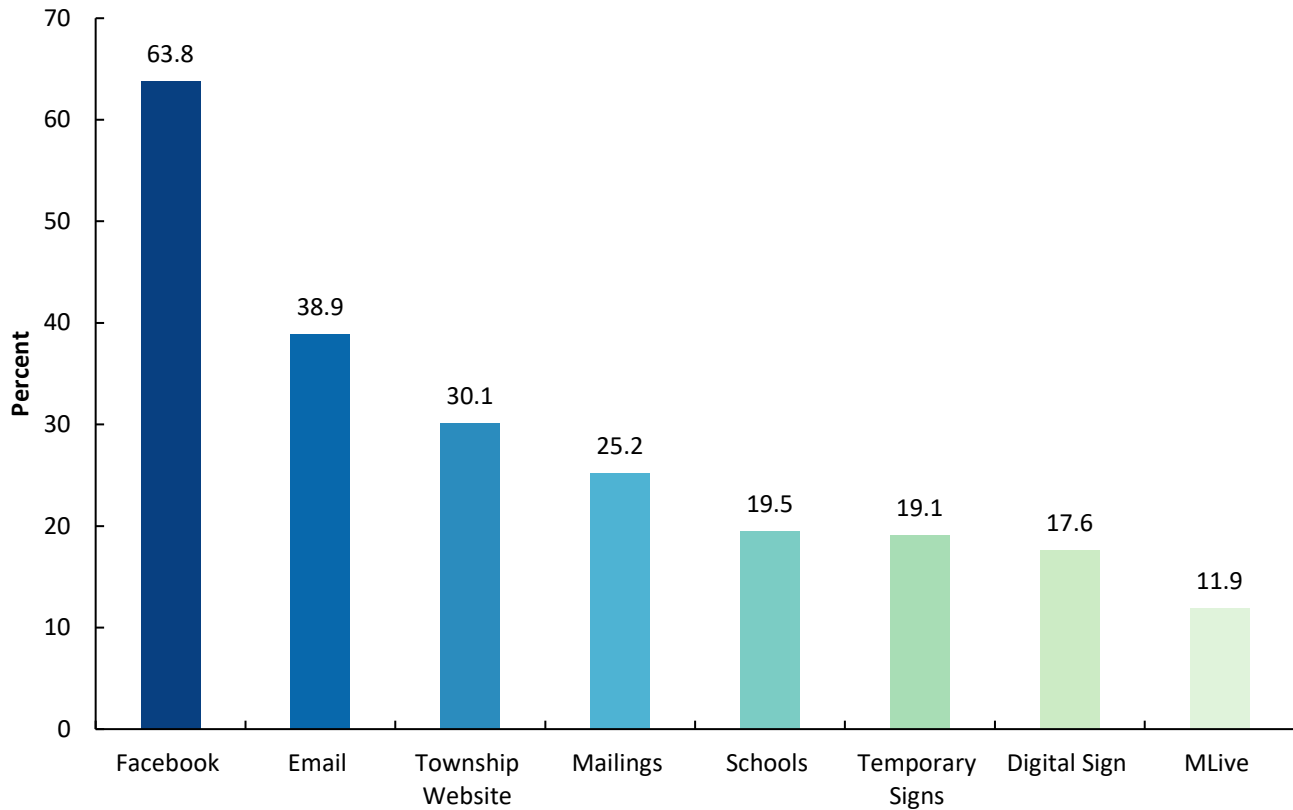
	A Top Priority	Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	No Opinion	Responses
<b>Family Programs</b>						
Count	99	143	63	10	16	331
Row %	29.9%	43.2%	19.0%	3.0%	4.8%	
<b>Senior Recreation Classes</b>						
Count	50	162 4	74	19	31	336
Row %	14.9%	8.2%	22.0%	5.7%	9.2%	
<b>Adult Recreation Classes</b>						
Count	43	151	96	26	16	332
Row %	13.0%	45.5%	28.9%	7.8%	4.8%	
<b>Youth Recreation Classes</b>						
Count	125	155	34	7	12	333
Row %	37.5%	46.5%	10.2%	2.1%	3.6%	
<b>Summer Day Camps</b>						
Count	61	137	86	26	23	333
Row %	18.3%	41.1%	25.8%	7.8%	6.9%	
<b>Youth and Adult sporting activities (soccer, tennis, basketball, golf, etc)</b>						
Count	108	151	55	7	10	331
Row %	32.6%	45.6%	16.6%	2.1%	3.0%	
<b>Other activities (pickleball program, octaball program, etc)</b>						
Count	37	135	101	27	21	321
Row %	11.5%	42.1%	31.5%	8.4%	6.5%	
<b>Other Activities</b>						
Kickball league	x					
Adult - Beginners Tennis & Golf	x					
Beach Volleyball	x	x				
Day program for disabled adult	2					
Disc golf	2					
Farmers market	x					
Gathering spaces for community	x					
Hiking		x				

Ice rink	x		x			
Indoor flag football	x	x				
Paths & safety features & trail connections	4					
Natural equipment / Nature based learning	2					
Painting Artist Camp	x					
Pool for seniors	2					
Family Recreation & Fitness						
RC Car Track						
Skate Park	2					
Summer camps for youth						
Swimming Program	2					
Splash Pad	x					
Ultimate Frisbee League		x				
Cornhole	x					
Youth programs	x					

9. Using the following scale, please rate the following six projects that you would be interested in seeing completed.  
(5 = very top priority and 1 = not a priority)

	5 (Very Top Priority)	4 (Top Priority)	3 (Somewhat of a Priority)	2 (Low Priority)	1 (Not a Priority)	Responses
<b>Winter recreation opportunities like a sledding hill</b> Count Row %	60 18.0%	109 32.7%	119 35.7%	30 9.0%	15 4.5%	333
<b>Upgrade/add playground equipment</b> Count Row %	60 18.1%	93 28.0%	126 38.0%	42 12.7%	11 3.3%	332
<b>Improve playscape</b> Count Row %	49 14.8%	92 27.7%	127 38.3%	49 14.8%	15 4.5%	332
<b>Additional pavilions for special/family events</b> Count Row %	23 7.0%	65 19.8%	147 44.7%	70 21.3%	24 7.3%	329
<b>A splash pad</b> Count Row %	51 15.4%	72 21.8%	114 34.4%	67 20.2%	27 8.2%	331
<b>Paved pathway connecting Township Parks</b> Count Row %	102 30.7%	97 29.2%	83 25.0%	38 11.4%	12 3.6%	332

**10. How do you receive information about Saginaw Charter Township recreation programs? Please check all that apply.**



**11. If you or a family member has a disability, please indicate which of the following are needed in Saginaw Charter Township Parks.**

