# Manistee County-Wide Park & Recreation Plan

The Communities Contained Within This Planning Document Are:

# **Manistee County**

Arcadia Township
Pleasanton Township
Onekama Township
Onekama Village
Bear Lake Township
Bear Lake Village
Springdale Township
Cleon Township
Copemish Village
Maple Grove Township

Kaleva Village
Marilla Township
Brown Township
Dickson Township
Stronach Township
Norman Township
Manistee Township
Eastlake Village
City of Manistee
Charter Township of Filer

Plan Prepared by the Manistee County Planning Department and the Alliance for Economic Success

Adopted by local municipalities January-February 2016

Adopted by Manistee County Board of Commissioners February 16th, 2016

# **Acknowledgements**

We recognize the following municipalities, government agencies, organizations and individuals for their contributions towards the production of this document. Your leadership and assistance throughout this planning process has led to the creation of an all encompassing vision for County-wide Recreation.

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- Manistee County Parks and Recreation Plan Leadership Team Members (All leadership team members are identified in Section 1.1.3)
- Manistee County Board of Commissioners
- Manistee County Planning Commission
- Arcadia Township Board
- Arcadia Township Planning Commission
- Pleasanton Township Board
- Pleasanton Township Planning Commission
- Onekama Township Board
- Onekama Township Planning Commission
- Onekama Village Council
- Onekama Village Planning Commission
- Bear Lake Township Board
- Bear Lake Township Planning Commission
- Bear Lake Village Council
- Bear Lake Village Planning Commission
- Springdale Township Board
- Cleon Township Board
- Cleon Township Planning Commission
- Copemish Village Council
- Maple Grove Township Board
- Maple Grove Township Planning Commission
- Kaleva Village Council
- Kaleva Village Planning Commission
- Marilla Township Board
- Marilla Township Planning Commission
- Brown Township Board
- Brown Township Planning Commission
- Dickson Township Board
- Dickson Township Planning Commission
- Stronach Township Board
- Stronach Township Planning Commission

- Norman Township Board
- Norman Township Planning Commission
- Manistee Township Board
- Manistee Township Planning Commission
- Eastlake Village Council
- Eastlake Village Planning Commission
- Manistee City Council
- Manistee City Planning Commission
- Manistee City Non-Motorized Committee
- Manistee City Parks Commission
- Filer Township Board
- Filer Township Planning Commission
- Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
- State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources
- United States Forest Service
- Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy
- Benzie Manistee-Snowbirds
- Big Bear Sportsman Club
- Manistee Area Public Schools (MAPS)
- Onekama Consolidated School District
- Kaleva Norman Dickson School District
- Benzie School District
- Manistee Catholic Central
- Casman Academy
- Cross Country Ski Council
- Shoreline Cycle Club
- Manistee County Chamber
- Manistee County Visitors Bureau
- Manistee Healthy Coalition
- North County Trail Association
- Manistee Recreation Association (MRA)
- Manistee County Fair Board
- Bear Lake Watershed Alliance

- Bear Creek Watershed Council
- Portage Lake Watershed Forever
- Arcadia-Pierport Watershed
- Little Manistee Watershed Conservation Council
- Betsie River Watershed Restoration Committee
- Bear Lake Promoters
- Portage Lake Association
- Portage Point Yacht Club
- Manistee Muzzle Loading Club
- Rolling Thunder
- Spirit of the Woods Conservation Club
- Boy and Girl Scouts
- Bear Lake Property Owners Association
- Crystal Mountain
- Manistee Area Service Organizations
- Caberfae
- Manistee Council on Aging
- Area Wide Golf Courses
- Area Wide Marinas
- Pleasant Valley Community Center
- Area Wide Historic Associations
- Blacker Airport Authority
- Twisted Trails Off-Road Park
- Northern MI Drag-strip
- Big Bear Sportsman Club
- Consumers Energy CompanyWest Shore Medical Center
- Camp Arcadia
- Audubon Society
- Ducks Unlimited
- Northern Michigan Dragway
- Al Taylor

# **Forward**

The Manistee County Park and Recreation Plan tells a story of community engagement, consensus building, data and information gathering, and plan development. The development of the plan is the cumulative effort of leadership from 21 municipalities, as well as input provided by many stakeholders and the public. The plan meets each requirement of the State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources 5-Year Park and Recreation Guidelines for each of the 21 municipalities within Manistee County. The document will be utilized to guide policy and decision making processes oriented around recreation within Manistee County, while laying the framework for specific projects and site improvements and creating opportunities for funding and fund development.

The importance of the planning document is only overshadowed by the collaboration and consensus building which occurred over the 22 month planning process. Bringing representation from each municipality to a single table to collaborate on a unified recreation plan had not occurred in Manistee County, and as far as we are aware a similar effort has not been conducted within a County in the State of Michigan. The momentum gained through working together will serve well the implementation phase of the planning process. This document is only as strong as the implementation which occurs towards the goals contained within, so it is of utmost importance to continually strive to meet each goal.

This draft plan has been adopted by twenty of the twenty-one communities contained within and including Manistee County. through a well advertised public hearing process. The only community which has not adopted the plan is the Village of Eastlake. All required items for the Village of Eastlake to meet State Recreation Plan Approval are found within this plan and the Village participated throughout the planning process. The sole reason the Village of Eastlake has not adopted the plan is the Village Council currently lacks a quorum of members which does not allow for an advertised public hearing or adoption proceedings to occur.

# Disclaimer:

All information contained within this plan is intended for Recreation Planning Purposes. Information on public lands, recreation sites, trails, fishing locations, hunting areas as well as all water access sites may have specific rules in place which must be adhered to, dependent upon the recreational activity one is pursuing. Please contact the appropriate, municipality, agency, landowner or policy which governs the land on which the recreational activity is pursued to ensure all applicable regulations are being followed.

Stronach Township Flamming Commission 

Bear Lake Watershed Amarice

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# E Chapter 1: Introduction

# 1.1 Description and Methodology of the Manistee County Parks, Recreation and Trail Plan

Manistee County has poised itself as a recreational destination drawing upon the abundant natural resources found within the County. Whether residents and visitors are enjoying sugar sand beaches towered over by coastal dunes, hiking, biking, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing or snowmobiling miles of established trails, fishing, floating or boating inland lakes and streams or just enjoying the thousands of acres of public forest, there is always a resource at hand that can lend itself to adventure.

Recreation Planning and specifically the production of a State of Michigan DNR approved 5-year Park & Recreation Plan is a requirement of eligibility for Natural Resource Trust Fund Grants. Though the production of a plan provides avenues for grants for recreational site improvements and land acquisition, the purpose of the plan is much greater in scope. This planning document is the cumulation of months of effort by community leaders from each municipality within Manistee County. The plan is the cornerstone of the collaborative effort to bring cohesiveness across jurisdictional boundaries for recreation planning in Manistee County.

# 1.1.1 Regional Focus while Honoring Community **Individuality**

Collaboration for a County-wide focus for recreation was a theme presented through initial scopes outlining the need for this specific planning process. The idea that a "single" recreation improvement in one community has a positive effect on neighboring communities and the County as a whole is a fact that is widely accepted, as those who visit and recreate in our County often spend time spread across several municipalities.

The idea of a singular County-wide plan for recreation sets a baseline for periodic plan updates which will continue to maintain approval of plans within each municipality and the County as a whole. As important as it is to collaborate across jurisdictional lines, and to continue to work towards common goals as well as establishing a support network among our municipalities; it is just as important to recognize the unique character of each of our local municipalities, and to provide a document which identifies with the community and supports individuality.

The structure of this County-Wide Recreation Plan seeks to meet both a unified document supported and built upon the grass roots effort of our local municipalities, but also to contain the information needed which outlines and meets the requirements of the DNR Recreation Planning Process for each individual municipality.

### 1.1.2 Interns and University Student Contributions

Planning processes of this magnitude only achieve success when provided sufficient time, energy, coordination and through hard work of those involved in creating the plan. This recreation planning process of 20 months, which can be standard for a large plan, requires abundant time be spent preparing data, polling the public, working with community leaders and developing plan text, maps, graphs and charts. Hard working staff and volunteers are needed in preparing this information, and this process has benefited from participation of young enthusiastic students.

Students from Manistee Catholic Central volunteered their time during the summer of 2014 to see that data for this planning effort was well-collected and organized. The recreation inventory of this planning document required site visits throughout Manistee County for the inventorying of not only actual recreation sites, but also the assets found at each site. An inventory of this nature and degree had never been conducted in Manistee County. This was a monumental task of which the interns took hold and performed a valuable service to their community. The entire leadership team and staff of Manistee County and The Alliance for Economic Success wish a heartfelt thank you to:

- Anna Buswinka
- Mia Hogan
- Joseph Slivka

Without the hard work of these interns during the inventory data gathering phase, this planning process would have likely taken additional time if reliant solely upon staff.

# Michigan State University Urban Planning Practicum Course Student Group:

Michigan State University as a requirement for Urban & Regional Planning Students has a senior capstone course called Practicum. This course seeks to have student groups work with a municipality, agency or non-profit through an actual planning process for the development of a plan, design manual or other planning related document.

Manistee County was fortunate to be approved for the Practicum program and was assigned a student group which would assist with development of the Manistee County Park, Recreation and Trail Plan. The student group was comprised of 5 Planning Students:

- Nick Tafelsky
- Cassi Meitl

• Ge Shi

Xiangyun Li

Matt Oliver

Their work began on the planning process in January 2015. The scope of work they developed captured requirements of the DNR, and also provided additional information. In all, the Practicum team surveyed and inventoried data for the Administrative Structure for each municipality, held a public input session with local high school students, developed maps from available recreation inventory data and identified goals for their portion of the planning document.

Staff and leadership team members were very happy to have the students working on a portion of the plan, and the outcome was a valuable amount of data and information which would be folded into the final Manistee County Park and Recreation Plan. We are very thankful for the hard work these future planners put toward development of the document and the professionalism they portrayed throughout the planning process.



Image 1.1: MSU Practicum Team w/Staff

### 1.1.3 Leadership Team

The backbone and heart of any planning process is derived from the community members who volunteer their time to sit on a committee which works through and oversees the plan development. Staff reasoned that the county-wide recreation planning effort which draws together each municipality within the county, is only as strong as the community members who help guide the process. This county planning process was fortunate to have sound representation from each community. The leadership team formed for the process was enthusiastic and timely in meeting attendance and public input sessions. Leadership team member assignments outlining the gathering of community specific information was of great assistance to staff, as information was gathered and shared from each community representative. The plan development would never have been as smooth and all encompassing without the hard work of the leadership team.

We would like to thank the following individuals for their community leadership throughout the planning process.

• Joe Frederick, Arcadia Twp.

• Julie Griffis, Bear Lake Twp.

• Jackie Thomas, Bear Lake Vil.

• Paul Adamski, Brown Twp.

• Linda Gudnov Cloop Twp.

• Denise Blakeslee, City of Manistee

- Linda Cudney, Cleon Twp.
- Elaine Gibbs, Copemish Vil.
- Terry Vuksanovic, Dickson Twp.
- Karen Kolk, Filer Twp.
- Shirley Ball, Filer Twp.
- Clara Kraus Saari, Manistee County
- Linda Finout, Manistee Twp.
- Jeff Mikula, Manistee Twp.
- Eleanor DeYoung, Eastlake Vil.
- Wayne Beldo, Maple Grove Twp.
- Gary Bowling, Maple Grove Twp.
- Karla Kasten, Kaleva Vil.
- Louish Hughes, Marilla Twp.
- Terry Chollette, Marilla Twp.
- Gene Schiling, Norman Twp.
- Dick Stapely, Norman Twp.
- Mary Reed, Onekama Twp. & Vil.
- Jon Phillips, Onekama Twp. & Vil.
- Jacque Erdman, Pleasanton Twp.
- Carol Merrill, Pleasanton Twp. Jack Cramer, Springdale Twp.

- Denise Blakeslee, City of Manistee
- John Girven, Benzie/Manistee **Snowbirds**
- David Somsel, Benzie/Manistee **Snowbirds**
- Randy Sanovic, Benzie/Manistee **Snowbirds**
- Dick Riisberg, Benzie/Manistee Snowbirds
- Mark Coe, Benzie/Manistee **Snowbirds**
- Joe Snoenik, City of Manistee Nonmotorized Committee
- Ed Jones, City of Manistee Nonmotorized Committee
- Ken Blakey-Shell, Non-motorized Committee
- Steve Parsons, LRBOI
- Frank Beaver, LRBOI
- Rochelle Rollenhagen, LRBOI



Image 1.2: Leadership Team Meeting

### 1.1.4 Role of Local Government

Local government plays a vital role in the establishment of recreation plans within the State of Michigan. Guidelines established by the Department of Natural Resources for the production of Park and Recreation Plans outline that local municipalities must support the establishment of a planning process through a resolution of support, as well as participate throughout the process ultimately meeting the requirements of the DNR guidelines so that the plan can be formally adopted by the jurisdiction and approved by the State of Michigan.

Though considered a County Plan in terms of a regional focus, the basis of the plan was the establishment of language and information in order to receive an approved plan for each local unit of government within Manistee County. Through working together (all local municipalities and the County) a baseline plan would be established which is built upon collaboration between all local units of government.

### 1.1.5 Collaboration

"Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much." (Helen Keller) This quote concisely sums up the motivation behind this collaborative planning process which was embarked upon by 21 governmental units for the development of the Manistee County Park and Recreation Plan. Collaboration brought together each municipality to a round table format of meetings which were held monthly through the development of the plan. These monthly meetings forged relationships of leadership team members from throughout the municipalities of Manistee County. These relationships would be the primary function of assisting a mostly seamless planning process.

The thought of collaboration wasn't a foreign concept in Manistee County. The Michigan Township Association meets regularly during the year to bring together representatives of townships for discussions on the important matters of the day. Manistee County has held a regional summit for a number of years which has worked to bring together members of all local municipalities, State and Federal agencies, Tribal government and other local agencies for the discussion of regional issues. Most recently a planning effort between coastal communities in Manistee and Benzie Counties, the "Lakes to Land Regional Initiative" brought together local municipalities across county lines for a successful collaborative master planning effort. This collaborative process was a bit different from those that led before in that it sought to include all local municipalities in a planning process which would generate a State approved planning document for each local municipality.

Building upon past collaborative planning endeavors, this County-Wide collaborative recreation plan began with the establishment of the leadership team. Upon completion of the plan, corroboratively the County will further the goals and projects laid out in a collaborative effort under the guidance of a leadership team. The idea of collaboration has been embraced by the leadership team members and the municipalities they represent; the idea of improvements which occur in a singular municipality having an effect on other local municipalities and the County as a whole is well received and realistic.

# 1.1.6 Incorporation of Existing Community Recreation

Prior to the establishment of this planning process for the development of 21 Park and Recreation Plans within a singular document, several local municipalities including Manistee County had State approved Park and Recreation Plans. Important to this current planning process was the honoring of each of these plans. Utilization of information from within the established plans was crucial for the development of this plan. Information such as Administrative Structures, Community Descriptions, Public Input, Recreation Inventories and Plan Goals and Objectives would help to lay a framework for those communities within this planning process.

The following municipality's Park and Recreation Plans were utilized during the production of this plan:

- Manistee County Park and Recreation Plan, 2008
- Portage lake Community Five-Year Plan for Park and Recreation (Onekama Twp. & Onekama Vil.), 2014
- Arcadia Township Park and Recreation Plan, 2015
- Manistee Township Park and Recreation Plan, 2008
- Eastlake Village Park and Recreation Plan, 2012
- Filer Township Master Plan (Recreation Section), 2009
- City of Manistee Community Parks and Recreation Plan, 2012-2017
- Stronach Township Park and Recreation Plan, 2012
- Marilla Township Park and Recreation Plan, 2013
- Maple Grove Twp, and the Village of Kaleva completed works towards a Park and Recreation Plan. 2013
- Bear Lake Township Park and Recreation Plan, 2014

### 1.2 Document Organization

There was much discussion concerning the organization of a regional recreation plan which contained the necessary information for the completion of a Park and Recreation Plan for each of the 21 municipalities involved within the planning process. Scopes of Work were developed and revised multiple times. Once an agreed upon draft scope of work was completed, working towards the organization of the contents of the plan was the next order of business. Draft table of contents were developed, and discussions with the State of Michigan

Department of Natural Resources were conducted.

There really wasn't an established framework for this type of planning process, as there wasn't a planning process that could be looked upon which had been completed in this manner. Exciting as it was to be working towards a completed plan which had likely never been developed in the State of Michigan, there was concern that the process and development of the plan may be difficult, due to producing and analyzing so much information for so many local municipalities. Through steady communication with the State of Michigan, a course of action was developed for organization of the document.

Rather than trying to build 21 different plans, which would be placed in succession to one another within a singular document, the decided upon best approach was for the table of contents to follow the State of Michigan 5-Year Park and Recreation Guidelines. The guidelines establish chapters which must be contained within the plan, these chapters include Administrative Structure, Community Description, Public Input Process, Planning Process, Recreation Inventory, Goals and Objectives and an Action Program among others. The municipalities would have their appropriate information contained within each of the chapters, and in some cases additional data would be placed in appendices. This course of action was thought to be the easiest method to convey this amount of information, and would provide those reviewing the plan the easiest method to ensure all plan elements were met for each municipality.

