



MISSAUKEE COUNTY

COMMUNITY RECREATION PLAN

2023—2027



MISSAUKEE COUNTY
PLANNING
DEPARTMENT

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2023—2027

Missaukee County Recreation Plan

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CONTENTS

Introduction	1
Community Description	2
Administrative Structure	15
Recreation Inventory	23
Planning Process	44
Public Input Process	45
Action Program, Goals, and Objectives	47
Appendices / Supporting Documentation	49

Introduction

Missaukee County, located in the northwestern portion of Michigan's lower peninsula, is a rural county comprised of a mix of forest, agricultural land, dairy and Christmas tree farms mingled with many lakes, miles of streams and rivers, 80,477 acres of wetlands, and networks of motorized and non-motorized trail systems.

The diverse topography and land uses of the county encourage a variety of seasonal recreation opportunities for permanent and seasonal residents alike, as well as the many visitors to the area. Summer activities include boating, fishing, swimming, golf, hiking, fat-tire cycling, camping and more, while winter activities such as skiing, snowmobiling, snowshoeing, ice-fishing, and other favorites are pursued. Depending upon the weather, many of the same activities are enjoyed in the shoulder seasons as well.

Missaukee's population of 15,028 permanent residents can increase by as much as 88% during the summer months, according to the Seasonal Population Study released by Networks Northwest in 2022.

Visitors to the area experience the slower pace of a less urban setting while enjoying social and recreational interactions with one another and the residents of the local communities.

Missaukee County has long been known as tourism destination. The many lakes, rivers, campgrounds, and other outdoor recreational assets found within the county have drawn generations of families to the area to enjoy all that the natural environment has to offer; the local economy also benefits as restaurants, stores, motels, and shops serve the needs of their guests.

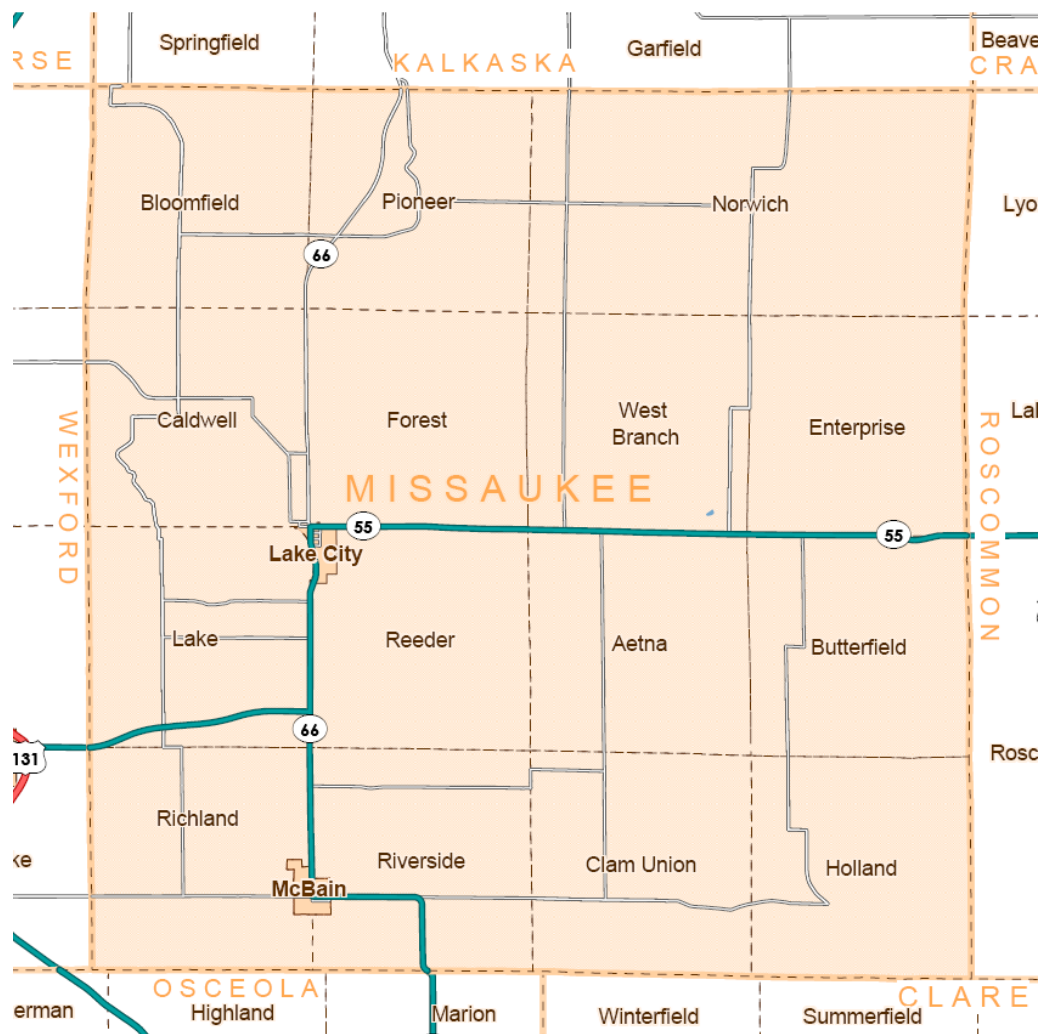
Since the 1800's, outdoor recreation and the natural environment in general have been recognized as being beneficial to both physical and mental well-being. Studies indicate that the availability of outdoor recreational opportunities has the potential to reduce the prevalence of obesity and stress levels and support the overall well-being of the population; this underscores the importance of an inclusive, accessible, and well-rounded recreational system.

The Value of Recreation

- **According to the Missaukee County American Rescue Plan Act ("ARPA") Resident Survey released in December 2021, 81% of respondents rated Missaukee's Natural Environment as *essential* or *very important* to focus on in the next 12 months, while 72% gave the same rating to Parks and Recreation. Respondents also rated the Natural Environment at 92% positive and Parks and Recreation at 74% positive as related to livability in the county.**
- **The Michigan Department of Natural Resource's Office of Outdoor Recreation Industry reports that 63% of Michigan residents participate in outdoor recreation each year.**
- **The 2020 Bureau of Economic Analysis report shows that in the State of Michigan, outdoor recreation generates \$9.5 billion into the economy.**

MISSAUKEE COUNTY

COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION



Location

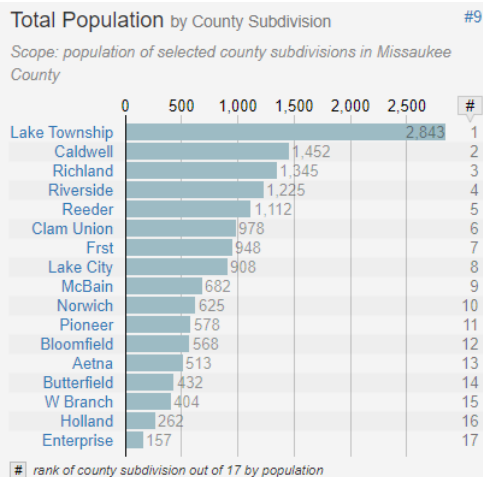
Missaukee County is located on the west side of the northern lower peninsula of Michigan, and is surrounded by Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Crawford, Roscommon, Clare, Osceola, and Wexford counties. Lake City and McBain are the only cities in Missaukee County, along with fifteen townships. Missaukee County encompasses 574.73 square miles of farmland, woodland, lakes, wetlands, rivers, and streams. Recreation and tourism are vital to the local economy, but the farming industry—particularly Christmas tree and dairy farms—are also crucial components.

Social Characteristics

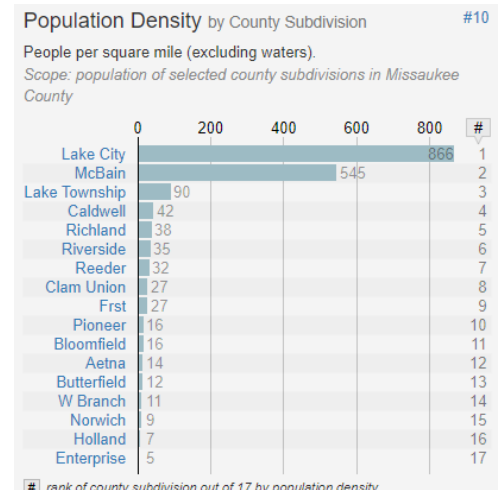
Missaukee County’s population has steadily increased since 1960. The rate of growth during the 1970 in-migration from downstate topped out at 40.5%. Since 2010, the county has had a positive growth rate every year with the exception of 2014 and 2015, with declines of 0.53% and 0.64% respectively. Overall, Missaukee County has continued to experience growth at a pace comparable to that of the rest of the region, with increases resulting from in-migration as well as natural increase each decade.

The 2019 American Community Survey (ACS) estimated Missaukee’s total population to be 15,028; a comparison of the 2010 and 2019 ACS data indicates a .4% increase in county population from 2010 when the population was an estimated 14,962 persons. Missaukee is ranked as the 67th most populous county in the state. The density of the population averages approximately 26 persons per square mile out of the total of 564.79 square miles (U.S. Census Bureau). In comparison to Michigan’s average density of 178 persons per square mile, Missaukee County remains a very rural county. The townships immediately surrounding Lake City (the county seat) comprise approximately 43% of the county’s total population. Lake City is located on the east shore of Lake Missaukee. The City of McBain is flanked by Richland and Riverside townships; the combined total of Lake City and McBain equals approximately 22% of the county’s population overall.

Population increases are, for the most part, clustered. Areas around the cities, lakes, and townships bordering Wexford County show the highest densities. Holland Township, located in the southeast corner of Missaukee County, has approximately 7 persons per square mile. Lake Township, on the southern edge of Lake Missaukee with Crooked and Sapphire Lakes nearby and bordering Wexford County on the west, has a population density of nearly 90 persons per square mile. The western and southern portions of the county are more densely populated. A large portion of northern Missaukee County is state owned land. Approximately fifty (50%) percent of some townships are state owned property. Farm use of the land is more prevalent in the southern townships, although soils throughout the county will support agricultural use. Our highway system of M-55/66 provides access from the southern and western areas of the county to the City of Cadillac in Wexford County, as well as Houghton Lake in Roscommon County to the east. These diverse density patterns are all considered in recreation planning. *Graphs 1 and 2* illustrate population and density patterns throughout the county.



Graph 1



Graph 2

Source: Statisticsatlas.com

Approximately twenty-five percent (25%) of Missaukee’s population is 19 years of age and younger. At the other end of the spectrum, approximately 18% of the population is age 65 or older, according to 2015 estimates. These estimates also indicate that the 65 and older gender breakdown is approximately 48.7% male and approximately 51.3% female. The needs of all age groups must be considered in recreation planning. The overall gender breakdown is approximately 51.1% male (7,658 individuals) and 48.9% (or 7,330) females for all age groups.

Populations with unique needs (to include functional needs, low-income households, senior citizens, and diverse ethnic backgrounds that may result in language barriers) are dispersed throughout the county. The City of McBain is the home of a ninety-five bed long-term care facility, while a 34-suite assisted living retirement center is located within Missaukee County between Lake City and Cadillac. Several smaller care facilities are located throughout the county. Several organizations within the county are also available to assist citizens in difficult circumstances with procurement of food, necessary clothing items, or provide other aid when needed.

The Northwest Michigan Seasonal Population, Seasonal Workforce, and Short-Term Rental Study data for Northwest Lower Michigan was released by Networks Northwest in 2022; the data and information gained from the study illustrates the importance of considering the seasonal population increases in planning, as the strain on local services greatly increases with the rise in population.

TABLE 1
Permanent and Seasonal Population by Month

Seasonal Data by Month

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ave
Permanent Population	15,052	15,052	15,052	15,052	15,052	15,052	15,052	15,052	15,052	15,052	15,052	15,052	
Seasonal Population	15,926	15,977	16,479	16,481	26,345	29,084	29,894	29,814	26,372	26,503	26,184	16,086	22,929
Difference	874	925	1,427	1,429	11,293	14,032	14,842	14,762	11,320	11,451	11,132	1,034	7,877
Percent Change	6%	6%	9%	9%	75%	93%	99%	98%	75%	76%	74%	7%	52%

Networks Northwest; Beckett and Rader

With the continuing expansion of four-season recreation, the seasonal resident of Missaukee County is spending a considerable amount of time in the area. The seasonal resident exerts many of the same demands upon recreation services as does the year-round resident. This will progress into an increasing demand for recreation services, which must therefore be adjusted to handle the varying loads placed by seasonal residents.

Missaukee’s population is of primarily European descent. However, with growing populations of Latin American, Asian, and other communities, the perception of how recreational opportunities are presented and perceived may be impacted. This has the potential to present language and communication challenges.

Recreation facilities in Missaukee County are remodeled or constructed to meet the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements. Missaukee County recognizes a responsibility to accommodate individuals with unique needs by providing accessible recreation options.

Networks Northwest data shows that the County's labor force averages 6177 persons, with an average unemployment rate of 6.40% and a median age of 44.

The number of households in the county totals 6055 of which 4,137 (or 70.8 percent), are listed as family households; the size of the average Missaukee County family is 2.96 members.

Networks Northwest data also indicates that the median household income in Missaukee County was \$47,194.00; the unemployment rate is 6.40%.

Population Projections

Historically, between 1960 and 1970 approximately 90% of the population growth in Michigan took place in metropolitan areas. Between 1970 and 1980 almost 65% of the growth occurred in non-metropolitan areas due to migration from the metropolitan areas. According to the Northwest Michigan Council of Governments Housing Inventory for Missaukee County (2014), the county’s population grew by only three percent between 2000-2010. This is in comparison to the 19 % increase that occurred between 1990-2000.

Growth in the Cadillac area, a major source of employment for the Missaukee County labor force, and growth in the industrial park in McBain have combined to draw more individuals, families, and retirees north to enjoy the benefits of life removed from urban congestion. Many generations of the same family often return to the area to visit or live.

TABLE 2
Projected Population

	<u>2010</u> <u>Census</u>	*2020 Projections	*2025 Projections	*2030 Projections	*2035 Projections	*2040 Projections	*2045 Projections
*Projected Populations (Female)	<u>7292</u>	7463	7598	7745	7848	7933	7963
*Projected Populations (Male)	<u>7557</u>	7598	7623	7666	7672	7672	7625
*Projected Populations (Total)	<u>14849</u>	15061	15222	15412	15520	15606	15589

Census information from 2010 U.S. Census; population projections from the office of the Michigan State Demographer (2018)

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Climate

Weather plays a major role in determining how leisure time will be used. In the Koppen Climate Classification System, Missaukee County falls within the Moist Continental Mid-Latitude climate category, with warm to cool summers and cold winters. The warmest month is greater than 50 degrees Fahrenheit, while the coldest month is less than -22 degrees Fahrenheit. Winters in areas that fall within this classification have historically tended toward severe with snowstorms, strong winds, and include bitter cold from Continental Polar or Arctic air masses. This region is further sub-classified as "Dfb", which signifies a humid climate, with severe winters, no dry season, and warm summers. Specifically speaking, local average precipitation between the years of 1981 and 2010 totaled approximately 28 inches. The average annual temperature during the same time period was 43.3 degrees Fahrenheit; the average January temperature was 18.3 degrees Fahrenheit, and the average July temperature was 67.2 degrees Fahrenheit. *Table 3* and *Graph 3* illustrate monthly weather variations. While average maximum temperatures have changed relatively little in Michigan, minimum temperatures have been increasing since about 1980 and account for the majority of an overall temperature increase since then. This trend appears across all seasons but is most pronounced during the winter. Current trends suggest that the climate will gradually transition to one that is milder, warmer, and more humid.

The summer outdoor recreation season is about four months long, starting in mid to late May and tapering off in mid-September, and draws visitors from other areas of Michigan as well as from out of state. This influx of tourists can increase the county's summer population by as much as 88% (or approximately 13,969 people) according to the Networks Northwest Seasonal Population Study of 2022.