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Responses
<b>Flatter, easier grades</b>						
Count	46	67	103	9	1	226
Row %	20.4%	29.6%	45.6%	4.0%	0.4%	
<b>Accessible Playgrounds</b>						
Count	50	76	96	3	1	226
Row %	22.1%	33.6%	42.5%	1.3%	0.4%	
<b>Accessible Parking</b>						
Count	51	81	91	3	2	228
Row %	22.4%	35.5%	39.9%	1.3%	0.9%	
<b>Accessible waterfront access</b>						
Count	39	63	116	7	1	226
Row %	17.3%	27.9%	51.3%	3.1%	0.4%	

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Responses
<b>Accessible Restrooms</b>						
Count	68	81	79	1	1	230
Row %	29.6%	35.2%	34.3%	0.4%	0.4%	
<b>Paved Trails</b>						
Count	68	80	84	1	1	234
Row %	29.1%	34.2%	35.9%	0.4%	0.4%	
<b>Accessible Spectator Viewing Areas</b>						
Count	48	75	100	6	1	230
Row %	20.9%	32.6%	43.5%	2.6%	0.4%	
<b>Write In Responses</b>						
Access to to water, parks playgrounds	x					
Adult accessible play ground equipment so we can play with our kids	x					
Community pool and aquatic programs						
Paved trails	x					
Group programs		x				
Level pathway	x					
Non-bleacher seating at Center Courts to view youth basketball:	x					
Outdoor communication boards	x					
Swings	x					

**12. Please provide your opinion on the following aspects of Saginaw Charter Township Parks**

	Excellent	Good	Poor	Don't Know/No Opinion	Responses
<b>Park Maintenance/Appearance</b>					
Count	52	230	22	21	325
Row %	16.0%	70.8%	6.8%	6.5%	
<b>Variety of Facilities/Amenities</b>					
Count	22	245	43	18	328
Row %	6.7%	74.7%	13.1%	5.5%	
<b>Variety of Recreation Programs</b>					
Count	31		38	35	329
Row %	9.4%	68.4%	11.6%	10.6%	
<b>Safety</b>					
Count	46	228	18	34	326
Row %	14.1%	69.9%	5.5%	10.4%	
<b>Write In Responses</b>					
Bathrooms	x				
Hours/months of operation			3		
Not sure what's available			x		
Olsen Park behind library conditions			x		
Parking @ North & South Little League			x		
Softball Fields			x		
Staff	x				
Variety of playground equipment			x		
Wickes park hospital road needs a working water fountain or other water dispense			x		
Peoples language and actions			x		

**13. Please rank which of the following options you feel is most important for the future of Saginaw Charter Township Parks.**

Item	Overall Rank	Score	Total Respondents
Enhance the existing parks	1	874	309
Acquire more park space	2	468	239
Keep the parks as they are	3	306	220

**14. What would you do to improve Saginaw Charter Township Parks?**

Most Common Responses

- Paths/bike lanes
  - Update play equipment/accessibility
  - Clean up/maintenance
  - Security/lighting
  - Water activities- kayak launch and splash pad
  - Winter activities – ice rink and sledding hill
  - Update bathrooms
  - Improve ballfields
  - More Camps
- 
- More flower gardens in the parks.
  - Safe and updated swings and slides. Nice picnic table at each of them. Well kept and cleaned.
  - More bike and walking paths
  - Have more on site staff during leagues especially softball. Pay umpires more so all games actually have one. We pay a registration fee for these leagues and don't seem to get our moneys worth.
  - Improve accessibility for individuals with disabilities and provide more opportunities for indoor activity for kids. Center courts is nice, but the open gym time is very limited.
  - Keep the parks open later in the evenings during Fall and winter.
  - Better walking options
  - Add a dog park
  - With 2 toddlers, I think it'd be great if there was more updated playground equipment, splash pads and walking trails.
  - More awareness of what the parks offer.
  - More kayak launches. More climbing structures. Ice skating
  - Use the parks to make the township bike-able and walkable
  - Refresh or repair areas as needed, fresh mulch, sand or stone. Adequate lighting.
  - Safety
  - Better parking. More restrooms. Splash pad.
  - More dirt (non paved) hiking paths
  - Make bikable, walkable by connecting paths
  - It would be nice to see newer playground equipment and a splash pad for all ages. The spray pool is very limited on ages and not all our children can use it.

- Aquatics programs and pool Handicap accessibility around Little League parks and soccer complex Summer camps Safe connections between all trails - connect with other townships and clear snow for winter use. Upgrades to Olson park - It gets a lot of use from all ages due to location - more trees, shade, seating, equipment for older kids.
- Parks are often dirty. Bathrooms aren't always clean or stocked with amenities. Or many parks do not have bathrooms. Bathrooms with kids are very important. Update existing structures to have more variety. Use natural features like the park at Dow Gardens. Provide spots to sit for grownups and paved walkways for more stability. Wood chips are awful. Make sure parks are sprayed for mosquitos. Shade is super important too. If it's hot, you can't play for too long if there's no shade. Provide awnings or canopies or situate play structures in naturally shaded areas. Thank you for taking our input and feedback! Hopeful for what you come up with!
- A skating rink would be a great winter recreation option. The walking path should be extended along the power lines to the south and west.
- Hire an actual park patrol person especially on the weekends to be around and accessible
- Parking can be pretty limited at certain parks. Some parks (like Briarwood) could receive some simple upgrades to make them much nicer. Some could benefit to make them more usable year-round (an ice rink or sled hill is a great idea).
- I think many of the parks are great. Improving security in some of the parks would be great. Fencing around playground areas helps parents feel secure, lighted paths would allow runners to feel more comfortable using paths in early morning or later during the day. I'd also love to see more kid's recreational sports opportunities.
- Adult golf program, kayak launch, more publicity about programs
- I'd love to see more bike and walking paths connecting the parks, the neighborhoods along McCarty where there are narrow shoulders and no side walks, the soccer complex, the existing paths, etc.
- Swings for both big and little kids. Bathrooms.
- Let residents know more about the options. I never hear of things unless I search them out
- Update playgrounds, bathroom facilities, add more options such as swimming pool , ice rink, sled hill, golf simulator
- Our family loves the parks!!! I think adding to what is already there would be amazing and I know my son would love basketball courts or a grassy area for them to play football.
- I would like to see softball included in the township little league and removed from recreation.
- Ice rink More volleyball courts Handicap accessible water access
- The restrooms in nearly all parks are disgusting. They are embarrassing. You can never attract events, parties, or large groups of people to the parks when the restrooms haven't been updated in 50 years.
- Skatepark and splash pad.
- Implement more trails for running/skating/ walking Skate park More activities for teens
- They look amazing!
- Add bike lanes, more trails paved and unpaved to get around without a car. Add sidewalks and finish sidewalks. More places for soccer. More indoor activities for the winter months
- We would love to update and add more facilities for kids- update playgrounds, add splash pad. We'd also love more summer day camps for kids 4 years and over
- Definitely more pathways and bike and pedestrian lanes.
- Add an ice rink or improve the basketball court surface
- West Michigan park can be updated with a paved trail access to Gratiot up St. Andrews rd, a pavilion, more parking, more playgrounds, and restrooms.
- Provide the youth more opportunities for things like summer camps, sports camps, more recreation time at center courts, more access to gyms/fitness classes.
- The playscape park off Lawndale has such interesting structures, but was in need of some maintenance the last time we were there. The large playscape at Wickes Park is also one the kids enjoy, would be nice if the top floor was reopened. It is difficult to find an available restroom near the playground at Olsen park behind the library.