### 1.2.1 Recreation Regions

The Manistee County Visitors Bureau, through development of Visitor's Guides for County-wide attractions, developed a regional approach to viewing areas of Manistee County. (See Image 1.3) This approach developed 4 specific regions, containing the following municipalities:

### North Coast

- Arcadia Township
- Pleasanton Township
- Onekama Township
- Onekama Village
- Bear Lake Township
- Bear Lake Village

### North Woods

- Springdale Township
- Cleon Township
- Copemish Village
- Maple Grove Township
- Kaleva Village
- River Country

- Marilla Township
- Brown Township
- Dickson Township
- Stronach Township
- Norman Township

### Manistee Area

- Manistee Township
- Eastlake Village
- City of Manistee
- Charter Township of Filer

Discussions concerning plan development sought to be as cohesive as possible with existing plans and projects of local municipalities and also with other local agencies such as the Visitor's Bureau. The utilization of recreation regions fit nicely into the Visitor's Guide and clearly were well established to identify with and closely follow established natural resource features thereby providing a logical manner in which to view the County's many assets. With the recreation regions in use in different avenues, the recreation planning process embraced the idea of regions and staff felt that it would be best to organize the municipalities within each required chapter of the planning document by the region in which they reside. The organization of this document then follows the format of recreation regions and placing those municipalities together which share a region. (See Map 1.1 & 1.2)

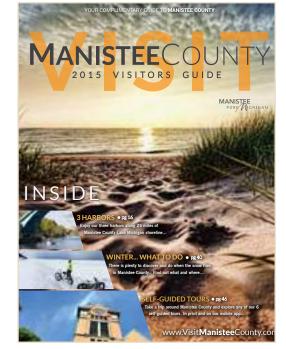


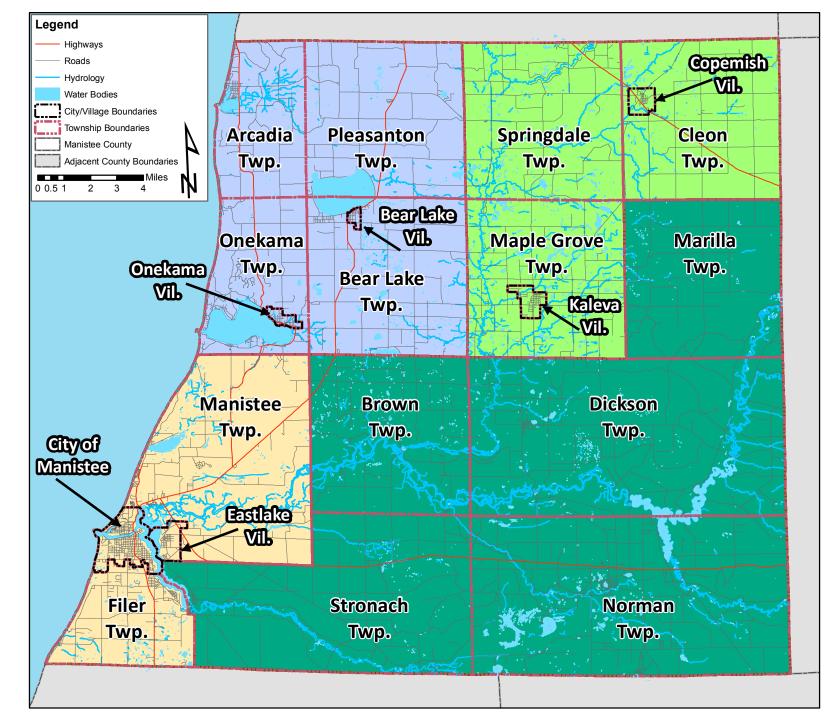
Image 1.3: 2015 Manistee County Visitors Guide

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# Manistee County Regions

# Legend Recreation Regions Manistee Area North Coast North Woods River Country **North Woods North Coast** Region Region Hydrology City/Village Boundaries Township Boundaries Manistee County Adjacent County Boundaries 0 0.5 1 2 3 4 **River Country** Manistee Area Region Region

# Manistee County Local Municipalities



Map 1.2: Manistee County Municipalities

# Chapter 2: Description of the Planning Process

# 2.1 The Planning Process

Initiated in 2013, the Recreation Planning Process emerged from discussions around the need and desire for a more trail oriented community driven recreation plan. Envisioned was a document which would meet approval of State recreation guidelines for all local municipalities, and was developed through a successful collaborative effort. Discussions were initiated with various agencies, and presentations were given to local municipalities who would need to be heavily involved in the development of the document for the process to be deemed a success.

The recreation planning process for the Manistee County Park and Recreation Plan can be divided into four segments:

- Data Collection and Consensus Building
- Plan Contributions, Public Input and Stakeholder Outreach
- Data Analysis, Plan Structuring and Public Review
- Plan Adoption and State Approval

Each of these segments of the process included many individuals who worked diligently towards development of the Plan.

# 2.1.1 Data Collection and Consensus Building

Data collection began in 2014 with the analysis of existing recreational data in both available GIS Shapefiles and tabulated lists from approved local recreation plans; this was further added to, through knowledgeable locals and agency staff. Maps of each municipality were created with recreation sites, trails, lands and water bodies denoted. The maps were reviewed and revised until deemed accurate by the municipality. An inventorying of assets for each recreation site was then completed with the assistance of several local high school students.

While capturing data for the recreation inventory, staff was also attending local municipality meetings to garner support for the plan development. Each municipality would have a representative which would serve on a leadership team which would help drive the process. In late 2014 with approved recreation databases which would serve as the data for the recreation inventory and appointed municipality residents secured for the leadership team; the planning process began with an initial leadership team meeting held at the Big Bear Sportsman Club in the Village of Kaleva.

# 2.1.2 Plan Contributions, Public Input and Stakeholder Outreach

The requirements of the State of Michigan for Recreation Plans are very straightforward as outlined in the State of Michigan Guidelines for Park and Recreation Plans. The guidelines stipulate specific information which must be contained within a plan for each municipality in order to receive State plan approval. Data required of the guidelines can be extensive and synthesizing that information can be a large task. Fortunately the planning process was well supported by a sound leadership team, and additional assistance would be provided by Michigan State University Urban and Regional Planning Students.

MSU Urban and Regional Planning Students worked as a course requirement on portions of the plan proving themselves to be valuable addition to the process. The students produced the survey and tallied results for the Administrative Structure Chapter of the plan, they provided and analyzed data pertaining to recreation within Manistee County, and they administered a public input session for High School students in February, 2015.

Leadership Team members met regularly starting in December 2014. The leadership team was very important to the process, as they provided data for review and analysis and eventual insertion into the planning document. The "assignments" completed and contributed by leadership team members formed much of the information you will find throughout this document.

Public Input Sessions and stakeholder outreach are critically important to the planning document. A survey administered online from April through July 2015 was advertised and promoted across the communities. Additional student input sessions similar to the one administered by the MSU students were held in April 2014, and a series of public input sessions were held in June in order to try and capture both permanent and seasonal residents. Each of these measures to garner public input would help to shape the goals and projects of the plan.

Stakeholder outreach was important as there are many local agencies, governmental units, non-profits, clubs, businesses and groups interested in recreation within Manistee County. With the assistance of the leadership team a stakeholder list was developed. The identified stakeholders were then notified of pubic input sessions and with certain governmental entities (USFS, DNR, Tribe) as well as larger land owners (Consumers Power, Conservancy) were met with to specifically identity their needs. In all stakeholder contributions and input for the plan was a strengthening factor, and further helped to shape goals and projects of the plan.

**2.1.3 Data Analysis, Plan Structuring and Public Review**By July of 2015 information and data had been collected and was being sorted

through by staff in preparation of plan structuring and writing. Previous conversations with the DNR about the layout of the plan had provided a draft Table of Contents which provided all the information for each of the 21 units of government in a manner which would simplify review of the plan by the DNR. The plan structure was to follow a chapter layout with each chapter capturing a requirement of the planning process as outlined by the State of Michigan Recreation Plan Guidelines. Each of the municipalities was organized into the recreation region within which they resided and the regions were then laid out within each chapter which required municipality specific information.

Plan writing was delegated to staff of the Manistee County Planning Department and the Alliance for Economic Success. Staff split up chapters and sections of the plan for development, and intensive work towards writing draft chapters and sections began. Analysis of data was fundamental to development of each chapter and section with each chapter building information which would lend itself to following chapters of the plan. As chapters were completed in draft form, they were shared amongst staff for initial review. Revisions to text and information as well as initial corrections to grammatical and content errors were made and the draft document began to take shape. Cloud based sharing programs were utilized in order to ease the sharing of information and drafts.

Completion of draft chapters and sections began the document construction/ formatting phase for the plan. The use of Adobe InDesign eased formatting of the plan and allowed for easy exporting of the document as an Adobe PDF which could also be converted to Microsoft Word.

Completion of an initial draft plan occurred by November 2015. This draft of the plan contained some errors, but was arguably ready for initial review by leadership team members, stakeholders and government agencies. It was thought best to release the plan for a review by these individuals and entities in order to make immediate revisions prior to a formal release to the public for the formal 30-day review period required by the State of Michigan.

Comments concerning revisions were received and the plan was revised accordingly mid November 2015. Upon completion of this second draft of the plan, the document was now ready for formal introduction to the public through a newspaper ad, notifications on websites, social media, those placed at public notification boards as well as being posted at all municipality buildings who were contained within the plan as required by the State of Michigan.

The Manistee County Park and Recreation Plan was formally released for public review on November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015. The release was publicized as stated in the previous paragraph and those wishing to review the plan were provided both an opportunity to view the plan as a digital document via website PDF download as

well as being able to view a hard copy of the plan which was made available at the hall for each local unit of government contained within the plan. The public review period closed on December 30th, 2015, with all comments required to be received by December 31st, 2015.

Comments received were then integrated into the plan as revisions immediately following the closure of the public review period. A final version of the plan was then developed and provided to each of the local municipalities prior to their respective public hearing dates.

# 2.1.4 Plan Adoption and State of Michigan Approval

The months of January and February in 2016 were slated as the time frame for receiving formal approval by a Resolution of Adoption by each of the municipalities. Municipality public hearing for adoption were advertised within the local newspaper as well as being posted on websites and at respective halls. Staff would be on-hand at the meetings to provide a presentation on the plan and to answer any questions posed by residents, elected and appointed officials. Public hearing notifications as well as the formal resolution for adoption for each municipality can be found in Chapter 10.

Approval and formal adoption by each municipality was received during the months of January and February 2016. Insertion of all formal adoption documentation within the plan occurred shortly thereafter. The plan was then submitted to the State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources for their formal review and final State of approval of the plan. The plan was formally approved by the State of Michigan on ???????.

# Chapter 3: Community Description & Recreation Inventory

# 3.1 Description of Methods Used to Conduct Recreation Inventory

The inventorying of recreation sites within each municipality throughout Manistee County was a time intensive process which was critical to establishment of a baseline for all recreation planning efforts moving forward with this plan and future planning documents. The utilization of GIS software with a companion GPS Trimble Unit allowed for the development of 4 separate GIS shapefile datasets.

- 1. Recreation Site Point File Database: The shapefile contains all public recreation sites within Manistee County with attribute data.
- 2. Recreation Trail Polyline File Database: The shapefile contains all publicly accessible bike routes, motorized and non-motorized trails within Manistee County with attribute data.
- 3. Recreation Water Body Polygon File Database: The shapefile contains all publicly accessible lakes within Manistee County with attribute data.
- 4. Recreation Land Polygon File Database: The shapefile contains all publicly owned land within Manistee County with attribute data.

The datasets were established first through the merging of available existing Local, State, Federal and Tribal GIS datasets. Existing local recreation plans were then reviewed and sites, trails and land were edited into the GIS datasets which were not contained within the draft GIS datasets.

Upon completion of the draft GIS datasets, maps of all identified sites, trails and public land were then printed for use as work maps for members of the community to review. The maps were critiqued and revisions were then provided for correction of site data and/or the addition of sites. Once all sites were accounted for and the final recreation site list was developed, staff and interns visited each site and begin to inventory the assets of each. The assets were then cataloged within the recreation site database. All site assets were provided to the local municipalities through the leadership team members for review of completeness and accuracy. Once the database for each individual site was approved, the draft dataset was deemed accurate and complete.

It is important to note that the this type of thorough and comprehensive inventory had been completed before in Manistee County. Such accuracy

and thoroughness will make future plan updates more accurate and less time consuming.

### 3.1.1 Prioritization of Recreation Sites

Local Planning Commissions, Boards and Councils completed the task of ranking recreation sites through a 3-tiered system of (primary, secondary and tertiary sites). The ranking of recreation sites was completed for those sites within each community boundary. The ranking followed a formula of identifying the most utilized sites, those which were in need of improvement, sites which could serve as trail heads or stops along a trail route, and those desired to become an important location for activity within the municipality. The ranking of each site was recorded and is provided within the recreation site inventories for each community within this Chapter. The purpose of this methodology is to receive a firm grasp on what recreation assets are important to the residents of the County so that resources may be more effectively directed and a grate impact will be achieved. Arguably, when resources are found to make improvements to any site they will be applied no matter the priority ranking of the site.

There are a total of 312 identified recreation sites within Manistee County. Of those, 94 sites are considered primary, 73 are considered secondary and 144 are tertiary. (See Appendix A for aerial site maps of all Primary Recreation Sites)

# 3.1.2 County-Wide Priority Sites

Upon completion of the ranking of recreation sites by each local unit of government, the leadership team was then asked to review the complete list of recreation sites designated as primary by each municipality. Leadership Team members were asked to think about the County as a whole and identify those primary recreation sites which should be considered as Priority Sites for all of Manistee County. Priority Sites are identified by recreation ID # in this section and are noted on map 3.1. (See Map 3.1)

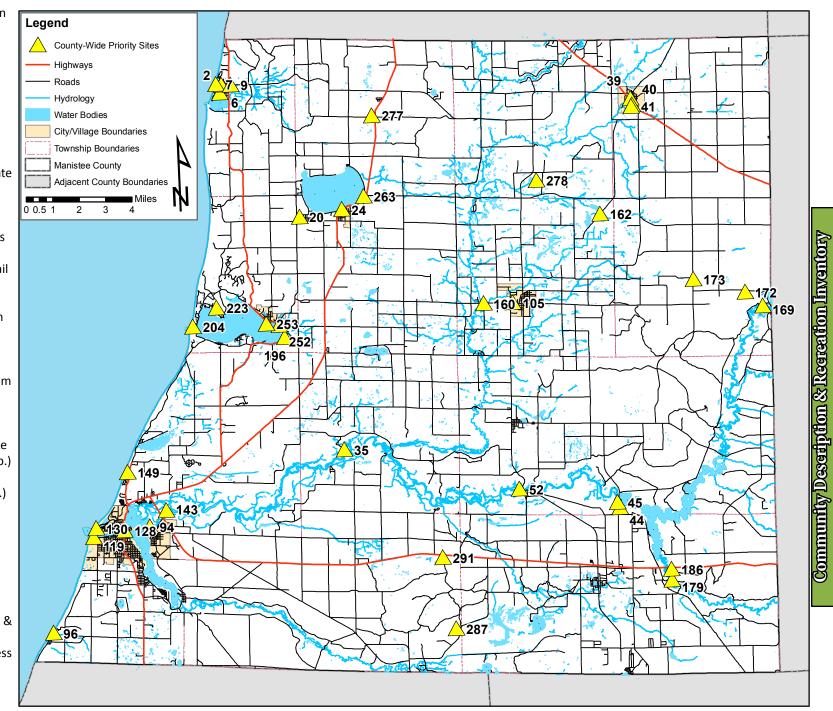
- Site 2: Grebe Park (Arcadia Twp.)
- Site 6: Pickert Park (Arcadia Twp.)
- Site 7: Arcadia Beach Natural Area (Arcadia Twp.)
- Site 9: Pleasanton Valley Community Center (Arcadia Twp.)
- Site 20: School Athletic Fields (Bear Lake Twp.)
- Site 24: Hopkins Park Campground & Boat Launch (Bear Lake Vil.)
- Site 35: Rainbow Bend Access (Brown Twp.)
- Site 39: Lewis Park (Copemish Vil.)
- Site 40: Mish-A-Mish Park (Copemish Vil.)
- Site 41: First Creek Nature Trails (Copemish Vil.)
- Site 44: Tippy Dam South Access (Dickson Twp.)
- Site 42: Highbridge Access (Dickson Twp.)
- Site 45: Tippy Dam Access (Dickson Twp.)
- Site 94: Penny Park (Eastlake Vil.)
- Site 96: Magoon Creek Natural Area (Filer Twp.)

### Site 105: Kaleva Village Roadside Park & Campground (Kaleva Vil.)

- Site 119: Douglas Recreation Area/First St. Beach (City of Manistee)
- Site 128: Riverwalk East Entrance (City of Manistee)
- **Site 130:** Fifth Ave. Beach (City of Manistee)
- Site 143: M-55 Manistee River Wildlife Viewing Platform (Manistee Twp.)
- **Site 149:** Orchard Beach State Park (Manistee Twp.)
- **Site 160:** Bear Cr. Access (Maple Grove Twp.)
- **Site 162:** Lemon Lake Access Road (Maple Grove Twp.
- Site 169: Manistee River Trail Suspension Bridge (Marilla Twp.)
- Site 172: Marilla Twp. North Country Trail Head (Marilla Twp.)
- Site 173: Marilla Twp.
   Pioneer Hall Place & Museum (Marilla Twp.)
- Site 179: Low Bridge Canoe Landing (Norman Twp.)
- **Site 186:** Cooley Bridge State Roadside Park (Norman Twp.)
- **Site 196:** Manistee County Fairgrounds (Onekama Twp.)
- Site 204: Captain John Langland Park (Onekama Twp.)
- Site 223: North Point Park (Onekama Twp.)
- Site 252: Farr Center (Onekama Vil.)
- Site 253: Onekama Vil. Park & Boat Launch (Onekama Vil.)
- Site 263: 13 Mile Road Access (Pleasanton Twp.)
- Site 277: Snowmobile
   Trailhead (Pleasanton Twp.)