Fall, winter and spring outdoor recreation opportunities have traditionally been very popular. Missaukee County typically has long winters with an average of over 200 days with freezing temperatures or below, and 25 days per year with temperatures below 0 degrees Fahrenheit. *Maps 1 and 2* depict average first and last days of a temperature below 32° Fahrenheit, in Michigan and the surrounding region, between 1950-2010. In general, while mean temperatures in Michigan have increased during the last 20-30 years, they still remain just within the overall (upper) range of observations during the past 120 years.

Missaukee County has cloudy days about 6 out of every 10 days in the summer and 7 out of 10 days in the winter. Overall climate has become wetter and cloudier in the Great Lakes region, especially during the last 50 years. As stated previously, some Climate Models indicate an overall warming trend continuing through the end of this century, which suggests that Michigan will experience warmer winters. Even so, weather conditions in Missaukee County (driven in large part by close proximity to Lake Michigan) are such that it is normally sufficiently cold enough for snow during the winter months. The warming of a couple degrees may not have as significant an impact as may be the case further south.

In planning recreational programs and facilities the weather characteristics and climate play an important role. The timing and duration of regular weather events can determine feasibility of various activities such as swimming, camping, skiing, and snowmobiling. Facility design and placement are controlled by weather events to a large degree. Beaches constructed on the north and west sides of lakes sustain far less wave erosion and have calmer waters with smaller wave heights because of the prevailing westerly winds. Facility designs must account for frost depth in the soil, wind and snow loads, and a variety of other criteria. Depending upon the area of the county, annual snowfall generally averages approximately 75 inches, with an average accumulation of 5-10 inches. Winds blowing across the Great Lakes tend to prevent extremely hot or cold temperatures but they do bring more cloudiness.

Average Monthly High and Low (°F)

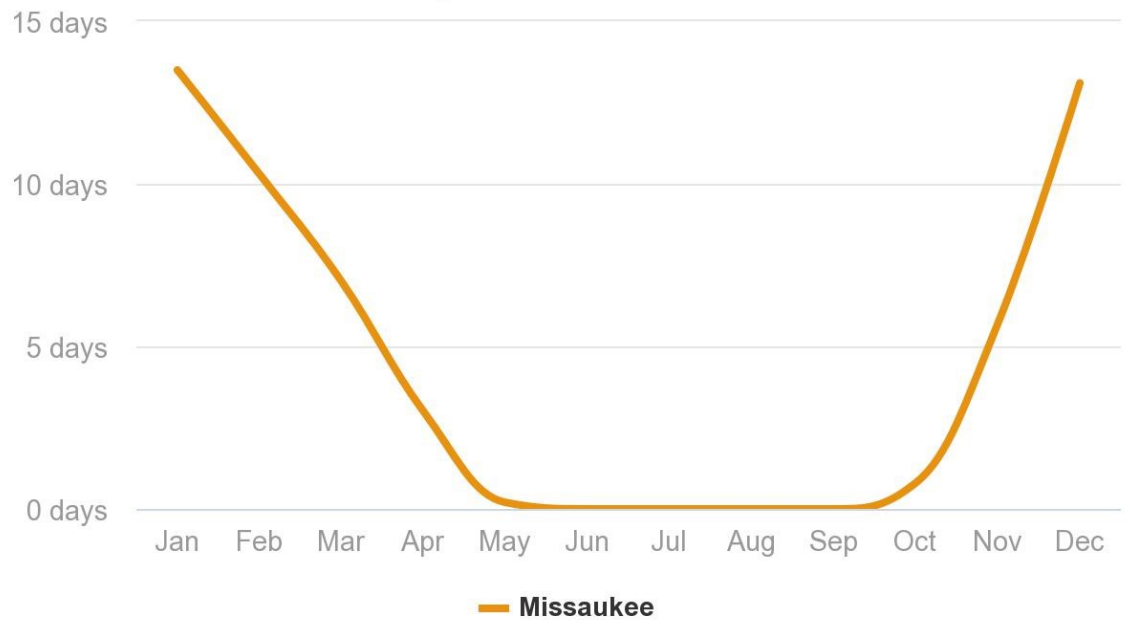
	High	Low
January	27°	10°
February	31°	10°
March	40°	17°
April	54°	30°
May	67°	40°
June	76°	50°
July	80°	54°
August	78°	52°
September	70°	44°
October	57°	35°
November	43°	27°
December	32°	17°

TABLE 3

Snowy Days

days with measurable snowfall

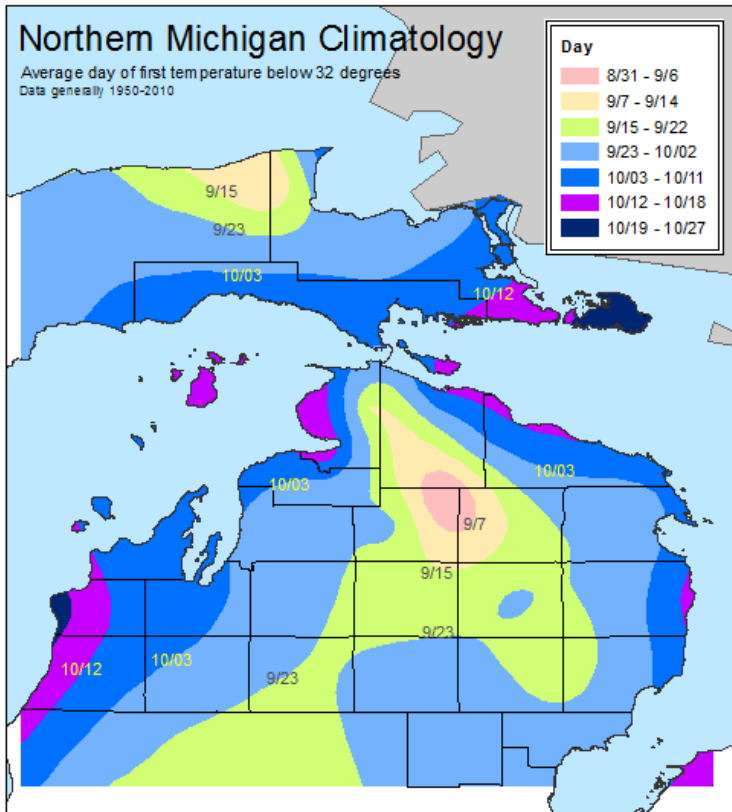
GRAPH 3



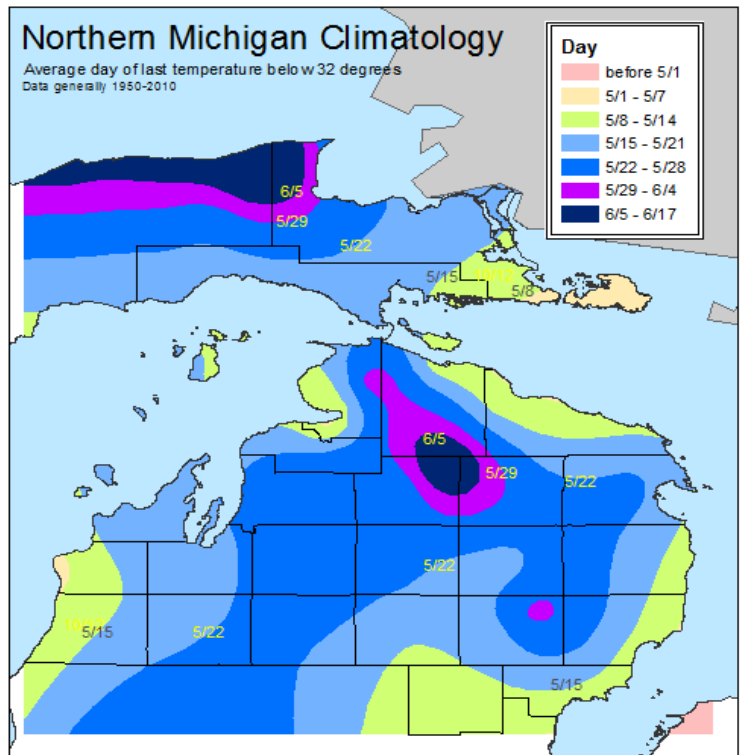
BestPlaces.Net

Information from bestplaces.net

MAP 1—Average Day of First Temperature Below 32°



MAP 2—Average Day of Last Temperature Below 32°



National Weather Service Maps

Soils

From a planning standpoint soils are the most important facet of the physical environment. Each soil type possesses certain properties that serve to classify the soil as to its suitability as a resource material for man's use. An understanding of a given soil's properties and limitations leads to an intelligent utilization of this resource.

The soils and terrain of this area generally result from activity which occurred during the Pleistocene Epoch, or more specifically, the Wisconsin Glaciation, which scoured the landscape from about 70,000 years ago to as recently as approximately 10,000 years ago. The greatest period of glacial activity occurred between about 22,000 years ago and 12,000 years ago. Glacial erosion, along with the processes which acted upon the glacial deposits after the glaciers receded, left a variety of soils, rocks, and formations which today provide the agricultural soils, forestlands, lakes, and wetlands which are such an asset and so greatly enjoyed and utilized both by residents of, and visitors to Missaukee County.

Areas are named for the major soil series in them, but soils of other series may be present in any of the areas. Also, the boundaries of the associations are not necessarily exact because of the graduation from one area to another. It should be emphasized that the soil associations represented are for general planning only and should not be used for specific site selection purposes.

The interpretation of these soils for recreational planning results in the conclusion that some soils can support a wider range of recreational uses than other soils. Each particular recreation site should be sampled to determine the soil type before a feasibility study of that site progresses. More detailed soil information can be found in the Soil Survey of Missaukee County, Michigan (USDA Soil Conservation Service), or by contacting the Missaukee Conservation District.



Photo by Jodi DeHate

Surface Hydrology

The surface waters of Missaukee County are depicted in *Maps 3 and 4*. Historically, more than 91,000 acres in Missaukee County were classified as wetland; today that has decreased to just over 80,000 acres for a loss of around 12% according to the Department of Environmental Quality. Currently, around 20 percent of the county can be classified as wetland, while only 1.3 percent by area can be classified as lakes or streams. There are 22 inland lakes and 209 miles of streams covering 4,800 acres of the county.

Missaukee County is within the Muskegon River and Upper Manistee River Watersheds. In total, the Muskegon River Watershed covers 2,700 square miles, and the Upper Manistee 570 square miles. Nearly 70% of Missaukee County's area is part of the Muskegon River Watershed, which falls within the Lake Michigan Watershed.

The Upper Manistee River is the northern branch of the Manistee River, which empties into Lake Michigan. The Upper Manistee River watershed originates near Alba and covers parts of Antrim, Otsego, Crawford, Kalkaska, and Missaukee counties. The main part of the river is approximately 78 miles long and drops in elevation from 1,250 feet to about 935 feet at the planning boundary of the western edge of Missaukee County.

The main rivers of the county are the Manistee, the Muskegon, and the Clam; the Clam River is a tributary of the Muskegon River and is a recognized Blue Ribbon Trout Stream. The Upper Manistee River is included in the Natural Rivers Act, which provides additional protections to designated rivers. Tributaries of the Upper Manistee found in Missaukee County include Silver Creek, Filer Creek, Ham Creek, Gravy Creek, Hopkins Creek, Cannon Creek and Fisher Creek. Major lakes found in the County include Lake Missaukee, Crooked Lake, and Sapphire Lake. In the summer, these waterways and bodies of water provide excellent fishing, boating, swimming, and water skiing in addition to their undeniable aesthetic appeal. Ice fishing, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, and snowmobiling are favored winter uses of the lakes. The wetland areas of the county provide excellent waterfowl habitat, which generate hunting and wildlife viewing opportunities for residents and visitors alike. From a recreational planning standpoint, these water bodies should be managed carefully to ensure continued enjoyment of this irreplaceable resource.

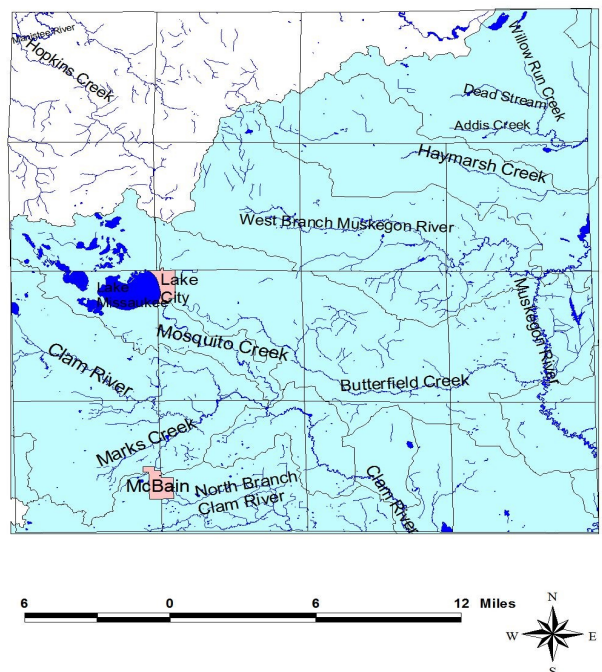
MAP 3

Upper Manistee River Watershed



MAP 4

Muskegon River Watershed



Vegetation and Fauna

Missaukee County is located within the transition zone, between the boreal forests to the north and the mixed deciduous forests to the south. This provides residents and visitors alike the unique potential to view flora and fauna found more commonly in other areas of the region, in addition to the wealth of species typical of this area. The forests of Missaukee County are generally a pine community, comprised of jack pine and red pine on the sandy, drier, more sterile soils. White pine, which competes with hardwoods (to include red and white oak, sugar and red maple, and yellow and white birch, among others), is located on more nutrient-rich soils. Black ash, tamarack, and balsam fir are found in swamplier areas, with hemlock growing in the drier areas of swamps. Also in the swamps, wetland vegetation patterns are found along with a multitude of shrubs. Most forested areas are second growth, resulting from intensive lumbering which took place during the late 1800's and early 1900's, and altered some of the original forest patterns.

The expanse of forested land consists of almost 63 percent of the county and is one of the most prominent features of Missaukee County. Harvesting, processing, and manufacture of timber products remain viable industries in the county. In addition to private enterprise, forest lands are invaluable in terms of quality water, wildlife habitat, recreational areas, and tourist attractions.

Hunters pursue the abundant white-tailed deer, wild turkey, and small game species found throughout the county. Lakes, ponds, and wetlands provide prime waterfowl habitat; during the spring and fall migrations these areas are stopping points for numerous waterfowl. Wintering populations of the Common Goldeneye, Bufflehead, American Black Duck, Mallard, and Common and Hooded Mergansers can be seen on rivers that remain open throughout the season. Outdoor enthusiasts have opportunities to observe a diversity of wildlife in various habitats throughout the county, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service developed a list of wildlife species designated as threatened under federal law that have been identified as having occurred within portions of Missaukee County. The federally enacted Endangered Species Act of 1973, along with Part 365, Endangered Species Protection of the Michigan Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, Public Act 451 of 1994, as amended, provides protection for these important special resources. The vast diversity of the natural resources found within Missaukee County provides endless potential for education, recreation, and opportunities to appreciate the natural world - for both residents and visitors alike.

Several state management areas are contained at least partially within Missaukee County, to include the Manistee River Valley Management Area, the Upper Muskegon Management Area, and the Osceola-Missaukee Grasslands State Game Area. Each of these unique areas are invaluable habitat for a variety of bird, mammal, reptile, and other species—some of which are considered threatened, endangered, or of special concern according to Michigan Natural Features Inventory surveys. Furthermore, some species are considered to be Extremely Vulnerable to climate changes, which may eventually have an impact on species or populations of species in the area. The diverse vegetation and riparian areas facilitate a variety of uses which include hunting, hiking, wildlife viewing, and canoeing. Motorized and non-motorized trail systems allow for recreational travel to undertake other outdoor pursuits, or simply for the sake of utilizing the systems themselves.