- Upgrade and add bathrooms. Upgrade playground equipment. Lights and cameras for safety.
- Update playscape that allows parents to play with kids. Increase paths through nature areas. More tennis courts.
- Make them more accessible for children with disabilities.
- Modernize at least one playground with current safety standards and equipment
- More tiny libraries
- Winter activity
- I like the idea of a sledding hill
- Add more pickleball courts and night lighting. Add a youth golf program.
- More winter activities
- Continue to build more playgrounds and add unique structures to them. More classes and rec programs for adults and kids are always great!
- More bike trails
- Continued efforts to focus on kids and families. Bring families into parks by consistent maintenance and improvement of the parks. A big emphasis on playgrounds.
- Possibly add more parking at Wickes East, it sometimes gets very full in the summer with ball tournaments. Olson is a great space, would be great to see enhancements made there (I thought there was already a splash park there). I am not familiar with sand hill park or some of those on the south side, but committee should consider where upgrades will benefit the children most. Likely where the most survey feedback comes from is not the place they will benefit most from park upgrades.
- Lighting and restrooms
- I think you all are doing great.
- Continuing to extend the walking/biking path to connect to more of the township
- The playgrounds in the morning are dirty. Probably from older kids being there at night, understandable. But does anyone check the tunnel slides. One time I'm sure someone peed down it and was puddled at the end 🤢. I know no one wants to pick up garbage scattered at the parks but it would make this grandma feel better!
- Sledding hill, outdoor ice rink, hot cocoa stand, fire area for families Turf room like freeland
- More parking space at Saginaw Township North and South Little League. More sidewalks from Lawndale farms to center courts and Wicked on McCarty.
- More parking spaces or better scheduling so parking isn't an issue at Center Courts.
- Another disc golf course or added holes. Fixing or replacing the water fountain(s) at Wickes Park. More parking at Wickes Park. When softball is being played on weekends parking becomes very limited in the hospital road lot.
- The youth recreation programs are in desperate need of improvement. Organizationally, the interval between registration, first practice and games is poor - there's a big gap to the first, if any, practice and almost no time between that first practice and games. Additionally, there needs to be a concern for competitive balance - teams are being built through requests allowing for stacking of teams. A true random draw would achieve better results, but tryouts for older ages where coaches also have the opportunity to meet families would be fantastic.
- Having been a part of youth recreational leagues for a while, money needs to be placed in the officials/referees that manage the games. Youth football especially has gone down significantly because of issues with parents fighting at games. The same can be said with basketball. High school students are unable to control the games when parents get out of hand...nor should that be their responsibility. If need be, charge a bit more for each sport to allow more money to be spent on officials. My family and many that my child is friends with, have taken our children to other communities who place importance on that aspect of youth sports. Also, look at more of a variety of offerings for summer camps other than sports. Many parents who have child athletes are looking for a break from sports during the summer. More hobby based camps would be wonderful.
- A splash pad, another disc golf course at another park
- I'd like to be able to swim in deeper water at Haithco Park.
- Don't lock the parks over the colder months.

- Improve the playing surfaces for baseball/softball at Wickes Park, both McCarty & Hospital. Hospital fields are hard as a rock in the summer, this can be a safety concern for hard hit balls. McCarty Rd fields need to be dragged more frequently to better remove small rocks. Again safety concern
- I like the idea of winter activities like a rink or sledding hill. Growing up in Saginaw Twp we never had those things and Hoyt was the only opportunity. I don't want to take away from Hoyt but it would be nice to have something in our immediate area. Also, the recreation program needs to have competent officials for youth sports. We have stopped using Center Courts and have gone to Freeland and Thomas Twp for basketball because the games are not constructive. Also, practices are a zoo and it's hard to teach sports. I would love to see the Township foster school teams in all of our township schools much like the parochial schools had 25 years ago...neighboring communities are starting their kids earlier with sports together and with our quantity of students, we should have stronger teams.
- Softball fields are becoming a hazard. Resurfacing of olsen park and hospital road needs to happen. The gravel style playing surface and out of date base anchoring system causes injuries. With use 5 days a week, and the price of team and player fees, it needs to happen.
- An ice rink would definitely be a cool option to bring to Saginaw township. There is a lot of land by Olson and center courts where one could be built. This would be a cool thing to have for something to do in the winter.
- I would like to see more nature areas and more programs for kids 10-17
- More sidewalks connecting parks to neighborhoods, places indoors for families/ groups to gather, recreation center with pool, exercise etc for families, indoor active storage for children in winter. Thank you, we use the parks a lot.
- Replace broken equipment, clean equipment more often
- Add additional features within the park and perhaps a more secure weather barrier/guard-railed enhancing bathrooms will promote crime and have difficult upkeep but would enhance`
- I would continue to acquire grant's and donations to help fund the acquisition of more land and for the upgrades to our current parks. I would welcome the help of volunteers. I would also work with Tony Riopelle to design and build a new disc golf course after the one at Wickes renovated 😊
- More marketing as to what is out there at each park. Keep riff raff out! That's what is hurting. Makes it all feel unsafe by quality of people. Quality meaning how they interact and take care of things - don't read into race because it's all. Most treat parks like crap or have no cares about the amenities. People don't want to be around assholes. Also, the ladies who work in the township office are TERRIBLE AND RUDE and give a bad vibe to the township. They need training. Just smiling would be nice. Or how about some kindness. They ruin it!
- More places to play basketball
- Larger, improved community building/facility for recreation
- I would allow baseball players to be able to practice on little leagues fields. Other fields around are not kept up. I played softball for township and all that money we don't see it put into the fields it self!
- Greater variety of playground equipment. Updated playground equipment. Outdoor pool for summer swim lessons.
- Softball fields need significant upgrades. Field conditions are some of the worst in the tri city area. Need to switch to red dirt for safety. Dugouts would be nice additions at Wickes. Midland uses chain link fencing and sun blocking fabric which provides a simple yet appealing display. Would also like to have more natural walking area options like at Wickes.
- The ball fields are in terrible shape and need major improvements
- Provide space for activities in the winter such as skating or sledding.
- More children activities
- Better maintenance of Wickes softball fields.
- The pathway between Shattuck and McCarty is in disrepair, there are a high number of deep and wide cracks that make bike riding bumpy and not enjoyable. You can even see all the cracks on the aerial images on the SAGAGIS website.