   Site 278: Healy Lake State

# County-Wide Priority Sites Map



Map 3.1: County-Wide Priority Sites

- Site 287: Big M Trailhead (Stronach Twp.)
- Site 291: Udell North Country Trail Trailhead (Stronach Twp.)

# **3.2** Explore the Shores Program

The establishment of the Explore the Shores Program in 2008 within Manistee County began an endeavor which seeks to develop Universally Accessible Water Access Sites throughout Manistee County.

"Manistee County's Explore the Shores program is a fine example of where life meets water. Borne from a county-wide visioning project and a follow effort involving Michigan National Easter Seals organizations, Explore the Shores destinations are placed on Manistee County rivers, lakes, and Lake Michigan shoreline that offer outstanding access to Manistee County's rich water resources for people of all needs, ages and abilities, most featuring universal design. Since 2008, over \$2 million has been allocated from a number of sources to create 50+ Explore the Shores sites by 2020 with a goal of attracting 1 million new visitors to enjoy, share and learn from our treasured waters." (Explore the Shores website)

Successful establishment and continued expansion of the Explore the Shores program has been a success for recreation in Manistee County. Further enhancement and addition of sites into the program is sought in order to continue to make strides towards the goal of 50+ sites by 2020. The recreation planning process and Leadership Team embrace the program and have supported the nomination of sites for inclusion within the program.

# 3.2.2 Current Explore the Shore Sites

The Explore the Shores Program currently contains the following recreation sites. The sites are referenced by site number, name and municipality in which they are located. Please refer to the Explore the Shores Site Map for site reference numbers. (Please Refer to Map 3.2)

- Site 34: Bear Creek Access (Brown Twp.)
- Site 35: Rainbow Bend Access (Brown Twp.)
- Site 119: Douglas Rec. Area/First St. Beach (City of Manistee)
- Site 295 Lower Manistee Boat Launch (Stronach Twp.)
- Site 305: Little Manistee River Weir Facility (Stronach Twp.)
- Site 94: Penny Park (Village of Eastlake)
- Site 130: Fifth Ave. Beach (City of Manistee)
- Site 133: Arthur St. Boat Launch (City of Manistee)
- Site 151: Bar Lake Outlet (Manistee Twp.)
- Site 204: Captain John Langland Park (Onekama Twp.)
- Site 211: Sixth St. Access (Onekama Twp.)
- Site 2: Grebe Park (Arcadia Twp.)
- Site 3: Veterans Memorial Park & Marina (Arcadia Twp.)

- Site 7: Arcadia Beach and Natural Area (Arcadia Twp.)
- Site 10: Arcadia Marsh Natural Area (Arcadia Twp.)
- Size 253: Onekama Village Park and Boat Launch (Village of Onekama)
- Site 310: Spirit of the Woods Conservation Club (Dickson Twp.)
- Site 45: Tippy Dam Access (Dickson Twp.)

# 3.2.3 Nominated Explore the Shore Sites

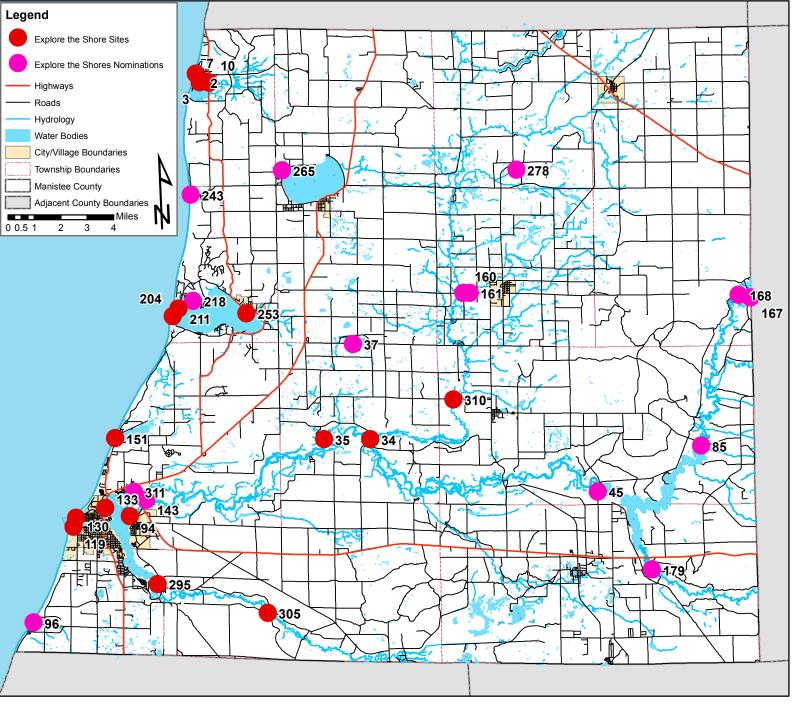
Site nominations for the Explore the Shores program were considered through careful review of the Explore the Shores program team with input received from the Recreation Plan Leadership Team, public input through structured input sessions as well as local municipality elected and appointed officials. Please refer to the Explore the Shores Site Map for the site reference ID numbers. (See Map 3.2)

- Site 160: Bear Creek Access (Maple Grove Twp.)
- Site 161: School Road Access (Maple Grove Twp.)
- Site 179: Low Bridge Canoe Landing (Norman Twp.)
- Site 37: Lyman Road Access (Brown Twp.)
- Site 96: Magoon Creek Natural Area (Filer Twp.)
- Site 143: M-55 Manistee River Wildlife Viewing Platform (Manistee Twp.)
- Site 85: Red Bridge Access Manistee River (Dickson Twp.)
- Site 167: Hodenpyle North Tailwater Access & Canoe Portage (Marilla Twp.)
- Site 168: Woodpecker Creek Access Manistee River (Marilla Twp.)
- Site 218: Portage Lake DNR Boat Launch (Onekama Twp.)
- Site 243: Thirteen Mile Rd. Access Lake Michigan (Onekama Twp.)
- Site 265: Bear Lake DNR Boat Launch (Pleasanton Twp.)
- Site 278: Healy Lake State Forest Campground (Springdale Twp.)
- Site 311: M-55 Hole (Manistee Twp.)
- Site 45: Tippy Dam Access (Dickson Twp.)

It is important to note that Site 45, the Tippy Dam Access is both a current Explore the Shores Site as well as being renominated. The purpose of the renomination of the site is for the addition of a Universally Accessible Kayak Launch into the Manistee River. The site has benefited from improved ADA access through a fishing pier, rest rooms, parking and accessible paved pathways, but the addition of a kayak launch is desired by residents.



# Explore the Shores Program Map



Map 3.2: Explore the Shores Sites & Nominations

# 3.3 Status Report for all Grant Assisted Parks and Recreation Facilities Communities within Manistee County have been fortunate to receive funding through the State of Michigan for Park and Recreation improvements. The following table displays information regarding the status of grants approved in Manistee County since the 1970's.

Project #	Applicant	Title	Year	Amount	Status	Description
26-01016	Arcadia Township	Arcadia Township Lake Michigan Park	1977	\$12,966.00	Withdrawn	Develop 1 ac Lake Michigan Park; includes restrooms, picnic shelter, parking area, landscaping
26-01010	Arcadia Township	Arcadia Mooring & Launching Facilities	1978	\$75,000.00	Closed	Develop piling, pier, launch ramp removal, new piles, piers and launch ramp, rip-rap, sidewalk, lighting, utilities, site improvement, landscaping
TF1027	Arcadia Township	Arcadia Township Marina Expansion	1985	\$95,000.00	Closed	Acquisition of .70 acres with 200 feet of Arcadia Lake frontage. The property is between the existing marina and Township park properties.
TF99-127	Arcadia Township	Arcadia South Beach	1999	\$834,759.00	Closed	Acquisition in fee simple of 10 acres for resource protection and public outdoor recreation. Site includes 1,369 feet of Lake MI shoreline.
RP11-425	Arcadia Township	Finch Park Improvements	2011	\$11,175.00	Closed	Development included renovation of parking lot and tennis courts.
TF12-090	Eastlake Village	Penny Park Renovation	2012	\$141,000.00	Active	Development to include replacement of bath house, upgrading boat launch/skid pier, installation of playground, upgrading parking area and entrance drive.
TF390	Filer Charter Township	Magoon Creek	1980	\$150,000.00	Closed	Acquisition of 97 acres with approximately 2,200 feet of Lake Michigan shoreline for fishing and other passive recreation.
26-0012B	City of Manistee	First Street Beach Ramp	1972	\$81,450.00	Closed	Development of parking lot, comfort station, lift station, underground wiring and landscaping at boat launch.
26-00244	City of Manistee	Manistee City Marina Park	1972	\$98,500.00	Closed	Acquire two parcels of land to develop for grading, landscaping, sidewalks and steps, retaining wall, benches, waste receptacles & picnic tables.
26-01101 F	City of Manistee	Sands Park	1980	\$16,750.00	Closed	Two fenced tennis courts, drinking fountain, playground, landscaping.
BF89-461	City of Manistee	Sands Park Restoration	1989	\$34,650.00	Closed	Replace shelter house & lighting, restrooms, fencing, irrigation system.
26-01504	City of Manistee	Barrier Free Marina Project	1991	\$81,000.00	Closed	Renovation of bathhouse, marina access ramp/walkway, replace fuel tanks.
TF91-147	City of Manistee	Manistee Riverwalk West	1991	\$375,000.00	Closed	Develop 3,000' elevated lighted boardwalk from Manistee Marina to First Street Beach on Lake Michigan.
TF94-240	City of Manistee	Manistee Riverfront Park	1994	\$375,000.00	Closed	Develop additional 550 of lighted riverwalk including handicapped access area, benches, signage, shore protection/landscaping to east of US-31
BF98-294	City of Manistee	Lake Michigan Public Access	1998	\$40,000.00	Closed	Build trail and parking lot to provide additional access to a mile of Cityowned Lake Michigan shoreline.
TF07-040	City of Manistee	Man Made Lake Acquisition	2007	\$2,015,000.00	Closed	Acquisition of 23 acres, with 1,350 feet of frontage on Lake Michigan and 1,700 feet of frontage on the 10 acre Man Made lake for passive rec.
TF11-06	City of Manistee	Manistee First St. Beach House	2011	\$280,000.00	Closed	Development to include removal and replacement of First St. Beach House in Douglas Park. Universally accessible.
26-01731	City of Manistee	Rotary Park Play Area	2013	\$48,000.00	NPS	Universally accessible, ADA-compliant play area for children.
TF1050	Manistee Township	Bar Lake Outlet	1985	\$17,500.00	Closed	Acquisition of 1.5 acres w/400 feet of Bar lake frontage and outlet.
26-01023B1	Norman Township	Norman Twp. Park	1977	\$9,250.00	Closed	Development of two tennis courts.
TF12-088	Onekama Village	Onekama Vil. Park	2012	\$97,300.00	Active	Peron steps, barrier free beach access, mobi mats, beach nourishment.

Table 3.1: Grant Status Report

# 3.4 Community Description and Recreation Inventories

Each community within Manistee County holds specific features that residents and visitors identify with the area. In many cases these features are natural resource based, whether it is the high dunes of Lake Michigan, harbor or inland lakes, acres of beautiful State and National Forests or the cold waters of our rivers and streams. These unique features help one to identify with the area, and in most cases offer a natural resource base for which to pursue countless recreational opportunities.

This section of the plan provides the community description and recreation inventory for each of the municipalities within Manistee County. Each municipality is outlined within the Recreation Region within which it resides. The community description provided by each municipality provides a brief narrative of the community. The recreation inventory identifies each recreation site, and through a table provides the assets found at each site. Maps accompany each inventory table, and display all recreation site locations within the community as well as highlighting those sites which are considered a primary site for the municipality. All recreation sites are color-coded in the inventory table according to the ranking provided by each municipality.

- Green cells within the tables denote primary recreation sites.
- Yellow cells within the tables denote secondary recreation sites.
- Orange cells within the tables denote tertiary recreation sites.

The total list of recreational assets which were inventoried during the planning process follows. It is important to note that the inventory tables for each municipality only list those assets which are found at any one site located within the municipality. For example, if an inventory table doesn't display the asset "Disc Golf" within the community inventory table, then that site asset isn't found at any recreation sites within the municipality.

- Recreation Site ID #
- Site Name
- Municipality
- Ownership
- Municipality Priority Ranking
- County-Wide Priority Site
- Park Type (See Adjacent Key)
- Fee Site
- ADA Access (Low, Med., High)
- Explore the Shores Site
- Explore the Shores Nominee
- Lighting
- Dark-Sky Candidate

- Parking Availability (1 = five spots or less) (2= five to ten spots) (3 = ten or more spots)
- Signage (Directional)
- Signage (Educational)
- Camping
- RV Compatible (Space Allowance)
- Utilities/Hook-ups
- Potable Water
- Restrooms (Flush Toilets)
- Outhouse (Pit Vault)
- Portable Toilet (porto-jon)
- Shower Facility
- Garbage Receptacles

- Fire Pit
- Picnic Table
- Benches
- Grill
- Bike Rack
- Emergency Phone
- Water Access
- Beach
- Pier/Fishing Platform
- Canoe/Kayak Access
- Boat Launch
- Boat Parking (on water)
- Fish Cleaning Station
- Fishing Line Recycling Box
- Picnic Shelter
- Beach House
- Band Shell
- Dog Park

- Pet Waste Disposal Station
- Viewing Platform
- Trailhead (Water, Land)
- Trails (access to any off pavement trail)
- Bike Lane (Road Shoulder)
- Playground Equipment
- Baseball Field
- Tennis Court
- Volley Ball Net
- Basketball Court
- Soccer Field
- Football Field
- Shuffle Board
- Ice Arena
- Skate ParkDisc Golf

	Key for Manistee County Park Types
Abbreviation	Park Type
MP	Mini-Park: Generally less than 1 acre & less than 1/4 mile from residential areas; addresses limited, isolated or unique needs
NP	Neighborhood Park: 5-10 acres in size, serve as recreational/ social focus of neighborhood or small town community
СР	Community Park: serve broader purpose, more amenities, serve two or more neighborhoods, can be large >25 acres in size
RP	Large Urban Park/Regional Park: generally >50 acres in size, serve regional needs as well as preserving landscape/open space
PT	Park Trail: multi-purpose trail located within park, greenway or natural area
SU	Special Use Park: geared towards a specific use
RDSU	Road End Special Use: public ROW which allow access to resources, typically water access
NRA	Natural Resources Area: land set aside for preservation of natural resources, open space, buffering or other natural area
	Table 3.2: County Park Type Key

Table 3.2: County Park Type Key

31

30

# 3.4.1 Arcadia Township

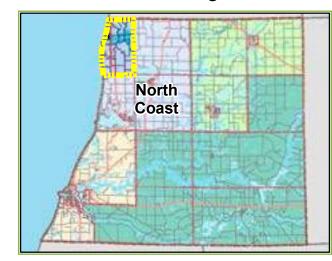
# 3.4.1.1 Community Description:

Arcadia is a township with an abundance of natural resources, the way in which they are managed, cared for, and protected is critical to ensuring that future generations have the same opportunities to utilize those resources as have benefitted past generations. The natural resources provide both the economic and recreational growth opportunities that attract residents and visitors. The spectrum of uses ranges from agriculture to beach bathing, bird watching, boating, cycling, hiking, snow shoeing, ice fishing, access to Lake Michigan and night sky viewing.

Developing the type of place people want to live that offers attractive cultural, social and natural resource amenities based on regional assets, provides professional and social infrastructure to support their endeavors and provides a lifestyle that suits their desires. Leveraging and building on community assets, diversifying its economic base in order to attract and retain residents, and understanding its role in the region are all factors considered in the development of the Arcadia Township master plan and recreation goals. Specifically, recreation planning is a key ingredient to define Arcadia Township as a place that individuals seeking outdoor amenities and way of life want to visit and perhaps stay.

Economic growth opportunities are centered on utilizing the natural resource assets of the community as recreation avenues and building upon them so that other sectors within the local economy benefit. Linking the economic activities

# North Coast Region



and community assets in a well defined and developed trail system is essential to tie all the elements together into a cohesive whole.

### 3.4.1.2 Inventory Discussion:

Arcadia Township provides varied recreational sites and opportunities to fit most anyone's need. A coastal recreation site in the form of the Arcadia Beach Natural Area provides for ease of access to Lake Michigan with Universal Accessibility and various site amenities such as restrooms, benches and signage. Further access to Lake Michigan may be found at various road ends located within the municipality.

### Recreation Invento 2 Grebe Park 6 Pickert Park ARC 1 • NP 7 Arcadia Beach Natural Area 9 Pleasant Valley Community Cen Plea.Valley 3 Veterans Memorial Park & Marina 5 Finch Park 10 Arcadia Marsh Natural Area 4 Mill St Water Access-AL MCRC 11 Arcadia Twp Hall 13 Chamberlain Rd South Pier Acces ARC 1 Schaef Rd Access-M MCRC 8 M-22 Scenic Overlook 2 Bischoff Rd Access-MI MCRC

# Arcadia Township Inventory Map

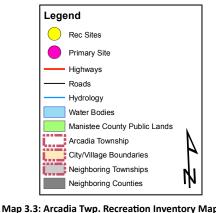
Within the population center of the unincorporated Village of Arcadia is located community parks with playground equipment and courts for tennis and basketball. Access to Arcadia Lake at the Veterans Memorial Park and Marina provides for the County's first Universally Accessible kayak launch, at this designated Explore the Shores Site.

The Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy has land holdings within the Arcadia Marsh, which provides opportunities for hiking, birdwatching and hunting. The Conservancy also has land holdings along the northern boundary of the Township which are crisscrossed with trails which can be accessed from trailheads located in Benzie County.

Localized trail systems on conservancy lands as well as the on-road facility along a portion of Glovers Lake Road provide localized trails which are available for future connections. Support for establishment of connections to Bear Lake. Pleasanton and Onekama Townships as well as to Benzie County should remain a focus.



Image 3.2: Arcadia Lake Sunset



Inset Map A HAZEL-ST 10 See Inset Map A <mark>`∤12</mark>—BISGHΘFF-RD--STEFFINS-RD -1-SCHÄEF-RD -GHURGHILL-RD-THIRTEEN MILE RD

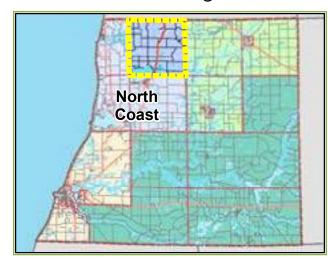
Table 3.3: Arcadia Twp. Recreation Inventory Table

# 3.4.2 Pleasanton Township

### 3.4.2.1 Community Description:

Pleasanton Township, with a population of 817, is home to many recreational opportunities that take advantage of recreational sites and natural features within the community. Playground equipment, a ball diamond, and a picnic area exist at the Township Hall, three public access sites on Bear Lake, and the open space at the Township park on Lakeside Ave are all areas for recreation. Additionally, there is public access on Glovers Lake to the north in Township. The State of Michigan owns 2,164 acres of the township's land, and the Grand Traverse Regional Conservancy holds 1,428 acres of land for recreation and other conservation purposes which provide multi-user trails, wildlife viewing, and general enjoyment of nature. Recreational opportunities are plentiful. Part of the recreational experience in the Township includes the visual corridors where people can look over the vistas and view Bear Lake, state forest lands, and perhaps, if they are lucky, an occasional bald eagle. Pleasanton's most prominent trail connection is the west end of snowmobile Route 386 that

# North Coast Region



Recreation Site Map ID #	Ownership	Municipality Priority Ranking	County-wide Primary	Park Type	ADA Access ( <u>L</u> ow, <u>M</u> od., <u>Hig</u> h)	Explore the Shore Nominee	Parking Availability	Signage Directional	Signage Educational	Potable Water	Restrooms (Flush Toilets)	Outhouse (Pit Vault)	Fire Pit	Picnic Table	Benches	Grill	Water Access	Canoe/Kayak Access	Boat Launch	Picnic Shelter	Trailhead ( <u>W</u> ater, <u>L</u> and )	Trails (Off Pavement)	Playground Equipment	Baseball Field	Tennis Court	Volley Ball	Basketball Court	Shuffle Board
263 13 Mile Rd Access-BE	PLE	1	٠	RDSU	L		1	٠									٠	٠										
277 Snowmobile Trailhead	PLE	1	•	SU	L		2														L							
266 Meyers Rd Access-BE	MCRC	1		RDSU	L		1	•									•	•										
267 Butwell Rd Access-BE	MCRC	1		RDSU	L		1	٠						٠			٠	٠										
276 Pleasanton Twp Hall	PLE	1		SU	М		3	٠		•	٠			٠						•			•	٠	•	•	٠	•
265 Bear Lake Boat Launch	State	3		SU	L	٠	2	٠	٠		٠	•					٠	٠	•		w	•						
270 Pleasanton Twp Park	PLE	2		СР	L		1	٠						•		•				•			•					
271 Bear Lake Access-BE	PLE	2		SU													•											
272 Bear Lake Access-BE	PLE	2		SU	L		1	•					•		•		•	٠										
273 Bear Lake Access-BE	PLE	2		SU	L		1	•									•	•										
274 Bear Lake Access-BE	PLE	2		SU	L		1	•									•	•										
264 13 Mile Rd Access-BE	PLE	3		RDSU	L		1	٠									•	٠										
268 Glovers Lake Boat Launch	State	3		RU	L		2	٠			٠	•					•	٠	•									
269 Glovers Lake Ln Access-GL	PLE	3		RDSU	L		1	٠									٠	٠										
275 Bear Lake Access-BE	PLE	3		SU	L		1	•									•	•										

Table 3.4: Pleasanton Twp. Recreation Inventory Table

# Pleasanton Township Inventory Map

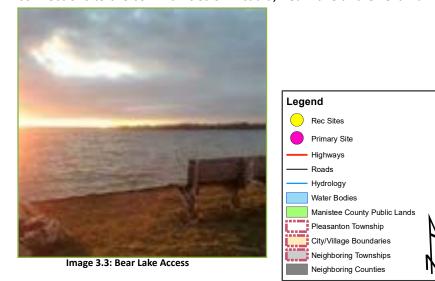
follows Lumley Road east from US-31 toward Springdale Township. It joins the 213-mile-long Route 3 at the end of its 9-mile run, establishing connectivity among five counties stretching from Leelanau in the north to Newaygo in the south. The Arcadia Dunes Preserve biking and hiking trail grazes the northwest corner of the Township, and the preserve itself extends inland even further.

# 3.4.2.2 Inventory Discussion:

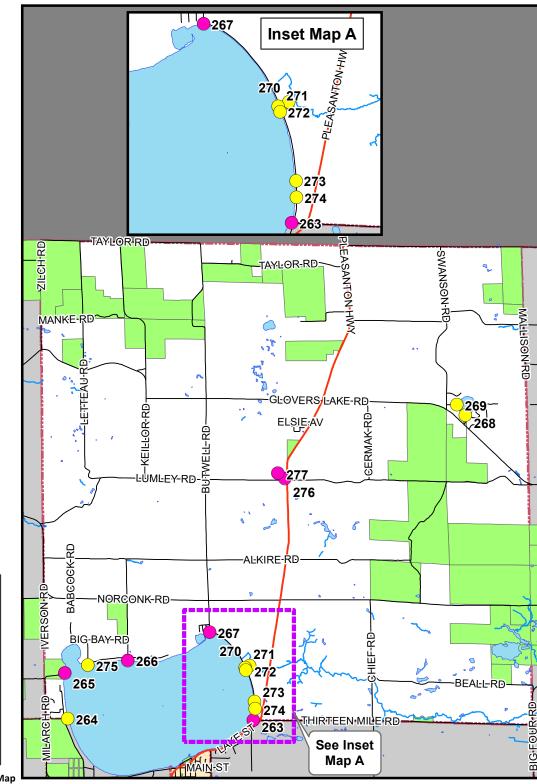
The open spaces of Pleasanton Township provide an aesthetic beauty which acts as the backdrop for recreational assets derived from the Northern shores of Bear Lake to the forested lands of the Pere Marguette State Forest to the east, and Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy land holdings in the north.

Access to Bear Lake at various public road ends, and Township owned properties provides for kayak and canoe access as well as areas for fishing and picnicking. The DNR Boat Launch along the northwestern shore of the lake is one of only two public launches on Bear Lake.

Snowmobile Trails and a trailhead adjacent to the Township Hall are the furthest west designated trail locations within Manistee County. These trails are important to the region, and can serve as sites for future trail connections to the communities of Arcadia, Bear Lake and Onekama.



Map 3.4: Pleasanton Twp. Recreation Inventory Map



# 3.4.3 Onekama Township

### 3.4.3.1 Community Description:

The Portage Lake Community, for the purposes of the Five-Year Plan for Parks and Recreation, consists of Onekama Township, the Village of Onekama, and the Onekama Consolidated Schools. Onekama Township is in the western part of Manistee County.

The Village of Onekama, formerly a lumbering town, is on the northeast shore of Portage Lake. The Village had a population of 411 people in 2010 while Onekama Township had a population of 1,329.

The Onekama School of the Onekama Consolidated Schools, with around 400 students, is within the Village. The School is included in the Plan because of the extensive recreational facilities provided for the public. A \$14.1 million building project was dedicated in 2010.

Portage Lake, the central feature of the Township, covers 2,116 acres. The

### Map ID# 196 Manistee County Fairgrounds ONE 1 • CP 204 Captain John Langland Park . . . . . . . . . . . . ONE 1 • NRA 223 North Point Park . . . . 200 Eagles View Wetlands ONE 1 NRA • L 215 Ninth St Access-PL MCRC 1 RDSU L 0 216 Ninth St Access-MI MCRC 1 RDSU 0 L 218 Portage Lake Boat Launch State 1 RP L • . . . . w • RDSU 0 221 Outlet Ave Access-PL ONE 1 . L 222 Ardmore Dr Access-Pl ONE 1 RDSU L 0 227 Clark Rd Access-PL ONE 1 RDSU 0 L ONE 1 RDSU 0 229 Hilltop Rd Access-PL L 230 Sunset House/Lakeisle Ave Access-MI MCRC 1 RDSU L 0 ONE 1 NRA 233 Portage Wetlands Park L 243 Thirteen Mile Rd Access-MI MCRC 1 RDSU L • 0 MCRC 1 RDSU 0 251 Willow Way Access-PL L 199 Portage Street Walkway ONE 2 SU м . 202 First St North Pier Access ONE 2 RDSU L MCRC 2 RDSU 205 Third St Access-PL

# North Coast Region



Channel connecting Portage Lake to Lake Michigan, and Lake Michigan itself provide fishing, boating, swimming, and other activities. Its shores are around 10 miles in length; the dune-lined Lake Michigan shores extend more than 16 miles. The Lake Michigan shores sweep northward to Pierport, a former Lake Michigan port and lumbering town, which also has shoreline recreational facilities that are included in the Five-Year Plan.

In the late 1800's near the end of the lumbering era, Portage Lake developed into a significant resort community. Orchards and fruit farming also became prevalent. There are five churches within the Village. Many residents of long standing and seasonal residents who have come here for many years have deep feelings regarding Onekama as home.

# 3.4.3.2 Inventory Discussion:

Portage Lake is the centerpiece of Onekama Township's recreation assets, and for good reason. The lake offers an array of opportunities for fishing, boating,

water-skiing among a other activities. Access to Portage Lake is available at road ends scattered along the shores of the lake as well as through two boat launches. One boat launch is located within the Township on North Point. This facility is owned by the DNR, but may be managed in the near future by the Township through a cooperative agreement. Similar agreements are in place in communities such as Eastlake Village and Stronach Twp.

Lake Michigan acts as a backdrop to Portage Lake, and can be accessed via boat from the channel or by foot from the various road ends which terminate into the "Big Lake". Captain John Langland Park acts as the primary Lake Michigan beach access with improvements and available assets. The north pier head is readily reachable from this park.

The Manistee County Fairgrounds located within Onekama Township is one of the few actual County-owned recreation facilities. The grounds serve as the annual location for the fair, but also are available for other community events.

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Recreation Site Map ID #	Site Name	Ownership	Municipality Priority Ranking	County-wide Primary	Park Type	Fee Site	ADA Access ( <u>L</u> ow, <u>M</u> od., <u>H</u> igh)	Explore the Shore Nominee	Lighting	Dark Sky Candidate	Parking Availability	Signage Directional	Signage Educational	Potable Water	Restrooms (Flush Toilets)	Outhouse (Pit Vault)	Portable Toilet	Garbage Receptacle	Fire Pit	Picnic Table	Benches	Water Access	Beach	Pier/Fishing Platform	Canoe/Kayak Access	Boat Launch	Boat Parking	Pet Waste Disposal Station	Trailhead ( <u>W</u> ater, <u>L</u> and )	Trails (Off Pavement)	Playground Equipment
206	Fourth St Access-PL	MCRC	2		RDSU		L				0											٠			٠						
207	Fifth St Access-PL	MCRC	2		RDSU		L				0											٠			٠						
208	Fifth St Access-MI	MCRC	2		RDSU		L				0											٠	٠		٠						
211	Sixth St Access-PL	MCRC	2		RDSU		L	•			0											٠			٠						
213	Seventh St Access-MI	ONE	2		RDSU		L				0											٠	٠		٠						
217	Twelfth St Access-PL	ONE	2		RDSU		L				0											•			٠						
220	Arborvitae Dr Access-PL	ONE	2		RDSU		L				0											•			٠						
228	Avenue C Access-MI	ONE	2		RDSU		L				0											•	•		٠						
244	Burnham St Access-MI	MCRC	2		RDSU		L				0											•									
192	Almlof Ave Access-PL	MCRC	3		RDSU		L				0											•			٠						
193	Secor Ave Access-PL	MCRC	3		RDSU		L				0											٠			٠						
194	Campbell St Access-PL	MCRC	3		RDSU		L				0											•			٠						
195	Cedar Grove Access-PL	MCRC	3		RDSU		L				0											•			٠						
197	Carden Park	ONE	3		NRA		L				0										٠										
198	Eagle St Access-PL	ONE	3		RDSU		L				0											•			٠						
201	Feldhak Park	ONE	3		NRA		L				•									٠											
203	Second St Access-PL	MCRC	3		RDSU		L				0											٠			٠						
209	West Fairway St Access-PL	MCRC	3		RDSU		L				0											٠			٠						
210	Midway Dr Access-PL	ONE	3		RDSU		L				0											•			•						
212	Sixth St Access-MI	MCRC	3		RDSU		L				0											٠	•		٠						

Table 3.5: Onekama Twp. Recreation Inventory Table Table 3.5: Onekama Twp. Recreation Inventory Table Onekama Township works in cooperation with Onekama Village for the management and planning of park space. This collaboration is important, and should serve as an example for other communities within Manistee County.

Land trails outside of the on-road facility along Lakeshore Dr. are lacking within the Township. Continued support of connections with Tribal lands and Manistee Twp. to the South as well as connections to both Bear Lake and Arcadia Twp. should remain a focus.

Recreation Site Map ID #	Ownership	Municipality Priority Ranking	министинительный приментиний приментиний приментиний приментиний приментиний приментиний приментиний приментин	Fee Site	ADA Access ( <u>L</u> ow, <u>M</u> od., <u>H</u> igh)	Dark Sky Candidate	Parking Availability	Potable Water	Water Access	Beach	Canoe/Kayak Access
214 Eight St Access-MI	ONE		RDSU		L		0		٠	•	•
219 Juniper Way Access-PL	ONE	3	RDSU		L		0		•	•	•
224 Beachward Ave Access-PL	MCRC	3	RDSU		L		0		•	•	•
225 Lakeview Rd Access-PL	MCRC	3	RDSU		L		0		•	•	•
226 Avenue B Access-MI	ONE	3	RDSU		L		0		•	•	•
231 Avenue E Access-MI	ONE	3	RDSU		L		0		•	•	•
232 Avenue F Access-MI	MCRC	3	RDSU		L		0		•	•	•
234 Lakeside Ave Access-MI	ONE	3	RDSU		L		0		•	•	•
235 Cron Ave Access-PL	MCRC	3	RDSU		L		0		•		
236 William Forth Ave Access-PL	MCRC	3	RDSU		L		0		•		
237 Morey St Access-PL	MCRC	3	RDSU		L		0		•		
238 C. G. Davis Ave Access-PL	MCRC	3	RDSU		L		0		•		
239 Rosewood St Access-PL	MCRC	3	RDSU		L		0		•		
240 Third St Access-MI	ONE	3	RDSU		L		0		•		
241 Artesian Well	ONE	3	SU		L		0	٠			
242 Ivanhoe Rd Access-MI	ONE	3	RDSU		L				•		
245 Alley G Access-MI	ONE	3	RDSU		L		0		•		
246 Alley H Access-MI	ONE	3	RDSU		L				•		
247 Golfmore Way Access-PL	MCRC	3	RDSU		L		0		•		
248 Batesmore Way Access-PL	ONE	3	RDSU		L				•		
249 Sylvan Way Access-PL	ONE	3	RDSU		L		0		•		
250 Merlin Way Access-PL	MCRC	3	RDSU		L		0		•		



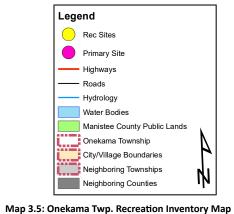
Image 3.4: Young Angler on Portage Lake



# Onekama Township Inventory Map



Image 3.6: Big Lake Fishing out of Portage Lake



Inset Map A 234 233 232 230 228<sub>221</sub> 226 225 220 223 216 217 248 213 214 215 208 212 211 210 204 205 202 195 236 192 Inset Map B 2<del>4</del>3 LUKENS-RD See Inset NINE-MILE-RD Map A See Inset Map B 236 237

Table 3.5: Onekama Twp. Recreation Inventory Table

38

Community Description & Recreation Inventory

20

# 3.4.4.1 Community Description:

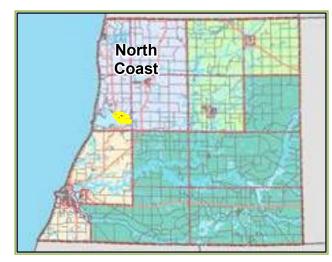
The Portage Lake Community, for the purposes of the Five-Year Plan for Parks and Recreation, consists of Onekama Township, the Village of Onekama, and the Onekama Consolidated Schools. Onekama Township is in the western part of Manistee County.