The blend of forest and wetland habitats within the county and the wealth of species which inhabit them are a recreation resource which would be a valuable asset to any recreation program. These resources enable a wide variety of activities, to include sightseeing, picnicking, camping, and bird watching, as well as fishing and hunting. Multiple uses may require employment of a variety of strategies by recreation planners; strategies must be carefully planned to ensure maximization of resources. Wildlife and forests can be successfully managed to satisfy the needs of recreation while also promoting good wildlife and forest management practices.

TRANSPORTATION

Private automobile is the primary mode of transportation within Missaukee County, as public transit is available only on a limited basis. Groups and municipalities within the county have expressed interest in development of trail systems that would benefit walkers and bicyclists, particularly in the Lake City area. The state highway network within Missaukee County has a total of 65 miles of roads which are designated M-42, M-55 and M-66. These roads serve as regional arteries connecting Missaukee County with the surrounding region and the US-127 and US-131 expressway systems.

The roads that collect traffic in the county and feed it into the regional system are termed major and minor collectors, or county primary roads. There are 223 miles of county primary roads. The county local roads, of which there are 663 miles, serve as a secondary collection system which feeds the primary and arterial networks. Over 400 miles of the county's primary and secondary system are hard surfaced. Most of the secondary system is two-lane gravel surfaced roadway. The state highways within the county are all-season routes. County roads are subject to seasonal load restrictions, with the exception of 44 miles which have been constructed to all-season standards.

In a cooperative effort with both Wexford and Manistee Counties, Missaukee County has improved two east-west county roads to all season roads. These roads now route traffic from US 131 in Wexford County to M-55/66 in Missaukee County. The upgrading of these roads provides easier access to Missaukee County from the north, south, east, and western areas of Michigan.

In 2008, the Missaukee County Board of Commissioners adopted an ordinance allowing for ORV ("Off Road Vehicle") traffic on roads within Missaukee County, with the exception of highways M-42, M-55, and M-66. Individuals meeting the criteria outlined in the ordinance may operate ORV's in a manner consistent with the ordinance.

The freeway system of the state provides easy access to Missaukee County for the many visitors who pursue four-season recreation in the county. The access afforded by a good road system means an increase in potential recreation for those that utilize county recreation resources. Facility and program development directed toward these enthusiasts must take the transportation network into consideration and restrict such development to the all-season routes within the county. The recreation development intended largely for the local citizens should also utilize convenient transportation routing as a criteria for site development.



LAND USE

The traditional uses of land in Missaukee County have remained fairly consistent over the years, according to the Missaukee County Equalization Department. A trend toward the land from smaller farms being absorbed into larger farming operations has been occurring in recent years, which decreases the overall number of farms, but not necessarily the amount of agricultural land.

Agricultural land use must be encouraged and protected for the future, especially the prime agricultural lands in the southern portion of the county. Recreational or other use of agricultural lands should be discouraged, to help ensure that land use balance is maintained in the county.



Photo: Jodi DeHate

The Stoney Corners Wind Farm development began during the summer of 2008, and is located in the rich, hilly farmland near the city of McBain. Nearly 30 state-of-the-art wind turbines (each of which extends 475 feet high from the ground to the blade tip) are visible for many miles. The construction and establishment of the wind farm generated considerable interest locally, regionally, and nationally as an example of green energy production.

Future allocation of land for recreational use must account for the proximity of other various land uses, population patterns, transportation routes and economic characteristics which will all play important roles in the correct utilization of the lands and facilities. The planning of recreational lands and facilities must recognize the need of a balanced approach to land use with the creation of a diversified and compatible mixture of land uses.

The inflow of permanent and seasonal residents to the county places an increasing load on the existing recreational lands. The expansion of all-season recreational pursuits such as fishing, snowmobiling, skiing, and other sports allows for the anticipation of added pressures toward the expansion of recreational land use. These pressures may take the form of more acres of land devoted to various types of recreation.

The USGS GAP Analysis Program's Land Cover Viewer classifies land cover types and breaks down the amount of area that each type occupies within Missaukee County. Not surprisingly, the Forest & Woodland land cover category comprises more than 65.54% of Missaukee County's area. Forest & Woodland is broken down into categories that include Cool Temperate Forest (63.34%), Freshwater Aquatic Vegetation (33.27%), Lowland & Montane Boreal Forest (2.27%), and the Boreal Flooded & Swamp Forest (1.12%); these are further divided into more specific subcategories. A subcategory of note is "Eastern North American Ruderal Forest & Plantation" (found under Cool Temperate Forest), which is characterized as "Managed Tree Plantation" and comprises 12.88% of the total Forest & Woodland category. The other major land cover categories are Shrubland & Grassland, which is a small fraction of the total area at 1.89 hectares. Agricultural Vegetation comprises 18.64% of Missaukee's land cover total (100% of this category is Herbaceous Agricultural Vegetation and is subcategorized into Cultivated Cropland (62.77%)), and Pasture/Hay is 37.23%. The remaining categories include Developed & Other Human Use at 4.54% of the overall total, Recently Disturbed or Modified at 9.89%, and Open Water at 1.39%.

Missaukee County is not zoned; however, the cities of Lake City and McBain have zoning ordinances in effect. Individual townships may also develop ordinances as needed. The amount of acreage in the county that is state owned has provided, to a great extent, a buffer zone to separate developed areas from open space and recreation uses.

Groundwater contamination and non-point pollution are a priority with environmental groups in the county. Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control (PA 451 Part 91) Permits are issued through the Conservation District for proposed construction that will take place within 500 feet of a water body or if more than one acre of land will be disturbed, regardless of the distance from a water source. Missaukee does not have a legal setback from a water body, although additional permitting through the Michigan Natural Rivers Program is required in Norwich, Pioneer, Bloomfield, Caldwell, and Forest Townships on creeks which feed into the Manistee River, due to the designation of the Upper Manistee River under the Natural Rivers Act. Another valuable Conservation District resource is the Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program ("MAEAP") Water Stewardship Technician, who works closely with local farmers to implement the program by providing environmental risk assessments of management practices, structures and site conditions on farms. Technicians work with farmers to develop and implement management plans to prevent contamination of water at farm headquarters, production fields, orchards, nurseries, greenhouses and livestock operations and to ensure that best management practices are used when handling chemicals and herbicides. Farmers that participate in the program can become environmentally assured through MAEAP; this indicates that the farm is in conformance with state and federal environmental laws and guidelines and that it is protecting Michigan's important natural resources for the use of future generations. As of September of 2022, Missaukee County had more than 30 farms that have been MAEAP verified; in Missaukee County alone, over 12,700 acres have had a positive environmental impact through this program so far.

The communities of both McBain and Lake City have municipal water supplies and public sewers. Installation of public sewers around Lake Missaukee, Crooked and Sapphire Lakes has helped protect these beautiful bodies of water, all of which are an important resource not only for recreational purposes, but for the pristine environment we all enjoy. An additional layer of protection for the lakes is the lake associations, whose goals, according to the Missaukee Lake Association, include "to promote and protect the environmental integrity of the lake through education, safety, and quality initiatives, and public awareness".

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

EXISTING SOURCES OF LOCAL RECREATION FINANCING

The financial resources of the Parks Department are a critical aspect of any recreational plan. While state and federal funding may be sought for special projects, the major burden of maintenance and development must be borne by the county.

Presently all development and maintenance of park facilities owned by Missaukee County is financed by rental of camping and boat docking sites at the parks and boat launch facilities. This practice of user-fee financing will continue to be the main source of funding for future parks and recreation projects.

The possibility of special fund-raising campaigns for certain individual recreation projects must be explored on an individual project basis. Community service groups have expressed interest in developing certain types of recreation projects, and community groups should be encouraged to create recreational programs to utilize existing and proposed lands and facilities.

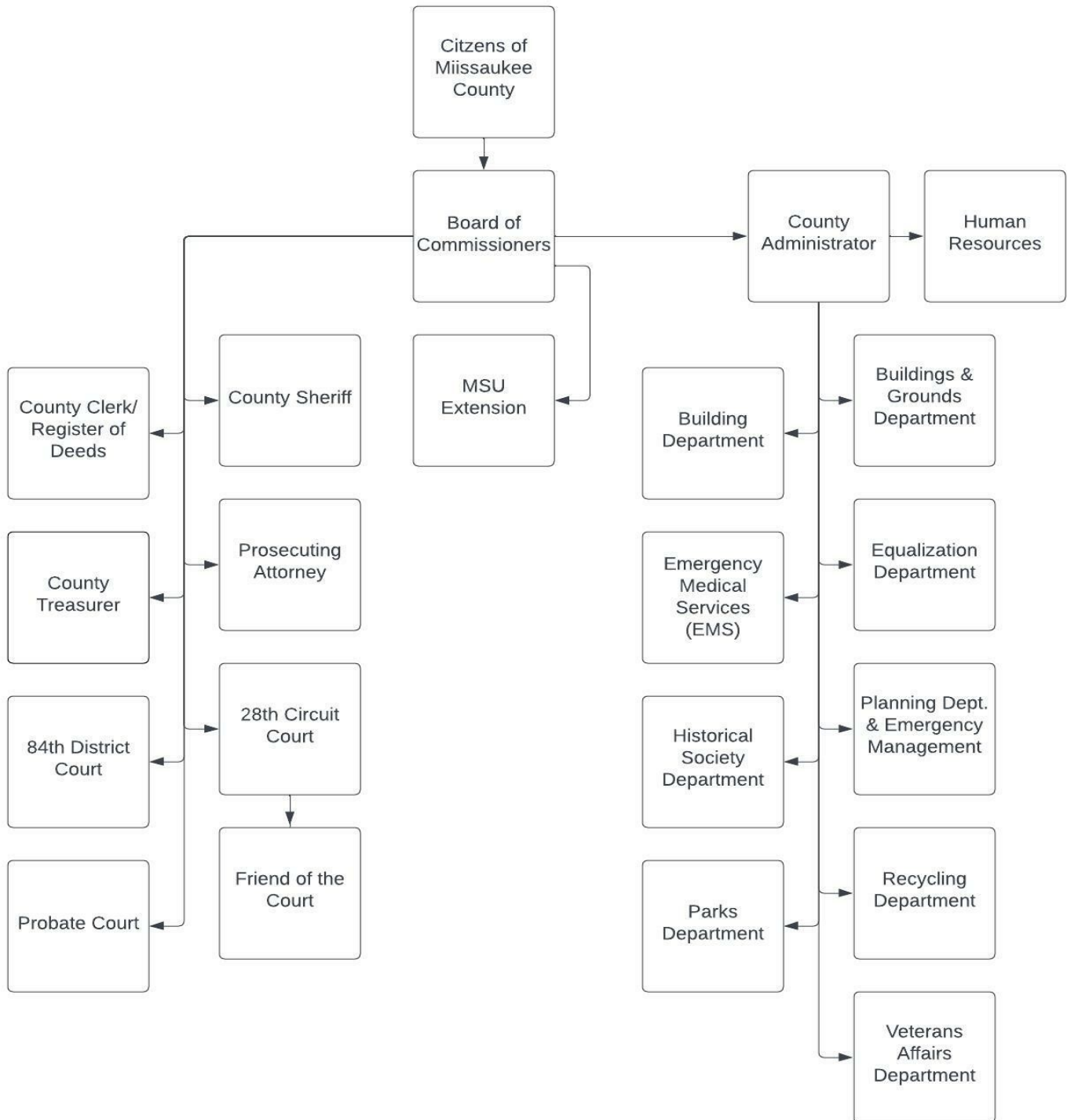
The Missaukee County Building and Grounds committee oversees Park functions; this committee is under general control of the Board of Commissioners and is responsible for the supervision, maintenance and finances of the County park system. The county employs a full-time Park Manager, an Assistant Park Manager, and several seasonal employees. The Park Manager, at the direction of the Building and Grounds committee, establishes an annual budget for the operation, maintenance and improvements of the county parks. The parks fund is included in Missaukee County's overall annual budget and is subject to final approval by the Missaukee County Board of Commissioners. Whenever possible, the development of a multiple-use concept for facility and program design should be an established goal.

Missaukee County owns and operates three parks: Missaukee Lake Park, Crooked Lake Park, and Ben Jeffs Memorial Park. Missaukee Lake Park and Crooked Lake Park draw a large number of campers, boating enthusiasts, day use picnickers and swimmers, while Ben Jeffs Park is a roadside park with a restroom, pavilion, picnic tables, a canoe launch, and artesian well. Promotion and expansion of these facilities is a priority and is endorsed by the County Board of Commissioners. Revenues are generated through campsite, boat slip, and pavilion rentals; these, along with ramp fees, cover the operational costs of the county parks. Excess revenues from these sources retained within this enterprise fund are used to help fund expansion and improvement projects. The Building and Grounds Committee addresses the recreational and financial needs of the park system while also providing a public forum for the continuing assessment of the recreational needs of the citizens of Missaukee County.

Expansion of these parks is both encouraged and recommended. Funding for expansion and improvement projects is expected from the excess revenues generated from park fees and grant funds as available. The estimated increase in revenues from expansion(s) will offset the subsequent expenses. Previous expansions and upgrading in Missaukee Lake Park and Crooked Lake Park have proven to be an economic success. Capacity is reached at these two parks for most of the camping season and therefore further development is considered to be essential to promote tourism and economic growth in this county. The Planning Commission and Planning Department are available to all units of government and non-profit entities involved in the development of recreational services. Proposed projects that will be evaluated for the Missaukee county parks can be found in the Missaukee County Capital Improvement Program which follows a rolling three-year cycle; these include but are not limited to sea wall repair and replacement, property improvements, camp site pads, and other various upgrades.

Missaukee County recognizes the value of volunteer contributions and will not hesitate to encourage the participation of community groups, schools, and businesses in various county park, trail, and recreation activities. The county believes that volunteer efforts offer benefits that extend beyond project completion, and that collaboration with schools and the local business community, when appropriate, could be advantageous to the community as a whole.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





GRANT HISTORY

Grantee

Missaukee County - Missaukee County

Project No. 26-00042	Project County: Missaukee	Project Year: 1966
Project title: Lake Missaukee County Park		
Project Status: Grant Closed		Grant Amount: \$24,480.00

Scope Item

Project Description: Acquire 15.7 acres of land adjacent to Lake Missaukee County Park.

Project No. 26-00067	Project County: Missaukee	Project Year: 1966
Project title: Missaukee County Park		
Project Status: Grant Closed		Grant Amount: \$97,100.00

Scope Item

- Ball diamond
- Boating area with launching ramp
- Docking lagoon and channel
- Parking facilities
- Picnic tables
- Restroom

Project Description: Utilities, ball diamond, boating area, launch ramp, docking lagoon and channel, parking facilities, picnic tables, and LWCF sign.

Project No. 26-00298	Project County: Missaukee	Project Year: 1972
Project title: Ben Jeffs Muskegon River		
Project Status: Grant Closed		Grant Amount: \$20,000.00

Scope Item

- Boat ramp
- Campsites (16)
- Picnic facilities
- Restrooms (2)
- Roads
- Shelter Building

Project Description: Two toilets, 16 campground sites, 2 boat ramps, roads, shelter building, and picnic facilities (deleted boat ramp and well)



GRANT HISTORY

Grantee

Missaukee County - Missaukee County

Project No. 26-01448	Project County: Missaukee	Project Year: 1986
Project title: Missaukee Lake County Park		
Project Status: Grant Closed		Grant Amount: \$58,000.00

Scope Item

Campsites

Restroom/shower

Project Description: bathroom/shower bldg., new campsites

Project No. 26-01548	Project County: Missaukee	Project Year: 1994
Project title: Missaukee Lake Park Project		
Project Status: Grant Closed		Grant Amount: \$125,000.00

Scope Item

Boardwalk

New Gatehouse

New Pavilion/Restroom

Pilings and Sidewalk

Relocate Dump Station

Remodel North Restroom

Replace Sewer Pipe/Hookup

Replace skid piers

Storm Drain

Project Description: Develop boardwalk, pavilion/restrooms, gatehouse, paved roads, renovate restroom, boat ramp, relocate dump station.