- Add an off road radio controlled car track
- Clean up and improve the play grounds, put better dirt in at Wickes park softball fields, extend the pathway.
- After living here for over 2 years I only really hear about kid programs and most are not available to my older children. I don't even really know what goes on at Center Courts or the parks.
- Sledding
- Tax city residents as well! They use the facilities as much or more than Township residents!! The more money you acquire, the more you can upgrade!
- Available restrooms and additional equipment for older children.
  
- Build the best snow hill in the state of Michigan. for tubing and toboggan run that is so good that it draws people from all over the state. with a medium-sized outside ice area to skate on near the bottom. A place to warm up and get a hot drink without having to take your skates off. To be the best it would need a way to get back up the hill quickly, so special that people will want to come back year after year. In the summertime maybe some large slides, a small playground, and a couple of pickleball courts. maybe even a couple of wiffle ball diamonds to start a wiffle ball league. ( look them up on YouTube)
- Pave trails, add trails connecting parks, add splash pads
- I would appreciate more paved pathways with some stops for shade. I use the path behind center courts daily. Love the path Wish it had a little shade. Some of the schools have recently put in paved circle paths. Very nice.
- More ways to advertise/get the word out about all the programs, amenities and events
- Connect pathway to swan valley
- Make sure they stay adequately maintained so they are fun and easy to use and attract more people. No body wants to go to a run down site.
- Clean them up
- For sure replace all of the bleachers at Wickes and the Little Leagues. Maintain the softball fields better. Upgrade home plate on the Olsen Varsity field and maybe try to make it look like it used to look. Make the youth programs more organized, especially basketball. Ask the parents what size shirt their child needs and actually give them that size! This random sizes for each team is not okay. Try to get the high school athletes involved more, build a community. (High school basketball players, soccer players, volleyball players etc. could be the refs and help run programs). Also allow 30 minutes between games to help flush crowds out. Utilize the elementary schools gyms for practices and games because half court practice is sad for youth who are supposed to be learning the game. Build a large outdoor community zero entry pool like Midland has (but bigger and better ex. Slide, fountains, maybe even multiple pools) and charge people to use it. Use our taxes appropriately and give us something to be proud of and find other ways to make money. You can charge \$1 for people to get into the gym to watch all youth basketball games. Might help keep crowds down and make extra cash. Give youth coaches some incentive to coach and maybe you will get better coaches who actually try (ex. a discount on their kids fee). Bring back a Youth football program! Have drafts to try to make teams more even. A sidewalk from Center Rd. down McCarty all the way to Wickes on McCarty and down Hospital would be nice so the parks could be accessible by bike.
- Perhaps help on a committee
- Develop winter activities. Sledding hill and an ice rink
- Activities in various parks
- Make all your bathrooms handicap assemble just like saginaw county parks!!!!
- More pathways, kayak launch, bike rentals, bike lanes, pavilions, nature areas
- More events for everyone. Better advertising of events and what there is to offer. Create more events. More tournaments like the kick ball tournament they had downtown. People are looking to do thing so create them.
- More shaded play areas for little ones.
- Increase amount of rail trails and their connections to each other.(trail side maps where appropriate) Keep maintenance a priority and Increase toilet access ..

- Improve softball/baseball fields
- personal safety
- Fix playground equipment, plant trees, connect paved trails please.
- As a Little League parent and coach, having more parking at the 2 sites would be appreciated, as would updated playground equipment. Having the fields (and community) more accessible by bicycle would be helpful too. More river/nature access would be valuable too.
- Securing parks against abuse. The playscape park on Lawndale is rundown from abuse and has had a lot of teens hanging out. Kids can't play there without being harassed. Also, better access to reserving parks. Online schedule so that it is known when baseball/softball fields (specifically) are in use or have been reserved.
- more connecting pathways, opportunities for leagues and socializing with activities, maybe free activities in parks (nature lessons and skills, etc)
- I've lived here for a couple of years and had no knowledge of the many parks in the township. Perhaps better advertising.
- Increase number of engaging programs for community members each month. Many child-focused programs run throughout the summer and senior activities year round. There are no adult classes truly offered for someone in their 30s to learn something new
- the kids miss the baseball fence/backstop at Berberovich Park. Police to drive through periodically at night, esp during summer.
- Take a more proactive approach in doing my part in keeping the parks clean, attractive, and safe.
- Fix up playgrounds. Broken slide on the park begins brockway walmart for over a year and another slide with a crack. The other portion has wood missing where a small child could fall
- more security presence
- Attend more often
- Paved pathway connecting Township Parks. Including, a designated paved parking area next to pathways making it handicap accessible and stroller friendly. Pavilion would be an added bonus. For safety, consider making the area well-lit and have an emergency blue light button like the ones used on SVSU's campus.
- More seating areas
- I use the walking area around the soccer complex every day. The workers there do such a great job and they always have a treat from my dog! I appreciate seeing our parks maintained.
- Trails, paved paths, bathrooms, drinking water.
- Exercise facility
- New mulch on the playground
- Figure out a safe non motorized path for people to access the SVRT from North of Gratiot rd