The Village of Onekama, formerly a lumbering town, is on the northeast shore of Portage Lake. The Village had a population of 411 people in 2010 while Onekama Township had a population of 1,329.

The Onekama School of the Onekama Consolidated Schools, with around 400 students, is within the Village. The School is included in the Plan because of the extensive recreational facilities provided for the public. A \$14.1 million building project was dedicated in 2010.

Portage Lake, the central feature of the Township, covers 2,116 acres. It, the Channel connecting it to Lake Michigan, and Lake Michigan itself provide fishing, boating, swimming, and other activities. Its shores are around 10 miles in length; the dune-lined Lake Michigan shores extend more than 16 miles. The Lake Michigan shores sweep northward to Pierport, a former Lake Michigan

# North Coast Region



port and lumbering town, which also has shoreline recreational facilities that are included in the Five-Year Plan.

In the late 1800's near the end of the lumbering era, Portage Lake developed into a significant resort community. Orchards and fruit farming also became

# Site Name 252 Farr Center ONV 1 • CP 253 Onekama Vil.Park/Boat Launch School 1 254 School Basketball Courts 257 School Tennis Courts School 1 School 1 258 School Ball Fields 260 School Stadium and Track School 1 256 Glen Park/Mineral Springs 255 Rotary Park . . . . 259 Onekama Twp Hall 261 Zosel St Walk-in Park ONV 3 SU 262 Triangle Park

Table 3.6: Onekama Vil. Recreation Inventory Table

# Onekama Village Inventory Map

prevalent. There are five churches within the Village. Many residents of long standing and seasonal residents who have come here for many years have deep feelings regarding Onekama as home.

# 3.4.4.2 Inventory Discussion:

Onekama Village resting along the North shore of Portage Lake provides quaint neighborhood parks, larger school athletic fields and courts and a more expansive Village Park which adorns the shore of Portage Lake.

The Onekama Village Park and Boat Launch acts a central community park with various assets such as playground equipment, beach area, picnic shelters and a band shell. This park serves as a primary access to Portage Lake with a fishing dock and boat launch.

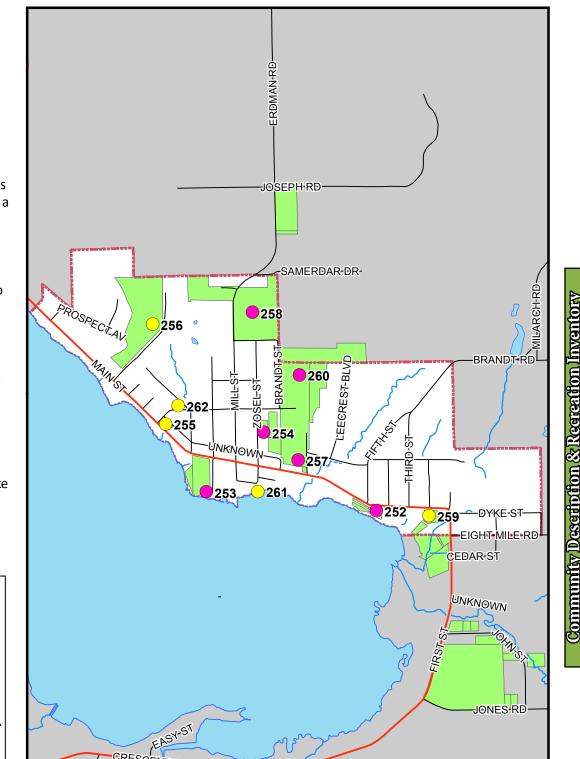
The Onekama Consolidated School District works in collaboration with the Village for the management of school athletic space for the allowance of use by community residents. Utilization of school athletic fields and park space as community park assets is wise, as shared use of facilities promotes collaboration and increased use by community members.

Land trail systems are lacking within the Township. Support for trails is evident, and consideration should be made for connections to Bear Lake Twp. and Village, Arcadia Twp. and Manistee Twp.



Image 3.7: Classic Car Show Onekama Village

Map 3.6: Onekama Vil. Recreation Inventory Map



# 3-4-5 Bear Lake Township

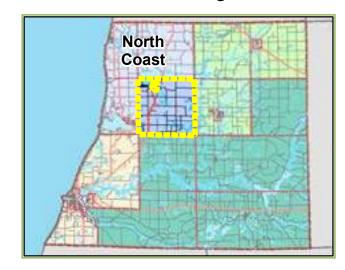
# 3.4.5.1 Community Description:

Bear Lake Township is a rural residential community located in the Northern part of Manistee County. Our community's greatest assets are our beautiful lakes and creeks. The largest lake being the 1800-acre Bear Lake (of which approximately 590 acres are within the Township's 36 square miles). Bear Lake Township is also home of many other smaller kettle-hole lakes as well as numerous creeks that dot our landscape.

Today, over two thirds of the Township is dedicated to either agriculture or forest, while about a quarter is used for residential purposes. The remaining land is divided among commercial, institutional, and leisure purposes. The US-31 Commercial Corridor has business offering a variety of retail, medical services and leisure activities to the community.

Our small rural community residents have been responsive to the shift towards making improvements that will help increase long term growth within our quaint community.

# North Coast Region



### 3.4.5.2 Inventory Discussion:

Bear Lake Township draws upon the vicinity of Bear Lake and the Bear Lake School Forest for many of the recreational assets within the Township. Several road ends along Bear Lake provide access to Bear Lake and are capable areas for launching a kayak or canoe onto the Lake.

The School Forest provides athletic fields and trails utilized by school athletic teams for practice and sports related events, while allowing public access for walking, hiking and team sports.

Chief Lake along the south boundary of the Township provides further access

Recreation Site Map ID#	onnemental suppression of the su	Municipality Priority Ranking	County-wide Primary	Park Type	ADA Access ( <u>L</u> ow, <u>M</u> od., <u>H</u> igh)	Parking Availability	Signage Directional	Potable Water	Restrooms (Flush Toilets)	Outhouse (Pit Vault)	Garbage Receptacle	Benches	Water Access	Canoe/Kayak Access	Boat Launch	Trails (Off Pavement)	Baseball Field
20 School Athletic Fields	School	1	•	SU	L	3	•	٠	•	٠	٠	•				٠	•
15 Anderson Rd Access-CH	MCRC	1		RDSU	L	1							•	٠			
17 Division St. Access-BL	MCRC	1		RDSU	L	0							•	٠			
14 Chief Lake Access	BRL	2		RDSU	L	0	•						•	•	•		
18 Seventh St Access-BL	MCRC	2		RDSU	L	1						•	•	•			
AC Thirden Add Dal Access DI	MCRC	3		RDSU	L	1	•						•	•			
16 Thirteen Mile Rd Access-BL	IVICIC	,															

# Bear Lake Township Inventory Map

to inland water resources. Chief lake is accessed primarily for fishing access during both winter and summer months.

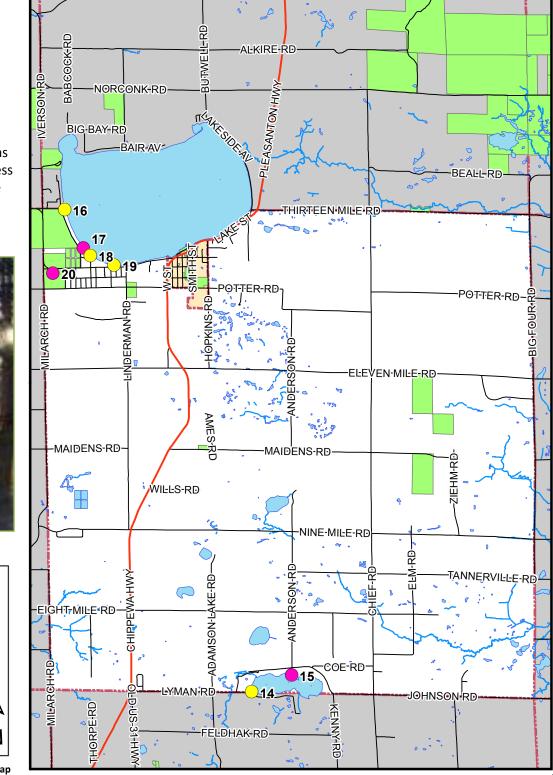
Trail systems through the Township are lacking, but desired connections to both Onekama and Arcadia Townships are sought. Continual progress should be made for the development of trail systems connecting these municipalities.



Image 3.8: Recreation Complex Bear Lake Twp.



Map 3.7: Bear Lake Twp. Recreation Inventory Map



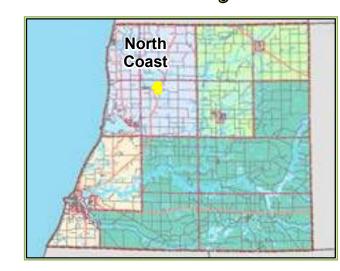
# 3.4.6.1 Community Description:

The Village Bear Lake sits as a major gateway to northern Michigan. With its panoramic view of a scenic and healthy inland lake, it is home for 300 full time friends and neighbors. As the heart of the Greater Bear Lake area, the Village of Bear Lake is poised to serve as a hub of recreational opportunities. Better utilization of Hopkins Park by all stakeholders, increased usage of Harry Cosier Court (where pickle ball is now played), and greater use of Village Park all need to be explored.

Although the Bear Lake area has a number of bicycle routes, the Northwest Michigan Regional Non-Motorized Strategy (2008) does not include a regional trail through or near the Village. Village Park sits ready to fulfill its mission as a "hub" for bicyclists, travelers, and residents. The Village has the foundation for excellent recreational facilities in Hopkins Park, Harry Cosier Court, Village Park, boat launch, and Hopkins Park Access.

The Village, Bear Lake Township, and Pleasanton Township all share access to Bear Lake, which is a draw for many year-round and seasonal residents. Although residents and visitors have access to area wide lakes, local public schools, and state and national forests, many of the communities lack basic recreational assets like playgrounds, bike paths, and parks designed for outdoor events.

# North Coast Region



### 3.4.6.2 Inventory Discussion:

Bear Lake Village rests along the shores of Bear Lake. The primary recreational assets of the Village stem from access to Bear Lake. Hopkins Park Campground and Boat Launch provides abundant recreational assets for those wishing to stay and enjoy the shores and waters of Bear lake. Fishing and water recreational sports are the main draw of this location and the campground is a wonderful setting for enjoying these sites.

# eation Inventor 24 Hopkins Park Campground & Boat Launch 23 Castle Beach 25 Hopkins Park Stair Access 29 Bear Lake Museum 21 Smith St Sand Volleyball 22 Coiser Park 26 Veterans Memorial Park 27 Pocket Park 28 Bear Lake Village Hall 30 Keddie-Norconk Memorial Library 31 School Athletic Fields

Table 3.8: Bear Lake Vil. Recreation Inventory Table

# Bear Lake Village Inventory Map

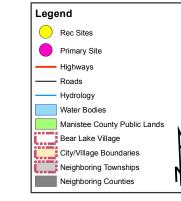
The Bear Lake Public Beach is the only public "beach" location along the shores of Bear Lake. This beach although small is enjoyed by both residents and visitors alike.

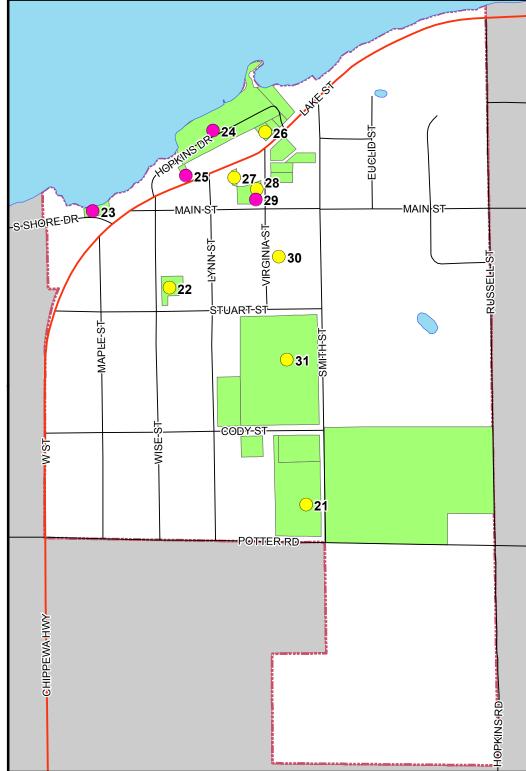
The Bear Lake School provides athletic fields and playground equipment on the school campus.

The terminus of the snowmobile trail system occurs just north of the Village in Pleasanton Twp. Thought and support for linking the Village to this established trail system should be supported as well as support for continuing the trail system through Bear Lake Twp. to Onekama Twp. and the Village of Onekama.



Image 3.9: Hopkins Memorial Park Bear Lake Vil.



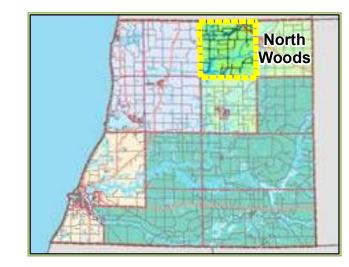


Map 3.8: Bear Lake Vil. Recreation Inventory Map

The first settlers were the Algonquians'; inhabiting the bluffs above the Bec Scies River (Betsie) 5000 years ago. The big push of settlers into the area came on the heels of the 1863 Homestead Act. The Springdale Township government was first created on April 3rd, 1871 at the home of Titus Glover, just 6 months after the Manistee Board of Supervisors formally designated Springdale a township.

Springdale Township is fortunate to have the Betsie River and the Healy Lake State Forest campground and many acres of public land, providing abundant opportunities for recreation activities. The Betsie River is the main recreational attraction in the Township for many people. The Betsie River was designated a wild and scenic rive in 1973 under the Michigan Natural Rivers Act. It offers excellent paddling, trout & salmon fishing and unparalleled scenic beauty. There are numerous small creeks that support a healthy brook trout population. The creeks and river are supported by many ground springs, which is why the area was named Springdale. The Healy Lake State Forest Campground offers 24 secluded rustic camp sites with access to boating & fishing on beautiful Healy Lake. The abundant state land offering open fields and heavy forested areas provide excellent natural wildlife habitat making the area prime for hunting and wildlife viewing. Farms, both large & small still dot the landscape of Springdale Township, keeping the agriculture spirit alive that was once the main catalyst to developing this area.

# North Woods Region



### 3.4.7.2 Inventory Discussion:

Springdale Township contains thousands of acres of Pere Marquette State Forest through which the Betsie River winds it's way as it traverses a portion of Manistee County. With these grand natural resources within the confines of the Township, recreational opportunities abound.

The Township has only two identified recreational sites, Healy Lake State Forest Campground and the Township Park located at the Township Hall. Healy Lake State Forest Campground is a popular destination within NE Manistee County. The campground located on State land, is managed by Springdale Township through a cooperative agreement with the DNR. The campground provides beautiful wooded sites and a boat launch adjacent to thousands of acres of State Forest.

# 278 Healy Lake State Forest Campground/Boat Launch 279 Springdale Twp Hall and Park

# Springdale Township Inventory Map

The Township Hall Park provides tennis courts, basketball courts, picnic area and playground equipment. This park has the only playground and athletic courts located within the Township.

There is a desire to provide further access to the Betsie River within Springdale Township. Currently a formal access site to the river is lacking. With Springdale Township containing the most miles of the Betsie River within any community in Manistee County, coupled with tracks of State land adjacent to the river, the Township is in a position to identify and create that access. Discussions with Benzie County are ongoing concerning the establishment of the Betsie River as a Blue Water Trail. More information concerning Blue Water Trail establishment can be found in Chapter 8: Trail Planning.

Support for expanded trail systems within the Township, providing linkages to the West should be supported. Potential exists for linking Healy Lake State Forest Campground as a destination along a Trail system.



Map 3.9: Springdale Twp. Recreation Inventory Map

# North Woods 3.4.8 Cleon Township

### 3.4.8.1 Community Description:

Cleon Township is located in the northeast corner of Manistee County, farthest from the County seat in Manistee. There is a corner where 4 counties meet. The south eastern border is the county line between Manistee County and Wexford County. The north east border is the county line between Manistee County and Grand Traverse County. The northwest border is the county line between Manistee County and Benzie County.

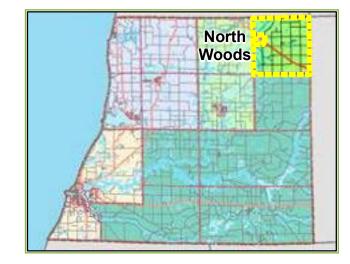
Early settlers arrived in Cleon Township in 1865, to homestead. With the railroad, many villages sprang up. Shortly after Cleon Township was settled, Wexford County established its courthouse in Sherman, north of Mesick. This was closer to Cleon Township than the Manistee County seat, so in 1868 Cleon Township was transferred to Wexford County. In 1881 Cleon Township became part of Manistee County again. In February of 1891, the Village of Copemish incorporated, and was the first village to incorporate in Manistee County. Children from the area attend Mesick Consolidated Schools or Benzie County Schools.

Transportation patterns have changed, with the four railroads being gone and Cadillac Highway (M-115) bypassing the village. It is a typical small town with a gas station, hardware store, bank, grocery store, beauty salon, auto repair shop, flea market, and MR Products, a manufacturing plant.

Cleon Township was first a lumbering settlement, then with the over abundance of good farmland was an agricultural community and now is a bedroom community, with approximately 30 miles either direction to a bigger town like Traverse City, Manistee or Cadillac.