Project No. TF21-0171	Project County: Missaukee	Project Year: 2021
Project title: Cadillac Single-Track Bike Trail		
Project Status: PA In Process		Grant Amount: \$110,900.00

Scope Item

Paved ADA Parking Space(s)

Signage

Trail 5' - 8' wide



GRANT HISTORY

Grantee

Missaukee County - Missaukee County

Project Description: Development of an all-season, sustainable Single-Track Trail at the Cadillac Pathway. The trail will be developed to attract mountain bikes as well as snow-shoe users in the winter. The single-track will run roughly parallel to the existing Cadillac Pathway, which is preferred by walkers, hikers, and cross-country skiers and adjacent to the Clam River. The single-track trail will attract local as well as regional mountain bikers, as there is not another single-track facility within a 45-minute drive of Cadillac.

Total number of projects: 6

Total Amount of Grant Given \$435,480.00

MISSAUKEE COUNTY PARKS BUDGET

2021—2022

GL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	2021-22 REQUESTED BUDGET	2021-22 RECOMMENDED BUDGET	2021-22 APPROVED BUDGET
Dept 000				
Expenditure				
508-000-702.00	SALARIES AND WAGES	147,979	147,979	147,979
508-000-703.00	PER DIEM	1,000	1,000	1,000
508-000-712.00	OVERTIME	1,000	1,000	1,000
508-000-720.00	LONGEVITY	400	400	400
508-000-722.01	LIFE INSURANCE	900	900	900
508-000-722.02	BCBS HEALTH INSURANCE	27,260	27,260	27,260
508-000-722.06	WORKMAN'S COMP	3,950	3,950	3,950
508-000-723.00	RETIREMENT	5,913	5,913	5,913
508-000-724.00	SOCIAL SECURITY	11,397	11,397	11,397
508-000-724.01	UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (MESC)	6,300	6,300	6,300
508-000-727.00	STATIONERY & SUPPLIES	10,500	10,500	10,500
508-000-728.00	POSTAGE	450	450	450
508-000-728.01	MERCHANT SERVICES	5,000	5,000	5,000
508-000-742.00	UNIFORMS	250	250	250
508-000-743.00	GASOLINE & OIL	6,500	6,500	6,500
508-000-850.00	TELEPHONE	1,500	1,500	1,500
508-000-860.00	TRAVEL EXPENSE	400	400	400
508-000-920.00	UTILITIES	80,000	80,000	80,000
508-000-929.00	PRINTING	1,500	1,500	1,500
508-000-930.00	REPAIRS	12,000	12,000	12,000
508-000-961.01	COST ALLOCATION	8,059	8,059	8,059
508-000-964.00	REFUNDS AND REBATES	7,500	7,500	7,500
508-000-968.00	DEPRECIATION EXPENSE	40,000	40,000	40,000
	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	379,758	379,758	379,758
Revenue				
508-000-607.00	PARK FEES	400,000	400,000	400,000
508-000-664.00	INTEREST EARNED	200	200	200
	TOTAL REVENUE	400,200	400,200	400,200
	NET OF REVENUES/APPROPRIATIONS - 000 -	20,442	20,442	20,442
ESTIMATED REVENUES - FUND 508				
	APPROPRIATIONS - FUND 508	400,200	400,200	400,200
	NET OF REVENUES/APPROPRIATIONS - FUND 508	379,758	379,758	379,758
	BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	20,442	20,442	20,442
	ENDING FUND BALANCE			

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM PROJECTS 2023—2024

Missaukee County

Capital Improvement Program

For the fiscal years ending September 30, 2022-2027

In the second year of the Capital Improvement Program, FY 2023, the following proposed projects are planned, with estimated sources and uses of funding totaling \$616,300. Following this summary page is a detailed project description for each proposed project.

Fiscal Year 2023 - Projects by Department		
Department	Project Title	Estimated Cost
Buildings & Grounds	Courthouse Restroom Remodel	\$ 80,000
Buildings & Grounds	Courthouse Front Entrance Remodel	\$ 25,000
Buildings & Grounds	Courthouse Carpet Replacement	\$ 25,000
Buildings & Grounds	Parking Lot Upgrade	\$ 9,400
Information Technology	Computer Equipment Updates	\$ 8,000
Parks	Missaukee Lake Park Office Renovation	\$ 20,000
Parks	Vehicle Replacement	\$ 15,000
EMS	Power Cots/Loading System	\$ 50,000
EMS	Automated CPR Devices	\$ 30,000
EMS	Ventilators	\$ 36,000
Prosecuting Attorney (B&C)	Lobby Security Renovation	\$ 15,000
Sheriff	Patrol Vehicles (2)	\$ 87,000
Sheriff	Mobile Data Terminals (2)	\$ 15,000
Sheriff	Computer Equipment Updates	\$ 8,000
Sheriff	Atomic Clock Networking Project	\$ 15,000
Sheriff	In-Car Camera Upgrade	\$ 8,000
Sheriff	Detective/Supervisor Vehicle	\$ 31,000
Sheriff	Patrol Boat	\$ 98,900
Recycling	Skid Steer	\$ 40,000
TOTAL		\$ 616,300

Fiscal Year 2023 - Projects by Funding Source		
Funding Source		Amount
Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund (DTRF)		\$ 267,900
Parks Fund		\$ 35,000
EMS Fund		\$ 83,000
911 Fund		\$ 34,000
Sheriff Special Forces		\$ 29,000
Recycling Fund		\$ 28,000
Grants		\$ 139,400
TOTAL		\$ 616,300

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM PROJECTS 2023—2024

Missaukee County

Capital Improvement Program

For the fiscal years ending September 30, 2022-2027

In the third of the Capital Improvement Program, FY 2024, the following proposed projects are planned, with estimated sources and uses of funding totaling \$1,311,700. Following this summary page is a detailed project description for each proposed project.

Fiscal Year 2024 - Projects by Department		
Department	Project Title	Estimated Cost
Buildings & Grounds	Courthouse Elevator	\$ 150,000
Information Technology	Computer Equipment Updates	\$ 7,000
Courts	Courtroom Digital Video Recording Sys	\$ 38,000
Building Department	Inspection Truck	\$ 20,000
EMS	Ventilators	\$ 36,000
EMS	Roof Replacement	\$ 25,000
EMS	Cardiac Monitors	\$ 140,000
Parks	Lagoon Repairs	\$ 15,000
Parks	Vehicle Replacement	\$ 15,000
Sheriff	Patrol Vehides (2)	\$ 87,000
Sheriff	Mobile Data Terminals (2)	\$ 15,000
Sheriff	Dispatch Radio Console	\$ 650,000
Sheriff	In-Car Camera Replacement	\$ 8,000
Sheriff	Bulletproof Vests	\$ 15,000
Sheriff	Computer Equipment Updates	\$ 8,000
Sheriff	IT Server	\$ 36,000
Recycling	Exterior lighting and signage	\$ 6,700
Recycling	Carport	\$ 40,000
TOTAL		\$ 1,311,700

Fiscal Year 2024 - Projects by Funding Source		
Funding Source		Amount
Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund (DTRF)		\$ 264,000
Building Dept. Fund		\$ 20,000
EMS Fund		\$ 163,000
Parks Fund		\$ 30,000
Sheriff Special Forces		\$ 22,000
911 Operating Fund		\$ 387,000
Courts		\$ 38,000
Recycling		\$ 31,700
Grants		\$ 356,000
TOTAL		\$ 1,311,700

RECREATION INVENTORY

This section includes a detailed inventory of Missaukee County recreation facilities, as well as brief descriptions of facilities owned by other entities.

An accessibility evaluation of each county asset was conducted by Missaukee County staff per the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design.

The recreation facilities have been inventoried in *Table 4* by park location, size/area, and a description of the available activities. They have also been evaluated for accessibility using the accessibility assessment criteria provided by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Missaukee County shares a goal with the State to provide universally accessible recreation facilities and has developed an accessibility assessment which uses a ranking system of 1-5 and is based upon the following definitions:

- 1 = None of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 2 = Some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 3 = Most of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 4 = The entire park meets accessibility guidelines
- 5 = The entire park was developed/renovated using the principals of universal design

TABLE 4 – RECREATION INVENTORY

Community	Name of Park/ Facility	*Area	*Access	Use
Bloomfield Township	Hopkins Creek; West on M-42, North on Lucas 5.5 miles	2 Acres	1	Camping/horseback in designated areas, potable water
Caldwell Township	Goose Lake & Long Lake Campgrounds; NW of Lake City off Goose Lake Rd	80 Acres	1	Fishing, camping, public access, camping, vault-type toilets, potable water, boat launch, picnic tables
	Missaukee Mountain; 6500 W Walker Rd, Lake City	93.5 Acres	1	Downhill/Cross-Country skiing, sledding, snowboarding, lodge, restrooms
	Missaukee Nature Trail; 6180 W. Sanborn Rd, Lake City	9.5 Acres	3	Hiking, geocaching, birdwatching, fall color
	Whitlock Lake; N. Layman Rd between W Burns & Poplar (Jennings)	13 Acres	1	Fishing, primitive campsites, small boat ramp
Clam Union	Ball Diamonds	10.8 Acres	2	Baseball, softball
	Hoekwater Park	5 Acres	2	Picnic
	Community Building; 219 E. Prosper Rd, Falmouth		2	Gym, kitchen, library
	Clam River Dam Park		1	Dam, picnic tables
	Dyer Lake	12 Acres	1	Fishing, picnic, boat launch, swimming, camping, vault toilets
Enterprise	Ben Jeffs (16 miles east of Lake City)	67 Acres	2	Toilet, well, pavilion
	Reedsburg Dam (19 miles east of Lake City on M-55 to north County Line Road)		1	Camping, fishing, boat launch, picnic tables at dam (fee charged)

TABLE 4 – RECREATION INVENTORY

Communities	Name of Park/Facility	*Area	*Access	Use
Lake City	City Park (Downtown Lake City)	1.7 Acres	2	Shoreline, dock, green space, community events, paved parking
	Lake Missaukee Park; Cass/ Park St, Lake City	33+ Acres	3	Fishing, public access, boat ramp, swimming, drinking water, camping, cabins, boat slips, pavilions, grills, playscape/playground, baseball fields, cabins, restrooms/showers
	Maple Grove Park	52Acres	1	Campground/public park, restrooms, water, disc golf, playground
	Miltner Beach; Union/Main, Lake City	3.9	3	Swimming, boat launch, paved parking, boardwalk, picnic tables, lake access
	Lake City Skate Park	.66	3	Paved parking , tennis/pickleball courts, skate park, picnic tables
Lake Township	Crooked Lake Campground (Access from LaChance Rd. in Jennings)	60 Acres	2	Fishing, public access, camping, bath house boat ramp, potable water, sanitary disposal site, swimming beach, hiking, playground, pavilions
	Jennings Community Play-ground; Elm/Crapo Streets	.25	1	Playground/play equipment
	Lake Township Hall; 8105 W. Kelly Rd, Lake City	1.3 Acres	5	Meeting room, kitchen, picnic tables, pavilion
	Clam River Park; S. Dickerson Rd/M-55	12.1 Acres	1	Fishing, day use, picnic tables
	Crooked Lake Boat Launch; Poplar St (Jennings)	Limited to road ROW	2	Boat Launch
	Green Road Boat Launch; Green Rd. north of Jennings Road	.5	5	Boat Launch
	Sapphire Lake Boat Launch; Jennings Rd. west of Dickerson	.9 Acres	2	Boat Launch

TABLE 4 – RECREATION INVENTORY

Communities	Name of Park/ Facility	Area	Access	Description
McBain	McBain Municipal Park	1.9 Acres	(4); One designated barrier-free parking space, accessible picnic table on paved surface with parking lot access	Community Park; Full-size basketball court, 2 sand volleyball courts, 2 regulation-size tennis courts, ice rink, 4 picnic tables with permanent open shelter, 2 Porta –Johns
	Stewart Park	1.3 Acres	(4); Paved path from paved parking area to shelter; accessible picnic table and Porta-John	Community/Roadside Park; picnic table with permanent open shelter, water fountain, green open space, garden
	McBain Softball Complex	6.8 Acres	(3); Restrooms and picnic tables under pavilion are accessible. Parking lot is not paved; playground is not accessible	Athletic fields; 3 fenced softball fields (2 with lights), play area at north field, block building and restrooms open for scheduled events, small pavilion with 2 picnic tables, bleachers and benches, unpaved parking lot
	Community Green Space	.5 Acres	1	Community Green Space; open grass area, flag pole, community Christmas tree
(Missaukee and Wexford Counties)	Cadillac Pathways; Seeley Rd/Boon Rd	More than 11 miles of trails	1	Cross Country Skiing, hiking, mountain biking
Norwich	Stratford Trailhead; North 13 Mile Road/Oil Well Road		1	Snowmobiling, ORV, geocaching
Richland	Richland Township Park; Intersection of LaChance and West Cavanaugh Road	6 Acres		Softball, Horse arena, day use

EXISTING PROGRAMS AND FACILITIES INVENTORY

An assessment of existing programs and facilities within Missaukee County was conducted; the results show a variety of recreation options available to residents of and visitors to Missaukee County. This inventory will form the basis for the planning of future programs and facilities in Missaukee County.

HISTORIC AND SCENIC SITES

Historic sites such as buildings and burial grounds offer excellent recreational opportunities for those interested in the history and heritage of Missaukee County, and are valuable assets to the communities around them and the county as a whole. Residents and visitors alike may choose to seek out opportunities to discover different aspects of Missaukee County heritage and history by exploring the remnants of earlier times found throughout the county, such as an old logging ghost town or the Historical Society’s museum (known as “The Bath House”), which is was moved from its previous location to the Missaukee County Park.

Missaukee County has many miles of roadways which offer the traveler scenic views while touring the area’s lakes, streams, historic locations, and other destinations. Tourism has helped make these areas an economic asset to the community. The name, location and description of historic and scenic sites are detailed in *Table 5* and displayed by inventory number on *Map 5*.