## 15. What do you like best about Saginaw Charter Township Parks?

### Most Common Responses

- Accessibility/location
  - Variety
  - Kids programs
  - Well maintained
- 
- Cleanliness, accessibility and variety.
  - Kids are outside playing!
  - Accessibility
  - There's a park close to everything. The office staff is wonderful!
  - The number of parks and variety of activities in the summer.
  - Clean
  - Pedestrian walkway
  - All the different recreational sports for kids
  - They offer safe free Family friendly spaces
  - Lots of places available
  - Bike trail
  - Proximity to neighborhoods
  - Location
  - I'm not sure if Imerman is technically a Twp park, but I love the dog park and the hiking path (when not flooded).
  - Bike paths
  - The frequency of smaller "hidden" parks within the neighborhoods. We use them more than Playscape Park because there aren't so many people.
  - The trails! The parks generally feel safe
  - They are maintained at a very high level.
  - Convenience. I like having a park and picnic space right by my workplace so I can eat outside on nice days. As a cyclist, I enjoy using the pathway and how it links up to other area bike paths.
  - things to do, but could always have improvements
  - Nicely spread out throughout the Township. Each park has it's unique character and is fairly easy to access.
  - The soccer complex is great and runs lots of family friendly events. Many of the parks have nice playgrounds for the kids and clean restrooms and pavilions
  - The appearance.
  - Lots of programs and opportunities for kids to try different sports.
  - How close they are
  - All the activities for kids
  - How nice they are
  - Variety of offerings
  - The amount of parks. There is really something for everyone that wants to get outside.
  - Lots of choices
  - Wildlife
  - Clean areas for family's
  - The proximity to the residents and they are well maintained
  - Some good playgrounds. We like walking in the parks. We were able to do a couple summer day camps last year
  - Well taken care off.
  - The accessibility and variety
  - Accessability

- Most of the parks are nice, but can be updated, and have more events through the recreation department.
- Clean and easily accessible
- Our family greatly enjoys several of the parks. Being able to go play disc golf at such a good course so close to home for free is great. The kids play soccer at the soccer complex which is incredibly well maintained and the events there such as Party on McCarty are always fun. There is such a great selection of activities, and I don't feel like we even come close to utilizing all the parks and programs available.
- The variety of parks and what they offer.
- Accessibility. Many options. Close to home.
- Playscape is beat up, needs more township police presence to curb bad behavior.
- The variety, the condition
- There are a variety of parks and, as someone with a toddler who's home during the summer, it's great to have options to stay active without getting bored.
- They are usually always well maintained
- Very accessible, kept up pretty well
- The locations are well spaced out
- Safety and accessibility
- Well maintained, good location spread & variety of play
- Variety of programs
- Variety and locations.
- The diversity of parks and locations. Would love to have another park closer to the Freeland area!
- Always clean and picked up
- Variety
- Our family really enjoys the playgrounds at Wickes, Imerman, and Zauel Library! Thank you
- Sporting activities and walking paths, and concert venue at the soccer complex
- They are clean
- They are in close proximity of where I live. I do feel there should be a wider variety of areas offered to our community though.
- Playground, splashpad, and golf program
- Nice
- I like the Rail Trail
- Safe, clean, well maintained
- Plenty of parks, good variety
- Grass and trails are fairly well maintained. I appreciate the new baskets at the Wickes Park disc golf course, and look forward to any future improvements.
- The investment in the community. Outside of youth sports, Saginaw Township parks and recreation offer beautiful and well kept places to spend time. I do not think I have ever gone to a park or nature area where there has been trash or faulty equipment/facilities. Thank you also for the playscape at Wicks Park. My son (and my daughter when she was younger) have always loved that park because they love the bigger slide and a feeling that the structure is for bigger kids. There are MANY playgrounds for younger kids but not many for the 7-10 crowd.
- The disc golf course
- Rec programs
- Amazing that we have so many of them.
- They're well spread out.
- I like that the parks are clean, safe and accessible. I appreciate what we have in our community.
- Accessibility

- I've participated a lot in men's leagues at Olson park and center courts. Staff is great and the fields have always been kept up to shape. Leagues are ran well too. Wickes park is very nice too with fishing options available as well.
- I like that the parks are available to use
- We love the nature areas at Wickes and the disc course. We used to use the playground a lot: playscape, Olsen, krossroads, most. We like sledding on hills. We like walking at center courts/ path ways.
- Options within walking distance with young kids
- Proximity to home, non wood seating- less maintenance.
- It's free! And well maintained. Great communication and involvement from township representatives.
- Clean until bad people come in and destroy. More monitoring. More activities for young kids
- Variety. Able to use for team and school activites
- We love the walking paths, playground equipment, pickleball courts, soccer complex and center courts. They really help add to the desirability of our community!
- Location
- The quantity of parks. There is always one nearby.
- The locations
- Playgrounds
- Youth rec leagues.
- They are close by.
- They are all well kept
- Great variety, something for everyone, safety,
- Dog park
- Shade and quiet
- Recreational sports for youth
- There are many to choose from.
- Locations give us a variety of options that are not far from where we live.
- Clean
- The beauty
- Proximity of several options for parks near my home. Being able to bike between parks using sidewalks is mostly adequate, but recommend any new pathways are wide enough to accommodate bikes pulling kid carriers please.
- The basic amenities and pretty well maintained. Could use some enhancing in appearance and improvements in lighting and some amenities
- The mix of play areas and natural areas. Use the park areas the most for walking and biking.
- Close to my home, pathway is well maintained
- Green spaces
- Close by
- More parks on the south west side of Saginaw Township
- Well kept
- Location
- Tennis courts with the bright lights
- Little league fields, soccer fields great for kid sports.
- They are free.
- Close to our residence
- They provide near by green space to recreate and relax for all ages
- Well kept and maintained
- okay
- Pretty well kept, good parking, good variety of places.

- We have good Little League facilities/amenities that our family appreciate and enjoy. We have used most of the playgrounds over the years too.
- plentiful land, well maintained
- Clean and well maintained
- I have yet to visit one
- scattered within Township, always clean
- The peaceful atmosphere.
- Safe
- several parks available
- Family Spaces and a Splash Pad are most recommended by my family
- Close by.
- The variety in location and style is great and they are often clean!
- The variety
- There's no charge at center court
- Safe
- Close, socialization, light competition, sense of community
- Walking track and pathways
- Proximity to my house Convenience
- the saginaw township pathway connects to other paths that essentially let me ride on designated cycling paths all the way to bay city state park

## APPENDIX C

### ADOPTION DOCUMENTATION



# SAGINAW CHARTER TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS

> > > **SHARE YOUR OPINION!** < < <

Saginaw Charter Township is updating their Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The Township is asking park users to share their opinion to help shape the future of parks and recreation in Saginaw Charter Township! The survey should take you no more than ten minutes to complete. Your input is greatly appreciated!

*The survey will close on December 6, 2023*

**SCAN ME**



**TAKE THE SURVEY** >>> [www.saginawtwpparksurvey.com](https://www.saginawtwpparksurvey.com)



## **SAGINAW CHARTER TOWNSHIP**

**SHARE YOUR OPINION  
TO HELP SHAPE  
THE FUTURE OF THE  
TOWNSHIP!**

**SCAN ME**



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[www.saginawtwpparksurvey.com](http://www.saginawtwpparksurvey.com)



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## **SAGINAW CHARTER TOWNSHIP**

**SHARE YOUR OPINION  
TO HELP SHAPE  
THE FUTURE OF THE  
TOWNSHIP!**

**SCAN ME**



**TAKE THE SURVEY AT:**  
[www.saginawtwpparksurvey.com](http://www.saginawtwpparksurvey.com)



Spicer Group, Inc.