# North Woods Region



# 3.4.8.2 Inventory Discussion:

Cleon Township is the lone municipality in Manistee County without a single recreation site found within the Township borders outside of those contained within the Village of Copemish. The Township has recreation lands, and trails within it's borders, but lacks identified recreational sites.

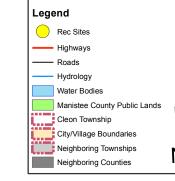
The Township Hall is listed as a recreation site, but is actually contained within the Village of Copemish and is accounted for within that municipalities recreation inventory. Cleon Township works closely with the Village of Copemish and it is suggested that both municipalities plan for recreation together, for improvements to recreation sites within either municipality will have a positive effect on the other.

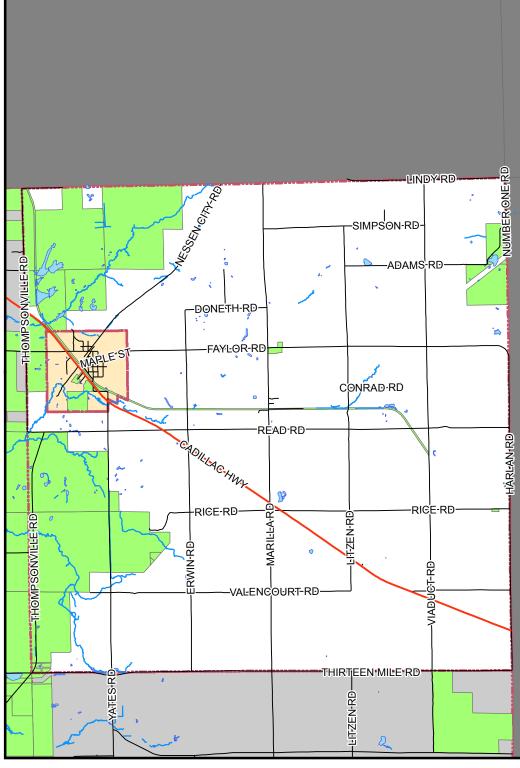
Cleon Township contains abundant public lands and existing trail systems which are important to their communities and Manistee County as a whole. Continual support for maintaining and increasing connections to adjacent communities and the neighboring resort of Crystal Mountain should remain a priority.

# Cleon Township Inventory Map



Image 3.12: First Creek Bridge in Copemish Vil./Cleon Twp.





Map 3.10: Cleon Twp. Recreation Inventory Map

Image 3.11: First Creek Nature Trail Signage

# 3.4.9 Copemish Village

### 3.4.9.1 Community Description:

Copemish is located in the northeast part of Manistee County in Cleon Township. It is a small village of about 190 residents. The name "Copemish" means "Big Beech", and referred to holding council under the beech trees.

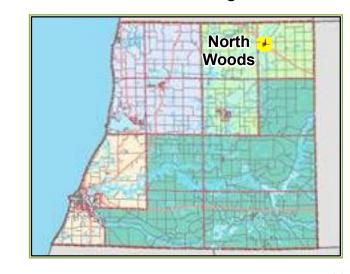
Copemish was incorporated in 1891, after a large logging industry began (1883) and two railroads laid their tracks directly through the area (1889). Until that point, people had to travel long distances by horse and buggy or foot power to do just about anything!

Today, the village is a pleasant bedroom community, with several businesses -Honor Bank, MR Products, Copemish Hardware, Copemish Family Market, Bear Claw Café, EZ Mart, Dollar General, Joe's Body Shop, Witkop Machine Shop, Copemish Flea Market, Junque & Necessities second-hand store and a post office! A lot of businesses for a small town.

The history of Copemish included a pickle factory, the logging industry, hotels, 2 churches and a grist mill and grain elevator. There were also a doctor, a pharmacy and a large schoolhouse.

Today, the Copemish area offers much in the way of recreation. There are many snowmobile trails in the area (which makes our local businesses readily available to snowmobilers!), First Creek Nature Trail, Twisted Trails Off road Park, and lots of woods for mushroom hunting, hiking, and deer and small game hunting.

# North Woods Region

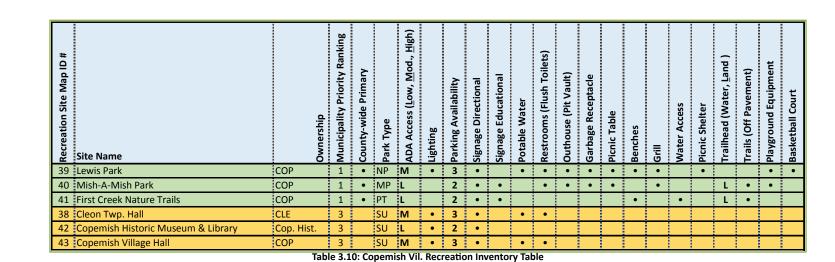


The Betsie River is located near Copemish, and provides plenty of fishing, swimming, canoeing and kayaking. It is a beautiful, natural river, and there is a lot of wildlife to spot while floating down on a sunny day.

All in all, Copemish is a beautiful small jewel of a village in the middle of the most glorious area of the country!

# 3.4.9.2 Inventory Discussion:

Copemish Village contains a number of recreation sites within the Village boundaries. What is unique to the village is that the 6 identified recreation sites



# Copemish Village Inventory Map

account for all of the sites within the municipalities of both the Village and Cleon Township which encompasses the Village.

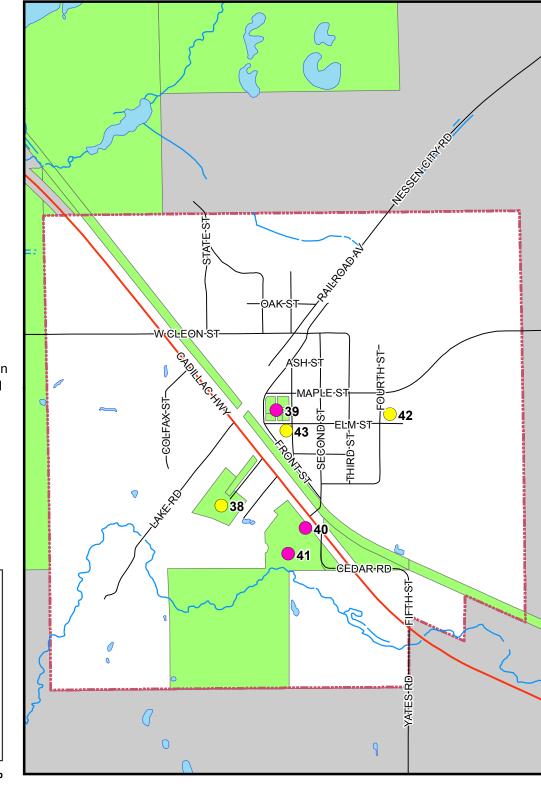
The Village contains two large community parks which differ from one another by their recreational use. Lewis Park which is centered in the Village, is an active recreation site with playground equipment, basketball court and amenities for picnicking and outdoor community events. Mish-A-Mish Park is categorized more as a passive community park which serves as the trailhead to the First Creek Nature Trail.

Both the Copemish Village Hall and Cleon Township Hall located within the Village limits are listed as recreational sites with both serving as community gathering spaces.

Copemish Village is an integral part of the established snowmobile trail system in Manistee County providing connections to communities within Manistee County as well as to communities in neighboring Wexford and Benzie Counties.



Map 3.11: Copemish Vil. Recreation Inventory Map



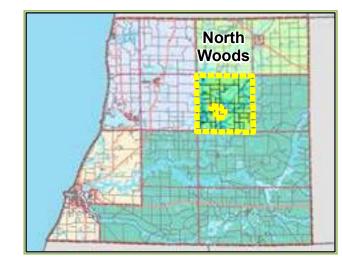
The Township came into existence in October of 1878. Population grew slowly in the Township, and the primary early income was through timber operations. A significant boom occurred in 1888 when two railroads were built through the Township.

By the turn of the century lumbermen in the area began marketing cut-over lands through the New York National Land Company. One of the sites was the location of the crossing of the two railroads, known as Manistee Crossing, located in Maple Grove Township. This location became the company's first major development. The community planned especially for Finnish Immigrants with a central village named "Kaleva" after the epic poem Kalevala.

Maple Grove Township through the years experienced agricultural activity which mainly ceased over time due to poor soils, but these same sandy soils filtered abundant groundwater through the many wetlands of the area which fed local cold-water streams. These streams overtime were stocked with species of trout and salmon and led to an abundant fishery in the area.

Portions of land within the Township were held by the State of Michigan and became portions of the Pere Marquette State Forest. These forested lands offer recreational opportunities for locals and visitors alike.

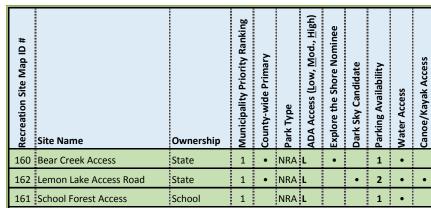
# North Woods Region



# 3.4.10.2 Inventory Discussion:

Maple Grove Township provides recreational opportunities on State and School Forest land holdings within the Township. The three identified recreation sites within the Township each provide access to water resources, which displays the importance of allowance for access to water.

Two of the recreation sites are located adjacent to each other along Bear Creek and a Beaver Creek, a tributary of Bear Creek. One site owned by the State of Michigan along Bear Creek has been identified by the DNR as an important access to Bear Creek. The other site located on property owned by the Kaleva Norman Dickson (KND) School System, has frontage on Beaver Creek and is immediately adjacent to the State land. Each of these sites are important access points for



### Table 3.11: Maple Grove Twp. Recreation Inventory Table

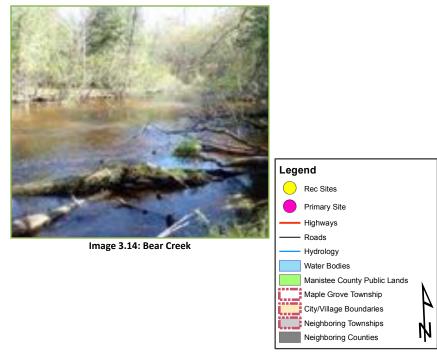
# Maple Grove Township Inventory Map

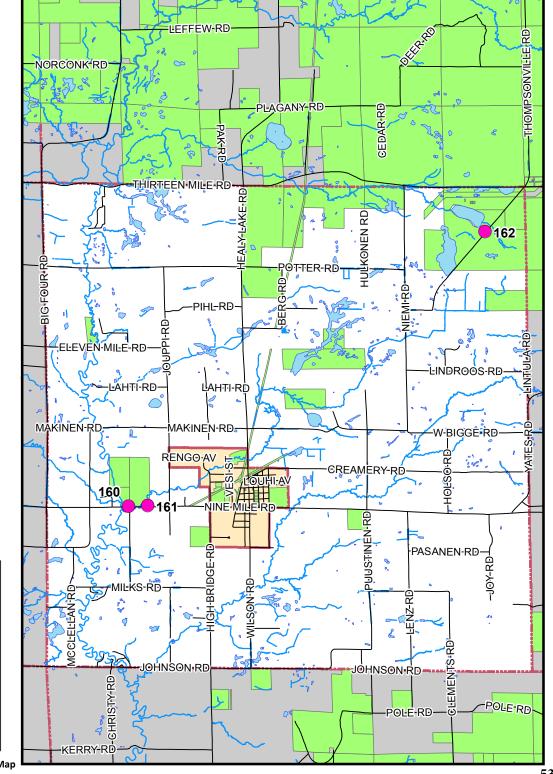
small stream water access, and each is utilized primarily for fishing access.

The Lemon Lake access is an important location for water access during both the summer and winter months. With the largest amount of use during the winter for ice-fishing.

The Township has worked closely with the Village and the KND school system when planning for recreation. This established relationship is important to successfully implementing recreation activities and planning site improvements for the whole of the community, and Manistee County.

Trail segments which cross the Township and converge in the Village of Kaleva, should be looked upon for additional connections to communities to the south and west.





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# North Woods

# 3-4-11 Village of Kaleva

### 3.4.11.1 Community Description:

The Village of Kaleva is located in the heart of Manistee County. Established in 1900 by Finnish immigrants who with hard and sisu (Finnish word meaning perseverance or resilience), have built a quaint community. Many of the village street names and the name Kaleva itself are taken from the Finnish epic poem "The Kalevala". The Bottle House and Train Station Museums are great historic attractions.

Kaleva is a utopia for outdoor recreational activities year round, with nearby access to the Manistee National Forest and numerous fresh water streams and lakes. During the warmer months, there's plenty of opportunities for hunting, fishing, hiking and swimming. During the winter months activities continue with ice-fishing, skiing and snowmobiling.

Our Village Roadside Park host many community events, Kaleva Days on the 3rd weekend in July, reunions and picnics. Overnight camping spots are available for hunters, fishermen and recreational camping.

Keleva is home to a diverse group of businesses. Residents and visitors have access to our bank, post office, library, grocery stores, restaurants, auto repairs, beauty shops, gas station, full service lumber yard, antique shops, Art Gallery and businesses within the industrial park.

The active service and social clubs reflect the personality of the community. The organizations include the Lions Club, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Historical

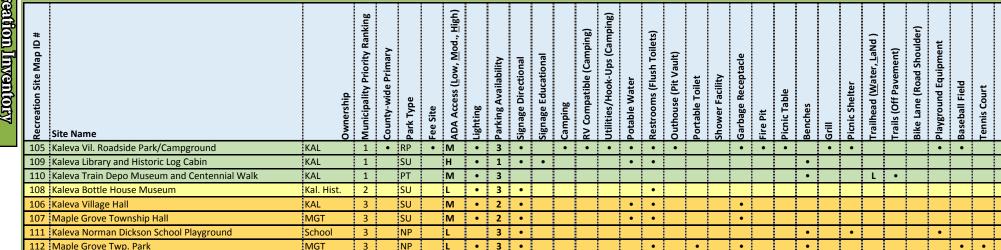
# North Woods Region



Society, Beautification Team, Relay for Life, Manistee-Benzie Snowbirds Club and Big Bear Sportsmans Club. A Baptist and Lutheran Church call Kaleva home.

### 3.4.11.2 Inventory Discussion:

The Village of Kaleva lies along one of the Counties most heavily utilized snowmobile trails as well as having several recreation sites within the confines of the Village. The Kaleva Train Depot Museum and Centennial Walk provides a trail location for warm months non-motorized travel and winter-time snowmobile traffic. This recreation site contains sculptures spread along the centennial walk, which reference the rich Finnish heritage of the area.



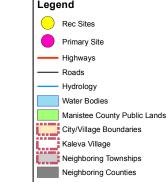
# Kaleva Village Inventory Map

The Kaleva Roadside Park and Campground is a very popular destination for outdoor enthusiasts who plan to spend time in the thousands of acres of public land and /or thousands of miles of streams and rivers which traverse this portion of the County. The campground is especially popular during the fall salmon and spring steelhead runs where it acts as a central location for accessing many excellent rivers in the region.

With Kaleva's current position as a trail hub and connector, continued support for additional trail development can link this population center with other population centers to the south and west.



Image 3.15: St. Urho Story Grasshopper Sculpture Village of Kaleva



Map 3.13: Kaleva Vil. Recreation Inventory Map

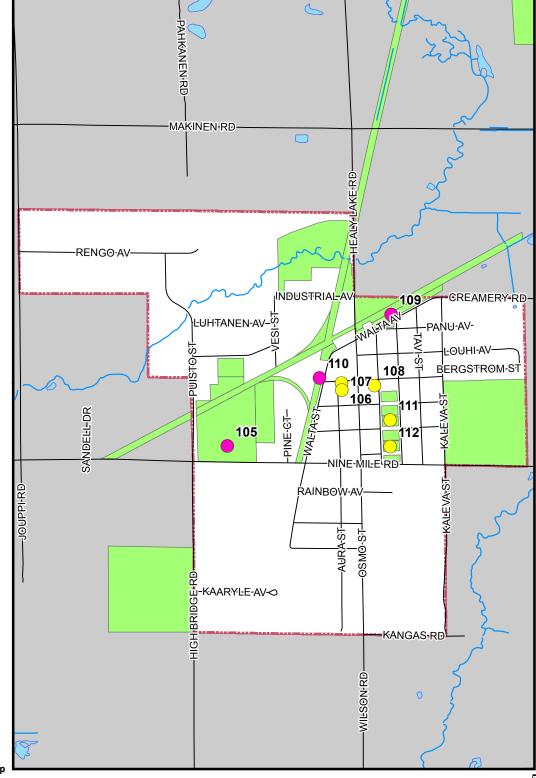


Table 3.12: Kaleva Vil. Recreation Inventory Table

### 3.4.12.1 Community Description:

Marilla Township is located in the southern portion of the northeast corner of Manistee County. It's easternmost border is Wexford County. Benzie County lies six miles to the north. On the west border is Maple Grove Township, to the south, Dickson Township, and to the north, Cleon Township.

Marilla Township was originally was part of Brown Township. The Manistee County Board of Supervisors accepted the petition of Marilla Township on January 4, 1870.

Close proximity to the Manistee River made Marilla an attractive place for early lumber barons. The River branch of the Manistee & Northeastern Railroad ran through Marilla from east to west.

Much of the logged over areas became part of the Manistee National Forest, where the Marilla Trailhead of the North Country Trail was established a popular place for hiking. Currently, Marilla Township has nine recreational sites.