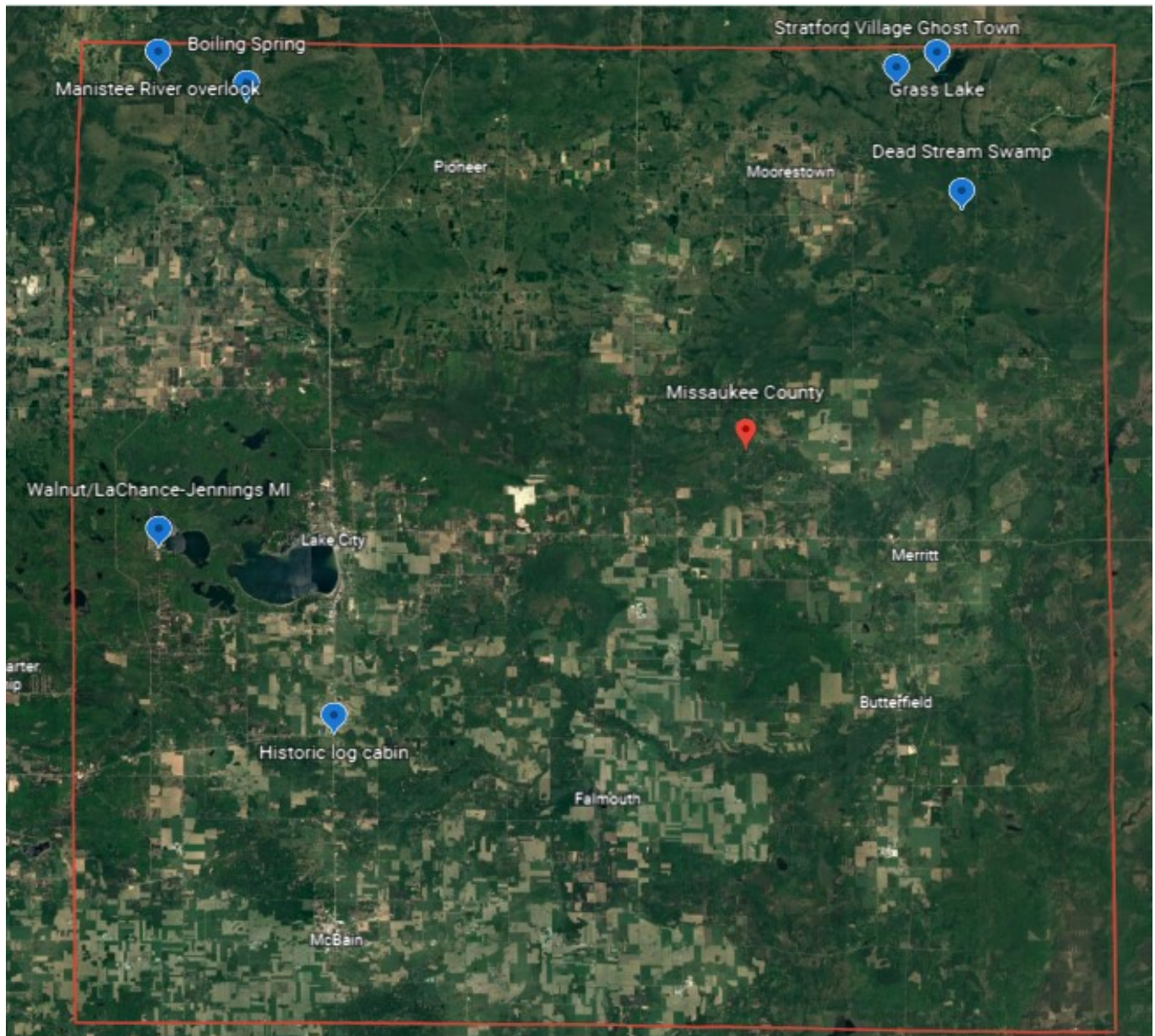
Geocaching has become a popular pastime for all age groups and is enjoyed by families and individuals alike. More than 3,000 geocache locations can be found in Missaukee County alone, and it is not unusual to discover geocaches that have been hidden at or in the vicinity of historic and scenic sites and other areas within the county, to include the Missaukee Trail at the Missaukee Conservation District and the Stratford Trailhead near Moorestown. Travelers will sometimes alter, delay, or modify trips to better accommodate the search for geocaches that they have determined are along or near the routes of their travels.

TABLE 5
INVENTORY OF HISTORIC AND SCENIC LOCATIONS

Historic

	NAME	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION
1	Jennings Ghost Town	Lake Township off LaChance Road	Former site of sawmill and old logging town
2	Stratford	East Norwich Township	Site of old logging town and railroad station
3	Historic Log Cabin	Reeder Township, M-55/M-66	Privately owned historic log cabin
4	Manistee River	Bloomfield Township	High banks along river, site of old log rollways
5	Boiling Spring	Bloomfield Township	Deep, boiling spring outcrop
6	Dead Stream Swamp	Norwich and Enterprise Townships	Large, undisturbed swamp
7	Grass Lake	Norwich Township	Shallow marsh lake

Missaukee County residents and tourists have an active interest in water related recreation activities. The 4,800 acres of inland lakes and many miles of excellent fishing streams provide an abundance of both warm and cold water fishing. The majority of the lakes in the county are self sustaining and do not require stocking of fish to maintain sport fishing at a desired level, but stocking of some lakes and cold water streams is essential where the demand for fishing is high. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources has stocked several water bodies and waterways in the county over the past several years.



Boat launching facilities are available at many lakes. The majority of the population has a lake suitable for fishing, swimming, or boating within 10 miles of their residence. Canoeists and kayakers often choose to float the Manistee and Muskegon Rivers.

The county has over 3,700 feet of public swimming beach footage. Swimming and aquatic recreation in Missaukee County’s natural waters surpasses all other forms of summer recreation. Lake beaches are one of the major attractions at most resorts and parks, underscoring the importance of water bodies to the area’s summer recreation activities.

An inventory of streams in the county by name, location, size and present use is detailed in *Table 6*. Lakes are identified by name and township and the species of sport fish in *Table 7*. The locations of Missaukee County watersheds and water bodies are displayed in *Maps 3 and 4*.

TABLE 6**INVENTORY OF STREAMS***

STREAM	LOCATION/TOWNSHIP	FISH SPECIES
Addis Creek	Norwich	Brook
Bear Creek	Holland	Brook
Butterfield Creek	Reeder, Aetna, Butterfield	Brook, Brown, Rainbow
Big Cannon Creek	West Norwich	Brook
Cannon Creek	Norwich	Brook, Brown
Clam River	Lake, Reeder, Richland	Brook, Brown, Rainbow
Dead Horse Stream	Butterfield	Brook
Dead Stream	Norwich, Enterprise	Brook, Brown, Rainbow
Ham Creek	Bloomfield	Brook, Brown, Rainbow
Haymarsh Creek	West Branch, Enterprise	Brook
Hopkins Creek	Bloomfield, Caldwell	Brook, Brown, Rainbow
Manistee River	Bloomfield	Brook, Brown, Rainbow
Marks Creek	Richland, Riverside	Brook
Middle Branch Creek	Riverside	Brook, Brown
Mosquito Creek	Reeder, Riverside	Brook
Muskegon River	Holland, Butterfield, Enterprise	Brown, Rainbow
Stick Creek	Richland, Riverside	Brook, Brown, Rainbow
Taylor Creek	Reeder	Brook
Willow Run	Norwich	Brook
West Branch of the Muskegon	Butterfield, West Branch, Forest,	Brook, Brown, Rainbow

**Maps 3 and 4, on page 10, depict the surface hydrology of Missaukee County*

TABLE 7

INVENTORY OF LAKES*

NAME	LOCATION/ TOWNSHIP	SIZE (Surface Acres)	MAXIMUM DEPTH (If known)	PRESENT USE
Bear	Enterprise	31		Waterfowl, no public access
Cannon Creek	East Norwich	133		Waterfowl, public access
Clear	Caldwell	29		No public access
Cranberry	Clam Union	130		No public access
Crooked Lake	Lake	493		Fishing, public access, hiking trails
Dyer	Clam Union	40		Fishing, public access, boat ramp, swimming
Dyer	Caldwell	125		No public access
Goose	Caldwell	100	14 feet	Fishing (pike, bass, panfish), public access, boat ramp
Little Goose	Caldwell	37		Waterfowl, public access
Grass	East Norwich	163		Waterfowl, public access
Horseshoe	West Norwich	25		No Public Access
Long	Caldwell	60	15 feet	Fishing (pike, panfish, bass), public access
Lost	Caldwell	31		No public access
Loon	Pioneer	21	19 feet	Fishing, swimming, public access
Missaukee	Lake	2002	27 feet	Fishing (pike, walleye, bass, panfish), public access, boat launch, swimming, boat slips (several ADA compliant), Green Road launch, Miltner Park launch
Reedsburg Dam	Enterprise	166		Boat access, fishing (panfish, bass). Drinking water
Round	Lake	110		Fishing, no public access
Sapphire	Lake	264	8 feet	Fishing, public access
Twin	Caldwell	143		Fishing, no public access
Whitlock	Caldwell	13	15 feet	Fishing (Pike, panfish, sunfish, walleye, yellow perch), public access

**Maps 3 and 4, on page 10, depict the surface hydrology of Missaukee County*

MISSAUKEE COUNTY PARKS, CAMPGROUNDS, AND TRAILS

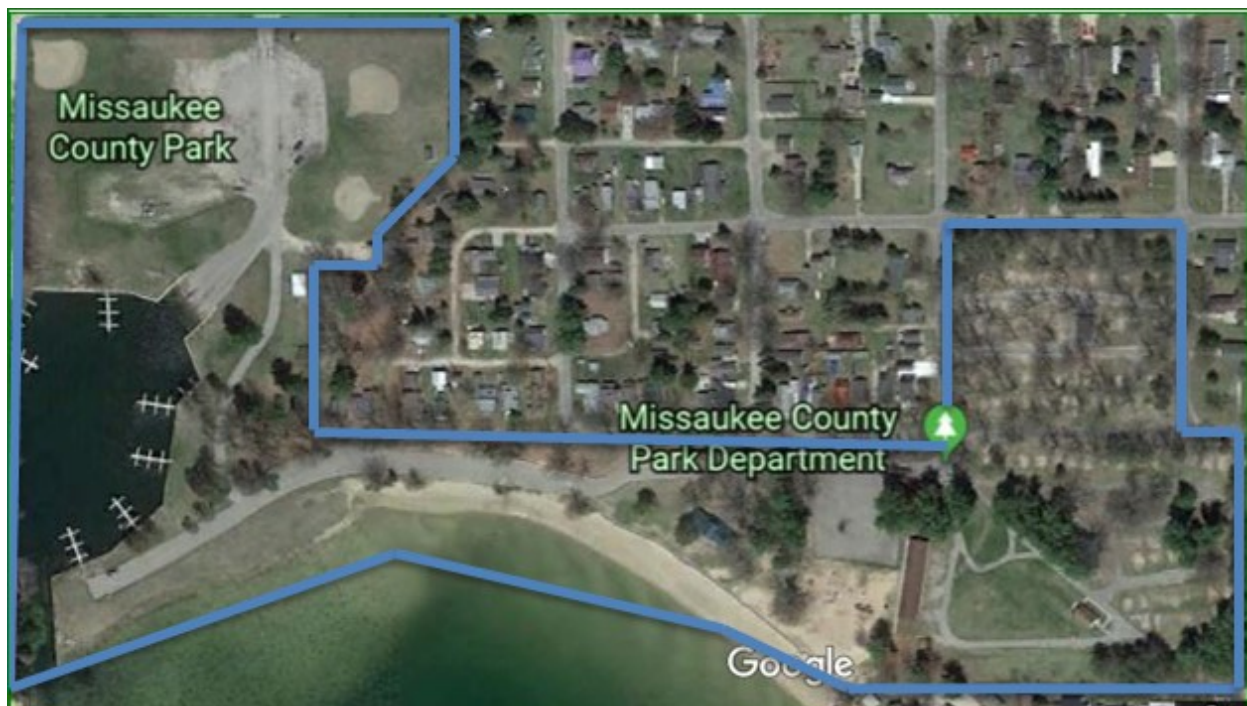
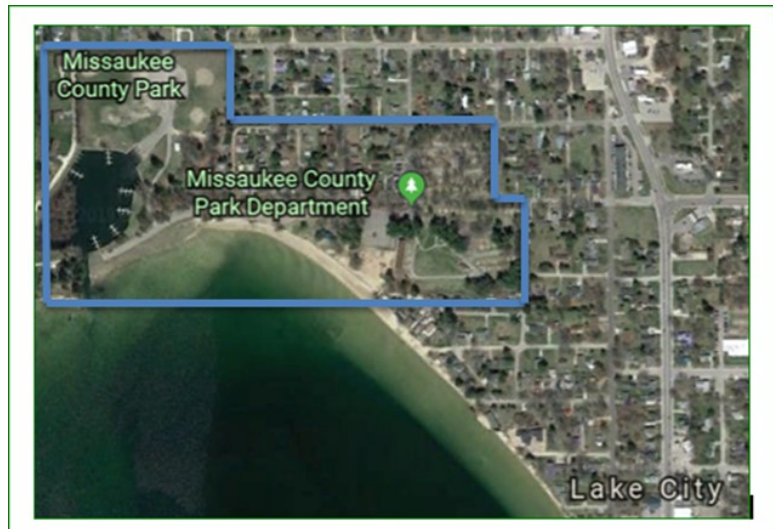
Outdoor recreation is increasingly popular, both with residents and visitors to Missaukee County. A growing interest in camping, hiking, and other outdoor pursuits has likewise increased the need for additional camp sites and parks. Many residents live in the area because of the available natural resources and opportunities, to include campgrounds, parks, picnic areas, wildlife and game viewing, as well as hunting and fishing. However, due to the increasingly high cost of private access to water, the limited number of developed public access points and primarily the competition with non-resident users, county residents are finding it difficult to engage in the type of local recreation they prefer. Correcting the imbalances between supply and demand while meeting the needs of tourists and local residents through new development will be a challenging task for both public and private interests.

Missaukee Lake Park Campground

MAP 6 (Right) Overview of the Lake City area and general outline of the Missaukee Lake Park Campground, ball fields, parking area, lagoon and boat launch.

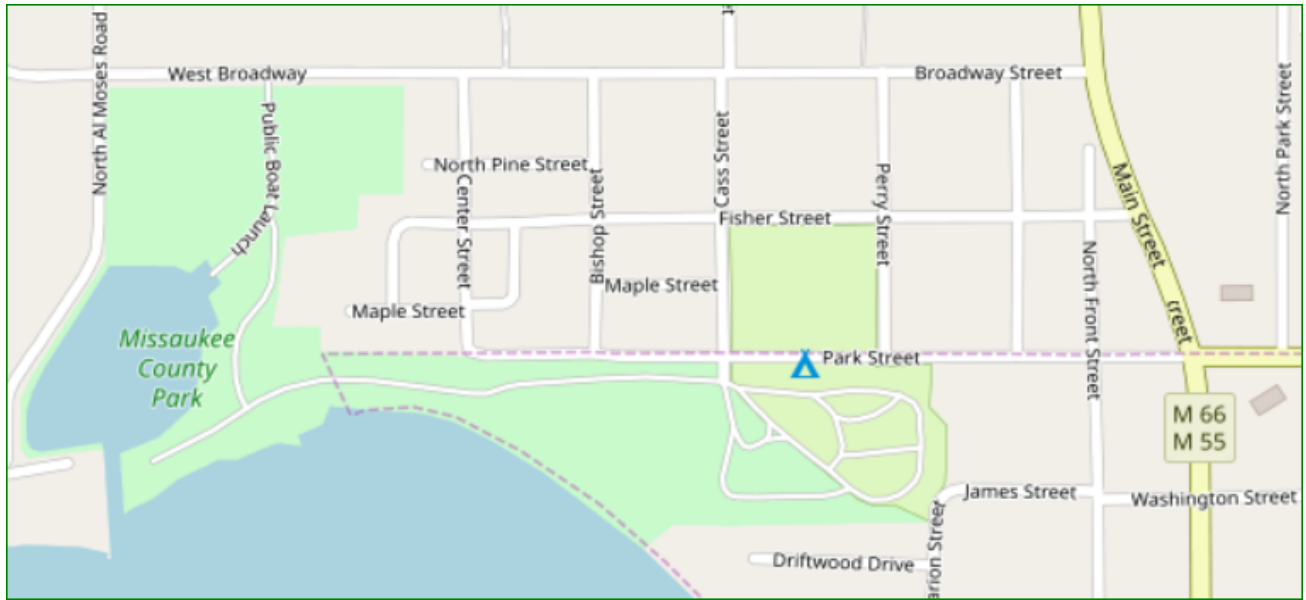
MAP 7 (Bottom) Close up of the locations listed above (Not an exact representation of the park boundary).

Missaukee Lake Park Campground lies partially within the city limits of Lake City and partially within Caldwell Township.