Sponsored ·



Take this survey to help shape the future of parks and recreation in Saginaw Township!

**WE NEED  
YOUR  
INPUT!**

Saginaw Township  
Parks & Recreation  
Plan Survey

Click **HERE** to  
take the survey



[survey.alchemer.com](https://survey.alchemer.com)

**Click the link to take the  
survey!**

**Learn more**



Like



Comment



Share

**Spicer Group, Inc.**

Sponsored ·

Take this survey to help shape the future of parks and recreation in Saginaw Township!

Saginaw Charter Township  
Recreation Plan.

**WE NEED  
YOUR  
INPUT!**

Saginaw Township  
Parks & Recreation  
Plan Survey

Click **HERE** to  
take the survey



survey.alchemer.com

**Click the link to take the  
survey!**

**Learn more**



Write a comme...





# Saginaw News

## LEGAL AFFIDAVIT

AD#: 0010800897

Total

\$89.20

State of Michigan,) ss

County of Saginaw)

Nancy Bloch being duly sworn, deposes that he/she is principal clerk of MLive Media Group; that Saginaw News is a public newspaper published in the city of Saginaw, with general circulation in Saginaw county, and this notice is an accurate and true copy of this notice as printed in said newspaper, was printed and published in the regular edition and issue of said newspaper on the following date(s):

Saginaw News 12/14/2023

*Nancy Bloch*

Principal Clerk of the Publisher

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 14th day of December 2023

*Teasha R Payne*

Notary Public

TEASHA R. PAYNE  
NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF MI  
COUNTY OF MECOSTA  
COMMISSION EXP FEB 24 2026  
ACTING IN COUNTY OF Kent

### NOTICE OF REVIEW SAGINAW CHARTER TOWNSHIP

### FIVE-YEAR PARKS & RECREATION PLAN

Saginaw Charter Township has developed an update to its Five-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The Plan evaluates existing recreation opportunities, reviews public opinion regarding recreation, establishes recreational goals, and proposes a five-year schedule of improvements and other related items that the Township wishes to pursue. A copy of the Draft Plan is available for review at [www.saginawtownship.org](http://www.saginawtownship.org) and can also be reviewed at Saginaw Township Center Courts, 3320 N. Center Rd., Saginaw, MI 48603, during regular business hours.

If you are interested in submitting comments regarding the draft plan, please send written comments to Linda Buska at 3320 N. Center Rd., Saginaw, MI 48603 or email [recreation@saginawtownship.net](mailto:recreation@saginawtownship.net).

A public meeting to take input on the draft plan will be held at 4:00 p.m. on January 16, 2024, at Saginaw Township Center Courts, 3320 N. Center Road, Saginaw, MI 48603.

[Home](#)[Center Courts](#)[Leagues Activities  
Events](#)[Register Now!](#)[Forms](#)[Our Parks](#)[Community Garden](#)[Contact Us](#)[Photos](#)

It is the goal of the Recreation Department to provide and promote recreational activities that appeal to and accommodate the current and future needs of our citizens. To ensure that this goal is accomplished, we will continue to improve our current services and aggressively explore additions to our existing programs.

This site will provide you with the most informative and up-to-date information on our programs and parks in Saginaw Township.

Your comments and suggestions are appreciated in helping us to maintain and improve our programs. Please contact us at (989) 791-9860 or email us at [recreation@saginawtownship.net](mailto:recreation@saginawtownship.net).



**DRAFT - PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN**  
**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE FOR JAN. 16th PARKS MEETING**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING  
SAGINAW CHARTER TOWNSHIP  
FIVE-YEAR PARKS & RECREATION PLAN**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that Saginaw Charter Township shall conduct a public meeting at 4:00 p.m. on January 16, 2024, at Saginaw Township Center Courts, 3320 N. Center Road, Saginaw, MI 48603, for the purpose of receiving comments on the proposed draft of the Saginaw Charter Township's Five-Year Parks & Recreation Plan.

The Plan evaluates existing recreation opportunities, reviews public opinion regarding recreation, establishes recreational goals, and proposes a five-year schedule of improvements and other related items that the Township wishes to pursue. The Township is especially interested in receiving input from people with disabilities. A PDF copy of the Plan is available for review online at [www.saginawtownship.org](http://www.saginawtownship.org) or in person at Saginaw Township Center Court, 3320 N. Center Rd., Saginaw, MI 48603, during regular business hours.

If you are interested in submitting comments regarding the Draft Plan, please send written comments to Linda Buska at 3320 N. Center Rd., Saginaw, MI 48603 or email [recreation@saginawtownship.net](mailto:recreation@saginawtownship.net) no later than January 16, 2024. All comments, written and oral, will be noted for the record.



# Saginaw News

## LEGAL AFFIDAVIT

AD#: 0010806313

Total

\$110.32

State of Michigan,) ss

County of Saginaw)

Nancy Block being duly sworn, deposes that he/she is principal clerk of MLive Media Group; that Saginaw News is a public newspaper published in the city of Saginaw, with general circulation in Saginaw county, and this notice is an accurate and true copy of this notice as printed in said newspaper, was printed and published in the regular edition and issue of said newspaper on the following date(s):

Saginaw News 12/28/2023

Principal Clerk of the Publisher

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 28th day of December 2023

Notary Public

TEASHA R. PAYNE  
NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF MI  
COUNTY OF MECOSTA  
COMMISSION EXP FEB 24 2026  
ACTING IN COUNTY OF hent

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING SAGINAW CHARTER TOWNSHIP FIVE-YEAR PARKS & RECREATION PLAN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Saginaw Charter Township shall conduct a public meeting at 4:00 p.m. on January 16, 2024, at Saginaw Township Center Courts, 3320 N. Center Road, Saginaw, MI 48603, for the purpose of receiving comments on the proposed draft of the Saginaw Charter Township's Five-Year Parks & Recreation Plan.

The Plan evaluates existing recreation opportunities, reviews public opinion regarding recreation, establishes recreational goals, and proposes a five-year schedule of improvements and other related items that the Township wishes to pursue. The Township is especially interested in receiving input from people with disabilities. A PDF copy of the Plan is available for review online at [www.saginawtownship.org](http://www.saginawtownship.org) or in person at Saginaw Township Center Court, 3320 N. Center Rd., Saginaw, MI 48603, during regular business hours.