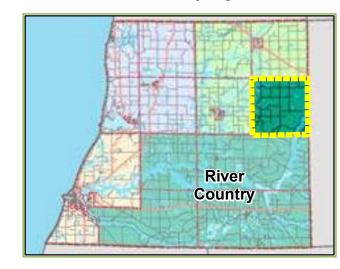
In early 1920's a new consolidated Standard School was built. The two room school ceased operating in the 1940's. The building now serves as a township hall, a community building and the Marilla Museum located in the lower level.

Marilla Township is served by three school districts; Mesick Consolidated,

### 173 Marilla Two Pioneer Hall Place and Museum 170 Marilla Twp Park MAR 1 NP 2 . . . 174 O.D. Memorial Forest 1 • 166 Hodenpyl South Tail water Access 167 Hodenpyl North Tail water Access & Canoe Portage Con 2 • 2 • w • 168 Woodpecker Creek Access 163 Upper Manistee River Backcountry Campsite USFS 3 • 0 • • 164 Upper Manistee River Backcountry Campsite • 0 •

• 0 •

# River Country Region



Kaleva, Norman, Dickson KND, and Benzie County Central.

The Marilla Museum nd Pioneer Place consists of a restored log building, a restored 1900 barn and a replicated historical log home.

Marilla Township Park was established and is still maintained by the township.

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# Marilla Township Inventory Map

# 3.4.12.2 Inventory Discussion:

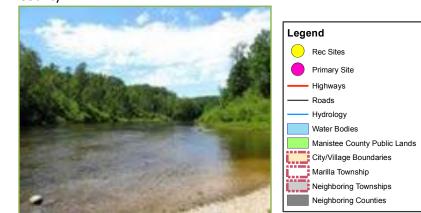
Marilla Township recreational features stem from local sites such as the Township Hall and Pioneer Museum and Township Forest to sites located on USFS and Consumer Power lands along the Manistee River. The Township has much to offer recreation wise and the sites are varied throughout the Township.

The Township Hall and Pioneer Place house historic structures and the museum which are open and free to the public. Unique items from the history of Marilla Township are found in the museum.

The Township Forest sits adjacent to the Township Museum and currently has unmarked trails utilized by locals. This section of forest is desired to be further enhanced with localized trails.

USFS and Consumer Power land holdings along the Manistee River provide access to Hodenpyle Pond and the Manistee River below Hodenpyle Dam. The river is designated a blue water trail, and the Manistee River and North Country Trail (land trails) also traverse this area. Access to the Manistee River in this area is a priority and increased Universal Accessibility is desired.

Marilla Twp. is in a position to continue to facilitate further trail development with increased connections within and outside Manistee County.



Map 3.14: Marilla Twp. Recreation Inventory Map

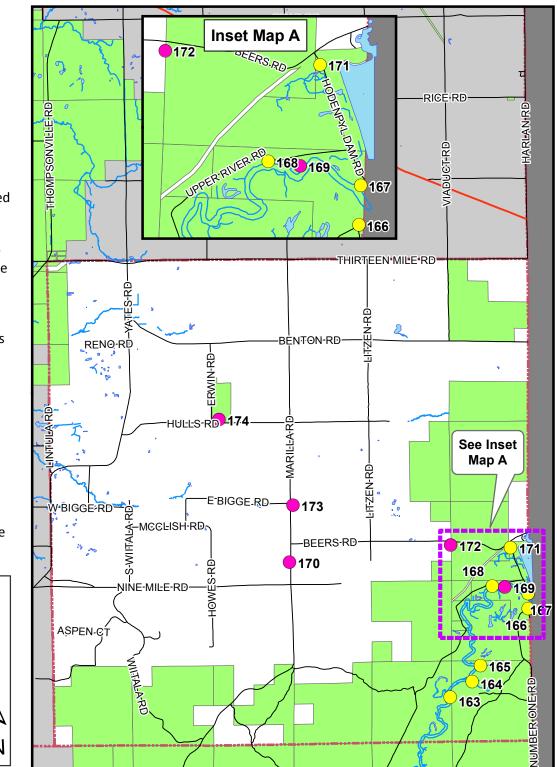


Table 3.13: Marilla Twp. Recreation Inventory Table

USFS 3

Con 3

165 Upper Manistee River Backcountry Campsite

171 North Country Trail Access

# 3.4.13.1 Community Description:

Brown Township is a rural residential community located in the Manistee River Valley. It has a beautiful natural landscape of hills, woods, streams and lakes. A portion of the Township overlooks the Manistee River. Homes on large acreage and farms are the primary land uses in the Township.

Brown Township will continue to actively support the rural residential lifestyle. The Township promotes and encourages lifestyle and land use practices that protect the natural environment and the rural character of the area, and works diligently to ensure that open space, views and wildlife and water resources are preserved. This will be accomplished through careful land development and stewardship, as well as continuing to provide a responsive government and cost efficient rural services.



Image 3.17: Brown Twp. Hall & Playground

# River Country

River Country Region

# 3.4.13.2 Inventory Discussion:

Brown Township is anchored in vast natural resources and abundant public land along the southern portion of the Township. Two river access locations on USFS lands, Bear Creek Access and Rainbow Bend Access, are the two lowest accesses to the Manistee River above the M-55 bridge crossing. Each of these accesses are a very popular location for river re creationists, and both benefit as established Explore the Shores sites.

Chief Lake to the north offers a recreational opportunity for water access in an area of the Township which is predominantly in private ownership. Increased and improved access to the lake is desired, and working in conjunction with Bear Lake Twp. would offer the best opportunity for providing this access.

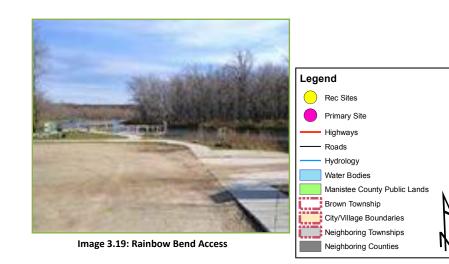
image 3.17. Di				18.00									•							'		•	•		J						
Recreation Site Map ID # ame ame	Ownership	Municipality Priority Ranking	County-wide Primary	Park Type	Fee Site	ADA Access ( <u>L</u> ow, <u>M</u> od., <u>H</u> igh)	Explore the Shores Site	Explore the Shores Nominee	Lighting	Dark Sky Candidate	Parking Availability	Signage Directional	Signage Educational	Camping	Potable Water	Restrooms (Flush Toilets)	Outhouse (Pit Vault)	Garbage Receptacle	Fire Pit	Picnic Table	Benches	Grill	Water Access	Pier/Fishing Platform	Canoe/Kayak Access	Boat Launch	Picnic Shelter	Trailhead (Water, <u>L</u> and )	Trails (Off Pavement)	Playground Equipment	DISC GOIT
35 Rainbow Bend Access	USFS	1	٠	SU	٠	Н	٠			•	3	٠	•				•	٠	•	•	٠		٠	٠	٠	٠		W	٠		
34 Bear Creek Access	USFS	1		SU	•	Н	٠			•	3	٠	٠				•	٠		•			٠	٠	٠	٠		W	٠		
36 Brown Twp. Hall	BRN	1		SU		М			•		3	•			•	•		•		•										•	
37 Lyman Rd Access-CL	MCRC	1		RDSU		L		•			0												•		•						
32 Udell Rollways Day Use Area	USFS	3		RP		L				•	3	•	•				•		•	•		•	٠				•				•
33 Kettlehole Rd Access-MR	MCRC	3		RDSU		L				•	2			•									•								

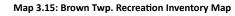
# Brown Township Inventory Map

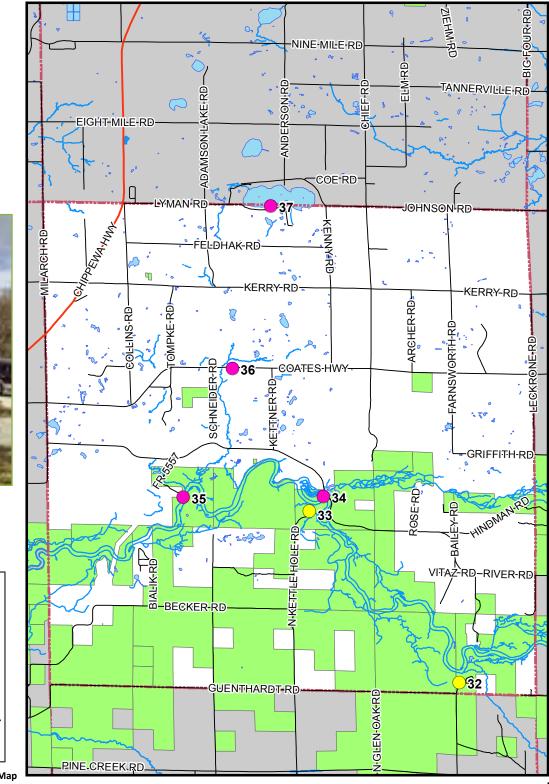
Trail systems through the Township are lacking, but the position of the Township between population centers and abundant public land offer the opportunity for the establishment of trails. The Manistee River provides a barrier for non-motorized trail users as well as snowmobile trail users. A river crossing in the form of a bridge for connection of municipalities north of the river to the south and west is desired.



Image 3.18: Bear Creek Access





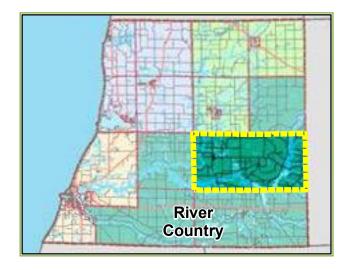


Numerous outdoor activities await the outdoor enthusiast including, hunting, fishing, morel mushroom hunting, hiking, biking, snowshoeing, snowmobiling, boating, plus a favorite destination for retirees.

The Village of Brethren sits just north of the Big Manistee River and is the hub for all activities and information plus various festivals thru out the year.

Spring, summer, fall, or winter there is always something to enjoy and do in Dickson Township. A 2 hour drive from Grand Rapids and 4 1/2 hour drive from Chicago plus 1 hour from Traverse City and Cadillac. Once you visit Dickson Township you will come back to vacation or live.

# River Country Region



# 3.4.14.2 Inventory Discussion:

Dickson Twp. is home to one of the most popular steelhead and salmon fishing locations in the State of Michigan with the Tippy Dam recreation site located on the Manistee River. This site sees some of the most angler hours per year of any site in the State according to the DNR. River access is further facilitated downstream of Tippy Dam at the Highbridge Access. Between these two sites, anglers and river users can access the majority of the river in Dickson Twp. below Tippy Dam.

The Hodenpyle stretch of the Manistee River, that area between Hodenpyle Dam in Marilla Twp. and the backwaters of Tippy Dam in Dickson Twp., is an extraordinarily scenic stretch of river in Manistee County. Access at Red Bridge

n Inventorav	Recreation Site Map ID #	Ownership	Municipality Priority Ranking	County-wide Primary	Park Type	Fee Site	ADA Access ( <u>L</u> ow, <u>M</u> od., <u>H</u> igh)	Explore the Shores Site	Explore the Shore Nominee	Lighting	Dark Sky Candidate	Parking Availability	Signage Directional	Signage Educational	Camping	mpatible (Camping)	Utilities/Hook-Ups (Camping)	table Water	strooms (Flus	g '	Garbage Receptacle	Picric Table	es :	Grill	Water Access	Beach	Pier/Fishing Platform	Canoe/Kayak Access	Boat Launch	Fish Cleaning Station	Fishing Lie Recycle Box	Picnic Shelter	Trailhead ( <u>W</u> ater, <u>L</u> and )	ils (Off Pavement)	Playground Equipment	
	44 Tippy Dam South Access	Con	1	•	SU		L					3	•	•					•	•	•				•									•		
	45 Tippy Dam Access	State	1	•	RP	•	Н	•	٠	٠		3	٠	•				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		٠	•	٠	•	•		W	•		
	52 Highbridge Access	USFS	1	•	SU	•	L				•	3	•	•					•	•		•			•			•	٠				W	•		
	46 Tippy Pond Access	State	1		SU	•	М					3	•												•			•	٠				W	•		
	51 Suicide Bend Access	USFS	1		NRA		L				•	3		•											•									•		
L	85 Red Bridge Access	USFS	1		RP		М		٠		•	3	•	•	•			•	•	•	•	, ,			•			•	٠				W	•		
	310 Spirit of the Woods Conservation Club	Private	1		NRA		Н	٠			٠	3	•	•					•	•			•		•		•	•					L	•		

provides a location from which one can launch a boat and access the river or the backwaters of Tippy Pond. This location also serves as a take-out point for those floating down from below Hodenpyle Dam. This site is desired for increased universal accessibility.

Tippy Pond is a popular location with abundant rustic campsites. This water body is very popular during the summer months.

Dickson Twp. is crisscrossed with land trails in the form of the North Country Trail, a snowmobile trail system, and the Manistee River Trail along the Hodenpyle stretch of the Manistee River. The combination of a segment of the North Country Trail and the whole of the Manistee River Trail provides a 23 mile loop which is very popular with backpackers wishing to experience a weekend backcountry experience.

Continued support of trail connections outside of the Township with established trails within the Township and County should remain a priority. Connections to population centers in the Village of Kaleva to the north are desired.



Image 3.20: ADA Accessible Fishing Pier Tippy Dam Access

	Site Name	Ownership	ž	County-wide Primary	Park Type	Fee Site	ADA Access ( <u>L</u> ow, <u>M</u> od., <u>H</u> igh)	Explore the Shores Site	Explore the Shore Nominee	Lighting	Dark Sky Candidate	Parking Availability	Signage Directional	Signage Educational	Camping	RV Compatible (Camping)	Utilities/Hook-Ups (Camping)	Potable Water	Restrooms (Flush Toilets)	Outhouse (Pit Vault)	Garbage Receptacle	Fire Pit	Picnic Table	Benches		Water Access	Beach	Pier/Fishing Platform	Canoe/Kayak Access	Boat Launch	Fish Cleaning Station	Fishing Lie Recycle Box		Trailhead ( <u>W</u> ater, <u>L</u> and )		Playground Equipment	Baseball Field Basketball Court	Dashetball Coult
	Blacksmith Bayou Access	USFS	2		RP	٠	L				٠	2	٠	٠	٠	٠		٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	•			•			•	•				•	•			41
	Tippy Dam Campground	State	2		RP	٠	-					3	٠		٠	٠		٠	٠	٠	٠	•	٠			•									•	_		
	Sawdust Hole Access	USFS	2		NRA	٠	L				٠	3	٠	٠	٠	٠			٠	٠	٠	•	•			•									•			<b>_</b>   ,
	Manikiwa Park Recreation Area	DIC	2		RP		L					2	٠						٠	٠	٠		٠	٠	•	•	•		•				•		•	٠	•	<u> </u>
	Peterson Creek Rd Access-MR	MCRC	2		RDSU		L				٠	1			٠							٠				•												4
86	Upper River Rd North Country Trail T.H.	USFS	2		PT		L				•	2	•																					L	•			
47	Tunk Hole Access	USFS	3		NRA		L				٠	3	•	٠					•	٠						•									•			
53	Dickson Twp. Park	DIC	3		СР		М					3	٠				٠	٠	٠	٠	٠		•	•									•			•	• •	
55	Dickson Twp. Hall	DIC	3		SU		М			٠		2	•					•	•																			
56	Upper Manistee River Rustic Campsite	USFS	3		SU		L				٠	1	•		٠							•				•									•			
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Table 3.15: Dickson Twp. Recreation Inventory Table

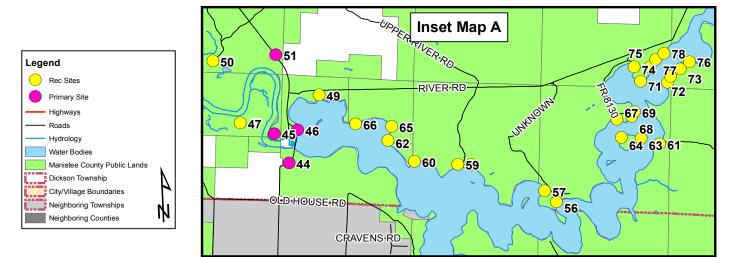
Table 3.15: Dickson Twp. Recreation Inventory Table

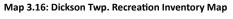


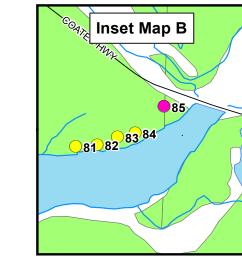


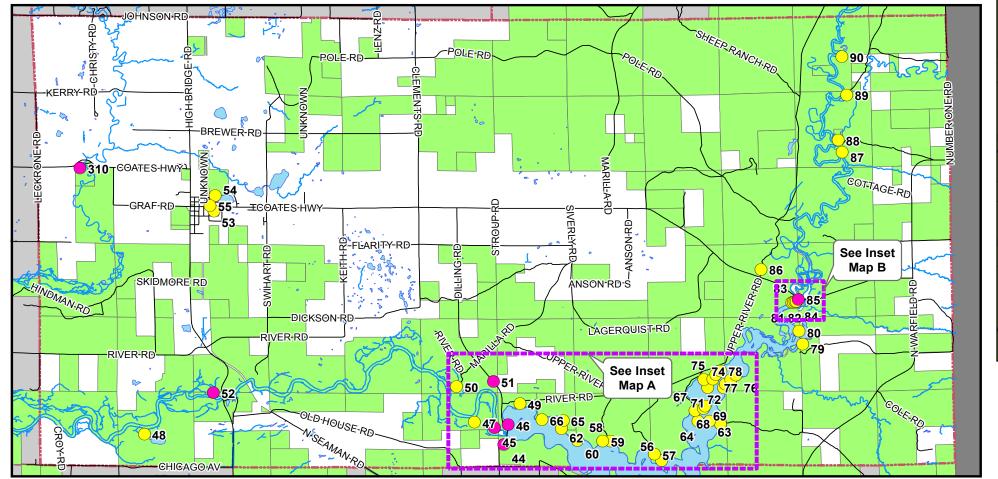
3		Image 3.21: Uppe	er River R	Road	NCT T	railhea	ad													lm	age 3	3.22: I	Red B	ridge	e Mar	niste	e Riv	er/Ti	рру	Ponc	d Back	kwat	er A	ccess	S				
milia Deceriniian &	Recreation Site Map ID #	Site Name	Ownership	듣	County-wide Primary	Park Type	Fee Site	ADA Access ( <u>L</u> ow, <u>M</u> od., <u>H</u> igh)	Explore the Shores Site	Explore the Shore Nominee	g E	Dark Sky Candidate	Parking Availability	Signage Directional	Signage Educational	Camping	RV Compatible (Camping)	Utilities/Hook-Ups (Camping)	Potable Water	Restrooms (Flush Toilets)	Outhouse (Pit Vault)	Garbage Receptacle	Fire Pit	Picnic Table	Benches	Grill	Water Access		Pier/Fishing Platform	Canoe/Kayak Access	Launch	aning Statio	Fishing Lie Recycle Box	Picnic Shelter	Trailhead ( <u>W</u> ater, <u>L</u> and )		Playground Equipment	Baseball Field	Basketball Court
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# Dickson Township Inventory Map









# 3-4-15 Stronach Township

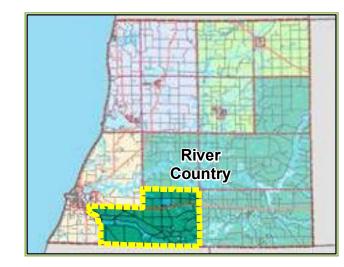
### 3.4.15.1 Community Description:

Stronach Township is an organized township located within south-central Manistee County, where it borders Mason County. Stronach Township is a double township meaning that it contains almost twice the area of a normally bound 36 square mile township. The Township extends east from the shoreline of Manistee Lake to the western boundary of Norman Township located to the east.