MISSAUKEE LAKE PARK VICINITY, LAKE CITY

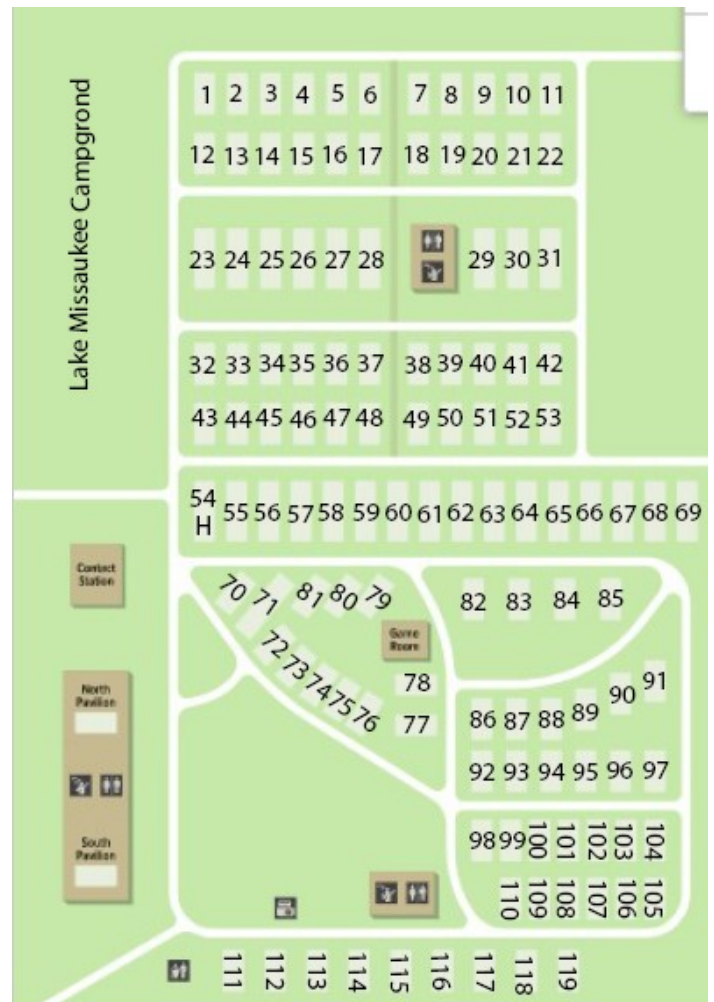
Map 8



Map 9



Map 10



CROOKED LAKE CAMPGROUND AREA, JENNINGS

Map 11



Map 12



THE MISSAUKEE NATURE TRAIL

(Missaukee Conservation District)

The Missaukee Nature Trail gives residents a safe footpath on which to exercise while educating about how landscaping with native flora requires little or no fertilizers or watering once established. An eventual link between the Trail and the Missaukee County Park would benefit Lake City businesses, as hikers could then walk the trail from Missaukee Mountain or trailhead all the way into town to visit restaurants and shops.

MAP 13

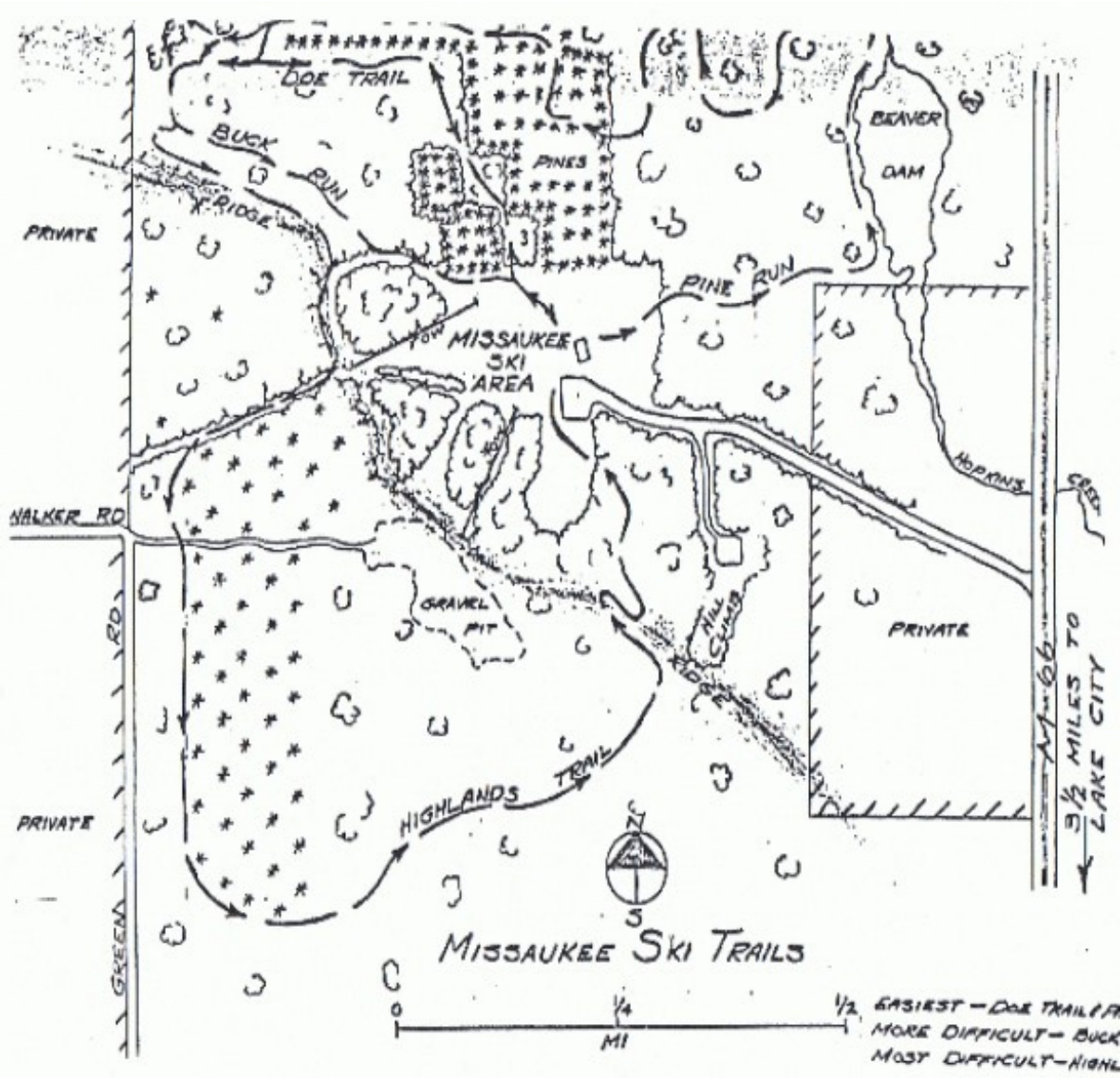


MISSAUKEE MOUNTAIN WINTER PARK

(City of Lake City)

Missaukee Mountain is an all-volunteer maintained and operated ski hill located just a few miles north of Lake City, and is the ideal hill for skiers of all ages. The Missaukee Mountain Winter Park Board has worked diligently to maintain and improve existing facilities and provide more rental equipment, and also has concessions for sale. Improvements have been made possible through fund raisers and generous local donations. The lodge has been expanded to accommodate the ever growing number of skiers, as well as a larger storage area for rental equipment such as alpine skis, Nordic skis, and snowboards. A slope/trail groomer was purchased in 2000. The Board continues to strive for a facility that will provide activities for the four seasons, including hiking, cross-country competitions, and use of the lodge for community events. Tubing, cross-country skiing, and the lodge are open to the public at no charge.

MAP 14



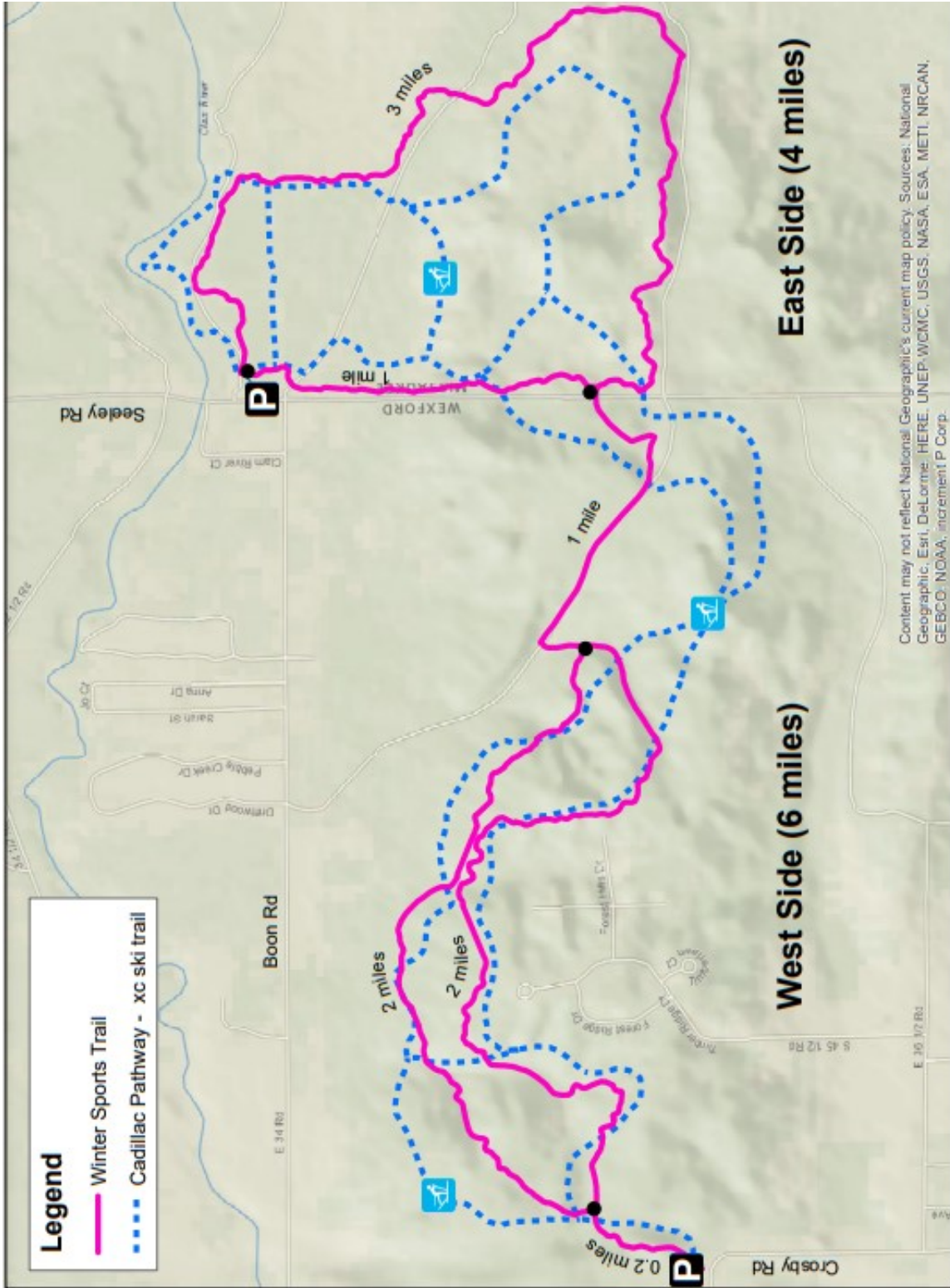
MAP 15

CAMPGROUNDS, NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS, PARKS



Map: Produced by Northwest Michigan Council of Governments, 2006

MAP 16
Cadillac Pathways



ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR RECREATION

Hunting occurs in many areas of the county. An abundance of waterfowl, as well as small and large game, can be found on private and public land and provides excellent recreation in the form of hunting and sightseeing. These game species are an important resource for the county both in terms of hunting and wildlife viewing.



Photo by Linda Hartshorne-Shafer

The snowmobile trails linking Wexford, Kalkaska, Roscommon, Osceola, and Missaukee counties are a recreational asset during the winter months. Trailheads are located throughout the county, from the northernmost points in Norwich Township to areas in the eastern and western sides of the county. Non-motorized trails provide opportunities for a variety of seasonal outdoor activities such as bicycling, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, and snowshoeing while motorcycles, ORV's and snowmobiles have designated trails and areas of their own. Maps identifying the locations of both non-motorized and motorized trails can be found on *Map 15*.

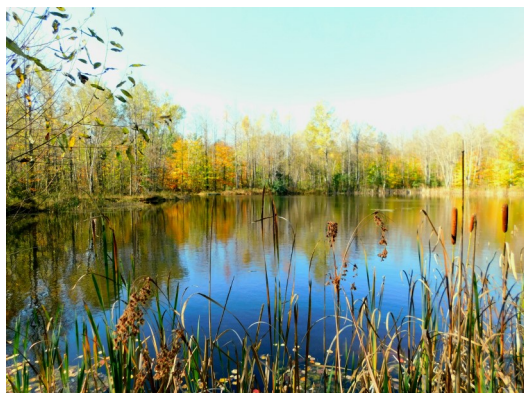


Photo by Linda Hartshorne-Shafer

Trail activities can be a solitary pastime or enjoyed by groups. Opportunities for local equestrians abound as well; horse arenas are located throughout the county in areas to include Lake City, Falmouth, and Merritt; 4-H, club, and other events are frequent occurrences at these venues. In addition to the public arenas, several other private arenas exist as well.

Missaukee County has an eighteen-hole golf course, which is enjoyed by players of all ages and skill levels; golf is offered as a varsity sport in the schools.

The Chamber of Commerce and other groups and organizations in Lake City, such as the Lake City Athletic Boosters, are very active in developing and promoting events that are held annually and attract visitors from throughout the state to enjoy a wide variety of events geared towards children, families, or adults. Many of these events are held primarily outdoors and are very popular with local residents and visitors alike. The Special Olympics fund-raising Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR) Polar Plunge kicks off the year in January, followed by other events including the Community Yard Sale event in May, The Greatest Fourth in the North in July, the Car Show and Street Fair in August, and a series of Farmer's Markets and evenings of music in the City Park on Thursday evenings from mid-August through mid-September. The end of the summer, however, does not mean the end of events – The Festival of the Pines celebrates the area's strong Christmas tree industry, loggers, and lumbering history.

Festivals and events are not limited to the Lake City area—many happen throughout the county. Fourth of July celebrations and parades take place in McBain and Falmouth and are very popular with visitors. The Falmouth Youth Show is held each summer in Falmouth, and features events, exhibits, entertainment while providing area youth an opportunity to display their livestock, small animals, crafts, and talents. The Cow Camp Rodeo is an annual event held near McBain during the Labor Day weekend. Another September event is the Earthwork Harvest Gathering, which is a collection of musical performances, food, crafts, and camping available to attendees.

The Jack Pine Enduro Cowbell Classic in Moorestown continues a decades-old tradition of motorcycle racing each July; hundreds of competitors and spectators from throughout the United States converge upon the small community of Moorestown to enjoy this annual event. The Merritt area draws race fans to the Merritt Speedway throughout the summer months while the Country Music Festival, usually held in July or August, has also become a favorite summertime tradition. The Reedsburg Dam Campground on the eastern edge of the county attracts visitors to the area with camping, fishing, wildlife viewing and ORV trails.

In addition to the annual and planned events, other opportunities for outdoor recreation abound. Fall color tours are popular throughout the county and surrounding area, and marked routes make it easy even for visitors unfamiliar with the area to follow the best routes to the most scenic views. Missaukee Mountain is a winter favorite for sledding, snowboarding, and skiing—both downhill and cross-country. Hikers also enjoy the many trails found throughout the property. The eastern trailhead of the Cadillac Pathways, a Michigan DNR trail system, is in Missaukee County’s Lake Township and provides 11 miles of trails maintained for non-motorized use. These trails loop through secluded forest land as well as along portions of the Clam River for year-round activities to include skiing, hiking, running, fat-tire biking, mountain biking, and more. The Cross Country Ski Trail and the Winter Sports Trail are groomed by volunteers from the Friends of the Cadillac Pathway; a Michigan DNR Recreation Passport is required for entry.

For those interested in the history of the area, old cemeteries and churches can be found scattered throughout the county.

COMMUNITY AND SCHOOL PROGRAMS

The Missaukee County Conservation District also offers a variety of environmentally-focused educational opportunities to the community, as well as programs specific to area school children in the classroom. A gift of eighty acres of diverse habitat was presented to the Missaukee Conservation District in 2021 for the intended and forward-thinking purpose of conservation, preservation, and education for generations to come. The Conservation District will stay true to the donor’s vision through the systematic addition of an improved entrance and parking area, a marked property boundary, control and removal of invasive species, creation of a trail system, development of basic facilities and educational programs, and more—all toward the goal of creation of a vibrant asset to the community.