If you are interested in submitting comments regarding the Draft Plan, please send written comments to Linda Buska at 3320 N. Center Rd., Saginaw, MI 48603 or email [recreation@saginawtownship.net](mailto:recreation@saginawtownship.net) no later than January 16, 2024. All comments, written and oral, will be noted for the record.

**SAGINAW TOWNSHIP**  
**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION**  
**January 16, 2024**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Cathy Jesko, Chairman  
David Biver  
Travis Hare  
Scott Montalbano  
Mike Whelton

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Daryl Gotham,  
DPS Director  
Dean Martin  
Maintenance Supervisor  
Linda Buska  
Recreation Manager  
Laurel Jenkins  
Recording Secretary

1. Meeting was called to order by Cathy Jesko at 4:02 p.m.
2. Invocation – David Biver
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**
4. **Overview of the 2024-2028 Parks & Recreation Master Plan**  
Tanya Moore from Spicer Group gave an overview of the Draft Master Plan.
5. **Motion by David Biver seconded by Travis Hare to open a public hearing for proposed Master Recreation Plan.** Motion carried.
6. **Comments from the Public on Hearing:** Mary Jo Hoff, 4120 N. Chipping Norton, and Robin Schwellenbach, 5657 Barberry, spoke on the deteriorating conditions of the outdoor pickleball courts at Olson Park. They stated they would like extended hours for pickleball at Center Courts and also include the renovation and expansion of outdoor courts into the Master Plan if possible.  
  
Comment from Rob Klaczkiwicz, 4313 Scenic Dr. E, also commented on the deteriorating conditions of the outdoor pickleball courts at Olson Park. He noted that it is difficult to bring tournaments into the Township with the condition and limited number of outdoor courts.  
  
Numerous emails regarding pickleball courts were received by the Recreation Manager and presented.
7. Motion by Scott Montalbano seconded by Mike Whelton to **close the public hearing** on the proposed Master Recreation Plan. Motion carried.
8. Motion made by Travis Hare seconded by David Biver to approve the December 18, 2023 minutes. Motion carried.
9. **Comments from the Public:** None

10. **REPORTS:**  
**Commissioners:**

No reports.

**Recreation Manager:**

Linda Buska reported:

- Registration has begun for Second Season Youth Basketball, Women's & Coed Volleyball, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Basketball, 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls Volleyball and 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Volleyball.
- High School Basketball began Saturday, January 13th.
- Saginaw Township Soccer Association will be utilizing Center Courts again this year for their Futsal program. The program is held Sunday mornings from 9:00-12:00 pm thru March.

**DPS:**

Dean Martin reported they are cutting up the numerous trees that have fallen at Harvey Randall Wickes East.

11. **OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

12. **NEW BUSINESS:**

Motion by Scott Montalbano seconded by Travis Hare to include an addition in the Action Plan under Community-Wide Initiatives, for exploration of future expansion and maintenance of pickleball courts. Motion Carried.

Motion by Travis Hare seconded by David Biver to approve the Resolution recommending adoption of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan to the Township Board for their approval.

AYES: 5            NAYS: 0            ABSENT: 0            ACTION: **Motion Carried**

13. Motion by Scott Montalbano seconded by Travis Hare to adjourn at 4:40 p.m.

Next meeting dates: February 20 (Tuesday)  
March 18  
April 15

## RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND ADOPTION OF RECREATION PLAN

WHEREAS, Saginaw Charter Township Parks and Parks Commission has undertaken a five-year Parks and Recreation Master Plan which describes the physical features, existing recreation facilities, and the desired actions to be taken to improve and maintain recreation facilities during the period between 2024 and 2028 and,

WHEREAS, public input was received via an online survey that was available from November 2023, through December 2023, to provide an opportunity for citizens to share ideas, express opinions, regarding the future of parks and recreation in Saginaw Charter Township, and

WHEREAS, the draft plan was made available for review from December 14, 2023, through January 14, 2024, at Saginaw Parks and Recreation Department, and online at the Saginaw Charter Township Parks and Recreation Department website, and

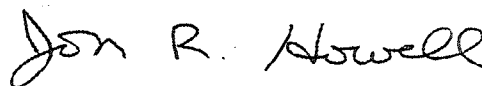
WHEREAS, a public meeting was held on January 16, 2024, at 4:00 pm at Saginaw Township Center Court, 3320 N. Center Rd., Saginaw, MI 48603, to provide an opportunity for citizens to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, and

WHEREAS, Saginaw Charter Township has developed the Parks and Recreation Master Plan for the benefit of the entire community and wishes to adopt the plan as a document to assist in meeting the recreation needs of the community and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Saginaw Charter Township Parks Commission recommends that the Township Board adopt the said Saginaw Charter Township Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

(Yeas: 5                      Nays: 0                      Absent: 0                      )

I, Jon Howell, Clerk, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and original copy of a resolution to recommend the Parks and Recreation Master Plan by the Parks Commission at a regular meeting thereof held on January 16, 2024, at 4:00 pm.



Clerk

**DRAFT**

**SAGINAW CHARTER TOWNSHIP  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 22, 2024**

The regular board meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Supervisor Braun.

1. **ROLL CALL:** Present: Timothy J. Braun, Supervisor  
Jon R. Howell, Clerk  
Steven Gerhardt, Treasurer  
James Kelly, Trustee  
Lori Gorney, Trustee  
Constance Reppuhn, Trustee  
Pete Ryan, Trustee
- Also Present: Brian Rombalski, Township Manager  
Kelsey Adkins, Deputy Clerk
- Absent: None

2. **THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** to the flag was led by Supervisor Braun.
3. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:** Carol Lechel, 1154 Lathrup Avenue, stated there is no contact information for Board members on the Saginaw Township website.
4. **REPORTS:**

**Supervisor** – Supervisor Braun advised everybody to stay safe during the snowy weather.

**Clerk** – Deputy Clerk Adkins informed the Board that around 4,200 absentee ballots were sent out in a bulk mailing earlier that day. She also stated some candidates have dropped off the ballot since the ballots were printed in November.

**Treasurer** – Treasurer Gerhardt reported his office is still busy with taxes, which are due February 14.

**Trustees** – Trustee Ryan stated the Forndey Club gun raffle is going to be February 13, 2024. He also reported the Shocks and Saves game presented by the Pulse3 Foundation will be this coming Saturday, January 27.

Lori Gorney reported Coffee with a Cop will be Wednesday at Miles Market.