Stronach Township was organized in 1855 as a three parent township. In 1868, Stronach Township saw the last split of land area from the original parent in the form of Filer Township which is located to the west. At this time, Stronach Township contained the land area that is currently contained within its jurisdictional boundaries.

Stronach Township has a population of 821 as of the 2010 US Census. There are slightly more males in the total population at 51%, but the total population of males decreased 3.2% from 2000 to 2010, while the female population increased 8.4%. The median age of the total population has increased from 42.0 years of age to 50.4 years of age from the 2000 to 2010 census.

# River Country Region



### 3.4.15.2 Inventory Discussion:

Stronach Township is home to the segment of the Little Manistee River which passes through Manistee County before entering Manistee Lake. The river is arguably one of the best steelhead fisheries in the State of Michigan, and boasts a healthy population of resident brown trout as well. Many rustic river access locations can be found along the river throughout the Township along with more developed sites such as the DNR weir.

Recreation Site Map ID #	Ownership	₽	County-wide Primary	Park Type	Fee Site	ADA Access (Low, Mod., High)	Explore the Shores Site	Lighting	Dark Sky Candidate	Parking Availability	Signage Directional	Signage Educational	Camping	RV Compatible (Camping)	Potable Water	Restrooms (Flush Toilets)	Outhouse (Pit Vault)	Garbage Receptacle	Fire Pit	Picnic Table	Benches	Grill	Water Access	Pier/Fishing Platform	Canoe/Kayak Access	Boat Launch	Fishing Lie Recycle Box	Picnic Shelter	Platform	ead ( <u>W</u> ater, <u> </u>	s (Off Pavement)	ayground Equipmen	basebali rielu mammamamamamamamamamamamamamamamamamam
287 Big M Trailhead	USFS	1	•	RP	•	М			•		•	•			•	•	•	•	•	•	•							•		L	•		
291 Udell North Country Trail Trailhead	USFS	1	•	PT		L			•	2	•	•	•		•	•	•	•		•		•								L	•		
289 Claybank Park	STR	1		СР		М			•	2	•				•	•	•	•		•		•						•				•	•
290 Marzinkski Horse Trail & Campground	USFS	1		SU	•	L			•	3	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•		•								L	•		
293 Stronach Twp Hall & Community Center	STR	1		SU		М		•		3	•				•	•																	
294 Stronach Twp Park	STR	1		NP		М		•		3	٠				•	•	•	•		•	•	•						•			,	• •	,
305 Little Manistee River Weir Facility	State	1		SU		н		•		3	•	•	•			•	•			•			•		•					w	•		

Big M Trail System located within the Udell Hills is a world class mountain biking, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing trail system. This large localized trail system is augmented by the linear North Country Trail which transacts the Township and provides connections to Norman and Dickson Twp. as well as to Mason County to the south.

The Marzinski Horse Trailhead and Campground is the only equestrian trail system within Manistee County. The loop trail systems offers horseback riding routes which wind through USFS lands.

Established trail systems within the Township lend themselves to a County-wide trail planning effort, as many routes and connections to neighboring communities are in place. Further work for connections to Filer Twp. and the City of Manistee to the west should remain a priority.



Image 3.23: Steelhead Ascending Little Manistee Weir



Image 3.24: Marzinski Trailhead USFS Signage

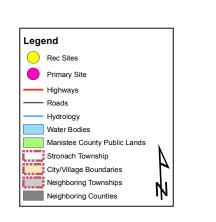
Recreation Site Map ID #	Site Name	Ownership	Municipality Priority Ranking	vide Priman	Park Type	Fee Site	ADA Access ( <u>L</u> ow, <u>M</u> od., <u>H</u> igh)	Explore the Shores Site	Lighting	Dark Sky Candidate	Parking Availability	Signage Directional	Signage Educational	Camping	RV Compatible (Camping)	Potable Water	ns (Fl		Garbage Receptacle	Picnic Table	es	Grill	Water Access	Pier/Fishing Platform	Canoe/Kayak Access	Boat Launch	Fishing Lie Recycle Box	Picnic Shelter		Trails (Off Pavement)	Playground Equipment	Baseball Field
281	9 Mile Bridge	State			SU		L			•		•											•		•		•		w	•		
288	Udell Fire Tower	USFS	2		NRA		L			•	2	•	•																	•		
292	Stronach Rd. River Access	STR	2		NRA		L				1												•		•				w	•		
295	Lower Manistee Lake Boat Launch	State	2		SU		Н	•			3	•	•				•	•		•			•	•	•	•			w	•		
299	6 Mile Bridge Canoe Launch	USFS	2		SU		L			•	0	•	•										•		•		•		w	•		
308	Old Stronach Rd. River Access	USFS	2		NRA		L			•	2	•	•							•		•	•		•				w	•		
309	Steinberg Trailhead	USFS	2		PT		L				2	•	•				•	•		•		•							L	•		

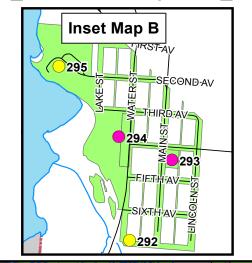
Table 3.16: Stronach Twp. Recreation Inventory Table



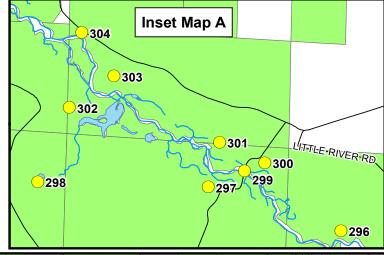


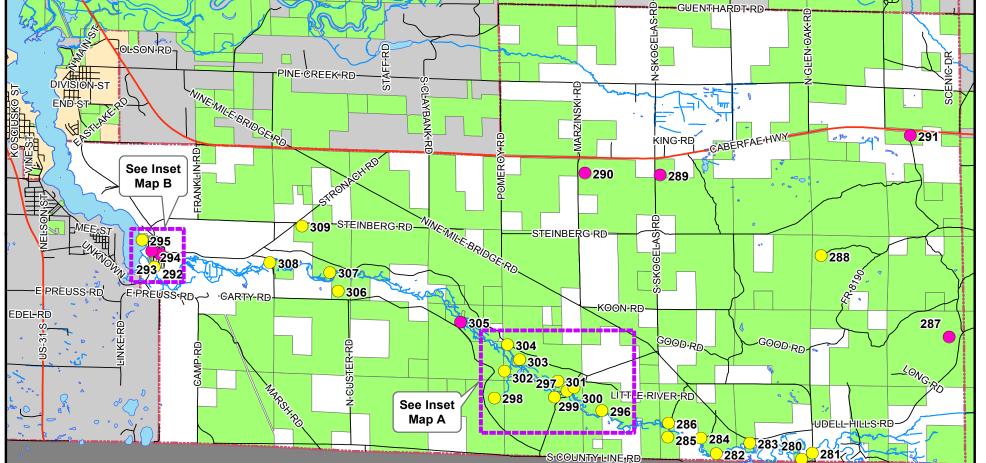
	Image 3.25: 6 Mile Bridge A	ccess or	1 Little	e Manis	tee	River												lm	age 3	3.26:	Big I	∕l Tra	il Sy	ster	n En	ranc	e Sig	nage	•					
Recreation Site Map ID #	Site Name	Ownership	Municipality Priority Ranking	County-wide Primary	rark lype	Fee Site	Explore the Shores Site	Lighting	Dark Sky Candidate	Parking Availability	Signage Directional	Signage Educational	Camping	RV Compatible (Camping)	Potable Water	Restrooms (Flush Toilets)	Outhouse (Pit Vault)	Garbage Receptacle	Fire Pit	Picnic Table	Benches	Grill	Water Access	Pier/Fishing Platform	Canoe/Kayak Access	Boat Launch	Fishing Lie Recycle Box	Picnic Shelter	Viewing Platform	Trailhead ( <u>W</u> ater, <u>L</u> and )	Trails (Off Pavement)	Playground Equipment	Baseball Field	Basketball Court
280	9 Mile South	USFS	3	NF	A	L			٠	2	٠		٠										٠								٠			
282	Elm Flats	USFS	3	NF	A	L			٠	3	•		٠							•			٠								٠			
283	Hopper Junction	USFS	3	NF	A	L			٠	1	•		•										٠								٠			
284	Nancy's Bluff	USFS	3	NF	lΑ	L			•	1	٠												•								•			
285	Bowman Farm	USFS	3	NF	A	L			•	2	•		•										•								•			
286	9 Mile	USFS	3	NF	A	L			•	2	•		•										•								•			
296	Gravel Pits	USFS	3	NF	A	L			•	2	•		•								•		•								•			
297	6 Mile South	USFS	3	NF	A	L			•	2	•												•								•			
298	Brocki Cabin	USFS	3	NF	A	L			•	2	•												•								•			
300	6 Mile Bridge East	USFS	3	NF	A	L			•	2	•												•								•			
301	6 Mile Bridge West	USFS	3	NF	A	L			•	1	•												•								•			
302	Linkes Pond	USFS	3	NF	A	L			•	2	•												•								•			
303	North Lodge	USFS	3	NF	Α	L			•	2	•		•										•								•			
304	Chicago Boy Rollway	USFS	3	NF	Α	L			•	1	•		•										•								•			
306	Kennedy Farm	USFS	3	NF	Α	L			•	2	•												•								•			
307	River Overlook	USFS	3	NF	lΑ	L			•	1	•												•								•			





Stronach Township Inventory Map





# 3.4.16 Norman Township

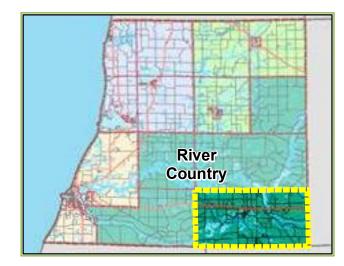
### 3.4.16.1 Community Description:

Norman Township is rural and rich in natural beauty, with extensive natural resources including: national forestlands; hundreds of miles of inland lake, river and streams; diverse wildlife habitat; forested hills and open meadows and numerous wetlands. These natural resources contribute to a beautiful, mostly rural setting for people to live, work and recreate within the Township.

The Township's population for the year 2010 was 1,561, as reported by the U.S. Census Bureau. Norman Township experienced a 7.0% population decline over the past decade. Seasonal residents, visitors to private home and rental cottages and day tourists importantly add to the Township's population and economic base during the summer months.

There is no incorporated village or city within the jurisdictional boundaries of Norman Township, but the unincorporated village of Wellston may be considered the Township's population center. The corners of M-55 and Seaman Rd. is likely the busiest area within the Township. Although historically a larger settlement, land uses now at and in the vicinity of this area include a convenience store, auto repair shops, the Township Hall and Library and outdoor stores tailored to the areas fishing interests.

# River Country Region



# 3.4.16.2 Inventory Discussion:

Norman Township rests in the heart of the Manistee National Forest, with abundant USFS lands throughout. The Pine River and the south arm of Tippy Pond extend into the Township offering water resources for various recreational activities.

The Pine River hosts two well known recreation sites in close proximity to one another. The Cooley Bridge State Roadside Park and the Low Bridge Canoe Landing are primary sites which the Township would like to see continued focus on improving amenities and promoting access.

The Township operates a public access on the south arm of Tippy Pond in the

Recreation Site Map ID #	Ownership	Municipality Priority Ranking	wide Primary	rk Type	- 8	Fee Site	ADA Access ( <u>L</u> ow, <u>M</u> od., <u>H</u> igh)	Explore the Shore Nominee	Lighting	ند		S Availabilit	Signage Directional	Signage Educational	Camping	RV Compatible (Camping)	Potable Water	Restrooms (Flush Toilets)	Outhouse (Pit Vault)	Portable Toilet	Garbage Receptacle	Fire Pit	Picnic Table	Benches	Grill	Water Access	Beach	Pier/Fishing Platform	oe/Kaya	Boat Launch	c She	Trailhead (Water, Land )	ils (Off Pavement)	Playground Equipment	Field	Ball	Basketball Court
179 Low Bridge Canoe Landing	USFS	1	•	RP		•	М	٠		•	3	3	•	•				•	•	٠			•			•			•			W	٠ ،				
186 Cooley Bridge State Roadside Park	State	1	٠	SU			Н			•	3	3	•	•			•	٠	٠		•		•		٠	•							•				
177 Arboretum Trailhead	USFS	1		NRA			L			•	1	l														٠						L	. •				
182 Fishing Dock	NOR	1		SU			L				2	2	•								•			٠	٠	٠		•									
188 Nor. Twp Tippy Pond Boat Launch	Con	1		RP			L		٠		3	3	•	•				•	•		•	•	•			•			•	•		W	٠ ٧				

Norman Township Tippy Pond Boat Launch. This popular boat launch is located on Consumers Energy property which is managed by the Township through a cooperative agreement.

Norman Township has land trails in place which provide connections to neighboring Townships and extend into Lake County to the south. Support for increased trail connections and for the establishment of a loop backpacking trail system around the Pine River has emerged and should continue to be a focus for the Township.



Image 3.27: Pine River

Recreation Site Map ID # anguarramananananananananananananananananana		Ownership Municipality Priority Ranking	County-wide Primary Park Type	Fee Site	ccess ( <u>L</u> ow,	Explore the Shore Nominee	ing Liber Constitution	Dark Sky Candidate	Signage Directional	Signage Educational	Camping RV Compatible (Camping)	able Water	Restrooms (Flush Toilets)	Outhouse (Pit Vault)	Portable Toilet	Garbage Receptacle	Fire Pit	Picnic Table	Benches	Water Access	Beach	Pier/Fishing Platform	Canoe/Kayak Access	Boat Launch	Picnic Shelter	ad ( <u>W</u> ater	Trails (Off Pavement)	Playground Equipment	basebali Field	volley ball Basketball Court
176 Dorner Lake Recreation Area	USFS	2	NRA		L			3	•	•										•			•	•						
184 Sand Lake Recreation Area	USFS	2	NRA	•	М			3	•	•	• •	•	٠	•		•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•			•			
175 Pine Lake Recreation Area	USFS	3	NRA	•	L			3	•	٠	• •	•	٠	•		•	•	•		•			•	•			•			
178 Crystal Lake Park	NOR	3	NP		L		•	3	•				٠		٠	•		•	• (	•			•		٠			•	•	•
180 Crystal Lake Beach	NOR	3	SU		L		•	3	•			•	٠		•	•		•	,	•	•	٠	•					•		
181 Chittenden Classroom & Kitchen	USFS	3	SU		М		•	3	•	•			٠																	
183 Norman Township Hall	NOR	3	SU		М		•	3	•			•	٠																	
185 Wellston Elementary School	Schoo	l 3	NP		L			3	•				٠		•	•		•										•	•	•
187 Upper Man. River Rustic Campsite	USFS	3	SU		L			• 0	•		•						•			•							•			
189 Moss Rd Access-MR	MCRC	3	RDSU		L			• 1												•										
190 Upper Man. River Rustic Campsite	USFS	3	SU		L			• 0	•		•						•			•							•			
191 Upper Man. River Rustic Campsite	USFS	3	SU		L		,	• 0	•		•						•			•							•			

Table 3.17: Norman Twp. Recreation Inventory Table

Table 3.17: Norman Twp. Recreation Inventory Table