“The Land”

Photo by Linda Hartshorne-Shafer





“The Land”

Photo by Linda Hartshorne-Shafer

The Missaukee County Commission on Aging works cooperatively with other groups and agencies in the county to provide classes and activities to the senior population that it serves.

To the extent possible, programs should be created which meet the needs of all age groups in the county and which utilize recreational facilities other than the schools. Examples of this are the programming carried on by the Senior Citizen Centers and Michigan State University’s 4-H programs, while the community libraries in McBain and Lake City offer reading programs, presentations, and other activities for children and adults. The popular Lake Missaukee Community Swim Program offers swimming lessons to kids aged 4-16 at the Missaukee Lake Park Beach each summer.



Cardio Drumming Class, Lake City Senior Center

Photo by Heather Harris-Bryant



The school systems, while in session, are the main source of recreation provided to the county, the majority of which is directed towards school age children. Specific recreation skills, talents and proficiencies are developed in school as a result of its physical, academic, and cultural curriculums. Athletic, cheerleading, band, forensics, and drama programs are complementary to the academic offerings within the schools. A basic need is to extend these programs to other age groups who could also benefit from them without overtaxing the school systems.

Lake City Area Schools completed an extensive renovation project in 2018 that included at the middle/high school building the construction of a new two-story gymnasium with a weight room, cardio room, and community room, as well as a 1/10th mile three lane track on the upper level. The main floor has a full sized gymnasium with two full-court practice areas. The new facilities have become a valuable community asset, as community members within the Lake City Area School district and school alumni may utilize these amenities at no cost. Guests from outside of the district are required to pay a small usage fee to access the facilities. Additionally, fitness classes may be offered as well. First and foremost, however, students are the priority—availability of gymnasium, fitness center, and track are subject to athletic schedules and other student-centered events and activities. This new facility was also developed for and is prepared to serve as the community’s Disaster Relief Center, capable of providing temporary food, shelter, and accommodation for residents displaced by severe weather or other devastating events.

RECREATION OUTSIDE MISSAUKEE COUNTY BOUNDARIES

Wexford County has indoor and outdoor facilities available to our residents. The Wexford Civic Center, which houses indoor hockey and family skating, is used for craft shows throughout the year, antique automobile displays and car shows, the county fair and assorted other public events. Several motels in the Cadillac area offer their swimming pools for public use for a fee, and the YMCA facility offers a variety of events, programs, swimming, and other athletic opportunities for youth and adults.

Wexford County is home to the Footlighters Theatre and Junior Footlighters, local talent groups which present several stage plays throughout the year. Many Missaukee County residents showcase their talents during these productions.

A variety of recreational options exists just outside the boundaries of Missaukee County, as well. Wellington Farm Park, located between Moorestown and Grayling, is an historic working farm and interpretive museum that educates visitors about farm life during the Great Depression. To the east, the Houghton Lake area also offers ski trails, events and festivals; notable of which is Tip Up Town USA, in January. To the north, Kalkaska is also linked to Missaukee County by snowmobile and ORV trails; seasonal events there include Winterfest and sled dog races, the National Trout Festival, and the Iceman Cometh bike race. The snowmobile trail system of Missaukee County, coupled with festivals and events throughout the area, generates additional travel by snowmobilers and ORV operators, as well as other visitors interested in all that Missaukee County and its surrounding neighbors have to offer.



Because Missaukee and Wexford Counties have so many ties through economic development projects, governmental agencies (to include the Department of Health and Human Services, the Human Services Leadership Council, and others), and the Wexford-Missaukee Intermediate School District, the boundary between counties has become increasingly blurred. Housing development which has taken place up to and almost on our common border, along with the cross-over between Wexford and Missaukee counties for housing opportunities and work forces will continue to enhance the shared “neighborhood” character.

BARRIER FREE COMPLIANCE

An inventory of Missaukee County Parks was completed for the update to determine barrier free compliance. All County Park proposed improvement projects included in this Plan address barrier free accessibility and mobility limitations. As stated in the Planning Process, all park projects considered will be in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Parking areas, paths of travel to activity areas, activity areas, restrooms, etc. will comply with the ADA. The boardwalk at Missaukee Lake Park was designed during a previous renovation project at that facility to accommodate persons with mobility limitations, and the Missaukee Trail was also designed to accommodate individuals with mobility limitations.



Boardwalk, Missaukee Lake Park

Photo by Bruce DeBoer

Missaukee Nature Trail

Grants and local funds were used in 2005 and 2006 at the Missaukee Conservation District's Nature Trail to implement the stacked loop trail system at the Human Resources Building on Sanborn Road in Lake City. The trail system and native plants were put in place using funding from the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) PAC Grant, and over 1000 hours of volunteer time. Eventually, the Missaukee Nature Trail is expected to be linked with the Missaukee County Park to the south and Missaukee Mountain to the north. Maintenance, improvements, and expansion of the Conservation District's Missaukee Nature Trail will be approached with an emphasis on ADA compliance. The MDCH funding continued into FY 07 and FY 08, which allowed extension of the trail and the addition of benches and interpretive signs. Funding also came from the Missaukee Area Community Foundation, Captain Planet, and PLT Greenworks to enhance the gardens and trails. The eventual connection of the Missaukee Nature Trail to the Missaukee County Park, located in the city of Lake City, would make it more accessible and allow park visitors to hike the trail and enjoy the greater Lake City area's natural environment. Also, the eventual connection of the Missaukee Nature Trail to Missaukee Mountain would provide more accessibility to the trails and skiing available at that site. Improving the trail to be ADA compliant is a goal. Adequate parking is located at the H.R. Building, Missaukee County Park, and Missaukee Mountain.



Missaukee Nature Trail Photo from Missaukee Nature Trail Brochure

PLANNING PROCESS

The Building and Grounds committee, along with the Park Manager, coordinate recreation projects and opportunities for Missaukee County. Assessments of new facilities are completed at public meetings, with input encouraged from all who attend. All projects considered are in conformance with the Americans with Disabilities Act requirements.

Public input and involvement in the recreation planning process is a vital and necessary part of planning, not only in maintaining an existing system, but also in expanding a quality system to meet the needs of the citizens of Missaukee County.

Missaukee County Planning Commission	Missaukee, Lake Township, Lake City Joint Planning	Missaukee County Board of Commissioners
January 26, 2022 (Meeting)	April 14, 2022 (Meeting)	January 10, 2023 (Meeting) - Public Hearing;/Comments; Resolution of Adoption of County Plan
July 27, 2022 (Meeting)	May 3, 2022 (Meeting)	
September 28, 2022 (Meeting)	September 15, 2022	
November 16, 2022 (Meeting)	November 22, 2022	
	December 11, 2022 (Public Comment Period Notification; December 11 2022— January 9, 2023)	
	December 21, 2022 (Open House)	

Planning Process

Public Input

Missaukee County values the opinions and views of its residents and helped develop the following process to gather the community's thoughts by:

- Collaboration between the Missaukee County Planner, Lake Township, and Lake City representatives, and Prein & Newhof staff over several months via phone, email, Zoom, and face-to-face meetings to develop a survey and compile the resulting data into the plan.
- Ensuring availability of survey digital and hard copies for all residents, asking specific questions of the current parks and recreation areas and their goals for the future.
- Making the Draft Plan available for public review for 30 days to allow for public comment.
- A public hearing prior to adoption of the Recreation Plan by the Missaukee County Board of Commissioners on January 10, 2023.

Survey Summary Results

The parks and recreation survey was available from September 26th through October 26th, 2022. The public notice for the survey was posted in the Missaukee Sentinel and contained a QR code to the survey along with several locations to access hardcopies for completion and submission. A total of 120 online responses were received. The vast majority of the respondents reside in the 49651 zip code (61%); are 55+ years of age (58%); and prefer to receive information through websites (55%), social media (50%), and email/newsletter (44%).

67.5% of responders are not concerned with the park systems within Missaukee County continuing to grow. Of the 32.5% that are concerned, the most reoccurring comments are:

- Fees and taxes being increased
- Possibility of tourists polluting
- Higher chance of vandalism

The top 3 barriers making it difficult to visit local parks (including public comments):

- Lack of time
- No people to participate with
- Too many obligations
- Lack of organized programming
- No public awareness of the parks system

The top things residents **like** about the existing recreational facilities are:

- The pickleball courts.
- Close to home and easily accessible.
- Everything is clean and well maintained.
- Everything can be enjoyed with friends and family.
- Water access and views.

The top things residents *do not like* about the existing recreational facilities are:

- Lack of non-motorized trails
- Lack of designated dog areas
- Lack of organized leagues
- Some parks are worn-out and need updating, includes restroom buildings
- Camping availability fills up fast and is hard to secure

Top 3 most visited parks:

- Missaukee Lake Park
- City Park
- Miltner Beach Park

Top 3 reasons why people engage in recreation:

- Close to home
- To be with family and friends
- To have fun

Top 5 recreation opportunities

- Paved multi-purpose trails for non-motorized activities
- Festival and concert venue
- Non-paved multi-purpose trails for non-motorized activities
- Fire pit w/ seating
- Picnic areas

Top 5 most needed recreational opportunities:

- Trail/ pathway systems connecting to neighborhoods & communities
- Child recreation opportunities
- Natural areas
- Adult recreation opportunities
- Exercise opportunities

Feedback regarding the four acres of land on Crooked Lake in Jennings received 55 responses from the public. The most popular Ideas are:

- Dog Park
- More campsites
- Swimming beach and recreational water access
- Walking trails
- Picnic area with pavilion, firepits, and playgrounds

Only 34% of responders believe there is a group of residents that would benefit from additional recreational opportunities. The comments given represent all age groups from children to seniors

GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND ACTION PLAN

Missaukee County's goals, objectives, and action plan have been developed to guide and influence future decisions relating to recreation which will echo the County's unique values and priorities. The process through which these goals were identified include discussion between the Building and Grounds committee and the Parks Management and staff, dialogue with various recreation stakeholders, and review of other local and regional plans and strategies, and integration of the public survey results into the planning process.

For the purposed of this document, Goals, Objectives, and Action Plan are defined as follows:

Goal: Broad in nature; provides a general direction and a description of what is desired for the future.

Objective: An attainable means of reaching a goal.

Action Plan: Identifies and specifies what must happen to accomplish the objectives; also identifies implementation tools needed to meet objectives.

GOAL #1: To maintain, improve and expand the Missaukee County Park System, with emphasis on ADA compliance, community benefit, and project completion.

Objectives

- 1. All new additions to park facilities will be accessible and ADA compliant, in an effort to accommodate visitors with a wide range of abilities.*
- 2. Missaukee County Parks will continue to work cooperatively with other local governments, community groups, members of the community, and residents neighboring the parks.*
- 3. Park projects are developed based upon evaluation by the Park Manager and the Building and Grounds committee to address needs—which could include newly identified repair or maintenance issues or new construction projects.*

GOAL #2: Encourage trail projects that provide year-round use and accessibility, especially those that may link or expand existing trail systems; provide non-motorized connections (Designated Walking Areas and Bike Paths) to and within recreational facilities, schools, and residential areas in order to provide safe, pleasant, and satisfying recreational experiences.

Objectives

- 1. Support the construction, improvement, and maintenance of trails and crossings to connect with existing trail networks locally and in surrounding areas.*
- 2. Construct or expand designated bike paths throughout the County where possible.*
- 3. Work with the Road Commission / MDOT to incorporate widened shoulders.*
- 4. Support and encourage collaborative trail projects.*
- 5. Construct or expand designated walking areas that would provide greater resources for the whole community, including senior citizens, school children, and those interested in running, fitness, or leisurely walking.*

GOAL #3: Look for opportunities to acquire more land in the county for recreation while the property is still undeveloped, available, and affordable.

Objectives

1. *Explore the possibility of expanding existing park facilities.*
2. *Consider purchasing land to develop new parks or non-motorized paths.*

Action Program

1. Maintain an updated five-year Recreation Plan in support of recreation activities and to help ensure grant funding eligibility through the MDNR.
2. Ensure that residents and visitors alike of all abilities have access to the parks, park facilities, and scheduled events (such as the Community Swim Program) that are held at the Missaukee Lake Park beach.
3. Park staff and the Building and Grounds Committee will continue the judicious use of Park funds and grant awards to maintain and improve the Missaukee County Parks at the high level that the community and visitors have come to expect.
4. Support trail development by either acting as the grant applicant for trail development projects, or by providing letters of support to grant applicants, and by participating in local and regional trail planning efforts.
5. Support maintenance, improvements, extensions, and connections to area trails including but not limited to the Missaukee Trail, the Cadillac Pathways, Missaukee Mountain, Crooked Lake, and other local or state trails.
6. Encourage and support coordination of trail development projects within and connecting to Missaukee County.

Park and Recreation planning for Missaukee County Parks is a participatory process involving the public and county staff. Principal staff involved in the process is the Parks Department. Improvements that will be pursued at Lake Missaukee Park are inspired through feedback received by the public. Some of these improvements include new construction and repair of existing infrastructure.

Lake Missaukee Park

In the years to come, Lake Missaukee Park will pursue the reconstruction of seawalls and antiquated boat ramps, fences, new docking systems for boats, new and expanding campsite electrical service, renovated sanitation dump/fill station, ADA compliance, the renovation of short-term vacation rentals, improved internet access and the renovation of all facilities including bathrooms, offices, and storage buildings.

Crooked Lake Park

In the years to come, Crooked Lake Park will pursue the reconstruction of an antiquated boat ramp, a new skid pier, roadway improvements, renovated sanitation dump/fill station, fencing, new and expanded campsite electrical service, ADA compliance, removal of antiquated vault style toilets, construction of single toilet/restroom style facilities and an additional cabin style housing unit.