**Manager** – Manager Rombalski began by thanking Tanya Moore of Spicer Group for the work she did with the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. He also reported that the Township is continuing snowplowing of main sidewalks with their 3 sidewalk tractors.

Manager Rombalski turned the floor over to Lee Keysor, Superintendent of the Waste Water Treatment Plan. Lee reported the WWTP serves three sewer districts, and employees nine employees. The WWTP is regulated by EGLE and is certified to handle 6.48 million gallons per day.

## 5. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion by Gerhardt, seconded by Gorney, to approve the Consent Agenda items below:

- a. Approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on January 8, 2024, as presented.
- b. Approve payment of the bills follows:

	<b>CHECKS</b>	<b>ACH</b>	<b>EFT</b>	<b>TOTALS</b>
General Fund	\$ 184,589.27	21,401.40	191,356.14	397,346.81
Fire Fund	6,053.49	3,025.83	74,938.92	84,018.24
Police Fund	37,508.28	3,025.83	222,914.87	261,012.44
Art Fund	-	-	-	-
Garbage & Rubbish Collection Fund	208,609.01	589.29	798.65	209,767.06
State Street Improvement Fund	-	-	-	-
Building Department	384.95	-	13,803.17	14,188.12
Fire Capital Improvement Fund	-	-	-	-
Building Capital Improvement Fund	-	-	-	-
Parks Capital Projects Fund	-	-	-	-
Sewer Fund	72,489.42	8,917.53	127,407.28	208,814.23
Water Fund	387,021.02	5,393.55	51,063.99	443,478.56
Special Assessment Revolving Fund	-	-	-	-
Special Assessment Debt Service Fund	-	-	-	-
	<u>\$ 896,655.44</u>	<u>39,687.00</u>	<u>51,063.99</u>	<u>1,618,625.46</u>

- c. Adopt Resolution 24-04 approving Budget Amendment #6 for Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

VOICE VOTE:                      6 Yeas              0 Nays              1 Absent              PASSED

## 6. ZONING: None.

## 7. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Motion by Ryan, seconded by Reppuhn, to bring to the table discussion regarding the adoption of Resolution 24-05 Amending Saginaw Charter Township's five (5) year Recreation Plan.

Public comment was heard from resident Carol Lechel, 1154 Lahtrup Avenue, regarding the inclusion of pickleball court expansion in the Master Plan. Resident requested courts being resurfaced and expanded to accommodate the growing sport.

Following discussion, a vote was taken to adopt Resolution 24-05 Amending the Saginaw Charter Township's five (5) year plan.

ROLL CALL VOTE:           6 Yeas           0 Nays           1 Absent           Passed  
(Braun, Gerhardt, Gorney, Howell, Reppuhn and Ryan)           (Kelly)

- b. Motion by Gerhardt, supported by Howell, to Adopt Resolution 24-06 for Road Improvements to Pine Gate Subdivision and set a for a public hearing to be held on February 12, 2024.

ROLL CALL VOTE:           6 Yeas           0 Nays           1 Absent           Passed  
(Braun, Gerhardt, Gorney, Reppuhn, Howell and Ryan)           (Kelly)

- c. Motion by Gerhardt, supported by Gorney, to adopt Resolution 24-07 for Road improvements to Foxwood Subdivision and set a date for a public hearing to be held on February 12, 2024.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 6 Yeas           0 Nays           1 Absent           1 Abstain Passed  
(Braun, Gerhardt, Gorney, Reppuh, Howell and Ryan)           (Kelly)           (Reppuhn)

- d. Motion by Ryan, supported by Gorney, to adopt an agreement with United States Office of Veterans Affairs for the Installation of a water main contingent upon the issuance of an Act 399 Construction Permit by EGLE.

VOTE:           6 YEAS           0 Nays           1 Absent           Passed

8. **COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE TOWNSHIP BOARD:** None.

9. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:** None.

10. **ADJOURNMENT:** Motion by Gerhardt, seconded by Gorney, to adjourn the regular board meeting at 6:09 p.m.

VOICE VOTE:           6 Yeas           0 Nays           1 Absent           PASSED

---

Timothy J. Braun, Supervisor

---

Jon R. Howell, Clerk

**SAGINAW CHARTER TOWNSHIP  
SAGINAW COUNTY, MICHIGAN  
RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND ADOPTION OF RECREATION MASTER PLAN**

**RESOLUTION 24-05**

WHEREAS, Saginaw Charter Township Parks and Parks Commission, has undertaken a five-year Parks and Recreation Master Plan which describes the physical features, existing recreation facilities, and the desired actions to be taken to improve and maintain recreation facilities during the period between 2024 and 2028 and,

WHEREAS, public input was received via an online survey that was available from November 2023, through December 2023, to provide an opportunity for citizens to share ideas, express opinions, regarding the future of parks and recreation in Saginaw Charter Township, and

WHEREAS, the draft plan was made available for review from December 14, 2023, through January 14, 2024, at Saginaw Parks and Recreation Department, and online at the Saginaw Charter Township Parks and Recreation Department website, and

WHEREAS, a public meeting was held on January 16, 2024, at 4:00pm at Saginaw Township Center Court, 3320 N. Center Rd., Saginaw, MI 48603, to provide an opportunity for citizens to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, and

WHEREAS, Saginaw Charter Township has developed the Parks and Recreation Master Plan for the benefit of the entire community and wish to adopt the plan as a document to assist in meeting the recreation needs of the community and

WHEREAS, the Saginaw Charter Township Parks Commission has recommended the adoption of the Plan by the Saginaw Charter Township Board,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Saginaw Township Board adopts the Saginaw Charter Township 2024 – 2028 Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

The vote on the above set forth Resolution was as follows:

AYES: Braun, Howell, Gerhardt, Gorney, Reppuhn, and Ryan

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The Supervisor declared the motion carried and the Resolution was duly adopted.

22, 2024

TIMOTHY J. BRAUN  
Saginaw Charter Township Supervisor

JON R. HOWELL  
Saginaw Charter Township Clerk

STATE OF MICHIGAN)  
                                ) ss  
COUNTY OF SAGINAW)

I, Jon R. Howell, the duly qualified and acting Clerk of Saginaw Charter Township, Saginaw County, Michigan, (the "Township") do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Saginaw Charter Township Board, at a regular meeting held on January 22, 2024, the original of which is on file in my office. Public notice, if required, of said meeting was given pursuant to and in compliance with Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended, including in the case of a special or rescheduled meeting, notice by publication or posting at least eighteen (18) hours prior to the time set for the meeting.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereto affixed by official signature on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of January, 2024.

Jon R. Howell  
Saginaw Charter Township Clerk