Ben Jeffs Park

In the years to come, Ben Jeffs Park will pursue the renovation of it's pavilion facilities, artesian well, parking lot, and install new vault style toilet facilities.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

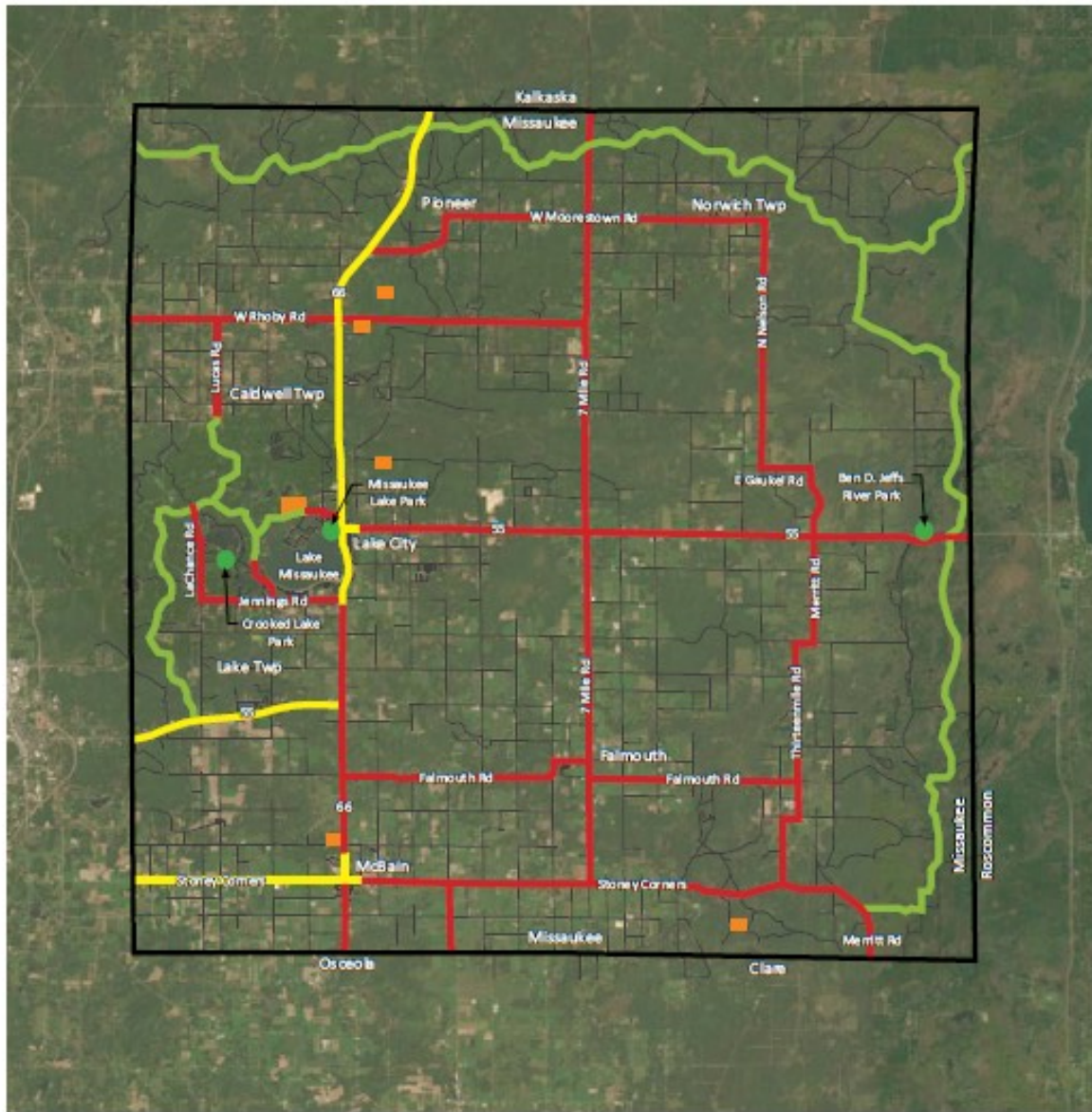
1. DRAFT Missaukee Non-Motorized Trail Plan

APPENDIX B

1. Public Notices
2. Board Agenda
3. Board Minutes and Resolution of Adoption
4. Summary of Changes
5. Letter of Transmittal to Networks Northwest

APPENDIX A

Draft Missaukee County Non-Motorized Path Plan



- Legend**
- Existing Paved Shoulder
 - Proposed Paved Shoulder
 - Proposed Off-Road Path
 - Missaukee County Parks
 - Ideal Parks Acquisition Property



APPENDIX B

NOTICE
PARKS AND RECREATION
2023-2027 FIVE YEAR REC PLAN

The municipalities of Lake City, Lake Township, and Missaukee County are updating their Parks and Recreation Plan. These communities along with other recreation providers/users in the area, such as the City of McBain, are coordinating their planning efforts and want to hear from you! We will be hosting a public comment session during our January Board meetings.

Public Hearing dates & locations:

City of Lake City - Monday, Jan. 9th
at the Lake City Hall
115 John St., Lake City, Michigan 49651
(Telephone: 231-839-8666), at 7:00 p.m.

Lake Township - Wednesday, Jan. 11th
at the Lake Township Hall
8105 W. Kelly Rd., Lake City, Michigan 49651
(Telephone: 616-866-0622), at 4:30 p.m.

Missaukee County - Tuesday, Jan. 10th
at the Missaukee County Hall
111 S. Canal St., Lake City, Michigan 49651
(Telephone: 231-839-7264), at 4:00 p.m.

CITY OF LAKE CITY
PARKS AND RECREATION
2022-2026 FIVE YEAR REC PLAN SURVEY

The municipalities of Lake City, Lake Township, and Missaukee County are updating their Parks and Recreation Plan. These communities along with other recreation providers/users in the area, such as the City of McBain, are coordinating their planning efforts and want to hear from you!

This survey will be available from
Monday, Sept. 26th to Wednesday, Oct. 26th

The survey can be found using the Survey Monkey link provided on the Township, County, and Missaukee Sentinel websites or by following the QR code below. The Hard copies of the survey will be available at the following locations:

Lake City Hall
115 W. John St., Lake City, MI 49651

Lake City Township Hall
8105 W. Kelly Rd., Lake City, MI 49651


Missaukee County Office
111 S. Canal St., Lake City, MI 49651

Missaukee District Library
210 S. Canal St., Lake City, MI 49651

McBain City Hall
9478 S. Morey Rd., McBain, MI 49657

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ParksAndRecreationUserSurvey>

Survey QR Code:



Classified Ads

CALL YOUR CLASSIFIED SPECIALIST TODAY AT 231-839-5400

Legals

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ALL CREDITORS: Brad Farkas and Geraldine Farkas, co-successor trustees of the Farkas Family Living Trust, U/T/D June 6, 2006 as amended, give notice that the living grantor, John Farkas, born November 3, 1934 who resided in Missaukee County, Michigan, died September 13, 2021. Creditors of John Farkas or the Farkas Family Living Trust U/T/D June 6, 2006 as amended will be forever barred unless presented to Bradley Farkas, co-successor trustee within four (4) months of the date of publication of this notice.
 Bradley Farkas
 1000 Oak St.
 Lake City, MI 49828

Legals

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE:
 The Missaukee County Board of Commissioners will conduct a public hearing on September 29, 2022 at 3:30 PM for the purpose of soliciting input regarding the Missaukee County Fiscal year 2023 Budget. This meeting will be held in the Missaukee County Annex Building, 105 S. Canal Street, Lake City, MI. A draft copy of the Recommended Budget is available on the county's website at www.missaukee.org. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services who are planning to attend the meeting should notify County Clerk, Jessica Nielsen at (231) 839-4967 within a reasonable time in advance of the meeting.

Announcements

Have something you want to sell?

Need to hire someone? Have a Service you would like people to know about?

Call or stop in to The Missaukee Sentinel to place your classified ad.

231-839-5400

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Trucks



2022 Chevy Silverado 1500 Crew Cab 4x4 Z71 with the 3.0 Duramax Diesel. Only 12,500 miles! But look at this with almost 300HP and a whopping 460 lbs of torque it is designed to pull!! The best part, I have been driving this truck and it is getting 34 MPH on the highway out of a full size truck!!! Call Scott McDowell for more details! 231-884-6323, Classic Chevrolet Stock# C1283

LAKE CITY AREA SCHOOLS SNOW PLOWING BIDS

Lake City Area Schools is accepting bids for snow plowing the following buildings: Middle/High School on Russell Street; Elementary School on Davis Street; Central Office/Transportation on Mitchell Street. Contractor must have sufficient equipment to perform the work prior to 7:00 a.m. as well as equipment to remove the snow banks. Request for bid document available at www.lakecityschools.net or by calling 1-839-4333. Please submit bid to Lake City Area Schools, PO Box 900, 710 E. Mitchell St., Lake City, MI 49651, by Tuesday, October 11, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.

CITY OF LAKE CITY PARKS AND RECREATION 2022-2026 FIVE YEAR REC PLAN SURVEY

The municipalities of Lake City, Lake Township, and Missaukee County are updating their Parks and Recreation Plan. These communities along with other recreation providers/users in the area, such as the City of McBain, are coordinating their planning efforts and want to hear from you!

This survey will be available from Monday, Sept. 26th to Wednesday, Oct. 26th

The survey can be found using the Survey Monkey link provided on the Township, County, and Missaukee Sentinel websites or by following the QR code below. The Hard copies of the survey will be available at the following locations:

- Lake City Hall
115 W. John St., Lake City, MI 49651
- Lake City Township Hall
8105 W. Kelly Rd., Lake City, MI 49651
- Missaukee County Office
111 S. Canal St., Lake City, MI 49651
- Missaukee District Library
210 S. Canal St., Lake City, MI 49651
- McBain City Hall
8478 S. Morey Rd., McBain, MI 49657

Survey QR Code:



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ParksAndRecreationUserSurvey>

**NOTICE
PARKS AND RECREATION
DRAFT 2023-2027 FIVE YEAR REC PLAN REVIEW
& PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE**

The municipalities of Lake City, Lake Township, and Missaukee County are updating their Parks and Recreation Master Plan. These communities along with other recreation providers/users in the area, such as the City of McBain, are coordinating their planning efforts and want to hear from you!

The Draft Parks and Recreation Plan for **Lake City and Lake Township** will be available from
Thursday, Dec. 1st to Friday, Dec. 30th

The Draft Parks and Recreation Plan for **Missaukee County** will be available from
Sunday, Dec. 11th to Monday, Jan. 9th

The Draft Parks and Recreation Plans can be found on the Township, County, and Missaukee Sentinel websites. Hard copies of the Draft Parks and Recreation Plans will be available at the following locations:


Lake City Hall
 115 W. John St.
 Lake City, MI 49651


Lake Township Hall
 8105 W. Kelly Rd.
 Lake City, MI 49651

Missaukee County Office
 111 S. Canal St.
 Lake City, MI 49651

Lake City, Lake Township, and Missaukee County will also be hosting a joint Open House to give the public an opportunity to review the Draft Recreation Plans and provide input.
**The open house will be located at Lake Township Hall on
 Dec. 21 from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM**

News Listings

- 

Dec 01, 2022
Court House Closed For Holiday December 23rd and 26th, 2022
[Read More](#)
- 

Parks & Recreation Public Open House
[Read More](#)



Agenda

Missaukee County Board of Commissioners

Regular Meeting

January 10, 2023 @ 4:00 PM

Providing high-quality and cost-efficient essential services that support local goals and needs for the health, safety, and economic prosperity of a culturally diverse community.

- 4:00 Roll Call, Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance
Agenda Approval. Minutes approval, Correspondence
Public Comment**
- 4:05 Wilbur Yancer Sheriff Report
Aaron Sogge EMS Report
- 4:15 Heather Harris-Bryant MCCOA Update
- 4:20 Brian Martinus, Int. CEO NLCMHA Update
- 4:30 Linda Hartshorne-Shafer EMD – Full Scale Exercise Review
- 4:40 PUBLIC HEARING Recreation Plan Amendment
Recreation Plan Approval Resolution
- 4:50 Liz Vogel Administrators Report
1. Finance
 - a. Budget Amendments FY2023 1st Quarter
 - b. Revenue & Fee Schedule Policy Revision
 - c. Mobile Data Terminals (MDTs) Purchase
 - d. EMS – Ambulance Purchase
 2. Personnel
 - a.
 3. Claims & Accounts
 - a. Monthly Claims
 4. Building & Grounds
 - a.
 5. Safety Committee
 - a.
 6. Commissioner Reports
 - a.

Public Comment**

Adjournment

****Public Comment Rules authorized by the Missaukee County Board of Commissioners:** Each person recognized by the Chairman shall state their name for the record and will have a limit of 3 minutes to state an opinion. All opinions will be duly noted by the board & if requiring an answer will be addressed by the chairman first or his designee or in writing. The audience is asked not to interrupt at anytime during public comment.

*This meeting is in-person. Public comment may also be submitted in writing prior to the meeting to be put on record. Any questions on participating should be directed to Jessica Nielsen, County Clerk, at 231-839-4967 ext. 204.

Missaukee County Board of Commissioners
Lake City, Michigan
Regular Meeting
105 S. Canal St. Lake City, MI 49651
January 10, 2023 @ 4:00 PM

Meeting Called to Order by Chairperson Smallegan; invocation and pledge of allegiance.

Roll Call of Districts

Present: Lan Bridson, Frank Vanderwal, Pam Niebrzydowski, Roger Ouwinga, Dean Smallegan, Gary Gladu

Absent: Star Hughston

Motion by Vanderwal, supported by Niebrzydowski, to approve the agenda, with the following addition: item 7a. Snowmobile Purchase Request. Motion Carried.

Motion by Ouwinga, supported by Gladu, to approve minutes from January 5, 2023, as presented. Motion Carried. Correspondence reviewed.

Public Comment: None

Wil Yancer, Sheriff, gave a monthly report on the department.

Aaron Sogge, EMS, gave a report on the department.

Heather Harris-Bryant, Commission on Aging (MCCOA) gave a monthly update.

Brian Martinus, NLCMHA Interim CEO, gave an annual update on the Northern Lakes Community Mental Health Authority.

Linda Hartshorne-Shafer, Planning/EMD Director, reviewed the full-scale exercise that took place at McBain Rural Agricultural School in December.

Chairperson Smallegan announced the public hearing for the Missaukee County Recreation Plan open at 4:35pm.

Public Comment:

- Lake City Mayor Craig Ardis said they were glad to be able to do a joint recreational plan. He said that the City did receive a lot of feedback at their public hearing for the plan which was appreciated.

Linda Hartshorne-Shafer reviewed the proposed updates to the plan.

Chairperson Smallegan closed the public hearing at 4:40pm.

Motion by Niebrzydowski, supported by Bridson, to adopt the following resolution as presented. Motion Carried.

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING MISSAUKEE COUNTY
COMMUNITY RECREATION PLAN
Resolution 2023-1**

WHEREAS, The Missaukee County Planning Commission is the governmental body responsible for developing and updating the Missaukee County Community Recreation Plan and has completed the Plan Revision; and

WHEREAS, The Planning Commission and Board of County Commissioners conducted a public hearing at which to present the Plan Revision to constituents; and

WHEREAS, The Planning Commission and Board of County Commissioners have considered comments and recommendations from the public on the final version of the Plan Revision and recommends the plan adoption; and

WHEREAS, Adoption of this Plan will provide Missaukee County eligibility for grant application with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, and other funding sources for five (5) years from its adoption; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The Missaukee County Board of Commissioners adopts the Missaukee County Community Recreation Plan.

Resolution Declared Adopted.

Elizabeth Vogel, County Administrator, gave a monthly report and reviewed the items she presented at the Finance Committee meeting.

Finance Committee Report

Motion by Ouwinga, supported by Vanderwal, to approve FY2023 1st Quarter Budget Amendments as presented. Roll Call Vote: 6 Yeas (Gladu, Bridson, Vanderwal, Niebrzydowski, Ouwinga, Smallegan) 0 Nays 1 Absent (Hughston). Motion Carried.

		Current	Amended	Difference	Reason
101-GENERAL FUND					
Revenues					
101-172-640.05	Charge for Adm. Svcs	\$ 42,477.00	\$ 42,946.00	\$ 469.00	
Total			\$ 42,946.00	\$ 469.00	
101-GENERAL FUND					
Expenditures					
Total		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
NET CHANGE TO GF REVENUES				\$ 469.00	
NET CHANGE TO GF EXPENSES				\$ -	
NET OVERALL CHANGE (Increase in revenues over expenses)				\$ 469.00	
GENERAL FUND - APPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE					
Revenue (Transfer In)					
101-000-699.01	Approp Fund Balance	\$ -	\$ (469.00)	\$ (469.00)	
Total		\$ -	\$ (469.00)	\$ (469.00)	
				\$ 469.00	Est. add. to FB

Summary of Changes

1. Formatting changes
2. Updated maps
3. Updated population and demographic data
4. Updated Seasonal Population Study information with Networks Northwest 2022 data
5. Amended Section E—Goals, Objectives, and Action Program
 - A. Added in Survey Results from the Missaukee County, Lake Township, and Lake City Recreation Survey
6. Updated documentation/appendices to reflect amendment process
7. Removed unnecessary maps
8. Updated “Old Bath House” information/description
9. Added DRAFT Missaukee County Non-Motorized Path Plan

APPENDIX 6

Letter of Transmittal to Networks NW



Missaukee County
Planning & Emergency Management
Linda Hartshorne-Shafer, Director
P.O. Box 800, Lake City MI 49651
231.839.7264 Ext 3
planningemd@missaukee.org

January 11, 2023

Rob Carson, AICP
Networks Northwest
Community Development Regional Director
PO Box 506
Traverse City, MI 49685-0506

Dear Rob,

I am forwarding a copy of Missaukee's 2023-2027 Recreation Plan for review; it was adopted by the Missaukee County Board of Commissioners at their meeting on January 10, 2023.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda Hartshorne-Shafer".

Linda Hartshorne-Shafer